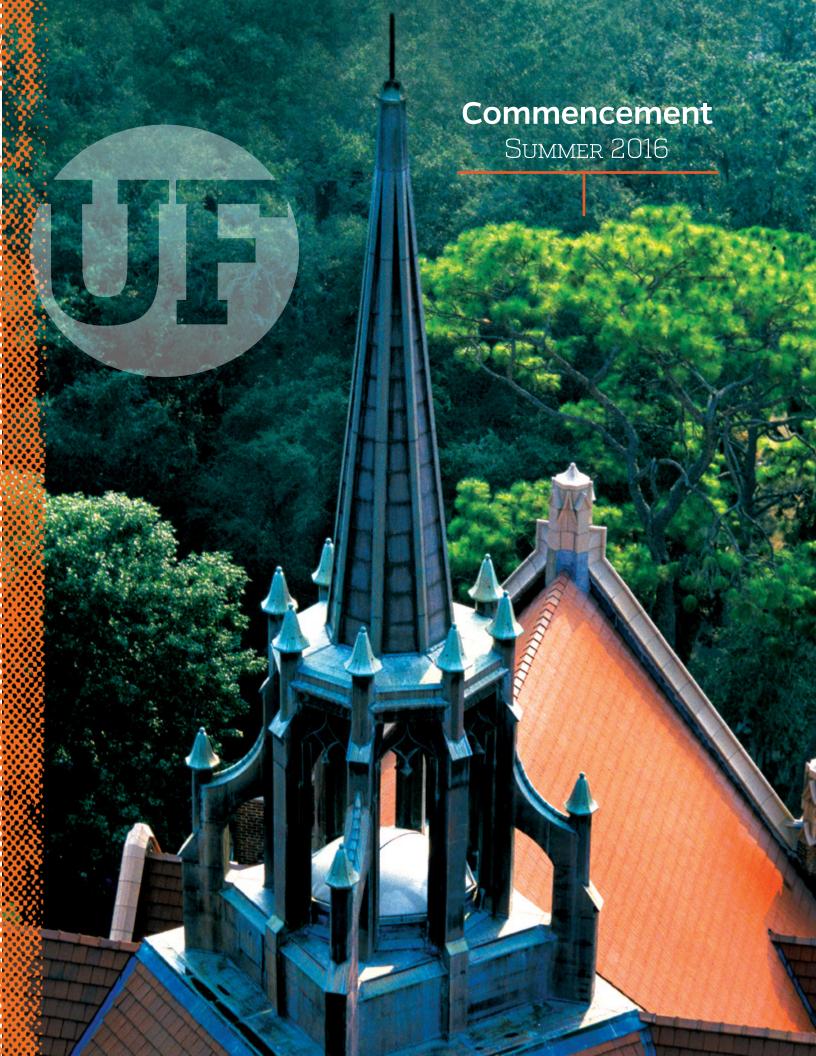
# Commencement





## University of Florida President

#### Dr. W. Kent Fuchs

Dr. Kent Fuchs became the 12<sup>th</sup> President of the University of Florida in January 2015. Under President Fuchs' leadership, the university has developed shared goals for the decade ahead. UF's overarching aspiration is to be a premier comprehensive university that the state, nation and world look to for leadership.

Previous to the UF presidency, Dr. Fuchs spent six years as Cornell's provost before coming to UF. He was appointed provost after serving as the university's Joseph Silbert Dean of Engineering from 2002 to 2008. He joined Cornell from Purdue University, where he headed the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering from 1996 to 2002. He was a professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and the Coordinated Science Laboratory at the University of Illinois from 1985 to 1996.

He is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Association of the Advancement of Science, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, and the Association for Computing Machinery, and has received numerous awards for teaching and research.

President Fuchs earned his doctorate in electrical and computer engineering from the University of Illinois, and a master of divinity from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Chicago. He credits divinity school with teaching him communication and community-building skills, and to balance his innately analytic perspective with a deep appreciation for people and for human relationships. He also holds a bachelor of science in engineering from Duke University.

Dr. Fuchs is married to Linda Moskeland Fuchs, an art historian whose scholarship centers on the sculpture of sarcophagi created in the first centuries of Christian art-making. Mrs. Fuchs has two master's degrees in art history, from the University of Chicago and Cornell, and a third in Biblical studies, from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. The Fuchses have three sons and a daughter, Micah, Eric, Isaac and Christine, as well a daughter-in-law, son-in-law, and two grandsons.



Born on an Oklahoma farm in 1954, President Fuchs spent much of his youth in Alaska before moving to Miami, where he graduated from Miami Killian Senior High School. His two younger brothers and stepmother live in South Florida.



## Greetings from the President



n behalf of the University of Florida, our faculty and our entire university community, I would like to extend my deepest congratulations to you, the Doctoral Graduates of 2016.

Today's ceremony celebrates your singular accomplishment in earning a doctoral degree from one of the world's leading research institutions. I applaud you for your years dedicated to in-depth scholarship, thoughtful analysis and meticulous presentation of your findings. I join you in thanking your faculty advisors, mentors and the family and friends who have supported you in your journey to reach this day.

Today is a day for celebration, and also for reflection on your future. Whether you choose to pursue a career in academe, the private sector, government or the nonprofit world, I am confident that the research and analysis skills you honed as a doctoral student will serve you well. The complexity and global nature of today's highest professional opportunities demand nothing less.

The university has benefited from your research work, teaching, insights and discoveries, and we are grateful to you for your time here. We hope you will recall these years fondly, and that you will remain connected to UF as active members of our distinguished alumni.

Good luck, best wishes, and Go Gators!

W. Kent Fuchs

## University of Florida Leadership

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David Norton, Ph.D. Vice President - Research

Curtis Reynolds, M.B.A., M.S.E.E. Vice President - Business Affairs

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Morteza "Mori" Hosseini

Vice Chair

Marsha D. Powers Jason J. Rosenberg Steven M. Scott Nicole Stedman Robert G. Stern David M. Thomas Susan Webster Anita G. Zucker

#### DEANS OF THE UNIVERSITY

R. Elaine Turner, Ph.D.

College of Agricultural and Life Sciences

Lucinda Lavelli, M.F.A. College of the Arts John Kraft, Ph.D.

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

College of Dentistry

Chimay Anumba, Ph.D.

College of Design, Construction and Planning

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

Cammy R. Abernathy, Ph.D. Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering

Henry T. Frierson, Ph.D. The Graduate School

Michael Reid, Ph.D.

College of Health and Human Performance

Nick Place, Ph.D. IFAS Extension

Jacqueline Burns, Ph.D.

IFAS Research

Leonardo Villalón, Ph.D.

International Center

Diane H. McFarlin, B.S.

College of Journalism and Communications

Laura A. Rosenbury, J.D. Fredric G. Levin College of Law David E. Richardson, Ph.D. College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Michael L. Good, M.D. College of Medicine

Anna M. McDaniel, Ph.D., R.N.

College of Nursing

Julie A. Johnson, Pharm.D.

College of Pharmacy

Michael G. Perri, Ph.D.

College of Public Health and Health Professions

James W. Lloyd, D.V.M., Ph.D. College of Veterinary Medicine

Judith C. Russell, M.S. University Libraries Jen Day Shaw, Ph.D.

Dean of Students



PHOTOGRAPHS - The university requests that all commencement guests remain in their seats while taking photographs; no guests are permitted in the graduates' seating area. Photographs of the graduates as they cross the stage are available through companies that have contracts with the university. Color photographs are available from University Photography, PO Box 2454, Tuscaloosa, AL 35403-2454, 205-391-9500.

## Commencement Agenda - Friday, August 5, 4:00 p.m.

Presiding	
Processional	
National Anthem	Ronald Burrichter Gainesville Brass Quintet
Welcome and Introductions	
Commencement Address	Linda M. Bartoshuk F Professor, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences
Presenting Candidates for Doctoral Degrees	Joseph Glover
Conferring of Doctoral Degrees	
Alma Mater	Ronald Burrichter Gainesville Brass Quintet
Recessional	
Postlude	



ADDITIONAL COPIES of this commencement program are available while supplies last at the University of Florida Bookstore for a \$1 donation to the Machen Florida Opportunity Scholars program, which helps fund a UF education for low-income students who are first in their family to attend college. The bookstore is located in the UF Bookstore and Welcome Center on Museum Road and is open daily. For hours, please see the website at www.bsd.ufl.edu/bookstore. The commencement program can be ordered online with an additional charge for shipping and handling.

THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA encourages you to add #UFGrad to your commencement-related conversations and images on social media. Select tweets will be featured on the video boards prior to and after the ceremony.

THE PRE-COMMENCEMENT MOVIES titled "Dream Machine" and "Voyage to Tomorrow" were created by the staff and students of the UF Digital Worlds Institute with original music by resident composer James Oliverio. For more information on these movies, which are available on DVD, please visit the institute's website at www.digitalworlds.ufl.edu.





## Commencement Speaker

#### Linda M. Bartoshuk

Linda Bartoshuk graduated from Carleton College in 1960 with a bachelor's degree in psychology and minors in astronomy and mathematics. Her early fascination with measures of the brightness of stars led to her interest in psychophysics: the discipline that measures human sensory and hedonic experiences. Her mentor at Carleton was John Bare, who received his doctorate at Brown University studying with Carl Pfaffmann. Dr. Bartoshuk followed Dr. Bare's footsteps, also attending Brown to become Dr. Pfaffmann's graduate student as well as his grand- graduate student. Dr. Pfaffmann had studied at the University of Cambridge with Lord Adrian, who was the first to record electrical impulses from a nerve. Dr. Pfaffmann was the first to ever record electrical impulses from a taste nerve. This lineage led Dr. Bartoshuk to a life-long interest in academic family trees. During a postdoctoral stint at the Natick Army Laboratories studying plants that can modify taste (e.g., miracle fruit makes sour foods taste intensely sweet), she met and married Yale University physics professor Charles Sommerfield. She joined him in New Haven, Connecticut, working at the John B. Pierce Foundation and the Otolaryngology Department at Yale University, where she studied genetic variation in taste as well as taste dysfunctions in patients. During this time, they had two children: Daniel and Elizabeth. Both have joined their parents in science, working in the computer industry.

Dr. Bartoshuk and her husband remained at Yale until 2006, when they came to the University of Florida. She initially worked in the College of Dentistry, continuing her work on clinical disorders of taste but recently moved to the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) and the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition to add her knowledge of the taste system to projects in the Plant Innovation Center oriented toward making fruits and vegetables taste better.

Dr. Bartoshuk's interest in measurement led her to discover supertasters: individuals who experience unusually intense taste sensations. The work that led up to this discovery uncovered a mistake in measurement. Sensory measurement began as a way to compare different stimuli (e.g., is Coke sweeter than Pepsi?), but as time went on suspicion grew that we do not all live in the same taste worlds. The old methods failed to show differences across people. Dr. Bartoshuk and her



students devised new methods that can show these differences. This opened the door to studying many other sensory and hedonic differences across different populations.

Applying our growing understanding of how we really experience taste helps in our efforts to make healthy foods palatable to everyone. One of the wonderful side effects of this work in IFAS is a new discovery. The sweetness of fruits is not simply a consequence of their sugar content. It turns out that the aroma compounds can enhance the sweet message in the brain. That is, we can now take aroma compounds out of plants and sweeten foods without adding more sugar. One of the best consequences of science is new discoveries that take us in new exciting directions.

Dr. Bartoshuk has written many scientific papers and received a variety of honors for her work. She was president of the Association for Chemoreception Sciences, the Association for Psychological Science (APS), and Divisions 1 and 6 of the American Psychological Association. She received the John P. McGovern Award in Behavioral Sciences from the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the APS William James Fellow Award. Perhaps the most exciting of these was her election to the National Academy of Sciences.





### **UF Graduate School**

The reputation of a research university is, in large part, measured by the excellence of its graduate faculty and graduate students. The University of Florida's graduate faculty and graduate students help to push the boundaries of research, develop the technologies of the future, improve the health of our citizenry, reshape our social and economic culture, expand scholarship, and create beauty in many forms.



#### Doctor of Philosophy

The Doctor of Philosophy degree was established in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century as the highest earned degree in American graduate schools. This degree program, which stresses competence in research, awards the credential most commonly held by college professors and researchers. Although requirements of the doctorate vary from one institution to another, certain prerequisites are typical: coursework, a qualifying examination, an approved dissertation and a final examination. Doctoral students work closely with a major professor who serves as an advisor, mentor, critic, confidant and promoter.

#### **Doctor of Education**

The Doctor of Education degree was introduced at the University of Florida in the mid-1940s. This degree is conferred in recognition of the development of sound scholarship in professional education and closely related fields, and demonstrated ability to apply that knowledge as an administrator, supervisor or teacher. Requirements vary by discipline but generally include coursework, a qualifying examination, the completion of a dissertation and final examinations. Students are mentored by a major professor and supported by a supervisory committee comprising members of the graduate faculty.

#### **Doctor of Audiology**

The Doctor of Audiology degree was first awarded to students at the University of Florida in 2000. This degree is the highest university award given in this field in recognition of completion of academic preparation for the clinical practice of audiology. The degree requires four years of study beyond the bachelor's degree, including academic coursework, supervised clinical experiences, yearly academic and clinical evaluation by the faculty, and a final examination.

#### **Doctor of Plant Medicine**

The Doctor of Plant Medicine degree was established at the University of Florida in 1999 to provide all segments of agriculture with rapid, accurate and scientifically sound diagnoses and management strategies for all types of plant health problems. This multidisciplinary program consists of courses and practical training in all relevant departments. Students are trained in the science, practice and business of the profession of plant medicine and complete coursework and written and oral comprehensive examinations.

#### **Doctor of Physical Therapy**

The Doctor of Physical Therapy degree is a professional doctoral program that prepares graduates to become entry-level physical therapists and was established at the University of Florida in 2005. The degree requires three years of coursework and clinical practicum beyond the bachelor's degree. Completion of the program enables graduates to sit for the licensure examination to practice physical therapy.



#### **Doctor of Nursing Practice**

The Doctor of Nursing Practice degree is a professional doctoral program that began admitting students in 2006 at the University of Florida. The degree prepares advanced practice nurses with the knowledge, skills and abilities needed in today's complex health care environment. It produces advanced practice nurses with educational background comparable to health care practitioners in other fields.

# Graduate School

HENRY T. FRIERSON, ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT AND DEAN OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Tavis M. Abrahamsen, Bachelor of Science in Physics, 2006, Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, 2006, University of Minnesota

Major: Statistics

Dissertation: Convergence Analysis of MCMC Samplers for Bayesian Linear Mixed Models with P > N

Dissertation Chair: J. P. Hobert

Georges Henri Akiki, Bachelor of Engineering summa cum laude, 2009, Notre Dame University at Louaize-Lebanon; Master

of Science, 2011, University of Tennessee at Knoxville

Major: Mechanical Engineering

Dissertation: Modeling the Force Variation Within Random Arrays of Spheres

Dissertation Chair: S. Balachandar

Henry L. Aldridge Jr., Bachelor of Chemical Engineering, 2012, University of Dayton-Ohio; Master of Science, 2015,

University of Florida

Major: Materials Science and Engineering

Dissertation: Continuum Modelling of Diffusion and Activation of Silicon in Indium Gallium Arsenide

Dissertation Chair: K. S. Jones

Beverly Bloodworth Alexander, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, 1981, Master of Nursing, 1986, University of Florida

Major: Nursing Sciences

Minor: Early Childhood Education

Dissertation: Detecting Mild Motor Impairment in the First Year of Life: Ages and Stages Questionnaires and Alberta Infant

Motor Scale

Dissertation Chair: J. H. Elder

Jawaher Abdulaziz Alfurhood, Bachelor of Science and Education, 2002, Master in Chemistry, 2011, Princess Noura Bint

Abdulrahman University-Saudi Arabia

Major: Chemistry

Dissertation: Poly (N- [2-Hydroxypropyl] Methacrylamide) Nanomaterials for Nanomedicine and Controlled Delivery

Dissertation Chair: B. S. Sumerlin

Abeer Salh Al-hendi, Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, 2001, Master of Science in Agriculture Food Science & Biotechnology,

2006, University of Baghdad-Iraq

Major: Food Science

Minor: Chemistry

Dissertation: Inactivation of *Lipoxygenase* in Soymilk and Soybean by Pulsed Light

Dissertation Chair: W. W. Yang Dissertation Co-chair: P. J. Sarnoski

Hamed Abdelhamiyd Aljeradaat, Bachelor of Arts, 2004, Master of Arts, 2008, Mutah University-Jordan

Major: Linguistics

Dissertation: Syntax of Focus Particles in Southern Jordanian Arabic

Dissertation Chair: Y. A. Haddad

Mishari Abdulaziz Alnahedh, Bachelor of Science, 2006, University of Kansas; Master of Business Administration, June 2011,

The University of Chicago—Illinois

Major: Business Administration—Management

Dissertation: Essays on Interdependency and Corporate Strategy

Dissertation Chair: G. K. Lee

Kortni Alston, Bachelor of Arts, 1996, Delaware State University; Master of Business Administration, 2009,

Morgan State University—Maryland

Major: Mass Communication

Dissertation: Examining the Meaningfulness of Work of Organizationally Employed Journalists and Media Entrepreneurs

Dissertation Chair: J. E. Dodd

Ronit Amit Rojas, Bachiller en Biologia, 2002, Universidad de Costa Rica; Magister Scientiae en Conservacion y Manejeo de Vida Silvestre, 2006, Universidad Nacional—Costa Rica

Major: Wildlife Ecology and Conservation

Dissertation: Enhancing Coexistence with Jaguars and Pumas in Costa Rica: Stakeholder Analysis and Design of Community-Based Incentives
Dissertation Chair: S. Jacobson

Qi An, Bachelor of Science, 2010, Huazhong University of Science and Technology; Master of Science, 2012,

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Major: Biostatistics

Dissertation: Optimal Group Sequential Designs

Dissertation Chair: M. N. Chang

Jeremy J. Anderson, Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering, 2000, Master of Science, 2003, University of Florida

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering

Dissertation: A Long-Term Average Cepstral Enhancement Technique to Improve Single Microphone Automatic Speech Recognition

Dissertation Chair: J. G. Harris

John David Anderson IV, Bachelor of Science, 2002, Shepherd College-West Virginia; Master of Science, 2008,

University of Florida

Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology

Dissertation: The Socioecology of Child Exposure to Diarrheal Disease in Peri-Urban Communities of Kisumu, Kenya

Dissertation Chair: R. D. Rheingans

Clarence Edward Anthony Jr., Bachelor of Arts cum laude, 2010, University of Florida; Master of Arts, 2012,

Teachers College Columbia University—New York

Major: Counseling and Counselor Education

Dissertation: Black College Student-Athlete Identity Achievement Status: An Intersection of Racial Identity, Athletic Identity,

and Gender

Dissertation Chair: J. M. Swank

Derek B. Archer, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2012, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology-Indiana

Major: Health and Human Performance

Dissertation: Mapping the Corticospinal Motor Tracts Using Diffusion MRI and Probabilistic Tractography

Dissertation Chair: S. A. Coombes

Amanda J. Ardente, Bachelor of Science, 2002, Wilson College-Pennsylvania; Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, 2009,

North Carolina State University

Major: Veterinary Medical Sciences

Dissertation: Investigation of the Role Nutrition Plays in the Development of Ammonium Urate Nephrolithiasis in Common

Bottlenose Dolphins, Tursiops truncatus

Dissertation Chair: R. C. Hill

Bridget Armstrong, Bachelor of Arts summa cum laude, 2009, University of Maryland; Master of Science, 2013, University of

Florida

Major: Psychology-Clinical and Health Psychology

Dissertation: The Impact of the Built Environment on a Family Based Lifestyle Intervention for Overweight and Obese

Rural Children

Dissertation Chair: D. Janicke

Ayse Nur Arslan, Bachelor of Science 2010, Bogazici University-Turkey

Major: Industrial and Systems Engineering

Dissertation: Polyhedral Techniques for Mixed Integer Programs Arising in Production Planning and Logistics

Dissertation Chair: J. P. Richard Dissertation Co-chair: Y. Guan

Daniel Elliott Axelrod, Bachelor of Arts in History, 2002, Bachelor of Arts in Communications Studies magna cum laude,

2002, State University of New York at Cortland; Master of Arts, 2003, Syracuse University–New York

Major: Mass Communication

Dissertation: A Contested Commodity: What the Rocky Mountain News' Closure Meant to Denver

Dissertation Chair: R. Rodgers Dissertation Co-chair: M. Leslie Fatma Ayhan, Bachelor of Science, 2010, Bilkent University-Turkey

Major: Medical Sciences-Genetics

Dissertation: Repeat Associated Non-ATG (RAN) Translation in Spinocerebellar Ataxia Type 8

Dissertation Chair: L. P. Ranum

Patricia Ramona Bachler, Bachelor of Science summa cum laude, 2012, Lindenwood University-Missouri

Major: Chemistry

Dissertation: Structure Control in Functional Polymers via Reversible Addition-Fragmentation Chain Transfer Polymerization

Dissertation Chair: K. B. Wagener

Gayathri Balakrishnan, Bachelor of Technology, 2010, Anna University-India; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Food Science

Dissertation: Quinoa Phenolic Compounds: Stability During Commercial Processing, in vitro Gastrointestinal Digestion, and Storage

Dissertation Chair: R. M. Goodrich

Osmer Eder Balam, Bachelor of Arts in English, 2006, University of Belize; Master of Arts, 2009, Southern Illinois

University at Carbondale

Major: Romance Languages-Spanish

Dissertation: Language Use, Language Change and Innovation in Northern Belize Contact Spanish

Dissertation Chair: G. E. Lord-Ward

Amanda Marie Balkhi, Bachelor of Science, 2011, Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Psychology—Clinical and Health Psychology

Dissertation: Online Health Information Seeking in Parents of Children with Type 1 Diabetes

Dissertation Chair: G. R. Geffken

Kelly Mayrink Balmant, Bacharel em Ciencias Biologicas, 2009, Magister Scientiae, 2011, Universidade Federal de Vicosa—Brazil

Major: Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology

Dissertation: Redox Proteomics of Plant Innate Immunity in Stomatal Guard Cells

Dissertation Chair: S. Chen

Timothy Michael Barko, Bachelor of Arts cum laude, 2003, Messiah College-Pennsylvania; Master of Science in Teaching,

2009, University of Florida

Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Dissertation: Between the Walrus and the Carpenter: A Rhizoanalysis of Conservative Protestant Student Agency and

Resilience Towards the Topic of Evolution in a College Biology Program

Dissertation Chair: R. M. Pringle

Amber N. Barnes, Bachelor of Arts, 2004, Western Illinois University; Master of Public Health, 2008,

University of North Florida

Major: Public Health

Dissertation: Domestic Animals and Drinking Water Contamination in Peri-Urban Households of Kisumu, Kenya

Dissertation Chair: R. D. Rheingans

Frank W. Barnes IV, Bachelor of Science summa cum laude, 2010, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University-Florida;

Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida

Major: Aerospace Engineering

Dissertation: Fuel-Air Mixing in a Directly-Fueled Supersonic Cavity Flameholder

Dissertation Chair: C. Segal

Kevin M. Baron, Bachelor of Arts, 2007, Sonoma State University-California; Master of Arts, 2015, University of Florida

Major: Political Science

Dissertation: Presidents, Partisans, and Power Entrepreneurs: Institutional Reform and the Freedom of Information Act

Dissertation Chair: L. C. Dodd

Adam MacNeil Bates, Bachelor of Science, 2006, Bachelor of Arts, 2006, University of Maryland at College Park;

Master of Science, 2012, University of Oregon

Major: Computer Science

Dissertation: Designing and Leveraging Trustworthy Provenance-Aware Architectures

Dissertation Chair: K. Butler

#### George Baure Jr., Bachelor of Science, 2000, Master of Science, 2004, University of California at Los Angeles

Major: Materials Science and Engineering

Dissertation: Electrical Performance of Functional Thin Films: Effect of Grain Boundaries and Secondary Phases

Dissertation Chair: J. C. Nino

#### Allison R. Bechard, Bachelor of Science, 2002, University of Toronto-Canada; Master of Science, 2009,

University of Guelph-Canada

Major: Psychology

Dissertation: The Effects of Enriching Environments on the Development of Repetitive Motor Behaviors and Their

Neurobiological Correlates Dissertation Chair: M. H. Lewis

#### Joshua D. Behl, Bachelor of Arts, 2011, Master of Arts, 2014, University of Florida

Major: Criminology, Law, and Society

Dissertation: Developing a Scale to Predict Bias in Civil Juror Damage Awards

Dissertation Chair: L. M. Levett

#### Michael T. Bentley, Bachelor of Arts, 2005, Master of Science, 2008, University of Florida

Major: Entomology and Nematology

Dissertation: Thermal Ecology and Management of the Invasive Tawny Crazy Ant, Nylanderia fulva (Mayr)

(Hymenoptera: Formicidae) Dissertation Chair: F. M. Oi

#### Sharvari Pradeep Bhagwat, Bachelor of Technology, 2011, University of Mumbai–India

Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences

Minor: Materials Science and Engineering

Minor: Statistics

Dissertation: Development and Optimization of an in vitro Dissolution Test for Orally Inhaled Drug Products

Dissertation Chair: G. Hochhaus

#### Sajjad Bigham, Bachelor of Science, 2007, University of Guilan-Iran; Master of Science, 2010, University of Tehran-Iran;

Master of Science, 2015, University of Florida

Major: Mechanical Engineering

Minor: Materials Science and Engineering

Dissertation: Physics of Interfacial Phase Change Transport Events in Microscale Flow Boiling on Micro- and Nano-Textured Surfaces

Dissertation Chair: S. Moghaddam

#### Ilyesse Bihi, Le Grade de Master, 2012, University Lille 1-France

Major: Chemical Engineering

Dissertation: Microparticle Detachment From a Surface

Dissertation Chair: J. E. Butler

#### Ginger Elene Blackstone, Bachelor of Arts, 1991, Harding University—Arkansas; Master of Arts, 2011,

University of Arkansas at Little Rock

Major: Mass Communication

Dissertation: "The Worst of Times": The Prevalence and Power of Fear in Television News

Dissertation Chair: A. J. Coffey

#### Nawaf Isam Blaisi, Bachelor of Science, 2009, Master of Science, 2011, Michigan Technological University

Major: Environmental Engineering Sciences

Dissertation: Environmental Assessment of Industrial Waste Byproducts to Estimate the Release of Elements Under Different

Disposal and Environmental Conditions

Dissertation Chair: T. G. Townsend

# Ariel Blanco, Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering cum laude, 2008, Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering cum laude, 2008, Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida

Major: Aerospace Engineering

Dissertation: The Free Molecular Electro Jet (FMEJ) Micro-Thruster for Space Propulsion

Dissertation Chair: S. Roy

Richard Boampong, Bachelor of Arts, 2006, University of Ghana; Master of Arts, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Economics

Dissertation: Residential Energy Consumers Response to Energy Efficiency Rebates, Incentives, and Prices

Dissertation Chair: J. H. Hamilton Dissertation Co-chair: D. Sappington

Christopher Charles Bowland, Bachelor of Science in Materials Science and Engineering summa cum laude, 2012,

University of Tennessee at Knoxville; Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Materials Science and Engineering

Dissertation: Conformal Growth Method of Ferroelectric Materials for Multifunctional Composites

Dissertation Chair: H. Sodano

Jennifer C. Boylan, Bachelor of Arts, 2009, University of Richmond-Virginia; Master of Arts, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Political Science

Dissertation: Political Competition via Centralized Sub-National Institutions: A Case Study of Ghana

Dissertation Chair: M. H. Bernhard Dissertation Co-chair: B. B. Smith

Pratik Prabhanjan Brahma, Bachelor of Technology, 2011, Master of Technology, 2011,

Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur-India

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering

Dissertation: Reliable Subspace Representation for Better Learning and Understanding of Data

Dissertation Chair: D. Wu Dissertation Co-chair: D. Oliveira

Susan N. Brasher, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, 2003, Master of Science in Nursing, 2007, University of Central Florida

Major: Nursing Sciences

Minor: Developmental Psychopathology

Dissertation: Characterizing Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) Who Respond to a Gluten-Free Casein-Free

(GFCF) Diet

Dissertation Chair: J. H. Elder

Molly Buchanan, Bachelor of Arts magna cum laude, 2008, Framingham State College—Massachusetts; Master of Science,

Northeastern University-Massachusetts, 2012

Major: Criminology, Law, and Society

Dissertation: The Interplay of Fathers' Histories of Criminal Justice System Involvement on Social Capital, Parenting

Capacities and Offspring's Outcomes: An Intergenerational, Structural Equation Approach

Dissertation Chair: M. D. Krohn

Dallas J. Burton, Bachelor of Science, 2011, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology-Indiana; Master of Science, 2012,

University of Florida

Major: Materials Science and Engineering

Dissertation: Differential Laser-Induced Perturbation Spectroscopy and Fluorescence Imaging for Biological and Materials Sensing

Dissertation Chair: D. W. Hahn

Paul Steven Burtzlaff, Bachelor of Arts, 1989, Concordia College-Michigan; Master of Theology, 1993,

Concordia Seminary-Missouri

Major: Counseling and Counselor Education

Dissertation: Clergy Premarital Counseling with Lower Socioeconomic Couples

Dissertation Chair: E. S. Amatea

Colleen Margaret Butcher, Bachelor of Science, 2006, Master of Arts in Education, 2008, Master of Education, 2014,

University of Florida

Major: School Psychology

Dissertation: Examining the Social Validity of a Dynamic Assessment of Social Skills: Caregivers' Perspectives on a Measure

of Social Skills for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders

Dissertation Chair: T. M. Smith-Bonahue

Barry B. Butler Jr., Bachelor of Science, 2011, University of Florida

Major: Chemistry

Dissertation: Gold Catalyzed Cyclizations: Problems and Solutions en Route Towards the Southern Hemisphere of Spirastrellolide A

Dissertation Chair: A. Aponick

Andrea G. Caloiaro, Bachelor of Arts summa cum laude, 2008, Stetson University-Florida; Master of Arts, 2011,

Boston College—Massachusetts

Major: English

Dissertation: Irish Fiction and Drama of the First World War (1915-2015): Narrativizing Trauma, Memory, and the Combatant

in a Divided Ireland

Dissertation Chair: R. B. Kershner Jr.

Donald E. Campbell, Bachelor of Arts summa cum laude, 1998, University of Southern Mississippi; Doctor of Jurisprudence

summa cum laude, 2001, Mississippi College; Master of Arts, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Political Science

Dissertation: Fire Alarms or Smoke Detectors: The Role of Interest Groups in Confirmation of United States Courts of

Appeals Judges

Dissertation Chair: L. C. Dodd

Jason Troy Cantrell, Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering, 2011, Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering,

2011, Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Aerospace Engineering

Dissertation: Experimental Characterization and Computational Modeling of Unimorph Shape Memory Polymer Actuators

Incorporating Transverse Curvature in the Substrate

Dissertation Chair: P. G. Ifju

Xi Cao, Bachelor of Engineering, 2011, Shanghai Jiao Tong University-China; Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering

Dissertation: Modeling of Nano-Scale Electronic Devices for Low Power Applications

Dissertation Chair: J. Guo

Kelly Decker Carrasco, Bachelor of Arts, 2011, University of Texas at Austin; Master of Education, 2015, University of Florida

Major: School Psychology

Dissertation: Language Aptitude and Executive Functioning in Early Childhood

Dissertation Chair: T. M. Smith-Bonahue

Matthew R. Carver, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2010, University of South Florida; Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Physics

Dissertation: A Search for New Physics in Same-Sign Di-Lepton Events in the CMS Detector

Dissertation Chair: D. E. Acosta

Carole Champanhac, Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida

Major: Chemistry

Dissertation: Engineering Molecular Probes for the Detection and Treatment of Pancreatic Cancer

Dissertation Chair: W. Tan

Yonghwan Chang, Bachelor of Sport Science, 2008, Seoul National University—South Korea; Master of Science, 2012,

University of Florida

Major: Health and Human Performance

Dissertation: Implicit Attitudes as Precursors of Sport Consumer Behavior: Predictive and Incremental Validity of Dual

Attitude in Athlete Endorsement Evaluation

Dissertation Chair: Y. J. Ko

Makyba K. Charles-Ayinde, Bachelor of Science summa cum laude, 2007, Florida A&M University; Master of Science, 2011,

Purdue University-Indiana

Major: Public Health

Dissertation: Seafood Safety in the Gulf of Mexico Following the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill: Exposure Assessments and

Vulnerability Analyses

Dissertation Chair: A. S. Kane

Divya Chaudhry, Bachelor of Elementary Education, 2010, University of Delhi–India; Bachelor of Arts, 2010,

Indira Gandhi National Open University-India; Master of Arts, 2011, Jawaharlal Nehru University-India

Major: Linguistics

Dissertation: Barriers in Transforming Vision to Reality: A Sociocultural Perspective on Mediation Practices in a Pre-Service

Teacher Education Program in India

Dissertation Chair: P. R. Golombek

Chen Chen, Bachelor of Engineering, 2011, Shanghai Jiaotong University—China; Master of Science, 2014, Master of Science, 2016, University of Florida

Major: Mechanical Engineering

Dissertation: Numerical Modeling for High Temperature Solar Thermochemical Reactor

Dissertation Chair: R. Mei

Xiang Chen, Bachelor of Engineering and Law, 2008, Harbin Engineering University—China; Master of Science in Intelligent Building Technology and Management, 2009, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology—China

Major: Mechanical Engineering

Dissertation: Concurrent Atomistic-Continuum Simulation of Phonon Transport in Crystalline Materials with Microstructural Complexity

Dissertation Chair: Y. Chen

Yue Chen, Bachelor of Engineering, 2008, Harbin Engineering University—China; Master of Engineering, 2010, University of Detroit Mercy—Michigan; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering

Dissertation: Markovian Demand Dispatch Design for Virtual Energy Storage to Support Renewable Energy Integration Dissertation Chair: S. P. Meyn

Yu-Min Chen, Bachelor of Science in Engineering, 2009, National Taiwan University; Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida

Major: Chemical Engineering

Dissertation: Analysis of ASTM A416 Tendon Steel Corrosion in Alkaline Simulated Pore Solutions

Dissertation Chair: M. E. Orazem

Zirong Chen, Bachelor of Engineering, 2006, South China University of Technology; Master of Science, 2012,

Sun Yat-sen University-China

Major: Medical Sciences-Genetics

Dissertation: Functional and Mechanistic Characterization of CRTC1-MAML2 Fusion Oncogene in Mucoepidermoid

Carcinomas and Long Noncoding RNA LINC00473 in Nonsmall Cell Lung Cancer

Dissertation Chair: L. Wu

Kwansun Cho, Bachelor of Engineering, 1996, Kwandong University—South Korea; Master of Engineering in Electrical and Computer Engineering, 1999, Yonsei University—South Korea; Master of Science, 2003, University of Florida

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Minor: Communication Sciences and Disorders

Dissertation: START4K: A Computer Assisted Pronunciation Training System

Dissertation Chair: J. G. Harris

Soo Hyun Cho, Bachelor of Science, 2005, Bachelor of Arts, 2005, Yonsei University—South Korea; Master of Science, 2008, Columbia University—New York; Master of Science, 2010, University of Southern California

Major: Business Administration—Information Systems and Operations Management

Dissertation: Three Essays on E-commerce

Dissertation Chair: H. Aytug

Dissertation Co-chair: S. Bandyopadhyay

Juhee Choi, Bachelor of Engineering, 2010, Korea University-South Korea

Major: Chemical Engineering

Dissertation: The Adsorption and Reaction Characteristics of Nitric Oxide and Carbon Monoxide on Palladium Oxide Surfaces

Dissertation Chair: J. F. Weaver

Christopher D. Chouinard, Bachelor of Science, 2010, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Major: Chemistry

Dissertation: Ion Mobility-Mass Spectrometry for Improved Metabolomics Separations: Experimental and Theoretical Approaches

Dissertation Chair: R. A. Yost

Christian Thomas Christensen, Bachelor of Science, 2009, Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Horticultural Sciences

Dissertation: Screening and Selecting for Nitrogen Uptake Efficiency in Solanum Chacoense

Dissertation Chair: L. Zotarelli

Cinda Lynette Clark, Bachelor of Science magna cum laude, 2001, Texas Christian University; Master of Social Work, 2002, Tulane University—Louisiana

Major: Special Education

Minor: Research and Evaluation Methodology

Dissertation: Exploration of Family Supports as Mediators of the Relationship Between Home Visiting Dose and Parenting

Outcomes In Early Head Start Dissertation Chair: P. Snyder

Christopher N. Cleveland, Bachelor of Science, 2008, Bachelor of Arts, 2008, University of St. Thomas–Minnesota

Major: Chemical Engineering

Dissertation: Corrosion of Copper in Deaerated Deionized Water and Geometry Induced Frequency Dispersion of the

Ring Electrode

Dissertation Chair: M. E. Orazem

Kathleen Camille Colantonio-Yurko, Bachelor of Arts, 2005, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University;

Master of Arts, 2007, Clemson University-South Carolina

Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Dissertation: The Low Performance of Otherwise Capable Students in Their Tenth-Grade English Language Arts Class

Dissertation Chair: J. S. Townsend

Cammy Leigh Crolic, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2008, Bachelor of Science in Business Administration summa cum laude,

2008, Master of Business Administration, 2011, University of Florida

Major: Business Administration-Marketing

Dissertation: Hedonic Escalation: When Food Just Tastes Better and Better

Dissertation Chair: C. A. Janiszewski

Randall Maurice Croom, Bachelor of Science, 2005, Master of Business Administration, 2005, Florida A&M University

Major: Business Administration—Management

Dissertation: The Role of Extraversion and Optimism in Help-Seeking

Dissertation Chair: A. Erez

Michelle M. Cumming, Bachelor of Fine Arts cum laude, 1999, Florida International University; Master of Education, 2006,

Sunbridge College—New York

Major: Special Education

Minor: Research and Evaluation Methodology

Dissertation: The Perceived Stress, Executive Function, Perceived Stress Regulation, and Emotional and Behavioral Outcomes

of Middle School Students with and without Significant Emotional and Behavioral Problems

Dissertation Chair: S. W. Smith

Samuel R. Darr, Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering cum laude, 2011, Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Aerospace Engineering

Dissertation: Hydrodynamic Model of Screen Channel Liquid Acquisition Devices for In-Space Cryogenic Propellant Management

Dissertation Chair: J. N. Chung

Gabrielle Chantal Darville, Bachelor of Science, 2008, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga; Master of Public Health,

2012, The University of Southern Mississippi

Major: Health and Human Performance

Minor: Mass Communication

Dissertation: Tailoring Persuasive Digital Games to Increase Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Risk Perceptions, Improve Self

Efficacy and Increase Intention to Receive the HPV Vaccine among Male College Students

Dissertation Chair: C. Anderson-Lewis Dissertation Co-chair: M. L. Stellefson

Danial Davarnia, Bachelor of Science, 2009, Master of Science, 2011, Sharif University of Technology-Iran

Major: Industrial and Systems Engineering

Dissertation: Convexification Techniques for Bilinear and Complementarity Constraints with Application to Network Interdiction

Dissertation Chair: J. P. Richard

Francisco Delgado, Bachelor of Science, 2008, Florida International University

Major: Biomedical Engineering

Dissertation: Neurological Disease and Drug Delivery: How Structure Influences Treatment Strategies

Dissertation Chair: P. R. Carney

Daniel Delitto, Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering magna cum laude, 2007, Washington University—Missouri; Doctor of Medicine, 2011, University of Pittsburgh—Pennsylvania

Major: Medical Sciences-Immunology and Microbiology

Dissertation: The Stromal Innate Immune Response to Pancreatic Cancer Suppresses Adaptive Immunity

Dissertation Chair: S. M. Wallet

Rebecca Ann Devlin, Bachelor of Science magna cum laude, 1994, Syracuse University—New York; Master of Arts, 2009, San Francisco State University—California

Major: History

Dissertation: Bishops and Community in Northwestern Hispania: Transforming Roman Society, ca. 370 to 470 C.E.

Dissertation Chair: B. Effros

Bhuwan Dhakal, Master of Science in Environmental Science, 2007, Tribhuvan University-Nepal

Major: Health and Human Performance

Dissertation: Converting Conflict to Co-Existence: Human Elephant Relationship in Bahundangi Village, Eastern Nepal

Dissertation Chair: B. Thapa

Adit Dhummakupt, Bachelor of Arts magna cum laude, 2009, Vanderbilt University-Tennessee

Major: Medical Sciences–Immunology and Microbiology

Dissertation: Regulation of Latency and Reactivation in Herpes Simplex Virus Type 1 and Epstein-Barr Virus

Dissertation Chair: D. C. Bloom

Raquel Dias, Bacharel em Ciencias Biologicas, 2010, Mestra em Ciencia da Computação, 2012, Pontificia Universidade Catolica do Rio Grande do Sul-Brazil

Major: Microbiology and Cell Science

Dissertation: Integrating Computational, Statistical and Biochemical Approaches to Characterize the Molecular-Functional

**Evolution of Proteins** 

Dissertation Chair: B. D. Kolaczkowski

Caglar Doguer, Lisans Diplomasi, 2005, Ankara Universitesi-Turkey; Yuksek Lisans, 2008, Gazi Universitesi-Turkey

Major: Nutritional Sciences

Dissertation: Physiological Roles of Ferroxidases in Intestinal Iron Absorption

Dissertation Chair: I. F. Collins

Darsa Donelan, Bachelor of Science, 2009, Bachelor of Arts summa cum laude, 2009, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts;

Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida

Major: Physics

Dissertation: The Effects of Atmospheric Gravity Waves on the Atmosphere of Titan

Dissertation Chair: K. I. Matcheva

Matthew W. Driskill, Bachelor of Arts, 1999, University of Texas at Austin; Master of Arts, 2002, New York University;

Master of Business Administration, 2007, Baruch College—New York

Major: Business Administration—Accounting

Dissertation: Earnings Announcement Clustering, Limited Attention, and Analyst Forecast Behavior

Dissertation Chair: J. W. Tucker

Ceymone Dyce, Bachelor of Science, 2009, Xavier University of Louisiana; Master of Science, 2012, Indiana State University

Major: Counseling and Counselor Education

Dissertation: Investigating Pediatric Mental Health Care Access and Parent Satisfaction in the Patient-Centered Medical Home

Dissertation Chair: S. L. Smith

John M. Eassey, Bachelor of Arts cum laude, 2008, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2008, Master of Arts, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Criminology, Law, and Society

Dissertation: Employment and Desistance: The Mediational Role of Peers in a Dual Labor Market Perspective

Dissertation Chair: M. D. Krohn Dissertation Co-chair: C. L. Gibson Carmen SaMyra Edwards, Bachelor of Science *summa cum laude*, 2008, South Carolina State University; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Psychology-Clinical and Health Psychology

Dissertation: Evaluating the Efficacy of the Enhancing Educators Efficacy Triple E Program: A Behavior Management Training

Program for Early Childhood Educators

Dissertation Chair: B. A. Wiens Dissertation Co-chair: D. Janicke

Engin Ege, Bachelor of Arts, 2011, The College of William and Mary-Virginia; Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Counseling Psychology

Dissertation: Minority Stressors and Mental Health: The Role of Social Support for Racial and Ethnic Minority People

Dissertation Chair: B. Moradi

David Michael Ermert, Bachelor of Arts magna cum laude, 2011, Western Connecticut State University

Major: Chemistry

Dissertation: Inroads into Biologically Inspired Small Molecule Activation: Synthesis and Reactivity of Templated Trinuclear Clusters

Dissertation Chair: L. J. Murray

Anthony Mmaduabuchi Eseke, Bachelor of Theology summa cum laude, 1996, Pontifical Urbanian University-Italy;

Master of Arts, 2004, University of Nigeria; Bachelor of Arts, 2007, University of Ibadan—Nigeria;

Master of Arts in Mass Communication, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Mass Communication

Dissertation: Effects of Conflict News on Intercultural Othering: An International Comparative Study

Dissertation Chair: M. Leslie Dissertation Co-chair: R. Rodgers

Lauren M. Eutsler, Bachelor of Science in Applied Management, 2007, Grand Canyon University—Arizona; Master of Education, 2009, Northern Arizona University

Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Dissertation: Influences on Parents Adoption of Portable Technology for Helping Children Learn to Read in the Home

Dissertation Chair: P. Antonenko

Annette Maleen Fahrenkrog Hashagen, Titulo de Bioquimico con distincion maxima, 2007, Universidad Austral de Chile

Major: Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology

Dissertation: Assessment of Genetic Diversity and Dissection of the Genetic Regulation of Bioenergy Traits and Adaptation to

Climate in *Populus deltoides* Dissertation Chair: M. Kirst

June Fang, Bachelor of Science, 2011, Rice University—Texas

Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering

Dissertation: Production, Characterization, and Environmental Applications of Engineered Carbons Derived From

Hydrothermal Carbonization of Biomass

Dissertation Chair: B. Gao

Yin Fang, Bachelor of Engineering, 2009, Beijing Institute of Petrochemical Technology—China; Master of Engineering,

2013, University of Florida

Major: Chemical Engineering

Dissertation: Reconfigurable Nanooptics Enabled by Novel Shape Memory Polymers

Dissertation Chair: P. Jiang

Bradley Joseph Fawver, Bachelor of Science, 2008, Clemson University-South Carolina

Major: Health and Human Performance

Dissertation: Self-Generated Fear Selectively Modifies Approach and Avoidance Behavior

Dissertation Chair: C. M. Janelle

Seyyed Abdolreza Fazeli, Bachelor of Science, 2008, Master of Mechanical Engineering, 2011, University of Tehran-Iran

Major: Mechanical Engineering

Dissertation: Microscale Phase Separation Through Nanoporous Membranes

Dissertation Chair: S. Moghaddam

Terry J. Felderhoff, Bachelor of Science, 2009, Master of Science, 2011, Texas A&M University

Major: Genetics and Genomics

Dissertation: Genome-Enabled Improvement of Anthracnose Resistance and Sugar Yield in Sweet Sorghum

Dissertation Chair: W. Vermerris

Norma Cristina Flor, Titulo de Ingeniero Agronomo, 1998, Universidad Nacional de Colombia; Master of Science, 2009,

University of Florida

Major: Agronomy
Minor: Plant Pathology

Dissertation: Genetic Analysis of Large Patch Disease in Zoysiagrass

Dissertation Chair: K. E. Kenworthy

Dustin Jacob Fridkin, Bachelor of Arts, 2004, New College of Florida; Master of Arts, 2008, University of Florida

Major: Political Science

Dissertation: Apprehensions of Democracy in Antebellum American Political Thought: Calhoun, Emerson, Douglass, and Whitman

Dissertation Chair: D. O'Neill Dissertation Co-chair: D. A. Smith

Angela Ninette Cummings Fulbright, Bachelor of Arts magna cum laude, 1995, Master of Science, 1999, University of South Florida

Major: Communication Sciences and Disorders

Dissertation: Normal Hearing? What Functional Hearing Tests, Noise Exposure History and ABR Wave-I Amplitude Reveal

Dissertation Chair: S. K. Griffiths Dissertation Co-chair: S. Someya

Lauren Darm Furey, Bachelor of Science magna cum laude, 2009, University of North Florida; Master of Arts, 2012,

Columbia University—New York

Major: Mass Communication

Dissertation: The Aggregation Effect: Does the Type of News Aggregation Personalization Influence Information-Seeking Behavior?

Dissertation Chair: N. P. Lewis

Uttam Prasad Gaulee, Master in Education, 2002, Tribhuvan University—Nepal; Master of Education, 2012,

University of Pittsburgh—Pennsylvania

Major: Higher Education Administration

Minor: Entrepreneurship

Dissertation: American Students' Experiences with Their International Peers On Campus: Understanding Roadblocks,

Enhancing Pathways of Global Engagement

Dissertation Chair: D. F. Campbell Dissertation Co-chair: D. Miller

Sisi Geng, Bachelor of Science, 2011, China Agricultural University

Major: Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology

Dissertation: Guard Cell Metabolism Under Elevated and Low CO2 Revealed by Metabolomics and Proteomics Study

Dissertation Chair: S. Chen

Michael John Paul Gennaro, Bachelor of Arts, 2008, Master of Arts, 2010, York University-Canada

Major: History

Dissertation: Nigeria in the Ring: Boxing, Masculinity, and Empire in Nigeria, 1930-1957

Dissertation Chair: L. S. White

Hermes Gerardo-Cuervo, Titulo de Ingeniero Agronomo, 2004, Universidad Veracruzana–Mexico; Maestro en Ciencias,

2006, Colegio de Postgraduados-Mexico; Master of Science, 2016, University of Florida

Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering

Dissertation: Understanding the Relationship Between Vegetation Indices and Climate Variability in Sugarcane in Florida

Dissertation Chair: C. W. Fraisse

Yanmin Gong, Bachelor of Engineering, 2009, Huazhong University of Science and Technology-China; Master of Engineering,

2012, Tsinghua University-China

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering

Dissertation: Privacy-Preserving Data Analytics for Big Data Applications

Dissertation Chair: Y. Fang

Timothy Michael Gould, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2009, Florida State University

Major: Chemistry

Dissertation: Non-Ionotropic Nicotinic Acetylcholine Receptor Signaling

Dissertation Chair: N. A. Horenstein

Jason Thomas Gravano, Bachelor of Science summa cum laude, 2008, University of California at San Diego; Master of Science,

2012, University of Florida

Major: Psychology-Clinical and Health Psychology

Dissertation: Dissociating MTBI and PTSD Brain Activity at Rest

Dissertation Chair: W. M. Perlstein

David McCaskill Gray, Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering with honors, 1985, Master of Engineering, 1989,

University of Florida

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering

Dissertation: Classifier Training Set Augmentation by Warping Synthetic Data in a Subspace Manifold

Dissertation Chair: J. C. Principe Dissertation Co-chair: J. G. Harris

Jeanette Faith Green, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, 2006, Master of Science in Nursing, 2008, University of Central Florida

Major: Nursing Sciences
Minor: Public Health

Dissertation: Constructing the Process of Healthcare Decision-Making by Adolescent Athletes Post Sport-Related Concussion

Dissertation Chair: P. Pieper

Jevay Talia Grooms, Bachelor of Science, 2006, Loyola Marymount University—California; Master of Arts, 2013,

University of Florida

Major: Economics

Dissertation: Essays on Diseases of the Developing World and International Policy

Dissertation Chair: J. H. Hamilton

Tianhan Gui, Bachelor of Arts, 2008, Beijing Foreign Studies University—China; Maitre Es Arts, 2012,

Universite du Quebec a Montreal-Canada

Major: Sociology

Dissertation: "Leftover Women" or Single by Choice: Societal Perceptions and Individual Perspectives of Unmarried,

Professional Women in Contemporary China

Dissertation Chair: T. M. Koropeckyj-Cox

Kritee Gujral, Bachelor of Arts summa cum laude, 2010, Master of Arts, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Economics

Dissertation: Bargaining vs. Posted Prices Dissertation Chair: S. M. Slutsky

Jung-Heun Ha, Bachelor of Engineering, 2002, Master of Science, 2004, Handong Global University-South Korea

Major: Nutritional Sciences

Dissertation: Influence of Dietary Iron on Intestinal Copper Transport

Dissertation Chair: J. F. Collins

Trung Thanh Ha, Bang Tot Nghiep Dai Hoc, 2004, Hanoi University of Technology-Vietnam; Master of Statistics, 2013,

University of Florida

Major: Statistics

Dissertation: Convergence Analysis of Birth-Death Markov Chains and Gibbs Samplers

Dissertation Chair: J. P. Hobert

Catherine G. Haase, Bachelor of Science, 2007, Unity College-Maine; Master of Science, 2010,

State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry

Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology

Dissertation: Effects of the Spatial Configuration of Forage and Thermal Habitats on the Behavior of the Florida Manatee

Dissertation Chair: R. J. Fletcher Jr.

Natalie Aviva Hadad, Bachelor of Arts magna cum laude, 2005, Syracuse University—New York; Master of Arts, 2010,

Teachers College of Columbia University-New York

Major: Psychology

Dissertation: Corticosterone and Gene Expression in a Novel Animal Model of Comorbid PTSD and Cocaine Dependence

Dissertation Chair: L. Knackstedt

Kin-Lan Han, Bachelor of Science, 1997, Cornell University—New York; Master of Science, 2006,

University of Maryland at College Park

Major: Zoology

Dissertation: Mating System and Genetic Structure of Brown-Headed Nuthatches (Sitta pusilla) and Their Sister, Pygmy

Nuthatches (Sitta pygmaea) Dissertation Chair: R. T. Kimball

Petta-Gay G. Hannah, Bachelor of Arts, 2004, University of Florida; Master of Arts, 2009, DePaul University–Illinois

Major: Sociology

Dissertation: Cybertrans: Online Spaces, Gendered Bodies, and the Transgender Movement

Dissertation Chair: K. L. Broad-Wright

Md Mahmudul Hasan, Bachelor of Science with honors, 2007, Master of Science, 2009, University of Dhaka-Bangladesh

Major: Computer Engineering

Dissertation: Efficient Querying of Biological Networks

Dissertation Chair: T. Kahveci

Chenyi He, Bachelor of Management, 2010, Beijing Forestry University—China; Master of Science, 2012,

Purdue University-Indiana

Major: Food and Resource Economics

Dissertation: Three Essays on the Impact of Variety, Fruit Attributes and Labels on Consumer Purchase: Results From Sensory

Tests, Experimental Auctions and Choice Experiment

Dissertation Chair: Z. Gao Dissertation Co-chair: L. A. House

Xueqi He, Bachelor of Engineering, 2009, Beijing Institute of Technology-China; Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida

Major: Industrial and Systems Engineering

Dissertation: Exact and Heuristic Approaches for Integer Knapsack Problems

Dissertation Chair: J. C. Hartman Dissertation Co-chair: P. M. Pardalos

Wesley R. Henson, Bachelor of Science in Geology cum laude, 2008, University of Nevada at Reno

Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering

Dissertation: Examining the Influence of Water Fluxes and Flow Paths on Nitrate Retention and Delivery: Implications for

Florida Springs

Dissertation Chair: W. D. Graham

Jeffrey C. Hertz, Bachelor of Science magna cum laude, 2003, Mountain State University—West Virginia; Master of Science,

2007, University of Florida

Major: Entomology and Nematology

Dissertation: Ehrlichia and Rickettsia Tick-Borne Infections Associated with Lone Star Ticks and Under-Sampled Wildlife in Florida

Dissertation Chair: P. E. Kaufman

Christopher Joseph Holderman, Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, 2010, Kansas State University; Master of Science, 2012,

University of Florida

Major: Entomology and Nematology

Dissertation: Biology and Ecology of Dog Heartworm Vectors in North Central Florida

Dissertation Chair: P. E. Kaufman

Hui Hu, Bachelor of Science, 2012, Fudan University-China

Major: Epidemiology

Dissertation: Neighborhood Environment and Hypertensive Disorders of Pregnancy

Dissertation Chair: L. B. Cottler

Lin-Ya Huang, Bachelor of Science, 2007, Tzu Chi University—Taiwan; Master of Science, 2009, National Taiwan University

Major: Medical Sciences-Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Dissertation: Engineering Improved Adeno-Associated Virus Vector Efficacy Guided by Capsid-Host Interactions

Dissertation Chair: M. Agbandje-McKenna

Yung Chieh Hung, Bachelor of Science, 2010, National Cheng Kung University—Taiwan

Major: Materials Science and Engineering

Dissertation: Strategies for Enhancing the Mechanical Durability of Transparent Superhydrophobic Coating and Development

of Color and Durable Superhydrophobic Paint

Dissertation Chair: W. M. Sigmund

Imran Iftikhar, Master of Science, 2003, University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore—Pakistan

Major: Chemistry

Dissertation: Increase in Oxidation Efficiency in On-Line Electrochemistry Electrospray Ionization Mass Spectrometry

Dissertation Chair: A. F. Toth

Ana Maria Jaramillo de Graham, Bachelor of Arts, 2009, Florida Atlantic University; Master of Education, 2011,

Specialist in Education, 2011, University of Florida

Major: Counseling and Counselor Education

Dissertation: Counselor Education Trainees Comfort and Willingness to Discuss Sexuality Issues with Clients

Dissertation Chair: S. L. Smith

Yong Jin, Bachelor of Science with honours, 2010, Master of Philosophy, 2012, The Chinese University of Hong Kong-China

Major: Business Administration-Finance

Dissertation: Essays on Portfolio Theory and Applications

Dissertation Chair: M. Nimalendran Dissertation Co-chair: J. R. Ritter

Joseph Johnson, Bachelor of Business Administration, 2005, Saginaw Valley State University—Michigan; Master of Arts,

2009, Western Michigan University

Major: Counseling and Counselor Education

Dissertation: Looking Back: The Experiences of Unauthorized Mexican Individuals with Their High School Counselors

Dissertation Chair: E. S. Amatea

Kelsea Rae Johnson, Bachelor of Science, 2009, West Virginia University

Major: Chemistry

Dissertation: Design and Synthesis of Organometallic Precursors for Photoassisted Chemical Vapor Deposition, Surface

Plasmon Mediated Chemical Solution Deposition, and Electron Beam Induced Deposition

Dissertation Chair: L. A. McElwee-White

Jacob Daniel Jones, Bachelor of Arts summa cum laude, 2009, California State University Channel Islands; Master of Science,

2012, University of Florida

Major: Psychology-Clinical and Health Psychology

Dissertation: Cognition and Parkinson's Disease: The Influence of Health Comorbidities and White Matter Changes

Dissertation Chair: D. Bowers

John Michael Jordi, Bachelor of Arts, 2006, The Pennsylvania State University; Master of Education, 2010,

University of North Florida

Major: Higher Education Administration

Minor: Curriculum and Instruction

Dissertation: How Tuition Impacts Student Choice in Selecting a Postsecondary Institution

Dissertation Chair: D. A. Kramer

Manjeshwar Sahana Sriniyas Kamath, Bachelor of Physiotherapy, 2005, Master of Physiotherapy, 2008,

Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences-India

Major: Rehabilitation Science

Minor: Applied Physiology and Kinesiology

Dissertation: Neural and Behavioral Markers of Upper-Extremity Motor Impairment Post-Stroke

Dissertation Chair: C. Patten

Sangmi Kang, Bachelor of Music, 2003, Master of Arts in Education, 2006, Seoul National University-South Korea

Major: Music Education

Dissertation: The Effect of Motivation on Students Preference for Acoustic or iPad Instruments: Comparing Guitars and Gayageums

Dissertation Chair: W. Bauer

Karun Kaniyamattam, Bachelor of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry, 2009, Kerala Agricultural University–India

Major: Animal Sciences

Dissertation: Genetic, Technical, and Financial Performance of Dairy Herds Using an In-Vitro Fertilized Embryo Transfer System

Dissertation Chair: A. De Vries

George C. Kantrales, Bachelor of Science, 2007, University of Florida; Bachelor of Science Civil Engineering, 2010,

University of South Alabama; Master of Science, 2012, Auburn University-Alabama

Major: Civil Engineering

Dissertation: Evaluation of Barge Flotilla Aberrancy Rates and Inter-Barge Relative Motions for the Analysis and Design of

Waterway Bridge Structures Subject to Barge Collisions

Dissertation Chair: G. R. Consolazio

Gülver Karamemis, Lisans, 2007, Istanbul Technical University-Turkey; Master of Science, 2008, Master of Statistics, 2011,

University of Florida

Major: Business Administration–Information Systems and Operations Management

Dissertation: Essays on Supply Chain Coordination and Competition

Dissertation Chair: A. J. Vakharia

Nicki Karimipour, Bachelor of Arts magna cum laude, 2011, Florida State University; Master of Arts in Mass Communication,

2013, University of Florida

Major: Mass Communication

Dissertation: Liked, Favorited, and Filtered: Examining Female College Students' Body Image in the Social Media Era

Dissertation Chair: D. M. Treise

Justin Ray Kaspar, Bachelor of Science magna cum laude, 2011, Texas A&M University

Major: Medical Sciences-Immunology and Microbiology

Dissertation: Integration of Stress Tolerance in Genetic Competence of Streptococcus mutans

Dissertation Chair: R. A. Burne

Gokhan Kaya, Bachelor of Science, 2007, Middle East Technical University—Turkey; Master of Science, 2010,

Florida State University

Major: Computer Engineering

Dissertation: Signal Coding and Reconstruction Through a Framework Which Utilizes Naturally-Inspired Deterministic

Spiking Models

Dissertation Chair: A. Banerjee

Kaisa M. Kemppainen, Bachelor of Science, 2008, University of Helsinki-Finland

Major: Microbiology and Cell Science

Dissertation: Microbial Connections to Autoimmunity for Type 1 Diabetes and Celiac Disease

Dissertation Chair: E. Triplett

Ian Alexander Kent, Bachelor of Science in Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering, 2011, Georgia Institute of Technology

Major: Chemical Engineering

Dissertation: Effects of Molecular Motor Force Generation on Sub-Cellular Structures

Dissertation Chair: T. Lele

Souad Kheder, Licence en Psychologie, 1993, Licence D'enseignement en Langues Etrangeres, 1999,

Universite D' Alger-Algeria; Master of Arts, 2011, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale

Major: Linguistics

Dissertation: Lexical Selection and Language Expectancy During the Processing of Codeswitches: Effects of Sentential

Context, Language Use, and L2 Proficiency

Dissertation Chair: E. Kaan

Mark Thomas Kilgore, Bachelor of Science, 1992, Master of Science, 1997, Southern Polytechnic State University—Georgia; Master of Engineering, 2014, University of Florida

Major: Design, Construction, and Planning

Dissertation: Building Information Modeling: Generating, Reviewing, and Communicating the Expectations of the Owner,

Designer, and Constructor

Dissertation Chair: R. R. Issa

Soojin Kim, Bachelor of Arts, 1995, Chung-Ang University—South Korea; Master of Arts, 1998, Ewha Womans University—South Korea; Master of Arts in Advertising, 2010, University of Texas at Austin

Major: Mass Communication

Dissertation: The Attitudinal and Behavioral Effects of Pictorial Metaphors in Advertising: Considering Need for Cognition and the Mediating Effect of Emotional Response

Dissertation Chair: J. D. Morris

Natalie Simone King, Bachelor of Science in Applied Physiology and Kinesiology, 2009, Master of Education, 2011, University of Florida

Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Dissertation: Awakening and Elevating the Voices of African American Girls: Counterstories of Informal and Formal Stem Learning Experiences

Dissertation Chair: R. M. Pringle

Joshua William Kirton, Bachelor of Science, 2010, Brigham Young University-Utah; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Psychology-Clinical and Health Psychology

Dissertation: Regional White Matter Lesion Volume and Depressive Symptom Dimensions: Cerebrovascular Aging After 40 and in Late Life

Dissertation Chair: V. M. Dotson

Heidi Elise Kloefkorn, Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering, 2011, Georgia Institute of Technology; Master of Science, 2015, University of Florida

Major: Biomedical Engineering

Dissertation: Examining the Nexus Amongst Joint Degeneration, Disability, and Chronic Pain Using a Rodent Model of Post-Traumatic Knee Osteoarthritis

Dissertation Chair: K. Allen

Arijit Koley, Master of Science, 2010, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur–India

Major: Chemistry

Dissertation: Synthesis of Organometallic Precursors for WNxCy Deposition

Dissertation Chair: L. A. McElwee-White

Shuo Kong, Bachelor of Science, 2011, Peking University-China; Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Astronomy

Dissertation: The Brightest From the Darkest: Deuterium Astrochemistry and the Onset of Massive Star and Star Cluster Formation in Infrared Dark Clouds

Dissertation Chair: J. C. Tan

Pratik Kothary, Bachelor of Technology, 2007, University of Mumbai–India; Master of Science, 2009, University of Oklahoma

Major: Chemical Engineering

Dissertation: Templated Fabrication of Broadband Infrared Antireflection Coatings

Dissertation Chair: P. Jiang

Max Joseph Krause, Bachelor of Science in Environmental Engineering, 2010, Master of Engineering, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Environmental Engineering Sciences

Dissertation: Biochemical and Physical Properties of Municipal Solid Waste

Dissertation Chair: T. G. Townsend

Cary A. Kuliasha, Bachelor of Science in Materials Science & Engineering, 2012, University of Tennessee at Knoxville; Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida

Major: Materials Science and Engineering

Dissertation: Surface Engineering and Chemical Patterning of Silicone Rubber to Control Bioadhesion

Dissertation Chair: A. B. Brennan

Aakash Kumar, Bachelor of Technology, 2012, National Institute of Technology-India; Master of Science, 2014,

University of Florida

Major: Materials Science and Engineering

Dissertation: Towards Alloy Design of Nickel-Base Superalloys Using Atomic Scale Methods

Dissertation Chair: S. B. Sinnott Dissertation Co-chair: R. Hennig

In Hae Kwak, Bachelor of Science, 2010, Sookmyung Women's University—South Korea; Master of Science, 2013,

University of Florida

Major: Physics

Dissertation: Phase Separation in Strained La0.67Sr0.33MnO3 Thin Films

Dissertation Chair: A. Biswas

Michael W. Kwan, Bachelor of Science in Materials Science and Engineering cum laude, 2012, Master of Science, 2014,

University of Florida

Major: Materials Science and Engineering

Dissertation: Development of Samarium Oxide Based Approach to Radiopharmaceutical Treatment of Osteosarcoma

Dissertation Chair: C. D. Batich

Yu-Ning Lai, Bachelor of Arts, 2001, Chung Hua University-Taiwan; Master of Arts, 2009,

Southern Illinois University at Carbondale

Major: Linguistics

Dissertation: The Social Motivation of Retroflex Variation of Taiwan Mandarin in an Immigrant Setting

Dissertation Chair: H. Blondeau

Jacob B. Landis, Bachelor of Science, 2008, Master of Arts, 2011, University of Kansas

Major: Botany

Dissertation: Evolutionary Development of Flower Variation in Polemoniaceae; Linking Cellular Phenotypes, Genetics, and

Pollinator Shifts

Dissertation Chair: P. S. Soltis

Jorge Armando Laurel Castillo, Titulo de Ingeniero Civil, 2004, Maestra en Ciencias en Hidraulica, 2008,

Instituto Politecnico Nacional-Mexico

Major: Coastal and Oceanographic Engineering

Dissertation: Water Level Variability and Salinity Distribution Response to Ocean and River Forcing Interactions in a

Subtropical Estuary

Dissertation Chair: A. Valle-Levinson

Dissertation Co-chair: M. Olabarrieta Lizaso

Jenna L. Leclerc, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2010, Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering summa cum laude, 2010,

University of Florida

Major: Medical Sciences-Neuroscience

Dissertation: Role of the Haptoglobin-CD163 Scavenging Pathway Following Hemorrhagic Stroke

Dissertation Chair: S. Dore

Brittany A. Lee-McMullen, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2009, University of Louisiana at Monroe

Major: Medical Sciences-Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Dissertation: A Metabolomics Approach to Investigate Disease Progression in Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

Dissertation Chair: G. A. Walter

Dissertation Co-chair: A. S. Edison

Christine Jie Li, Bachelor of Engineering, 2004, Hunan University-China; Master of Education, 2012, University of Minnesota

Major: Forest Resources and Conservation

Minor: Research and Evaluation Methodology

Dissertation: Understanding, Measuring, and Cultivating Hope About Climate Change Among High School Students

Dissertation Chair: M. C. Monroe

Xin Li, Bachelor of Engineering, 2009, Master of Engineering, 2012, Zhejiang University-China

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering

Dissertation: Vulnerability Assessment and Control for Interdependent Network

Dissertation Chair: D. Wu

Zhi Li, Diplom-Ingenieur, 2009, Fach Hochschule Lubeck University of Applied Sciences—Germany;

Bachelor of Engineering, 2009, East China University of Science and Technology; Master of Science,

2011, Columbia University-New York

Major: Chemical Engineering

Dissertation: Thermodynamic Assessments and Atomic Layer Deposition for CIGS-Based Thin Film Solar Cell

Dissertation Chair: T. J. Anderson

Fangyin Lin, Bachelor of Science, 2004, National Cheng Kung University—Taiwan; Master of Science, 2009, University of Arizona

Major: Materials Science and Engineering

Dissertation: Computational Investigation of the Interfacial Structure Evolution and the Properties of the

Pervoskite/Metallic Interfaces Dissertation Chair: S. B. Sinnott Dissertation Co-chair: J. C. Nino

Bingjie Liu, Bachelor of Management, 2010, Sun Yat-sen University-China; Master of Science, 2012,

Clemson University-South Carolina

Major: Health and Human Performance

Dissertation: Crisis Management and Communication: Developing Effective Crisis Responses Through Understanding How

People Process Crisis Communication Messages

Dissertation Chair: L. Pennington

Ellen Margaret Lofaro, Bachelor of Arts, 2009, Vanderbilt University-Tennessee; Master of Arts, 2011, University of Florida

Major: Anthropology

Dissertation: Ad majorem Dei gloriam: An Isotopic Investigation of Indigenous Lifeways in a Jesuit Church From Early Colonial

Huamanga (Ayacucho), Peru Dissertation Chair: J. Krigbaum

Sandra Marie Logan, Bachelor of Arts, 2004, California State University at Long Beach; Master of Arts, 2007,

Chapman University—California

Major: Counseling and Counselor Education

Dissertation: Examining Psychological Hardiness and Leadership Practices and Their Relation to Occupational Satisfaction

Among Counselor Educators

Dissertation Chair: E. S. Amatea

Wen Dong Looi, Bachelor of Science, 2009, University of Florida

Major: Chemistry

Dissertation: Electrochemistry Mass Spectrometry with Desorption Electrospray Ionization for Analysis of Electrochemical Reactions

Dissertation Chair: A. F. Toth

Felix E. Lorenzo, Bachelor of Science, 2011, Master of Public Health, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Public Health

Dissertation: Exploring Cardiovascular Health Differences in Latino/as of Different Countries of Origin

Dissertation Chair: T. E. Barnett

Anuja Madan, Master of Arts, 2006, Master of Philosophy, 2009, University of Delhi-India

Major: English

Dissertation: Hindu Mythology in Indian Comics and Animations for Young People, 2000-2015

Dissertation Chair: K. B. Kidd

Aarthi Madhavan, Bachelor in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology, 2006, Sri Ramachandra Medical College &

Research Institute-India; Master of Arts, 2008, Case Western Reserve University-Ohio

Major: Communication Sciences and Disorders

Dissertation: Identifying and Profiling Pre-Clinical Dysphagia in the Community Dwelling Elderly

Dissertation Chair: M. A. Crary

Ramadhani Omari Majubwa, Bachelor of Science in Horticulture, 2007, Master of Science in Crop Science, 2012,

Sokoine University of Agriculture—Tanzania

Major: Horticultural Sciences

Minor: Food Science

Dissertation: Studies in Mandarin (Citrus Reticulate Blanco) Fruit Quality: 1) Postharvest Responses to Degreening

Temperatures of Cold Hardy Seedless Mandarin From the Florida Breeding Program; 2) Reducing Postharvest Losses

During Harvest and Transport Along the Value Chain in Tanzania

Dissertation Chair: S. A. Sargent

Rasha Abdulrasheed Mansouri, Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry, 1998, Master of Science in Biochemistry, 2003, King Abdulaziz University—Saudi Arabia

Major: Nutritional Sciences

Dissertation: Cranberry Extract Initiates Intrinsic Apoptosis in HL-60 Cells by Increasing Bad Activity Through the Inhibition of Akt Phosphorylation

Dissertation Chair: S. S. Percival

Bryan Glen Matthias, Bachelor of Science, 2009, University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences

Dissertation: The Effects of Environmental Variation, Density, Reproduction and Size-Selective Fishing Mortality on Fish Life

History Traits

Dissertation Chair: R. Ahrens

Lynne Marie Mercier, Bachelor of Science in Agricultural and Biological Engineering, 2010, University of Florida

Major: Medical Sciences-Neuroscience

Dissertation: Neurophysiological Changes in Respiratory Circuitry From Cervical Spinal Cord Injury and Treatments to

Enhance Breathing Dissertation Chair: P. J. Reier Dissertation Co-chair: M. A. Lane

Thessalia Merivaki, Ptychion, 2006, University of Macedonia—Greece; Master of Arts in International Studies, 2008, The University of Sheffield—United Kingdom; Master of Arts, 2011, University of Florida

Major: Political Science

Dissertation: America Registers at Different Speeds: The Differential Administration of Voter Registration Across the States

Dissertation Chair: D. A. Smith

Kristen L. Merrill, Bachelor of Arts in Education cum laude, 2006, Master of Education, 2007, University of Florida

Major: Special Education

Dissertation: Examining the Effectiveness and Feasibility of a Social Problem-Solving Intervention for Middle School Students

Dissertation Chair: S. W. Smith

Matthew Paul Michel, Bachelor of Arts cum laude, 2007, Master of Arts in International Business, 2009, Master of Arts in History,

2009, University of Florida

Major: Romance Languages-Spanish

Dissertation: "Another Kind of Knighthood:" The Honor of Letrados in Early Modern Spanish Literature

Dissertation Chair: S. Armon

Jon Carlton Mills, Bachelor of Science in Behavioral Sciences, 1993, Miami University—Ohio; Master of Business Administration, 2012, University of Colorado at Boulder

Major: Health Services Research

Dissertation: Comparative Effectiveness of Dual-Action versus Single-Action Antidepressants for Treatment of People

Diagnosed with Co-Occurring HIV/AIDS and Major Depression: A Growing Syndemic

Dissertation Chair: J. S. Harman

Samantha Anne Warren Minski, Bachelor of Science summa cum laude, 2010, Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Psychology-Clinical and Health Psychology

Dissertation: Development and Validation of a Scale to Measure Self-Efficacy Beliefs for Diet and Exercise Behaviors

Dissertation Chair: M. G. Perri

Subhankar Mishra, Bachelor of Technology in Computer Science and Engineering, 2011, National Institute of Technology—India

Major: Computer Engineering

Dissertation: Cyber-security in Smart Grid

Dissertation Chair: M. T. Thai

Fabiane Moreira Mundim Ribeiro, Titulo de Bacharel, 2007, Titulo de Mestre, 2009, Universidade Federal de Uberlandia—Brazil

Major: Wildlife Ecology and Conservation

Dissertation: The Effect of Climate Change on Above and Belowground Plant-Herbivore Interactions

Dissertation Chair: E. M. Bruna III

Jayakrishnan Nair, Bachelor of Physiotherapy, 2002, Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences-India;

Master in Sports Physiotherapy, 2005, Guru Nanak Dev University-India

Major: Rehabilitation Science

Dissertation: Phrenic and Cervical Afferents Following Spinal Cord Injury

Dissertation Chair: D. Fuller

Ammar Abdulhamid Naji, Bachelor of Science, 1999, King Abdulaziz University-Saudi Arabia; Master of Business Administration,

2007, University of Nebraska at Lincoln

Major: Design, Construction, and Planning

Dissertation: Using Leed for Neighborhood Development Criteria for the Spatial Assessment of Urban Form and Social

Equity at a Regional Scale Dissertation Chair: P. D. Zwick

Joshua Orin Neumann, Bachelor of Music, 2005, Gordon College-Massachusetts; Master of Music, 2008,

University of Nebraska at Lincoln

Major: Music

Dissertation: Toward Defining Tradition: A Statistical and Network Analysis of Giacomo Puccini's Turandot at the

Metropolitan Opera Dissertation Chair: M. R. Butler

Shraddha Niphadkar, Master of Arts, 2011, Boston College-Massachusetts

Major: Counseling Psychology

Dissertation: In-Group and Out-Group Processes, as Evidenced by Social Distancing, Between Asian Indians and Indian Americans

Dissertation Chair: M. Heesacker

Valens Nteziyaremye, Bachelor of Science magna cum laude, 2012, University of Arkansas at Little Rock; Master of Science,

2014, University of Florida

Major: Mechanical Engineering

Dissertation: High-Speed Surface Finishing of Needles for High-Performance Biopsy

Dissertation Chair: H. Greenslet

Mauricio M. Núñez Regueiro Tartusi, Licenciado en Ciencias Biologicas, 2009, Universidad Nacional de Salta—Argentina;

Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida

Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology

Dissertation: On Biofuels, Biodiversity Tradeoffs, and a Market-Based Strategy to Potentially Reduce Deforestation

Dissertation Chair: R. J. Fletcher Jr.

Ji Hyun Oh, Bachelor of Education, 2007, Korea National Open University—South Korea; Master of Education, 2010,

University of Central Oklahoma

Major: Special Education

Dissertation: Understanding Preschool Teachers' Beliefs About Young Children's Outdoor Play

Dissertation Chair: K. M. Kemple

Juhyun Oh, Bachelor of Science, 2006, Korea University-South Korea; Master of Arts in Economics, 2009,

Sungkyunkwan University-South Korea

Major: Food and Resource Economics

Dissertation: Essays on Production and Environmental Economics

Dissertation Chair: Z. Guan

Chukwuemeka N. Okafor, Bachelor of Science, 2005, University of Lagos-Nigeria; Master of Public Health, 2012,

University of North Florida

Major: Epidemiology

Dissertation: Marijuana Use Among HIV-Positive and HIV-Negative Men Who Have Sex with Men: Long Term Trends,

Predictors of Use and Impact on Cognitive Function

Dissertation Chair: R. L. Cook

Buket Oztas, Bachelor of Science summa cum laude, 2010, State University of New York at Binghamton; Bachelor of Arts,

2010, Bilkent University-Turkey; Master of Arts, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Political Science

Dissertation: Party System Religiosity and the Quality of Democracy in Predominantly Muslim Countries

Dissertation Chair: M. H. Bernhard

Erman Kadir Öztekin, Lisans Diplomasi, 2008, Istanbul Universitesi–Turkey; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Mechanical Engineering

Dissertation: Differential Laser-Induced Perturbation Spectroscopy for Analysis of Biological and Bio-Related Materials

Dissertation Chair: D. W. Hahn

Abraham J. Pachikara, Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering summa cum laude, 2009, Master of Science, 2011,

University of Florida

Major: Aerospace Engineering

Dissertation: Control and Trajectory Design of a Highly Flexible Air Vehicle with a Distributed Sensing Architecture

Dissertation Chair: R. C. Lind Jr.

Kai Pan, Bachelor of Engineering, 2010, Zhejiang University—China; Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida

Major: Industrial and Systems Engineering

Dissertation: Deterministic and Stochastic Unit Commitment Problems and Optimal Bidding Strategies

Dissertation Chair: Y. Guan

Saroj Parajuli, Bachelor of Science, 2010, Master of Science, 2013, Tribhuvan University-Nepal

Major: Agronomy

Dissertation: Elevating Lipid Content and Energy Density in Vegetative Biomass of Sugarcane by Metabolic Engineering

Dissertation Chair: F. Altpeter

Natasha M. Parekh, Bachelor of Business Administration, 2009, Bachelor of Arts, 2009, University of Texas at Austin;

Master of Education, 2014, University of Florida

Major: School Psychology

Dissertation: Understanding Struggling Students' Perceptions of a Ninth Grade Teacher's Behaviors That Develop and Sustain

a Sense of Classroom Belonging Dissertation Chair: N. L. Waldron

Anup N. Parikh, Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering cum laude, 2012, Bachelor of Science in Mechanical

Engineering cum laude, 2012, Master of Engineering, 2014, University of Florida

Major: Aerospace Engineering

Dissertation: A Switched Systems Approach to Image-Based Estimation

Dissertation Chair: W. E. Dixon

Jerry M. Paris, Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering cum laude, 2011, Master of Engineering, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Civil Engineering

Dissertation: Evaluation of Alternative Pozzolanic Materials for Partial Replacement of Portland Cement in Concrete

Dissertation Chair: C. C. Ferraro
Dissertation Co-chair: T. G. Townsend

Amanda L. Patrick, Bachelor of Science summa cum laude, 2011, North Carolina State University

Major: Chemistry

Dissertation: Structural Characterization of Isolated Small Biomolecular Ions: Insights from Mass Spectrometry and Infrared

Ion Spectroscopy

Dissertation Chair: N. C. Polfer

Jordin B. Patten, Bachelor of Arts, 2010, Bowling Green State University—Ohio; Master of Arts, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Romance Languages—French and Francophone Studies

Minor: Women's Studies

Dissertation: Gender and French Conversation: A Comparison of Naturally Occurring Speech and Scripted Speech Among

Same Sex and Mixed Sex Friend Groups

Dissertation Chair: H. Blondeau

Phong N. Pham, Bachelor of Science, 2011, Michigan State University; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Chemical Engineering

Dissertation: Origin of Shear-Induced Diffusion in Particulate Suspensions: Crucial Role of Solid Contacts Between Particles

Dissertation Chair: J. E. Butler

Jiaxing Pi, Bachelor of Engineering, 2009, Capital University of Business and Economics—China; Master of Science in Engineering,

2011, University of Pennsylvania

Major: Industrial and Systems Engineering

Dissertation: Optimization and Data Analysis in Biomedicine

Dissertation Chair: P. M. Pardalos

Rachel Postupack, Bachelor of Arts summa cum laude, 2007, Nyack College-New York; Master of Arts, 2008,

Teachers College Columbia University—New York; Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Psychology-Clinical and Health Psychology

Dissertation: A Model of Intra-Individual Variability in Pain Experience Related to Inflammation and Distress in Post-Surgical Women with Gynecologic Malignancies

Dissertation Chair: D. B. Pereira

Kristin Conrad Powell, Bachelor of Science, 2012, Clemson University-South Carolina

Major: Chemical Engineering

Dissertation: The Impact of Interfacial Properties on Surfactant and Particle Stabilized Emulsions

Dissertation Chair: A. Chauhan

Nathaniel B. Price, Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering magna cum laude, 2012, Master of Science, 2014,

University of Florida

Major: Mechanical Engineering

Dissertation: Optimizing the Safety Margins Governing a Deterministic Design Process While Considering the Effects of a

Future Test and Redesign on Epistemic Model Uncertainty

Dissertation Chair: N. H. Kim

Shuyang Qu, Bachelor of Arts, 2009, South Central University for Nationalities—China; Master of Science, 2012,

Iowa State University

Major: Agricultural Education and Communication

Dissertation: Using Video to Test the Effects of Local Food Messages

Dissertation Chair: A. J. Lamm

Kelvin Randhir, Bachelor of Engineering, 2008, Birla Institute of Technology-India; Master of Science, 2016, University of Florida

Major: Mechanical Engineering

Dissertation: Porous Reactive Structures for Thermochemical Processes

Dissertation Chair: J. F. Klausner

Parag S. Rane, Bachelor of Chemical Engineering, 2011, University of Mumbai–India

Major: Chemical Engineering

Dissertation: Investigation of in vivo Microtubule-Motor System Behavior via Simulation

Dissertation Chair: A. J. Ladd

Christopher Reeg, Bachelor of Science summa cum laude, 2011, University of Florida

Major: Physics

Dissertation: Superconducting Proximity Effect in Topological Materials

Dissertation Chair: D. Maslov

Morgan Marie Rich, Bachelor of Science, 2006, Indiana State University; Master of Arts, 2008, Bowling Green State University—Ohio

Major: Music

Dissertation: Theodor Adorno and Alban Berg: The Crossroads Between Philosophy and Music

Dissertation Chair: S. dos Santos

Diego J. Rivera-Gutierrez, Titulo de Ingeniero en Computacion, 2009, Instituto Technologico de Costa Rica; Master of Science,

2015, University of Florida

Major: Computer Science

Dissertation: Explicit In-Action Metacognitive Interventions During Virtual Human Experiences to Teach and Develop

Empathetic Communication Skills

Dissertation Chair: B. Lok

Brandon Mitchell Roberts, Bachelor of Science, 2010, Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Rehabilitation Science

Dissertation: The Role of FoxO1 During Cancer Cachexia

Dissertation Chair: A. R. Judge

Samantha J. Roberts, Bachelor of Science, 2012, Columbia University-New York

Major: Chemical Engineering

Dissertation: Development of Reactive and Catalytic Materials for Thermochemical Water Splitting and Oxidative Coupling of

Methane: An Experimental and Theoretical Approach

Dissertation Chair: H. A. Hagelin

Michael Blake Rodgers, Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering summa cum laude, 2010, Master of Engineering, 2013,

University of Florida

Major: Civil Engineering

Dissertation: Real Time Construction Monitoring for Drilled Shafts Socketed Into Florida Limestone

Dissertation Chair: M. C. McVay

Justin G. Roessler, Bachelor of Science in Environmental Engineering cum laude, 2012, Master of Engineering, 2015,

University of Florida

Major: Environmental Engineering Sciences

Dissertation: Geoenvironmental Properties of Municipal Solid Waste Thermal Treatment Residues in Beneficial Use Applications

Dissertation Chair: T. G. Townsend

David Alexander Roffman, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2011, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University-Florida;

Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Physics

Dissertation: Resonant Surface Scattering on Nanowires

Dissertation Chair: S. P. Hershfield

John E. Rogers, Bachelor of Electrical Engineering, 2005, Master of Science, 2007, Auburn University-Alabama

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering

Dissertation: A Passive Wireless MEMS Dynamic Pressure Sensor for Harsh Environments

Dissertation Chair: M. Sheplak Dissertation Co-chair: Y. K. Yoon

Sean Evan Rohde, Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering cum laude, 2012, Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida

Major: Mechanical Engineering

Dissertation: On the Experimental Validation, Modeling, and Optimization of Bend-Twist Coupling in Composite Beams,

Tubes, and Shafts Dissertation Chair: P. G. Ifju Dissertation Co-chair: D. A. Jenkins

Eric L. Rohrs, Bachelor of Science, 2010, The College of New Jersey; Master of Engineering, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Biomedical Engineering

Dissertation: Quantifying Behaviors Associated with Orofacial Pain and Temporomandibular Dysfunction in the Rat

Dissertation Chair: K. Allen

Peter J. Rossi, Artium Baccalaureus in History cum laude, 2009, Harvard University—Massachusetts

Major: Medical Sciences-Neuroscience

Dissertation: Neural Correlates of Impulse Control in Parkinson's Disease

Dissertation Chair: M. S. Okun Dissertation Co-chair: A. Gunduz

Alicia Jan Roth, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2006, University of Central Florida; Master of Arts, 2008,

Wake Forest University—North Carolina

Major: Psychology—Clinical and Health Psychology

Dissertation: Towards a Model of Sleep Disturbances in Caregivers of Persons with Dementia: Characterizing Intraindividual

Variability in Sleep and Its Relationship to Caregiver Stress

Dissertation Chair: M. E. Robinson

Krista Ruggles, Bachelor of Arts in Education with honors, 1998, Master of Education, 1999, University of Florida

Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Dissertation: Preservice Teachers Asset-Based Teaching with Technology: Conceptual and Instructional Shifts During

Collaborative Inquiry
Dissertation Chair: E. Bondy

Tyler W. Rundel, Bachelor of Arts, 2008, San Francisco State University-California; Master of Science, 2011,

California State Polytechnic University at Pomona

Major: Geography

Minor: Tropical Agriculture

Dissertation: Extractivism and Domestication of Indigenous Fruit Trees in the Humid Tropics of Cameroon and Peru

Dissertation Chair: N. J. Smith

Ruslandi, Sarjana Kehutanan, 1996, Universitas Gadjah Mada–Indonesia; Master of Science, 2002,

Oxford University-United Kingdom

Major: Botany

Dissertation: Silvicultural Intensification in Natural Forests in Indonesia: Consequences for Timber Yields, Carbon Dynamics, Tree Species Composition, and Profits

Dissertation Chair: F. E. Putz

Abhishek Saha, Master of Statistics, 2010, Indian Statistical Institute—India

Major: Statistics

Dissertation: Bayesian Inference in Gaussian Graphical Models When the Underlying Graph Is Non-Decomposable

Dissertation Chair: K. Khare

Jessica Emily Salazar, Bachelor of Science in Nuclear Engineering *cum laude*, 2009, University of Florida; Master of Science, 2011, Duke University—North Carolina; Master of Business Administration, 2016, University of Florida

Major: Nuclear Engineering Sciences

Dissertation: Characterization of Image Quality for an X-Ray Backscatter Radiography System Used in the Inspection of Rail Ties

Dissertation Chair: J. E. Baciak

Verity G. Salmon, Bachelor of Arts magna cum laude, 2009, Boston University—Massachusetts

Major: Botany

Dissertation: Permafrost Thaw in a Tundra Ecosystem: Implications for Carbon and Nitrogen Cycling in Plants and Soils

Dissertation Chair: E. A. Schuur

Snehal Samant, Bachelor of Pharmacy, 2010, University of Mumbai–India; Master of Science, 2012,

Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences-Pharmacy

Minor: Statistics

Dissertation: An Integrative Approach to Personalizing Clopidogrel Antiplatelet Therapy

Dissertation Chair: S. Schmidt

Jackeline Sanchez, Bachelor of Science, 2007, Santa Clara University—California; Master of Science in Education, 2010,

University of Miami-Florida

Major: Counseling Psychology

Dissertation: Bibliotherapy Intervention for College Women with Body Image Concerns

Dissertation Chair: L. Mintz

Michelle Marie Sands, Bachelor of Science in Nuclear Engineering Sciences, 2012, Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida

Major: Biomedical Engineering

Dissertation: Dosimetric and Biokinetic Models for the Labrador for Use in Preclinical Studies of Radionuclide Therapy

Dissertation Chair: W. E. Bolch

Halil Ibrahim Sari, Lisans Diplomasi, 2009, Abant Izzet Baysal Universitesi—Turkey; Master of Arts in Education, 2013,

University of Florida

Major: Research and Evaluation Methodology

Dissertation: Examining Content Control in Adaptive Tests: Computerized Adaptive Testing vs. Computerized Multistage Testing

Dissertation Chair: A. C. Manley

Omar Saucedo, Bachelor of Science, 2010, Texas A&M University

Major: Mathematics

Dissertation: Mathematical Modeling of Avian Influenza

Dissertation Chair: M. Martcheva

Mona Brenda Gaturian Sayedul Huq, Bachelor of Science in Applied Physiology and Kinesiology, 2012, Master of Science,

2014, University of Florida

Major: Health and Human Performance

Dissertation: Adverse Childhood Experiences, Resilience, and Anxiety/Depression Among Juvenile Offenders in Florida

Dissertation Chair: C. B. Stopka

Ayuba Seidu, Bachelor of Arts, 2006, University of Ghana; Master of Arts in Economics, 2010, Ohio University

Major: Food and Resource Economics

Dissertation: International Migration, Remittances and Well-being of Rural Farm Households

Dissertation Chair: G. Onel Dissertation Co-chair: C. B. Moss

Abiyot Debebe Seifu, Bachelor of Education, 2001, Debub University—Ethiopia; Master of Arts, 2007,

Addis Ababa University-Ethiopia

Major: Anthropology

 $Dissertation: The\ Life\ and\ Death\ of\ Medieval\ Ethiopian\ Priests:\ A\ Bioarchaeological\ and\ Osteological\ Investigation\ of\ Human\ Death\ of\ Medieval\ Ethiopian\ Priests:\ A\ Bioarchaeological\ and\ Osteological\ Investigation\ of\ Human\ Death\ of\ Medieval\ Ethiopian\ Priests:\ A\ Bioarchaeological\ A\ Death\ of\ Medieval\ Ethiopian\ Priests:\ A\ Bioarchaeological\ A\ Death\ of\ Medieval\ Ethiopian\ Priests:\ A\ Bioarchaeological\ Death\ of\ Medieval\ Ethiopian\ Priests:\ A\ Bioarchaeological\ Death\ of\ Medieval\ of\ Medieval\ Death\ of\ Medieval\ Death\ of\ Medieval\ of\ Medieval\ of\ Medieval\ of\ Medieval\ of\ Medieval\ of\ Medieval\ o$ 

Mummies From Abune Melketsadik and Yimrehane Cave Monasteries, Ethiopia

Dissertation Chair: S. A. Brandt

Mitchell Dylan Sellers, Bachelor of Science, 2009, Texas A&M University; Master of Public Administration, 2011,

Texas State University at San Marcos; Master of Arts, 2014, University of Florida

Major: Political Science

Dissertation: Power Play: Gubernatorial Use of Executive Orders in the American States

Dissertation Chair: D. A. Smith

Virginia Jones Sellinger, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, 1981, East Carolina University—North Carolina;

Master of Science in Nursing, 1989, University of Florida

Major: Nursing Sciences

Minor: Interventions in Autism

Dissertation: An Evaluation of a New Parent Training Intervention for High Functioning Children with Autism Spectrum

Disorder and Externalizing Behaviors

Dissertation Chair: J. H. Elder

Marie Nancy Seraphin, Bachelor of Arts, 2007, University of Miami-Florida; Master of Public Health, 2010,

Boston University—Massachusetts

Major: Epidemiology

Dissertation: Tuberculosis Acquisition and Transmission Among Persons of Haitian Descent Living in Florida, USA

Dissertation Chair: J. G. Morris
Dissertation Co-chair: M. Lauzardo

Daniil E. Shabashvili, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2006, University of Florida

Major: Medical Sciences-Molecular Cell Biology

Dissertation: Testing Oncolytic Myxoma Virotherapy in Mouse Models of Small Cell Lung Cancer

Dissertation Chair: M. Zajac-Kaye

Morteza Shahriari Nia, Bachelor in Computer Engineering, 2007, Tarbiat Moalem University-Iran; Master of Computer

Engineering, 2009, Tarbiat Modares University–Iran; Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering

Dissertation: Applying Big Data Technology to Remote Sensing for Species Identification

Dissertation Chair: Z. Wang

Rong Shao, Bachelor of Economics, 2009, Beijing Forestry University—China; Master of Science, 2011, Georgia State University

Major: Business Administration—Finance

Dissertation: Closed-End Fund IPOs: Sold Not Bought

Dissertation Chair: J. R. Ritter

Samar Sahew Shawaqfeh, Bachelor of Agriculture, 2001, Jerash Private University—Jordan; Master of Science, 2008,

Oklahoma State University

Major: Horticultural Sciences-Environmental Horticulture

Dissertation: Evaluation of the Mechanisms of Salinity Stress Tolerance in Date Palm (*Phoenix Dactylifera*), Royal Palm (*Roystonea Regia*) and Mexican Fan Palm (*Washingtonia Robusta*)

Dissertation Chair: T. K. Broschat

Ying She, Bachelor of Engineering, 2011, China Agricultural University; Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida

Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering

Dissertation: Application of High Resolution Aerial Imaging for Inventory Management in Nurseries and Citrus Groves

Dissertation Chair: R. J. Ehsani

Ravi Shekhar, Bachelor of Technology, 2006, Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of Information and Communication Technology—India; Master of Science, 2009, University of Florida

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering

Dissertation: The Adaptive Time Machine

Dissertation Chair: J. G. Harris

Mpoki Nichrous Shimwela, Bachelor of Science in Agronomy, 2005, Sokoine University of Agriculture—Tanzania;

Master of Science, 2011, Wageningen University-Netherlands

Major: Plant Pathology

Dissertation: Spatio-Temporal Analysis and Modeling of the Spread of Banana Xanthomonas Wilt (BXW) and Citrus

Huanglongbing (HLB): Implications for Disease Control

Dissertation Chair: A. H. VanBruggen

Jeniffer Suhkyung Shin, Bachelor of Arts, 2005, KonKuk University-South Korea; Master of Landscape Architecture, 2010,

Seoul National University—South Korea

Major: Design, Construction, and Planning

Dissertation: Integrated and Inclusive Planning Processes for Sustainable Brownfield Revitalization: A Case Study on Local Practices

Dissertation Chair: K. I. Frank Dissertation Co-chair: J. Macedo

Rachel Marie Slivon, Bachelor of Arts, 2005, University of Wisconsin at Madison; Master of Arts, 2007, University of Florida

Major: English

Dissertation: Female Protagonists Using Masking Strategies in Late-Victorian Fiction: From Failing to Succeeding

Dissertation Chair: C. G. Snodgrass

Justin Andrew Smith, Bachelor of Science, 2012, University of Cincinnati-Ohio

Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences-Pharmacodynamics

Dissertation: Neuropeptide Plasticity in the Hypothalamic Paraventricular Nucleus of Salt-Loaded Male Mus Musculus

Dissertation Chair: E. Krause

Tasia M. Smith, Bachelor of Arts, 2008, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Master of Science, 2010,

University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Major: Counseling Psychology

Dissertation: Association of Perceived Discrimination and Racial Identity with Depressive Symptoms Among African

American Adolescents Dissertation Chair: C. M. Tucker

Jessica Lynne Spigner, Bachelor of Arts, 2008, Stanford University-California; Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida

Major: Psychology-Clinical and Health Psychology

Dissertation: Project iPlay: The Patient-Centered Development of an App to Enhance Caregiver Engagement and Skill

Acquisition in Abbreviated Parent-Training

Dissertation Chair: D. Janicke Dissertation Co-chair: B. A. Wiens

Joseph Han Stice, Bachelor of Science, 2011, Master of Accounting, 2011, Brigham Young University-Utah

Major: Business Administration—Accounting

Dissertation: From Data to Information

Dissertation Chair: J. W. Tucker

Margo Anora Stoddard, Artium Baccalaureus, 1990, Colgate University-New York; Master of Science, 2001,

Oregon State University

Major: Wildlife Ecology and Conservation

Dissertation: Interaction of Landscape Structure, Artificial Light, and Predators on Risk Perceived by Beach Mice

Dissertation Chair: L. C. Branch

Yulia A. Strekalova, Diplom, 2001, Russian State Humanitarian University; Master of Science, 2009,

Master of Business Administration, 2010, University of Florida

Major: Mass Communication

Dissertation: Examining Uncertainty Management and Information Behavior in the Context of Recruitment for Clinical Research

Dissertation Chair: D. M. Treise Dissertation Co-chair: J. Raup-Krieger Erica Loren Studer-Byrnes, Bachelor of Arts, 2002, Bachelor of Science, 2002, Specialist in Education, 2005,

Master of Arts in Education, 2005, University of Florida

Major: Counseling and Counselor Education

Dissertation: Refining Tools for Practitioners: A Psychometric Evaluation of the Career Search Self-Efficacy Scale Using Item

Response Theory Methodology Dissertation Chair: S. L. Smith Dissertation Co-chair: A. C. Manley

Hanna Suh, Bachelor of Arts, 2009, Master of Arts, 2011, Yonsei University-South Korea

Major: Counseling Psychology

Dissertation: An Online Mindfulness-Based Intervention for Perfectionists

Dissertation Chair: L. Mintz Dissertation Co-chair: K. G. Rice

Scott D. Sundvall, Bachelor of Arts, 2009, University of Minnesota; Master of Arts, 2011, Bowling Green State University—Ohio

Major: English

Dissertation: The Rhetoric of Desiring-Surveillance in the Age of Electracy

Dissertation Chair: G. L. Ulmer

Seaton Patrick Tarrant, Bachelor of Arts with highest honors, 2000, Master of Arts, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Political Science

Dissertation: The Democratic Faith and Sustainability Education

Dissertation Chair: L. P. Thiele

Jovan Tatar, Bachelor of Science, 2011, University of Montenegro; Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Civil Engineering
Minor: Mechanical Engineering

Dissertation: Multiscale Analysis of Adhesive Interface Between Cement Paste and Epoxy

Dissertation Chair: H. R. Hamilton III

Sarah Allison Teitelbaum, Bachelor of Arts with honors, 2009, New York University; Master of Science, 2013,

University of Florida

Major: Counseling Psychology

Dissertation: Peer Support in College Students with Type 1 Diabetes: Implications for Quality of Life and Glycemic Control

Dissertation Chair: L. Mintz Dissertation Co-chair: J. P. McNamara

Aaron Owen Thomas, Bachelor of Arts, 1995, St. John's College-Maryland; Master of Arts, 1998, University of Florida

Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Dissertation: Metacognitive Consequences of Video Annotation

Dissertation Chair: P. Antonenko

Kelsey Rae Anderson Thomas, Bachelor of Science, 2008, Bachelor of Arts, 2008, University of California at San Diego;

Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Psychology-Clinical and Health Psychology

Dissertation: Understanding Errors in Complex Everyday Cognitive Tasks in Older Adults

Dissertation Chair: M. Marsiske

Alexander Torres, Bachelor of Arts, 2001, Rutgers University—New Jersey; Master of Arts, 2005, New York University

Major: Romance Languages-Spanish

Dissertation: Bastardos de la modernidad El Bildungsroman roquero en America Latina

Dissertation Chair: E. Barradas

Gregory Gene Toth, Bachelor of Arts, 1999, University of Florida

Major: Forest Resources and Conservation

Dissertation: Evaluation of Factors Influencing Agroforestry Adoption: Case Studies From Malawi

Dissertation Chair: R. P. Nair

Shigeharu Tsuda, Bachelor of Arts, 1991, Tenri University-Japan; Master of Science in Kinesiology, 2003,

Indiana University at Bloomington; Master of Science, 2008, University of Florida

Major: Veterinary Medical Sciences

Dissertation: Altered Noradrenergic Innervation to the Anxiety-Related Brain Regions following Closed-Head Traumatic Brain

Injury in Rats

Dissertation Chair: P. K. Bose

Mariko Turk, Bachelor of Arts summa cum laude, 2007, University of Pittsburgh—Pennsylvania; Master of Arts, 2011,

University of Florida

Major: English

Dissertation: History Girls: The Personal and the Political in Historical Fiction Series for Girls

Dissertation Chair: A. M. Ulanowicz

Candice Zena Ulmer, Bachelor of Science, 2012, College of Charleston-South Carolina

Major: Chemistry

Dissertation: Cellular Metabolomic and Lipidomic Biomarker Discovery Methodologies for Type 1 Diabetes Using

UHPLC-HRMS Analysis of Established and Primary T Cells

Dissertation Chair: R. A. Yost

Madelon van de Kerk, Bachelor of Science, 2007, Utrecht University—Netherlands; Master of Science, 2009,

Radboud University at Nijmegen-Netherlands

Major: Wildlife Ecology and Conservation

Dissertation: Understanding Dynamics and Persistence of the Florida Panther Population Using an Individual-Based

Modeling Approach Dissertation Chair: M. K. Oli

David Vasquez Hurtado, Titulo de Abogado, 2001, Universidad de San Buenaventura—Colombia; Titulo de Especialista

en Derecho Administrativo, 2005, Universidad Santiago de Cali-Colombia; Master of Arts, 2012,

University of Florida

Major: Romance Languages-Spanish

Dissertation: Baroque Monstrosity in Hispanic Textual Production of the 17th Century

Dissertation Chair: S. Armon

Ernane Henrique Monteiro Vieira Neto, Titulo de Licenciado, 2006, Titulo de Mestre, 2008,

Universidade Federal de Uberlandia-Brazil

Major: Wildlife Ecology and Conservation

Dissertation: Linking Demography and Disturbance to Understand Road Effects on the Distribution of Native Species in the

Cerrado, An Endangered Neotropical Savanna

Dissertation Chair: E. M. Bruna III

Laura M. Villada, Bachelor of Science in Materials Science and Engineering cum laude, 2012, Master of Science, 2014,

University of Florida

Major: Materials Science and Engineering

Dissertation: Tough Amphiphilic Crosslinked Networks for Antifouling Applications

Dissertation Chair: A. B. Brennan

Mariana Villegas Bilbao La Vieja, Licenciada en Biologia, 2006, Universidad Mayor de San Andres-Bolivia;

Master of Science, 2011, University of Missouri-at St. Louis

Major: Wildlife Ecology and Conservation

Dissertation: Ecological Differentiation in Chiroxiphia boliviana (Aves, Pipridae): Insights From Morphology, Vocalizations,

Ecological Niche Modeling and Stable Isotopes

Dissertation Chair: J. G. Blake

Changlong Wang, Bachelor of Engineering, 2009, Shanghai University-China

Major: Physics

Dissertation: Interactions Between Photons and Gravitons During Inflation

Dissertation Chair: R. P. Woodard

Chun-Chieh Wang, Bachelor of Science in Engineering, 2008, Bachelor of Arts in Economics, 2008, Master of Science,

2011, National Taiwan University

Major: Chemical Engineering

Dissertation: Verifying Electrodeposition Patterns Caused by Interfacial Instability

Dissertation Chair: R. Narayanan Dissertation Co-chair: K. J. Ziegler

Gongyu Wang, Bachelor of Engineering, 2006, Zhejiang University-China; Master of Science, 2007, University of Florida

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering

Dissertation: Productive Formulation and Design Methods for Reconfigurable Computing

Dissertation Chair: H. Lam Dissertation Co-chair: G. M. Stitt

Lei Wang, Bachelor of Medicine, 2011, Zhengzhou University-China

Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences-Pharmacodynamics

Dissertation: Brain Renin-Angiotensin System as a Potential Target to Treat Anxiety Disorders

Dissertation Chair: E. Krause

Shanshan Wang, Bachelor of Science, 2011, Beijing University of Chemical Technology—China

Major: Chemistry

Dissertation: Conjugated Polyelectrolytes: Interactions with Molecules, Biological Species and Applications in Sensing and

Fluorescence Imaging
Dissertation Chair: K. S. Schanze

Wenche Wang, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2010, Master of Arts, 2011, Miami University—Ohio; Master of Arts, 2013,

University of Florida

Major: Economics

Dissertation: Essays on Two-Sided Markets

Dissertation Chair: S. M. Slutsky

Larie C. Ward, Bachelor of Science magna cum laude, 2008, University of Central Florida; Master of Science, 2010,

University of Florida

Major: Mathematics

Dissertation: Shift Operators on Hilbert Spaces Arising From Trees

Dissertation Chair: M. T. Jury

William Barnos Warsanga, Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Economics & Agribusiness, 2006,

Master of Science in Agricultural Economics, 2011, Sokoine University of Agriculture—Tanzania

Major: Food and Resource Economics

Dissertation: Farm Efficiency, Value Chain Participation, and Food Accessibility for Wheat Growers of Tanzania

Dissertation Chair: E. A. Evans Dissertation Co-chair: Z. Gao

Jonathan Adam Watson, Bachelor of Science magna cum laude, 2010, Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering

Minor: Horticultural Sciences

Dissertation: Creating Successful Farm to School Programs in Florida: A Countywide Feasibility Study of Direct Procurement

Dissertation Chair: R. A. Bucklin Dissertation Co-chair: D. D. Treadwell

Douglas Clay Whitaker, Bachelor of Arts cum laude, 2010, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2010, Master of Statistics, 2012,

University of Florida

Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Minor: Research and Evaluation Methodology

Dissertation: The Development of Exemplary Statistics Teachers

Dissertation Chair: T. Jacobbe

Robert Laben Whitener IV, Bachelor of Science, 2007, Washington and Lee University-Virginia

Major: Medical Sciences-Immunology and Microbiology

Dissertation: Investigation Into the Genetic and Molecular Mechanism of Idd22 Based Protection Against Development of

Type 1 Diabetes

Dissertation Chair: C. E. Mathews

John Robert Wilkes, Bachelor of Science, 1999, Tulane University—Louisiana; Master of Engineering, 2002, University of Florida

Major: Civil Engineering

Dissertation: An Energy Flow Approach to Progressive Collapse

Dissertation Chair: T. Krauthammer

Rebecca JoAnne Williams, Bachelor of Music Education, 2001, Stetson University—Florida; Master of Science, 2006,

Florida State University

Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology

Dissertation: The Gift of More Time: The Influence of Eco-Stove Improved Cookstoves on Women's Time Poverty and Agency

in Indigenous Lenca Communities in Intibuca, Honduras

Dissertation Chair: S. L. Russo

Rhonda L. Williams, Bachelor of Science, 1997, Florida Atlantic University; Master of Science, 1999, Northern Illinois University

Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Dissertation: The Impact of Instructional Coaching on Secondary Teachers

Dissertation Chair: D. D. Ross Dissertation Co-chair: T. Jacobbe

Andrew D. Wilson, Bachelor of Arts, 2008, Evergreen State College-Washington; Master of Arts, 2012, University of Florida

Major: English

Dissertation: The Inevitable Student: Composition Theory, Pedagogy, and the Politics of the Student Writer

Dissertation Chair: S. I. Dobrin

Justin Chet-Mun Wong, Bachelor of Science, 2011, University of Maryland

Major: Chemical Engineering

Dissertation: Attaining Nanoscale Patterns for Renewable Energy Applications

Dissertation Chair: K. J. Ziegler

Christopher A. Woolley, Bachelor of Arts, 2006, Western Washington University; Master of Arts, 2010, University of Florida

Major: History

Dissertation: In the Shade of the Ahuehuetl: Mexico City, Colonial Society, and the Forest of Central Mexico, 1325-1821

Dissertation Chair: I. L. Altman

Shelton L. Wright, Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering, 2002, Bachelor of Science, 2005, University of Florida

Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering

Dissertation: A Dynamic Mathematical Model to Predict Fed-Batch Growth and Lipid Productivity in the Diatom

Phaeodactylum tricornutum Under a Potentially Multi-Nutrient Limiting Environment

Dissertation Chair: B. A. Welt

Benjamin Wu, Bachelor of Science, 2009, Duke University-North Carolina; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Physics

Minor: Astronomy

Dissertation: Giant Molecular Cloud Collisions as Triggers of Star Cluster Formation: Numerical Simulations and

Observational Predictions

Dissertation Chair: J. C. Tan

Linwan Wu, Bachelor of Arts, 2011, Huazhong University of Science and Technology-China; Master of Advertising, 2013,

University of Florida

Major: Mass Communication

Dissertation: The Interplay Between Interactivity and Information Complexity on E-commerce Websites

Dissertation Chair: S. Kalyanaraman

Dissertation Co-chair: C. R. Morton Padovano

Xiaojian Wu, Bachelor of Science, 2006, Master of Science, 2009, Soochow University—Taiwan

Major: Chemistry

Dissertation: Transport in Conical Nanopores: Ion-Current Rectification and Electroosmotic Flow Rectification

Dissertation Chair: C. R. Martin

Xi Xia, Bachelor of Science, 2008, University of Science & Technology of China; Master of Science, 2010,

University of Colorado at Boulder

Major: Mechanical Engineering

Dissertation: Unsteady Aerodynamics of a Flat Plate Wing and Lift Control of the Wing Using Synthetic Jets

Dissertation Chair: K. Mohseni

Ruoxuan Xiang, Bachelor of Science, 2011, Sun Yat-sen University-China.

Major: Statistics

Dissertation: Consistency of High Dimensional Bayesian Models

Dissertation Chair: M. Ghosh Dissertation Co-chair: K. Khare

Dandan Xu, Bachelor of Economics, 2006, Renmin University of China; Master of Science, 2008, University of Central Florida

Major: Statistics

Dissertation: Bayesian Methods for Analysis of Electronic Health Records

Dissertation Chair: M. J. Daniels

Jia Xu, Bachelor of Engineering, 2010, Wuhan Institute of Technology—China; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Materials Science and Engineering

Dissertation: Characterization and Application of Surfactant Structure with Single-Walled Carbon Nanotube

Dissertation Chair: B. M. Moudgil Dissertation Co-chair: K. J. Ziegler

Wei Xu, Bachelor of Arts, 2006, Bachelor of Agronomy, 2006, Master of Science, 2009,

Huazhong University of Science and Technology-China

Major: Research and Evaluation Methodology

Minor: Statistics

Dissertation: Detecting Differential Item Functioning in Polytomously Scored Testlet-Based Items: A Simulation Study

Dissertation Chair: D. Miller

Yiming Xu, Bachelor of Engineering, 2009, China Agricultural University; Master of Engineering, 2012,

Beijing Normal University—China

Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology

Dissertation: Assessment of Soil Nutrients Using Satellite-Based Remote Sensing for Small Farms in South India

Dissertation Chair: S. E. Smith

Yu Yan, Bachelor of Law, 2010, Bachelor of Engineering, 2010, China University of Geosciences; Master of Science, 2012,

West Virginia University

Major: Civil Engineering

Dissertation: Cracking Performance Evaluation of Asphalt Mixtures Containing Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement with Modified Binders

Dissertation Chair: R. Roque

Xiping Yang, Bachelor of Engineering, 2008, Northwest A&F University—China; Master of Science, 2011,

University of Chinese Academy of Sciences

Major: Agronomy

Dissertation: Molecular Genetic Study of Orange Rust Disease Resistance in Sugarcane

Dissertation Chair: J. Wang

Jeung-ki Yoo, Bachelor of Physical Education, 2007, Kyonggi University-South Korea

Major: Health and Human Performance

Dissertation: Acute Effects of Aerobic Exercise on Vascular Function in Older Men and Postmenopausal Women

Dissertation Chair: D. D. Christou

Claudia Youakim, Bachelor of Arts, 2003, Loyola University-Illinois; Master of Arts, 2008, DePaul University-Illinois

Major: Sociology

Dissertation: Racial and Ethnic Identity: Arab Americans in the Chicagoland Area

Dissertation Chair: T. Sorek

Huiyuan Zhang, Bachelor of Science, 2011, Anhui University-China

Major: Computer Science

Minor: Statistics

Dissertation: Social Influence and Optimization in Social Networks

Dissertation Chair: M. T. Thai

Jingnan Zhang, Bachelor of Science, 2010, Wuhan University-China; Master of Financial Mathematics, 2013,

University of Minnesota

Major: Biostatistics

Dissertation: An Early Warning System for Modeling and Monitoring Spatio-Temporal Pattern of Infectious Disease

Dissertation Chair: P. Qiu

Xinrui Zhang, Bachelor of Economics, 2011, Zhongnan University of Economics & Law-China; Bachelor of Economics,

2011, Wuhan University-China; Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Biostatistics

Dissertation: Internal Pilots with the Univariate Approach to Repeated Measures

Dissertation Chair: Y. Chi

Dissertation Co-chair: M. M. Goodenow

Yucheng Zhang, Bachelor of Engineering, 2009, Master of Engineering, 2012, Northwest A&F University-China

Major: Plant Pathology

Dissertation: Evolution of Plant Pathogenicity in Streptomyces

Dissertation Chair: R. Loria

Zhengyi Zhang, Bachelor of Engineering, 2008, Master of Engineering, 2011,

Huazhong University of Science and Technology-China

Major: Mechanical Engineering

Dissertation: Study of Printing Mechanism and Printing-Induced Cell Injury During Laser Printing

Dissertation Chair: Y. Huang

Huazhong Zhao, Bachelor of Engineering, 2004, Tsinghua University—China; Master of Science, 2005,

University of Oxford-United Kingdom

Major: Business Administration—Marketing

Dissertation: Social Interactions in Online Gaming

Dissertation Chair: J. Xie

Nan Zhao, Bachelor of Science, 2011, Nanjing University—China

Major: Physics

Dissertation: Adapting Carbon Nanotube Enabled Vertical Filed Effect Transistors for Complementary Logic Circuits

Dissertation Chair: A. G. Rinzler

Xi Zheng, Bachelor of Engineering, 2005, Tongji University-China; Master of Science, 2011, Master of Science, 2014,

University of Florida

Major: Civil Engineering

Dissertation: An Integrated Infrastructure Engineering Decision-Making Procedure: A Finance-Based Fuzzy Time-Cost-Quality

Trade-Off Optimization Model Over the Project Life Cycle

Dissertation Chair: R. D. Ellis Jr.

Yanmei Zheng, Bachelor of Management, 2011, Sun Yat-sen University-China

Major: Business Administration—Marketing

Dissertation: Restricting Consumer Freedom of Choice with Sales Promotions

Dissertation Chair: C. A. Janiszewski

Yinan Zheng, Bachelor of Engineering, 2012, Southeast University-China; Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida

Major: Civil Engineering

Minor: Statistics

Dissertation: Pedestrian Operations in Urban Networks with Considerations of Vehicle Interactions

Dissertation Chair: A. Elefteriadou

Guo Zhong, Bachelor of Science, 2009, Master of Science, 2011, Peking University-China

Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences-Medicinal Chemistry

Dissertation: Human Liver Glutathione Transferase Zeta1 (GSTZ1) in Mitochondria and Dichloroacetate-Induced GSTZ1

Inactivation, Roles of Anions, Age and Subcellular Location

Dissertation Chair: M. O. James

Xiaolong Zhong, Bachelor of Science, 2010, Fudan University—China

Major: Statistics

Dissertation: Essays on Empirical Likelihood and Approximate Bayesian Computation

Dissertation Chair: M. Ghosh

Guangyu Zhu, Bachelor of Science, 2011, Zhejiang University-China; Master of Statistics, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Statistics

Dissertation: Likelihood Based Partial Least Squares

Dissertation Chair: Z. Su

Manhong Zhu, Bachelor of Economics, 2009, Shandong University of Finance-China; Master of Economics, 2012,

Northwest A&F University; Master of Science, 2015, University of Florida

Major: Food and Resource Economics

Dissertation: The Trans-Pacific Partnership, Genetically Engineered Foods, and Japan's Beef Demand Analysis

Dissertation Chair: J. L. Seale Jr. Dissertation Co-chair: A. Schmitz

## **DOCTOR OF EDUCATION**

Ana Gloria Blaine, Bachelor of Science, 2000, Florida International University; Master of Science in Education, 2007,

University of Miami-Florida

Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Dissertation: This Is Where I Belong: Understanding Teacher Candidates Decision to Work in High-Poverty, Urban Schools

Dissertation Chair: E. Bondy

Brian William Dassler, Bachelor of Arts with honors, 2001, Master of Education, 2002, University of Florida

Major: Educational Leadership

Dissertation: Take Stock Matters: Pre-College Factors and Their Relationship to Attainment, A Study of a Florida-Based

College Access Program
Dissertation Chair: L. B. Eldridge

Jason A. Dodge, Bachelor of Arts cum laude, 2008, Master of Education, 2010, University of Florida

Major: Higher Education Administration

Dissertation: Remedial Testing and Placement as a Determinant of Student Persistence and Success

Dissertation Chair: D. A. Kramer

Simone Elmi Nance, Bachelor of Arts magna cum laude, 2006, University of Southern Indiana; Master of Education, 2009,

Indiana Wesleyan University

Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Dissertation: Using Computer Programming to Enhance Problem-Solving Skills of Fifth Grade Students

Dissertation Chair: A. D. Ritzhaupt

Faye Allison Powell, Bachelor of Science in Education, 2005, Master of Education, 2007, University of Cincinnati-Ohio

Major: Educational Leadership

Dissertation: Teacher Attrition in Charter Schools

Dissertation Chair: D. Miller Dissertation Co-chair: L. B. Eldridge

Lori R. Wiggins, Bachelor of Arts, 1990, Master of Arts, 1997, University of South Florida

Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Dissertation: Successful District Online Teachers' Perspectives of Professional Development

Dissertation Chair: A. J. Adams

### DOCTOR OF AUDIOLOGY

Genevieve Holl Harris Lisa Wynn Pool

### DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

Stephanie Miller Cortes Hea Lyoung Lee Lisandra De La Caridad Vidal

Nicole Klesmit Karcinski Sandra Ivette Pryor John J. Way

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Stephanie L. Daniels Kathryn Elizabeth Gibson Alexis Pineda

DOCTOR OF PLANT MEDICINE

John C. Bonkowski Christopher Garrett Ferguson

# **Professional Degrees**

# Fredric G. Levin College of Law

#### PRESENTED AT A SEPARATE CEREMONY

DEAN Laura A. Rosenbury

**JURIS DOCTOR** 

Matthew Paul Michel Gregory Gene Toth

Thomas J. Heard

Yi Huang

## COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

#### PRESENTED AT A SEPARATE CEREMONY

**DEAN** Julie A. Johnson

### DOCTOR OF PHARMACY

Syed Nadeem Ahmad Kristen Suzanne Anderson Kevin Bailey Maria L. Bottorff

Faithe Maria Braznell Susan Alice Bryarly Patricia L. Cannon Kayla Castonguay John G. Daum Jr Deborah Kay Dowell Sara T. Elbadawi Christa Eve Geduldig Ivan Everette Griggs Heba S. Ismaeil
Sosan Shirin John
Leena E. Jose
George E. Jossell
Christina Coleman Kim
Susan Virginia Koontz
Sandeep Kushan
Elizabeth F. Marcinko
Eileen Marie McFarlane

Khanh-Hau Thi Moss Mohammad Mohammad Zaki Nazzal Diep Nguyen

Christopher James Oliveiro

Kavita Parihar

Vikas Parihar Esther H. Park Anthony Perez Jhansirani Poreddy Yinghui Amy Pu Meaghan Beatrice Reabur

Meaghan Beatrice Reaburn
Daniel J. Reich
Kyli Laren Roberts
Laura A. Schultz
Sunil Motilal Sonawane
Jeannene Strianse
Eva Jo Surunis
Catherine Dulcis Tallman

Catherine Dulcis Tallr Vasavi T. Thomas Gretel Uys

Ramy Habib



# 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. 14 in U.S. News & World Report "Top Public Universities" (2016); No. 2 in the Fiske Guide to Colleges' list of Best Buys Among Publics (2016); No. 14 on the Forbes' list of Best Public Universities (2015); and No. 7 on Washington Monthly magazine's list of national universities that offer the best bang for the buck (2014).

### **Faculty**

- UF has nearly 5,000 faculty members with distinguished records in teaching, research and service, including 36 Eminent Scholar chairs and 44 faculty elections to the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, the Institute of Medicine or the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.
- Awards include two Pulitzer Prizes, NASA's top award for research, and the Smithsonian Institution's conservation award.

#### Students

- Ninety-seven percent of incoming freshmen score above the national average (1500/21) on standardized exams. Students applying for the fall 2016 freshman class had an average 4.3 GPA and an average SAT score of 1919.
- More than 1,285 International Baccalaureate students were enrolled in UF in March 2016. The freshman retention rate of 96 percent is among the highest in the country.
- Among AAU public universities, UF ranked first in master's degrees and second in bachelor's degrees awarded to Hispanic students in 2014.
- Sixty-seven percent of UF full-time freshmen graduate in four years, and 87 percent of UF freshmen graduate within six years (2008 cohort).
- Fifty-six percent of UF graduates start and graduate the university with no student-loan debt. For the remaining students, their average indebtedness is about \$21,028, as compared with the national average of over \$28,000 (2014-15).





## 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** 

# Caps and Gowns, An Explanation

The academic costume worn by graduating students and faculty at today's commencement ceremonies 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.

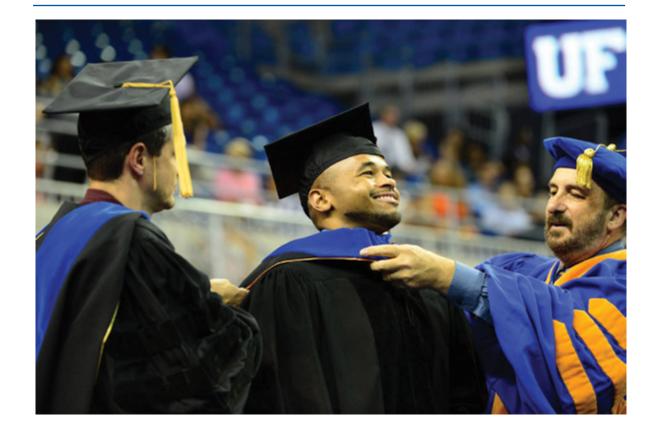
The velvet edging on the academic hood is the color that represents the particular degree held by the wearer. Agricultural and Life Sciences and Forest Resources and Conservation share maize edging; Design, Construction and Planning and Building Construction are blue violet; Audiology degrees have colonial 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 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 doctoral costume also has velvet running on the rest of the gown, including cross bars on the sleeve. Colored tassels on the degree candidates' caps indicate a candidate's school or college.





#### 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