## Software Technologies Distinguished Lecture Series 2011 Introduction by Dr. Janusz Zalewski Professor of Computer Science zalewski@fgcu.edu

FGCU's Software Technologies Distinguished Lecture Series has a four-year tradition. Organized by the Computer Science and Information Systems faculty at FGCU, jointly with Economic Development Partners of Collier, Lee and Charlotte counties, and the Southwest Florida Regional Technology Partnership, the series has as its objectives to educate both the professionals and a broader audience in the intricacies of modern technologies of software development, and to provide a forum for exchange of ideas among the participants.

This year there is also an additional focus. Since FGCU is introducing a bachelor's degree in Software Engineering next Fall, we decided to include among the speakers some of our former students, who graduated from the Computer Science program in recent years. Since graduation, they have successfully begun their professional careers as software engineers in the most prominent organizations, e.g., Microsoft and NASA, as well as in local companies that contribute to the local economy. We are hoping that this way we will provide exposure to the FGCU's current Computer Science and future Software Engineering programs and our accomplishments, as well as attract potential new students to begin studies at FGCU and obtain a software engineering degree from our school.

If you are software or IT professional, you just cannot miss these lectures. If you are a student of any computing or IT program at the college level, you must come to learn about the hottest topics in software development, which may help your future career. If you are in high school and interested in computers, attending the lectures will broaden your view of computing and help you make the optimal decision when choosing the professional path. If you are just a member of general public, then this is your chance to get educated on the role of software in a contemporary society and the new developments happening both here in your backyard and in the outside world.