



FLORIDA SOUTHWESTERN STATE COLLEGE

# WORKFORCE EDUCATION

October 2023



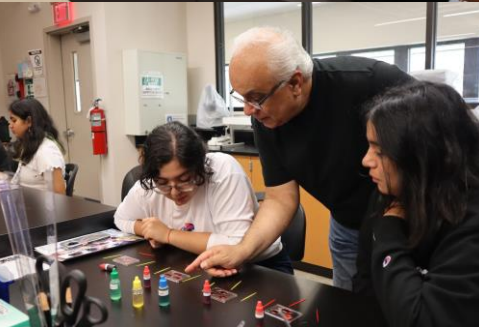
Florida SouthWestern State College is dedicated to serving the residents of Southwest Florida. Our commitment to our students and the community is reflected in our rigorous and relevant curriculum, which prepares our graduates with the skills and knowledge to thrive.



In this monthly workforce education newsletter, we aim to showcase our diverse range of workforce programs and share program news and successes. This month's features are noted in the table of contents below.

## Table of Contents

- Page 2: Respiratory Care Week
- Page 3: Cybersecurity Month
- Page 4: Career Connection Lecture Series
- Page 5: School of Education Graduates  
FSW Theater Production
- Page 6: Hazmat Topics and Trainings
- Page 7: Workforce Scholarships



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WORKFORCE EDUCATION

# Championing Lung Health: FSW Celebrates Respiratory Care Week



In celebration of Respiratory Care Week, students from FSW's Respiratory Care Program have taken the initiative to educate their peers and the community about this specialty in the healthcare professions. Respiratory Care Week goes beyond recognizing the importance of lung health; it's a time to honor the dedicated professionals who work to enhance patients' breathing and overall well-being. Respiratory therapists are not just healthcare providers; they pave the path for a healthier future by promoting patient advocacy, sharing values, and community involvement, leaving a lasting impression on those they serve.

Respiratory Care students Nicholas Franco and Vivien Cimafranca, emphasized being a strong team player and remaining calm in intense situations as essential characteristics for Respiratory Therapists. Through clinical experiences, these qualities are exemplified.

Nicholas recounted an encounter with a patient who had taken contaminated needles and self-injected known substances, leading to sepsis. Despite the chaos, the healthcare team remained composed, ultimately providing vital aid to the patient. Vivian described a similarly intense situation, having to draw an arterial blood gas from a patient who had been stabbed multiple times. In both cases, teamwork and composure were paramount, showcasing the resilience and dedication fostered by FSW's respiratory care program.

Vivian and Nicholas acknowledged the dedication required in their demanding program but emphasized the invaluable friendships and sense of community developed at FSW. The ability to positively impact a person's life far outweighs the sacrifices. Both Nicholas and Vivian plan to start their careers in Florida, remaining in the communities that have shaped them.



Vivian Cimafranca and Nicholas Franco engage with the community to celebrate Respiratory Care Week.

## Words of Encouragement To Aspiring Respiratory Care Students

Be persistent and remember that at FSW, no one is overlooked; everyone here is committed to student success. It's a testament to the vibrant and supportive environment that FSW provides for those aspiring to make a difference in respiratory care.





## FSW Celebrates Cybersecurity Month



Celebrated every October, Cybersecurity Month is a collaborative effort between government and industry to ensure every American has the resources they need to stay safer and more secure online. FSW kicked off Cybersecurity Month with a presentation titled "Guardians of the Byte: Insights from Cybersecurity Experts." FSW's Jason Dudley and the Center for Internet Security's Lee Noriega lead the discussion. Students remarked that the event was "amazing and very informative!" and they "loved the insight into how to start in the cybersecurity world."

## Cybersecurity Students Prepare for State Competition

Students in the Rist Cyber Institute housed within FSW's School of Business and Technology have been practicing with daily 'Capture The Flag' (CTF) activities this month to prepare for an upcoming state competition. In cybersecurity, CTF is a crucial training tool that allows students to test and develop their computer security skills. During these exercises, students embark on a mission to uncover 'flags' - hidden text strings strategically concealed within programs or websites. It's a thrilling game of skill and strategy where the student's ability to identify and solve security challenges is tested. Three teams of students will represent FSW in the upcoming competition; these dedicated individuals exemplify the commitment and talent within our cybersecurity program.





# Career Connection Lecture Series



## *Tackling Challenges in Forensic Science*



## *Vision to Venture: Gaining Entrepreneurial Insights*



## *Behind the Badge: Career Connections with Lee County Sheriff's Office*



The Career Connection Lecture Series is a fresh addition for this semester. This initiative aims to introduce students to a range of professional fields and establish meaningful connections between students, businesses, community leaders, and potential employers. The series brings in experts from diverse industries who share their insights and first-hand experiences, opening doors to exciting possibilities and career pathways for our students. The Career Connection Lecture Series provides students with exceptional opportunities to connect, learn, and grow! Here is what students had to say about the lecture.

### Student Comments

"I loved learning about this career! It's honestly pretty interesting." -Dani

"If you want to learn more about careers, come here" - Cassie

"Very informative and influential"- Grant

"An incredibly insightful look into the work of our police force"- Ben

"I am currently studying crime scene technology, and attending this lecture broadened my view and encouraged me to keep studying to pursue my education in this field" -Lilly

# 99%

of survey participants "strongly agree" and "agree" that this event is part of what a college or university should offer its students and the community.



# Celebrating Success: All Elementary Education Graduates Secure Job Offers!

We are thrilled to announce that each of FSW's dedicated interns and soon-to-be graduates of the School of Education's Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education program have received job offers!



This success is a testament to their hard work, dedication, and the quality of their education. We couldn't be prouder of their accomplishments and are confident that they will go on to make a significant impact in the field of education. Join us in congratulating these aspiring educators on their bright futures ahead!

## Discover the Magic of 'Peter Starcatcher': FSW's Must-See Theater Production

Each fall and spring, the theatre department at FSW delights audiences with an excellent show. This fall, prepare to embark on a whimsical journey filled with magic, adventure, and the timeless charm of a beloved classic. FSW presents 'Peter Starcatcher,' an enchanting theater production that promises to transport you to a world of wonder and imagination.

"Stuart Brown, (Professor of Theater) is a NISOD award winner for excellence in teaching, and true to form, FSW will have another excellent performance under his guidance. Professor Brown and his students in FSW's stage technology program transform a blank slate into a wonderland for each and every production. The play is a prequel to the Peter Pan story, and will be presented and directed by FSW's very own student Danica Murray."

-Dr. Deborah Teed, Dean, School of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

This family-friendly production will captivate audiences of all ages with its spellbinding storytelling, captivating characters, and the magic of live theater. Get your tickets at <https://m.bpt.me/event/6154598>

Florida SouthWestern State College Theater  
Presents  
**PETER AND THE STARCATCHER**  
A Play By **Rick Elice**  
Music By **Wayne Barker**  
Based on the Novel by **Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson**  
November 2-4, 9-11  
Curtain 7 PM  
FSW Blackbox Theatre (L119-b)  
Directed By: Danica Murray  
TICKETS  
WWW.BROWNPAPER.TICKETS.COM  
BROWN PAPER TICKETS  
ARTS FSW

# Hazmat Topics & Trainings

Available Free to SWFL Businesses and Community

Florida SouthWestern State College has partnered with industry experts, Hazmat Safety Consultants, LLC, and the Dangerous Goods Trainers Association to offer Train-the-Trainer course and Expert Insights Seminar Series free of charge to southwest Florida businesses and community members.

## HAZMAT TRAIN-THE-TRAINER COURSE

Training of Hazardous Materials employees is critical to the success of the Hazmat system. An effective training program is crucial for Hazmat employees to ensure they use and implement the highest level of safety in the industry. The online Train-the-Trainer course blends industry knowledge and adult learning philosophies to prepare the participants to become a Hazmat Trainer.

Course covers the following:

- ✓ Hazmat General Awareness & Global Systems
- ✓ How to perform a Hazmat Needs Assessment for your company
- ✓ Adults learning philosophies and training plans
- ✓ Course development and delivery



### Course Offerings

Nov. 5 – Dec. 3, 2023  
Dec. 17, 2023 – Jan. 7, 2024  
Jan. 21 to Feb. 26, 2024  
March 10 to April 8, 2024  
April 21 to May 20, 2024

## HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EXPERT INSIGHTS SEMINAR SERIES

Introducing our Hazardous Materials Expert Insights Seminar Series, a monthly one-hour webinar delving into pertinent and timely topics within the field of hazardous materials management.

### Featured Speakers



#### Mike Pagel

11 years of experience including at PHMSA's Hazardous Materials Information Center (HMIC) at DOT HQ in Washington, DC



#### Ryan Paquet

20+ years of experience related to hazardous materials transportation safety



#### Bob Richard

28 years of experience in development and implementation of hazardous materials safety regulations



#### Mike Roldan

Served as the U.S. Coast Guard's Chief, Hazardous Materials Division where he developed national and international standards and policy for the safe and secure carriage of chemicals

### Upcoming Topics

Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. ET

Nov. 1: [Navigating Vessel Transport Challenges: Insights and Current Events](#)

Nov. 14: [Charging Ahead: The Future of Lithium Battery Transport](#)

Dec. 12: [Cracking the Code: Unpacking Limited Quantity Exceptions](#)

Jan. 10: [Mastering Materials of Trade Exceptions: Practical Applications](#)

Feb. 6: [Unlocking Special Permits and Approvals: Demystifying the Differences](#)

March 5: [Aerosols on the Move: Shipping Under Pressure](#)

April 2: [USDOT at Your Doorstep: How to Respond When Regulators Knock](#)

# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

## American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

Lee County's Economic Development Office awarded FSW \$1 million providing funding for select credit and non-credit workforce programs. Lee County residents who enroll into ARPA-eligible programs may qualify for funding to cover in-state tuition and fees.

- 11 CCCs and AS programs in FSW's School of Business and Technology
- EMT, CCC offered in FSW's School of Health Professions
- Several programs offered through FSW's Corporate and Community Education



## Open Door Grant

FSW received Open Door Grant funding through the Florida Department of Education. These funds will help students fast-track their success in a short-term career and technical education program.

- 45 fundable programs across FSW's five academic schools

See complete list at [www.fsw.edu.opendoor](http://www.fsw.edu.opendoor)

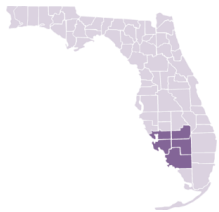


## Transforming SWFL 2025

FSW was awarded \$125,000 from the Lee County Industrial Development Authority and \$100,000 from the Elsa and Peter Soderberg Charitable Foundation through the FutureMakers Coalition.

Transforming SWFL Supports:

- [GED Pathway Program](#)
- Second Look
- Last Mile & Gap Funding
- Workforce Pathways



## Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

FSW was awarded \$1.98 million for its Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Grant to expand pathway to multiple in-demand industry certificates. Participants will be supported through enhanced coursework, supplemental certification test prep, and personalized advising.

WIOA Programs

- [Information Technology Support Specialist, CCC](#)
- [Network Security, CCC](#)
- [Cybersecurity, AS](#)
- [Network Systems AS](#)
- [Architectural Design and Construction Technology, AS](#)



Use the QR codes provided to learn more about each grant or program.  
Email [Opportunity@fsw.edu](mailto:Opportunity@fsw.edu) with any questions.