Some would consider the Jacksonville Port Authority (JAXPORT) to be the economic engine of Northeast Florida. Through JAXPORT’s Talleyrand, Dames Point and Blount Island Marine Terminals, the cargo and cruise business supported 65,000 dependent and port related jobs across the region, and generated $19 billion in economic impact in 2009. Last year JAXPORT and its maritime partners handled 7.3 million tons of dry and liquid bulk, breakbulk, vehicles, roll on roll off (Ro/Ro) and containerized cargoes using 18 container cranes, on-dock refrigerated and freezer warehousing and Foreign Trade Zone status. JAXPORT is a very diversified port operating as the number 2 U.S. east coast port for vehicle handling; number 1 U.S. port for Puerto Rico trade (by tonnage and value); and number 12 U.S. port for container handling. And just for fun, you can hop on-board the Carnival Fascination and be one of 186,000 passengers to that cruised out of JAXPORT to the Bahamas or Key West.

Just as in any business, location is fundamental to the success of JAXPORT. Shippers are eager to take advantage of Jacksonville’s location at the crossroads of three major railroads (CSX, Norfolk Southern and Florida East Coast Railway) and three interstate highways (I-95, I-10 and I-75). JAXPORT is the westernmost port on the east coast of the United States. If you look at a map you will see that Jacksonville is directly south of Cleveland! In 8 hours trucks leaving Jacksonville can reach 50 million consumers, and in 24 hours trucks can reach 60% of the US population.

The future of JAXPORT looks bright as developments in the transportation industry unfold. The widening of the Panama Canal is due to be completed in 2014, enabling the canal to support ships three times larger than it can currently handle. JAXPORT is widening and dredging the channel to accommodate these larger vessels.

In 2009 JAXPORT became home to the fully automated state-of-the-art TraPac Container Terminal, Jacksonville’s first direct shipping connection with Asia. In addition, JAXPORT is working toward construction of a terminal for Korea’s Hanjin Shipping Company, making Jacksonville its first East Coast hub. With major deals such as this, the impact of JAXPORT on the regional economy is only expected to grow in the future. In an uncertain economy this is great news for people entering the Transportation and Logistics field. The market for skilled and knowledgeable professionals in the industry will continue to grow locally as well as nationally. Jacksonville is known as America’s Logistics Center. JAXPORT and the UNF Transportation & Logistics Flagship Program are here to make sure we continue to earn this distinction.

Important Upcoming Dates

Friday, October 29   T&L Fall Career Day

Friday, October 29   TLS  Hubbard House  Toy Drive. Since 2002, TLS has been making holidays happier for women and children who are victims of domestic violence. We will be collecting NEW toys, books, hygiene items, gift cards, cash and clothing. Drop box in Marketing & Logistics Department office 42/3001 or 42/3405. TLS will deliver items and decorate the lobby of Hubbard House on Saturday, December 4 at 9:00 a.m. If you wish to volunteer email TLSociety@unf.edu. This drive is a collaborative effort with the Propeller Club.

Wednesday, November 3, 9:00 p.m. 42/1020   TLS Meeting & Guest Speakers: Get plugged in & discover the power of networking. Representatives from the American Society of Transportation & Logistics (AST&L) the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals (CSCMP) the National Defense Transportation Association (NDTA), The Propeller Club of Jacksonville, the Transportation Club of Jacksonville and Women in Transportation (WTS) will attend the meeting. Proudly serving Mojo’s Barbeque. Funded by Student Government.

Wednesday, November 3, 6:00 p.m. Bldg. 43   T&L Flagship Program and  Ceva Logistics are hosting a panel discussion on supply chain innovations shaping tomorrow’s supply chain

Friday, November 19, (9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. )   PenserSC Jacksonville Warehouse and Distribution Center. Reserve your spot TLSociety@unf.edu. Transportation provided.

Get To Know TLS Secretary & Newsletter Editor:

MATTHEW BULLARD

I am a 25-year-old student from the white sandy beaches and clear waters of Panama City Beach, Florida. A couple of years ago, I decided to leave my job at the South Walton Fire Department and move to Jacksonville to complete my education at UNF. I plan to graduate Fall 2011 with a double major in Transportation and Logistics, Marketing. I joined TLS, in the Spring of 2010, and quickly started to participate as a writer for the Newsletter. The graduation of the previous editors created a leadership opportunity for me to step up as editor for the Fall 2010 semester. I also currently hold the secretary position on the TLS Executive Board. I plan to intern in the upcoming semester and I know that TLS has provided me with priceless experience that will help me differentiate myself from the pack. Employers are looking for students with exceptional academics, leadership, and work experience. I am confident that my involvement with TLS will ultimately enable me to obtain a high paying job doing something I love.

Life After Graduation: Rachel Cecil

By Matthew Bullard

Rachel Cecil graduated April of 2009 from UNF with a degree in Transportation and Logistics. Cecil currently works 45 to 50 hours a week as a supply chain transportation analyst for Stein Mart. A typical day at Stein Mart for Cecil includes booking truck loads (TLs), managing store deliveries, vendor inquiries, business recovery charges, invoice auditing, and monitoring SDC/CC dispatches. Cecil is also responsible for analyzing and monitoring $24 million in freight invoices for financial reporting to corporate accounting. While at Stein Mart, Cecil has initiated and implemented business recovery charge (BRC) practices, which resulted in a vendor compliance increase from five percent to 98 percent. Cecil stated, “TLS better prepared me for my job through multiple networking opportunities such as meetings, tours, career days, and philanthropic events like Relay for Life.”