SOCIAL MEDIA
Whether you are a #UFGrad or you are here to celebrate a #UFGrad, we invite you to join the commencement conversation on social media. Select tweets will be featured on the video boards prior to and after the ceremony.

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 PROGRAM
Additional copies of this commencement program are available while supplies last at the UF 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 commencement program can be ordered online with an additional charge for shipping and handling.

THIS IS NOT AN OFFICIAL GRADUATION LIST
While every effort is made to ensure accuracy in this commencement program, printing deadlines may result in omission of some names and use of names of persons not completing graduation requirements as intended. This printed program, therefore, should not be used to determine a student’s academic or degree status. The university’s official registry for conferral of degrees is the student’s permanent academic record as reflected on the student’s transcript, maintained by the Office of the University Registrar.

HONOR DESIGNATIONS
Honors designations in this program are incomplete, tentative, may not properly represent a student’s academic accomplishment and are subject to change. Final honors designation will be represented on the official diploma and on the transcript.
Commencement
FALL 2017
Greetings from the President

On behalf of the University of Florida, our faculty and our entire university community, I would like to extend my deepest congratulations to you, the Doctoral Graduates of 2017.

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

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

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

Good luck, best wishes, and Go Gators!

W. Kent Fuchs

University of Florida President

Dr. W. Kent Fuchs

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

President Fuchs came to UF from Cornell University, where he served as provost. He also served as dean of the Cornell College of Engineering. Before that, he was the head of the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Purdue University and a professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and the Coordinated Science Laboratory at the University of Illinois. President Fuchs is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; the American Association for the Advancement of Science; the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and the Association for Computing Machinery. He earned his doctoral degree in electrical engineering from the University of Illinois. He holds a master’s degree in divinity from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and a bachelor’s degree from Duke University.
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James W. Lloyd, D.V.M., Ph.D.
College of Veterinary Medicine
Judith C. Russell, M.S.
University Libraries
Heather White, Ph.D.
Interim Dean of Students
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Susan Nittrouer grew up in suburban Philadelphia in a family with a collective enthusiasm for science. For Susan, this interest centered on human communication, and focused on questions such as: Why is human language so complex? How do children learn that complex system, and what goes wrong when they cannot? As a college student at West Chester State University, she had the opportunity to tutor a deaf toddler, whose parents were raising him with spoken language. Part of that responsibility involved ferrying the child back and forth from West Chester to Easton, Pa., where there was a center for teaching spoken language to deaf children. That experience sparked her curiosity concerning the exact nature of the interface between hearing and spoken language.

After completing her bachelor’s degree, Susan enrolled at Smith College, where she extended her training in teaching deaf children. Immediately adjacent to the college was Clarke School for the Deaf, a facility established by Alexander Graham Bell, who had a deaf mother. Bell had developed methods for teaching deaf children to talk, and those methods flourished through the twentieth century. It was there that Susan’s interest in research regarding language in deaf children was initially sparked. Working with a faculty member at Smith, she compared various methods of promoting language comprehension by deaf children and tracking their speech production through the use of spectrographic analysis. After receiving her master’s degree in deaf education from Smith, Susan taught deaf children for five years in Massachusetts and Montreal, Quebec. But her interest in research was never extinguished, so she entered a doctoral program at City University of New York. While there, she was able to combine studies in speech and hearing sciences to explore how hearing loss specifically interferes with speech perception, and how childhood hearing loss negatively impacts language acquisition. She received her doctorate in 1985 and subsequently did a two-year postdoctoral fellowship at Haskins Laboratories in New Haven, Conn.

Her scholarly interests took her to Omaha, Neb., where she researched language development and childhood hearing loss at the Boys Town National Research Hospital. While there, her interest in the fundamental connections between the kind of signal a person hears and the way the brain processes that signal grew. Susan received her first research grant from the National Institutes of Health in 1988 and has had continuous funding since.

In 2002, Susan joined the faculty at Utah State University where she remained until 2005. She then spent 10 years at The Ohio State University. During these years, her research flourished, with the realization that the parts of the acoustic speech signal to which listeners attend will change as they accumulate experience listening to their first, or native language. Children require a great deal of experience, both hearing and producing speech, to acquire these attentional strategies. Children with dyslexia, a language problem, show similar deficits to children with hearing loss, raising the specter that dyslexia may have at its source perceptual difficulties.

Susan joined the UF faculty in 2015, where she has led the faculty and staff in the Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences and continues her research. Here she is able to bring her empirical findings full circle to promote new and optimal methods of working with children who struggle to learn the remarkable and complex system that is human language.
Peter Abrahamian  
Major: Plant Pathology  
Dissertation: Fitness, Molecular Characterization, and Management of Bacterial Leaf Spot in Tomatoes  
Dissertation Chair: G. E. Vallad  
Dissertation Co-chair: J. B. Jones

Manal Othman Abuagela  
Major: Food Science  
Dissertation: Inactivation of Aflatoxins \(B_1\), \(B_2\) in Peanuts by Pulsed Light (PL)  
Dissertation Chair: P. J. Sarnoski

Angie M. Adkin  
Major: Animal Sciences  
Dissertation: The Characterization of Phytoestrogens in Equine Feeds and Serum  
Dissertation Chair: L. K. Warren

Nor Hafizah Adnan  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction  
Dissertation: Cataloging Open Online Learning Design Patterns for Computer Science Courses  
Dissertation Chair: A. D. Ritzhaupt

Derek L. Allen  
Major: Forest Resources and Conservation  
Dissertation: Valuing Payments for Forest Water Yield  
Dissertation Chair: D. Adams

Adel A. Alrwisan  
Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences—Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy  
Dissertation: Azithromycin: An Evaluation of Use and Safety  
Dissertation Chair: A. G. Winterstein

Jeremy J. Anderson  
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Dissertation: A Long-Term Average Cepstral Enhancement Technique to Improve Single Microphone Automatic Speech Recognition  
Dissertation Chair: J. G. Harris

Jeffrey Matthew Arciola  
Major: Chemistry  
Dissertation: Identification and Characterization of Enzymes along the DNJ Biosynthetic Pathway  
Dissertation Chair: N. A. Horenstein

Sam C. Arden  
Major: Environmental Engineering Sciences  
Dissertation: Resource Use in the Urban Water System  
Dissertation Chair: M. T. Brown

George J. Armanious  
Major: Aerospace Engineering  
Dissertation: Distributed Control of a Flexible Air Vehicle Using an Adaptive Multi-Rate Distributed Kalman Filtering Framework  
Dissertation Chair: R. C. Lind Jr.
Harneet Arora  
Major: *Rehabilitation Science*  
Dissertation: *Examination of Disease Progression in Upper and Lower Limb Muscles in Boys with DMD Using Functional Clinical Endpoints and Magnetic Resonance Imaging*  
Dissertation Chair: K. H. Vandenborne

Jacob T. Atem  
Major: *Public Health*  
Dissertation: *Risk Factors, Characterization of Diarrheal Morbidity and Mortality among Children under Five (Cu5) Years Old across East Africans Refugee Camps*  
Dissertation Chair: S. L. McKune

Carolyn M. Averback  
Major: *Chemistry*  
Dissertation: *Controlling Phase Behavior of Coordination Polymer Networks and Two-Dimensional Organic-Inorganic Compounds*  
Dissertation Chair: D. R. Talham

Eyüp Serdar Ayaz  
Major: *Computer Science*  
Dissertation: *Geometric Algorithms for Witness Sets and Guard Sets in Piecewise Linear Models*  
Dissertation Chair: A. Ungor

Karen Michelle Bailey  
Major: *Interdisciplinary Ecology*  
Dissertation: *Drought Adaptation among Small-Scale Farmers in Swaziland: Understanding Relationships with Capital, Cognition, and Wellbeing*  
Dissertation Chair: R. A. McCleery  
Dissertation Co-chair: G. Barnes

Yanmin Bao  
Major: *Linguistics*  
Dissertation: *The Acquisition of Sociolinguistic Variation: A Longitudinal Study of Second Language Learners of Chinese over a Short-Term Study Abroad Sojourn*  
Dissertation Chair: H. Blondeau

Akash K. Basak  
Major: *Chemistry*  
Minor: *Pharmaceutical Sciences*  
Dissertation: *Synthetic Efforts to Develop Novel Antibacterial Agents That Eradicate Persistent Biofilms*  
Dissertation Chair: R. W. Huigens III

Sarah Franz Beaudoin  
Major: *Chemistry*  
Dissertation: *Application of Native and Mutant Threonine Aldolase towards Chemical Synthesis*  
Dissertation Chair: J. D. Stewart

Kyle C. Bentz  
Major: *Chemistry*  
Dissertation: *Next-Generation Polymers for Marine Oil Spill Remediation*  
Dissertation Chair: D. A. Savin

Andre Luiz Biscaia Riberio da Silva  
Major: *Horticultural Sciences*  
Minor: *Agricultural and Biological Engineering*  
Dissertation: *Soil Water and Nitrogen Dynamics on Potato BMPs Development*  
Dissertation Chair: L. Zotarelli  
Dissertation Co-chair: M. D. Dukes
Ariel Blanco  
Major: Aerospace Engineering  
Dissertation: The Free Molecular Electro Jet (FMEJ) Micro-Thruster for Space Propulsion  
Dissertation Chair: S. Roy

Ryan Andrew Blaustein  
Major: Soil and Water Sciences  
Dissertation: Defining the Interactions within the Citrus Microbiome during Huanglongbing Disease Progression and in Response to Phytopathogen Removal  
Dissertation Chair: M. Teplitski

Jillian M. Bobel  
Major: Animal Sciences  
Dissertation: The Ability of Oat Beta Glucans and Stress to Modulate Equine Immune Function  
Dissertation Chair: L. K. Warren

John Michael Boswell  
Major: Microbiology and Cell Science  
Dissertation: Biochemical and Molecular Characterization of a Subset of Chemosensory Proteins from the Red Imported Fire Ant, Solenopsis invicta  
Dissertation Chair: N. O. Keyhani

Evelyn R. Bracho-Sanchez  
Major: Biomedical Engineering  
Dissertation: Targeted Extracellular Delivery of Indoleamine 2,3 Dioxygenase via Fusion with Galectin-3  
Dissertation Chair: B. G. Keselowsky

Jonathan T. Brooks  
Major: Mechanical Engineering  
Dissertation: Distributed Coordination of Smart Loads to Provide Ancillary Service to the Power Grid  
Dissertation Chair: P. Barooah

Jarrett N. Brunny  
Major: Public Health  
Dissertation: Exploring Factors Influencing Healthcare Providers Substance Abuse Screening Behaviors during Routine Prenatal Care  
Dissertation Chair: M. E. Young

Ryan M. Burt  
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Dissertation: Finding Objects in Complex Scenes with Top-Down and Bottom-Up Information  
Dissertation Chair: J. C. Principe

Ren Cai  
Major: Chemistry  
Dissertation: 2D and 3D Supermaterials: Preparation and Artificial Enzyme System  
Dissertation Chair: W. Tan

Cheryl D. Calhoun  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction  
Dissertation: “We Are Ewits, Hear Us Roar!”: Empowering Women in Technology Startups (Ewits) as an Experiential Learning Model to Challenge Gendered Social Norms in the Field  
Dissertation Chair: C. R. Beal

Marlon Edgardo Carranza Zelaya  
Major: Anthropology  
Dissertation: Homicide, Culture, and the Post-Coup Situation in Northwestern Honduras  
Dissertation Chair: R. B. Kernaghan
Gail Castañeda
  Major: Public Health
  Minor: Measurement Methods
  Dissertation: Assessing Disordered Eating Behaviors in Response to Alcohol Consumption: Weight Conscious Drinking in a Freshman College Cohort
  Dissertation Chair: A. V. Blue

Indrasis Chakraborty
  Major: Mechanical Engineering
  Minor: Mathematics
  Dissertation: Partial Differential Equation-Based Control of Nonlinear Systems
  Dissertation Chair: W. E. Dixon

Kimmel Chamat Garces
  Major: Design, Construction and Planning
  Dissertation: Optimal Scale of Urban Composting Systems, Life Cycle Sustainability Assessment
  Dissertation Chair: K. I. Frank

Thomas E. Chestnutt Jr.
  Major: Environmental Engineering Sciences
  Dissertation: The Effects of Dissolved Oxygen during the Reactivation of Granular Activated Carbon
  Dissertation Chair: D. W. Mazyck

Giles William Chickering
  Major: Environmental Engineering Sciences
  Dissertation: Quantifying Biogas Production from Municipal Solid Waste
  Dissertation Chair: T. G. Townsend

Chih-Hsiang Chien
  Major: Environmental Engineering Sciences
  Dissertation: Development and Testing of a Novel Size-Selective Personal Sampler for Inorganic Acidic Mists and Gases
  Dissertation Chair: C. Wu

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

Yeongbae Choe
  Major: Health and Human Performance
  Dissertation: Modeling Factors Distinguishing Market Structure: Implications for Destination Management
  Dissertation Chair: D. R. Fesenmaier

Inchul Choi
  Major: Computer Science
  Dissertation: Multi-Plane Based Occlusion Detection and Correspondence Improvement for Optical Flow
  Dissertation Chair: A. Banerjee

M. G. Ferdous Chowdhury
  Major: Horticultural Sciences
  Dissertation: Postharvest Heat Stress and Semi-Permeable Fruit Coating to Improve Quality and Extend Shelf Life of Citrus Fruit during Ambient Temperature Storage
  Dissertation Chair: J. K. Brecht
  Dissertation Co-chair: M. A. Ritenour

Kyle Will Christensen
  Major: Mechanical Engineering
  Dissertation: Layer Formation and Deformation Compensation during Inkjet Printing of 3D Biological Structures
  Dissertation Chair: Y. Huang
Abigail Susan Clark  
Major: Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences  
Dissertation: Pathogen, Host, and Environmental Dynamics: A Case Study of Panulirus argus Virus 1 in Caribbean Spiny Lobsters  
Dissertation Chair: D. C. Behringer, Jr.  
Dissertation Co-chair: T. B. Waltzek

Teresa D. Collins  
Major: Microbiology and Cell Science  
Dissertation: Amelioration of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus Pathology by Mitigation of Interferon-Gamma Producing T Cells by a Suppressor of Cytokine Signaling-1 (SOCS-1) Mimetic Peptide in the Spontaneous MRL/MpJ-Fasbr/br/J Mouse Model  
Dissertation Chair: J. Larkin III

Nicole Claire Cox  
Major: History  
Dissertation: Toxic Treatment: Creosote, the Wood-Preservation Industry, and the Making of Superfund Sites  
Dissertation Chair: J. E. Davis

Paul E. Crittenden  
Major: Mechanical Engineering  
Dissertation: Numerical Methods for Single and Two-Phase Flow Developed to Determine the Stability of Rapidly Expanding Contact and Particle Interfaces  
Dissertation Chair: S. Balachandar

Melissa Cruz-Acuna  
Major: Biomedical Engineering  
Dissertation: Magnetic Nanoparticle Remote Control In Vitro: Advantages and Limitations for Transfection  
Dissertation Chair: C. Rinaldi  
Dissertation Co-chair: J. P. Dobson

Judit Cserny  
Major: Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology  
Dissertation: Development of Nanoparticle-Coupled Regulatory T Cell Vaccine for Type 1 Diabetes  
Dissertation Chair: T. M. Brusko

Cheng Cui  
Major: Chemistry  
Dissertation: Site-Specific Bioconjugation on Proteins and Live Cells Using Aptamer Templates  
Dissertation Chair: W. Tan

David A. Curry  
Major: Physics  
Dissertation: Measurement of the Standard Model Higgs Boson Produced in Association with a W or Z Boson and Decaying to Bottom Quarks  
Dissertation Chair: I. K. Furic  
Dissertation Co-chair: J. Konigsberg

Sreten Cvetoevic  
Major: Forest Resources and Conservation  
Dissertation: Modelling the Propagation of Information through Twitter with a Review of Twitter Images  
Dissertation Chair: H. H. Hochmair

Mohammad Osamah Dahl  
Major: Veterinary Medical Sciences  
Dissertation: Pregnancy Loss Attributable to Mastitis in Dairy Cows  
Dissertation Chair: J. A. Hernandez

Xianjin Dai  
Major: Biomedical Engineering  
Dissertation: Multimodal Endoscopy and Its Application  
Dissertation Chair: H. Jiang
Arnob Das Gupta  
Major: Mechanical Engineering  
Dissertation: Study of Turbulent Flow Control Using Serpentine Plasma Actuator  
Dissertation Chair: S. Roy

Kelly A. Davidson  
Major: Food and Resource Economics  
Dissertation: Impacts of Nutrition Messaging on Food Choice and Dietary Diversity in Bangladesh  
Dissertation Chair: J. D. Kropp

Amelia Nadine Deitchman  
Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences—Pharmacy  
Minor: Statistics  
Dissertation: The Role of Chelators on Clinical Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics of Tigecycline  
Dissertation Chair: H. C. Derendorf

Brian J. Demaske  
Major: Materials Science and Engineering  
Dissertation: Transport and Phase Transitions in Ceramics and Amorphous Metals by Atomic-Level Simulation  
Dissertation Chair: S. R. Phillpot

Christopher Chi-long Deng  
Major: Chemistry  
Dissertation: Synthesis and Improvement of Self-Healing Boronate Ester Hydrogels  
Dissertation Chair: B. S. Sumerlin

Yujun Deng  
Major: Design, Construction and Planning  
Dissertation: Understanding Human Mobility and Activity Pattern in Urban Area under Routine and Extreme Conditions  
Dissertation Chair: Z. Peng

Rohan Deepak Dhavalikar  
Major: Chemical Engineering  
Dissertation: Modeling the Response of Magnetic Nanoparticles to Magnetic Fields in Magnetic Particle Imaging  
Dissertation Chair: C. Rinaldi

Dennis Anthony DiPasquale  
Major: Mass Communication  
Dissertation: Motivations for Social Media Adoption along the Product Life Cycle  
Dissertation Chair: A. J. Coffey

Peter Jonathan Dobbins  
Major: Computer Engineering  
Dissertation: Scene Analysis Using the Markov Ground Region Segmentation System (MGRSS)  
Dissertation Chair: J. N. Wilson

Miriam Edith Domínguez  
Major: Anthropology  
Dissertation: Wares of Knowledge and History: Social Inter-Regional Interaction in the Jubones River Basin, Ecuador (ca. 1,000 B.C.E.)  
Dissertation Chair: N. J. Wallis

Zhipeng Dong  
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Dissertation: Modeling and Physics of Low Energy Nanodevices  
Dissertation Chair: J. Guo

Mark Calvin Donop  
Major: Anthropology  
Dissertation: Bundled Ancestor: The Palmetto Mound (8LV2) on the Florida Gulf Coast  
Dissertation Chair: K. E. Sassaman, Jr.  
Dissertation Co-chair: N. J. Wallis
Daniel P. Downes  
Major: Medical Sciences—Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
Dissertation: Integrated Approach towards Detecting Metabolic Shifts in Response to Drug Administration and Disease by Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy  
Dissertation Chair: J. R. Long  
Dissertation Co-chair: M. Febo Vega

Diego Esparza-Duran  
Major: Psychology—Clinical and Health Psychology  
Dissertation: Sleep, Diurnal Cortisol Rhythm, and Inflammation in Post-Surgical Women with Gynecological Cancer  
Dissertation Chair: D. B. Pereira

Ndubuisi C. Ezeluomba  
Major: Art History  
Dissertation: Olokun Shrines: Their Functions in the Culture of the Benin Speaking People of Southern Nigeria  
Dissertation Chair: R. E. Poynor

Ahmed Hassan Fahmy  
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Dissertation: Mixed-Signal IC Design for Interfacing with Peripheral Nervous System  
Dissertation Chair: R. Bashirullah  
Dissertation Co-chair: N. Maghari

Andreas Falke  
Major: Philosophy  
Dissertation: Excluding Thoroughly: Theories of Causation and Their Impact on the Exclusion Problem  
Dissertation Chair: G. Witmer

Crystal Andrea Felima  
Major: Anthropology  
Dissertation: Within and Against Critical Mortality: An Anthropological Study of the State, Vulnerability, and Hope through Disaster Narratives in Cap-Haïtien, Haiti  
Dissertation Chair: F. V. Harrison

Guanqiao Feng  
Major: Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology  
Dissertation: Evolution of Plant 3R-MYB and TIFY Gene Families and Jasmonate Induced Alternative Splicing Responses in Arabidopsis  
Dissertation Chair: W. B. Barbazuk

Oscar Figueroa III  
Major: Materials Science and Engineering  
Dissertation: Design of High Strength Shame Memory Alloys in the Ni-Ti-Ga Ternary System  
Dissertation Chair: M. V. Myers

Pauline Marie Martine Fontaine  
Major: Zoology  
Dissertation: The Transcription Factor SKN-1 Confers Resistance to Benzimidazole Drugs in Caenorhabditis elegans via the Phase II Drug Detoxification Gene UGT-22  
Dissertation Chair: K. P. Choe

Jennifer Paige Forshee  
Major: Political Science  
Dissertation: The Mirage of Journey: The Theoretical Foundations and Practical Applications of Martha Nussbaum’s Capabilities Approach  
Dissertation Chair: L. P. Thiele

Xiangyu Fu  
Major: Materials Science and Engineering  
Dissertation: Optical Study of Light Extraction in Corrugated Organic Light Emitting Diodes  
Dissertation Chair: F. F. So
Alma Y. Garcia Rodriguez
Major: Romance Languages—Spanish
Dissertation: La bifurcacion de la ciudad neobarroca Hispano Caribena: La Habana, San Juan y Santo Domingo como espacios carnavalescos y contranarrativos en seis novelas del Caribe Hispano
Dissertation Chair: E. Barradas

Aaron Thomas Garrison
Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences—Medicinal Chemistry
Dissertation: Discovery and Development of Halogenated Phenazines and Halogenated Quinolines as Biofilm-Eradicating Agents
Dissertation Chair: R. W. Huigens III

Andrée Sherlon George
Major: Soil and Water Sciences
Dissertation: Conditions That Allow Salmonella to Proliferate within Tomatoes
Dissertation Chair: M. Teplitski
Dissertation Co-chair: A. V. Ogram

Ryan Michael Goetz
Major: Physics
Dissertation: A Low Loss Faraday Isolator for Squeezing Injection in Advanced LIGO, and Radio-Frequency Amplitude Modulation
Dissertation Chair: D. B. Tanner

Sean Louis Goldberg
Major: Computer Engineering
Dissertation: Active Graph Inference in Knowledge Bases
Dissertation Chair: Z. Wang
Dissertation Co-chair: J. N. Wilson

Jessica L. Gouldthorpe O’Leary
Major: Agricultural Education and Communication
Dissertation: Understanding the University-Based Extension and Small-Scale Farmer Interactions: A Cross-Case Analysis between the Systems of Florida and Scotland
Dissertation Chair: G. D. Israel

David McCaskill Gray
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: Classifier Training Set Augmentation by Warping Synthetic Data in a Subspace Manifold
Dissertation Chair: J. C. Principe
Dissertation Co-chair: J. G. Harris

Zongni Gu
Major: Design, Construction and Planning
Dissertation: A Two-Stage Transportation Safety Resilience Measurement Using Data Envelopment Analysis Method
Dissertation Chair: I. Bejleri

Jing Guan
Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology
Dissertation: Studies and Simulative Models on Epiphytic Algae Caused Light Attenuation and Concurrent Growth Obstacles on Macrophytes in a Spring-fed River, Florida (USA)
Dissertation Chair: T. K. Frazer
Dissertation Co-chair: C. A. Jacoby

Fernanda Pohl Guimarães
Major: Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology
Dissertation: RNA-Modified T Cell as a Tool to Deliver Immunomodulatory Agents to Brain Tumor
Dissertation Chair: D. Mitchell
Alican Gulsevin
Major: Chemistry
Dissertation: A Comparative Analysis of the Principles behind α7 Nicotinic Acetylcholine Receptor Function
Dissertation Chair: N. A. Horenstein

Zimu Guo
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: A Framework for Securing Digital Systems against Counterfeiting, Reverse Engineering and Tampering
Dissertation Chair: D. J. Forte

Matthew T. Hallett
Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology
Dissertation: Landscape-Scale Research as a Tool for Engaging Communities in a Shared Learning Process in the Rupununi Region of Guyana
Dissertation Chair: J. G. Blake
Dissertation Co-chair: B. A. Loiselle

Matthew Joseph Hamm
Major: Medical Sciences—Neuroscience
Dissertation: Investigating LRRK2 and Tau Interaction in Neurodegenerative Disease
Dissertation Chair: J. M. Lewis
Dissertation Co-chair: B. I. Giasson

Hyunsuk Han
Major: Research and Evaluation Methodology
Dissertation: Evaluating Local Independence in Rasch Models with WLSMV Global Fit Indices
Dissertation Chair: A. C. Manley

Matthew T. Harrigan
Major: Political Science
Dissertation: The House Shall Choose Their Speaker: Rethinking Agenda Control in the House of Representatives
Dissertation Chair: L. C. Dodd

William C. Hedderson
Major: Health and Human Performance
Dissertation: The Effects of Propranolol on Acute Inflammatory Cytokines and Muscle Function following an Exercise-Induced Muscle Injury to the Shoulder in Individuals with a High Pain Sensitivity COMT Polymorphism
Dissertation Chair: P. A. Borsa

Marc Tobias Heinrichs
Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences—Pharmacy
Dissertation: Target Site Pharmacokinetics of Moxifloxacin, Linezolid and Pyrazinamide in Patients with Multidrug-Resistant Tuberculosis, and Dose Optimization Based on Pharmacokinetic-Pharmacodynamic Modeling and Simulation
Dissertation Chair: H. C. Derendorf

Darren Dwayne Henry
Major: Animal Sciences
Dissertation: Effects of Bismuth Subsalicylate and Calcium-Ammonium Nitrate on Beef Cattle Production
Dissertation Chair: N. DiLorenzo

Megan R. Hill
Major: Chemistry
Dissertation: Stimuli-Responsive and Degradable Polymers
Dissertation Chair: B. S. Sumerlin

William Parker Hinson
Major: Public Health
Dissertation: Utilizing an Integrative Spatial-Behavioral Approach to Investigate Distracted Driving and Mobile Device Use on a College Campus
Dissertation Chair: M. D. Moorhouse
Richard Groth Jones Hodel
Major: Botany
Dissertation: Comparative Phylogeography and Ecological Niche Modeling of Three Neotropical Mangrove Species
Dissertation Chair: D. E. Soltis
Dissertation Co-chair: P. S. Soltis

David Clifton Holden Jr.
Major: Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology
Dissertation: The Medical Science of Cell-Free Circulating Mitochondrial and Nuclear DNA in the Host Response to Sepsis, Trauma, and Transplant
Dissertation Chair: L. L. Moldawer

Marcus J. Hooper
Major: Medical Sciences—Genetics
Dissertation: The Role of Toll-Like Receptor 2 and Endothelins in Endogenous Retinal Neuroprotection
Dissertation Chair: J. Ash

Jie Hou
Major: Physics
Dissertation: Gate Modulated Carbon Nanotube Silicon Schottky Junction Devices
Dissertation Chair: A. G. Rinzler

Lisa A. Howell
Major: Anthropology
Dissertation: Anthropology at the Confluence: Intersections of Science and Community in Rural Communities
Dissertation Chair: B. H. Chalfin

Benjamin Adam Hughes
Major: Horticultural Sciences—Environmental Horticulture
Dissertation: Cryopreservation and In Vitro Techniques for the Conservation of Florida Native Orchids
Dissertation Chair: M. E. Kane

Veronica Saffran Hughes
Major: Medical Sciences—Physiology and Pharmacology
Dissertation: Complications in Current Preclinical and Clinical Assessments of Anticancer c-Met Targeting Therapy
Dissertation Chair: D. W. Siemann

Timothy J. Ironman
Major: Nuclear Engineering Sciences
Dissertation: An Exploration of the Viability of Spark Plasma Sintering for the Commercial Fabrication of Nuclear Fuel Pellets
Dissertation Chair: J. S. Tulenko

Brittany Yi Jacobs
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Dissertation: Pathologic Gait In Osteoarthritis Models: Characterization and Treatment
Dissertation Chair: K. Allen
Dissertation Co-chair: K. R. Vincent

Kimberly Susan Smith Jarczyk
Major: Nursing Sciences
Dissertation: A Within-Subjects Comparison of Two Antegrade Flushing Regimens in Children
Dissertation Chair: P. Pieper

Shaun P. Jensen
Major: Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology
Dissertation: Citrus Biotechnology: Bringing Citrus into the 21st Century
Dissertation Chair: G. A. Moore
Kyuho Jeong  
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Dissertation: SDN and Overlay Network Hybrid System for Scalable and High-Performance Network Virtualization  
Dissertation Chair: R. J. Figueiredo

Yuan Jiang  
Major: Food and Resource Economics  
Dissertation: Analysis of Consumption Behaviours and Market Structure with Excess Zero and Over-Dispersion  
Dissertation Chair: L. A. House

Ara Jo  
Major: Health Services Research  
Dissertation: Development of Cardiovascular Disease Risk Score by Adding a Body Composition Assessment  
Dissertation Chair: A. G. Mainous III

Soowon Jo  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction  
Dissertation: A Study of Common Core English Language Arts K-3 Text Exemplar Picture Books  
Dissertation Chair: D. Fu

Christopher Agustin Johns  
Major: Zoology  
Dissertation: The Evolutionary History of Hawaiian Leaf-Mining Moths in the Genus Philodoria (Gracillariidae: Lepidoptera)  
Dissertation Chair: A. Kawahara

Andrew Javan Johnson  
Major: Forest Resources and Conservation  
Dissertation: Resolving the Pygmy Borers (Curculionidae: Scolytinae: Cryphalini)  
Dissertation Chair: J. Hulcr

Nathan A. Johnson  
Major: Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences  
Dissertation: Genetic Investigations Reveal New Insights into the Diversity, Distribution, and Life History of Freshwater Mussels (Bivalvia: Unionidae) Inhabiting the Gulf-Atlantic Coastal Plain  
Dissertation Chair: J. D. Austin

Austin L. Jones  
Major: Chemistry  
Dissertation: Electron Transfer in Donor-Acceptor Conjugated Oligomers  
Dissertation Chair: K. S. Schanze

Mary Catherine Schell Jordan  
Major: Higher Education Administration  
Dissertation: Veterans in Higher Education: An Investigation of Factors Associated with Persistence  
Dissertation Chair: D. A. Kramer

Dana Lynn Karelus  
Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology  
Dissertation: Home Ranges, Movement Patterns, and Habitat Use of a Newly Colonized Population of Florida Black Bears (Ursus americanus floridanus) in a Fragmented Florida Landscape  
Dissertation Chair: M. K. Oli

Eutychus Mukure Kariuki  
Major: Entomology and Nematology  
Dissertation: Impact, Field Host Range, and Vertical Foraging Range of Cricotopus lebetis Sublette (Diptera: Chironomidae), a Biological Control Agent of Hydrilla verticillata [L.f] Royle (Hydrocharitaceae)  
Dissertation Chair: R. L. Hix  
Dissertation Co-chair: J. P. Cuda
Johannes Kast  
Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences  
Dissertation: Electroencephalogram: A Biomarker to Assess Pharmacodynamic Effects of Alertness-Affecting Drugs on Earth and in Space  
Dissertation Chair: H. C. Derendorf

Heather Rose Kates  
Major: Genetics and Genomics  
Dissertation: Genetics and Evolution of Multiple Domesticated Squashes and Pumpkins (Cucurbita, Cucurbitaceae)  
Dissertation Chair: P. S. Soltis  
Dissertation Co-chair: D. E. Soltis

Shivani Rajeshwori Khan  
Major: Epidemiology  
Dissertation: Predictors of Daily Marijuana Use among a National Sample of U.S. Youth  
Dissertation Chair: C. L. Striley

Jung Lyun Kim  
Major: Nursing Sciences  
Dissertation: Psychological Distress and Pain from Pressure Injury in Hospitalized Adults  
Dissertation Chair: D. Lyon

Mi-Jung Kim  
Major: Medical Sciences—Molecular Cell Biology  
Dissertation: Mitochondrial DNA Deletions in Age-Related Hearing Loss in Mice  
Dissertation Chair: S. Someya

Chase Billingsley Kimmel  
Major: Entomology and Nematology  
Dissertation: The Importance of Fire Management for Conserving Flower-Visiting Insect Diversity in a Longleaf Pine Sandhill Forest  
Dissertation Chair: J. C. Daniels

Andrew R. Kitto  
Major: Business Administration—Accounting  
Dissertation: The Effects of Small Audit Firm Mergers on Audit Efficiency and Audit Market Competition  
Dissertation Chair: W. R. Knechel

Geraldine Klarenberg  
Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering  
Dissertation: Changes in Vegetation Dynamics in a Socio-Ecological System in the Southwest Amazon Subject to Road Paving  
Dissertation Chair: R. Munoz-Carpena  
Dissertation Co-chair: G. A. Kiker

Jeremy P. Koelmel  
Major: Chemistry  
Dissertation Chair: R. A. Yost

Leticia M. Kumar  
Major: Horticultural Sciences  
Dissertation: Assessing Disease Management Potential and Identifying Regions Associated with the Non-Blighting Trait in Tomatoes  
Dissertation Chair: S. F. Hutton
Joanne Margaret Laframboise-Otto  
Major:  Nursing Sciences  
Minor:  Educational Leadership  
Dissertation:  Use of Music Listening to Enhance Acute Surgical Pain Management with Patients Undergoing Orthopedic Surgery  
Dissertation Chair:  A. L. Horgas

Emily Helen Lakes  
Major:  Biomedical Engineering  
Dissertation:  Advancing Methods for Multiscale Mechanics in Orthopaedic Research  
Dissertation Chair:  K. Allen

Kevin William Langdon  
Major:  Entomology and Nematology  
Dissertation:  Optimizing the Use of Soil-Applied Neonicotinoids for Control of Diaphorina Citri Kuwayama (Hemiptera: Liviidae) in Young Citrus Trees  
Dissertation Chair:  M. E. Rogers

Amy Kathleen Langston  
Major:  Environmental Engineering Sciences  
Dissertation:  A Shifting Mosaic: Climate Change and Biotic Controls Drive Changes in Coastal Forests along Florida’s Big Bend Coast  
Dissertation Chair:  D. A. Kaplan

Marie Jennifer Lauture  
Major:  Forest Resources and Conservation  
Dissertation:  Reinvigorating Oleoresin Collection in the Southeast USA: Evaluation of Chemical Inducers, Stand Management, Tree Characteristics, and Genetics  
Dissertation Chair:  G. F. Peter

Jae Hwa Lee  
Major:  Design, Construction and Planning  
Dissertation:  Building Creative Confidence through Transformative Learning: Lessons from First-Year College Students  
Dissertation Chair:  M. B. Portillo

Jeffrey A. Leibowitz  
Major:  Biomedical Engineering  
Dissertation:  Somatostatin Gene Therapy for Temporal Lobe Epilepsy and Its Effects on Adult Neurogenesis and Neuroinflammation  
Dissertation Chair:  B. K. Ormerod

Ang Li  
Major:  Physics  
Dissertation:  Fundamental Studies of Van der Waals Schottky/Tunnel Junctions Utilizing Novel Layered Materials  
Dissertation Chair:  A. F. Hebard

Jiade Li  
Major:  Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Dissertation:  A Framework for Intelligent Network and Security  
Dissertation Chair:  D. Wu

Zhangbo Li  
Major:  Materials Science and Engineering  
Dissertation:  Effect of Neutron Irradiation and Thermal Aging on Cast Austenitic Stainless Steel and Stainless Steel Weld Phase Stability  
Dissertation Chair:  Y. Yang

Ryan A. Licitra  
Major:  Mechanical Engineering  
Dissertation:  Autonomous Herding of Uncontrolled Uncertain Agents: A Switched Systems Approach  
Dissertation Chair:  W. E. Dixon
Chao Liu
Major: Design, Construction and Planning
Dissertation: Exploring Urban PM2.5 Pollution Burdens and Planning Strategies Using Data Mining and System Modeling Methods
Dissertation Chair: Z. Peng

Kyle James Lorentsen
Major: Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology
Dissertation: Transcription Factor Bcl11b Is Essential for Licensing Murine Th2 Differentiation In Vivo
Dissertation Chair: D. Avram

Tyler Michael Lovelly
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: Comparative Analysis of Space-Grade Processors
Dissertation Chair: A. D. George

Nargiza Ludgate
Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology
Dissertation: Gender Roles in Household Water Resource Management in Water-Scarce Countries: Does Greywater Treatment Technology Empower Rural Women in Jordan?
Dissertation Chair: S. L. Russo
Dissertation Co-chair: T. Borisova

Li Luo
Major: Special Education
Minor: Research and Evaluation Methodology
Dissertation: Development and Validation of a Questionnaire Used to Evaluate Chinese Preschool Teachers’ Perspectives about Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Teaching Practices
Dissertation Chair: P. Snyder

Daniel A. Mancero Castillo
Major: Horticultural Sciences
Dissertation: Detection and Introgression of a Major Source for Resistance to Peach Fungal Gummosis Caused by Botryosphaeria dothidea
Dissertation Chair: J. X. Chaparro

Naveen Mangal
Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences—Pharmacy
Dissertation: How Quantitative Clinical Pharmacology Can Bring Value to the Patient
Dissertation Chair: S. Schmidt

Mary Ann Dy Maquilan
Major: Horticultural Sciences
Dissertation: Rootstock Breeding for Resistance to the Peach Root-Knot Nematode Meloidogyne floridensis
Dissertation Chair: M. A. Olmstead
Dissertation Co-chair: J. X. Chaparro

Chad Ryan Maxwell
Major: Anthropology
Dissertation: Anthropology's Fitness: Competitive Challenges and Potential Paths Forward
Dissertation Chair: C. McCarty
Dissertation Co-chair: H. R. Bernard

James J. McCarthy
Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology
Dissertation: The Dynamics of Corporate Sustainability and Performance
Dissertation Chair: R. Ries
John Paul McCary
Major: Environmental Engineering Sciences
Dissertation: Value of High-Frequency Water Use Data for Evaluating Peak Water Use, Leaks, and Breaks on the Customer Side of the Meter
Dissertation Chair: J. Heaney

Jame Elizabeth McCray
Major: Wildlife Ecology and Conservation
Dissertation Chair: R. R. Carthy
Dissertation Co-chair: S. Jacobson

Timoteo R. Mesh
Major: Anthropology
Dissertation: Alcaldes of Toledo, Belize: Their Genealogy, Contestation, and Aspirations
Dissertation Chair: M. M. Stoilkova

Kylie J. Mitchell
Major: Chemistry
Dissertation: Molecular Routes to Monodisperse Cerium-Oxide Nanoparticles, and a Magnetostructural Correlation for Polynuclear Iron-Oxide Clusters
Dissertation Chair: G. Christou

Iwan E. Molgo
Major: Botany
Dissertation: The Evolution and Systematics of the Callisia section Cuthbertia Complex (Commelinaceae)
Dissertation Chair: P. S. Soltis

Marissa S. Molinar
Major: Anthropology
Dissertation: Drawing the World: Coso Range Archaic Rock Art as Performance, Community, and Cosmology
Dissertation Chair: K. E. Sassaman, Jr.

Ashley Nicole Mortensen
Major: Entomology and Nematology
Dissertation: Behavioral and Morphological Effects of In Vitro Larval Rearing on Adult Honey Bees, Apis mellifera L.
Dissertation Chair: J. Ellis

Marta Moura Kohmann
Major: Agronomy
Dissertation: Rhizoma Peanut Proportion in Mixed-Species Pastures with Bahiagrass Affects Nutrient Cycling and Greenhouse Gas Emissions
Dissertation Chair: L. E. Sollenberger
Dissertation Co-chair: J. C. Dubeux

Shrijit Mukherjee
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: Dynamic Performance Simulation of AlGaN/GaN High Electron Mobility Transistors
Dissertation Chair: M. E. Law

Lindsay J. Mullenix
Major: Materials Science and Engineering
Dissertation: Evaluation of Solution Heat Treatment and Creep Properties of CMSX-8 B/C for Industrial Gas Turbines
Dissertation Chair: G. E. Fuchs

Jennifer M. Mundt
Major: Psychology—Clinical and Health Psychology
Dissertation: An Examination of Pain’s Relationship to Sleep Fragmentation and Disordered Breathing across Common Sleep Disorders
Dissertation Chair: M. E. Robinson
Anna Kapambwe Mwaba  
Major: Political Science  
Dissertation: Monitoring Elections in Africa: Investigating the Role of Regional Actors  
Dissertation Chair: B. J. Moraski

Carolynn Sue Nath Komanski  
Major: Agricultural Education and Communication  
Dissertation: Factors Influencing Women Faculty Transitioning into Tenured Academic Roles at Land-Grant Institutions within Colleges of Agriculture  
Dissertation Chair: N. L. Stedman

Jordan Matthew Neil  
Major: Mass Communication  
Dissertation: Increasing Patient Adherence to Fecal Immunochemical Testing: A Translational Cancer Communication Intervention  
Dissertation Chair: K. B. Walsh-Childers  
Dissertation Co-chair: J. Raup-Krieger

Adam Steven Nickels  
Major: Aerospace Engineering  
Dissertation: Experimental-Based Estimation and Identification of Turbulence Generated Acoustics  
Dissertation Chair: L. S. Ukeiley

Ethan R. Nielsen  
Major: Horticultural Sciences  
Dissertation: Exploitation of Pummelo (*Citrus maxima* (Burm.) Merrill) through Breeding, Ploidy Manipulation, and Interstocks for Improvement of Cultivated Citrus  
Dissertation Chair: J. W. Grosser

Scott A. Nivison  
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Dissertation: Sparse and Deep Learning Based Nonlinear Flight Control Design with Hypersonic Flight Applications  
Dissertation Chair: P. P. Khargonekar

Elena Ortiz Acevedo  
Major: Entomology and Nematology  
Dissertation: Insights into the Origin and Evolution of Preponine Butterflies  
Dissertation Chair: K. R. Willmott

Alma Hamdallah Othman  
Major: Design, Construction and Planning  
Dissertation: Correlating Urban Design Qualities to Perceived Density Using 3D Computer Simulation  
Dissertation Chair: I. Bejleri  
Dissertation Co-chair: P. D. Zwick

Mehmet Ozdes  
Major: Geography  
Dissertation: Savanna Vegetation Change in Protected Areas of Southern Africa  
Dissertation Chair: J. Southworth

Andrew S. Padgett  
Major: Physics  
Dissertation: Low-Temperature Properties of Three Novel Quantum Solids  
Dissertation Chair: Y. Takano

Sarah Elisa Page  
Major: Anthropology  
Dissertation: No Solace in the Glass Closet: LGBTQ Activists Struggle for Human Rights in Jamaica  
Dissertation Chair: F. V. Harrison  
Dissertation Co-chair: M. M. Stoilkova
Andrea Joy Pain  
Major: **Geology**  
Dissertation: **Submarine Groundwater Discharge and the Coastal Carbon Cycle: Feedbacks in Carbonate versus Siliciclastic Subterranean Estuaries**  
Dissertation Chair: J. B. Martin

Sebastian Palmas Perez  
Major: **Forest Resources and Conservation**  
Dissertation: **Simulation Models for Natural Mixed Forests in Chile and Mexico**  
Dissertation Chair: S. Gezan

Smrittee Kala Panta  
Major: **Health and Human Performance**  
Dissertation: **Decentralized Conservation and Livelihood Sustainability: Analysis of Buffer Zone Program in Bardia National Park, Nepal**  
Dissertation Chair: B. Thapa  
Dissertation Co-chair: S. L. Russo

Kendra L. Patterson  
Major: **Political Science**  
Dissertation: **Treaties as Endogenous to State Interests: Politicization and Securitization of International Water Treaties in Bilateral Riparian Relationships**  
Dissertation Chair: L. E. Sjoberg

Ramesh Paudyal  
Major: **Forest Resources and Conservation**  
Dissertation: **Motivational, Forest Management, and Climatic Factors Affecting Outdoor Recreation Participation and Experience in Florida**  
Dissertation Chair: T. V. Stein

Cheng Peng  
Major: **Materials Science and Engineering**  
Dissertation: **Light Extraction and Degradation Mechanism Study of Organic Light Emitting Diodes**  
Dissertation Chair: F. F. So

Yang Peng  
Major: **Computer Science**  
Dissertation: **Multimodal Fusion: A New Theory and Applications**  
Dissertation Chair: Z. Wang

Barbara Anisley Perez  
Major: **Medical Sciences—Neuroscience**  
Dissertation: **Molecular Mechanisms of Reduced Penetrance and Therapeutic Approaches in Spinocerebellar ataxia type 8 (SCA8)**  
Dissertation Chair: L. P. Ranum

Esther Vita Piervil  
Major: **Public Health**  
Dissertation: **Understanding the Needs, Experiences, and Influence of Family Caregivers in the Black Community Across the Prostate Cancer Continuum of Care**  
Dissertation Chair: M. E. Young

Catia Sofia Pinho Da Silva  
Major: **Electrical and Computer Engineering**  
Dissertation: **A Framework for Spatiotemporal Quantification of Neural Functional Connectivity**  
Dissertation Chair: J. C. Principe

Mary G. Puckett  
Major: **Religion**  
Dissertation: **The Cosmopolitanization of the Luz del Mundo**  
Dissertation Chair: A. Peterson
Emily Marie Pukuma  
Major: Political Science  
Dissertation: British Colonial Legacies and Democratic Survival  
Dissertation Chair: B. B. Smith  

Ramon Joselito Macaranas Pulido  
Major: Physics  
Dissertation: Precious Metal Reduction in Near-Neutral pH and PEM Electrolyzers through Activated Graphitic Carbon Cathode and Mixed Oxide Anode Development  
Dissertation Chair: A. G. Rinzler  

Syed Hafizur Rahman  
Major: Statistics  
Dissertation: Cholesky-Based Model Selection and Estimation in Graphical Models  
Dissertation Chair: K. Khare  

Sruti Rayaprolu  
Major: Medical Sciences—Neuroscience  
Dissertation: Using Mouse Models to Understand Pleiotropic Neurodegenerative Disorders  
Dissertation Chair: J. M. Lewis  

Lawrence Edward Reeves  
Major: Entomology and Nematology  
Dissertation: Mosquito Blood Meal-Derived Environmental DNA: Conservation and Epidemiological Applications of Biodiversity Surveys Based on Molecular Identification of Mosquito Hosts  
Dissertation Chair: A. Kawahara  

Elizabeth Cannon Rich  
Major: Higher Education Administration  
Dissertation: Higher Education Participation during Incarceration and the Reduction of Post-Release Recidivism  
Dissertation Chair: J. C. Ortagus  
Dissertation Co-chair: D. Miller  

Tracey Ann Ritchie  
Major: Forest Resources and Conservation  
Dissertation: Developing and Measuring Systems Thinking Skills in Students and Teachers  
Dissertation Chair: M. C. Monroe  

Christopher D. Roland  
Major: Chemistry  
Dissertation: Cyclic Polymers from Alkynes Using Group (VI) Catalysts  
Dissertation Chair: A. S. Veige  

Lucas M. Rolison  
Major: Nuclear Engineering Sciences  
Dissertation: Development of X-ray Backscatter Techniques for Imaging Tomosynthesis  
Dissertation Chair: J. E. Baciak  

Yue Rong  
Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering  
Dissertation: Development of a Biosensor for Rapid Diagnosis Ketoacidosis Based on Insect-Derived Chemosensory Proteins  
Dissertation Chair: E. McLamore  
Dissertation Co-chair: Z. Tong  

Scott J. Rothberg  
Major: Design, Construction and Planning  
Dissertation: Florida’s Fireprints: Exploring Spatiotemporal Differences in Fire, Weather, and Land Use Relationships  
Dissertation Chair: P. D. Zwick
Norsazilawati Binti Saad  
Major: Plant Pathology  
Dissertation: Discovery of Known and Novel Viruses in Wild and Cultivated Blueberry through Transcriptomic and Viral Metagenomics Approach  
Dissertation Chair: P. F. Harmon

Shenae K. Samuels  
Major: Health Services Research  
Dissertation: The Early Impact of Medicaid Expansion on Health Care Access and Utilization among Individuals with Ambulatory Care Sensitive Conditions  
Dissertation Chair: R. P. Duncan

Clayton Pio Santiago  
Major: Medical Sciences—Genetics  
Dissertation: Characterizing the Regulation of Leukemia Inhibitory Factor and Developing a Novel Drug Regulatable Neurokine to Treat Retinal Degeneration  
Dissertation Chair: J. Ash

Kristen E. Sauby  
Major: Zoology  
Dissertation: Quantifying the Consequences of Herbivory on Opuntia Populations through the Use of an Improved Sampling Design and Vital Rate and Population Dynamics Analyses  
Dissertation Chair: R. D. Holt  
Dissertation Co-chair: M. C. Christman

Nathan R. Sauder  
Major: Mechanical Engineering  
Dissertation: Predicting Optimal Fast Functional Electrical Stimulation Patterns for Post-Stroke Gait Neurorehabilitation  
Dissertation Chair: D. W. Hahn

Uta Schilling  
Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences—Pharmacy  
Minor: Statistics  
Dissertation: Pharmacokinetics of Inhaled and Intranasal Corticosteroids  
Dissertation Chair: G. Hochhaus

Timothy P. Schlittenhardt  
Major: Physics  
Dissertation: Modeling Morphology Dependence of the Power Generation in Bulk Heterojunction Organic Photovoltaics  
Dissertation Chair: S. P. Hershfield

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

Saif Asif Shaikh  
Major: Chemical Engineering  
Dissertation: Dynamics and Rheology of Concentrated Suspensions of Rigid Fibers  
Dissertation Chair: J. E. Butler

Allyson E. Shea  
Major: Medical Sciences—Molecular Cell Biology  
Dissertation: Uropathogenic Escherichia coli Mechanisms of Intracellular Invasion  
Dissertation Chair: Y. Daaka

Zachary Siders  
Major: Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences  
Dissertation: The Role of Habitat in Aquatic Intra- and Interspecific Interactions  
Dissertation Chair: M. S. Allen  
Dissertation Co-chair: R. Ahrens
Erica A. Simmons  
Major: Chemistry  
Dissertation: Exploration and Optimization of Three Enzymatic Routes to Convert Linoleic Acid into \( n \)-Hexanal  
Dissertation Chair: J. D. Stewart

Shrestha Sinha Ray  
Major: Microbiology and Cell Science  
Dissertation: Genetic Analysis of an Ancient Lineage Non-Toxigenic Vibrio cholerae 01 Strain  
Dissertation Chair: J. G. Morris

Natasha J. Sng  
Major: Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology  
Dissertation: Characterizing a Novel Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS) Gene Identified from Spaceflight Experiments  
Dissertation Chair: A. Paul  
Dissertation Co-chair: R. J. Ferl

Steven Joseph Snowden  
Major: Counseling Psychology  
Dissertation: A Dual-Processing Approach to Examining Gender Role Conflict in Men  
Dissertation Chair: M. Heesacker

Aliyah R. Snyder  
Major: Psychology  
Dissertation: The Effect of Exercise on Neurorecovery Following Mild Traumatic Brain Injury: A Pilot Study  
Dissertation Chair: R. M. Bauer

Kristen Solocinski  
Major: Medical Sciences—Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
Dissertation: The Role of Per1 and EDN1-AS in Mineralocorticoid and Salt-Sensitive Hypertension  
Dissertation Chair: M. L. Gumz

Pallavi Sood  
Major: Rehabilitation Science  
Dissertation: Developing Tailored Functional Status Measures across Continuum of Care  
Dissertation Chair: S. Romero

Lauren Alexandra Sosa  
Major: Design, Construction and Planning  
Dissertation: Landscape Architecture, International Development, and Environmental Ethics  
Dissertation Chair: K. E. Larsen

Gayathri Srinivasan  
Major: Medical Sciences—Genetics  
Dissertation: MicroRNA Regulation of PARP1 and Its Role in DNA Repair Pathways and Cancer  
Dissertation Chair: R. A. Hromas

Bethany A. Stennett  
Major: Psychology  
Dissertation: The Effects of Simultaneous Cocaine and Alcohol Self-Administration on Striatal Glutamate  
Dissertation Chair: L. Knackstedt

Ian P. Stern  
Major: Physics  
Minor: Mechanical Engineering  
Dissertation: Microwave Cavities for Axion Dark Matter Detectors  
Dissertation Chair: D. B. Tanner
Michael Alistair Stone
Major: Civil Engineering
Dissertation: Investigation of Normal Strength and Ultra-High Performance Concrete Cylinder Failure Behavior Under Impact
Dissertation Chair: T. Krauthammer

Amanda Lynne Strayer-Scherer
Major: Plant Pathology
Dissertation: Novel Approaches for the Diagnosis and Management of Bacterial Spot of Tomato
Dissertation Chair: M. Paret
Dissertation Co-chair: J. B. Jones

Rachel M. Stupay
Major: Medical Sciences—Genetics
Dissertation: Usher Syndrome Type 3: Retinal Phenotype and Gene Therapy Approaches
Dissertation Chair: W. W. Hauswirth
Dissertation Co-chair: A. Dinculescu

Brenda Lee Ruei-Chi Such
Major: Curriculum and Instruction
Minor: Research and Evaluation Methodology
Dissertation: Blended, Active, and Persistent: An Investigative Study of Blended Learning Affordances for Active Learning and Student Persistence
Dissertation Chair: P. Antonenko

Lerah Sutton
Major: Anthropology
Dissertation: Declassifying Decomposition: Estimation of the Postmortem Interval Using Total Body Score and Accumulated Degree Days
Dissertation Chair: M. J. Heckenberger
Dissertation Co-chair: J. H. Byrd

Massimiliano Salvatore Tagliamonte
Major: Veterinary Medical Sciences
Dissertation: Malaria in Haiti: A Genomic Approach to Its Epidemiology and Biology
Dissertation Chair: J. B. Dame
Dissertation Co-chair: A. F. Barbet

Jared Paul Taylor
Major: Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology
Dissertation: Targeting Negative Regulators of Immune Signaling Pathways to Disrupt the HIV-1 Life Cycle
Dissertation Chair: M. A. Wallet

Jessica Lauren Taylor
Major: History
Dissertation: Certaine Boundes: Indian Peoples, Nations and Violence in the Seventeenth-Century Chesapeake
Dissertation Chair: J. Barr
Dissertation Co-chair: J. F. Sensbach

Edward F. Thomas
Major: Business Administration—Accounting
Dissertation: The Joint Effect of Expressed User Concern and Authoritative Guidance on Managerial Determinations of Materiality
Dissertation Chair: S. K. Asare

John Erik Timmons
Major: Anthropology
Dissertation: Hip-Hop Life and Livelihood in Nairobi, Kenya
Dissertation Chair: R. B. Kernaghan
Brian P. Tyler  
Major: Anthropology  
Dissertation: Culture, Trauma, and Health: Social Suffering in Rural Guatemala  
Dissertation Chair: C. C. Gravlee IV

Wendy Ann Vidor  
Major: Horticultural Sciences—Environmental Horticulture  
Dissertation: A Model to Implement STEM Curriculum in Plant Biotechnology at the Secondary Level  
Dissertation Chair: M. E. Kane

Karen Lee Vyverberg  
Major: Geology  
Dissertation: Reconstructing the Temporal Evolution of Global Sea Level during the Last Interglacial  
Dissertation Chair: A. L. Dutton

Jeremy Alexis Magruder Waisome  
Major: Civil Engineering  
Dissertation: Evaluation of Asphalt Layer Interface Resistance to Bond Degradation through Repeated Load  
Dissertation Chair: R. Roque  
Dissertation Co-chair: M. Tia

Pei-Li Wang  
Major: Statistics  
Dissertation: Analysis of High Dimensional Data with Network Structure  
Dissertation Chair: G. Michailidis

Xirui Wang  
Major: Chemistry  
Dissertation: Colloidal Superparticles from Artificial Atoms: Synthesis and Mechanistic Study  
Dissertation Chair: Y. C. Cao

Donald Charles Watson Jr.  
Major: Civil Engineering  
Dissertation: Modeling and Estimation of Heavy Vehicle Effects on Two-Lane Highway Traffic Operations  
Dissertation Chair: S. S. Washburn

Asmerom Okubaslassie Weldeab  
Major: Chemistry  
Dissertation: Supramolecular Approaches to Tuning the Molecular Assembly and Enhancing Optoelectronic Performance of \( \pi \)-Conjugated Organic Systems  
Dissertation Chair: R. K. Castellano

Jason Brandon Wenzel  
Major: Anthropology  
Dissertation: Staging Tourism: Leisure and Consumption in Florida’s Early Twentieth-Century Resorts  
Dissertation Chair: J. M. Davidson

Jennifer Marie Wiggins Iriarte  
Major: Medical Sciences—Physiology and Pharmacology  
Dissertation: The Impact of Treadmill Running on the Tumor Microenvironment  
Dissertation Chair: D. W. Siemann

Tzu-Jung Wong  
Major: Public Health  
Dissertation: Factors Related to Smoking Behaviors among Sexual Minority Populations  
Dissertation Chair: J. L. Pomeranz
Na Wu  
Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering  
Dissertation: Techno-Economic Analysis of Biofuels Production  
Dissertation Chair: P. C. Pullammanappillil  
Dissertation Co-chair: S. A. Svoronos

Lin Xing  
Major: Agronomy  
Dissertation: Improving Plant Breeding Efficiency with Quantitative Methodologies  
Dissertation Chair: K. E. Kenworthy  
Dissertation Co-chair: P. R. Munoz

Changjie Xu  
Major: Nutritional Sciences  
Dissertation: The Effects and Mechanisms of Consuming Sulfur-Containing Dietary Supplements on Chronic Inflammation in Obese Individuals  
Dissertation Chair: A. Mathews

Chi Xu  
Major: Materials Science and Engineering  
Dissertation: Developing Microstructure-Property Correlations in the Advanced Austenitic Stainless Steels as Candidate Materials for the Next-Gen Nuclear Reactors by using High-Energy X-ray and TEM/APT Techniques  
Dissertation Chair: Y. Yang  
Dissertation Co-chair: M. Li

Lei Xu  
Major: Medical Sciences—Genetics  
Dissertation: The Role of AMPK Signaling in the Retina  
Dissertation Chair: J. Ash

Yiming Xu  
Major: Mechanical Engineering  
Dissertation: Sensing and Control for Underwater Vehicles and Road Marking Survey with Mobile Lidar Systems  
Dissertation Chair: C. D. Crane III

Bidhyananda Yadav  
Major: Civil Engineering  
Dissertation: Direct Stream Hydrograph Prediction from Digital Elevation Model  
Dissertation Chair: K. Hatfield

Kai Yang  
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Dissertation: Memory-Centric Reconfigurable Accelerators for Energy-Efficiency and Security  
Dissertation Chair: S. Bhunia

Kun Yang  
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Dissertation: RFID-Based Solutions for Protecting Supply Chain  
Dissertation Chair: M. M. Tehranipoor

Ahmad Yousif  
Major: Coastal and Oceanographic Engineering  
Dissertation: The Development of a Scrap Tire Barrier as a Coastal Structure for Wave Damping Applications  
Dissertation Chair: A. Valle-Levinson

Qi Zeng  
Major: Computer Science  
Dissertation: Content-Aware Spin-Transfer Torque Magnetoresistive Random-Access Memory (STT-MRAM) Cache Designs  
Dissertation Chair: J. Peir
Fengchao Zhang
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: Low-Overhead Integrity Verification for Electronics and Beyond
Dissertation Chair: S. Bhunia

Jun Zhang
Major: Design, Construction and Planning
Dissertation: Collecting Real-Time Human Behavior Data during Fire Emergency Evacuation: A BIM-Driven Immersive Game Approach
Dissertation Chair: R. R. Issa

Long Zhang
Major: Physics
Dissertation: Density Functional Theory plus Dynamical Mean Field Theory Calculation for Transition Metal Oxides
Dissertation Chair: H. P. Cheng
Dissertation Co-chair: J. K. Ingersent

Wenbo Evan Zhao
Major: Chemistry
Dissertation: Parahydrogen Induced Polarization by Heterogeneous Catalysis
Dissertation Chair: C. R. Bowers

Yang Zhao
Major: Chemical Engineering
Dissertation: Manipulation of Surface Properties and Its Applications on Single Wall Carbon Nanotubes Separation and ZnO Nanowire Growth
Dissertation Chair: K. J. Ziegler

Yao Zhou
Major: Geography
Dissertation: Estimating Spatial Characteristics of Precipitation Associated with Tropical Cyclones Originating from the North Atlantic Ocean
Dissertation Chair: C. J. Matyas

You Zhou
Major: Computer Science
Dissertation: Highly Efficient Data Structures and Probabilistic Measurement Methods on Big Network Data
Dissertation Chair: S. Chen

Yuan Zhou
Major: Computer Science
Dissertation: Hyperspectral Unmixing with Endmember Uncertainty, Variability, and an Additional Color Image
Dissertation Chair: A. Rangarajan

Yanan Zhu
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: Characterization of Florida Lightning with Emphasis on the Preliminary Breakdown Process, Bipolar Lightning, and Lightning Interaction with the 257-m Tower
Dissertation Chair: V. A. Rakov
Dissertation Co-chair: M. A. Uman

Yiqing Zhu
Major: Linguistics
Dissertation: Processing Intonation: Categoricality and the Effects of Cognitive Control
Dissertation Chair: R. Wayland
Dissertation Co-chair: J. R. Valdes Kroff
Kylie E. Zirbel  
Major: Entomology and Nematology  
Dissertation: Larval Nutrient-Mediated Transgenerational Effects in Aedes aegypti Mosquitoes  
Dissertation Chair: B. W. Alto

Brendan Anthony Zurweller  
Major: Agronomy  
Dissertation: Determining Genotypic Adaptability and Efficient Water and Nutrient Management Strategies for Optimizing Resiliency in Southeastern United States Row Crop Production  
Dissertation Chair: D. L. Rowland  
Dissertation Co-chair: B. Tillman

Doctor of Education

Cherie D. Allison  
Major: Educational Leadership  
Dissertation: Professional Learning Communities and Collective Efficacy in a High School  
Dissertation Chair: L. B. Eldridge

Susan R. Anderson  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction  
Dissertation Chair: K. M. Dawson

Audrey M. Antee  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction  
Dissertation: Exploring Relationships Between Peer Review, Revision Strategies, and Self-Efficacy in Online College Composition  
Dissertation Chair: P. Antonenko

Jennifer Leigh Baughman  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction  
Dissertation: Examining the Process of How One Teacher Team Enacts Trauma-Informed Care in an Alternative School: A Practitioner Inquiry  
Dissertation Chair: B. L. Kennedy-Lewis  
Dissertation Co-chair: A. J. Adams

Sarah Esther Brandt  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction  
Dissertation: Universal Design for Learning as a Digital Media Design Resource for Teachers of Bilingual Deaf Students with Special Needs  
Dissertation Chair: K. M. Dawson

Patrick E. Brennan  
Major: Higher Education Administration  
Dissertation: From Community to State Colleges: The Perceptions of Faculty and Their Changing Roles in Northwest Florida  
Dissertation Chair: D. F. Campbell

Stacey R. Cole  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction  
Dissertation: Leadership as a Central Office Administrator Incorporating Coaching Skills  
Dissertation Chair: N. L. Dana  
Dissertation Co-chair: A. Murata

Elizabeth A. Dunn  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction  
Dissertation: Educators’ Perceptions of Improvement Initiatives in a Persistently Low Performing Elementary School  
Dissertation Chair: E. Bondy
April Faith Fleetwood  
Major: *Curriculum and Instruction*  
Dissertation: A Reading Coach’s Exploration of Literacy Engagement Practices in Her Classroom at a Rural, High Poverty School  
Dissertation Chair: A. J. Adams  
Dissertation Co-chair: J. L. McLeskey

Lauren Carter Goff  
Major: *Curriculum and Instruction*  
Dissertation: Defying the Odds: A Case Study of a Title 1 Middle School’s Sharp Increase in Reading and Writing Proficiency for Free and Reduced Lunch Students  
Dissertation Chair: E. Bondy

Kimberly A. Jones  
Major: *Curriculum and Instruction*  
Dissertation: Coaching outside the Content Area Comfort Zone: Experiences of Three Coaching Partnerships in Secondary Schools  
Dissertation Chair: A. J. Adams

Terolyn G. Lay  
Major: *Higher Education Administration*  
Dissertation: A Predictive Model of First Year Drop-Out Risk at a Small Rural Community College  
Dissertation Chair: D. F. Campbell

Alfredo J. León  
Major: *Curriculum and Instruction*  
Dissertation: Active Learning Facilitated by Technology in STEM Lecture Courses in a Community College.  
Dissertation Chair: S. Kumar

Christopher Henri Martin  
Major: *Curriculum and Instruction*  
Dissertation: Examining the Relationship between Fidelity, Learner Cognitive Load, and Performance during Manikin-Based Simulation for Medical Students in the Preclinical Years  
Dissertation Chair: P. Antonenko

Virginia Stewart Miller  
Major: *Higher Education Administration*  
Dissertation: A Case Study of Campus IT’s Role in Adoption of Technology at a Private University  
Dissertation Chair: D. F. Campbell

Jennifer Lynnette Nash  
Major: *Curriculum and Instruction*  
Dissertation: Understanding How to Interest Girls in STEM Education: A Look at How LEGO Education Model Teachers Engage Female Students in STEM Learning  
Dissertation Chair: N. L. Dana  
Dissertation Co-chair: A. Murata

Miwa Sakaeda Nguyen  
Major: *Higher Education Administration*  
Dissertation: The Effects of Excess Hour Surcharge Policies on Student Outcomes  
Dissertation Chair: I. McFarlin

Courtney M. Phaup  
Major: *Curriculum and Instruction*  
Dissertation: Frequently Disciplined Students’ Perceptions of Exclusionary Discipline and Caring Teacher Behaviors  
Dissertation Chair: B. L. Kennedy-Lewis  
Dissertation Co-chair: E. Bondy
Helen June Philpot  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction  
Dissertation: One Teacher's Development as a Facilitator of Novice Teacher Learning through the Use of Peer-Supported Observation  
Dissertation Chair: A. J. Adams  
Dissertation Co-chair: J. L. McLeskey

April Bailey Raneri  
Major: Higher Education Administration  
Dissertation: Developing With Change: A Look at the Experience of Faculty Participation in a Professional Development Certification Program  
Dissertation Chair: C. Haynes

Jennifer L. Shorter  
Major: Educational Leadership  
Dissertation: The Impact of Mentoring Programs on Teacher Retention: Teacher Narratives on Mentoring and Retention  
Dissertation Chair: L. B. Eldridge  
Dissertation Co-chair: R. C. Wood

Kimberly Ann Stalcup  
Major: Educational Leadership  
Dissertation: End-of-Course Geometry Exam Results Compared with National Academy Foundation (NAF) Enrollment, Gender, and the Cost-Effectiveness of the Program in a Selected School District: A Two-Year Study  
Dissertation Chair: R. C. Wood  
Dissertation Co-chair: L. B. Eldridge

Cheryl S. Vanatti  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction  
Dissertation: Swimming through Murky Water, Trying to Find Your Way: Teaching Pedagogies and Perceptions that Help Explain Student Underperformance at an Elementary School Serving Low-Income, Predominantly Latino Students  
Dissertation Chair: E. Bondy

Jenny Lott Van Buren  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction  
Dissertation: Culturally Responsive Teaching in an Algebra I Class for Repeating 9th Graders  
Dissertation Chair: A. Murata  
Dissertation Co-chair: N. L. Dana

Joshua Earl Pitts White  
Major: Educational Leadership  
Dissertation: School-Wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports: A Formative Evaluation of First Year Implementation  
Dissertation Chair: B. Oliver  
Dissertation Co-chair: L. B. Eldridge
DOCTOR OF AUDIOLOGY
Amy Lynn Arnett
Ellen Lynn Cooperider
Amy Edwards Cox
Leslie Engstrand-Guca
Lin Kowitz
Shannon M. Osmond
Indu Roy
Leslie Shabani
Shelly Kay Shelton

DOCTOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
Jared Pressell

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE
Rebecca Claire Cash
Lynette J. Cunday
Stephanie Denise Curtis
Megan E. Glemza
Jessica Ann Himmelberger
Brian Huei
Tara Lynn Jendzio
Ashley M. Pleie

DOCTOR OF PLANT MEDICINE
Morgan Ashlee Byron
Lisbeth Espinoza Lozano

PROFESSIONAL DEGREES

THE FREDRIC G. LEVIN COLLEGE OF LAW
Dean Laura A. Rosenbury

JURIS DOCTOR
Sara Elizabeth Altes
Stephanie Lyn Emrick
Bathche Fils-Aime
Lauren A. Grant
Kaizad K. Irani
Ben Houston King
Laura H. Lee
Melisa Muriel
Allyson M. Paige
Anthony F. Sabatini
Kelsey Elizabeth Stinnett
Trevor Oktay Tezel

THE COLLEGE OF PHARMACY
Dean Julie A. Johnson

DOCTOR OF PHARMACY
Nilubol Y. Cencula
Corey Tremain Coleman
Karena Stone Coleman
Mona Ibrahim Ahmed Farghaly
Michael Ferguson
Shashikanth Gannu
Gwyneth M. Gordon
Sara Elizabeth Harris
Boushra Jabbour
Kathleen T. Jones
Keldah Kiesche
Ksenia Olegovna Kryachkova
Jessica Mo-See Lam
Joseph W. Lam
Inna Lukyanovsky
Farah Mian
Montrace M. Mincey
Patricia Marie Mitchell
Mihyun Oh
Catherine Ruth Annette Orr
Olga Pozdirca
Evelyn L. Rodriguez
Mary Theresa Seddon
Mohamed B. Shalaby
Michelle R. Spiotta
Supti Sarkar Talwalkar
Monia A. Tomsah

THE COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY
Dean A. Isabel Garcia

DOCTOR OF DENTAL MEDICINE
ArNelle R. Wright
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. 9 in U.S. News & World Report “Top Public Universities” (2018); No. 12 in the Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education list of Best Public Colleges (2017); No. 3 on the Forbes’ list of Best Value Public Universities (2017); No. 1 on Value Colleges’ list of Top 50 Best Value Colleges (2016); and No. 1 on the Times Higher Education list of best public universities for employers to find new hires.

Faculty

- UF has nearly 5,000 faculty members with distinguished records in teaching, research and service, including 36 Eminent Scholar chairs and 45 faculty elections to the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, the Institute of Medicine or the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.
- Awards include two Pulitzer Prizes, NASA’s top award for research, and the Smithsonian Institution’s conservation award.

Students

- Ninety-seven percent of incoming freshmen score above the national average (1500/21) on standardized exams. Students admitted for the fall 2017 freshman class had an average 4.4 GPA and an average SAT score of 1355.
- More than 1,285 International Baccalaureate students were enrolled in UF in March 2016. The freshman retention rate of 96 percent is among the highest in the country.
- UF awards more professional degrees to African American, Hispanic and other minority students than any other public university in the Association of American Universities (2014-15).
- Sixty-seven percent of UF full-time freshmen graduate in four years (2011-12 cohort), and 87 percent of UF freshmen graduate within six years (2009-10 cohort).
- Fifty-seven percent of UF graduates leave the university with no student-loan debt. For the remaining students, their average indebtedness is about $21,603, as compared with the national average of more than $30,000 (2015-16).
Chain of Office

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

Academic Mace

Dating back to the Middle Ages, the mace symbolizes strength and authority. The UF ceremonial mace was created for the university’s sesquicentennial celebration in 2003. The 70-inch staff features an alligator sitting atop a globe. The four pillars supporting the globe represent the four original colleges: Agriculture, Engineering, Law, and Liberal Arts. The staff is carved from cherry wood. The university’s chief marshal, who leads all academic processions, carries the mace.

Diplomas

Diplomas will be mailed to the graduate’s permanent home mailing address in February 2018.
Caps and Gowns, An Explanation

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

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

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

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

The doctoral regalia also has velvet running on the rest of the gown, including cross bars on the sleeve. Colored tassels on the degree candidates’ caps indicate a candidate’s school or college.
Alma Mater

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

Milton Yeats