Marny Glasser Establishes Fund at FAU for Students to Work on Collection that Honors WWII Bombardier

BOCA RATON, FL (December 14, 2011) – A fund at Florida Atlantic University designated to support students who work on the Harold L. Glasser Collection has recently been established by Marny Glasser, widow of the FAU Wimberly Library collection’s namesake. Glasser recently donated the collection to the library in memory of Harold, a World War II bombardier who became internationally known during his 27-year tenure as president of Miss Universe, Inc.

The Harold Glasser Fund was announced by William Miller, Ph.D., dean of libraries at FAU, during a recent VIP reception at the library to celebrate the exhibition, “Courage Takes Flight: The Life and Times of Harold Glasser,” which was curated from the library’s Harold L. Glasser Collection. The fund also will support students who conduct research on World War II, 20th century Jewish-American history or other related topics. The reception, sponsored by Marny Glasser, along with the exhibition were planned to coincide with the 70th anniversary of the United States’ entry into World War II.

“Harold’s story truly is a remarkable one, and thanks to his words and his memorabilia, many precious memories of his generation will be accessible for generations to come,” said Patricia Kollander, Ph.D., chair and professor in FAU’s department of history, who spoke during the reception. “It is vital that we all work to preserve the memories of Harold Glasser and others like him who not only did what they had to do, but went above and beyond what they had to do – and did this with silent courage and steadfastness.”

Nearly 150 family members, friends and business associates of the Glassers travelled from around the country to attend the reception. Guests included John Charlton, who piloted Glasser’s B24 Liberator during the war; and Frank Sweeney, vice president of Miss Universe, Inc. during Glasser’s tenure as president.

During the reception, guests viewed the exhibition, which spans from Glasser’s birth in Greenwich Village, New York in 1918 to his death at his Highland Beach home in 2010. Marny

The Harold L. Glasser Collection is housed in the Special Collections and Archives Department at FAU’s Wimberly Library. It is open for public viewing Monday through Thursday from 1 to 5 p.m., or by appointment. To see a library guide of the collection, visit http://libguides.fau.edu/SPC_Glasser.

For more information or to support the Harold Glasser Fund, contact Laurie Carney at 561-297-3606 or lcarney@fau.edu. Donations also may be mailed to Florida Atlantic University Department of History, 777 Glades Road, P.O. Box 3092, Boca Raton, FL, 33431-0992.

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Cutline:
**Photo #1:** Book cover of “Courage Takes Flight, an Oral History of the Life and Times of World War II bombardier Harold L. Glasser.”

**About Florida Atlantic University:**
Florida Atlantic University, established in 1961, officially opened its doors in 1964 as the fifth public university in Florida. In commemoration of its origin, FAU is celebrating its 50th anniversary throughout 2011. Today, the University serves more than 29,000 undergraduate and graduate students on seven campuses and sites. FAU’s world-class teaching and research faculty serves students through 10 colleges: the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters, the College of Business, the College for Design and Social Inquiry, the College of Education, the College of Engineering and Computer Science, the Graduate College, the Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College, the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine, the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing and the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science. FAU is ranked as a High Research Activity Institution by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. For more information, visit www.fau.edu.