FKCC’s new planning and assessment processes are entering their third year in progress. And as the assessment results for the strategic plan and annual plans are reviewed, the advancements that the college community is making becomes extremely evident.

The College has structured its planning cycle to coincide with the fiscal year in order to best incorporate budget requests into annual planning. By doing this, the college’s planning cycle is based on Reporting Year, which is July 1 to June 30, or also summer, fall, and spring semesters. This planning schedule allows for assessment in the Fall, utilizing conclusive data that is produced and publicized during the summer months.

This past Fall 2005, the college began assessing its 2004-2005 plans. This assessment has been completed and now this Spring 2006, the College community begins planning for July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007. This 2006-2007 plan is based on a preliminary assessment of the current plan, 2005-2006, that is scheduled to end on June 30, 2006.

This newsletter contains the achievements identified through the conclusive and preliminary assessments of the Fine Arts Unit; comprised of Ceramics, Photography, and Studio Arts. Utilizing these data results, the program directors for these subjects were able to appropriately plan for the upcoming 2006-2007 reporting year.

**Achievements Identified Through Assessment:**

**FKCC’s Fine Arts Units**

**Ceramics**

*...The facilities here at FKCC offer an opportunity to make a wide range of ceramics, and it’s always great to see the studio do so much to beautify campus, vis-a-vis murals, fountains and other work made by visiting artists, faculty, and students. Thanks.*

- Guest Artist comment regarding Jay’s Spring 2005 International Workshop

**Assessment Results for 2004-2005:**

Jay Gogin, the director of the Ceramics Unit, is well-known for his relentless desire to improve his program. In the 2004 to 2005 reporting year, Jay had established objectives to renovate the ceramics unit by purchasing new equipment and replacing some structural components of the facility.

Because the equipment and renovations requests fall under PECO, Jay was anticipating that the requests be considered and approved during the 2004 to 2005 year and that he may be awarded funding during the 2005 to 2006 year. Another objective Jay established to enhance his program was the hiring of an adjunct instructor. This request was approved during the 2004-2005 year and enabled Jay to develop, offer, and teach more advanced classes to the community, allowing the adjunct to focus on the introductory courses. This action presented more learning opportunities for students.

*Ceramics continued...see back of newsletter*
ASSessment Results for 2004-2005:

Restructuring the studio arts course offerings for program director, Kate Miller, was her primary focus. A main task she completed was reclassifying her Gallery Display course from GRA to ART which allowed the course to be offered to students for transferable credit. Kate has also redesigned the Art History curriculum which has resulted in increased enrollment. These modifications that Kate has made to her course offerings have contributed to the 70% increase in overall studio arts enrollment for reporting year 2003-2004 to 2004-2005.

In addition to the reclassification of the Gallery Display course and the modifications to the Art History curriculum, Kate further restructured her program by enhancing her curricula to ensure student learning of design fundamentals. To complete this, Kate strengthened all academic coursework to compliment the experiential approach of her classes. This modification resulted in improved student response, participation, and higher production levels.

Assessing student learning is a priority to Kate, evidenced by her extensive participation in the assessment of general education for FKCC. During fall 2004 and spring 2005, Kate assessed the quality of general education in the areas of communication, diversity and cultural awareness, humanities and fine arts, and critical thinking. Of her eight general education objectives established, an average 87% were met in the above listed categories. On Conference Day, Fall 2005, Vice President Crowley presented Kate with an award for her dedication and commitment to general education assessment.

Kate’s Preliminary Assessment Results for Her 2005-2006 Reporting Year Annual Plan:

In review of this year’s plan (scheduled to end June 2006), Kate found that her primary objectives for Studio Arts facility improvement have not been met due to budget constraints. However, in hindsight, not receiving the funds to buy new equipment and place corkboard on her classroom walls was fortunate since her classroom sustained significant water damage from the four hurricanes that struck the Keys this past 2005 season.

Kate’s achievements for the 2005-2006 reporting year far surpass the disappointment with not receiving facility upgrades. In Fall 2005, President Seeker invited Kate to attend the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), Commission on Colleges 2005 Annual Conference to learn more about general education assessment. Learning about general education assessment from peers and other colleges has resulted in discussions regarding the formation of a general education task force, chaired by both Kate and Lynne Bentley-Kemp. The preliminary charge of this task force is to investigate the prospect of incorporating service learning into FKCC’s general education assessment process.

Further preliminary review of this 2005-2006 reporting year identified additional occurrences that serve to enhance student learning. First, Kate expanded the offering of Figure Drawing to 2 classes in the Spring 2006 semester. Both classes are full with a total of 28 students. To make the Figure Drawing classes even more inspirational, Kate has been successful in recruiting a new array of models, which provides the students with new approaches and perspectives on life drawing.

And finally, another activity during this 2005-2006 reporting year is Kate’s attendance at the College Art Association conference in Boston this February 2006. Vice President Crowley enthusiastically approved Kate’s participation at this conference; confident that she will integrate new initiatives and teaching methodologies into her already progressive program.
The primary objective for the Photography Unit Director, Lynne Bentley-Kemp, was to enhance her unit’s curriculum and course offerings. The three expected outcomes that she established for this objective were met and well received by the College and her students.

First, Lynne developed a new course in digital camera work. This course has experienced much popularity and success since its inception, demonstrated by a waiting list to enroll every semester. Part of the popularity of this course is attributable to the design of Lynne’s curriculum. By teaching students a greater understanding of the elements and principles of design and how they apply to the photographic image, students acquire an enhanced design skill set. Students are not the only ones to benefit from this instruction. The community of Key West also has the opportunity to view the innovations of Lynne’s photography students at the Lucky Street Gallery’s seasonal close-out event. The Lucky Street Gallery now has a standing annual invitation with Lynne’s program to celebrate this event.

The second expected outcome that Lynne accomplished was revising her curriculum for the documentary photography course to include a segment on social change. It is her intention that students become more aware of diversity and cultural issues and she incorporated a curricular component that allows for a trip to Cuba or culturally different destination. The third expected outcome that Lynne achieved was the hiring of an adjunct instructor to teach photography courses over the summer. This allowed FKCC to improve student accessibility to photography courses throughout the entire year.

Lynne’s contributions to the College in the 2004-2005 reporting year were equally as significant as her contributions to her program. She is a constant participant in general education assessment, finding that an average 79% of her students evaluated met her general education objectives. Lynne is also a member of the Institutional Effectiveness Committee and lends her insight and expertise to the planning and evaluation processes of the College. In addition to these administrative contributions, Lynne benefits the College creatively as ad hoc Gallery Director for the Gallery Committee.

The preliminary review of Lynne’s 2005-2006 plan identified that her administrative objectives would not be met this year since they were for facility and equipment upgrades and these upgrades were not funded. However, Lynne may still consider them valid and submit them in her 2006-2007 annual plan for further consideration.

In the meantime, Lynne has been continuing to author new courses that address community interest in digital photography. She initiated a collaboration with the graphic arts instructor, Joseph Kukella, and with Kate Miller in designing cross disciplinary courses, such as self-promotion and marketing, digital printmaking for exhibition and presentation and digital workflow management.

During the 2005-2006 reporting year, Lynne established a temporary archive system in order to accept the gift of vintage photographs from a community donor. She has accepted the donation of the Rhoades Collection of 19th and 20th Century photographs and is in the process of cataloguing the collection and creating a condition report. This donation was approved by the College Board of Trustees at the November 2005 meeting and is being housed in the photo lab so that photography students can have firsthand experience with the identification, care and handling of these artifacts. The Gallery and Display students are helping to prepare an exhibition based on the collection in the FKCC Library that will open March 9, 2006.

Similar to the 2004-2005 year, Lynne continues to demonstrate her commitment to assisting the College in achieving its mission by participating on the Institutional Effectiveness Committee, Enrollment Management Committee, acting as Chair for the Grievance Committee, and also as Vice President/Recorder for Faculty Council. President Seeker acknowledged Lynne’s dedication to improvement and invited her to attend the SACS Annual Conference in December, 2005.

Outside of her work for FKCC, Lynne serves as Education Chair for the Board of Sculpture Key West, has been the curator for four exhibits at various galleries in the community and has exhibited her work at six special shows and events in Monroe County. Lynne will also be attending the annual Society for Photographic Education Conference in Chicago, IL this March 2006.
In the Spring, at the end of the 2004-2005 reporting year, Jay planned, coordinated and facilitated his seventh annual international workshop where he invited American and Japanese guest potters to attend and share their expertise with workshop participants. As always, this workshop was an extremely beneficial learning experience for all attendees. A survey of both the workshop participants and guest instructors yielded 100% satisfaction rates. Many students and guest potters alike shared their wonderful experiences with this innovative workshop by writing comments similar to the one below on their surveys.

“This was an EXCELLENT Workshop! The guest potters were exceptional and so willing to share their expertise and talent with students. It was a great learning experience for me.”

Student comment from Jay’s Spring 2005 International Workshop

**CERAMICS**

**JAY’S PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT RESULTS FOR HIS 2005-2006 REPORTING YEAR ANNUAL PLAN:**

Just as the 2005-2006 reporting year was beginning its cycle, Jay began an adventure to further beautify FKCC’s Gulf lagoon. He conceived a vision to incorporate 1,000 pound, red, “mountain eggs” into a stone garden to support the magnificent clay sculpture created by Master Potter, Paul Soldner of Aspen, CO. This huge project that required inspiration, concept, vision, design, landscaping, execution, digging, lifting, lifting and lifting became a reality through the generosity of Mr. Soldner: “Here at my studio in Aspen I have many stones that have given me great peace and inspiration. During these troubled times I feel very privileged to be able to share some of that peacefulness and my creative energy with my good friends in Key West.” Upon Mr. Soldner’s direction, Jay acquired 10 of these inspired boulders and drove them over 3,000 miles to their new home in Key West.

Although the concept of the Soldner Stone Garden was not part of Jay’s 2005-2006 original annual plan when he developed it back in February 2005, it is still a very important achievement that has benefited his program and the community and will be incorporated into Jay’s formal assessment of his 2005-2006 plan in the Fall of 2006.

Also to be included in Jay’s preliminary assessment of his 2005-2006 annual plan is the damage the ceramics unit sustained during the Hurricanes of Summer/Fall 2005. Jay had carried over his equipment and renovations requests from his 2004-2005 annual plan to 2005-2006, but found himself facing repairs and replacements far beyond what was originally planned. Therefore, when developing his 2006-2007 plan, Jay must revise many of the equipment and renovations requests to address the new needs of his program.

In typical Jay Gogin fashion, the detrimental effects caused by the hurricanes were turned into a positive experience through his outreach to the children from Poinciana School. After cleaning out the hurricane damage from the ceramics studio, Jay salvaged enough of his equipment to make clay pots with the Poinciana School children, who were displaced after Hurricane Wilma and schooled at FKCC for several weeks. This activity brought much joy to both the students and Poinciana faculty and resulted in encouraging enrollment in Jay’s ceramics courses from the Poinciana teachers.

Finally, throughout preliminary review of his annual plan for 2005-2006, Jay identified that he has already completed an important objective, which is to have his status at FKCC restored to Faculty. Jay completed comprehensive portfolios of his work and professional experience that clearly demonstrate his high level of caliber as a master potter and instructor. This transition in status has allowed Jay to offer his courses for credit, now a wonderful opportunity for students seeking electives for their degree programs.