



# CAMPUS NOOKS WITH MORE THAN TEXTBOOKS



Discover learning that's happening beyond the classroom. Go inside several fun, yet functional spaces that foster real connections between students and staff. Areas that engage students, provide support for improved learning and offer the tools needed to succeed. A testament to our belief that anyone can learn anything under the right conditions.

From a showcase of student projects to knickknacks that help break the ice, meet the faculty and staff behind several spaces that show a different side to teaching.

//BY CAROL STINNETT







A former student made Lisa, a cat from socks, to add to her expanding collection of furry friends.

## LISA LIPPITT

African American and 20th century  
Humanities Professor, West Campus

“I want a space that encourages students to ask questions, to enjoy learning,” describes Lisa. Upon first glance of the humanities professor’s space, students get a glimpse of her love for cats and her dark sense of humor.

Framed pieces fill the walls, each with a tale of its own—pictures and postcards from the students she’s kept in touch with over the years. “Some have moved out of state for jobs or to further their education,” she says. “It’s special to still be part of their lives and get updates on how they’re doing or what they’ve been up to.”





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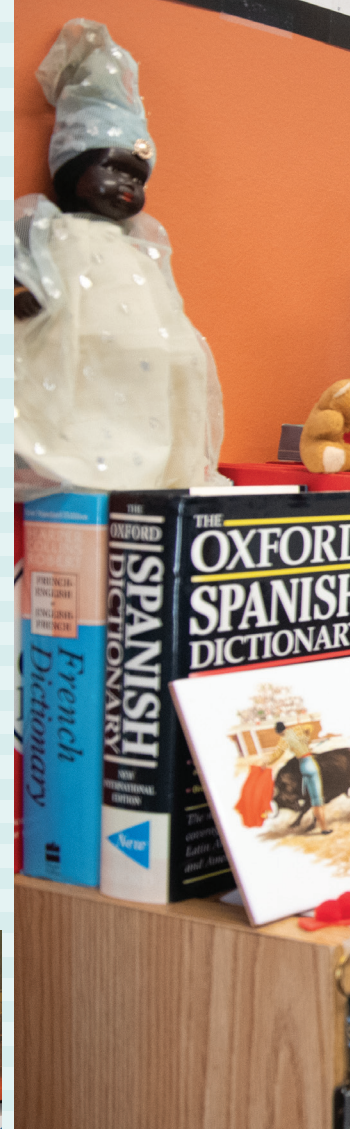
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## BILL GOMBASH

Speech and Communication Professor,  
East Campus

From walking by to stepping inside, Bill's love for Disney is a conversation starter that catches students' eyes. Sitting in the easy chair—a plum, plush recliner—students get a front-row seat to colorful movie posters and Disney knickknacks, including his Toy Story collection that starts chatter about which of the three films is best. “It's welcoming; a place where students are comfortable coming to,” he says. “Some have even said it's the coolest office ever.”

A more recent addition to his office came from a past Annual Juried Student Digital, Graphic and Fine Art Exhibition. The pottery piece, “Unity,” caught his attention with its colors, but the story behind it—a tribute to Pulse—spoke volumes to him. He added, “I love to support students whenever possible.”



Bill purchased “Unity”—a tribute to Pulse—after seeing it at a student art exhibit.





## SAMIRA CHATER

Professor of French and Spanish, and  
Language Coordinator, Osceola Campus

Tranquil yet lively, Samira's space tells a story of international cultures. Bookshelves display photos of past class trips, including one to Epcot where students in French class interview French-speaking people from different countries and another visiting a Latin restaurant with students from her Spanish class. "Even after students leave the classroom, many come back to visit," she smiles.

A world map hangs above one bookshelf—a reference point for Samira to show students where her worldly trinkets came from. "I take the opportunity to talk about the country, the people," she explains. "It helps students visualize it firsthand."

Samira's worldly pieces are arranged by their region. Atop the Central America shelf, sit mini elephant figurines and booties—gifts from a college peer who visited El Salvador years ago—a testament to the meaningful relationships she forms with both students and staff.

Artifacts created from scratch (left) by Samira's students that were used during a cultural presentation that's assigned each semester.

## JED BROITMAN

Professor of Humanities, West Campus

As a way to inspire students outside of the classroom, Jed's space sheds a different light on humanities—filled with postmodern art and miniature toys ranging from the late 70s through the early 80s to items that are a nod to his classes.

A collection of vintage movie cameras and film posters, including a favorite, *Metropolis*, speak to his passion for filmography, but also his role in putting together the college's Cinema Nights. The events introduce students to situations and human landscapes rarely explored in mainstream filmography. "I want Cinema Nights to encourage students to study film through a critical lens and analyze it as a mark of cultural identity," he explains.

Friendly characters, like Yo Gabba Gabba, serve as ice breakers when students visit Jed's office—a reminder that we're all kids at heart.





A nod to the bike enthusiasts on Winter Park Campus, this welcoming message “life is a beautiful ride” greets students as they walk in the space.

“

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## COLLABORATION WORK SPACES

Winter Park Campus + East Campus

Around each campus, students and staff collaborate in various spaces to talk over class projects, career goals or even just life.

One such space on Winter Park Campus (seen above) is shared by Jean Marie Fuhrman and several others. Students are greeted with a motivational quote before walking into the bright area surrounded by travel pieces. “It’s a warm, friendly environment where students feel at ease,” Jean Marie explains. “They love looking at the souvenirs from all over the world and share their own stories, too.”

Another great space, the Graphics Lab on East Campus (seen to the left and below) is flooded with color and offers an open work area that encourages teamwork. Program Chair and Professor of Graphic and Interactive Design, Kristy Pennino, describes the space as a creative outlet, saying, “Students come here to bounce ideas off one another, get inspired—it’s fun to see their energy.”

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Mini knickknacks are placed throughout the Graphics Lab on East Campus—a piece of fun for students and staff alike.

