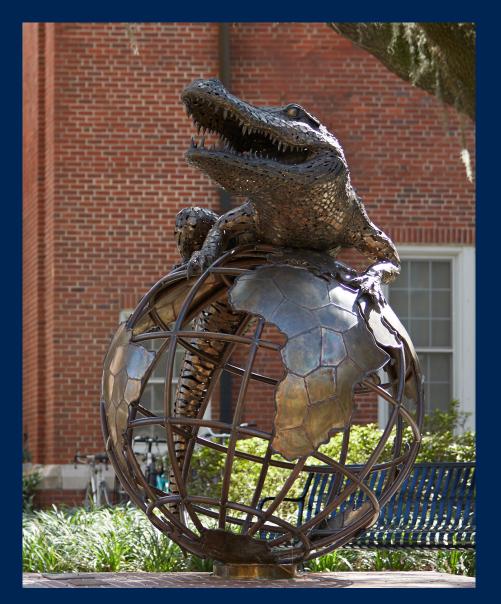
FALL 2024 Commencement



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 2024.

Today's ceremony celebrates your remarkable accomplishment in earning a doctoral degree from one of the nation's very best public research universities. I applaud you for your years dedicated to rigorous scholarship, thoughtful analysis and thorough presentation of your findings. I join you in thanking your faculty advisors, mentors and the family and friends who have supported you.

Today is a day for celebration, and 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, analysis skills and resilience you honed as a doctoral student will serve you well. The complex demands and expectations for today's academic and professional leadership opportunities demand nothing less.



The university has benefited from your research, teaching, insights and discoveries, and we are grateful for your time here. We hope that you will look back on this period with fondness and appreciation, and that you will remain connected to UF as active members of our distinguished alumni.

Best wishes and Go Gators!

Kal

University of Florida President

Dr. W. Kent Fuchs

Dr. Kent Fuchs began serving as Interim President of the University of Florida August 1. A professor in the UF Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, he was the university's 12th president from 2015 to 2023.

Dr. Fuchs led UF into the ranks of the nation's best public universities during his tenure, with the university's stature increasing more than any other research university in the nation. Among other advancements, UF topped \$1 billion in annual research, surpassed \$4.6 billon in philanthropy, and created and filled more than 600 new faculty positions, establishing national prominence in artificial intelligence and other areas of strategic importance.

Previous to the UF presidency, Dr. Fuchs was provost of Cornell University. He also served in academic leadership positions and as a faculty member of electrical and computer engineering at Cornell, Purdue and the University of Illinois.

He has been elected fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Association for 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.

He earned his doctorate in electrical and computer engineering from the University of Illinois, and a Master of Divinity from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. He also holds a Bachelor of Science in Engineering from Duke University.



University of Florida Leadership

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David L. Brandon

Charles H. Lydecker

Jack Hitchcock

Ken Jones

Craig Mateer

Jose Oliva

Eric Silagy

Aubrey Edge

Patricia Frost

University Administration

W. Kent Fuchs. Ph.D. Interim President Joseph Glover, Ph.D. Interim Provost and Senior Vice President - Academic Affairs

J. Scott Angle, Ph.D. Interim Senior Vice President - Agriculture and Natural Resources

Melissa Curry, M.Ed. Vice President - Human Resources

Kurt Dudas. J.D. Vice President - Jacksonville Initiative

Elias G. Eldayrie, M.B.A. Vice President and Chief Information Officer -Information Technology

Ryan Fuller, J.D. Interim Vice President - General Counsel

Taylor Jantz, M.Ed. Chief Financial Officer Mark E. Kaplan, J.D.

Vice President - Government and Community Relations

James "Jim" Kelly, M.S. Interim Chief Executive Officer - UF Health Shands Hospital

David Kratzer. M.S. Senior Vice President - Construction, Facilities, and Auxiliary Operations

Maria Gutierrez Martin, B.A. Interim Vice President - Advancement

Stephen J. Motew, M.D., M.H.A., F.A.C.S. President and Chief Executive Officer - UF Health

David Norton, Ph.D. Vice President - Research

Mary G. Parker. Ed.D. Vice President and Chief Enrollment Strategist

Brandi Renton, M.B.A. Interim Vice President - Business Affairs Jim Staten, B.S.

Senior Advisor to the President Scott Stricklin, B.S.

Director - Athletics

James Wegmann, B.A. Vice President - Communications Heather White, Ph.D. Vice President - Student Life

Hubert Brown, M.A.

College of Journalism and Communications Merritt McAlister, J.D. Interim, Fredric G. Levin College of Law

Mary Watt, Ph.D., J.D. Interim, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Jennifer Hunt, M.D., M.Ed. Interim, College of Medicine

Shakira Henderson, Ph.D., D.N.P., M.S., M.P.H., E.M.B.A. College of Nursing

Peter Swaan, Ph.D., M.Pharm. College of Pharmacy

Beth A. Virnig, Ph.D., M.P.H. College of Public Health and Health Professions

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

Judith C. Russell, M.S. **University Libraries**

Christopher Summerlin. Ph.D. Dean of Students

2024 FALL COMMENCEMENT

Morteza "Mori" Hosseini Chair

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Deans of the University

R. Elaine Turner, Ph.D. College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Jennifer Setlow, M.F.A.

Interim, College of the Arts Sabyasachi Mitra, 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

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

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

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

Marta L. Wavne, Ph.D. International Center

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COMMENCEMENT AGENDA - FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2:00 P.M.

Presiding	W. Kent Fuchs
1 iosianiy	Interim President
Processional	UF Commencement Band
National Anthem	Allison Reade
	Vocalist
	UF Commencement Band
	or commencement band
Welcome	W. Kent Fuchs
Welcome	W. Keller della
Introductions	Joseph Glover
	Interim Provost and Senior Vice
	President for Academic Affairs
	Fresheneror Academic Analis
Commencement Address	Rob Ferl
commencement Address	Distinguished Professor,
	Inaugural Director of the Astraeus
	Space Institute and Assistant Vice
	•
	President for UF Research
	Anna-Lisa Paul
	Professor, Director UF Interdisciplinary
	Center for Biotechnology Research
	Center for Biotechnology Research
Presenting Candidates for Degrees	Joseph Glover
Presenting Candidates for Degrees	Soseph Glover
Conferring of Degrees	Sarah D. Lynne
	Member, UF Board of Trustees
	Member, or board of musices
Recognition of Graduates	
Closing Remarks	W. Kent Fuchs
<u> </u>	
Alma Mater	Allison Reade
	UF Commencement Band
Recessional	"I Won't Back Down"© 1989

Written by Tom Petty and Jeff Lynne

Performed by Tom Petty Album: Full Moon Fever



Anna-Lisa Paul, Ph.D.

Professor Director of UF's Interdisciplinary Center for Biotechnology Research

Often working in partnership with her UF colleague, Dr. Rob Ferl, Anna-Lisa Paul has launched 12 orbital experiments to study how plants respond to the spaceflight environment.

She has taken her science to the extreme terrestrial environments of the Arctic and Antarctica as planetary analogs, and worked with lunar dust retrieved during the Apollo era, to evaluate plant molecular responses to that novel environment. Working with Ferl, she uses suborbital launch vehicles to explore the effect of the transition to space on the molecular processes of plants.

She has been active in the spaceflight research community for over 25 years and has served as the President of the American Society for Gravitational and Space Research, as a member of the ISS Standing Review Board, on NASA's GeneLab Science Council, and on the Suborbital Applications Research Group advisory board for the Commercial Spaceflight Federation. She serves on the National Academies of Science Engineering and Medicine Committee on Biological and Physical Sciences in Space, and as Co-Chair for a NASEM Panel on A Science Strategy for the Human Exploration of Mars.

Paul is a recipient of the NASA Medal of Honor for Exceptional Scientific Achievement. She is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a Fellow of the American Society for Gravitational and Space Research.

Paul believes that humans are explorers—and when we leave Earth's orbit, plants will help us make the journey.

Rob Ferl, Ph.D.

Distinguished Professor Inaugural Director of UF's Astraeus Space Institute and Assistant VP for UF Research

Rob Ferl studies gene expression in response to environmental change. For the last 20 years, he has focused on gene expression in space, often in collaboration with his UF colleague, Dr. Anna-Lisa Paul.

Ferl co-chaired the steering committee for the current Decadal Survey of Biological and Physical Sciences



Research in Space for the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine and is a past president of the American Society for Gravitational and Space Research.

Among his honors are the NASA Medal of Honor for Exceptional Scientific Achievement, the NASA Medal of Honor for Exceptional Public Service, and the AIAA Jeffries Aerospace Medicine and Life Sciences Research Award.

While a dedicated lab geek, he enjoys and advocates for the field experiential side of science.

He, Paul, and other collaborators have flown with their experiments on many research aircraft to study aspects of the microgravity environment and to develop hardware for understanding biological effects of spaceflight. They have worked with NASA astronauts to conduct experiments on the Space Shuttle and the International Space Station, that have shown that plants turn certain genes on and off in response to living in space.

He and Paul were the first to prove that plants could grow in lunar dust collected during the Apollo missions.

In August 2024, Ferl became the first NASA-funded academic researcher to conduct an experiment as part of a commercial space crew on a mission of Blue Origin's New Shepard rocket.



GRADUATE SCHOOL

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

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Brian Abramowitz

Major: Curriculum and Instruction—Educational Technology Dissertation: Using Shark Teeth to Teach AI: Exploring Science Teachers' AI Technological Pedagogical Content Knowledge through Sense of Community Dissertation Chair: Pavlo D. Antonenko

Livingstone Aduse-Poku

Major: Epidemiology—Cancer Epidemiology Dissertation: Magnetic Resonance Image-Derived Body Composition, Endogenous Hormones, and Systemic Inflammation in Relation to Breast Cancer Dissertation Chair: Dejana Braithwaite

Damilola Ajayi

Major: Agricultural Education and Communication Dissertation: Evaluation of Sustainable Management Practices for Spotted Wing Drosophila among Cherry and Berry Growers in the United States Dissertation Chair: Kathleen D. Kelsey Dissertation Co-chair: Sebastian Galindo

Neus Alcón Bou

Major: Horticultural Sciences—Horticultural Sciences Dissertation: Addressing Salinity Challenges in Humid Climates: Management Strategies for Citrus Production in Coastal Areas of Florida Dissertation Chair: Lorenzo Rossi Dissertation Co-chair: Sandra M. Guzman

Jessica Lee Aldrich

Major: Biomedical Engineering Dissertation: Evaluating the Efficacy of Targeted Manganese Dioxide Nanoparticles in the Prevention of Post-Traumatic Osteoarthritis Dissertation Chair: Blanka Sharma Dissertation Co-chair: Kyle D. Allen

Belay Worku Alem

Major: Anthropology Dissertation: Heirs' Property in African American Communities in Alachua County, Florida: Inheritance, Kinship, Taxation and Dispossession Dissertation Chair: Brenda Helene Chalfin

Rasheed Abdulaziz Almawzan

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: A Layered IP Protection Framework for Integrated Circuits Dissertation Chair: Swarup Bhunia

Abdulmajeed Qasem S. Alqasem

Major: Mathematics Dissertation: Small Deviation Inequalities for Discrete Log-Concave Distributions Dissertation Chair: Arnaud Marsiglietti

Johann Sebastian Alvarez

Major: Physics Dissertation: Interlayer Interactions in 2D TMD/Iron(II)-SCO Heterostructures and Optimization of SWCNT Thin Film Processing for OLED Applications Dissertation Chair: Xiao-Xiao Zhang

Jeremy Joel Anderson

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: A Long-Term Average Cepstral Enhancement Technique to Improve Single Microphone Automatic Speech Recognition Dissertation Chair: John Gregory Harris

Marliz Arteaga Gómez-García

Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology—Tropical Conservation and Development Dissertation: Multilevel Environmental Governance in the Amazon: The Case of Madera Hydroelectric Dam Complex Bolivia and Brazil Dissertation Chair: Stephen George Perz

Meysam Asghari

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: Hardware Security and High-Frequency Wireless Communication Dissertation Chair: Yong-Kyu Yoon Dissertation Co-chair: Nima Maghari

Prakhin Assavapanuvat

Major: Geology

Dissertation: Mangrove Encroachment of Salt Marshes in Apalachicola Estuary: Impacts on Organic Carbon Burial Dissertation Chair: Thomas S. Bianchi

Julia Farrell Aukerman

Major: Psychology Dissertation: Gazing into Development: Examining Parent-Infant Joint Attention Behaviors during Shared Book Reading Dissertation Chair: Lisa S. Scott

Morgan Alexandria Averette

Major: Sociology Dissertation: Playing Outside the Binary: Trans and Non-Binary Experiences in Sports Dissertation Chair: Rebecca Annice Hanson Dissertation Co-chair: Kendal L. Broad

Chen Bai

Major: Medical Sciences—Biomedical Informatics Dissertation: AI-Based Preoperative Frailty Index Using Real-World Data Dissertation Chair: Mamoun T. Mardini

Yang Bai

Major: Computer Science Dissertation: Machine Learning-Based Information Retrieval for Large-Scale Natural Language Processing Dissertation Chair: Zhe Wang Dissertation Co-chair: Christian Grant

Walter Sebastian Barrutia Alta

Major: *Biomedical Engineering* Dissertation: Development, Validation, and Testing of a 3D-Printed Knee Exoskeleton to Assist and Enhance Human Gait Dissertation Chair: Daniel Perry Ferris

Emily Rachel Bartz

Major: Anthropology Dissertation: Foodways of the Late Archaic Middle Savannah River Valley Dissertation Chair: Kenneth Edward Sassaman Jr. Dissertation Co-chair: Katherine M. Grillo

Brandon Scott Battas

Major: Materials Science and Engineering Dissertation: Investigating Irradiation-Enhanced Densification in UO₂ through Mesoscale and Macroscale Modeling Dissertation Chair: Michael Tonks

Amely Bauer

Major: Entomology and Nematology Dissertation: Predicting Mosquito Community Vector Potential across Anthropogenic Landscapes Dissertation Chair: Lindsay P. Campbell

Matthew Paul Beke

Major: Nutritional Sciences Dissertation: The Effect of Psyllium and Wheat Bran on Body Weight in People with Parkinson's Disease and Constipation Symptoms: A Randomized, Controlled Trial Dissertation Chair: Bobbi Langkamp-Henken

Subhadeep Bera

Major: Chemistry Dissertation: Synthesis and Reactivity of [3:1] Site-Differentiated Iron Sulfur Cluster Dissertation Chair: Leslie Justin Murray

Kevin Redhawk Bitsie

Major: Epidemiology Dissertation: Self-Reported Racial or Ethnic Discrimination in Patient-Provider Interactions, Adjuvant Therapies, and Breast Cancer Outcomes Dissertation Chair: Thomas A. Pearson Dissertation Co-chair: Ting-Yuan David Cheng

Parker Thomas Boeck

Major: Chemistry Dissertation: The Synthesis of Cyclic, Degradable, and Recyclable Polymers Dissertation Chair: Adam Steven Veige

Robinson Botero-Arias

Major: Wildlife Ecology and Conservation—Geographic Information Systems Dissertation: Population Trends and Dynamics, Reproductive Ecology, and Management of Black Caiman (Melanosuchus niger) in the Middle Solimões River, Mamiraua Reserve, Brazil Dissertation Chair: Bette Loiselle Dissertation Co-chair: John G. Blake

Pratush Brahma

Major: Zoology—Animal Molecular and Cellular Biology Dissertation: Understanding Evolution of Animal Behavior through the Lens of Sexual Selection and Sensory Adaptations Dissertation Chair: Colette Marie St. Mary

Kvnfvske Yvholv Marcus A. Briggs-Cloud

Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology—Anthropology Dissertation: Hopuetak-Cakaksekat Pum Oponvkv Pun Fulletv Svpeyepetayat Vrahkv: (So That Unborn Generations May Carry on Our Language and Culture) A Maskoke Holistic Decolonization and Reindigenization Paradigm Shift at the Intersections of Ecology, Linguistics, Genetics, Ecofeminism and Liberation Theology Dissertation Chair: Mark Brenner Dissertation Co-chair: Kenneth Edward Sassaman Jr.

Katie Ellen Bristol

Major: Geology

Dissertation: Earth's Evolution from Core to Atmosphere: Paleomagnetic and Geochronologic Insights from the Indian Subcontinent

Dissertation Chair: Courtney Jean Sprain

Amanda Delia Brock

Major: Anthropology Dissertation: Making Monumental Places in Dynamic Landscapes: A Case in the Callejón de Huaylas, Peru Dissertation Chair: Daniel A. Contreras

Andrea Nicole Brockmann

Major: Psychology—Clinical and Health Psychology Dissertation: Temporal Patterns of Dietary Self-Monitoring in Adults with Obesity Enrolled in a Behavioral Weight Management Program Dissertation Chair: Kathryn Marie Ross

Hailey B. Brown

Major: Counseling and Counselor Education—Mental Health Counseling Dissertation: "I Got Boundaries, Boy!": A Narrative Inquiry Study Exploring Counselors' Perceptions of Equine-Assisted Counseling on Racial Trauma with BIPOC Adolescents Dissertation Chair: Sondra Lori Smith

Hussah M. Bubshait

Major: Nursing Sciences

Dissertation: Association between Skin-To-Skin Care, Mood, and Lactation in Mothers of Very Low Birth Weight Infants Dissertation Chair: Leslie Ann Parker

Nicolas Caram Fernandez Villanueva

 Major: Agronomy—Global Systems Agroecology
Dissertation: Outcomes and Underlying Mechanisms of Grassland Responses to Legume Introduction and Manipulation of Defoliation Intensity
Dissertation Chair: Lynn E. Sollenberger
Dissertation Co-chair: Marcelo Wallau

Joe Barrett Carter III

Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering—Hydrologic Sciences Dissertation: Performance Evaluation of a Multi-Parameter Spectroscopy-Based Water Quality Analysis System Dissertation Chair: Eban Zachary Bean

Cody Lee Case

Major: Music—Music History and Literature Dissertation: Drumming in the Breaks of Blocos Afro: Ancestrality and Black Resistance in Salvador, Brazil Dissertation Chair: Silvio dos Santos

Adams Enrique Ceballos-Concha

Major: Food and Resource Economics Dissertation: Coupled Human-Natural Systems: Economic and Ecological Interactions in Fisheries and Aquaculture Dissertation Chair: Andrew Ropicki Dissertation Co-chair: Frank Asche

Anik Chattopadhyay

Major: Computer Science Dissertation: Signal Coding and Reconstruction Using Biologically Plausible Spiking Neurons Dissertation Chair: Arunava Banerjee

Atul Chaudhary

Major: Chemistry Dissertation: Metal Carbonyl Olefin Precursors for Focused Electron Beam-Induced Deposition Dissertation Chair: Lisa McElwee-White

Yingjie Chen

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: Dynamic Chopping Techniques for Sensor Applications Dissertation Chair: Nima Maghari

Yunxia Chen

Major: Mechanical Engineering Dissertation: Fabrication of Sensor-Embedded Brain Simulant for Evaluation of Impact-Induced Mild Traumatic Brain Injury Dissertation Chair: Yong Huang



An-Chi Cheng

Major: Veterinary Medical Sciences Dissertation: Emerging Pathogens in Farmed White-Tailed Deer (Odocoileus virginianus) in Florida Dissertation Chair: Juan Manuel Campos Krauer

Porshè LaChelle Chiles-McKay

Major: Agricultural Education and Communication Dissertation: A B.U.G.s Life: Exploring the Intersections of Leadership, Identity, and Culture among Black Urban Growers through Endarkened Narrative Inquiry Dissertation Chair: Laura Greenhaw

Steven Jerome Chisolm

Major: Mechanical Engineering Dissertation: In vitro Epithelial Mechanics: Collective Motion, Contact Mechanics and Cell-Cell Cohesiveness Dissertation Chair: Thomas Ettor Angelini

Dain Chun

Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences—Pharmaceutics Dissertation: Application of Model-Informed Drug Development (MIDD) to Assist Answering Complex Drug Problems Using Population Approach Dissertation Chair: Valvanera Vozmediano Esteban Dissertation Co-chair: Natália Valadares de Moraes

R. Khari Clemmons

Major: Linguistics Dissertation: Naming Our Lives and Living Our Names: A Narrative Analysis of the Coming into Being of Africans Who Became Americans Dissertation Chair: Paula Golombek

Catherine Faye Coe

Major: Curriculum and Instruction—Educational Technology Dissertation: Examining the Effects of Student Engagement and Social Influence on Students' Acceptance of a Mobile Application with Confirmatory Factor Analysis and Path Analysis Dissertation Chair: Albert D. Ritzhaupt

Natalie Colosimo

Major: Curriculum and Instruction—Languages and Literacies in Education Dissertation: Building Sociocultural Awareness and Uplifting Diverse Perspectives by Utilizing Contemplative Practices to Support Critical Literacy in an 8th Grade ELA Classroom: A Narrative Case Study Dissertation Chair: Zhihui Fang

Michelle Lynn Commeret

Major: Curriculum and Instruction Dissertation: Developing Identity Literacy through Photovoice: Snapshots of Curriculum and Learning in English Language Arts Dissertation Chair: Zhihui Fang Dissertation Co-chair: Taryrn Brown

Derrick Robert Conover

Major: Entomology and Nematology Dissertation: Sustainable and Integrated Pest Management of Ambrosia Beetles Vectoring the Laurel Wilt Pathogen Dissertation Chair: Xavier Martini

Virnaliz Cruz Hernandez

Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology—Statistics Dissertation: Integrating Data Science for Disease Prediction, Clustering, and Expanding Access in Internet-Limited Settings Dissertation Chair: Miguel A. Acevedo Dissertation Co-chair: Ethan P. White

Vahid Daneshmand

Major: *Electrical and Computer Engineering* Dissertation: Cost- and Performance-Aware Multi-Criteria Link Management in P2P Edge-to-Cloud Overlay Virtual Networks and Its Application in Ecological Forecasting Dissertation Chair: Renato Jansen Figueiredo

Linda Chi Dao

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

Olumide Samuel Daramola

Major: Agronomy Dissertation: Evaluating Cultural Practices and Herbicide Programs for Integrated Weed Management in Peanut (Arachis hypogaea L.) Dissertation Chair: Gregory E. MacDonald

Bishwaprava Das

Major: Chemistry Dissertation: Design and Synthesis of Ru and Mn Organometallic Precursors for Selective Thin Films Deposition via Photoassisted Chemical Vapor Deposition Dissertation Chair: Lisa McElwee-White

Anna Leigh DeVries

Major: Medical Sciences—Cancer Biology Dissertation: Unraveling the Cross-Talk Mechanisms between Innate and Adaptive Immunity following Systemic mRNA Vaccination Dissertation Chair: Elias Sayour

Antonio Luis Diaz

Major: Aerospace Engineering Dissertation: The Bathy-Drone: An Autonomous Uncrewed Drone-Tethered Sonar System Dissertation Chair: Peter G. Ifju

Ziqin Ding

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: Studies of Lightning Processes Based on Optical (Including IR and UV) Observations Coordinated with Radio-Frequency Field Measurements Dissertation Chair: Vladimir A. Rakov

Nickolas Giovanni Diodati

Major: Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology Dissertation: Ex vivo Lung Microexplant Models of Human Pulmonary Disease Dissertation Chair: Matthew A. Schaller

Ran Dou

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: A Recurrent Dual-Stream External Memory Architecture Dissertation Chair: José C. Príncipe

William Grady Dyer

Major: Linguistics Dissertation: The Syntax of Relative Clauses in Sereer Dissertation Chair: Fiona McLaughlin Dissertation Co-chair: Eric Potsdam

Beatriz Helena E. Silva Veronese

Major: Medical Sciences—Cancer Biology Dissertation: ORF48 is Required for Optimal Lytic Replication of Kaposi's Sarcoma-Associated Herpesvirus Dissertation Chair: Zhe Ma

Andrew Ogolla Egesa

Major: Horticultural Sciences—Environmental Horticulture Dissertation: Genetic and Molecular Physiology of Adaptation in a Domesticated and a Wild Plant Species Dissertation Chair: Kevin Begcy

Mina Elhamiasl

Major: Psychology Dissertation: Development of Peak Frequency and Desynchronization of the Dominant Rhythm, and Brain Connectivity during Attentional Processing in Infants Dissertation Chair: Lisa S. Scott

Garrett Lee Ellward

Major: Microbiology and Cell Science Dissertation: Going Viral: Overcoming Antimicrobial Resistance via Bacteriophage Therapy and Educational Awareness Dissertation Chair: Daniel M. Czyż

Yuley Encarnacion Pineyro

Major: Botany—Tropical Conservation and Development Dissertation: Systematic Studies of Pereskia s.l. (Cactaceae) and a Treatment for the Cactus Family in Hispaniola Dissertation Chair: Lucas C. Majure Dissertation Co-chair: Gordon Burleigh

Analis Eolyn Evans

Major: Physics Dissertation: Building IllustrisTNG Black Hole Seeding Models to Analyze Seeding Conditions and Make Population Predictions Dissertation Chair: Laura Blecha

Romain Exilien

Major: Entomology and Nematology Dissertation: Eco-Management of Asian Citrus Psyllid, Diaphorina citri Kuwayama, in North Florida Dissertation Chair: Xavier Martini

Sonia Sochima Ezenwajiaku

Major: Materials Science and Engineering Dissertation: Design and Evaluation of Duplex Phase Magnesium-Lithium-Zinc-Calcium Alloys for Biodegradable Implant Application Dissertation Chair: Michele V. Manuel

Matthew Donovan Faiello

Major: Research and Evaluation Methodology Dissertation: A Comparison of Attributional Differential Item Functioning Methods Dissertation Chair: David Miller

Noah David Ferson

Major: Materials Science and Engineering Dissertation: Synthesis and Characterization of Core-Shell Magnetoelectric Nanowires—Nanoscale Agents for Neural Stimulation and Emerging Electromagnetic Devices Dissertation Chair: Jennifer Andrew

Adania Flemming

Major: *Zoology* Dissertation: A Black Female Ichthyologist Use of Natural History Research Collections as a Resource to Broaden Diversity in STEM through Undergraduate Education Dissertation Chair: David C. Blackburn Dissertation Co-chair: Rose Pringle

Justin Ray Folden

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: Foveated Depth Sensing Dissertation Chair: Sanjeev Jagannatha Koppal

Eric Carlos Fonseca

Major: Materials Science and Engineering Dissertation: Solvation in Atomic Systems: Making Predictions That "Matter" Dissertation Chair: Richard G. Hennig

Matthew Frain

Major: Medical Sciences—Medical Physics and Clinical and Translational Science Dissertation: Development of a Pre-Clinical Theranostic Nanoparticle-Based Laser Interstitial Thermotherapy (LITT) Platform Dissertation Chair: Frank J. Bova Dissertation Co-chair: Manuel Muñoz Arreola

Graham Patrick Gallagher

Major: Political Science Dissertation: The Archetypes of Reaction: An Approach to Reaction as Shared Mythopoetic Narrative Dissertation Chair: Leslie Paul Thiele Dissertation Co-chair: Michael Bernhard

Anghelo Josh Gangano

Major: Chemistry Dissertation: Axial Chirality Dissertation Chair: Alexander J. Grenning

Fan Gao

Major: Chemical Engineering Dissertation: Simple and Scalable Particle Fabrication Based on Material Self-Assembly Dissertation Chair: Peng Jiang

Minyan Gao

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: CAD Solutions to Protect Integrated Circuits against Invasive Attacks Dissertation Chair: Domenic J. Forte

Manuel Gastelbondo

Major: Plant Breeding Dissertation: Modern Tools for High Vanillin Content Vanilla Breeding Dissertation Chair: Xingbo Wu

Daniel George

Major: Physics Dissertation: Examining the Impact of Tilt-to-Length Noise on the LISA Mission Dissertation Chair: Guido Müeller Dissertation Co-chair: Paul Fulda

Sourath Tarun Ghosh

Major: Physics

Dissertation: Estimating the Arm Locking Noise Performance and the Feasibility of Detecting the Gravitational Memory Effect with the New LISA Design Dissertation Chair: Guido Müeller Dissertation Co-chair: Paul Fulda

Jason Blake Gibson

Major: Materials Science and Engineering Dissertation: AI Accelerated Material Discovery Dissertation Chair: Richard G. Hennig

Denis Gitonga

Major: Entomology and Nematology Dissertation: Dual Frontiers: Nematode Problems in Organic Vegetables and Tropical Fruit and Their Biorational Control Strategies Dissertation Chair: Abolfazl Hajihassani

Hayden Joseph Good

Major: Chemical Engineering Dissertation: Probing the Influence of Volume on Magnetic Particle Imaging Signal Distribution and Quantification Accuracy Dissertation Chair: Carlos M. Rinaldi-Ramos

Niloofar Gopal Pour

Major: Chemistry Dissertation: Investigating the Human GPCRs' Interactions with G-Protein and Allosteric Modulators from a Structural Perspective Dissertation Chair: Matthew T. Eddy

Gözde Gülseren

Major: Food Science Dissertation: Edible Mycelia: A Novel Biofortification Vehicle Addressing Iron Deficiency Dissertation Chair: Juan Emilio Andrade

Yanbo Guo

Major: Physics

Dissertation: Thermodynamics, Magnetism, and Phase Transitions of Low-Dimensional Quantum Magnets Dissertation Chair: Yasumasa Takano

Lukas Mackenzie Hallman

Major: Horticultural Sciences—Horticultural Sciences Dissertation: Nutrient Management Strategies for Citrus Production in the Age of Citrus Greening: Evaluating the Role of Cover Crops on Soil Fertility and Tree Growth in Southeast Florida Dissertation Chair: Lorenzo Rossi

Chelsea Nicole Hampton

Major: Mass Communication

Dissertation: A Qualitative Investigation of Nurses' Quitting Stories on YouTube and Their Motivations for Sharing Dissertation Chair: Jieun Shin

Ira Baxter Harmon

Major: Computer Science Dissertation: Combining Symbolic Knowledge and Neural Models in Tree Identification Using Remote Sensing Data Dissertation Chair: Zhe Wang

Kelly Lynn Healy Padilla

Major: Medical Sciences—Molecular Cell Biology Dissertation: Molecular Mechanisms of Circadian Regulation: Helical Motifs in the C-Terminal Domains of BMAL1 and CLOCK Dissertation Chair: Andrew Chuanyin Liu

Faith Anne Newsome Heeren

Major: Medical Sciences—Health Outcomes and Implementation Science Dissertation: Utilizing Community-Engaged Research Methodology to Identify Pre-Operative Educational Needs among Adolescents Undergoing Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Dissertation Chair: Michelle I. Cardel

Kodiak Christopher Hengstebeck

Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology—Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Dissertation: Multifarious Impacts of Animal Invasions Dissertation Chair: Christina M. Romagosa



Jennifer Breanne Hooks

Major: Agricultural Education and Communication Dissertation: Black Women's Experiences and Communities in Two-Year Institutions Dissertation Chair: Sarah A. Bush

Alwin Hopf

Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering Dissertation: Participatory Development of a Decision Support System for Industrial Hemp Production in Florida Dissertation Chair: Gerrit Hoogenboom Dissertation Co-chair: Jonathan A. Watson

Rachel Dorothy Howard

Major: Soil, Water, and Ecosystem Sciences Dissertation: Exploring the Impact of Hypoxia on Taxonomic Diversity and Functional Dynamics in Coral Microbiomes Dissertation Chair: Julie Meyer

Nien-Wen Hu

Major: Biomedical Engineering Dissertation: Discover Microvascular Dynamics during Angiogenesis and Vasculogenesis Using Computational and Experimental Models Dissertation Chair: Walter Lee Murfee III

Nan Hua

Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences—Pharmacodynamics Dissertation: Discovery and Optimization of First-in-Class Molecular Glue for SETDB1 to Enhance Cancer Immunotherapy Dissertation Chair: Weizhou Zhang

Owen Huw Hudson

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Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: Highly Energy Efficient Silicon Based Broadband Infrared Light-Emitting Microplatform Using Phononically Enhanced Nanowires Dissertation Chair: Yong-Kyu Yoon

Larissa lapicca

Major: Nursing Sciences Dissertation: Lactation Outcomes among Mothers of Infants with Congenital Heart Disease Dissertation Chair: Leslie Ann Parker

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Major: Mathematics Dissertation: An Analysis of the Use of Integral Operators and Spectral Metric Theory in Certain Applications Dissertation Chair: James Pascoe

Janna Elizabeth Jernigan

Major: Medical Sciences—Neuroscience Dissertation: RGS10 Attenuates Systemic Immune Dysregulation Induced by Chronic Inflammatory Stress Dissertation Chair: Malú Gámez Tansey

Ziqi Jia

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering Dissertation: MRI Compatible Multifunctional Neural Probe Dissertation Chair: Yong-Kyu Yoon

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Major: Mathematics Dissertation: Some New Results on Sums of the Möbius Function in Number Theory Dissertation Chair: Krishnaswami Alladi

Thomas Donald Johnson

Major: English

Dissertation: Quality, Prestige, and Batshit TV: The Fantastic and Marvelous in American Television, 1990–2019 Dissertation Chair: Phillip E. Wegner

Antonio Diego Alejandro Juárez-Sánchez

Major: Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Dissertation: A Non-Native Consumer and Its Interactions with Native Predators: The South American Armored Catfish (*Pterygoplichthys* sp.) in Northern Guatemala Dissertation Chair: Christina M. Romagosa

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Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences—Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy Dissertation: Pregnancy after Cancer: Pregnancy Rates, Healthcare Related Costs, and Risk of Preterm Birth among Young Cancer Survivors Dissertation Chair: Almut Gertrud Winterstein Dissertation Co-chair: Amie J. Goodin

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Major: *Physics* Dissertation: Critical Kondo Destruction in the Particle-Hole-Asymmetric Bose-Fermi Anderson Model Dissertation Chair: Kevin Ingersent

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Major: Chemistry

Dissertation: Revealing Protein Structure via Gas-Phase Ion Chemistry: Ion/Electron, Ion/Photon, and Ion/Ion Reactions Dissertation Chair: Boone Monroe Prentice

Megan E. Kelly

Major: Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology Dissertation: Tissue Culture and Transformation of Sorghum bicolor Dissertation Chair: Wilfred Vermerris

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Major: Botany Dissertation: Evolutionary Origin and Population Genetics of Guzmania monostachia Dissertation Chair: Nico Cellinese

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Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering Dissertation: A Digital Twin for Crop Production in Space Dissertation Chair: Melanie J. Correll

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Major: Computer Science Dissertation: Compressive Autoencoders: Guaranteeing Reconstruction Error Bounds with Linear/Nonlinear Constraint Satisfaction Dissertation Chair: Anand Rangarajan Dissertation Co-chair: Sanjay Ranka

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Major: *Physics* Dissertation: Hydrogen Debonding in Semiconductors Dissertation Chair: Xiaoguang Zhang

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Major: Chemical Engineering Dissertation: Fabrication and Device Performance of NiO/Ga₂O₃ Heterojunction Power Rectifiers Dissertation Chair: Fan Ren

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Major: Statistics Dissertation: Change Point Detection with the Presence of Missing Values Dissertation Chair: Michael Joseph Daniels Dissertation Co-chair: Abolfazl Safikhani

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Dissertation: Unveiling the Impact of Goal Setting on Self Regulation and Behavioral Functioning of Middle School Students with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders: Insights from Student and Teacher Reports Dissertation Chair: Stephen W. Smith

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Major: Nursing Sciences Dissertation: Investigating the Relationship between Electronic Health Records User Interface Features and Data Quality of Patient Clinical Information Dissertation Chair: Gail Keenan Dissertation Co-chair: Ragnhildur Bjarnadottir

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Major: Food Science Dissertation: Identification and Differentiation of Key Aroma Compounds in Mandarin and Sweet Orange Using Hyperspectral Imaging and Machine Learning Techniques Dissertation Chair: Yu Wang

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Major: *Physics* Dissertation: Search for the Lepton Flavor Violating Neutrinoless Decay of Tau Lepton to Three Muons in Proton-Proton Collisions at LHC Dissertation Chair: Andrey Korytov Dissertation Co-chair: Yuta Takahashi

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Dissertation: More Wheat for the Future: Increasing Grain Yield Potentials by Combining Genomic Selection & Multi-Trait Prediction in Multiple Environments and in Variable Plot Sizes Dissertation Chair: Md Ali Babar

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Jennifer Henderson Clarke

Major: Educational Leadership

Dissertation: Understanding the Experiences of Alternatively Certified Teachers Who Remain in the Teaching Profession **Dissertation Chair: Christopher Redding**

Kelly Jean Diamond

Major: Curriculum and Instruction-Educational Technology Dissertation: The ACRL Framework for Information Literacy and Online Credit Bearing Information Literacy Course Outcomes **Dissertation Chair: Swapna Kumar**

Kassie Rebecca Erenstoft

Major: Educational Leadership Dissertation: The Leadership Fulcrum: How School Principals Foster a Climate of Trust Amidst Times of Turbulence **Dissertation Chair: Walter F. Balser**

Rafael de Jesus Gonzalez

Major: Higher Education Administration Dissertation: The Role of Race and Sexuality in the Experiences of Gay Latino Cisgender Male Graduate Students at a Predominantly White Institution in Florida **Dissertation Chair: Lindsay Byron**

Brittany Dawn Lewis

Major: Higher Education Administration Dissertation: The Explanation of How Alcohol Shapes a College Campus: A Case Study **Dissertation Chair: Lindsay Byron**

Emily Kathleen Long

Major: Higher Education Administration Dissertation: Experiences of Women of Color Attending Predominately White Women's Colleges **Dissertation Chair: Lindsay Byron**

Heather Mullins

Major: Curriculum and Instruction—Educational Technology Dissertation: What Are the U.S. News Representations of the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing in the Context of Educational Communications and Technology Reporting? Dissertation Chair: Pavlo D. Antonenko **Dissertation Co-chair: Maya Israel**

Mariah Margaret Plociniak

Major: Higher Education Administration Dissertation: Campus Culture, Student Substance Use, and the Student-Faculty Relationship: A Qualitative Case Study of Faculty and Student Experiences at a Large Public University **Dissertation Chair: Justin C. Ortagus**

Elizabeth Hughes Register

Major: Curriculum and Instruction—Educational Technology Dissertation: Illustrating Teachers' Perceptions Regarding the Impact of the Noom Mood App on Building Resilience in K-12 Teachers **Dissertation Chair: Kara Dawson**

Temia C. Sibley

Major: Curriculum and Instruction-Teachers, Schools, & Society

Dissertation: Soaring to Our Destiny "Exploring the Evolution of a Community of Practice in Early Childhood Education and Care: A Practitioner Inquiry within a Private Preschool Academy"

Dissertation Chair: Taryrn Brown

DOCTOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Michael John Baker Christopher Edwin Chatwin Scott Frush Benjamin Buxton Morris Tom Jose Mullen Elaine Richards Denis X. Vanegas

DOCTOR OF PLANT MEDICINE

Adam Pitcher

Taylor Elizabeth Smith

PROFESSIONAL DEGREES

THE FREDRIC G. LEVIN COLLEGE OF LAW

Interim Dean Merritt McAlister

JURIS DOCTOR

Danielle Sally Brouillette Chloe A. Denney Gus D. Formato Christopher John Gatzke Mori Zosha Harris

Mark Patrick Kelly Mordechai Tsvi Krasnjanski Cheslee Gail Mathis Matthew J. Robinson Menachem M. Schulgasser

MASTER OF LAWS IN INTERNATIONAL TAXATION

Abdulrahman Saad Bin Zuayr

MASTER OF LAWS IN TAXATION

- Danielle Sally Brouillette Emily Bumbulis Chloe A Denney Gus D. Formato Stephanie Galvis Kaitlin Ann Gibbs Kadeem Hall Mori Zosha Harris
- David Heeren Amy C. Hogue Branch Howard James Kris Ivanov George Alejandro Izquierdo Mordechai Tsvi Krasnjanski Emily J. Lethbridge

Giordi Andre Candia Heredia

Sarah Chana Semnyetzky Angela Marie Silva Melvin D. Stack Jr. Zachary Brandon Torres Jackson Grey Wewers

Christopher John Gatzke

Cheslee Gail Mathis Menachem M. Schulgasser Olivia Simone Sica Angela Marie Silva Katie Michelle Stephens Zachary Brandon Torres Jackson Grey Wewers



THE COLLEGE OF NURSING

Dean Shakira Henderson

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

Kelly Marie Delowery Sandra Maribel Escobar Karla Vaness Ferreira Ana Laura Sánchez Villarreal Cheryl A. Schmidt Kevin Cho Tipton Holly M. Velez Katie Wilczak

THE COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Dean Beth A. Virnig

DOCTOR OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Shahid Adam **Taylor Lynn Allore** Valentina Amaya Monika M. Beard **Daphne Christine Blessing** Karen Kathryne Bruchs Courtney Ashlyn Dougherty Sara Shirley Eisman Haley Elizabeth Esperanza Judelisse Falu-Rosario Gina Elizabeth Froehlich Paige M. Gibson Miranda Elizabeth Glotfelty Lauren Hope Goboff Jessica Goldman Samantha Marie Gommel Miranda Alicia Greene **Cameron Hall**

Gabrielle Nicole Hernani Sophia Marie Edda Hoff Ilana Hollender Britany Shauntay Adonic Jefferson Ashley Taylor Kent Midjina Lebrun **Taylor Paige Lessem** Julia Stephanie Levy **Olivia Anne Long** Janyla Juliana Manley Gianna M. Martello Madilyn Julia Maschhoff Sydney Adele Mason Zachary Phillip Messer Caroline Medley Morgan Bridget Nelson Natasha Isabella Neyra Angel Nguyen

Nhuy Nguyen Amber Rai Nipper Kaitlin Patricia Pelzer **Kendall Ann Phillips** Lily Suzanne Pinkham **Morgan Elizabeth Pleasants** Emma Grace Poole Abbey Lynn Raddi **Clare Loring Redrick** Kaitlyn Rose Schepke Kaitlyn Elizabeth Schorr **Christa Elizabeth Soyars** Tatum Elizabeth Sybert Krista Nicole Strickland Taylor **Genesis Arianna Triplett** Nicole Stephanie Uzieda Madison Anna Sophia Wallace





Chain of Office

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

Academic Mace

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

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





Diplomas



Diplomas will be mailed to the graduates' diploma mailing address in February of 2025.

Caps and Gowns, An Explanation

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

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

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

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

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

