State College of Florida Students Celebrate Graduation

By Toni Whitt

Sunday, May 6, 2012

Venice Resident Jacqueline MacPherson Named SCF Outstanding Graduate at the Sarasota Manatee campus

Graduation season has begun.

First up: State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota. Students there marched in their Spring 2012 commencement exercises Saturday in Neel Performing Arts Center at SCF Bradenton, 5840 26th St. West.

Two ceremonies were held to accommodate the 279 graduates who participated. More than 800 students were eligible for graduation. In addition to associate degree graduates, 14 students received their Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees.

The Outstanding Graduate Award was presented to Jacqueline MacPherson, for showing superior leadership, academic achievement and community service while attending SCF.

MacPherson served as a student state secretary and student delegate for the Florida Dental Hygiene Association and student delegate for the SCF Student American Dental Hygienists’ Association. She participated in Smile Lobby Day held in Tallahassee and volunteered at the SCF Boys & Girls Club Giving Kids a Smile Day, American Cancer Society Making Strides Against Breast Cancer, Special Olympics Florida, Creekwood Dental Giving Thanks for a Smile and Healthy Smiles for Healthy Kids education program.

MacPherson is a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. After graduation, she plans to pursue a Bachelor of Applied Science in Dental Hygiene at St. Petersburg College.

Other finalists were James Hybl, Bradenton; Amanda Peebles, Bradenton; Dillon Clancy, Nokomis; Kimberly Edmondson, Sarasota; Ileisy Lobaina, Sarasota; and Dillon Clancy, Nokomis. Funding for the Outstanding Graduate Award is provided by the State College of Florida Foundation Inc.

Randall W. Hanna, the new chancellor of the Florida College System, was the commencement speaker. Hanna’s background in higher education includes serving as the chair of the Florida State
Board of Community Colleges and the Florida College System Foundation and on the boards of University of West Florida, Tallahassee Community College, and Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University.

The national anthem was sung by the SCF Chamber Choir conducted by Melodie Dickerson, and the alma mater was performed by SCF music students including guitarist Ethan Howland and vocalists Christianna D’Amico, Jessica Tilicky and Lisa Termine.

Venice resident Jacqueline MacPherson was named the SCF Outstanding Graduate at Spring 2012 commencement on Saturday, May 5. Credit Jessica Klipa
Outstanding Graduate Award winner Venice resident Jacqueline MacPherson with other OGA finalists Ileisy Lobaina, Sarasota; Dillon Clancy, Nokomis; Amanda Peebles, Bradenton; Kimberly Edmondson, Sarasota; and James Hybl, Bradenton. Credit Jessica Klipa