



FIRST NAME
LAST NAME

*Interesting fact or
quote about this
person*

**QUESTION (TOP 3 QUESTION REGARDING
INTERESTING/ENTHUSIASTIC ANSWER)**

Answer

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Answer



MARK HILLIS

Recipient of the FSU Alumni Circle of Gold Award, the FSU Alumni Association Emeritus Alumni Society Commitment to Excellence Award, the FSU Faculty Senate Mores Torch Award, the FSU Real Estate Network Award, and is a member of the FSU College of Business Hall of Fame.

*FSU Graduate
Tallahassee, FL*

WHERE AND WHEN DID YOU ATTEND COLLEGE? SINCE SCHOOL, WHERE HAVE YOU LIVED AND WORKED?

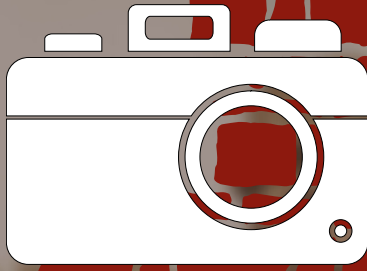
Mark Hillis earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration majoring in Finance from Florida State University's College of Business in 1964 and a Juris Doctor Degree from the Woodrow Wilson College of Law in 1977. Mark, a retired major of the U.S. Marine Corps, served 33 years as first vice president for SunTrust Bank in Atlanta. In 2016, he continued his service by accepting a seat on the SunTrust Bank Florida Panhandle Regional Advisory Board of Directors through 2019. In March 2020 he joined the Tallahassee Truist Community Advisory Board of Advisors.

WHERE AND HOW IN YOUR COMMUNITY DO YOU INVEST TIME?

Mark served on the FSU Board of Trustees from 2010 to 2020. He served as the Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees and chaired four committees during his tenure. Mark and his wife, Nan, have established 7 endowed scholarships at FSU for students and 1 professorship in Real Estate in the College of Business. Additionally, they have donated to the FSU Alumni Center, the new College of Business Building, Legacy Hall, the Veterans Legacy Complex, and the new FSU Football Operations Center Building.

RECENT FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY CONTRIBUTIONS

- Funded a naming gift to the new FSU Football Operations Center (2021)
- Established the Mark and Nan Casper Hillis Endowed Fund for Student Veterans (2017)
- Funded a deferred charitable gift annuity to establish the Nancy Casper Hillis and Mark Hillis Professorship in Real Estate in the Florida State University College of Business (2015)



ROBIN BLACK

'I have been involved with the Council since its inception. The students who present at the Council meetings have reinvigorated my interest in the University's academic programs. I hope to be able to support the current and prospective students through mentorship, networking, messaging and scholarship awards.'

*FSU Graduate
Longwood, FL*

WHERE AND WHEN DID YOU ATTEND COLLEGE? WHAT IS SOMETHING THAT HAD A LASTING IMPACT ON YOU WHILE YOU WERE THERE?

'I attended FSU from 1993-2000 where I obtained my bachelor's in Public Relations and Political Science in 1997 before attending the FSU College of Law (J.D. 2000). Some of the most valuable experiences I had were through internships in both the College of Communications and College of Social Sciences. At one point, I was interning for the lobbyist who was running the "Pro Casino" campaign in Florida while taking classes from the Professor who was heading the "No Casino" campaign in Florida. I also had the opportunity to work for a Public Relations Firm in Orlando, Florida with clients that included Hard Rock Cafe and Universal Studios, where I had the opportunity to work on large event planning with the occasional celebrity sighting.'

HOW WAS YOUR STUDENT EXPERIENCE AT FLORIDA STATE?

'As a freshman, I lived in Landis where I was part of the honors program and loved its location on green. During my time at FSU, I was lucky to participate in some wonderful organizations. I was a member of the Gamma Phi Beta Sorority, where I lived in the house and ultimately served as President. As a proud Nole, I served three years as a Seminole Ambassador where I was blessed to give tours to prospective students and their families. As the Vice President, I ran their membership drive and was able to travel on out of state recruitment trips with other members. Some of my most rewarding memories were being stopped by Freshmen who let me know they had taken one of my tours and had chosen FSU.'

SINCE SCHOOL, WHERE HAVE YOU LIVED AND WORKED?

Since graduating, I have lived in Orlando where I work primarily as a medical malpractice and appellate attorney.



YVONNE BROWN

*'I am very taken
with the grit and
perseverance of our
Unconquered
Scholars.'*

*Honorary FSU
Graduate
Tallahassee, FL*

SINCE SCHOOL, WHERE HAVE YOU LIVED AND WORKED?

'I have lived and worked in Miami, FL since graduation. I am the first female tax collector for the Internal Revenue Service. After my retirement from government, I opened a tax practice representing individuals against IRS collection division.'

WHERE AND HOW IN YOUR COMMUNITY DO YOU INVEST TIME?

'In the Tallahassee Memorial Hospital Foundation board, I serve as a member for Florida State University.'

WHY DID YOU GET INVOLVED WITH THE COUNCIL?

'I am very taken with the grit and perseverance of our Unconquered Scholars. I have also met several of our Honors Students as a result of our Alumni awarded scholarship and have wonderful interactions with those students. We have developed a very lasting friendship with our most recent student, Robert Cotter and his family.'

WHAT MAKES FSU SPECIAL TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY? WHAT INSPIRES YOU TO STAY INVOLVED WITH THE UNIVERSITY?

'My husband graduated from Florida State in 1968. We met while he was a student here. Later on, our great niece Alejandra also attended Florida State in her uncle's footsteps and graduated in 2017. No other schools diminish our love for Florida State.'



SHEILA FLEMING

quote/phrase

*FSU Graduate
Atlanta, GA*

QUESTION

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SUSAN CONTENTE

'I am connected to the Council through my work in the division of Undergraduate Studies. My personal goal is to help connect Council members with a passion for supporting the university and our students in a meaningful and productive way.'

*OSU Graduate (?)
Tallahassee, FL*

WHERE AND WHEN DID YOU ATTEND COLLEGE? SINCE SCHOOL, WHERE HAVE YOU LIVED AND WORKED?

'I went to Oklahoma State University and studied English and Philosophy. I did do a study abroad summer and lived on a kibbutz in Israel. I worked directly with volunteers on the kibbutz providing housing, medical care, and other personal needs. I also volunteered to work with the chickens and the cows, and in the dining hall.

I've worked in several fields since leaving college, including advertising, public relations, and fundraising for a homeless shelter, social welfare agency, Wildlife Conservation Society, various Jewish causes, and FSU. I've lived in New York, Oklahoma, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Tennessee and Florida in that order. One of my most meaningful professional experiences was organizing and leading a weeklong Trustee visit with scientists to wildlife conservation and research projects in Yellowstone and the Grand Tetons.'

WHAT WAS THE MOST DEFINITIONAL LIFE EXPERIENCE FOR YOU?

The most definitional life experience for me was moving from the suburbs of New York as a thirteen-year-old to Tulsa. It was challenging, but it opened up my world and helped me appreciate living in different parts of the country. I also developed a stronger ability to connect with people of different backgrounds and life experiences.

WHAT MAKES FSU SPECIAL TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY?

'FSU has become my home. It has opened up many opportunities for me to grow and learn. My children feel at home on campus and we all consider ourselves 'Noles. None of us are graduates, but my children are in high school, so it is not too late!'



AMY HAGGARD

'I am a member of the Alumni Association and Seminole Boosters. I attend athletic events and try to attend at least one event during Opening Nights.'

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Tallahassee, FL

SINCE SCHOOL, WHERE HAVE YOU LIVED AND WORKED?

'Coastal Carolina University, 2007-2011, B.S. in Recreation in Sport Management Colorado State University, 2014-2017, M.S. in Student Affairs in Higher Education Florida State University, 2020-Present, Ph.D. in Higher Education. I am currently in my doctoral work with a goal of research around leadership identity in high achieving students.

I've lived in Conway, SC from 2012 - 2019 and worked at Coastal Carolina University. My work at CCU included Athletics, Counseling Services, Psychology and Sociology Department, and Alumni Relations. Now in Tallahassee and working at FSU, I truly enjoy my work with Honors, Scholars, and Fellows and now the entire Division of Undergraduate Studies. Working in multiple facets across higher education and continuing my education in higher education administration, I have truly grown an affinity for what opportunities higher education gives its participants. Those opportunities create stories, love, and engagement - and it is those components that I like to capture in my work to enhance the current students experience.'

WHAT MAKES FSU SPECIAL TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY?

'I am an FSU baby and a higher education in student affairs at FSU legacy child. My father was a marching chief and received his B.A. and Ed.D. at FSU. He got his doctorate in the same program I am now in. I was born in Tallahassee, FL and have never missed traveling to campus once a year. This university taught me love for a school and athletics from an early age, but through my maturation and continued education, FSU showed me the importance of history, tradition, and excellence. I cannot wait to graduate with my Ph.D. and be the second Dr. Haggard from the same program. I hope to continue in my dads footsteps in higher education and eventually work in the Division of Student Affairs here. I do bleed garnet and gold. '



HILARY HIGH

'I joined just before Joe O'Shea became Dean. The task ahead of him -- unexpected new opportunity in the midst of a pandemic -- was so huge, and his accessibility / approach really impressed me and motivated my husband and me to support the school.'

*FSU Double Graduate
Tampa, FL*

SINCE SCHOOL, WHERE HAVE YOU LIVED AND WORKED?

'After seven years in Tallahassee, I moved to Tampa in '98 and have been here since. I met my future husband in law school and we landed in Tampa based on its proximity to his family (Brooksville) and mine (Leesburg in Lake Co.). I spent 14 years as an attorney at Hill Ward Henderson, and in 2012 opened a full-time mediation practice. Starting and building a business has been incredibly rewarding, and I love working to help litigants try to resolve their disputes.'

WHAT MAKES FSU SPECIAL TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY?

'I was the first to attend college, so I had no allegiances. I had a great seven years at FSU. My husband's parents both went to school there. My husband went to UVA, and then we met at FSU College of Law. We had football season tickets for years, but after the kiddos came along made it to fewer and fewer games. We did make it to homecoming with a group of 12 adults and 16 kids for about 6 years straight. My son plays high school football so, for now, we're beholden most weekends in the fall. We are an FSU - UVA family, and when we play each other my husband is really torn.'

WHERE AND HOW IN YOUR COMMUNITY DO YOU INVEST TIME?

'My son is a high school junior, and my daughter is a high school freshman, and we have older parents within easy driving distance. Over the years, I've sat on local Bar Association committees, helped with committees, school fundraisers, done Tampa Connection, and plenty of one-and-done activities, but my time has primarily been spent on career development and my family. Making a longer term and larger commitment to the FSU Council has been a more significant personal investment than I typically make in an extra-curricular activity.'



J. ROBERT KIRK

'I am so proud of how far FSU has come since I was a student and would like to do what I can to contribute to its success. My personal goals are to make more FSU supporters aware of the needs and objectives of the Division of Undergraduate Studies and assist with fundraising to meet those needs and objectives.'

*FSU Graduate
Coral Gables, FL*

WHERE AND WHEN DID YOU ATTEND COLLEGE?

'I attended FSU from 1979 to 1983. I graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in Communications and Political Science. I attended law school at the University of Florida and graduated in 1986.'

WHAT WERE YOUR MEMORABLE EVENTS AT FSU? WHERE DID YOU LIVE AND WORK AS A STUDENT?

'While at FSU I joined a fraternity (Lambda Chi Alpha) and was very involved in campus activities as result. I was a student senator and president of the Political Science Honor Society. I have so many wonderful memories of my days on campus. I particularly enjoyed Homecoming and all the events around that weekend (building the homecoming floats, participating in skits and attending Pow Wow). My freshman year I lived in Kellum Hall. I thoroughly enjoyed living on campus and always look back on that year fondly. I lived in the fraternity house for several years and finally in an apartment close to campus. I worked briefly in the orientation office and gave campus tours.'

WHAT MAKES FSU SPECIAL TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY?

My years at FSU were among the most memorable and enjoyable years of my life. I have life long friendships as a result of my time at FSU. I love coming back to Tallahassee for football games and special events. My oldest son is currently a sophomore at FSU and is in the Honors Medical Scholars program. I was more than thrilled when he chose FSU for college and now have another reason to stay involved with the University. My younger son has picked FSU as his first choice and I hope he will follow his brother's footsteps in 2023. No other schools compete with FSU for love in our family.



JIM L. LEE

'Lots of Greek activities and what was better than 60's music! We even brought "The Turtles" to town at their peak of popularity. Met lifetime friends all with our FSU connection.'

*FSU Graduate
Destin, FL*

WHAT MAKES FSU SPECIAL TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY?

'It's only FSU. I have had three brothers also graduate from FSU and several nieces and nephews. First I was just involved with Seminole Boosters as an avid fan. Mafe Brooks got me involved with supporting the honors program and then Karen asked me to support Undergraduate Research and then asked me to join the Council! The students and the quality of our staff are what inspire me now.'

WHAT HAS BEEN THE MOST DEFINITIONAL LIFE EXPERIENCES FOR YOU?

'Of course I follow most of our athletic teams but also enjoy the cultural events through Opening Nights. I have been very fortunate to have traveled extensively the last 15 years and am particularly fond of New York City with the arts and culture. Africa and Peru were definite bucket list items. Life is still a journey with my partner of nearly 30 years, Gordon, and our pandemic saver, Charlie, an eleven year old rescue cocker spaniel!'

HOW AND WHEN DID YOU GET INVOLVED WITH THE COUNCIL, AND WHY?

'As mentioned earlier, through donating to Undergraduate programs, I was invited as an initial member of the Council probably ten years ago. I would hope to see the growth of our Undergraduate endowments and to reach and educate more Alumni and high schools about the strengths of our programs. Definitely want to see the Presidential Scholar program continue to be successful.'



SCOTT M. NEVITT

quote

*FSU Graduate
Tampa, FL*

WHERE AND WHEN DID YOU ATTEND COLLEGE? SINCE SCHOOL, WHERE HAVE YOU LIVED AND WORKED?

'FSU Undergrad, currently enrolled in FSU Master's MBA program.'

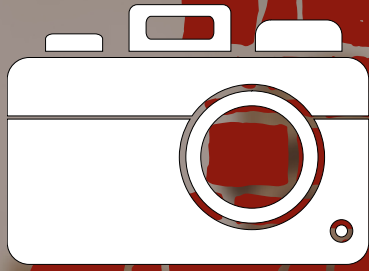
Several cities.'

WHAT MAKES FSU SPECIAL TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY?

'The tradition'

HOW AND WHEN DID YOU GET INVOLVED WITH THE COUNCIL, AND WHY?

2018



DIEGO 'WOODY' RODRIGUEZ

'I have served as President of the Foundation for Foster Children which is near and dear to my heart and has led to my support of the FSU Care program. At FSU, I serve on the Undergraduate Advisory Council and the Student Affairs Development Council.'

*FSU Graduate
Orlando, FL*

WHERE AND WHEN DID YOU ATTEND COLLEGE?

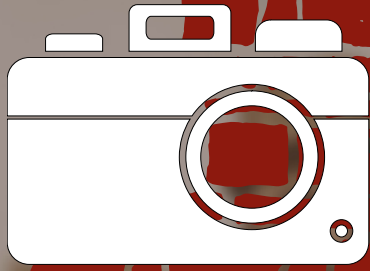
'FSU graduate in 1992 with an English, B.A. with an Emphasis in Business (33/30 major split) J.D. from the FSU College of Law in 1995 Also started out in 1987-88 but attended one year (88-89) at F.I.U. receiving an A.A. and then transferring back in the Fall of 1989 to FSU. Lots of great experiences including internship in the Florida Senate while in undergraduate, an internship with the Children's Advocacy Clinic in Law School and an internship with the Federal Public Defender's Office my second summer of law school. But the experience of studying abroad through the Oxford Program and the FSU College of Law, Summer 1993, was by far the best and most enjoyable of all the experiences. I can't emphasize the importance of travel abroad to help complete the collegiate understanding of the need for tolerance and global harmony.'

SINCE SCHOOL, WHERE HAVE YOU LIVED AND WORKED?

'I graduated and lived in Tallahassee while my wife Heather was attending law school. We then moved to Orlando in 1998 where I began my practice of law and have the pleasure of representing a number of government and private clients. I'm Board Certified in City, County and Local Government Law and served as the General Counsel for the Orange County School Board, the nation's 9th largest school board from 2010-2019 and now serve as the General Counsel for the Central Florida Expressway Authority.'

WHAT MAKES FSU SPECIAL TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY?

'FSU has given me everything I have that is valued and cherished in my life. I met my wife there. I made the best lifelong friends there. It gave me a chance and even a second chance when I stumbled in my freshman year. It accepted me to the law school and has provided me career opportunities I never imagined possible. Everything I have been blessed with in my life usually starts with some connection I made with someone or something that FSU gave me.'



RUEBEN STOKES

quote

*FSU Graduate
Tallahassee, FL*

WHERE AND WHEN DID YOU ATTEND COLLEGE? SINCE SCHOOL, WHERE HAVE YOU LIVED AND WORKED?

'I attended Florida State University, class of 2011 studying Interdisciplinary Social Science and I have an MBA from the University of Michigan (class of 2018).'

'I have lived in Orlando, FL and New York. I am working with Bank of America.'

AT FSU, WHAT WERE YOUR PRIMARY NON-ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES?

'Greek life! I was in Phi Sigma Kappa and Student Government Association.'

WHAT MAKES FSU SPECIAL TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY?

'My sister is also a Seminole and I met my wife here.'



FRED TRESCA

quote

*FSU Graduate
The Woodlands, TX*

WHERE AND WHEN DID YOU ATTEND COLLEGE?

'I was in the FSU Business School from 1980 to 1982 with Degrees in Accounting and Finance. I was also an inductee to FSU Business Hall of Fame.'

WHAT MAKES FSU SPECIAL TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY?

'My wife and I are all in for FSU as we both graduated together in 1982. We continue to stay involved through this council and those that we have meet when we re-engaged about 7 years ago after we became empty nesters.'

HOW AND WHEN DID YOU GET INVOLVED WITH THE COUNCIL, AND WHY?

'The Council is one of our main ways to stay connected to FSU. We have made many fiends through the Council. Once we are free to travel again, we plan to attend meetings in Tally at least once a year and maybe twice a year. We truly enjoy getting back to FSU.'



KRISTIAN DENNY

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ETHAN GRABILL

'I am very excited to get more involved at FSU. The relationships I've gained and the life experiences lived have inspired me to pay forward these opportunities.'

*FSU Graduate
Tampa, FL*

WHAT MAKES FSU SPECIAL TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY?

I've grown up a die hard Seminole fan. I can recall scores and games from years ago. I've shed many tears in joy and sorrow following the ups and downs of our football team. I met my wife at Florida State and established long friendships through my time in Tallahassee.

WHAT INSPIRES YOU TO STAY INVOLVED WITH THE UNIVERSITY?

Providing someone else the opportunity I was afforded to learn and grow in Tallahassee is the reason I am motivated to stay involved at the University. To whom much is given, much is required. It is vital to pass on our passion of this great university to future generations.

WHY DID YOU GET INVOLVED WITH THE COUNCIL?

FSU is a big place and it can be easy to get lost. Our students face greater pressures and competition than ever before. Those that come to campus with the added burden of being the first to do it and with some financial limitations must be looked after and cared for to better ensure their lifelong success. As we continue to grow and diversify our student body it is incumbent upon those with a passion for the university to support and guide those seeking to better their and their family's situation.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve, learn, and hopefully one day help lead this board into future endeavors and opportunities.

Go Noles!