



# Commencement FALL 2023

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## **Greetings from the President**

n behalf of the University of Florida, our faculty, and the university community — congrats to all of the Doctoral Graduates of 2023.

Today's ceremony celebrates your accomplishment in earning a doctoral degree from this great university. Your many years of late nights, hard work, new perspectives, big debates, rigorous analysis, and painstaking presentation of your findings — have led you all here.

There are also a lot of people who have been rooting for you and deserve our thanks today — family members, study partners, faculty advisors, mentors — Albert and Alberta, too.

It's true that the world of work is being disrupted in big, fascinating ways. You may spend your career working independently or at multiple institutions, diving in and out of the private sector, government, nonprofits, or the startup world. You may even have multiple different careers. It's going to be fun to celebrate your successes.



While this era will prize flexibility and reinvention, our aim is to continue to make you proud of this university. We want to keep building a community of lifelong learners who engage in new ideas, welcome complicated truths, and rejoice in the challenges put before us.

On behalf of UF, thank you for your insights and discoveries that have already advanced science and scholarship, and thank you for teaching and investing in your fellow students in this community. I hope you will have warm memories of your time at UF, and that you will remain connected as active alumni.

Best wishes and Go Gators!

Sace

Ben Sasse

## **University of Florida President**

#### Dr. Ben Sasse

Ben Sasse joined the University of Florida as a professor and 13th president of the 170-year-old institution in February 2023.

A husband, father, historian, Uber driver, and football addict, Ben is committed to guiding Gator Nation through this era of rapid change in the nature of work, technology, and higher education.

As the leader of Florida's flagship land-grant university, Ben has moved swiftly to cultivate fresh leadership, construct a UF-wide strategic planning initiative, and ground UF's priorities in making the highest and best use of public funds. He has sought to establish goals that are critical to Gators and the state: more applied research, more focus on lifelong learning for students, and faster, more nimble engagement with exceptional partners.

Ben believes that Florida is the most dynamic state in the Union — with a diverse economy, fast-growing population, and vast outside investment. He sees UF as uniquely positioned to help Floridians maximize the state's potential as an economic and cultural juggernaut.

Twice elected to the United States Senate and a two-time *New York Times* national best-selling author, Ben's career has spanned the private and public sectors.

Passionate about education and teaching, Ben taught at Yale University, the University of Texas, and Midland University in his Nebraska hometown. Professor Sasse has won teaching awards and holds a history Ph.D. from Yale, where his dissertation won both the Egleston and Theron Rockwell Field best dissertation prizes.

Ben and his wife, Melissa, have two college-age daughters and a 12-year-old son. Ben, Melissa, and Breck live on campus in the Dasburg House with multiple dogs and Breck's lizard, Dart, who is delighted to call humid subtropical Gainesville home.



## University of Florida Leadership

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Manny Diaz Jr. Commissioner of Education

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#### University of Florida Board of Trustees

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# President and Vice Presidents of the University

Ben Sasse, Ph.D. President

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Deans of the University

R. Elaine Turner, Ph.D. College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Onye P. Ozuzu, M.F.A.

College of the Arts

Sabyasachi Mitra, Ph.D. Warrington College of Business A. Isabel Garcia, D.D.S., M.P.H.

College of Dentistry

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**Glenn E. Good, Ph.D.** College of Education

Forrest J. Masters, Ph.D. Interim, Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering

Nicole L. P. Stedman, Ph.D. The Graduate School

Michael Reid, Ph.D. College of Health and Human Performance

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**David E. Richardson, Ph.D.** College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

**Colleen G. Koch, M.D., M.S., M.B.A.** College of Medicine

Debra Lyon, Ph.D., R.N. Interim, College of Nursing Peter Swaan, Ph.D., M.Pharm.

College of Pharmacy Beth A. Virnig, Ph.D., M.P.H.

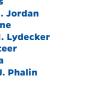
College of Public Health and Health Professions

Dana N. Zimmel, D.V.M. College of Veterinary Medicine

Judith C. Russell, M.S. University Libraries

Jonathan Yorkowitz, M.A. Interim. Dean of Students





## COMMENCEMENT AGENDA – FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2:00 P.M.

Presiding	Ben Sasse President
Processional	UF Commencement Band
National Anthem	Anthony Offerle, Vocalist UF Commencement Band
Welcome	Ben Sasse
Introductions	J. Scott Angle Interim Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Commencement Address	Natalia A. Peres Professor, UF Gulf Coast Research and Education Center
Presenting Candidates for Degrees	J. Scott Angle
Conferring of Degrees	Danaya C. Wright Member, UF Board of Trustees
Recognition of Graduates	
Closing Remarks	Ben Sasse
Alma Mater	Anthony Offerle UF Commencement Band

Recessional and Postlude





## **Commencement Speaker**

#### Natalia A. Peres

Professor

Dr. Natalia Peres is a professor of plant pathology at the University of Florida Gulf Coast Research and Education Center (GCREC). She has an active applied research and extension program focused primarily on the management of fungal diseases of the strawberry. She is also responsible for the diagnostic clinic at GCREC serving the strawberry, vegetable, and ornamental industries in the area. Her research and extension programs focus on the development of integrated management approaches to reduce losses to strawberry growers in Florida, but recommendations from her program extend across many regions, including strawberry nurseries in other states and worldwide. She has developed the widely adopted web-based Strawberry Advisory System, which provides recommendations for strawberry growers on the need for fungicide applications based on weather conditions, a rapid DNA test for diagnosis of strawberry diseases, and is currently working on integrating AI technology for disease identification. Her internationally known program has attracted students and visiting scientists from many countries. She has authored or co-authored over 200 peer-reviewed articles in scientific journals, in addition to over 200 technical extension bulletins and multiple book chapters. She has received numerous awards from the University of Florida such as the IFAS Junior Faculty International Educator of the Year, **IFAS** International Achievement Award, IFAS



Richard L. Jones New Faculty Research Award, Office of the Provost Excellence Award for Assistant Professors, UF Research Foundation Professor, and IFAS Term Professorship Award. She has also been recognized by the American Phytopathological Society (APS) with the Hewitt Award for early career scientists who have made outstanding, innovative contributions toward the control of plant diseases, the APS Lee Hutchins Award for Excellence in Fruit Research, and was awarded an APS Fellow in 2020.

Natalia is originally from Brazil and earned her B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees from São Paulo State University. She is married and has two children, Mariana (15) and Lucca (12).



# **G**RADUATE SCHOOL

#### NICOLE L. P. STEDMAN, PH.D., ASSOCIATE PROVOST AND DEAN OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

#### Amer Hamad Issa Abukhalaf

Major: Design, Construction and Planning Dissertation: Studying the Built Environment Impact on Personal Disaster Preparedness Behaviors Dissertation Chair: J. K. von Meding

#### Hoda Akl

Major: *Physics* Dissertation: Characterizing Variability in Biological Systems through Approximate Density Estimation Dissertation Chair: Y. Lee

#### Manal Alabduljabbar

Major: Psychology—Clinical and Health Psychology Dissertation: Longitudinal Effects of Family-Based Behavioral Treatment of Obesity: Child and Family Characteristics that Influence Children's Eating Attitudes and Behaviors Dissertation Chair: D. Janicke

#### Alejandro Albizu

Major: Medical Sciences—Neuroscience Dissertation: Machine Learning Defined Precision Brain Stimulation Dissertation Chair: A. J. Woods

#### Kiana Alikhademi

Major: Computer Science Dissertation: Object Detection under the Lens of Algorithmic Bias and Fairness Dissertation Chair: J. E. Gilbert

#### **Golnoosh Alipour Haris**

Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences—Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy Dissertation: Navigating Care for Lewy Body Dementia: End-of-Life Experiences, Nursing Home Placement, and Safety of Antipsychotic Treatments Dissertation Chair: J. D. Brown Dissertation Co-chair: A. J. Goodin

#### Rocío Amorín de Hegedüs

Major: Genetics and Genomics Dissertation: Elucidating the Role of Microbial Dark Matter in Microbialite-Forming Ecosystems Dissertation Chair: J. S. Foster

#### **Yuting An**

Major: Health and Human Performance Dissertation: Exploring Factors Influencing Tourists' Risk Reduction Behavior in Natural Disasters Dissertation Chair: A. P. Kirilenko

#### **Evan Allen Maher Anguish**

Major: Materials Science and Engineering Dissertation: Synthesis and Characterization of Cubic Phase of  $Hf_{0.5}Zr_{0.5}O_2$  Nanoparticles Dissertation Chair: J. Andrew

#### **Athmane Antara**

Major: Linguistics Dissertation: Salafists' Discourse in Morocco Dissertation Chair: F. McLaughlin

#### **Benjamin Tyler Anthony**

Major: Materials Science and Engineering Dissertation: Quantifying the Role of Coarse Intermetallic Particles on Twinning Behavior in Magnesium Alloys Dissertation Chair: V. M. Miller

#### Marliz Arteaga

Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology Dissertation: Multilevel Environmental Governance in the Amazon: The Case of Madera Hydroelectric Dam Complex Bolivia and Brazil

Dissertation Chair: S. G. Perz

#### Kofi Asabere Bediako Asare

Major: Design, Construction and Planning Dissertation: Digital Twin-Based Predictive Maintenance in Constructed Facilities Dissertation Chair: C. J. Anumba Dissertation Co-chair: R. Liu

#### **Danielle Francesca Aycart Mite**

Major: Nutritional Sciences Dissertation: Protein Supplements on Adults Undergoing Hemodialysis Treatment: Effect on Normalized Protein Catabolic Rate (nPCR) and Inflammation Markers Dissertation Chair: J. M. Andrade

#### Sarah Marie Barron

Major: Biomedical Engineering Dissertation: Decoding Discomfort: A Synthesis of Biomechanical Insights and Their Relationship to Symptom Expression in Rotator Cuff Tears Dissertation Chair: J. A. Nichols

#### **Brandon Scott Battas**

Major: Materials Science and Engineering Dissertation: Investigating Irradiation-Enhanced Densification in UO<sub>2</sub> through Mesoscale and Macroscale Modeling Dissertation Chair: M. Tonks

#### **Caitlin Marie Baumer Harrison**

Major: Medical Sciences— Physiology and Functional Genomics Dissertation: Endocrine and Sensory Integration in the Caudal Nucleus of the Solitary Tract Modulates Blood Pressure and Salt Intake Dissertation Chair: A. D. de Kloet

#### Meghan Anne Berryman

Major: Microbiology and Cell Science Dissertation: Genetic Risk for Autoimmunity is Associated with Potential for Dysbiosis in the Pediatric Microbiome Dissertation Chair: E. Triplett

#### Shambhavi Bhushan

Major: Anthropology Dissertation: African Migrants in India: Strategies of Survival Dissertation Chair: A. Kane Dissertation Co-chair: B. H. Chalfin

#### **Xiaoxing Bian**

Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology Dissertation: A Multi-Dimensional Assessment on the Coexistence of the Snow Leopard and Local Pastoralist Communities in Changtang, China Dissertation Chair: V. K. Hull Dissertation Co-chair: M. K. Oli

#### **Rachel E. Black**

Major: Anthropology Dissertation: The Price of Freedom: Negotiating Social Status through Death in Jim Crow-Era Savannah, Georgia Dissertation Chair: J. M. Davidson Dissertation Co-chair: J. Krigbaum

#### **Pablo Agustin Boeri**

Major: Horticultural Sciences—Environmental Horticulture Dissertation: Ecosystems Services and Trade-Offs of Alternative Urban Landscape Conversions Dissertation Chair: J. B. Unruh

#### **Jake Sondag Boles**

Major: Medical Sciences—Neuroscience Dissertation: Identifying Factors that Mediate Brain Vulnerability to Gut Inflammation Dissertation Chair: M. G. Tansey Dissertation Co-chair: B. I. Giasson

#### Julia Rose Bonney

Major: Chemistry Dissertation: Structural Elucidation of Fatty Acid and Lipid Isomers in Biological Tissues Using Gas-Phase Ion/Ion Reactions and Imaging Mass Spectrometry Dissertation Chair: B. M. Prentice

#### **Robinson Botero-Arias**

Major: Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Dissertation: Population Trends and Dynamics, Reproductive Ecology, and Management of Black Caiman (*Melanosuchus niger*) in the Middle Sõlimoes River, Mamiraua Reserve, Brazil Dissertation Chair: B. A. Loiselle Dissertation Co-chair: J. G. Blake

#### **Ronell S. Bridgemohan**

Major: Soil, Water, and Ecosystem Sciences Dissertation: Assessing the Flux: A Time-Space Journey into Aquatic Fecal Microbe and Nutrient Dynamics in Subtropical Mixed-Use Coastal Watersheds Dissertation Chair: M. Deitch

#### **Debra Nickole Brunson**

Major: Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology Dissertation: Significance of Iron and Heme to Enterococcus faecalis Pathophysiology Dissertation Chair: J. A. Lemos

#### Mengfei Bu

Major: Medical Sciences—Neuroscience Dissertation: Dynamic Regulation of Dopamine Neurotransmission by VPS35 and LRRK2: Implications for Parkinson's Disease Dissertation Chair: M. J. Farrer Dissertation Co-chair: H. Khoshbouei

#### **Gamze Bulut**

Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences—Pharmaceutics Dissertation: Bacterial Gene Knockdown through Eukaryotic Small Interfering RNA-Loaded Extracellular Vesicles Dissertation Chair: T. D. Schmittgen

#### **Jamie Janel Burg**

Major: *Music Education* Dissertation: The Influence of Relationships within Non-Formal Popular Music Learning Environments Dissertation Chair: B. C. Hartz

#### Julio Cesar Cardoso Cruz

Major: Food and Resource Economics Dissertation: Three Essays to Support Decision-Making in the Face of Challenges Imposed by Citrus Greening in Florida Dissertation Chair: L. A. House Dissertation Co-chair: C. Court

#### **Kelsey Marie Carper**

Major: English Dissertation: Queer Homemaking by Design: Charleston Farmhouse Modernism Dissertation Chair: M. C. Bryant

#### **Oscar Gonzalo Castillo Romero**

Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering Dissertation: Spatio-Temporal Analysis of In-Season Yield Forecasting Using Crop Simulation Models Dissertation Chair: G. Hoogenboom

#### Alexandra Renee Chamberlain

Major: Chemistry Dissertation: Binding, Catalysis, and Inhibition of Bacterial Ribonuclease P Analyzed by Model Substrates with Intrinsic Fluorescent Probes

Dissertation Chair: M. Harris

#### **Xiangru Chen**

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: Architecture Support for Increasing the Usability of Edge Intelligence Dissertation Chair: S. Ray

#### **Kwan Sun Cho**

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Minor: Communication Sciences and Disorders Dissertation: Foreign Accent Assessment in Second-Language Vowels Dissertation Chair: J. G. Harris

#### **Garam Chu**

Major: Higher Education Administration Dissertation: An Analysis of the Impact of Statewide Broad-Based Tuition Waiver Programs on Student Outcomes in Community Colleges Dissertation Chair: J. C. Ortagus

#### Andrew S. Cistola

Major: *Public Health* Dissertation: Health Care Cost Differences by Racial and Ethnic Group and Ramifications for the ACA Risk Adjustment Program Dissertation Chair: F. L. Revere

#### **Caitlin Clarke**

Major: Horticultural Sciences Dissertation: Informing Tea (Camellia sinensis) Horticulture for the United States: Investigating Genetics, Quality, and Ecology Dissertation Chair: B. Rathinasabapathi Dissertation Co-chair: B. S. Richter

#### **Tyler Steven Coleman**

Major: Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Dissertation: Long-Term Assessment of Florida Fisheries amid Changing Climatic and Environmental Conditions Dissertation Chair: A. K. Carlson

#### Daniel John Colopietro Jr.

Major: Soil, Water, and Ecosystem Sciences Minor: Geology Dissertation: Investigating the Properties of Soil Organic Matter and Its Role and Response in (Anthro)Pedogenesis in Florida Dissertation Chair: A. Bacon

#### **Danielle Elizabeth Coogan**

Major: Aerospace Engineering Dissertation: Timing Performance Simulation, Experimentation, and Analysis for Satellite Laser Time-Transfer Dissertation Chair: J. Conklin

#### **Natalie Anne Cooper**

Major: Forest Resources and Conservation Dissertation: Interest Group Identities, Communication, and Engagement with Science in a Context of Water Resource Conflict in North Florida Dissertation Chair: M. C. Monroe

#### **Zachary A. Coulter**

Major: Curriculum and Instruction Dissertation: Planning for Transfer: How a Tandem of Two-Way Immersion Educators Understand and Plan for Transfer Dissertation Chair: E. J. de Jong

#### Linda Chi Dao

Major: Horticultural Sciences Dissertation: Evaluating the Agronomic Traits of Sweet Corn Kernels Dissertation Chair: A. M. Settles

#### **Cullen Lee Garrett Davidson IV**

Major: Chemistry Dissertation: Synthesis of Well-Defined Polymers for the Development of Novel Ocular Health Treatments Dissertation Chair: B. S. Sumerlin

#### **Anthony Yomar Davila Alvarez**

Major: Aerospace Engineering Dissertation: Design and Simulation of a Simplified Gravitational Reference Sensor for Earth Geodesy Dissertation Chair: J. Conklin

#### Maria Beatriz de Souza Cortez

Major: Botany Dissertation: Coexistence in the Campos Rupestres: Understanding Biocultural Diversity and Conservation Challenges Dissertation Chair: P. S. Soltis Dissertation Co-chair: D. E. Soltis

#### **Caroline Dee Deaterly**

Major: Nursing Sciences Dissertation: Associations between Mental Health Symptoms and Substance Use on Cervical Cancer Screening and Viral Suppression in Women with HIV Dissertation Chair: L. A. Parker Dissertation Co-chair: R. L. Cook

#### Lee Ann Delaino

Major: Higher Education Administration Dissertation: 'I Didn't Know It Was a Thing I Could Do': A Phenomenological Study of First-Generation Community College Students Developing College-Going and Persistence Mindsets

Dissertation Chair: J. C. Ortagus

#### **Worrel Ashley Diedrick**

Major: Entomology and Nematology Dissertation: Microbial Control of Varroa Mite (Varroa destructor Anderson and Truman) (Acari: Varroidae) and Genetic Assessment of Nutrition on Honey Bee (Apis mellifera L.) (Apidae: Hymenoptera) Health Dissertation Chair: L. H. Kanga Dissertation Co-chair: R. Mallinger

#### Eleni Dilma

Major: Statistics Dissertation: Bayesian Approaches for High-Dimensional Data Analysis Dissertation Chair: L. Duan

#### Lily Elizabeth Diodati

Major: Chemistry Dissertation: Crosslinking and Molecular Weight Strategies in Polymer Design Dissertation Chair: B. S. Sumerlin

#### Nusrat Farzana Dipu

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: Security Verification on System-On-Chips (SoCS) Dissertation Chair: M. M. Tehranipoor

#### **Reiner Nebres Dizon-Paradis**

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: Pasteables: Collaborative, Reconfigurable, and Modular Plug-and-Play IoT Sensing and Feedback Platform Dissertation Chair: S. Bhunia

#### Melissa D. Dongo

Major: School Psychology Dissertation: Profiles of Peer Nominated Aggressive Behaviors among Pre-Adolescents in Grades 6 and 7 Dissertation Chair: J. D. Splett

#### Autumn Sierra Dove

Major: Microbiology and Cell Science Dissertation: Identification of Alternative Therapies for Antimicrobial-Resistant Infections Dissertation Chair: D. M. Czyż

#### Senthilkumar Duraivel

Major: Materials Science and Engineering Dissertation: Interfaces in Embedded 3D Printing of Soft Matter Dissertation Chair: T. E. Angelini

#### William Grady Dyer

Major: Linguistics Dissertation: The Syntax of Relative Clauses in Sereer Dissertation Chair: F. McLaughlin Dissertation Co-chair: E. H. Potsdam

#### Nicholas P. Dzoba

Major: *Political Science* Dissertation: The Forgotten Executive: An Exploration of the U.S. President as an Agent of Republican Freedom Dissertation Chair: D. O'Neill

#### Anthony August Egeln Jr.

Major: Mechanical Engineering Dissertation: An Investigation into the Effects of Finite-Rate Chemical Kinetics on the Post-Detonation Afterburning of Explosive Charges Dissertation Chair: R. W. Houim

#### Aaron M. Ellrich

Major: Anthropology Dissertation: Between Empires: Changing Continuities and Household Tastes at Colonial St. Augustine, Florida, 1700–1821 Dissertation Chair: C. R. Cobb

#### **Diane Joan Episcopio-Sturgeon**

Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology Dissertation: Case Studies Exploring Social Science Approaches to Charismatic Species Conservation Dissertation Chair: V. K. Hull

#### **Ashley Marie Erb**

Major: Chemistry Dissertation: Development of Methods toward Stereoselective Iterative Glycosylation and Deoxygenative C(sp<sup>3</sup>)-C(sp<sup>3</sup>) Cross-Coupling By Low Valent Vanadium Dissertation Chair: A. Aponick

#### Alec Marcus Esper

Major: Chemistry Dissertation: A W(Vi)-C Bond Capable of Reversible C-C Bond Cleavage and Its Role in Metal Catalysis Dissertation Chair: A. S. Veige

#### **Veronique Etienne**

Major: Veterinary Medical Sciences Dissertation: Human Antibody Response to Aedes spp. Mosquito Salivary Proteins Dissertation Chair: M. T. Long Dissertation Co-chair: D. A. Cummings

#### **Alyssa Marie Falise**

Major: Epidemiology Dissertation: Patterns of DSM-5 Opioid Use Disorder Diagnostic Criteria Met by Age, Social Support, Physical Health Limitations, Pain Interference, and Healthcare Utilization Dissertation Chair: C. L. Striley Dissertation Co-chair: C. Lopez-Quintero

#### **Xiran Fan**

Major: Statistics Dissertation: Dimensionality Reduction and Classification in Hyperbolic Spaces Dissertation Chair: B. C. Vemuri Dissertation Co-chair: J. Doss

#### Sinomar Ferreira Da Fonseca Junior

Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology Dissertation: Strategies of Indigenous Peoples Facing Infrastructure Projects in the Middle Madeira River, Southern Brazilian Amazon Dissertation Chair: S. G. Perz Dissertation Co-chair: C. M. Tucker

#### Ethan G. Fisher

Major: *Chemistry* Dissertation: Molecular Approach to Mixed-Metal Oxides: Atomically-Precise Models for Complex Metal Oxide Materials Dissertation Chair: G. Christou

#### **Jared Tyler Flowers**

Major: Mechanical Engineering Dissertation: A Framework for Effective Human-Robot Collaboration in Manufacturing Dissertation Chair: G. J. Wiens



#### **Carola Forlini**

Major: Coastal and Oceanographic Engineering Dissertation: Analytical and Computational Analysis of Ship Waves Dissertation Chair: A. A. Sheremet Dissertation Co-chair: X. Yu

#### **Alexis Morgan Freeman**

Major: Special Education Minor: Research and Evaluation Methodology Dissertation: Creating Liberatory Practice through Liberatory Movement: The Use of Creative Black Storytelling as Linguistic Liberation Dissertation Chair: H. B. Lane Dissertation Co-chair: K. Bhattacharya

#### Jingwei Fu

Major: Horticultural Sciences Dissertation: Xanthophyll Fatty Acyl Esters: Biosynthesis, Function and Pathway Engineering in Plants Dissertation Chair: B. Rathinasabapathi

#### **Pravin D. Gaikwad**

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: EDA Tool Flow for Protecting Hardware IP under Zero Trust Dissertation Chair: S. Bhunia

#### **Mayank Gangwar**

Major: Environmental Engineering Sciences Dissertation: Modeling Framework for Predictive Assessment of Environmental Niches of Pathogens for Human Well-Being Dissertation Chair: A. S. Jutla

#### María Fernanda Gastelú Bárcena

Major: Coastal and Oceanographic Engineering Dissertation: Dynamical Similarities in Exchange Flows for Contrasting Estuaries Dissertation Chair: A. Valle-Levinson

#### Ian M. Germaine

Major: *Chemistry* Dissertation: Single Source Precursors for the CVD of Group 16 Transition Metal Disulfide Thin Films Dissertation Chair: L. A. McElwee-White

#### **Drew A. Gillett**

Major: Medical Sciences—Neuroscience Dissertation: Investigating the Role and Regulation of GPNMB in Progranulin-Deficient Myeloid Cells and Their Potential Contributions to Neurodegenerative Disease Dissertation Chair: M. G. Tansey

#### Sofia London Goodrich-Accolla

Major: Chemistry Dissertation: Harnessing External Stimuli to Expand the Scope of Polymerization Techniques Dissertation Chair: B. S. Sumerlin

#### **Dylan Thomas Guenther**

Major: Medical Sciences—Neuroscience Dissertation: Genetic and Immune Modifiers of LRRK2 Parkinson's Disease Dissertation Chair: M. J. Farrer Dissertation Co-chair: H. Khoshbouei

#### Fiorella Yvette Guerrero Calle

Major: Rehabilitation Science

Dissertation: Developing a Quality of Life Instrument for Families of Children with Disabilities in the Highlands of Peru Dissertation Chair: J. M. Kramer

#### Xiaolei Guo

Major: *Electrical and Computer Engineering* Dissertation: Interactive Segmentation with Deep Metric Learning Dissertation Chair: A. Z. Glenn

#### **Zhong Guo**

Major: Mechanical Engineering Dissertation: Reinforcement Learning for Optimal Control of District Cooling Energy Plant Dissertation Chair: P. Barooah

#### Marino De Jesus Guzmán

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: Digital Correlated Level Shifting Techniques for Pipelined ADCs Dissertation Chair: N. Maghari

#### **Faysal Hakim**

Major: *Electrical and Computer Engineering* Dissertation: Ferroelectric on Semiconductor Nano Acoustic Components for RF Frequency Control Dissertation Chair: R. Tabrizian

#### **Bryant Edward Harden**

Major: Political Science Dissertation: Undermining the Mission: An Interpretive Analysis of Counter-Conduct in the United States Peace Corps Dissertation Chair: I. Oren

#### **Wayne Hobbs**

Major: Agricultural Education and Communication Dissertation: Identifying and Predicting Characteristics for Adoption of Online Distance Education by Florida Extension Agents Dissertation Chair: L. A. Warner

#### Shu Huang

Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences—Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy Dissertation: Risk Prediction of Suicide-Related Outcomes in Patients with Prescription Opioid Use Dissertation Chair: W. J. Lo Ciganic

#### **Yimei Huang**

Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences—Clinical Pharmaceutical Sciences Dissertation: The Genetic Impact of Metabolic Dysregulation on Heart Failure Morbidity and Mortality Dissertation Chair: J. D. Duarte

#### Yushi Huang

Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences—Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy Dissertation: Trends and Economic Impact of Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor for Advanced or Metastatic Wild-Type Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC): An Analysis Informed by Real-World Data Dissertation Chair: V. Diaby

#### Ellen A. Humbel

Major: *Zoology* Dissertation: Courtship and Communication in Jumping Spiders: A Sensory Ecology Perspective Dissertation Chair: R. T. Kimball Dissertation Co-chair: L. A. Taylor

#### Loc Tien Huynh

Major: Chemistry

Dissertation: Exploring and Studying Biochemical Activity of Ribonuclease P from Pathogenic Bacteria and High-Throughput Screening for Small-Molecule Inhibitors of *Staphylococcus aureus* Ribonuclease P Dissertation Chair: M. Harris

#### Joseph Tele Isaac Jr.

Major: Human-Centered Computing Dissertation: Black Boy Joy: Understanding Black Male Adolescents' Participation in Computer Science Dissertation Chair: J. E. Gilbert

#### **Cleveland Brenson Ivey**

Major: Entomology and Nematology Dissertation: Monitoring and Managing Megalurothrips usitatus (Bagnall) (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) in South Florida Legumes Dissertation Chair: H. A. Smith

#### Raphael Òsàréṇsè Ìyámù

Major: Linguistics Dissertation: Aspect-Actionality Interactions in Edo Dissertation Chair: J. Essegbey

#### **Noelle Alise Jacobsen**

Major: Biomedical Engineering Dissertation: Electrocortical Correlates of Human Locomotor Adaptation Dissertation Chair: D. P. Ferris

#### Ammar L. Jahin

Major: Physics Dissertation: Topological Superconductors and Applications in Quantum Computations Dissertation Chair: Y. Wang

#### **Yusuf Jamal**

Major: Environmental Engineering Sciences Dissertation: Development of Quantitative Approaches to Address Environmental Biothreats Dissertation Chair: A. S. Jutla

#### Aditi Jayarajan

Major: *Zoology* Dissertation: Morphology, Morphometrics, Modularity, and the Application of CT Data in K-12 Lesson Plans of Chiropterans Dissertation Chair: D. L. Reed

#### **Inyoung Jun**

Major: Epidemiology Dissertation: Leveraging Real-World Data and Machine Learning to Improve Clinical Management of Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus Infections Dissertation Chair: M. Prosperi

#### Marlyn Yvonny Suzanna Kallau

Major: Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences Dissertation: Evaluation of Total Lipid Content in Different Species of Microalgae by Use of Flow Cytometry and Their Effects on Broodstock Sex Maturity in Hard Clams Mercenaria mercenaria Dissertation Chair: H. Yang

#### **Ashpreet Kaur**

Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology
Dissertation: Zero Waste Programs in Higher Education Institutions: Understanding Factors Influencing Campus Waste
Diversion and Minimization
Dissertation Chair: C. A. Overdevest
Dissertation Co-chair: S. G. Perz

#### **Gagandeep Kaur**

Major: Entomology and Nematology Dissertation: Ecology and Management of Scirtothrips dorsalis Hood (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) in Strawberries in Florida Dissertation Chair: S. Lahiri

#### Kalyn M. Kearney

Major: Biomedical Engineering Dissertation: Bridging Musculoskeletal Simulations and Experimental Biomechanics through Machine Learning: Modeling Upper Extremity Tasks in Rested and Fatigued States Dissertation Chair: J. A. Nichols

#### **Benjamin Martin Kidd**

Major: Medical Sciences—Neuroscience Dissertation: Central Nervous System Dynamics during Development, Disease, and Injury Response Dissertation Chair: M. S. Swanson

#### Hyehyun Julia Kim

Major: Mass Communication Dissertation: Immersive Media and Virtual Brand Experiences: Metaverse Environments and Implications Dissertation Chair: S. M. Chan-Olmsted Dissertation Co-chair: J. Shin

#### Justin Youngjune Kim

Major: Business Administration—Accounting Dissertation: Income-Shifting by U.S. Multinational Corporations Using Stock-Based Compensation Dissertation Chair: M. A. Mayberry

#### **Kyle Robert Kinsey**

Major: Music Education Dissertation: The Current Application and Perceived Relevance of Traditional General Music Approaches by Active Elementary Music Educators Dissertation Chair: M. A. Haning

#### **Travis J. Klee**

Major: Zoology Dissertation: Reciprocal Phenotypic Plasticity: Exploring the Effects of Predator Behavioral Plasticity in Predator Prey Interactions Using Empirical and Theoretical Approaches Dissertation Chair: C. M. St. Mary Dissertation Co-chair: C. N. Keiser

#### **Zachary Alexander Krumm**

Major: Medical Sciences—Neuroscience Dissertation: Therapeutic Applications for HPA-Axis and Glucocorticoid Suppression in Metabolic Disease Dissertation Chair: D. R. Borchelt

#### Abhishek Ninad Kulkarni

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: Sequential Decision-Making in Games with Incomplete Information Dissertation Chair: J. Fu

#### Aniruddha Vinay Kulkarni

Major: Chemical Engineering Dissertation: Study of Structure-Function Relationships for Innovative Applications through Nanoscale Self-Assembly Dissertation Chair: K. J. Ziegler Dissertation Co-chair: J. E. Butler

#### **Ajeet Kumar**

Major: Chemistry Dissertation: Structure-Mechanism and Structure-Property Relationships in Self-Assembling [n.n]Paracyclophanes Dissertation Chair: R. K. Castellano

#### Eric J. Lake

Major: Political Science Dissertation: Systems of Objectification: The R3 Framework, State Social Sorting, and Identity Revelation Dissertation Chair: Z. Selden

#### Jonathan Dennis Larochelle

Major: Medical Sciences—Pharmacology and Therapeutics Dissertation: The Neuroprotective Effects of Blocking RIPK2 Activity in Ischemic Stroke Dissertation Chair: E. J. Candelario Jalil

#### See-Chi Lee

Major: Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology Dissertation: Role of Host Transcription Factors in the Regulation of Primary KSHV Infection Dissertation Chair: Z. Toth

#### Danielle Hazelette Leuschen de Pico

Major: Special Education Minor: Research and Evaluation Methodology Dissertation: Teachers' Self-Reported Shared Book Reading Practices Dissertation Chair: H. B. Lane Dissertation Co-chair: N. A. Gage

#### Motomori Oluwatumininu Lewis

Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences—Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy Dissertation: Geographic Variation Patterns of Quality Measures for Prescription Opioid Use and Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder among Medicare Beneficiaries Dissertation Chair: W. J. Lo Ciganic

#### **Xiang Li**

Major: Chemistry Dissertation: Towards the Synthesis of the Nemamide Side Chain for Investigation of the Nemamide Biosynthetic Pathway Dissertation Chair: R. A. Butcher

#### Hao-Yu Liao

Major: Environmental Engineering Sciences Dissertation: Enhancing Operator's Safety in Robotic-Assisted Disassembly of Electronic Waste: A Combination of Optimization and Artificial Intelligence Techniques Dissertation Chair: S. Behdad

#### **Alexander Ligocki**

Major: Medical Sciences—Genetics Dissertation: Redefining Flow Patterns: Cerebrospinal Fluid Flow Extends beyond the Central Nervous System into Peripheral Nerves Dissertation Chair: E. W. Scott

#### Boya Lin

Major: Medical Sciences—Health Outcomes and Policy Dissertation: Utilization of Buprenorphine for Opioid Use Disorder and Its Associated Health Outcomes among Pregnant Women in Florida Medicaid Dissertation Chair: M. J. Gurka

#### Peiwei Liu

Major: *Psychology* Dissertation: Understanding the Effects of Intranasal Oxytocin on Large-Scale Brain Networks in Aging Dissertation Chair: N. C. Ebner Dissertation Co-chair: S. M. Weisberg

#### Yuan Liu

Major: Materials Science and Engineering Dissertation: Modelling of Radionuclide Sequestration by Metal-Organic Frameworks and Intercalation Process of Ferrocene into Vanadium Phosphate by Density Functional Theory Dissertation Chair: S. R. Phillpot

#### Yunmei Liu

Major: Industrial and Systems Engineering Minor: Statistics Dissertation: Quantitative Models for System Rate of Automation and Operator Situation Awareness Responses Dissertation Chair: D. B. Kaber

#### **Tyler John Loftus**

Major: Medical Sciences—Biomedical Informatics Dissertation: Aligning Patient Acuity with Resource Intensity after Major Surgery: Federated Learning across Four University Health Systems Dissertation Chair: M. Liu Dissertation Co-chair: A. Bihorac

#### **Jasmine Lopez**

Major: Horticultural Sciences Dissertation: Discovery, Fine Mapping, and Characterization of Graywall Resistance Loci in Tomato Dissertation Chair: S. F. Hutton Dissertation Co-chair: S. Lee

#### Yingbo Ma

Major: Computer Science Dissertation: Multimodal Modeling of Collaborative Learning with Adaptive Data Fusion Dissertation Chair: K. Boyer

#### Zhedong Ma

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: Modeling, Analysis, and Optimization of Electromagnetic Performance in AC/DC Power Adapters Dissertation Chair: S. Wang

#### **Gabriela Paz Madrid Caviedes**

Major: Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology Dissertation: Exploring the Maize Leaf Landscape: A Single-Cell Perspective Dissertation Chair: M. F. Ribeiro De Resende Jr.

#### **Nelson Marin Alarcon**

Major: Religion Dissertation: Faith-Based Organizations and Politics in Neoliberal Chile Dissertation Chair: A. Peterson

#### **Edwin Marte**

Major: Engineering Education Dissertation: Exploring the Relationship between Academic Performance and Self-Reported Anxiety and Physiological Stress in Engineering Students during Exams Dissertation Chair: I. Villanueva Alarcón

#### **James Patrick Martin**

Major: Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology Dissertation: Six Human Isolates Recapitulate Clostidioides difficile Resistance Dissertation Chair: G. P. Wang

#### **Christian Hillary Matemu**

Major: Civil Engineering Dissertation: Performance Testing of GRS Test Piers Constructed with Florida Aggregates Dissertation Chair: S. J. Wasman

#### **Emily Maulden**

Major: Nuclear Engineering Sciences Dissertation: Technetium and Iodine Immobilization by Functionalized Clay Dissertation Chair: N. A. Wall

#### J. Parr McQueen

Major: Entomology and Nematology Dissertation: The Assembly of Nematode Gut Microbiomes Dissertation Chair: D. L. Porazinska



#### **Rebeccah Eve Mercado**

Major: Health and Human Performance Dissertation: Resilience among Female High School Athletes in Competitive or Elite Level Sports during the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Thematic Analysis through the Lens of Self-Determination Theory Dissertation Chair: M. Sagas Dissertation Co-chair: Y. J. Ko

#### Jomary Mercado-Montijo

Major: Materials Science and Engineering Dissertation: Development of Enzyme-Degradable Hydrogel Microparticles from Semi-Dilute Entangled Solutions for Pulmonary Delivery Dissertation Chair: J. Andrew

#### **Maneesh Merugu**

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: CAD for Security Instrumentation and Verification of Modern Microelectronics Dissertation Chair: S. Ray

#### **Patricia Leah Milletich**

Major: Microbiology and Cell Science Dissertation: Gut Microbiome Predisposes Infants to Future Autoimmune Disease Years before Diagnosis in Both General Population and Risk-Associated Cohorts Dissertation Chair: E. Triplett

#### **Dicheng Mo**

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: Intrinsic Configurable Aluminum Scandium Nitride Resonator and Filter Dissertation Chair: R. Tabrizian

#### Milt A. P. Moise

Major: English Dissertation: "Because You Were Not Here": Bipolarity and Absence in Contemporary American Fiction Dissertation Chair: S. Hegeman

#### **Arup Mondal**

Major: Chemistry Dissertation: Understanding Biomolecular Structures, Dynamics, and Functions: An Integrative Approach Dissertation Chair: A. Perez

#### **Luis Daniel Montalvo**

Major: *Zoology* Dissertation: Potential Local Adaptations to Climate and Aggression Territoriality as Drivers of Distributional Ranges of *Campylorhynchus* in Ecuador and Peru Dissertation Chair: S. K. Robinson Dissertation Co-chair: R. T. Kimball

#### Savannah Lynn Morgan

Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering Dissertation: Reconstructing Nonlinear Deterministic Dynamics of Three Complex Biophysical Systems Dissertation Chair: R. G. Huffaker Dissertation Co-chair: G. A. Kiker

#### Austin E. Moss

Major: Mechanical Engineering Dissertation: Modeling Fiber-Reinforced Elastomer Membranes for Defining Deformation Spaces in Soft Robotic Actuators Dissertation Chair: K. Mohseni

#### Kartik Motwani

Major: Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology Dissertation: Coiled Cerebral Aneurysm Healing: Role of Adjuvant Interleukin-17A Blockade in Tissue Repair and Peripheral Immune Response Dissertation Chair: T. M. Brusko

#### **Yuhan Mou**

Major: Rehabilitation Science Dissertation: Characterizing Swallow-Breathing Coordination under Controlled versus Naturalistic Conditions in Healthy Young Adults Dissertation Chair: K. W. Hegland

#### **Jason Paul Mullen**

Major: *Music* Dissertation: Infrastructures of Emotion: Music and E-Commerce Dissertation Chair: S. Politz Dissertation Co-chair: I. Mosley

#### Md Ali Muntaha

Major: Materials Science and Engineering Dissertation: Investigating Microstructure Evolution of Irradiated UO<sub>2</sub> Fuel Using the Phase Field Method Dissertation Chair: M. Tonks

#### **Md Rafid Muttaki**

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: Mitigating Supply-Chain Threats through Obfuscation Dissertation Chair: F. Farahmandi

#### **Tarah Nicole Nelson**

Major: Nursing Sciences Dissertation: Medication Adherence, HbA1c Levels, and Determinants of Health among American Indian Adults with Type 2 Diabetes Receiving Tribal Health Services Dissertation Chair: L. Scarton Dissertation Co-chair: D. J. Wilkie

#### Jaya Nepal

Major: Soil and Water Sciences Dissertation: Evaluating the Potential of Carbon Nanomaterials for Crop Production and Implications on Plants, Soil, and Environment Dissertation Chair: Z. He Dissertation Co-chair: G. Maltais-Landry

#### Subhash Nerella

Major: Biomedical Engineering Dissertation: Al Augmented Intensive Care Unit Dissertation Chair: P. Rashidi

#### **Rachel Chantal Newsome**

Major: Medical Sciences—Cancer Biology Dissertation: Role of Gut Microbiota in Cancer Immunotherapy Dissertation Chair: C. B. Jobin

#### Willis Aggrey Omondi Ochieng

Major: Agricultural Education and Communication Dissertation: Sowing Seeds Abroad: Exploring the Lived Experiences of African Immigrant Farmers in the U.S. Dissertation Chair: M. P. Benge

#### Tamara Ordonez Diaz

Major: Biomedical Engineering Dissertation: Investigating Carpometacarpal Osteoarthritis: Insights into Biomechanical Implications, Pain Pathways, and Muscle Function Dissertation Chair: J. A. Nichols

#### Yuma TeAdoro Ortiz

Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences—Pharmacodynamics Dissertation: An Assessment of the Kratom Alkaloids Mitragynine and Speciogynine for the Attenuation of Cancer-Associated Peripheral Neuropathies Dissertation Chair: J. L. Wilkerson

#### Brian H. Ortiz Salcedo

Major: Civil Engineering Dissertation: Concrete Water Permeability Based on Resistivity Measurements Dissertation Chair: C. C. Ferraro

#### **Richard Olatomiwa Owoputi**

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: Enhancing the Resilience of Distributed Multi-Agent Systems to Cyber-Attacks Dissertation Chair: S. Ray

#### **Haechan Park**

Major: *Physics* Dissertation: Unraveling Spin Decoherence: Investigating Electron Spin Bath Dissertation Chair: H. P. Cheng

#### **Stephen Wayne Parker**

Major: Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Dissertation: Maximizing Learning Opportunities in Conservation: Gulf Sturgeon Stock Status and Trends Dissertation Chair: W. E. Pine Dissertation Co-chair: A. K. Carlson

#### **Ashish Dinesh Patel**

Major: Civil Engineering Dissertation: Development and Evaluation of Portland Cement-Based Neutron Radiation Shields Using Boron Dissertation Chair: C. C. Ferraro

#### Angela Maria Vitale Peterson

Major: Special Education Minor: Research and Evaluation Methodology Dissertation: Discovering Mentors: The Impact of Mentor Text Instruction on the Text-Based Writing Quality of Middle School Students with Disabilities Dissertation Chair: C. C. Griffin



#### Sara Ellen Pickernell

#### Major: Psychology

Dissertation: A Characterization of Behavioral, Physiological, and Neurobiological Impacts of Social Defeat Stress in Rats Dissertation Chair: D. P. Devine

#### Catherine A. Pruszynski

Major: Entomology and Nematology Dissertation: Vectorial Capacity of the Aedes aegypti Mosquito for Dengue-1 Virus in the Florida Keys Dissertation Chair: E. A. Buckner

#### Moni Qiande

Major: Agronomy Dissertation: Inducible Metabolic Engineering to Accelerate Design-Build-Test-Learn Cycles for the Production of Lipids in Sugarcane Dissertation Chair: F. Altpeter

#### Jia Quan

Major: Research and Evaluation Methodology Minor: Statistics Dissertation: A Comparison of Machine Learning Methods to Estimate Treatment Effect Heterogeneity with Multilevel Observational Data Dissertation Chair: W. L. Leite

#### Kshitij Raj

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: Architecture and Validation of Secure System-On-Chip Designs Dissertation Chair: S. Ray

#### Priyanka Rana

Major: Rehabilitation Science Dissertation: Enhancing Pain Modulation: Investigating the Efficacy of Repeated Conditioned Pain Modulation in Healthy Adults Dissertation Chair: M. D. Bishop

#### Neha Rani

Major: Computer Science Dissertation: Investigating User Trust in Context-Aware Recommender Systems in Search as Learning Dissertation Chair: S. L. Chuyew Yee

#### Jayne-Marie Raponi

Major: Public Health Dissertation: A Multi-Method Qualitative Analysis of a Clinical Interprofessional Education Experience for Third-Year Dental Students Dissertation Chair: A. V. Blue Dissertation Co-chair: Y. A. Strekalova

#### **Colbie Justine Reed**

Major: Microbiology and Cell Science Dissertation: Contemporary Challenges of Protein Functional Annotation in the Era of Big Biodata: Investigating the Balance of Quality and Quantity in Today's Biological Sciences Dissertation Chair: V. A. de Crecy

#### **Holly Rachel Ryan**

Major: Biomedical Engineering Dissertation: Role of Monocytes in Promoting SLE-Associated Endothelial Dysfunction in a Hydrogel Model of the Microvasculature Dissertation Chair: W. L. Murfee III

#### Yasemin Sakarya

Major: Health and Human Performance Dissertation: Impact of Type 2 Diabetes and Endurance Exercise Training on Gene and Protein Expression Profiles in Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cells Dissertation Chair: D. D. Christou

#### **Federico Sanchez**

Major: Horticultural Sciences Dissertation: Physiological and Biochemical Responses of Achachairu (Garcinia humilis) to Soil Salinity, Flooding, and Exogenous Application of Brassinosteroids Dissertation Chair: B. A. Schaffer

#### Jorge Santini-Gonzalez

Major: *Biomedical Engineering* Dissertation: Engineering the Pancreatic Islet Microenvironment to Promote Local Immunological Tolerance in Beta Cell Replacement Therapy Dissertation Chair: E. A. Phelps

#### Lynsey Marie Saunders

Major: Mass Communication Dissertation: We Take It Personal: Analysis of Projected Identity Frames in the Hip-Hop and #BlackLivesMatter Movements in the Media Dissertation Chair: B. E. Tripp

#### **Giyeon Seo**

Major: Sociology Dissertation: Cross-National Comparisons of Attitudes toward Family Dissertation Chair: T. M. Koropeckyj-Cox

#### **Tredina Davis Sheppard**

Major: Curriculum and Instruction Dissertation: Exploring Rural and Small Schools Secondary Science Teachers' Perspectives and Effective Uses of Technology: A Case Study Dissertation Chair: R. M. Pringle

#### **Muzi David Sibiya**

Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology Dissertation: Shrub Encroachment and Large Mammalian Herbivores as Drivers of Avian Communities in African Savannas Dissertation Chair: R. J. Fletcher

#### Andrew Dwight Sims

Major: Forest Resources and Conservation Dissertation: Genetic Architecture and Improvement of Resilience to Fusarium circinatum in Pinus. spp. Dissertation Chair: G. F. Peter

#### **Hunter Daniel Smith**

Major: Agronomy Dissertation: Digital Methods of Yield Quantification in Pasture and Row Crops Dissertation Chair: C. H. Wilson Dissertation Co-chair: J. Batista Dubeux Jr.

#### Anne Marie Rugg Sowder

Major: Design, Construction and Planning Dissertation: Framework for Recovery: The 1935 Hurricane Houses of Islamorada as a Case of Successful Post-Disaster Rebuilding Dissertation Chair: R. R. Issa

#### **Jonathan Taylor Specker**

Major: Chemistry Dissertation: Investigation of Biomolecular Health and Disease Using Advancements in Mass Spectrometry Instrumentation and Applications Dissertation Chair: B. M. Prentice

#### **Edward J. Stafford**

Major: Medical Sciences—Medical Physics Dissertation: Characterization, Deployment, and Dosimetric Analysis of an Imaging Chain Utilizing a Higher-Than-Diagnostic Energy X-Ray Tube and a Photon Counting Linear Diode Array to Be Used in Large Animal Imaging Dissertation Chair: F. J. Bova Dissertation Co-chair: M. M. Arreola

#### **Nicole E. Stafford**

Major: Mechanical Engineering Dissertation: Performance of Lower Limb Amputees Using a Portable Myoelectric Ankle Prosthesis in Real-World Environments Dissertation Chair: D. P. Ferris

#### Emma Anne Stowell

Major: Chemistry Dissertation: A Structure-Guided Approach to Understanding Terpenoid Natural Product Biosynthesis Dissertation Chair: J. D. Rudolf

#### Wen Sui

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: Wide Bandgap Semiconductor Microelectromechanical Systems for Harsh Environment Applications Dissertation Chair: P. Feng

#### Hannah Marie Tabor

Major: Higher Education Administration Dissertation: Eliminating Barriers to Capabilities: Nontraditional Students Experiencing a One-Stop Shop Service Model at Community Colleges Dissertation Chair: L. B. Lynch

#### Parisa Tahafchi

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: Freezing of Gait Detection Using Wearable Sensor Technology and Machine Learning Algorithms Dissertation Chair: J. Judy

#### Marcel Talla Kouete

Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology Dissertation: Microbial Diversity of Central African Amphibians and Its Relationship to Pathogens Dissertation Chair: D. C. Blackburn

#### **Xixuan Tang**

Major: Food Science Dissertation: Developing Novel Methods in the Identification of Potential Taste Modulators Dissertation Chair: Y. Wang

#### **Emily Ann Taylor**

Major: Soil, Water, and Ecosystem Sciences Dissertation: Energy Subsidies and Dynamics amid the Changing Conditions of Sub-Tropical Urban Headwater Streams Dissertation Chair: A. J. Reisinger

#### Maxim A. Terekhov

Major: Business Administration—Information Systems and Operations Management Dissertation: Three Essays on Business Analytics and Artificial Intelligence Applications in Healthcare and Financial Technology Dissertation Chair: E. Demirezen

#### **Naveen Thakur**

Major: Chemistry Dissertation: Protein-Lipid Interactions Modulate the Function-Related Dynamics of G Protein Coupled Receptors Dissertation Chair: M. T. Eddy

#### **Troy R. Tharpe**

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: Realization of Integrated Linear and Nonlinear RF Spectral Processors Using Nanoscale Hafnia-Zirconia BAW Resonators Dissertation Chair: R. Tabrizian

#### **Brevin Jeffery Tilmon**

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: Foveated Computational Imaging Dissertation Chair: S. J. Koppal

#### Jordan Leigh Torgunrud

Major: Chemistry Dissertation: Silica, Silicates, and Siloxanes: Unraveling the Properties, Depolymerization, and Polymerization Dissertation Chair: S. A. Miller

#### Jorge O. Torres-Alamo

Major: Civil Engineering Dissertation: Shear Influence in Ultra-High Performance Fiber Reinforced Concrete Beams Dissertation Chair: T. Krauthammer

#### **Phuong Tan Tran**

Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences—Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy Dissertation: Advancing Evidence on Antibiotics Use, Their Safety and the Methodology to Deal with Unmeasured Confounding Dissertation Chair: A. G. Winterstein

#### **Mayank Tripathi**

Major: *Physics* Dissertation: Dark Matter Searches at Coherent Captain-Mills Dissertation Chair: I. K. Furic Dissertation Co-chair: H. Ray

#### Ikenna Francis Unigwe

Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences—Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy Dissertation: Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis Adherence and the Risks of HIV and Sexually Transmitted Infection Dissertation Chair: H. Park

#### Valerie Christine Valerio Holguin

Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering Dissertation: Filling Sub-Saharan African Livestock Value Chain Knowledge Gaps Using Simulation and Data Modeling Dissertation Chair: G. A. Kiker Dissertation Co-chair: R. Muneepeerakul

#### **Austin Lee Vera**

Major: Mechanical Engineering Dissertation: A Flat-Packaged MEMS-Based Optical Pressure Sensor for Harsh Environments Dissertation Chair: M. Sheplak

#### **Minh Nhat Vu**

Major: Computer Science Dissertation: Explaining the Box: A Glimpse Inside Decisions of Modern AI Dissertation Chair: M. T. Thai

#### **Hongsheng Wang**

Major: Geography

Dissertation: The Role of Pacific Natural Variability in Extratropical Cyclone Geospatial, Moisture, and Precipitation Climatology over the Pacific-North American Sector Dissertation Chair: E. D. Mullens

#### **Yifan Wang**

Major: Computer Science Dissertation: Learning-Based High-Dimensional Query Processing Dissertation Chair: Z. Wang

#### Myranda Kay Warfield

Major: Counseling and Counselor Education Dissertation: Breaking the Binary: A Phenomenological Study of Transgender and Gender Diverse Collegiate Athletes Dissertation Chair: A. Puig

#### Yuhan Wen

Major: Animal Molecular and Cellular Biology Dissertation: Characterizing Vaccine Delivery and Genetic Factors that Influence the Vaccine Effectiveness and Immune Competence Dissertation Chair: C. D. Nelson

#### Mihoko Maeda Wheeler

Major: Linguistics Dissertation: Effectiveness of Implicit Categorical Learning in Japanese Pitch Training of Second-Language Japanese Learners Dissertation Chair: R. Wayland

#### **Stephanie R. Wheeler**

Major: *Zoology* Dissertation: Avian Use of African Villages and the Consequences of Synanthropy Dissertation Chair: S. K. Robinson

#### **Lory Willard**

Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering Dissertation: Quantifying the Effects of Sustainable Intensification Practices on Streamflow and Wildlife: A Case Study in Laikipia, Kenya Dissertation Chair: R. Muñoz-Carpena

#### **Kathryn Michelle Williams**

Major: Counseling and Counselor Education Dissertation: Experiences of Supervisors in the Field Dissertation Chair: J. Swank

#### Xinyi Xia

Major: Chemical Engineering Dissertation: Investigation of Ultra-Wide Bandgap Semiconductors and SiC<sub>x</sub>N<sub>y</sub> Coatings for Advanced Dental Implant Applications Dissertation Chair: F. Ren

#### Heng Xu

Major: Higher Education Administration Dissertation: A Critical Phenomenological Study of Chinese International STEM Doctoral Students at an R1 Flagship University in the Southeastern Region of the United States Dissertation Chair: F. J. Fernandez

#### Jiayi Xu

Major: Curriculum and Instruction Dissertation: How Chinese Background Adolescents Navigated Their Identities during the COVID-19 Pandemic Dissertation Chair: M. R. Coady

#### **Jinze Xue**

Major: Chemistry Dissertation: Advances in Machine Learning Potentials: Enhancing the Accuracy and Enabling Large-Scale Molecular Dynamics Simulations Dissertation Chair: A. E. Roitberg



#### **Rinku Yadav**

Major: Chemistry Dissertation: Reactions of Small Molecules with Tungsten (VI) Alkylidyne Dissertation Chair: A. S. Veige

#### Wei Yan

Major: Curriculum and Instruction Minor: Statistics Dissertation: What Computational Problem-Solving Strategies Do Students Use while Playing a Puzzle Game, Allergic Cliff in Zoombinis? Dissertation Chair: M. Israel

#### **Ning Yang**

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: Modeling and Design of Van der Waals Electronic Devices Dissertation Chair: J. Guo

#### **Ruiquan Yang**

Major: Chemical Engineering Dissertation: Synthesis and Growth Mechanism of Chalcogenide Perovskites Dissertation Chair: C. J. Hages

#### Seonkyeong Yang

Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences—Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy Dissertation: Real-World Migraine Treatment Patterns and Associated Cardiovascular Disease Risk in Medicare Beneficiaries with Migraine Dissertation Chair: W. J. Lo Ciganic

#### **Yang Yang**

Major: Medical Sciences—Pharmacology and Therapeutics Dissertation: A BCL-xL/BCL-2 PROTAC Effectively Clears Senescent Hepatocytes and Prevents Nash-Driven Hepatocellular Carcinoma in Mice Dissertation Chair: D. Zhou

#### **Yicheng Yang**

Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering Dissertation: Applying Biochar to Remove Caffeine from Wastewater Dissertation Chair: R. Muñoz-Carpena

#### Allen Juan Zegarra Acevedo

Major: Romance Languages—Spanish Dissertation: La rentabilidad de la eesclavitud en las Américas del siglo XIX analizada a través de la literatura y el cine Dissertation Chair: M. E. Sorbille

#### **Cheng Zhang**

Major: Business Administration—Finance Dissertation: Essays in Mortgage Origination Fees Dissertation Chair: M. J. Flannery

#### **Rui Zhang**

Major: *Physics* Dissertation: Raman Spectroscopy Simulation and Analysis for Amorphous Structure and Dynamics Dissertation Chair: H. P. Cheng

#### **Tao Zhang**

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: Side-Channel Oriented Security Verification of Integrated Circuits Dissertation Chair: F. Farahmandi

#### Yue Zhang

Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering Dissertation: Functionalization of Biochar/Hydrochar for the Removal of Contaminants from Aqueous Solutions Dissertation Chair: R. Muñoz-Carpena

#### **Zhe Zhang**

Major: Civil Engineering

Dissertation: Modeling Unsaturated Porous Media from the Atomic Scale to the Continuum Scale through HPC Dissertation Chair: X. Song

#### Hui Zhao

Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology Dissertation: Sustaining Urban Agriculture: The Role of Ecosystem Service and the Public Involvement Dissertation Chair: J. Qiu

#### **Meng Zhao**

Major: Industrial and Systems Engineering Dissertation: Tensor Analytics for System Monitoring and Modeling with High-Dimensional Data Dissertation Chair: M. Reisi Gahrooei

## DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

#### John Henry Bell III

Major: Curriculum and Instruction Dissertation: Blacked-Out: Narratives of Black Male Elementary Teachers Dissertation Chair: V. A. Vescio

#### **Kristina Gallivan Belvin**

Major: Curriculum and Instruction Dissertation: Exploring Conflict Resolution Strategies with Fifth-Grade Students through Practitioner Inquiry Dissertation Chair: V. A. Vescio

#### Janna Traci Black Salari

Major: Special Education Dissertation: Needs Assessment of Florida Caregivers of Children with Dyslexia Dissertation Chair: V. E. Gonsalves Dissertation Co-chair: H. B. Lane

#### Sendi Chriss Brewster

Major: Higher Education Administration Dissertation: The Tubman Society: Black Women's Identity Development at an HSI Dissertation Chair: L. B. Lynch

#### **Alexis Ellyn Cobo**

Major: Curriculum and Instruction Dissertation: Creating Pathways to Inclusion in K-12 Computer Science Education: A Case Study on the Scratch Educator Meetup Dissertation Chair: M. Israel

#### **Cheyenne Conrad**

Major: Special Education Dissertation: Exploring Florida Infant Toddler Development Specialists' Experiences of Training and Support Dissertation Chair: K. L. Cheyney-Collante

#### Graciela Sabrina Cruz

Major: Curriculum and Instruction Dissertation: The Double-Binds that Bind Us: A Latinx Female Teacher's Lens Dissertation Chair: C. C. Coleman King

#### **Lindsey Jane Danburg**

Major: Higher Education Administration Dissertation: Exploring Medical Students' Engagement with Wellness during The USMLE Step 1 Exam Dedicated Preparation Period Dissertation Chair: C. Haynes

#### **Priscille Elie**

Major: Educational Leadership Dissertation: An Exploration of Inclusive Leadership Practices in Elementary Schools Dissertation Chair: C. H. Redding

#### **Ashley Nicole Farrington**

Major: Special Education Dissertation: Special Education Paraprofessional Perspectives on the Hiring and Onboarding Process Dissertation Chair: C. C. Griffin

#### **Christian Jose Jarquin**

Major: Curriculum and Instruction Dissertation: Exploring College Students' Sentiments about Learning with an Intelligent Tutoring System in Developmental Mathematics Courses Dissertation Chair: P. Antonenko

#### **Angela Perez Kopels**

Major: Curriculum and Instruction Dissertation: Principal-Led Professional Learning Community: Enhancing Equity-Centered Practices for Independent Elementary Educators Dissertation Chair: C. C. Coleman King

#### **Patricia Ellen Merewether**

Major: Curriculum and Instruction Dissertation: "It Opens the Door for an Actual Possibility": Students' and Families' Perceptions of Advanced Placement Coursework in a Title 1, High-Minority High School Dissertation Chair: A. J. Adams

#### **Mark Esten Ophaug**

Major: Curriculum and Instruction Dissertation: Technology Leadership of Adaptive Learning Technologies for Mathematics in K-12 Schools Dissertation Chair: K. M. Dawson

#### **Christina Perez**

Major: Higher Education Administration Dissertation: Understanding How Black and Latina Women Experience the Path to Full Professor at Academic Health Centers Dissertation Chair: F. J. Fernandez

#### **Tresha Ann Robinson**

Major: Higher Education Administration Dissertation: Social Media as a Digital Counterspace for Black Women Graduate Students at Predominantly White Institutions Dissertation Chair: C. Haynes Dissertation Co-chair: L. B. Lynch

#### **Elizabeth Grace Rockey**

Major: Special Education Dissertation: Portraying Phonics and Foundational Skills Instruction: Educators' Experiences Implementing UFLI Foundations in Early Elementary Classrooms Dissertation Chair: K. L. Cheyney-Collante

#### **Robert Carl Rose**

Major: Curriculum and Instruction Dissertation: Undergraduate Students' Shared Metacognitive Strategies and Cognitive Presence in Online Discussions Dissertation Chair: S. Kumar

#### **Matthew T. Simmons**

Major: Higher Education Administration Dissertation: The Association of Open Educational Resources with Short-Term Student Outcomes Dissertation Chair: B. T. Skinner

#### Julie Jean Tomczak

Major: Curriculum and Instruction Dissertation: Combining Inquiry-Based Activities with Virtual Simulations in Fifth Grade Science: An Action Research Study Dissertation Chair: K. M. Dawson

#### **Amy Whaley Webber**

Major: Curriculum and Instruction Dissertation: Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports: Systems and Structures in a Lower, Rural Elementary School Dissertation Chair: T. M. Vetere

## DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS

Dakeyan Chá Dré Graham

## Doctor of $\mathbf{P}$ Lant $\mathbf{M}$ EDICINE

Jenny María Gavilánez-Slone

## **PROFESSIONAL DEGREES**

## THE FREDRIC G. LEVIN COLLEGE OF LAW

#### **Interim Dean Merritt McAlister**

#### JURIS DOCTOR

- Andrew William Ash Ann Christine Bernert Griffen L. Bloshinsky Reagan M. Borick Benjamin Garrett Cleveland Cameron Moore Dalton
- Meghan Elisabeth Griffin Alex H. Lopez Gabrielle Rose Martinez Lindsey Kennedy O'Brien Justin Bennett Pokotylo Marshall Clayton Rawson Savannah T. Spears
- Grant Stephen Spicer Morgan S. Stone Alexander David Valenzuela Michael Anthony Varone Joshua Dean Wendt Jonathan Richard Williamson

#### MASTER OF LAWS IN INTERNATIONAL TAXATION

Abdulaziz Saad A. Alshubrumi

#### MASTER OF LAWS IN TAXATION

Max Angel Christopher T. Bishop Griffen L. Bloshinsky Aurora Ann Charland Benjamin Garrett Cleveland

#### MASTER OF LAWS IN U.S. LAW

Thomas Alzuru

Cameron Moore Dalton Joseph K. Fabbi Meghan Elisabeth Griffin Owen Kalinic Alex H. Lopez

Rasha Harb Hnidy

Grant Stephen Spicer Alexander David Valenzuela Michael Anthony Varone Joshua Dean Wendt Jonathan Richard Williamson

#### **Anna Rodrigues**

## THE COLLEGE OF NURSING

#### **Interim Dean Debra Lyon**

#### DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

Tracy M. Best Crystal Alonzo Bryan Daniela C. Cobb Tajmara E. Eaton MariaEla Gonzalez Archana John

### THE COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

**Dean Peter Swaan** 

DOCTOR OF PHARMACY

**Travis Boram Hong** 

#### THE COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

#### **Dean Beth A. Virnig**

#### DOCTOR OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Kaitlyn Alexis Abella Audrey Paige Anderson Natalie Andrea Baumgarten Lindsey Amber Berkowitz Kaila Marie Biberstein Kaitlin Rose Bohan Kaley Bree Boran Allison Baitan Chu Hannah Elaine Crosby Kelly Elizabeth Dillon Natalie Nicole Douglas Matthew L. Dunkelberger **Garland Sheree Evans** Avery Leigh Ferguson **Rachel Cristine Ford** Savannah Dee Fourgurean Emma Rose Fraunhoffer Ana Paula Ghislandi

**Collin Patrick Groves Camryn Grace Hale** Mary L. Isiminger Savannah Blue Jackson Leah Jordan Knight Kristina R. Kobza Kelly Rose Kolman Jamie Ingrid Kulik Sarah Joan Mairs Madison Nicole Malie Jemma Alyssa Miller Soriah Michele Milorin **Olivia Grace Morand** Daniela Nicole Moreira Hannah Mari Morse Velencia Mercedes Munroe Nina K. Naran Rachel Gari-Sue Narzissenfeld Hannah Lillian Nelson

**Camille Jane Nichols** Megan Marie Peeples Kayla Dominique Ramos **Zoe Marie Reyes** Allison Elizabeth Riemer **Cassidy René Rion** Emma R. Rudman Mikayla Elizabeth Ryder **Thaila Ann Schug** Kara Michelle Senn Melinda D. Shaw Leah Elizabeth Sink Jayme Elise Sorg Cara Nicole Steinberg **Belgium Lynn Sylvester** Danielle A. Szantai Madeline F. Thomas Grace Emily Valerio Gerry





## **What Makes a University Great?**

Some interesting facts about the University of Florida

#### **Educational Excellence**

UF is consistently ranked among the nation's top universities: No. 1 among public universities in the Wall Street Journal (2024); No. 6 among U.S. public universities in U.S. News & World Report (2024); No. 2 in public universities in Degree Choices for the economic return students get from attending college and leading students to greater financial security (2023); received the highest rating a "5-Star college" by Money Magazine's "Best Colleges in America, Ranked by Value" (2023); No. 1 in public universities in tech transfer for economic return by the Heartland Foundation; No. 1 for Best Online undergraduate programs by U.S. News & World Report (2023); and No. 1 for Best Online bachelor's programs for veterans by U.S. News & World Report (2023).

UF has more than 6,600 faculty members with distinguished records in teaching, research, and service, including 25 Eminent Scholars chairs, 36 elections to the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine, and 20 elections to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Awards include a Fields Medal, three Pulitzer Prizes, NASA's top award for research, and the Smithsonian Institution's conservation award.

#### **Students**

Students admitted to the Fall 2022 freshman class had an average 4.49 GPA, an average SAT score of 1407, and an average ACT score of 32.

The freshman retention of 97% is among the highest in the country.

UF ranks in top ten in Latino and African American graduates who go on to receive doctorates in STEM fields.

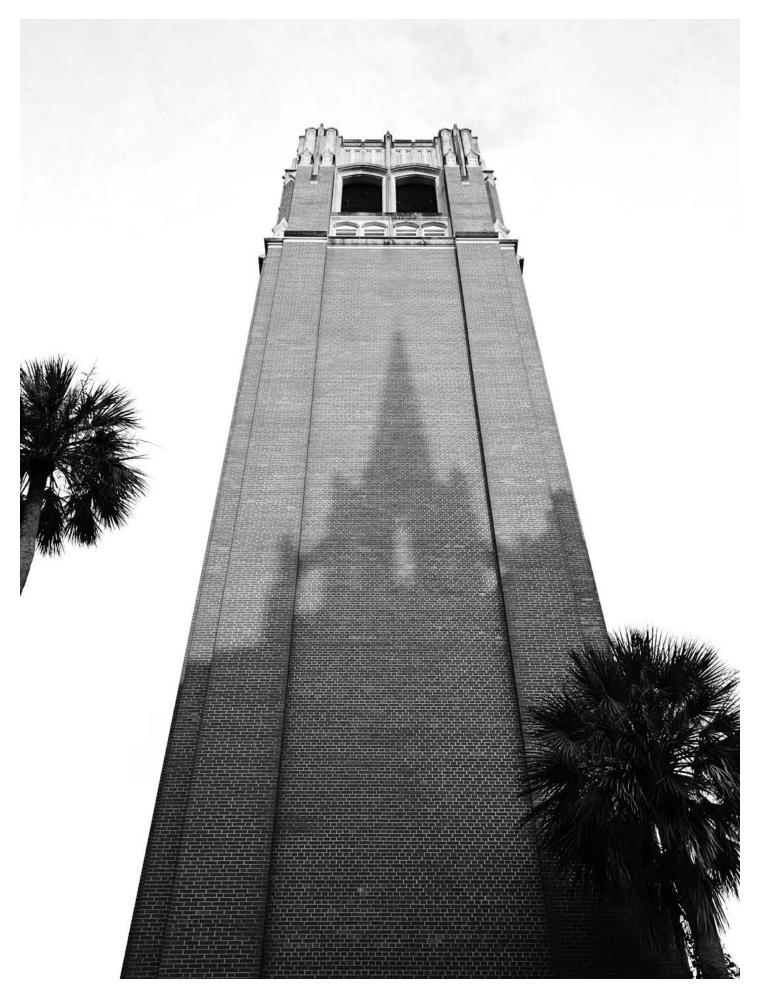
72% of UF full-time freshmen graduate in four years, and 90% graduate within six years.

Nearly 45% of students enrolled are from minority groups.

There was the highest percent of Hispanic student enrollment at UF in 2022.

65% graduate with no student loan debt.







## **Chain of Office**

This custom-made ornament is worn with the president's regalia, symbolizing the authority and responsibilities of the office. The chain is engraved with the names and service years of the university presidents. The medallion's centerpiece is a 1.3-carat diamond.

## Academic Mace

Dating back to the Middle Ages, the mace symbolizes strength and authority. The UF ceremonial mace was created for the university's sesquicentennial celebration in 2003. The 70-inch staff features an alligator sitting atop a globe. The

four pillars supporting the globe represent the four original colleges: Agriculture, Engineering, Law, and Liberal Arts. The staff is carved from cherry wood. The university's chief marshal, who leads all academic processions, carries the mace.





## Diplomas

Diplomas will be mailed to the graduates' diploma mailing address in February of 2024.



## Caps and Gowns, An Explanation

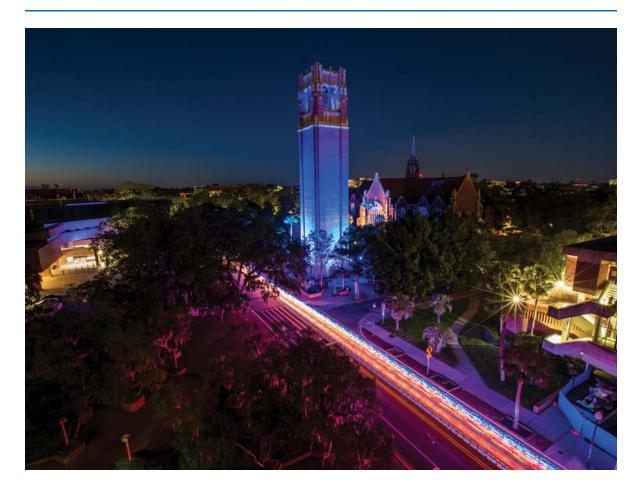
The academic regalia worn by graduating students and faculty in this era evolved from a style of dress worn by members of guilds and religious orders in medieval times. The academic gown is worn by individuals who have earned a degree in higher education. In addition, hoods are worn by graduate degree candidates but not by undergraduate degree candidates.

At the University of Florida, the lining of the hood has a blue chevron on an orange background to represent the university colors. University faculty members who hold degrees from another college or university wear the colors of their alma mater.

The velvet edging on the academic hood is the color that represents the particular degree held by the wearer. Agricultural and Life Sciences and Forest Resources and Conservation share maize edging; Design, Construction and Planning and Building Construction are lilac; Audiology degrees have colonial blue edging; Business Administration and Accounting are drab; Dentistry is lilac; Education is light blue; Engineering degrees are represented by orange edging; Fine Arts degrees have brown edging; Health and Human Performance is sage green; Journalism and Communications is garnet; Law is purple; Liberal Arts is white, and Liberal Sciences is gold yellow; Medicine is green; Music is pink; Natural Resources and Environment is antique gold; Nursing is apricot; Doctor of Occupational Therapy is slate blue; Doctor of Pharmacy is olive; Philosophy is royal blue; Public Health degrees have salmon pink edging; Rehabilitation Counseling degrees have Nile green edging; and Veterinary Medicine is gray.

Distinctions among sleeves indicate the type of degree held by the wearer. A long, pointed sleeve indicates a bachelor's degree, while a long, closed sleeve with a slit near the upper part of the arm designates a master's degree. A round, open sleeve identifies a doctoral degree.

The blue doctoral regalia also has velvet running on the rest of the gown, including crossbars on the sleeve. Colored tassels on the degree candidates' caps indicate a candidate's school or college.





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Alma Mater

Florida, our Alma Mater Thy glorious name we praise All thy loyal sons and daughters A joyous song shall raise. Where palm and pine are blowing, Where southern seas are flowing, Shine forth thy noble Gothic walls, Thy lovely vine-clad halls. Neath the Orange and Blue victorious Our love shall never fail. There's no other name so glorious– All hail, Florida, Hail!

Milton Yeats