Minges Visits Campus, Donates Emerald

The donation of a $60,000 emerald ring to F.I.T. by Alabama businessman Edwin L. Minges, Sr. was announced during a recent visit to the university's Medical Research Institute.

Minges, who donated a 7.5-carat emerald surrounded by 14 diamonds in a platinum setting, last year gave the university a 45-carat opal brooch. That brooch, valued at $30,000, was on display in the F.I.T. Library during Minges' visit to the university. He was hosted by Dr. Ronald H. Jones, MRI director.

Minges, both a successful businessman and a theologian, addressed faculty attending a luncheon in his honor on the subject of "Scientific Interpretations of Ancient Religious Cultures: Fact, Fiction, Faith."

Minges is founder and president of the Tuscaloosa Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co. in Alabama, and has developed fluidic control valves which have international patents. He received his B.S. degree from the University of North Carolina, and earned his M.S. degree in business administration from Harvard University.

With his father, Minges founded the Lutheran Church in Tuscaloosa, and has been active as an international lecturer. While visiting 68 countries, Mr. Minges has studied books, documents, ruins and facilities associated with ancient and modern religions.

He is currently working on a book that will outline his interpretations of links between religion and culture.

Partners Meeting Set

President Keuper has announced that the Annual Membership Meeting of Florida-Colombia Partners will be held in the All Purpose Room of the Denius Student Center on Saturday, April 12, starting with a 1:00 p.m. luncheon.

All interested persons are welcome to attend, whether or not they are active members. To make reservations for the luncheon ($5), telephone extension 261.

Topics of discussion will include current and future projects in the fields of agriculture and rural development, business and industry, cultural arts, education, partner cities, public health, rehabilitation and special education, and sports.

Plans will also be developed for the XV Annual Partnership Conference to be held at F.I.T. on July 12. Participation by a large delegation of Partners from Colombia is anticipated.
Dr. Pieter S. Dubbelday, of Physics and Space Sciences, is to present a paper at an Acoustical Society of America meeting on April 23 in Atlanta. The subject of the paper is "Effective Shear Modulus of Flexural and Extensional Waves in a Thick Unloaded Plate."

Dr. Dubbelday delivered a paper before most of the world's experts in the field of magnetic fluids during the recent Second International Conference on Magnetic Fluids at Orlando. Dr. Dubbelday addressed the conference on "Application of Ferrofluids as an Acoustic Transducer Material," and two F.I.T. students were able to attend the gathering by special invitation.

Dr. John E. Miller, vice president for academic affairs and executive vice president, was invited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) to be a member of the Accreditation Committee to Tarleton State University in late March. Dr. Miller's principle responsibility was to evaluate the physics and math programs at the university, located at Stephenville, Texas.

Dr. Norbert W. O'Hara, head of Oceanography and Ocean Engineering, participated in a workshop in Washington, D.C., in late March on Marine Resource Development in Latin America and the Caribbean Islands. He attended at the invitation of the Organization of American States. Dr. O'Hara addressed issues related to solving problems in mineral resource development.

Jack W. Schwalbe, P.E., chairman of the ocean engineering program, has announced that O.E. junior Larry Bedwell has won a $500 scholarship from the Florida Institute of Consulting Engineers. Award of the scholarship was based on scholastic achievement, and makes the student eligible for national scholarship competition sponsored by the American Consulting Engineers Council.

Dr. Ed F. Strother, of Physics and Space Sciences, was featured speaker at the recent "Stellathon 1980" astronomical conference held at Astronaut Hall on the Brevard Community College campus in Cocoa. Dr. Strother spoke on astronomical research to the Year 2,000. The two-day conference drew participants from throughout the Southeast.

Dr. Ed Strother was chairman for the recent "Advances in Aerospace Technology" symposium at Gleason Auditorium. He also spoke on "lighter-than-air technology in the space age" during the event sponsored by the Cape Canaveral Chapter of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. Dr. Andrew Revay offered opening remarks for the symposium audience.

Attending the recent 44th Annual Meeting of the Florida Academy of Sciences in Tampa were Drs. Kerry B. Clark, John G. Morris, Richard L. Turner, George C. Webster, and Gary N. Wells of Biological Sciences. Graduate students who attended were W. C. Aspden, B. K. Brown, K. R. Jensen, D. K. Strand, and G. R. Waugh.

The F.I.T. contingent presented seven papers. Aspden and Dr. Wells related information on photosynthetic characteristics of seagrasses. Dr. Turner delivered a paper on "Disc Autonomy in Brittlestars: Predator Avoidance Mechanism?" Dr. Morris and D. L. Poffenberger offered a paper on habits of feral swine in a subtropical environment, and Strand and Dr. Morris offered information on reproductive ecology and behavior of the Florida feral hog.

Jensen's paper looked at the effect of structure, nutritional value of food preference and growth of some Florida sacoglossans. Brown delivered a paper on gut restoration during regeneration of the disc of a brittlestar, and Waugh reported on chloroplast ultrastructure in the digestive diverticula "Caliphyllia mediterranea" A. Costa (Opisthobranchia: Sauroglossa) and its algal food, "Bryopsis plumosa" C. Agardh (Chlorophyta: Siphonales).

Dr. John W. Eaton, noted biochemical geneticist and director of medical genetics for the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology at the University of Minnesota, was a recent guest speaker for Biological Sciences. Visiting F.I.T. under sponsorship of the NSF-RIAS speakers program, Dr. Eaton presented lectures on "Killer Polymorphisms: Human Genes versus Malaria," and "The Fetus, the Fish, and the Mountaineer: Adaptation to Hypoxic Hypoxia."

Dr. Roger Manley of Management and Humanities moderated a panel on "Women in Management" and discussed his research on the subject at the monthly meeting of the Brevard Personnel Association.

The Education Testing Service has included the "Values Measurement Instrument" developed by Dr. Manley and Eleyse Manley in its Test Collection. ETS will announce acquisition of the Values Measurement Instrument, and will make it and accompanying protocol available to qualified researchers.

APRIL CALENDAR
Events in Gleason Auditorium

4 Forensic Society movie. beginning 7:00 p.m.
5-11 Astronomy Society movie. beginning 6:30 p.m.
12-18 Science fiction movie. beginning 7:00 p.m.
14-18 FAA-FIT. Lighting Protection Workshop
20 Golden Oldie Appreciation Society movie. "Magic Christian," beginning 7:00 p.m.
24-26 College Players present "The Adding Machine," 8:00 p.m.
Conoco Grant Given

A $5,000 grant has been presented to the Department of Oceanography and Ocean Engineering by Conoco (Continental Oil Co.).

Dr. Norbert W. O'Hara, department head, said the Conoco contribution was presented by company representative F. R. Conley. The grant is part of continuing Conoco support for ocean-related programs.

"We will use part of that money to support our students and faculty who go to the Offshore Technology Conference at Houston in May," O'Hara said. That annual educational event draws up to 100,000 persons.

"Some of the money will go toward needed equipment and materials," O'Hara said of additional assistance for the university's expanding ocean programs.

O'Hara said the contribution to F.I.T. was made through a Conoco research branch based at Ponca City, Oklahoma.

Library Shaped

A model of the proposed four-story library building reflects a preliminary design recently completed by a Chicago architectural firm. Design work for a structure to be located east of the Quadrangle was made possible by a $25,000 grant from the Edyth Bush Charitable Foundation of Winter Park.

Baseball Successes Mount

Showing a form that could remake the university's baseball success record, the Engineers squad for the current season had in late March piled up 19 wins against eight losses.

Last year the baseball team posted a 23-win, 20-loss record under Coach Les Hall's guidance to establish a best-ever level of winning.

In April the team will face a dozen contests, most of them scheduled at F.I.T.

Those opportunities to help the team toward a strong season finish include an April 7 game with the University of Central Florida, 3:00 p.m.; April 8 against Florida Southern College, 3:30 p.m.; April 12, facing Flagler College, 1:00 p.m. (doubleheader); April 17, against Florida Memorial College, 3:30 p.m.; April 20, again facing Florida Memorial, 1:00 p.m., and April 22, matched against St. Leo College, 3:00 p.m.
Faces of F.I.T. on a Spring Day

Photos - R. Goldberg