



Flagler forward

# Groundbreakers AND *Wavemakers*









Dear Flagler Family,

It's a new year for Flagler College and our Saints community at large. As we look ahead to the exciting new opportunities of 2025, I am also pleased to share with you the Spring edition of our *Groundbreakers and Wavemakers* newsletter series.

Inside, you will read about a new athletic facility and the impact of named faculty positions. Most importantly, you will learn about the exciting progress we continue to make in our Flagler Forward campaign, together.

Last year, I was privileged to attend campaign events up and down the Atlantic seaboard. Through those events, I was able to meet many of the incredible donors who have been so pivotal in pushing us to greater heights. These newsletters are a celebration of their efforts, and I hope they inspire you to imagine the role you too could play in accomplishments like these as we charge ahead.

As we continue our Flagler Forward momentum, I am filled with optimism for our future as a College of academic distinction. We are on the cusp of a historic transformation, and I am certain that this coming year will be our best yet.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John A. Delaney', with a stylized flourish at the end.

John A. Delaney  
President of Flagler College

# *Building a Legacy*

## THROUGH AN ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIP

In 2015, Peter and Sue Freytag recognized the potential of Flagler College's Business Administration Program and sought to elevate it through their philanthropy. Their vision was clear: attract the finest business minds to campus and create a lasting impact on the College and the community. This vision materialized with the establishment of the Peter and Sue Freytag Endowed Distinguished Professorship in Business.

"When we first discussed the vision of Flagler's Business Program with Dr. Abare, we clearly saw the impact that could be made in St. Augustine if Flagler had the financial resources to attract talented professors from across the nation," Sue said.

"Especially in these times, investing in strong educational leaders helps turn young adults into model citizens," Peter said.

Allison Roberts, the first Freytag Associate Professor of Economics, spearheaded the development of the Brown Innovation Center (BIC), a cutting-edge facility that fosters multidisciplinary collaboration and provides students with opportunities to engage in innovative projects.

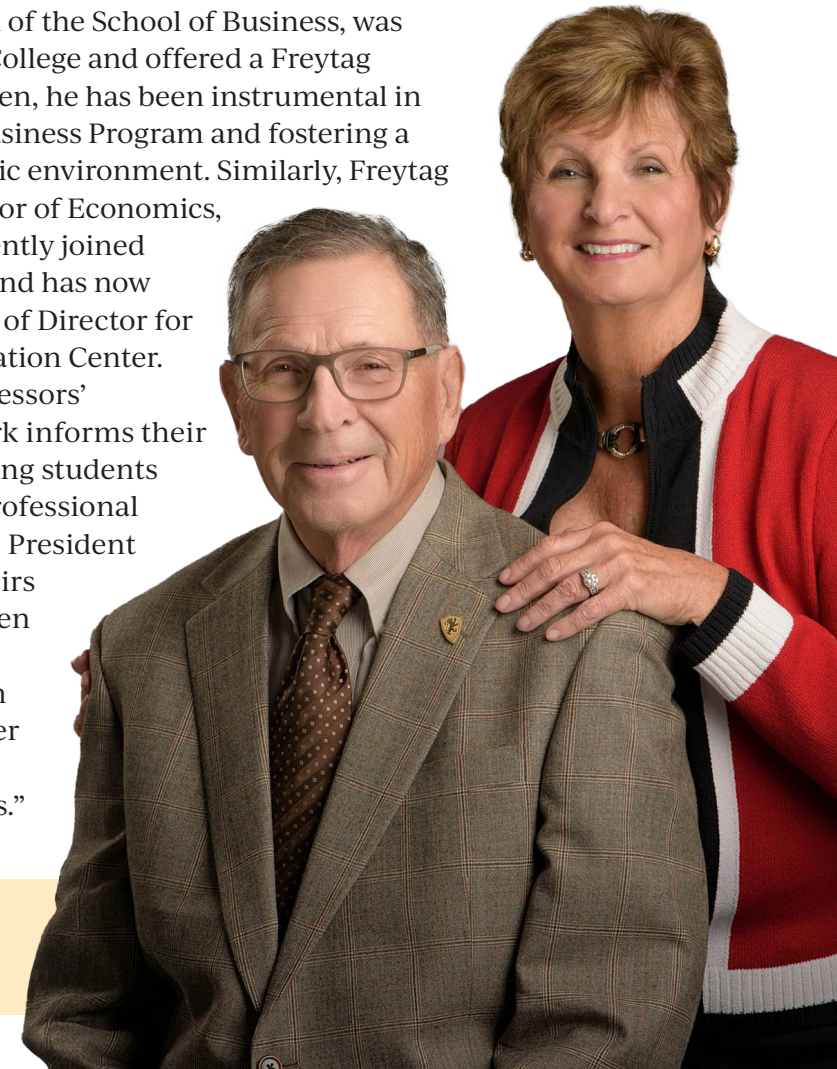
Freytag Professor of Hospitality and Tourism, Dave Rivera, Jr., used his funds to transform St. Augustine into a living laboratory for Hospitality and Tourism Management students. As program director, he oversees community events like the annual Spanish Food and Wine Festival, which allows students to organize, manage and execute major community events under the guidance of local professionals.

The Peter and Sue Freytag Endowed Distinguished

Professorship in Business has also been essential to recruiting top-tier academic talent to campus and enriching departmental leadership.

Charles White, Freytag Professor of Management at Flagler College and Dean of the School of Business, was recruited to the College and offered a Freytag position; since then, he has been instrumental in advancing the Business Program and fostering a dynamic academic environment. Similarly, Freytag Associate Professor of Economics, Derek Yonai, recently joined Flagler's faculty and has now assumed the role of Director for the Brown Innovation Center.

"Endowed professors' research and work informs their teaching, providing students with hands-on professional experience," Vice President of Academic Affairs Art Vanden Houten said. "This real-world application separates a Flagler education from other institutions."



**THE PETER AND SUE FREYTAG ENDOWED DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORSHIP IN BUSINESS STANDS AS A SHINING EXAMPLE OF THE FAR-REACHING IMPACT THESE POSITIONS CAN HAVE ON A COLLEGE AND ITS COMMUNITY.**



1. DEREK YONAI, PHD, JD
2. CHARLES WHITE, PHD
3. DAVID RIVERA, JR., PHD
4. ALLISON ROBERTS, PHD







# DONORS RALLY BEHIND ALUMNI BASEBALL TRADITION ROOM

Donor support is propelling the creation of an exciting new facility for Flagler Baseball. To be located on the back and side of the team's existing dugout, the Alumni Baseball Tradition Room will enshrine the program's storied history while also recognizing the special alumni who have been a part of it.

A number of loyal donors gathered to crowdfund the new building, and the College achieved its \$150,000 fundraising goal with a \$50,000 donation from Allen and Delores Lastinger. Through their gift, the couple elected to name the facility in honor of Head Coach Dave Barnett, who proposed the Room's creation and recently retired after 37 years of dedication to Flagler's Baseball Program.

"Dave Barnett was the heart, soul and face of Flagler Baseball since its inception, and it's important to recognize and commemorate his

contributions," the couple said.

The Robert David Barnett Jr. Tradition Room will serve as a social space for friends of Flagler Baseball to gather, watch games, and enjoy the program's proud history. Beginning with the 1975 season, talented players will be memorialized on the walls with team photographs and action shots. Most importantly, the facility will celebrate and chronicle Flagler Baseball's success while also recruiting gifted new players to perpetuate the program's championship tradition.

"Dave Barnett left an incredible legacy at Flagler College, the athletics department, and especially the Baseball Program," said Director of Athletics, Jud Damon. "Naming the Tradition Room in his honor provides a lasting recognition of his importance to Saints Nation."

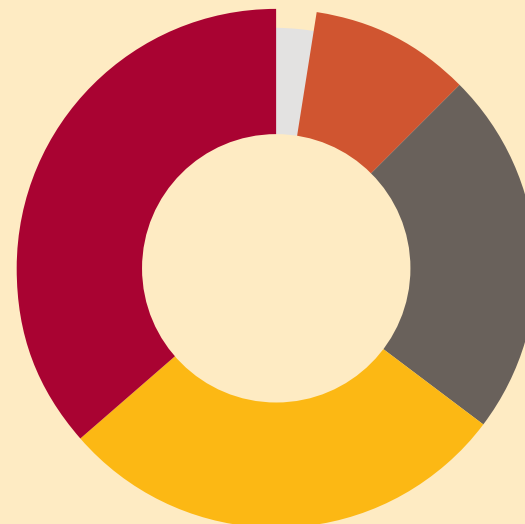




THE ROBERT DAVID BARNETT  
JR. TRADITION ROOM



COACH BARNETT RECEIVES  
HONORARY CHAIR DURING  
FAREWELL CEREMONY.



# Campaign Progress

(AS OF JANUARY 15, 2025)



*Investing in*  
**STUDENTS**  
\$14,725,491



*Investing in*  
**FACULTY**  
\$6,611,508



*Investing in*  
**PROGRAMS**  
\$18,395,985



*Investing in*  
**PLACES**  
\$23,793,587

\$63,526,571 raised to date from 10,672 donors  
toward private philanthropy goal of \$65,000,000



**ARE YOU READY TO MOVE FLAGLER FORWARD?**

Visit [www.flagler.edu/flaglerforward](http://www.flagler.edu/flaglerforward)  
or scan this QR code to learn more.

