



NEWS RELEASE

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Full Sail University Honored With Three Top Awards - Graduate, Faculty, Education Administrator of the Year

TALLAHASSEE, FL – Aug. 17, 2015 – Full Sail University received three of the highest honors given to career schools by the Florida Association of Postsecondary Schools and Colleges (FAPSC).

Valencia Bromell was honored as 2015 Graduate of the Year, David Franko was given the Education Administrator of the Year and Heather Torres was named 2015 Faculty Member of the Year at the FAPSC annual conference held recently in South Florida.

Bromell is a U.S. veteran who served in the Marines as a welder in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Egypt and other foreign countries as a leader in the Battalion Command.

She was Salutatorian of her Music Business Bachelor of Science class; and is currently pursuing her Entertainment Business Masters of Science degree. Seeking a career in radio, she is now the Assistant to the Promotions Manager at ESPN 580, where she continues to excel and is learning to produce her own shows on News 96.5 radio.

In her free time, she designs and develops web pages for new artists and has started her own artist management company, where she represents a new band. She also volunteers once a month at a shelter for battered families by providing haircuts for children.

“Outstanding graduates like Ms. Bromell continue to be at the heart of why we do what we do every day,” said Curtis Austin, FAPSC executive director. “She is such an incredible inspiration to us and a perfect recipient for this award.”

Recognizing that there was a need to help students outside of the classroom, Franko was instrumental in the creation of student assistance programs including a discreet food pantry, which were among his many merits that secured the top Education Administrator award.

“Mr. Franko’s successes extend beyond classroom and books to help students through times when they need extra care and attention,” Austin said.

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As the top faculty member recognized, Torres has led multiple school-wide initiatives directly tied to providing students with exceptional service and growth opportunities, including the development of a new Career Module for all undergraduates, and organizing a year-long student competition about spreading awareness of climate change effects in conjunction with the United Nations.

She not only serves as the Department Chair of Entertainment Business and Course Director of Principles of Digital Marketing – but also as a personal mentor to hundreds of students; and is also an active member of the art community.

“Ms. Torres demonstrates the dedicated faculty members that inspire students to achieve success in and out of the classroom,” Austin said. “We applaud her dedication and commitment.”

Full Sail University, based in Central Florida, was previously named the 2014 School of the Year.

FAPSC has been the voice of Florida’s career schools since 1956. The association of more than 250 members works on behalf of the more 1,000 licensed private career schools and colleges in Florida that prepare students each year for employment in more than 200 occupational fields by offering degree programs, certification and training.

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