Commencement
Fall 2014
82nd Doctoral Ceremony
In more than a decade as president of the University of Florida, Bernie Machen has grown and enhanced the university while putting it on a path to rise among the best public universities in the nation.

President Machen has expanded UF’s research operation, elevated its educational programs and increased access for students from a diversity of economic backgrounds. He has bolstered the university’s commitment to innovation, grown its endowment, and led a noted universitywide sustainability initiative.

Additionally, in 2013, President Machen launched UF on the nearly $1 billion UF Preeminence Plan to rise among the nation’s top public universities. As part of that plan, the university is hiring an estimated 120 new faculty members, with 40 hires already completed by summer 2014. The new faculty members, most of whom are at the midcareer level, are expected to help advance UF research in 26 areas of promise. The Preeminence Plan is supported by $150 million in combined state-university dollars and an $800-million fundraising campaign.

Milestones of President Machen’s tenure include:
- Growth in annual research funding from $470 million in 2003-04 to $641 million in fiscal year 2013.
- More than 3.1 million square feet in new construction on campus, including more than 628,000 square feet of new research space.
- Completion of UF’s $1.7 billion capital campaign in 2012, at the time the sixth-largest public university campaign in history.
- The Machen Florida Opportunity Scholars program, enabling the enrollment of more than 2,900 first-generation college students, with about 1,500 graduates so far.
- Development of the 40-acre public private partnership known as Innovation Square and the Innovation Hub technology incubator now housing more than two dozen spinoffs.
- Creation of the Bob Graham Center for Public Service, Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center, the UF Water Institute and other key university institutes and centers.

President Machen also significantly strengthened UF’s hospital and health science research operations, bringing together the UF Health Science Center and Shands Hospital under UF Health. He has added several major new medical research and care facilities, including the Biomedical Sciences Building, the Clinical and Translational Research Building and the UF Health Cancer Center. And he launched UF’s first major medical research facility outside Gainesville, the UF Research and Academic Center at Lake Nona’s Medical City near Orlando.

His educational enhancements include the spring-summer Innovation Academy for entrepreneurially-minded undergraduates; “What is The Good Life?”, the first of an anticipated four core classes forming a signature undergraduate curriculum; and the launch and growth of UF Online, one of the first programs in the nation to offer four-year fully online undergraduate degrees.

Prior to his arrival at UF, President Machen served for six years as president of the University of Utah, where he is credited with expanding the university’s health sciences program, stabilizing the university’s finances and bolstering diversity.

From 1995 to 1997, he was provost and executive vice president for academic affairs at the University of Michigan, and from 1989 until 1995, he served as dean of Michigan’s School of Dentistry. From 1983 to 1989, he was professor and associate dean at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill’s School of Dentistry.

President Machen is a past president of the American Association of Dental Schools. He also served as a member of the board of trustees of the Salt Lake Olympic Organizing Committee. His additional positions in national higher education leadership include serving as a member of the National Security Higher Education Advisory Board; chairing the board of directors of the National Campus Compact and serving as president of the executive committee of the Southeastern Conference and chair of the Southeastern Conference Academic Consortium.

A native of Greenwood, Miss., President Machen grew up in St. Louis. After attending Vanderbilt University for his undergraduate studies, he earned his doctor of dental surgery degree from St. Louis University and his master’s degree in pediatric dentistry and doctorate in educational psychology from the University of Iowa. He and his wife, Chris, a former neonatal intensive care nurse, have two sons, a daughter, and four grandchildren.
Greetings from the President

On behalf of the University of Florida administration, faculty and staff, I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations to you, the doctoral graduates of the Class of 2014, and to your family and friends.

At the University of Florida, doctoral education is our spirit and our soul. It is who we are as a university, and has been since UF graduated its first doctoral students in 1934. Today’s ceremony celebrates your hard work and achievement in continuing this historic legacy. You should be proud, as should all who supported and assisted you in your efforts.

Today is a day of celebration, but it also is a day of reflection on what lies ahead. Whatever path you choose, I am confident you have acquired the skills and knowledge you need to be a success. Whether you pursue a career in public service, private industry, academe, the sciences or the arts, I know you will make a difference.

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to host you during your academic career. You have learned much, and this university has benefited in turn from your presence. I hope you will recall your years here with a sense that they were happy and productive. As members of UF’s distinguished alumni, and as graduates who have earned our highest degrees, you will always be cherished at the University of Florida.

Good luck and best wishes!

J. Bernard Machen

J. Bernard Machen
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, December 19, 2014, 4:00 p.m.

Presiding .......................................................................................................................... J. Bernard Machen
President

Processional .................................................................................................................. Gainesville Brass Quintet

National Anthem ......................................................................................................... Anthony Offerle
Gainesville Brass Quintet

Welcome and Introductions ......................................................................................... J. Bernard Machen

Awarding of Honorary Degrees .................................................................................. J. Bernard Machen
Presented by .................................................................................................................. Joseph Glover
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Doctor of Science Presented to ....................................................................................... Linda Parker Hudson
Arlington, VA

Commencement Address ............................................................................................. Gareth Schmeling
UF Distinguished Professor of Classics

Presenting Candidates for Doctoral Degrees ............................................................... Henry T. Frierson
Dean, Graduate School

Conferring of Doctoral Degrees ................................................................................... David L. Brandon
Member, UF Board of Trustees

Alma Mater ...................................................................................................................... Anthony Offerle
Gainesville Brass Quintet

Recessional ..................................................................................................................... Gainesville Brass Quintet

Postlude .......................................................................................................................... Gainesville Brass Quintet

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.
Linda Parker Hudson

When Linda Hudson graduated from UF’s Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering in 1972, she was one of a few women in the college. Today, as president and CEO of BAE Systems Inc., she has been recognized as an innovator and trailblazer, one of Fortune Magazine’s 50 Most Powerful Woman in Business, and the British media dubbed her the “first lady of defense.”

After college, Ms. Hudson began her career in the defense industry at the Harris Corporation and Ford Aerospace. Through impressive work and dedication, she soon rose through the ranks. She became president of armament and technical products at General Dynamics. Hudson later became president of BAE Systems’ Land & Armaments, the world’s largest military vehicle and equipment business. In 2009, she was named CEO of BAE Systems Inc., leading more than 40,000 employees and almost $13 billion in revenue.

Her success has been documented in stories published in the Washington Post, New York Times, Wall Street Journal and Forbes. Washington Magazine named her one of Washington’s 100 Most Powerful Women. She has been inducted in numerous halls of fame including the Washington Business Hall of Fame and the Industrial Systems and Engineering Hall of Fame. She has been honored as a Distinguished Alumna at UF and holds an honorary doctorate from Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Even with the demands such a successful career entails, Ms. Hudson finds time to give back to her alma mater, mentoring and providing career advice to engineering students. She emphasizes in her lessons the tools that led her on her own soaring career path: dedication, persistence and a work-life balance. She also serves as a UF Foundation executive committee member, is a member of the College of Engineering advisory board and remains active in UF’s alumni and athletic associations.

Celebrating her tremendous success and generosity to her alma mater, the university recognizes Ms. Hudson with an honorary doctorate of science degree.
Gareth Schmeling

Gareth Schmeling’s work can best be thought of as archaeology through words.

His major research project is a commentary on Satyrica of Petronius. Although it is a novel, the Latin work is regularly treated as a document of social history. Using his expansive knowledge of language, Dr. Schmeling deciphered and provided an interpretation of the work that has helped researchers better understand society and culture during Roman times.

In his career at the University of Virginia and the University of Florida, he has taught beginning and advanced Greek and Latin as well as graduate courses on the Greek novelists, Petronius, Apuleius, Tacitus, and Lucian. He also taught large lecture courses in translation, mythology, the ancient novel, the Glory That was Greece, the Grandeur That was Rome and Masterpieces of Western Civilization.

Dr. Schmeling holds a bachelor’s degree from Northwestern College and a master’s and doctorate from the University of Wisconsin. He came to UF in 1970 as an associate professor. His first book, “Cornelius Nepos: Lives of Famous Men,” was published in 1971. He has since published nine books, 46 academic articles, 41 book reviews and 81 papers.

During his time at UF, Dr. Schmeling advanced quickly from an associate professor to chair of Classics and Humanities. He also has served as acting chair for the Department of Philosophy. He was later appointed a distinguished professor of classics and in 2005 received emeritus status. In 2010, Dr. Schmeling also began work at Johns Hopkins University as a visiting professor of classics and is now a fellow-by-courtesy.

Dr. Schmeling has served in numerous professional societies, including secretary-treasurer and later president of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South, and vice president, trustee and trustee emeritus of the Society of Fellows at the American Academy in Rome.

Dr. Schmeling resides in Gainesville and Baltimore.
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 19th 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.
Paul W. Accisano, Bachelor of Science in Computer Science summa cum laude, 2009, New Jersey Institute of Technology

Major: Computer Engineering
Dissertation: Template Matching With the Frechet Distance Metric
Dissertation Chair: A. Ungor

Husam M. Alawadh, Bachelor in Translation, 2002, King Saud University—Saudi Arabia; Master of Arts in English, 2008, Colorado State University

Major: Linguistics
Dissertation: The Evolution of Saudi Print Media Discourse About the U.S. After 9/11: A CDA of Aljazeerah and Asharq Alawsat Newspapers
Dissertation Chair: D. Boxer

Anastasia Albanese-O’Neill, Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, 1990, Master of Arts in Political Science, 1995, University of California at Los Angeles; Bachelor of Science in Nursing, 2008, Master of Science in Nursing, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Nursing Sciences
Minor: Health Education and Behavior
Dissertation: Fathers, Diabetes Education, and Mobile Technology
Dissertation Chair: J. H. Elder

Dylan P. Alexander, Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering cum laude, 2008, Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida

Major: Aerospace Engineering
Dissertation: Design, Reliability-Based Optimization, and Fabrication of a Piezoresistive Microelectromechanical Microphone With Back-Side Contacts for Aeroacoustics Applications
Dissertation Chair: M. Sheplak

Bader M. Alhoshan, Bachelor in Translation, 2002, King Saud University—Saudi Arabia; Master of Arts in English, 2007, Colorado State University

Major: Linguistics
Dissertation: Affordances and Constraints in an ESL Reading Classroom: A Study of Four Saudi Students’ Cases
Dissertation Chair: P. R. Golombek

Mariam Faisal Alkazemi, Bachelor of Arts in Journalism, 2007, George Washington University—District of Columbia; Master of Arts in Advertising, 2009, Michigan State University

Major: Mass Communication
Dissertation: News Coverage and Online Discussions About the Middle East: The Spiral of Silence in the Agenda-Setting Process
Dissertation Chair: W. M. Wanta


Major: Counseling and Counselor Education
Dissertation Chair: S. L. Smith

Muteb Aali Alqarni, Bachelor of Arts in English Language, 2007, King Khalid University—Saudi Arabia; Master of Arts in Linguistics, 2010, Ball State University—Indiana

Major: Linguistics
Dissertation: Numeral-Noun Constructions in Modern Standard Arabic
Dissertation Chair: E. H. Potsdam
**Major:** Nutritional Sciences  
Dissertation: Development and Implementation of a Preventative Health Course to Address Health Behaviors of Emerging Adults (18 to 25 Years of Age)  
Dissertation Chair: A. Mathews

Dawn An, Bachelor of Engineering, 2008, Master of Engineering, 2010, Korea Aerospace University—South Korea  
**Major:** Mechanical Engineering  
Dissertation: Practical Prognostics Methods for Uncertainty Management: Noisy, Insufficient, and Indirect Degradation Data  
Dissertation Chair: N. H. Kim

K. Sofia Appelberg, Civilengenjorsxamen, 2007, Linkopings Universitet—Sweden  
**Major:** Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology  
Dissertation: Molecular Mechanisms Involved in Human Immunodeficiency Virus Type 1 Infection and Activation of Macrophages  
Dissertation Chair: M. M. Goodenow

Sindhu Arivazhagan, Bachelor of Technology, 2003, Anna University—India  
**Major:** Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology  
Dissertation: Genetic and Molecular Basis for Heightened Type 1 Interferon Responses in NOD Mice  
Dissertation Chair: M. J. Clare-Salzler

Mian Muhammad Asim, Master of Arts, 1996, University of the Punjab—Pakistan; Master of Arts in Communication, 2002, California State University at Fullerton  
**Major:** Mass Communication  
Dissertation: Cross Cultural Political Persuasion: Assessing the Moderating Role of Religiosity, Party Affiliation and Ethnic Identification on Candidate Evaluation  
Dissertation Chair: T. Elias  
Dissertation Co-chair: J. D. Morris

Benjamin Keith Atkinson, Bachelor of Science in Education, 2004, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania; Master of Science, 2009, University of Florida  
**Major:** Wildlife Ecology and Conservation  
Dissertation: Conservation Osteology: Investigating the Demographic Impacts of Ghost Traps on Diamond-Backed Terrapins, Malaclemys Terrapin  
Dissertation Chair: J. P. Ross

Shancy Augustine, Bachelor of Technology in Electrical and Electronics, 2002, Mahatma Gandhi University—India; Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida  
**Major:** Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Dissertation: Development of Low Power Plastic Fluidic Control Techniques for Lab-on-Chip Devices  
Dissertation Chair: T. Nishida  
Dissertation Co-chair: Z. H. Fan

**Major:** Environmental Engineering Sciences  
Dissertation: The Characteristics of Spoil Islands Along the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway and Their Potential to Support Maritime Forest Communities  
Dissertation Chair: C. L. Montague

Sayan Banerjee, Bachelor of Engineering, 2006, University of Pune—India; Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida  
**Major:** Mechanical Engineering  
Dissertation: Thermo-Mechanical Characterization of Hybrid Composites Using Finite Element Based Micromechanics  
Dissertation Chair: B. V. Sankar

Christian Alberto Barrientos, Licenciado en Biologia, 1999, Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala; Master of Science, 2005, University of Florida  
**Major:** Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences  
Dissertation: Life History Variation and Artisanal Fishery Assessment in Giant Cichlid (Petenia Splendida Gunther 1862) in Northern Mesoamerican Lakes  
Dissertation Chair: J. E. Hill
John M. Beaty, Bachelor of Arts in English cum laude, 1996, Master Degree, 2000, University of Georgia
Major: Design, Construction, and Planning
Dissertation: The Right Mix: Evaluating the Compatibility and Durability of Masonry Repairs Performed by the U.S. National Park Service
Dissertation Chair: E. A. Obonyo

Christopher S. Besser, Bachelor of Arts in History, 2000, University of Alaska at Fairbanks; Master of Health Administration, 2008, Baylor University—Texas; Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida
Major: Health Services Research
Dissertation: An Impact Assessment of Including a Behavioral Health Provider Within the Structure of the Army Patient-Centered Medical Home Model: A Longitudinal Study
Dissertation Chair: J. S. Harman

Gokul Subrahmanya Bhat, Bachelor of Engineering in Electronic and Telecommunications Engineering, 2008, University of Mumbai—India; Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: Network Coding Based Enhancements to TCP for Media Streaming
Dissertation Chair: J. Y. McNair

Christopher S. Besser, Bachelor of Arts in History, 2000, University of Alaska at Fairbanks; Master of Health Administration, 2008, Baylor University—Texas; Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida
Major: Health Services Research
Dissertation: An Impact Assessment of Including a Behavioral Health Provider Within the Structure of the Army Patient-Centered Medical Home Model: A Longitudinal Study
Dissertation Chair: J. S. Harman

Gokul Subrahmanya Bhat, Bachelor of Engineering in Electronic and Telecommunications Engineering, 2008, University of Mumbai—India; Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: Network Coding Based Enhancements to TCP for Media Streaming
Dissertation Chair: J. Y. McNair

Olga Birioukova, Bachelor of Science, 2000, Leo Tolstoy Tula State University—Russia; Master of Arts, 2009, University of Florida
Major: Linguistics
Dissertation: Morphosyntax of the Jaqaru Verb in Main Clauses
Dissertation Chair: M. J. Hardman

Rafael Sisconeto Bisinotto, Grau de Medico Veterinario, 2007, Universidade de Sao Paulo—Brazil; Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida
Major: Animal Sciences
Dissertation: Actions of Progesterone on Growth of the Ovulatory Follicle and Subsequent Embryo Development Coupled With Endometrial Gene Expression to Enhance Fertility in Dairy Herds
Dissertation Chair: J. E. Santos

Trent Duane Blare, Bachelor of Science, 2004, University of Nebraska at Lincoln; Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida
Major: Food and Resource Economics
Dissertation: Ecuadorian Cacao: Decision Making, Gender, and Sustainability
Dissertation Chair: M. D. Useche

Michael M. Bobek, Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering cum laude, 2009, Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Dissertation: Investigation of Oxide Morphology, Reaction Kinetics and Mechanisms for Thermochemical Solar Fuel Production
Dissertation Chair: D. W. Hahn

Nicole L. Botteri, Bachelor of Science in Biology, 2004, Pennsylvania State University
Major: Zoology
Dissertation: Redefining Normal: The Morphological and Molecular Characterization of the Adult Medullary Rest, a Putatively Steroidogenic Region of the Female American Alligator Gonad
Dissertation Chair: L. J. Guillette

Shana L. Boyle, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2008, Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida
Major: Psychology—Clinical and Health Psychology
Dissertation: Influence of Patient and Healthcare Trainee Characteristics on Assessment and Treatment Decisions for Pediatric Chronic Pain Patients: A Virtual Human Technology Investigation
Dissertation Chair: D. Janicke
Sandra Weems Bragg, Bachelor of Arts cum laude, 2002, Master of Arts, 2009, University of Florida
Major: English
  Dissertation: The Poetics of Healing: Voicing Illness and Trauma in Literature, Narrative Medicine, and Reflective Writing
  Dissertation Chair: R. A. Shoaf

Joseph A. Brannaka, Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, 2009, Southern Adventist University—Tennessee
Major: Chemistry
  Dissertation: The Design, Synthesis, and Application of Volatile Organometallic Precursors for Heterogeneous Catalysis, Photo Activated Chemical Vapor Deposition, and Electron Beam Induced Deposition
  Dissertation Chair: L. A. McElwee-White

Renee M. Bullock, Bachelor of Science in Biology, 2001, Northland College—Wisconsin; Master of Arts, 2010, University of Florida
Major: Geography
Minor: Sustainable Economic Development (Special Minor)
  Dissertation: Gender and Rural Development in the East Usambaras, Tanzania
  Dissertation Chair: M. E. Swisher
  Dissertation Co-chair: B. A. Child

Deon Lamar Burchett, Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, 2006, University of Maryland College Park; Master of Science, 2009, University of Florida
Major: Industrial and Systems Engineering
  Dissertation: Multi-Commodity Fixed Charge Capacitated Network Design: Polyhedral Characteristics, Network Resilience, and Algorithms
  Dissertation Chair: J. P. Richard

Oliver Towns Burgess, Bachelor of Science in Marine Science, 2001, University of South Carolina at Columbia; Master of Science, 2008, University of Florida
Major: Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences
  Dissertation: Response of Aquatic Communities to Pulp and Paper Discharge Relocation Into the St. Johns River, Florida
  Dissertation Chair: C. Cichra

Haley Elizabeth Marie Carpenter, Bachelor of Science summa cum laude, 2010, University of Florida
Major: Medical Sciences—Neuroscience
  Dissertation: Age-Related Changes in the Cellular and Synaptic Physiology of Cortical Memory Networks
  Dissertation Chair: C. J. Frazier

Andrew R. Cartas, Bachelor of Science in Nuclear Engineering, 2011, Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida
Major: Nuclear Engineering Sciences
  Dissertation: An Evaluation of UO2-CNT Composites Made by SPS as an Accident Tolerant Nuclear Fuel Pellet and the Feasibility of SPS as an Economical Fabrication Process for the Nuclear Fuel Cycle
  Dissertation Chair: J. S. Tulenko

Christopher L. Cassano, Bachelor of Science in Biology, 2003, Clarkson University—New York; Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering, 2006, Master of Science in Aerospace Engineering, 2009, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University—Florida; Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida
Major: Mechanical Engineering
  Dissertation: Bonding, Lamination, and Patterning for Low-Cost Microfluidic Devices
  Dissertation Chair: Z. H. Fan

Christopher E. Cattau, Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences summa cum laude, 2003, University of Tennessee; Master of Science, 2008, University of Florida
Major: Wildlife Ecology and Conservation
  Dissertation: Behavioral, Demographic, and Evolutionary Responses of the Endangered Snail Kite to Changing Food Resources in a Dynamic Prey Landscape
  Dissertation Chair: W. M. Kitchens

Ryan Paul Chastain-Gross, Bachelor of Science, 2008, Ohio State University
Major: Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology
  Dissertation: The Role of Pg0717 in Periodontitis
  Dissertation Chair: A. Progulske
Anirban Chaudhuri, Bachelor of Technology in Mechanical Engineering, 2008, Malaviya National Institute of Technology at Jaipur—India; Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida

Major: **Mechanical Engineering**
Dissertation: Implications of Optimization Cost for Balancing Exploration and Exploitation in Global Search and for Experimental Optimization
Dissertation Chair: R. T. Haftka

Vinita G. Chittoor, Master of Science, 2009, Nagpur University—India

Major: **Medical Sciences—Neuroscience**
Dissertation Chair: L. Notterpek

Alyssa Heh-soon Cho, Bachelor of Science, 2008, University of Hawaii at Manoa; Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida

Major: **Agronomy**
Dissertation: Introduction of Agricultural Technologies in Peanut (*Arachis Hypogaea* L.) and Cassava (*Manihot Esulenta* Crantz) Based Cropping Systems for Smallholder Farmers in Guyana and Vietnam
Dissertation Chair: G. E. MacDonald

Hong Seok Choi, Bachelor of Science in Life Science, 2004, Master of Science in Life Science, 2006, Sogang University—South Korea

Major: **Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology**
Dissertation: Kaposi’s Sarcoma-Associated Herpesvirus (KSHV) Latency-Associated Genes, v-FLIP and v-Cyclin Down-Regulate TGF-Beta Signaling by Inducing the Cellular MicroRNA Cluster miR-17-92
Dissertation Chair: R. F. Renne

Jose Alejandro Clavijo Michelangeli, Titulo de Ingeniero Agronomo, 2006, Universidad Central de Venezuela; Master of Science, 2009, University of Florida

Major: **Agronomy**
Minor: **Statistics**
Dissertation: Modeling Reproductive Growth and Development in the Common Bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris* L.)
Dissertation Chair: K. J. Boote

Claudia Andrea Costagliola Chattin, Licenciado en Humanities con Mention en Lengua y Literatura Hispanica, 1995, Universidad de Chile; Master of Arts, 2011, University of Florida

Major: **Romance Languages—Spanish**
Dissertation: Literatura Sobre Sida En Latino America: Una Lectura Cuir/Queer Para Una Seleccion De Narraciones Perversas
Dissertation Chair: E. Barradas
Scott David Croxton, Bachelor of Science, 2005, Master of Science, 2008, Auburn University—Alabama
Major: Entomology and Nematology
Dissertation: Understanding and Exploiting Psyllid Dispersal Behavior in Florida Citrus
Dissertation Chair: P. A. Stansly

Zhongzhou Cui, Bachelor of History, 1998, Master of Law, 2002, Anhui University—China; Master of Arts, 2008, University of Florida
Major: Anthropology
Dissertation: Ethnicity, Religion, and State: Intermarriage Between the Han and Muslim Hui in Eastern China
Dissertation Chair: C. Shih

Sharron L. Cuthbertson, Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Endorsement, 1997, University of Michigan at Flint; Master of Science, 2004, Nova Southeastern University—Florida
Major: Special Education
Dissertation: Rural Voluntary Prekindergarten Teachers’ Judgments of the Acceptability, Feasibility, and Current Use of Social Skills Strategies in Inclusive Classrooms
Dissertation Chair: H. Jones

Cong Dinh Dang, Bang Tot Nghiep Dai Hoc, 2008, Hanoi University of Technology—Vietnam
Major: Industrial and Systems Engineering
Dissertation: First Order Methods for Convex and Nonconvex Optimization
Dissertation Chair: G. Lan

Carole Anne Daniel, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, 1992, Kent State University—Ohio; Master of Science in Nursing, 1999, Georgetown University—District of Columbia
Major: Nursing Sciences
Minor: Public Health
Dissertation: The Effect of Psychosocial Factors on Acute and Persistent Pain After Childbirth
Dissertation Chair: A. L. Horgas

Tania Diane Darlington, Bachelor of Arts in English, 2005, Master of Arts in English, 2007, California State University at Chico
Major: English
Dissertation: From Reverence to Reference: Rethinking Contemporary Cross-Media Adaptation
Dissertation Chair: B. C. Mennel

Andrea Danielle Davis, Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice summa cum laude, 2010, Alabama State University; Master of Arts, 2012, University of Florida
Major: Criminology, Law, and Society
Dissertation: Unmasking the Unraced: A Study of Whiteness and Crime Policy Preferences
Dissertation Chair: L. M. Lanza Kaduce

Mriganka De, Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, 2007, Bidhan Chandra Agricultural University—India; Master of Science, 2009, Punjab Agricultural University—India
Major: Soil and Water Science
Dissertation: Fate and Transport of Nitrogen in Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems
Dissertation Chair: G. Singh

Kristin N. Denslow, Bachelor of Arts in English cum laude, 2006, Andrews University—Michigan; Master of Arts in English, 2009, Western Michigan University
Major: English
Dissertation: Hamlet’s Compulsive Revisions in Film, Television, and Social Media
Dissertation Chair: R. Burt

Jose A. Dominguez, Bachelor of Science, 1997, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale; Master of Physical Therapy, 2000, University of Maryland Eastern Shore
Major: Rehabilitation Science
Dissertation: Low Er Limb Biomechanics in Jump Landing Following Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction
Dissertation Chair: T. L. Chmielewski
Peter Donkor, Bachelor of Science in Building Technology, 2005, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology—Ghana; Master of Science in Building Construction, 2008, University of Florida
Major: Design, Construction, and Planning
Dissertation: Sustainable and Resilient Earthen Construction: Enhancing Compressed Earth Block Performance Through Fiber Reinforcement
Dissertation Chair: E. A. Obonyo

Pamela Jean N. Driza, Bachelor of Design magna cum laude, 2006, Master of Interior Design, 2011, University of Florida
Major: Design, Construction, and Planning
Dissertation Chair: N. Park
Dissertation Co-chair: M. Torres

Pamela Jean Dubyak, Bachelor of Arts, 2004, Brown University—Rhode Island; Master of Science, 2008, University of Florida
Major: Psychology—Clinical and Health Psychology
Dissertation: The Effect of Group Size on Weight Loss Outcomes in a Lifestyle Intervention for Obesity
Dissertation Chair: S. D. Anton
Dissertation Co-chair: M. G. Perri

Nicholas J. Dunbar, Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering magna cum laude, 2008, Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Dissertation: Patient Customizable Knee Model for Intraoperative Planning of Uni- and Bi-Compartmental Knee Arthroplasty
Dissertation Chair: S. A. Banks

Heungsik Eom, Bachelor of Engineering, 2006, Master of Engineering, 2008, Dongguk University—South Korea; Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: Extending the Capabilities of Mobile Platforms Through Remote Off-loading Over Social Device Networks
Dissertation Chair: R. J. Figueiredo

Salim Erol, Lisans Diplomasi, 2006, Eskisehir Osmangazi University—Iran; Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida
Major: Chemical Engineering
Dissertation: Influence of Failure Mechanisms on Electrochemical Impedance Spectroscopy of Lithium Cobalt Oxide/Carbon Batteries
Dissertation Chair: M. E. Orazem

Christine C. Eschenfelder, Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Anthropology, 1997, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga; Master of Arts in Journalism, 2008, University of Memphis—Tennessee
Major: Mass Communication
Dissertation: Exiting Through the Doors We Opened: Why Some Women Are Leaving Jobs in Television News and Why It Matters
Dissertation Chair: J. L. Cleary

Jennie Ruth Fagen, Bachelor of Science, 2010, University of Florida
Major: Microbiology and Cell Science
Dissertation: Comparative Study of Liberibacter Species Divergent in Culturability and Virulence
Dissertation Chair: E. Triplett

Jason Allan Ferrante, Bachelor of Science, 2003, Coastal Carolina University—South Carolina; Master of Science in Marine Biology, 2010, College of Charleston—South Carolina
Major: Veterinary Medical Sciences
Dissertation: Characterization of Cytokine Levels and Trichechid Herpesvirus 1 Load in the Florida Manatee (Trichechus manatus latirostris)
Dissertation Chair: J. F. Wellehan

Delio Figueroa, Bachelor of Arts in Music, 2005, Conservatory of Music of Puerto Rico; Master of Arts in Music Education, 2009, New York University
Major: Music
Dissertation: My Music, My Place: The Role of Jibaro Music in the Creation of Puerto Rican Identity in New York City
Dissertation Chair: L. N. Crook
Jeremy H. Fowers, Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering summa cum laude, 2010, Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida
   Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
   Dissertation: Adaptive Optimizations and Automatic Parallelization in Heterogeneous Systems
   Dissertation Chair: G. M. Stitt

Eric William Franca, Bachelor of Science in Engineering, 2008, Tulane University—Louisiana
   Major: Biomedical Engineering
   Dissertation: Neural Adhesion, Growth, and Activity on Carbon Nanotubes and Carbonized Nanofibers
   Dissertation Chair: B. Wheeler

Timothy David Fritz, Bachelor of Arts in History, 2005, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University; Master of Arts in History, 2008, College of Charleston—South Carolina
   Major: History
   Dissertation: Indians, Africans, and British Expansion in the Southeastern Borderlands, 1670-1763
   Dissertation Chair: J. F. Sensbach
   Dissertation Co-chair: J. Barr

Ramón Galiñanes Jr., Bachelor of Arts in History summa cum laude, 2001, Montclair State University—New Jersey; Master of Philosophy, 2003, Cambridge University—United Kingdom; Master of Arts, 2010, University of Florida
   Major: Political Science
   Dissertation: Negotiating a Lasting Peace: A Comparative Analysis of Angola’s Civil War Settlements
   Dissertation Chair: P. J. Williams
   Dissertation Co-chair: S. Lindberg

William Richard Gamerota, Bachelor of Science in Engineering, 2010, Duke University—North Carolina; Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida
   Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
   Dissertation: The Dart-Stepped Leader in Rocket-Triggered Lightning
   Dissertation Chair: M. A. Uman
   Dissertation Co-chair: V. A. Rakov

Veronica J. Garcia, Bachelor of Arts, 2007, Guilford College—North Carolina
   Major: Medical Sciences—Neuroscience
   Dissertation Chair: D. M. Bucher

Christine M. Gault, Bachelor of Arts, 2009, Colgate University—New York
   Major: Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology
   Dissertation: Aberrant U12-Type Intron Splicing Due to the Hypomorphic Rough Endosperm3 Splicing Factor Locus
   Dissertation Chair: A. M. Settles
   Dissertation Co-chair: W. B. Barbazuk

Charles Wysaw Gay, Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology, 2000, James Madison University—Virginia; Doctor of Chiropractic, 2006, Palmer College of Chiropractic—Florida
   Major: Rehabilitation Science
   Dissertation: Functional Connectivity Changes Within the Pain Processing and Modulatory Networks Following Exercise-Induced Muscular Injury and Manual Therapy
   Dissertation Chair: M. D. Bishop

Ryan D. Geddes, Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering, 2003, University of Florida
   Major: Microbiology and Cell Science
   Dissertation: Improving Fermentation of Pretreated Biomass by Reducing Inhibitor Concentrations and Increasing Microbial Biocatalyst Tolerance
   Dissertation Chair: L. O. Ingram

Payal Ghosh, Bachelor of Arts, 2006, Johns Hopkins University—Maryland; Master of Science in Exercise Science, 2011, George Washington University—District of Columbia
   Major: Health and Human Performance
   Dissertation: The Effects of Hindlimb Unloading and Heavy Ion Radiation on Skeletal Muscle Arteriole Function
   Dissertation Chair: M. D. Delp
Zackary I. Gilmore, Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology, 2003, Texas A&M University
Major: Anthropology
Dissertation: Gathering Places: Histories of Material and Social Interaction at Late Archaic Shell Mounds in Florida
Dissertation Chair: K. E. Sassaman

Brian Daniel Glenn, Bachelor of Science, 2008, Brigham Young University—Utah; Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida
Major: Horticultural Sciences—Environmental
Dissertation: Effect of Shade Duration and Temperature on Warm Season Turfgrass Growth and Development
Dissertation Chair: J. K. Kruse
Dissertation Co-chair: J. B. Unruh

Grant Thomas Godden, Bachelor of Arts, 2000, Master of Science in Plant Biology, 2009, Michigan State University
Major: Botany
Dissertation: Out of the Bushes and Into the Trees: Alternative Approaches for Resolving the Phylogeny of Lamiaceae
Dissertation Chair: P. S. Soltis

Marianne E. Goodwin, Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences, 2008, Florida International University
Major: Medical Sciences—Genetics
Dissertation: High-Throughput Sequencing Approaches to Identify Protein Sequestration and RNA MIS-Processing in Neurological Disease
Dissertation Chair: M. S. Swanson

Ellen Gopan, Bachelor of Arts in Physics, 2007, Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics, 2007, Northwestern University—Illinois; Master of Science, 2009, Wayne State University—Michigan
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Dissertation: Charge-Coupled Device-Based Detector Array for Dose Quantification at Diagnostic Energies
Dissertation Chair: D. E. Hintenlang

Uriah Michael Gravois, Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, 2007, Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida
Major: Coastal and Oceanographic Engineering
Dissertation: Validation Test Cases for Operational Wave Models
Dissertation Chair: A. A. Sheremet

Leandro F. Greco, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, 2006, Federal University of Goias—Brazil; Master in Agronomical Sciences, 2008, University of San Paulo—Brazil
Major: Animal Molecular and Cellular Biology
Dissertation: Fatty Acids in Dairy Cattle Nutrition: Insights on Productive and Reproductive Performances
Dissertation Chair: J. E. Santos

Phillip Scott Ellis Green, Bachelor of Arts in Comparative Religion, 2002, University of Washington—Seattle; Master of Arts, 2007, University of Florida
Major: Religion
Dissertation: The Vat Sithor Inscription: Translation, Commentary, and Reflections on Buddhist Traditions in Tenth-Century Cambodia
Dissertation Chair: V. R. Narayanan
Dissertation Co-chair: J. Neelis

Major: Counseling and Counselor Education
Dissertation: An Exploratory Examination of the Relational Factors That Predict Achievement Among African American High School Students
Dissertation Chair: M. H. Daniels

Susan Victoria Gruner, Bachelor of Science, 1999, Master of Science, 2004, University of Florida
Major: Entomology and Nematology
Dissertation Chair: J. L. Capinera
Michael Guidi, Bachelor of Science in Psychology, 2007, Florida Atlantic University
Major: Medical Sciences—Neuroscience
Dissertation: Age-Related Decline in Attention and Executive Function: Contributions of the N-Methyl-D-Aspartate Receptor
Dissertation Chair: T. C. Foster

Ali Senol Gundogan, Bachelor of Science, 2006, Abant Izzet Baysal University—Turkey; Master of Science, 2008, Istanbul Technical University—Turkey
Major: Chemistry
Dissertation Chair: K. S. Schanze

Yasemin Gunpinar, Lisans, 2006, Yuksel Lisans, 2008, Marmara University—Turkey
Major: Curriculum and Instruction
Dissertation: The Effects of Using Connected Classroom Technology on Representational Fluency
Dissertation Chair: S. J. Pape
Dissertation Co-chair: T. Jacobbe

Ana Maria Hagan-Rogers, Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, 2005, University of Rhode Island; Master of Science in Civil Engineering, 2007, Georgia Institute of Technology
Major: Environmental Engineering Sciences
Dissertation: Ultraviolet Activated Treatment of Mercury Wastewater in the Presence of Selected Competing Ligands
Dissertation Chair: D. W. Mazyck

Laurel A. Harbin, Bachelor of Science in Interior Design, 2003, Master of Arts, 2005, Florida State University
Major: Design, Construction, and Planning
Dissertation: The Etawah Pilot Project: A Case Study of Albert Mayer’s Normative Regionalism in Post-Independence India
Dissertation Chair: K. E. Larsen

Ying He, Bachelor of Management, 2003, Wuhan University—China; Master of Science in Applied Statistics, 2010, Bowling Green State University—Ohio
Major: Biostatistics
Dissertation: On Statistical Inference of Two Adaptive Clinical Trial Designs
Dissertation Chair: S. S. Wu

Kyle P. Heim, Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry, 2008, Clemson University—South Carolina
Major: Medical Sciences—Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Dissertation: Investigation of the Structure and Assembly of the Streptococcus mutans Cell Surface Localized Adhesin P1
Dissertation Chair: L. J. Brady
Dissertation Co-chair: J. R. Long

Major: Entomology and Nematology
Dissertation: Effects of Environmental Variation on Sexual Selection in a Stink Bug, Murgantia histrionica (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae)
Dissertation Chair: C. W. Miller

Robert Heyward Hembree II, Bachelor of Science in Physics summa cum laude, 2009, Hampden-Sydney College—Virginia
Major: Physics
Dissertation: Photoconductivity at Nanostructured Semiconductor Surfaces: A Density Matrix Approach
Dissertation Chair: H. P. Cheng
Dissertation Co-chair: D. A. Micha

Nathaniel Lantaca Hepowit, Bachelor of Science in Zoology, 2001, Master of Science in Biology, 2006, Mindanao State University—Philippines; Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida
Major: Microbiology and Cell Science
Dissertation: Activation, Thiocarboxylation, and Deconjugation of Archaeal Ubiquitin-Like Proteins
Dissertation Chair: J. A. Maupin
Jessica A. Holt, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2007, University of Florida; Master of Science in Agricultural Communications, 2010, Oklahoma State University

Major: Agricultural Education and Communication
Dissertation: The Effect of Media Channels on Consumers Intentions to Buy Local Food Using Theory of Planned Behavior and Media Channel Perceptions
Dissertation Chair: R. W. Telg
Dissertation Co-chair: J. N. Rumble

Melanie Kim Holton, Bachelor of Science in Ecology, 1998, University of Georgia; Master of Science in Zoology, 2001, University of Wisconsin at Madison

Major: Health and Human Performance
Dissertation: Complementary and Alternative Medicine Use in the United States: Mental, Physical, and Occupational Health
Dissertation Chair: A. E. Barry

David R. Hoot, Bachelor of Arts in Classics magna cum laude, 1998, Baylor University—Texas; Master of Arts, 2002, Bryn Mawr College—Pennsylvania

Major: Classical Studies
Dissertation: The Sanctuary of Asclepius at Epidaurus in Roman Times
Dissertation Chair: R. S. Wagman

Chao-Jung Hsu, Bachelor of Physical Therapy, 2006, Master of Physical Therapy, 2008, National Yang Ming University—Taiwan

Major: Rehabilitation Science
Dissertation: Impairments and Rehabilitation Outcomes in Patients With Traumatic Meniscal Tears and Meniscectomy
Dissertation Chair: T. L. Chmielewski

Jing Hu, Bachelor of Engineering, 2008, Master of Engineering, 2010, China Agricultural University

Major: Soil and Water Science
Minor: Statistics
Dissertation: Nitrous Oxide Production, Consumption and Flux in Agroecosystems: Effects of Hydrology and Land Use
Dissertation Chair: K. R. Reddy
Dissertation Co-chair: K. S. Inglett

Todd Ryan Hughes, Bachelor of Arts in History, 1997, University of the Cumberlands—Kentucky; Master of Arts in Education, 1999, College of William and Mary—Virginia; Master of Arts, 2011, University of Florida

Major: Linguistics
Dissertation: Approaches to Wakhi Subject-Oriented Past Tense Clitics
Dissertation Chair: B. M. Henderson

William Paul Jawde, Bachelor of Arts in History, 2003, University of Connecticut; Master of Arts, 2007, University of Florida

Major: Sociology
Dissertation Chair: C. F. Gattone

Wen Ji, Bachelor of Engineering, 2009, Sichuan University—China

Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering
Minor: New Venture Creation (Special Minor)
Dissertation: Application of Hollow Fiber Membrane Bioreactor (Hfmb)
Dissertation Chair: P. C. Pullammanappallil

Yang Jiao, Bachelor of Philosophy, 2005, Fudan University—China; Master of Arts, 2007, University of Florida

Major: Anthropology
Dissertation: Migration and Social Life of the Chinese Entrepreneurs in Ghana
Dissertation Chair: C. Shih
Dissertation Co-chair: A. Spring

Ahyea Jo, Bachelor of Arts, 2002, Hongik University—South Korea; Master of Science, 2007, State University of New York at Albany

Major: Curriculum and Instruction
Dissertation: Bilingual Elementary Mainstream Teachers’ Voices of Their Bilingual Experiences for Their Work in Linguistically and Culturally Diverse Classrooms
Dissertation Chair: E. J. De Jong
Kevin C. Jones, Bachelor of Arts in English, 2002, Union Institute and University—Ohio; Master of Arts in Creative Writing, 2005, Queens University of Charlotte—North Carolina

Major: Higher Education Administration
Dissertation: Understanding Transition Experiences of Combat Veterans Attending Community College
Dissertation Chair: D. F. Campbell

Joo In Jung, Bachelor of Science, 2008, Sogang University—South Korea; Master of Science in Biology, 2009, New York University

Major: Medical Sciences—Neuroscience
Dissertation: Biological and Therapeutic Implications of Gamma-Secretase Modulators in Alzheimer’s Disease
Dissertation Chair: T. E. Golde

Lucie Abena Kadjo, Bachelor in Economics, 2006, University of Hassan—Morocco; Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida

Major: Food and Resource Economics
Dissertation: Import Demand, Food Safety, and Price Transmission: A Study of the International Cocoa Sector
Dissertation Chair: J. L. Seale
Dissertation Co-chair: J. J. Vansickle

Rüchan Kaya, Bachelor of Arts in Social and Political Science, 2008, Sabanci Universitesi—Turkey; Master of Arts, 2011, University of Florida

Major: Political Science
Dissertation: A New Type of Resource Curse? Effect of Natural Resource Pipelines on Level of Democracy, Regime Stability, and Development
Dissertation Chair: M. H. Bernhard

Yogesh P. Khare, Bachelor of Engineering, 2006, University of Mumbai—India; Master of Science, 2009, University of Florida

Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering
Dissertation: Drought and Watershed Model Evaluation: Global Sensitivity Analysis Applications and an Improved Parameter Sampling Strategy for Screening Exercises
Dissertation Chair: C. J. Martinez

Mahmoud Kamal Ahmed Khedher Agha, Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, 1998, Master of Science in Agriculture, 2001, University of Baghdad—Iraq; Master of Engineering, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering
Dissertation: Detection and Protection of Triticale Seed From Infestation in a Storage System
Dissertation Chair: W. S. Lee
Dissertation Co-chair: R. A. Bucklin

Sarah Ann Kiley, Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology, 2000, University of Maine; Master of Science in Human Biology, 2007, University of Indianapolis—Indiana

Major: Anthropology
Dissertation: Estimating the Postmortem Interval in Florida: A Regional Validation Study Using Geospatial Analysis
Dissertation Chair: M. W. Warren

Sungsik Kim, Bachelor of Engineering, 2002, Kyung Hee University—South Korea; Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida

Major: Mechanical Engineering
Dissertation: Kinetic Study of Oxidation of Methane Over Bimetallic Catalyst by Theoretical Methods
Dissertation Chair: D. W. Mikolaitis

Melissa Mae Kreye, Bachelor of Science, 2004, Master of Science in Natural Resources, 2008, Humboldt State University—California

Major: Forest Resources and Conservation
Dissertation: Public Preferences and Willingness-To-Pay Forest Conservation Programs to Protect Water Quality
Dissertation Chair: D. Adams

Taylor P. Kuhn, Bachelor of Science magna cum laude, 2008, Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida

Major: Psychology—Clinical and Health Psychology
Dissertation: Structural and Functional Correlates of Adjacent Temporal Lobe Circuits: Associations With Memory Performance and Structural Neuroimaging in Temporal Lobe Epilepsy
Dissertation Chair: R. M. Bauer
Rohit Kumar, Bachelor of Technology in Electronics Engineering, 2006, Banaras Hindu University—India; Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: A Framework to Generate Partially Reconfigurable FPGA Application From High-Level FPGA Application
Dissertation Chair: A. M. Gordon-Ross

Carmen Alondra Laguer Díaz, Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology, 2007, University of Puerto Rico at Rio Piedras; Master of Arts, 2009, University of Florida

Major: Anthropology
Dissertation: The Historical Creation of Identities in Puerto Rico
Dissertation Chair: W. F. Keegan

Eleanor Anne Laughlin, Bachelor of Arts in French, 1995, Bachelor of Arts in Education magna cum laude, 1995, Arizona State University; Master of Liberal Arts, 2002, Harvard University—Massachusetts

Major: Art History
Dissertation: Posed and Deposed: Propaganda and Resistance in Carte De Visite Photographs of Maximilian Von Habsburg During Mexico’s Second Empire (1864-1867)
Dissertation Chair: M. L. Hyde
Dissertation Co-chair: M. Stanfield-Mazzi

Kadesh Lauridsen, Bachelor of Arts magna cum laude, 2002, University of North Florida; Master of Arts, 2006, University of Florida

Major: English
Dissertation: Let Us Not Desert One Another: Women Writing Friendship and Community in the Long Eighteenth Century
Dissertation Chair: J. W. Page

Candice M. Lavelle, Bachelor of Science in Marine Biology magna cum laude, 2005, Roger Williams University—Rhode Island; Master of Science in Water Resources Science, 2009, University of Minnesota at Twin Cities

Major: Veterinary Medical Sciences
Dissertation: Nanomaterial Uptake and Reproductive Consequences in Fathead Minnows
Dissertation Chair: N. D. Denslow

Jinhyung Lee, Bachelor of Science in Engineering, 2009, Yonsei University—South Korea; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Materials Science and Engineering
Dissertation: Surface and Sub-Surface Damage in Ultra-Hard Substrates for Wide Band Gap Semiconductor Applications
Dissertation Chair: R. K. Singh

Uisung Lee, Bachelor of Engineering, 2005, Korea University—South Korea; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Mechanical Engineering
Dissertation: Experimental and Numerical Evaluation of Thermochemical Conversion of Biomass and Municipal Solid Waste Using a High Temperature Steam Gasification
Dissertation Chair: J. N. Chung

Michelle J. LeFebvre, Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology magna cum laude, 2003, University of Kentucky; Master of Arts, 2005, University of Florida

Major: Anthropology
Dissertation: Animals, Food, and Social Life Among the Pre-Columbian Taino of En Bas Saline, Hispaniola
Dissertation Chair: S. D. deFrance

Carissa Hsiao Chieh Li, Bachelor of Science, 2010, National Central University—Taiwan

Major: Chemistry
Dissertation: Cyanide-Bridged Coordination Polymers as Battery Cathodes
Dissertation Chair: D. R. Talham

Xiangguo Li, Bachelor of Science, 2008, Nanjing University—China; Master of Science, 2009, University of Florida

Major: Physics
Dissertation: Magnetism and Electron Transport at Nano Scales
Dissertation Chair: H. P. Cheng
Zheng Li, Bachelor of Medicine, 2007, Capital Medical University—China; Master of Public Health, 2010, University of Nevada at Reno
Major: Epidemiology
Dissertation: Health Outcomes and Pediatric Asthma: A Longitudinal Study
Dissertation Chair: E. A. Shenkman

Meng Liu, Bachelor of Science, 2008, Peking University—China; Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida
Major: Mathematics
Dissertation Chair: Y. Chen

Yonggang Liu, Bachelor of Engineering, 2008, Beijing University—China
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: Interposition-based I/O Scheduling in Virtualized Parallel File Systems
Dissertation Chair: R. J. Figueiredo

Nelia Sánchez Long, Bachelor of Science in Nuclear Engineering cum laude, 2010, Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Dissertation: Development of a Computational Adult Brain Model and Applications to Radiation Dosimetry of Brain Structures During CT Examinations
Dissertation Chair: W. E. Bolch

David Lopez Vieira, Bachelor of Science in Engineering Science, 2009, University of Western Ontario—Canada
Major: Medical Sciences—Molecular Cell Biology
Dissertation: Hematopoiesis in a Fully Regenerative Vertebrate: The Axolotl
Dissertation Chair: E. W. Scott

Zhiyao Luo, Bachelor of Science, 2008, Zhongshan University—China; Master of Science Applied, 2010, McGill University—Canada
Major: Food Science
Dissertation: Detection and Characterization of Salmonella From Irrigation Ponds in Upper Suwannee River Watershed
Dissertation Chair: A. C. Wright

Jennifer Kaye Lyles, Bachelor of Science in Biology, 2009, Francis Marion University—South Carolina
Major: Medical Sciences—Genetics
Dissertation: Investigating the Role of DNA Replication in the Establishment and Maintenance of Recombinant Adeno-Associated Viral Vector Genomes
Dissertation Chair: R. O. Snyder

Mildred N. Makani, Bachelor of Science, 2003, University of Zimbabwe; Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida
Major: Horticultural Sciences
Dissertation: Improving Water and Fertilizer Use Efficiency, While Maintaining Postharvest Quality of Tablestock Potatoes (Solanum tuberosum L.). Evaluation of ‘Rapid Curing’ as a Means of Prolonging Shelf-Life of Florida’s ‘New’ Potatoes
Dissertation Chair: S. A. Sargent
Dissertation Co-chair: L. Zotarelli

Mihaela Marcu, Diploma de Licenta, 1998, University Babes-Bolyai University—Romania
Major: Food and Resource Economics
Dissertation: Privatization Effects on Efficiency in the Water and Waste Water Industry in Former Socialist Countries
Dissertation Chair: C. B. Moss

Natalia Martinez Patino, Titulo de Medico Veterinario, 2001, National University of Colombia; Master of Preventative Veterinary Medicine, 2009, University of California at Davis
Major: Animal Sciences
Dissertation: Characterization of Subclinical Hypocalcemia and Strategies to Control Its Adverse Effects on Immune Function and Incidence of Uterine Disease in Early Postpartum Dairy Cows
Dissertation Chair: J. E. Santos

Glenda Kay Mayo, Bachelor of Science in Industrial Technology, 1995, Master of Science, 2005, University of West Florida
Major: Design, Construction, and Planning
Dissertation Chair: R. R. Issa
Kenton Elliot McBride, Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, 2009, University of Nebraska at Lincoln; Master of Engineering, 2011, University of Florida
Major: Civil Engineering
Dissertation: Steel Strength of Anchor Bolts in Stand-Off Base Plate Connections
Dissertation Chair: R. A. Cook

Emily Stewart McCann, Bachelor of Arts in English summa cum laude, 2006, Auburn University—Alabama; Master of Arts, 2008, University of Florida
Major: English
Dissertation: Gothic Futures: Modernist Gothic, Women’s Modernism
Dissertation Chair: M. C. Bryant

Daniel Stewart McCoy, Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology cum laude, 1992, San Francisco State University—California; Master of Arts in Anthropology, 1995, University of California at Los Angeles
Major: Curriculum and Instruction
Dissertation: Orthodoxy, Heterodoxy, and Instruction: Ideologies of Learning and Online Instructional Practices
Dissertation Chair: T. M. Dana

Eva Maria McFadden, Bachelor of Arts magna cum laude, 2000, Flagler College—Florida; Master of Arts in English, 2003, University of North Florida
Major: English
Dissertation: (En)Countering Confinement: Reading the Call for Independence in the Novels of Mary Robinson
Dissertation Chair: J. W. Page

Denyse Maria Mello, Bachelor in Agronomy, 1991, Master in Sustainable Development and Family Agricultures, 2009, Federal University of Acre—Brazil
Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology
Dissertation: Collective Microenterprises and Rural Women’s Economic Empowerment in Brazilian Amazonia
Dissertation Chair: M. C. Schmink

Anna M. Mench, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2008, University of Guelph—Canada; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Dissertation: Organ Dose and Image Quality Assessment of Iterative Reconstruction Algorithm in Computed Tomography Using Postmortem Subjects
Dissertation Chair: M. M. Arreola
Dissertation Co-chair: L. N. Rill

Mindy Alison Menn, Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, 2007, Master of Science in Education and Human Development, 2009, Texas A&M University at College Station
Major: Health and Human Performance
Dissertation: Distracted Driving Among Young Adults
Dissertation Chair: J. D. Chaney

Octavio Augusto Menocal-Barberena, Titulo de Ingeniero Agronomo, 1990, National Agrarian University—Peru; Master of Science, 1999, University of Florida
Major: Horticultural Sciences
Dissertation: Effect of Soil Applied Potassium Silicate Applications on Papaya (Carica Papaya L.) Plant Growth, Development, Yields, Physiology, and Postharvest Fruit Quality
Dissertation Chair: J. H. Crane

Harald G. P. Messer Jr., Bachelor of Science, 1997, Master of Science, 2005, University of Florida
Major: Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology
Dissertation: The Role of JmjD3 and Utx Histone Demethylases in Hsv-1 Latency and Reactivation
Dissertation Chair: D. C. Bloom

Francois Jacques Albert Michonneau, Maitrise in Biologie des Populations et des Ecosystemes, 2004, Universite de la Reunion—France; Diplome de Master, 2005, Universite Pierre et Marie Curie—France
Major: Zoology
Dissertation: More Than Meets the Eye: Species Limits and Diversity in Sea Cucumber (Echinodermata: Holothuroidea)
Dissertation Chair: G. Paulay
David A. Mills, Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, 2008, University of Evansville—Indiana; Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Dissertation: A Sapphire MEMS-Based Optical Shear Stress Sensor for High-Temperature Applications
Dissertation Chair: M. Sheplak

Sahar Mirshamsi, Bachelor of Physics, 2004, K. N. Toosi University of Technology—Iran; Master of Science, 2008, Sharif University of Technology—Iran
Major: Physics
Dissertation: Water Confinement in Nanopores and Its Transport Properties
Dissertation Chair: H. P. Cheng
Dissertation Co-chair: A. Biswas

Claudia Maria Monzón Alvarado, Titulo de Biologa en El Grado de Licenciado, 2004, Universidad del Valle de Guatemala; Maestria en Ciencias, 2008, el Colegio de La Frontera Sur—Mexico
Major: Geography
Dissertation: Governance of Fire Management in Calakmul, Mexico: Institutions, Local Practice, and Human-Environmental Outcomes
Dissertation Chair: E. Keys
Dissertation Co-chair: P. R. Waylen

Paul M. Moore, Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering cum laude, 2009, Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Dissertation: Adaptively Tuned Micromanipulator and Fixturing Mechanism for Micro- and Mesoscale Manufacturing
Dissertation Chair: G. J. Wiens

Theron Gyasi Morgan-Brown, Bachelor of Arts, 2000, Lewis and Clark College—Oregon; Master of Science, 2007, University of Florida
Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology
Dissertation: Governance and Incentive Structures for Reducing Emissions From Deforestation and Degradation (Redd) in Tanzania
Dissertation Chair: S. Jacobson

Michael Edward Morris, Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, 1989, Master of Public Health, 1996, Emory University—Georgia; Master of Public Administration, 2007, Georgia State University
Major: Health Services Research
Dissertation: A Longitudinal Examination of Florida Local Public Health Investment’s Influence on Targeted Health Outcomes
Dissertation Chair: J. S. Harman

Shyam Prasad Mudiraj, Bachelor of Engineering in Chemical Engineering, 2008, Birla Institute of Technology and Science—India; Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida
Major: Chemical Engineering
Dissertation: Advanced Model-Based Control Design for Direct Methanol Fuel Cell Systems
Dissertation Chair: O. D. Crisalle

Robert A. Mueller, Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering summa cum laude, 2009, University of Florida
Major: Chemical Engineering
Dissertation: Diffusion of Light Gases in Advanced Nanoporous Membranes and Catalysts via NMR Diffusometry
Dissertation Chair: S. Vasenkov

Raissa Miriam Nascimento Guerra, Titulo de Bacharel, 1995, Univiersidade de Brasilia; Grau de Mestre, 2002, Universidade de Brasilia
Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology
Dissertation: Feasibility of Payments for Environmental Services in the Amazon Region: Tools for Ex Ante Assessment
Dissertation Chair: M. C. Schmink

Charles A. Nettleman III, Bachelor of Science, 2008, New Mexico State University; Master of Science, 2009, Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi
Major: Forest Resources and Conservation
Dissertation: GIS Modeling of Coastal Policies in Response to Sea Level Rise in Florida
Dissertation Chair: A. H. Abd-Elrahman
Dissertation Co-chair: G. Barnes
Liv Kelly Newman, Bachelor of Arts in History, 1997, Emory University—Georgia; Master of Arts in Education, 2000, Stanford University—California; Master of Arts, 2004, University of Florida

Major: Sociology
Dissertation: Race and Class in the Twenty-First Century: The Lived Experiences of Professional-Class Black Americans
Dissertation Chair: C. L. Shehan

Terry Keo Ngin, Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering cum laude, 2010, Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation Chair: M. A. Uman
Dissertation Co-chair: V. A. Rakov

Cuong Kien Ngo, Bachelor of Science, 2003, Hue University—Vietnam; Master of Science, 2009, University of Florida

Major: Mathematics
Dissertation: An Alternating Direction Approximate Newton Algorithm for Ill-Conditioned Problems With Application to Parallel MRI
Dissertation Chair: W. W. Hager


Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering
Dissertation: Combining Hydrologic Modeling and Economic Factors to Optimize Water Management for a Vietnamese Wetland System
Dissertation Chair: K. W. Migliaccio

Zhijiang Ni, Bachelor of Engineering, 2007, Master of Engineering, 2009, China Agricultural University

Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering
Dissertation: Three Dimensional Reconstruction of Tree Canopy Using Machine Vision
Dissertation Chair: T. F. Burks

Chien-Ming Nieh, Bachelor of Science in Electrophysics, 2005, Master of Science in Photonics, 2007, National Chiao Tung—Taiwan

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: 5.8-Gigahertz Doppler Radar Design for Improved Coverage and System Miniaturization of Noncontact Vibration and Distance Detection
Dissertation Chair: J. Lin

Patrick Michael O’Day, Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology, 1993, Fort Lewis College—Colorado; Master of Arts, 2002, University of Florida

Major: Anthropology
Dissertation: Measuring Pre-Contact Marine Fisheries in the Marianas Archipelago
Dissertation Chair: K. E. Sassaman
Dissertation Co-chair: D. J. Murie

Christopher T. O’Donohue, Bachelor of Science in Engineering in Chemical Engineering, 2008, University of Pittsburgh—Pennsylvania

Major: Chemical Engineering
Dissertation: Chemical Vapor Deposition of Tungsten Based Thin Films From Single Source Nitrido Complexes for Copper Metallization Applications
Dissertation Chair: T. J. Anderson

Victor M. Olivieri, Bachelor of Arts, 2004, Arizona State University; Master of Arts in Political Science, 2008, University of Louisville—Kentucky; Master of Arts, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Political Science
Dissertation: New Model Europeans: How Regional, National, and European Identities Interact to Forge What It Means to Be European
Dissertation Chair: M. H. Bernhard
Dissertation Co-chair: I. Oren

Emily V. O’Neill, Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, 2010, College of New Jersey

Major: Chemistry
Dissertation: Mass Spectrometric Analyses and Imaging of Materials Found in Paint Cross-Section From Replica Works of Art
Dissertation Chair: R. A. Yost
Richard S. Ottens, Bachelor of Science in Physics magna cum laude, 2006, College of New Jersey; Master of Science, 2009, University of Florida

**Major:** Physics  
Dissertation: A Study of Evanescent-Wave Heat Transfer in a Parallel Plane Geometry  
Dissertation Chair: D. B. Tanner

Matías Alejandro Oyarzun, Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering cum laude, 2005, Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering cum laude, 2008, University of Florida

**Major:** Mechanical Engineering  
Dissertation Chair: L. N. Cattafesta

Aysegul Ozkan, Bachelor of Science, 2007, Bilkent University—Turkey

**Major:** Computer Engineering  
Dissertation: Easal: Algorithms and Software for Analyzing Entropy-Driven Assembly Landscapes  
Dissertation Chair: M. Sitharam

Pablo Sebastián Padrón, Titulo de Biólogo, 2007, Universidad del Azuay—Ecuador; Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida

**Major:** Entomology and Nematology  
Dissertation: Molecular Phylogeny and Biogeography of the Genus *Catasticta* Butler, 1870  
Dissertation Chair: K. R. Willmott

Kristin Michelle Arndt Page, Bachelor of Arts, 2007, University of Florida

**Major:** Counseling and Counselor Education  
Dissertation: The Effects of Cognitive Behavioral Treatment and Demographic Factors on Recidivism  
Dissertation Chair: M. H. Daniels

Winifred V. Pankani Lindberg, Bachelor of Arts, 1998, University of Ghana; Master of Arts in International Studies, 2004, University of Oregon; Master of Arts, 2009, University of Florida

**Major:** Political Science  
Dissertation: System Overload: A Reversed Collective Action Dilemma and Bureaucratic Capacity in Two African Countries  
Dissertation Chair: C. O’Dwyer

Injun Park, Bachelor of Engineering, 2007, Master of Science, 2010, University of Seoul

**Major:** Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Dissertation Chair: J. C. Principe

Jiyoung Park, Bachelor of Science, 2002, Master of Science, 2004, Chonnam National University—South Korea

**Major:** Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology  
Dissertation: Arabidopsis Burp Domain Protein: Atpg1beta is Involved in Cell Size Regulation  
Dissertation Chair: B. Kang

Yunjong Park, Bachelor of Engineering, 2001, Korea University—South Korea; Master of Science in Biology, 2004, Yonsei University—South Korea

**Major:** Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology  
Dissertation: Identification of Regulatory Factors Involved in Salivary Gland Epithelial Cell Differentiation  
Dissertation Chair: S. Cha

Sabrina Marie Parra, Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering summa cum laude, 2009, Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida

**Major:** Coastal and Oceanographic Engineering  
Dissertation: Seasonal, Local, and Remote Effects on a Point-Source Submarine Groundwater Discharge  
Dissertation Chair: A. Valle-Levinson

Ekta Pathak, Master of Science, 2005, Gurukul Kangri University—India

**Major:** Entomology and Nematology  
Dissertation: Diversity of Nematophagous Fungi Populations and Their Relevance to the Regulation of Entomopathogenic Nematodes in Florida Citrus Orchards  
Dissertation Chair: L. W. Duncan
Edward Mario Perez Jr., Bachelor of Arts, 1996, Colorado Christian University; Master of Arts in Philosophy of Religion, 1999, Denver Seminary; Master of Arts in Philosophy, 2004, University of Colorado at Boulder

Major: Philosophy
Dissertation: On the Ontological Status of Propositions: Why Linguistic Logical Form Cannot Ground Propositional Structure
Dissertation Chair: M. E. Jubien

Linh Thuy Pham, Bang Tot Nghiep Dai Hoc, 2007, Hanoi University of Technology—Vietnam

Major: Chemistry
Minor: Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Dissertation Chair: G. Christou

John T. Pilkey, Bachelor of Science, 2010, Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: Rocket-Triggered Lightning Propagation and North-Florida Thunderstorm Charge Structure
Dissertation Chair: M. A. Uman
Dissertation Co-chair: V. A. Rakov

Jorge Luis Pino Concepción, Bachelor in Biology, 2003, Autonomous University of Chiriqui—Panama

Major: Zoology
Dissertation: On the Evolutionary History of the Neotropical Singing Mice, Genus Scotinomys
Dissertation Chair: D. L. Reed
Dissertation Co-chair: S. M. Phelps

Amanda Lynne Posgai, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2010, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2010, University of Florida

Major: Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology
Dissertation: Evaluating Efficacy and Mechanism of Combination Therapies for the Prevention and Reversal of Type 1 Diabetes Using the Non-Obese Diabetic Mouse Model of the Disease
Dissertation Chair: M. A. Atkinson

Alireza Pourreza, Bachelor of Farm Machinery Engineering, 2004, Master in Agricultural Engineering, 2011, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad—Iran; Master of Science Engineering, 2014, University of Florida

Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering
Dissertation: Citrus Huanglongbing and Black Spot Diseases Identification Using Computer Vision and Spectrometry
Dissertation Chair: W. S. Lee

Melissa A. Ramirez Rodrigues, Bachelor of Economics, 2005, University of the Americas—Mexico; Master of Science, 2008, University of Florida

Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering
Dissertation: More for Less Using Seasonal Climate Forecasting for Wheat Cropping
Dissertation Chair: S. Asseng

Shivakeshavan Ratnadurai Giridharan, Bachelor of Engineering in Electrical and Electronics Engineering, 2008, Anna University—India; Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida

Major: Biomedical Engineering
Dissertation: Influence of Synaptic Changes on Synchronization in Neuronal Networks
Dissertation Chair: S. S. Talathi
Dissertation Co-chair: P. P. Khargonekar

Justin W. Richardson, Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering magna cum laude, 2007, Master of Science, 2008, Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: A Comprehensive Methodology for Analysis of Diverse Processor Architectures
Dissertation Chair: A. D. George

Aurelijus Rinkevicius, Bachelor in Physics, 2010, Vilnius University—Lithuania

Major: Physics
Dissertation: An Observation of a Higgs Boson in the H to ZZ to Four Leptons Decay Channel and the Studies of Its Spin-Parity Properties
Dissertation Chair: G. Mieselmakher
Dissertation Co-chair: A. Korytov
Luisa F. Rios Avila, Titulo de Bacteriologa, 2004, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana—Colombia; Master of Science in Nutrition, 2010, University of Nebraska at Lincoln

**Major:** Nutritional Sciences
**Dissertation:** Metabolic Effects of Vitamin B-6 on One Carbon Metabolism, Tryptophan Catabolism, and Biomarkers of Inflammation in Oral Contraceptive Users
**Dissertation Chair:** J. F. Gregory

Olivia Nathalie Risset, Licence, 2008, Diplome de Master de Sciences et Technologies, 2010, University Pierre et Marie Curie—France

**Major:** Chemistry
**Dissertation:** Coordination Polymer Structures at the Mesoscale: Morphology and Magnetic Properties
**Dissertation Chair:** D. R. Talham

Nathan Paul Roehr, Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, 2008, University of Texas at Arlington

**Major:** Chemistry
**Dissertation:** Vibrational Spectroscopy of Industrial and Astrochemistry Relevant Species Trapped in Argon Matrices
**Dissertation Chair:** N. C. Polfer

Amy Roth Rosenthal, Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with summa cum laude, 2004, Emory University—Georgia; Master of Education, 2009, University of Florida

**Major:** School Psychology
**Dissertation:** The Impact of the Student Teaching Internship on Preservice Teachers’ Beliefs About the Importance of Home-School Partnership Activities and on Their Teaching Self-Efficacy
**Dissertation Chair:** T. M. Smith-Bonahue

Jennifer Lauren Ross, Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, 2006, University of North Florida; Master of Science, 2008, San Diego State University—California

**Major:** Coastal and Oceanographic Engineering
**Dissertation:** Tidal and Near-Tidal Motions in a Patagonian Fjord
**Dissertation Chair:** A. Valle-Levinson

Thomas M. Royal, Bachelor of Science, 2005, Austin Peay State University—Tennessee; Master of Music, 2008, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

**Major:** Music
**Dissertation:** The Performance of Music Using Computers and Its Reconception as Play
**Dissertation Chair:** P. C. Koonce

Nick Warren Ruktanonchai, Bachelor of Science in Biology, 2008, Centre College—Kentucky

**Major:** Zoology
**Dissertation:** Mosquitoes in Space: How Movement and Landscape Influence Mosquito Distribution and Disease Transmission
**Dissertation Chair:** D. L. Smith
**Dissertation Co-chair:** P. De Leenheer

Mazin Naseer Saber, Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Mechanization, 1999, Master of Science in Horticulture and Date Palm Science, 2003, University of Basrah—Iraq; Master of Engineering, 2014, University of Florida

**Major:** Agricultural and Biological Engineering
**Dissertation:** Development of an Automated Mechanical Weed Control System for Intra-Row Weeds in Vegetable Row Crops
**Dissertation Chair:** W. S. Lee

Hesamoddin Salehian, Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering, 2010, Sharif University of Technology—Iran; Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida

**Major:** Computer Engineering
**Dissertation:** Incremental Algorithms for Statistical Analysis of Manifold Valued Data
**Dissertation Chair:** B. C. Vemuri

Edward G. Salsberry, Bachelor of Arts, 1997, Virginia Wesleyan College; Master of Arts, 2003, Norfolk State University—Virginia

**Major:** Mass Communication
**Dissertation:** The Rise and Fall of the Rock ‘n’ Roll Disc Jockey: 1950-1970
**Dissertation Chair:** D. H. Ostroff
April Melanie Sapp, Bachelor of Science *cum laude*, 2009, University of Florida  
Major: Microbiology and Cell Science  
Dissertation: The Regulation of Nitric Oxide Levels in *Staphylococcus aureus* by Nitric Oxide Synthase and Nitric Oxide Reductase, and Their Effects on Physiology  
Dissertation Chair: K. C. Rice

Shashank G. Sawant, Bachelor of Technology, 2008, Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology—India; Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida  
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Dissertation Chair: D. P. Arnold

Katherine Ashley Sayler, Bachelor of Science, 2007, Master of Education, 2008, University of Florida  
Major: Veterinary Medical Sciences  
Dissertation: Emerging Pathogens Associated With the Lone Star Tick (*Amblyomma americanum*) in Florida  
Dissertation Chair: A. F. Barbet

Amanda Naomi Schwait, Bachelor of Science *cum laude*, 2006, Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida  
Major: Counseling Psychology  
Dissertation: The Utility of the MMPI-2 Symptom Validity Scale (FBS) for Detecting Litigation: An Analog Study  
Dissertation Chair: M. J. Herkov

Maria Claudia Segovia Salcedo, Licenciado en Ciencias Biologicas, 1996, Pontificia University Cato; Master of Science in Plant Biology, 2001, Ohio University  
Major: Botany  
Dissertation Chair: P. S. Soltis  
Dissertation Co-chair: D. E. Soltis

Muhammad Shafiq, Bachelor of Engineering, 2002, NED University of Engineering and Technology at Karachi—Pakistan; Master of Science in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, 2009, Illinois Institute of Technology  
Major: Mechanical Engineering  
Dissertation: Confinement Effects on the Deformation Behavior of Zirconium Diboride-Silicon Carbide (Zrb2-Sic) Composite  
Dissertation Chair: G. Subhash

Ravi Shekhar, Bachelor of Technology in Information and Communication 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

Tobin Jerel Shorey, Bachelor of Arts *summa cum laude*, 1997, Master of Arts, 2003, University of Florida  
Major: History  
Dissertation: Navigating the ‘Drunken Republic’: The Juno and the Russian American Frontier, 1799-1811  
Dissertation Chair: S. D. Finkel

Asmita Shukla, Bachelor of Technology in Agricultural Engineering, 2008, Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology—India; Master of Engineering, 2013, University of Florida  
Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering  
Dissertation Chair: S. Shukla

Major: Rehabilitation Science  
Dissertation: Age Differences in Pain Sensitivity and Response to Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation  
Dissertation Chair: S. George
Eva L. Solano, Bachelor of Arts in Psychology summa cum laude, 1999, Master of Education, 2004, University of North Florida

Major: **Curriculum and Instruction**  
Dissertation: Latin American Adolescent Immigrant Narratives: A Qualitative Study of Culture and Identity  
Dissertation Chair: D. Fu

Kurt J. Sollanek, Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science summa cum laude, 2008, Southern Connecticut State University

Major: **Health and Human Performance**  
Dissertation: Global Proteomics Changes in the Diaphragm Resulting From Endurance Exercise Training  
Dissertation Chair: S. K. Powers

Jignesh Chandrika Soni, Bachelor of Engineering, 2005, University of Mumbai—India; Master of Technology, 2007, Indian Institute of Technology—India

Major: **Aerospace Engineering**  
Dissertation: Design and Testing of a Dielectric Barrier Discharge Microthruster for Small Satellite Applications  
Dissertation Chair: S. Roy

Jennifer Joy Stamps, Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, 2001, Vanderbilt University—Tennessee

Major: **Medical Sciences—Neuroscience**  
Dissertation: Chemosensory Function During Healthy Aging, Alzheimer’s, and Parkinson’s Diseases  
Dissertation Chair: L. M. Sommerfield  
Dissertation Co-chair: K. M. Heilman

Justin Daniel Starr, Bachelor of Science high distinction, 2009, University of Virginia; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: **Materials Science and Engineering**  
Dissertation: Janus-Type Ceramic Nanomaterials: Anisotropic Building Blocks for the Formation of New Composites  
Dissertation Chair: J. Andrew

Caroline G. Staub, Bachelor of Science in Environmental Biology, 2005, Curtin University of Technology—Australia; Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida

Major: **Geography**  
Dissertation: Hydrologic Processes on Small Islands: Linkages Between Climate, Human Activity, and Water Availability in Mauritius  
Dissertation Chair: M. W. Binford  
Dissertation Co-chair: P. R. Waylen

Corey Neiss Stedwell, Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, 2009, Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, 2009, University of Montevallo-Al

Major: **Chemistry**  
Dissertation: Infrared Multiple-Photon Dissociation Spectroscopy of Biomolecular Complexes  
Dissertation Chair: N. C. Polfer

Forrest Robert Stevens, Bachelor of Arts, 1998, University of Chicago; Master of Science, 2009, University of Florida

Major: **Geography**  
Dissertation: Sensing Change: Methodologies of Scale and Analyzing Interactions of Land Cover, Land Use, and Forest Changes in Wallowa County, Oregon  
Dissertation Chair: J. Southworth  
Dissertation Co-chair: G. A. Kiker

Yifei Sun, Bachelor of Engineering, 2009, Huazhong University of Science and Technology—China; Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida

Major: **Mechanical Engineering**  
Minor: **Mathematics**  
Dissertation: On the Numerical Solution of High Dimensional Fokker-Planck Equations  
Dissertation Chair: M. Kumar

Sunil Swami, Bachelor of Medicine, 2006, Bachelor of Surgery, 2006, Maharshi Dayanand University at Rhotak—India; Master of Public Health, 2009, East Tennessee State University

Major: **Epidemiology**  
Dissertation: Anticholinergic Medication Use and Risk of Cognitive Impairment and Dementia in Older Adults With Preclinical Alzheimer’s Disease  
Dissertation Chair: T. M. Manini
Kaitlyn Amy Switalski, Bachelor of Science summa cum laude, 2009, Syracuse University—New York; Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida
Major: Psychology—Clinical and Health Psychology
Dissertation: Cognitive, Behavioral, and Emotional Variables as Predictors of Adaptive Functioning in Childhood
Dissertation Chair: S. C. Heaton
Dissertation Co-chair: M. Marsiske

Sadie A. Thomas, Artium Baccalaureus cum laude, 2000, Cornell University—New York; Master of Science, 2005, University of West Florida
Major: Industrial and Systems Engineering
Dissertation: Survival Probability on Networks With Memory and Fortification
Dissertation Chair: J. C. Smith

Donovan Lamar Thompson, Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, 2010, Georgia Southern University
Major: Chemistry
Dissertation: Systematic Study of Hydroxy Polymers and Low Density Polyethylene (LDPE) via Acyclic Diene Metathesis (ADMET)
Dissertation Chair: K. B. Wagener

Miao Tian, Bachelor of Science, 2008, Hohai University—China; Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida
Major: Coastal and Oceanographic Engineering
Dissertation: Nonlinear Wave Shoaling in the Nearshore
Dissertation Chair: A. A. Sheremet

Wenlan Tian, Bachelor of Agriculture, 2010, Nanjing Forestry University—China
Major: Horticultural Sciences—Environmental
Dissertation: Functional Genomic Studies of Jatropha Cercas L.
Dissertation Chair: W. A. Vendrane
Dissertation Co-chair: J. Wang

Vaibhav Tiwari, Master of Technology in Aerospace Engineering, 2005, Bachelor of Technology in Aerospace Engineering, 2005, Indian Institute of Technology—India; Master of Science in Physics, 2009, University of South Carolina at Columbia
Major: Physics
Dissertation: Search for Gravitational Waves From Eccentric Binary Black Holes
Dissertation Chair: S. G. Klimenko

Andrei Todor, Engineer, 2004, Technical University of Cluj-Napoca—Romania; Master of Science in Computer Science, 2009, State University of New York at Stony Brook
Major: Computer Engineering
Dissertation: Probabilistic Biological Network and Their Applications
Dissertation Chair: A. V. Dobra
Dissertation Co-chair: T. Kahveci

Nastaran Tofangsazi, Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Engineering-Herb Medicine, 2007, Isfahan University of Technology—Iran; Master of Science in Agricultural Engineering, 2009, University of Tehran—Iran
Major: Entomology and Nematology
Dissertation: Development of an IPM Program for the Tropical Sod Webworm (Herpetogramma Phaeopteralis Guenee)
Dissertation Chair: S. P. Arthurs

Kathryn Guenevere Horton Topham, Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, 2004, Smith College—Massachusetts; Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis, 2008, Northeastern University—Massachusetts
Major: Psychology
Dissertation: Some Determinants of Verbal-Nonverbal Correspondence
Dissertation Chair: B. A. Iwata

Thu Le Trinh, Bang Tot Nghiep Dai Hoc, 2007, Hanoi University of Technology—Vietnam; Master Recherche BIODEV-MBVD, 2009, de l’Universitie de Provence aix Marseille—France
Major: Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology
Dissertation: Targeted Therapies for Hepatocellular Carcinoma
Dissertation Chair: C. Liu
Joshua Troche, Bachelor of Science magna cum laude, 2009, Master of Arts, 2012, University of Florida
Major: Communication Sciences and Disorders
Dissertation: Towards a Unified Theory of Semantic Memory: The Semantic Space and Object Relatedness
Dissertation Chair: J. J. Reilly

Victor-Fang-Guo Tseng, Bachelor of Science in Electrical and Control Engineering, 2005, Master of Science in Control and Electrical Engineering, 2007, National Chiao Tung University—Taiwan
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: Integrated Passives and Resonant Inductive Coupling as a Displacement Sensing Mechanism for Large Piston/Rotation Micromirrors
Dissertation Chair: H. Xie

Yu-Shan Tseng, Bachelor of Science, 2007, National Taiwan University
Major: Medical Sciences—Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Dissertation: Characterizing Antigenic Structures of AAV Vectors
Dissertation Chair: M. Agbandje-Mckenna

Royce LaMar Turner, Bachelor of Science, 1992, Florida State University; Master of Science, 2000, Nova Southeastern University—Florida
Major: Educational Leadership
Dissertation: The Effect of Mobility on Graduation and Dropout Rates in a Large Urban School District
Dissertation Chair: B. Oliver

Ricardo B. Valladares, Bachelor of Science, 2009, University of Florida
Major: Microbiology and Cell Science
Dissertation: Hydrogen Peroxide Generation in Lactobacillus Johnsonii and Its Role in Bacterial Host Interactions in the Biobreeding Diabetes Prone Rat
Dissertation Chair: C. F. Gonzalez

Irina Marie Velsko, Bachelor of Arts in Biology, 2010, University of California at Santa Barbara
Major: Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology
Dissertation: Periodontal Pathogen-Induced Atherosclerosis in Apoe/- and Integrin Beta 6/- Mice
Dissertation Chair: K. N. Lakshmyya

Laura D. Wandner, Bachelor of Arts in Government summa cum laude, 2007, Connecticut College; Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida
Major: Psychology—Clinical and Health Psychology
Dissertation: Effect of a Perspective Taking Intervention on Consideration of Race, Sex, and Age in Pain Assessment and Treatment Decisions
Dissertation Chair: M. E. Robinson

Chao Wang, Bachelor of Engineering, 2007, Zhengzhou University—China
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Dissertation: EEG Studies of Neural Cognitive Processes
Dissertation Chair: M. Ding

Shengsen Wang, Bachelor of Agriculture, 2005, Master of Agriculture, 2008, Shandong Agricultural University—China
Major: Soil and Water Science
Dissertation: Iron (Fe) and Manganese (Mn) Oxide Minerals Modified Biochars: Characterization and Removal of Arsenate and Lead
Dissertation Chair: Y. Li
Dissertation Co-chair: B. Gao

Roberto Eduardo Weiss, Bachelor of Arts, 2005, University of California at Riverside; Master of Arts in Romance Languages, 2009, University of Memphis—Tennessee
Major: Romance Languages—Spanish
Dissertation: Between Triumph and Lament: Malvinas and the Politics of Nationalism in Argentine Literature and Film
Dissertation Chair: M. E. Sorbille

Jared W. Westbrook, Master of Science, 2009, University of Florida
Major: Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology
Dissertation: Genomic Analysis of Stem Terpene Traits in Loblolly Pine
Dissertation Chair: J. M. Davis
Angela D. White, Bachelor of Science in Nursing summa cum laude, 1998, Master of Science in Nursing, 2003, University of Florida
Major: Nursing Sciences
Minor: Community Science (Special Minor)
Dissertation: Connections Based on Need and Faith: The Social Networks of the Suburban Homeless Services and Those Who Utilize Them
Dissertation Chair: J. R. Stacciariini

Shelton L. Wright Jr., Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering, 2002, Bachelor of Science, 2005, University of Florida
Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering
Dissertation Chair: B. A. Welt

Sutie Xu, Bachelor of Agriculture, 2007, Shandong Agricultural University—China; Master of Natural Science, 2011, Chinese Academy of Sciences—China
Major: Soil and Water Science
Dissertation: Ecosystem C Stocks and the Impacts of Land Use Intensification in Subtropical Grazing Land Ecosystems
Dissertation Chair: M. L. Silveira
Dissertation Co-chair: K. S. Inglett

Yi Xu, Bachelor of Engineering, 2009, Xidian University—China
Major: Computer Engineering
Dissertation Chair: A. A. Helal

Yuan Xu, Bachelor of Biotechnology, 2008, Nankai University—China; Master of Statistics, 2014, University of Florida
Major: Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology
Dissertation: Role of Irf5 and Necrosis Factor Alpha in Experimental Lupus Model
Dissertation Chair: W. H. Reeves

Luping Yang, Bachelor of Engineering, 2009, Tongji University—China; Master of Science, 2011, Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida
Major: Civil Engineering
Dissertation: A Comparative Study of Full-Scale and Modeled Hurricane Wind Loads on Residential Structures Based on Non-Gaussian Statistical Models
Dissertation Chair: K. R. Gurley

Shengfeng Yang, Bachelor of Engineering, 2008, Master of Engineering, 2010, Huazhong University of Science and Technology—China
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Dissertation Chair: Y. Chen

Jin Yao, Bachelor of Engineering, 2007, Nanjing Forestry University—China; Master of Science in Natural Resource Management, 2010, University of Minnesota at Twin Cities; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: A Machine Learning Framework for Cancer Progression Modeling
Dissertation Chair: J. Li
Dissertation Co-chair: V. Mai

Sencer Nuri Yeralan, Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering cum laude, 2006, University of Florida
Major: Computer Engineering
Dissertation: High Performance Computing With Sparse Matrices and GPU Accelerators
Dissertation Chair: T. A. Davis

Kyusuk You, Bachelor of Engineering, 2006, Hongik University—South Korea; Master of Engineering, 2011, Master of Engineering, 2011, University of Florida
Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering
Dissertation: Design of a Robotic Vacuum Gripper for Harvesting Citrus Fruit and an Optimal Vacuum Controller Using Theoretical Model of the Vacuum Grasp
Dissertation Chair: T. F. Burks
Long Yu, Bachelor of Science, 2004, University of Science and Technology of China; Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida  
Major: Chemistry  
Dissertation: Rationalizing and Quantifying the Scrambling Chemistry in Peptide Sequencing: A Computational Perspective  
Dissertation Chair: N. C. Poller

Nami Sonia Yu, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2003, Master of Health Science, 2007, University of Florida  
Major: Rehabilitation Science  
Dissertation: An Examination of Key Indicators of Well-Being in Aging Individuals With Disabilities: Secondary Analyses of The Health and Retirement Study  
Dissertation Chair: J. L. Pomeranz

Yuan Yu, Bachelor of Science, 2004, Master of Agriculture, 2006, Northwest A&F University—China  
Major: Horticultural Sciences  
Dissertation: Development of Molecular Markers for Mandarin Flavors and Colors  
Dissertation Chair: F. G. Gmitter  
Dissertation Co-chair: H. J. Klee

Hao Yue, Bachelor of Engineering, 2009, Xidian University—China  
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Dissertation: Protocol Design and Optimization for Future Wireless Systems  
Dissertation Chair: Y. Fang

Carlos Jose Zambrano, Bachelor of Arts, 2000, University of Florida; Master of Science in Human Biology, 2005, University of Indianapolis—Indiana  
Major: Anthropology  
Dissertation: Relationship of Human Neurocranial Architecture to Sutural Complexity and Fusion  
Dissertation Chair: D. Daegling

Galo Augusto Zapata-Rios, Bachelor of Biological Science, 1997, The Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador; Master of Science in Environmental Science, 2001, Ohio University  
Major: Wildlife Ecology and Conservation  
Dissertation: Impacts of Domestic Dogs on the Native Mammalian Fauna of the Ecuadorian Andes  
Dissertation Chair: L. C. Branch

Jianxing Zhang, Bachelor of Science, 2004, China University of Petroleum; Master of Biochemical Engineering, 2007, Chinese Academy of Sciences—China; Master of Statistics, 2012, University of Florida  
Co-Major: Forest Resources and Conservation  
Co-Major: Statistics  
Dissertation: Consistency of Genotype X Environment Interactions on Yield and Diameter Distribution for Loblolly and Slash Pine and Verification of Breeding Values Estimated Between Single- and Multiple-Tree Plots for Slash Pine  
Dissertation Co-chair: G. F. Peter  
Dissertation Co-chair: N. A. Bliznyuk

Jing Zhang, Bachelor of Agriculture, 2007, Master of Science in Agriculture, 2010, South China Agricultural University  
Major: Horticultural Sciences—Environmental  
Dissertation: Canopy Responses of Warm-Season Turfgrass to Different Mowing Heights, Trinexapac-Ethyl Application, Drought, and Light Intensity  
Dissertation Chair: J. B. Unruh  
Dissertation Co-chair: K. E. Kenworthy

Long Zhang, Bachelor of Science, 2001, Master of Science, 2004, Peking University—China  
Major: Statistics  
Dissertation: On Security Properties of Random Matrix Masking  
Dissertation Chair: S. S. Wu  
Dissertation Co-chair: K. Khare

Xi Zheng, Bachelor of Engineering, 2005, Tongji University—China; Master of Science, 2011, Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida  
Major: Civil Engineering  
Dissertation Chair: R. D. Ellis
Ying Yi Zheng, Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences, 2007, University of Maryland at College Park; Master of Science, 2008, Georgetown University—District of Columbia
major: Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology
Dissertation Chair: L. M. Morel

Zhi Zhou, Bachelor of Engineering, 2006, North University of China; Master of Engineering, 2009, Jiangsu University—China; Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida
major: Materials Science and Engineering
Dissertation: Scalable Synthesis of Ferroelectric Nanowires and Textured Films
Dissertation Chair: H. Sodano

Mingjian Zhu, Bachelor of Science, 2005, China University of Geosciences; Master of Science, 2007, Peking University—China
major: Design, Construction, and Planning
Dissertation Chair: T. S. Hoctor
Dissertation Co-chair: K. I. Frank

Lisa Anne Zukowski, Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology, 2005, University of Texas at Austin; Master of Arts, 2009, University of Florida
major: Health and Human Performance
Dissertation: Wrist Movement Features Associated With Wheelchair Propulsion Styles and the Relationship to Propulsion Performance
Dissertation Chair: M. D. Tillman

Doctor of Education

Laura Angela Alvarez, Bachelor of Science in Child Development, 2003, Florida State University; Master of Education in Educational Leadership, 2009, Stetson University—Florida
major: Educational Leadership
Dissertation: Exploring the Perceptions and Experiences of Temporary Certified Teachers in Mentoring Relationships
Dissertation Chair: B. Oliver

Sarah E. Burd, Bachelor of Science in Education, 2000, Master of Science in Education in Elementary Education, 2001, Samford University—Alabama; Specialist in Education, 2009, University of Florida
major: Educational Leadership
Dissertation: Relationship Between Selected School and Student Characteristics and Principal Turnover in One Florida School District
Dissertation Chair: B. Oliver

Jazmyn Alston Davis, Bachelor of Arts cum laude, 2005, University of Florida; Master of Science in Educational Policy, Planning and Analysis, 2007, Florida State University
major: Higher Education Administration
Dissertation: Precollege Counseling in Georgia State Prisons: A Case Study
Dissertation Chair: D. F. Campbell

Kelly R. Essary, Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design, 2002, Mississippi University For Women; Master of Science in Trade and Industrial Education, 2008, University of South Florida
major: Higher Education Administration
Dissertation: The Relationship Between Organizational Climate and Job Satisfaction as Reported by Academic Deans in Independent Colleges and Universities
Dissertation Chair: D. F. Campbell
Sung Joong Kim, Bachelor of Arts, 2002, Yonsei University—South Korea; Master of Arts in Divinity, 2006, Master of Arts, 2010, Presbyterian College and Theological Seminary—South Korea; Master Degree, 2012, Boston University—Massachusetts

Major: Educational Leadership
Dissertation: Pastoral Leadership: The Practical Implication of Educational Leadership
Dissertation Chair: B. Oliver
Dissertation Co-chair: L. B. Eldridge

Jennifer Frances Knutowski, Bachelor of Arts in Education cum laude, 2004, Master of Education, 2005, University of Florida

Major: Curriculum and Instruction
Dissertation: Orchestrating Support for New Teachers in a Title I Middle School
Dissertation Chair: A. J. Adams

Jamonica Lashaun Rolle, Bachelor of Arts in Communication, 1999, Master of Arts in Communication, 2004, Florida Atlantic University

Major: Higher Education Administration
Dissertation Chair: D. F. Campbell

Jason Allen Schipper, Bachelor of Arts in History magna cum laude, 2005, Master of Arts in Teaching, 2006, Coastal Carolina University—South Carolina

Major: Curriculum and Instruction
Dissertation: Establishing Inquiry-Based Professional Learning Communities in International Schools
Dissertation Chair: A. J. Adams
DOCTOR OF AUDIOLOGY

Lindsay Elise Benson
Kimberly Diane Hurley
Erica Firman Madiedo
Scott W. Spence

DOCTOR OF PLANT MEDICINE

Carla Jane Calvert Burkle
Tamika A. Garrick
Mayerling Tatiana Sanchez Rodriguez

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

Melinda Wheeley Fawbush

Professional Degrees

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

DEAN Julie A. Johnson

DOCTOR OF PHARMACY

Abera Geleto Abu
Nikki N. Ajieren
Kwame O. Boateng
Silmarie Bosques Rosado
Lion Chohmelian
Brittany Nicole Churchhill
George Damian
Anu Dominic
Iziengbe Annette Enababor
Huguette Exantus
Debra C. Fitzpatrick-Stumpff
Cheryl Poss Fry
Melissa Gundersen Gallegos
Dean J. Garcia
Kenneth Scott Ginsburg
Ketty Gracia
Emmerlyn E. Iberedem
John Jacob
Ivana Jankovic
Sonia Joseph
Vicki M. Joshua
Alethia N. Medley
Michele Pionk Messing
Jodi Morgan
Sunny U. Patel
Jill A. Perez
Ngoc T. B. Pham
Janice Priar
Thomas Christopher Reed
Jean A. Roman
Amy M. Sieber
Carmela M. Silvestri
Jodi Carla Spann
Charlotte D. Strecker
Chidimma E. Umeadi
Irlando Talusan Villanueva

FREDRIC G. LEVIN COLLEGE OF LAW – PRESENTED AT SEPARATE CEREMONY

INTERIM DEAN George L. Dawson

JURIS DOCTOR

Ryan S. Drum
Dana E. Hines
Gentry Elizabeth Mander
Michael Martin Neal
Chelsey Rae Pankratz
Andrew Mifflin Starling
Jamie Marie Whiteway
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” (August 2014); No. 3 in Kiplinger’s “Best Values in Public Colleges” (2014); No. 3 in the Fiske Guide to Colleges’ list of Best Buys Among Publics (2014); No. 15 on the Forbes’ list of best public universities (2013); and No. 1 on Washington Monthly magazine’s list of national universities that offer the best bang for the buck (2013).

Job recruiters ranked UF ninth on the list of places where corporations prefer to recruit new employees (2010) and No. 2 on SmartMoney magazine’s list of universities whose graduates get the highest salary return for their tuition dollars (2012).

Faculty

• UF has nearly 4,000 faculty members with distinguished records in teaching, research and service, including 37 Eminent Scholar chairs and 42 faculty elections to the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, the Institute of Medicine, or the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

• Awards include a Fields Medal, two Pulitzer Prizes, NASA’s top award for research, and Smithsonian Institution’s conservation award.

Students

• More than 96 percent of incoming freshmen score above the national average on standardized exams. Students admitted for the fall 2014 freshman class had an average 4.4 GPA and an average SAT score of 1960.

• More than 1,260 International Baccalaureate students were enrolled in UF in 2014 — more than any other university in the United States. 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 2013.

• Sixty-seven percent of UF freshmen graduate within four years, and 85 percent of UF freshmen graduate within six years.

• Nearly two-thirds of UF graduates leave the university with no student loan debt. For the remaining third, their average indebtedness is about $20,708, as compared with the national average of roughly $29,400.
**Chain of Office**

The chain of office is an ornament worn with the president’s academic regalia symbolizing the authority and responsibilities incumbent with the office. The chain was presented in 2004 during the installation ceremony of President J. Bernard Machen. The medallion centerpiece is a 1.3-carat orange diamond engraved with the portraits, names and service years of the university’s 11 presidents. The Major Analytical Instruments Center at UF used ion beam engraving technology on the medallion. Also on the medallion are three .025-carat blue diamonds placed around the silhouette of the Century Tower and University Auditorium, signifying teaching, research and service. All four diamonds, donated by Gemesis Corp. of Sarasota, Florida, were grown using a process developed and patented by UF’s Department of Materials Science and Engineering.

**Academic Mace**

“Honoring the Past, Shaping the Future” was the signature of the University of Florida’s sesquicentennial celebration in 2003. It also was the inspiration for the ceremonial mace created and dedicated to mark this historic event. The mace dates back to the Middle Ages and symbolizes strength and authority; each is unique and reflects the values and characteristics of the institution. The university’s chief marshal carries the mace at all academic processions. Designed and crafted on the University of Florida campus, the mace artfully symbolizes those elements important to the university’s identity and history.

The 70-inch ceremonial staff combines traditional elements with modern styling. The stylized alligator rests on the globe signifying the University of Florida as an adaptable global leader in teaching, research and service. The four pillars supporting the globe represent the four original colleges; Agriculture, Engineering, Liberal Arts and Law. The cone holds the University of Florida Seal and words to the Alma Mater. The staff is carved from native cherry wood. The acorn finial depicts the adage “from tiny acorns mighty oaks do grow,” a commitment to life long learning. The brick pattern on the handle symbolizes higher education tradition and structure. Like the institution it represents, the mace is not static; growth and movement are expressed with loose rings engraved with the names of the university’s presidents and their years in office.

**Diplomas**

Diplomas will be mailed to the graduate’s permanent home mailing address in February 2015.
Caps and Gowns, An Explanation

The academic attire worn by faculty and graduating students at today’s commencement ceremony evolved from a style of dress worn by members of guilds and religious orders in medieval times. The black academic gown signifies that the individual wearing it has earned a degree in higher education.

Distinctions in the sleeve shape indicate the type of degree held by the wearer of the black gown. A round, open sleeve identifies a doctoral degree; by comparison, 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.

The doctoral costume also has velvet bands down the front of the gown and velvet cross bars on the sleeves. The trimming may be black, or it may match the color of the velvet hood edging. Colored tassels on the degree candidates’ caps indicate a candidate’s school or college.

Graduate candidates also wear a hood. At the University of Florida the lining of the hood has a blue chevron on an orange background.

In keeping with standards established for American universities in the late 19th century, the color of the velvet edging on the academic hood represents the wearer’s particular degree. White, used for the study of arts and letters, was inspired by the white fur trimming of the Oxford and Cambridge bachelor of arts hoods. Green was selected for medicine to reflect the color of medieval herbs, while golden yellow was chosen for the sciences to represent the wealth created by scientific research.

The following colors are specific to the University of Florida:

- Agriculture and Life Sciences; Forest Resources and Conservation – Maize
- Design, Construction and Planning; Construction Management – Blue Violet
- Audiology – Colonial Blue
- Business Administration, Accounting – Drab
- Dentistry – Lilac
- Education – Light Blue
- Engineering – Orange
- Arts – Brown
- Journalism and Communications – Garnet
- Law – Purple
- Liberal Arts – White
- Liberal Sciences – Golden Yellow
- Medicine – Green
- Music – Pink
- Natural Resources and Environment – Antique Gold
- Philosophy – Royal Blue
- Public Health – Salmon Pink
- Rehabilitation Counseling – Nile Green
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