

ROLKS REPORT

NEWS AND STORIES FROM HATTER NATION // FEBRUARY 2026



From Christopher F. Roellke, PhD
President and Professor of American Studies and Education
Stetson University



Hulley Tower Day of Celebration: Read and See the Photos!

On a picture-perfect Feb. 7 afternoon, Stetson dedicated its historically rebuilt Hulley Tower in a robust observance of heritage.

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The Ribbon-Cutting of Lynn Hall: 'New Chapter in Residential Living at Stetson'

New Lynn Hall features numerous modern amenities for students in the heart of the DeLand campus.

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Edmunds Center Reimagined

On Feb. 21, Stetson hosted the *Edmunds Center Reimagined: Game-Day Celebration & Showcase* — marking the completion of the comprehensive renovation and expansion of the historic J. Ollie Edmunds Center.

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Presidential Fellows Program to Expand in Fall 2026

The dynamic program will grow from the current 25 incoming students per cohort to as many as 50 students.

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Stetson Named 'Education Leader of the Year' by Central Florida Pledge

The university received the 2026 "Education Leader of the Year" award for its long-standing commitment to fostering an inclusive, respectful and student-centered learning community.

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Spotlight On: Christopher Roellke, President, Stetson University

The president's interview for *Invest: Greater Orlando* highlights major capital projects, policies on generative AI and the university's role as an economic driver in Central Florida.

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Harnessing Alumni Talent and Passion



Laying the groundwork for an Atlanta alumni chapter — with a plan for others to follow.

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Senior Diana Ferreira Godinho Takes Global Affairs to New Heights

The senior international student from Brazil was selected to receive a Schwarzman Scholarship to pursue a master's degree in China.

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In the News

From making history in higher education to vying for roses on television's "The Bachelorette."

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Spotlight

Hulley Tower Day of Celebration



The day was 91 years in the making, dating back to the monument's original dedication in 1935.

» [Watch](#)



Cutting the Ribbon on Lynn Hall

Stetson beamed with pride in the form of a new 305-room residence hall for students.

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Discover Stetson

A revealing look at an innovative and historic university — and more.

» [Watch](#)

Our KIND of Stetson

The university celebrates kindness on campus and throughout the community.

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2026 DeLand Mardi Gras Dog Parade

Beads, Floats & Paws in a grand display of uncommon tradition.

» [Watch](#)



Development and Alumni Engagement



Stetson Gives 2026, March 11-12

Mark your calendar and help unlock possibilities for our students during Stetson Gives.

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