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Bcc: [Eileen DeLuca](#); [myovanovich@fsw.edu](#); [Thomas Norman](#); [Nashali Rivera Cruz](#); [Kelly M. Westfield](#); [Martin A. McClinton](#); [ADMIN_CHA](#); [ADMIN_COL](#); [ADMIN_HNL](#); [ADMIN_LEE](#); [eLearning](#); [FAC_ADJ_CR_CHA](#); [FAC_ADJ_CR_COL](#); [FAC_ADJ_CR_EOL](#); [FAC_ADJ_CR_HNL](#); [FAC_ADJ_CR_LEE](#); [FAC_EOL](#); [FAC_FT_CHA](#); [FAC_FT_COL](#); [FAC_FT_HNL](#); [FAC_FT_LEE](#); [Lucas Center](#); [Melissa Rizzuto](#); [Rachel](#); [Rebecca Yost](#)
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The Teaching and Learning Center is pleased to present the *Ten Questions for Faculty Series*. The series is dedicated to helping faculty to stay connected with one another while working remotely. Every week, a faculty member will have the opportunity to answer ten questions about themselves and about navigating the changes brought about by COVID-19. This week, we are pleased to feature Gerald Anzalone, Professor of Anatomy & Physiology.



Gerald Anzalone
Professor of Anatomy & Physiology

Where are you from?

I'm originally from the Hudson Valley region of New York State. Before moving to Florida last year to begin teaching at FSW, I lived in northeast Iowa for about ten years. People often ask what led me from New York to Iowa. I tell them that I was in the witness protection program. After an awkward silence, that usually ends the conversation.

Which college or university did you attend?

I earned my bachelor's degree from Fordham University in the Bronx, New York. I earned my Doctor of

Chiropractic and Master of Science in Human Anatomy and Physiology degrees from New York Chiropractic College in Seneca Falls, New York. I also completed a two-year course of study in medical sciences at the University of Sint Eustatius School of Medicine in the Dutch Caribbean.

When did you begin teaching at FSW?

I am part of the Fall 2019 cohort. What a great group of people this group is. I've made some wonderful new friends.

What made you become interested in your academic discipline?

I decided to become a chiropractor because I was attracted to a holistic approach to healthcare, and specifically to the treatment of musculoskeletal disorders. My clinical background provides a practical basis for teaching human anatomy and physiology.

What is your favorite food?

Italian and French cuisine, with the exceptions of olives, mushrooms, and shellfish.

If you could have dinner with any historical figure, who would it be and what would you ask them?

Henry Wallace served as the 33rd vice president under Franklin Roosevelt. Through political rigging, he lost the 1944 nomination for the vice presidency to Harry Truman. Wallace opposed racism, segregation, poverty, a permanent war economy, imperialism, and an arms race with the then-Soviet Union. He believed in racial and gender equality, free trade, and a national health insurance program. I would ask him how we could put the train back on the tracks.

What is your favorite local restaurant?

In Punta Gorda, Monty's and Carmelo's for dinner, and Burg'r Bar for breakfast. In Port Charlotte, Sweet's Diner for breakfast.

What new things have you learned or done as a result of COVID-19 & working remotely?

Since the TLC moved their professional development online, I've taken every possible opportunity to complete as many workshops as possible. I really appreciate these opportunities to interact with my colleagues and learn new skills. Pre-COVID, I was frustrated that many interesting seminars were only offered at the Fort Myers campus on days and at times that I could not attend because of my teaching responsibilities at the Charlotte campus. Through online training and much trial-and-error, I've also learned to use Canvas and Zoom more effectively.

As far as my outlook on life is concerned, I have been amazed at the response of many Americans who don't take this pandemic seriously. There is a massive disconnect between science and the reality many people choose to believe. This pandemic has reminded me that although we as a species have distanced ourselves from nature, especially in our highly technological and industrialized society, it doesn't take much for nature to remind us that we really aren't in charge of this planet.

What are you doing (exercise, cooking, reading, etc.) to take care of your mental and physical health during social isolation?

I feel like I'm supposed to say that I exercise regularly, meditate daily, contemplate my place in the universe, and have mastered interesting new hobbies, but those would be lies (mostly). I've spent almost all my waking hours, including weekends, creating my online course material, grading students' work, and responding to the never-ending slew of student emails. I've gained too much weight staying at home and remaining sedentary.

What advice do you have for your colleagues on how to navigate social isolation and changes from COVID-19?

I once heard it said that the worst vice is advice. I don't think that my colleagues need any advice from me. FSW's faculty and staff are intelligent, dedicated people. Everyone deals with the challenges of the

pandemic differently.

If you would like to be featured in the *Ten Questions for Faculty Series*, please contact Kelly Westfield, Coordinator of Marketing & Technology for the Teaching and Learning Center: kwestfield@fsw.edu



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