Dr. W. Kent Fuchs became the University of Florida’s 12th president in January 2015.

Most recently the provost of Cornell University, Dr. Fuchs’ experience combines academic leadership as a provost, dean and department chair; a distinguished career as an engineering professor; and graduate education in both engineering and divinity. In accepting the presidency, Dr. Fuchs outlined his overarching goal for UF: to elevate its stature, as measured by quality and comparative excellence, to that of one of the nation’s best public universities.

President Fuchs will pursue this objective by continuing to lead the university’s preeminence plan, along with a campus-wide goal-setting effort to set objectives for the next five and ten years. He will seek to significantly increase UF’s endowment; enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of university operations; and establish UF as a national leader and voice for higher education.

The UF presidency is a natural next step for Dr. Fuchs, who spent six years as Cornell’s provost. There, he led the creation of a new technology campus in New York City, launched a universitywide initiative to raise Cornell’s academic stature and was a key leader of Cornell’s fundraising efforts. He was appointed provost after serving as the university’s Joseph Silbert Dean of Engineering from 2002 to 2008. He joined Cornell from Purdue University, where he headed the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering from 1996 to 2002. He was a professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and the Coordinated Science Laboratory at the University of Illinois from 1985 to 1996.

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

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

Dr. Fuchs is married to Linda Moskeland Fuchs, an art historian whose scholarship centers on the sculpture of sarcophagi created in the first centuries of Christian art-making. Mrs. Fuchs has two master’s degrees in art history, from the University of Chicago and Cornell, and a third in Biblical studies, from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. She is active in campus and community life, including spending six years on the board of Chesterton House, a center for Christian studies at Cornell, the past three years as chair.

The Fuchses have three sons and a daughter, Micah, Eric, Isaac and Christine. Eric and their daughter-in-law, Mikaela, have a baby boy named Henry.

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

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 2016.

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
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 – Thursday, April 28, 7:00 p.m.

Presiding ................................................................. W. Kent Fuchs
                                                              President
Processional................................................................. Gainesville Brass Quintet
National Anthem ......................................................... Ronald Burrichter
                                                              Gainesville Brass Quintet
Welcome and Introductions ................................................... W. Kent Fuchs
Awarding of Honorary Degree ........................................... W. Kent Fuchs
Presented by .................................................................... Joseph Glover
                                                              Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Doctor of Technology Presented to .................................... Walden Rhines
                                                              Portland, Oregon
Commencement Address ................................................... William Logan
                                                              UF Professor, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Presenting Candidates for Doctoral Degrees ......................... Joseph Glover
Conferring of Doctoral Degrees ........................................... W. Kent Fuchs
Alma Mater ................................................................. Ronald Burrichter
                                                              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.
Walden C. Rhines

Walden C. Rhines is chairman and chief executive officer of Mentor Graphics, a leader in worldwide electronic design automation with revenue of $1.24 billion in 2014. During his tenure at Mentor Graphics, revenue has nearly quadrupled and Mentor has grown the industry’s number one market share solutions in three of the ten largest product segments of the EDA industry.

Prior to joining Mentor Graphics, Dr. Rhines was executive vice president of Texas Instruments’ Semiconductor Group, sharing responsibility for TI’s Components Sector and having direct responsibility for the entire semiconductor business with more than $5 billion of revenue and more than 30,000 people.

During his 21 years at TI, Dr. Rhines managed TI’s thrust into digital signal processing and supervised that business from inception with the TMS 320 family of DSP’s through growth to become the cornerstone of TI’s semiconductor technology. He also supervised the development of the first TI speech synthesis devices (used in Speak & Spell) and is co-inventor of the GaN blue-violet light emitting diode (now important for DVD players and low-energy lighting). He was president of TI’s Data Systems Group and held numerous other semiconductor executive management positions.

Dr. Rhines has served five terms as chairman of the Electronic Design Automation Consortium and is currently serving as a director. He also is a board member of the Semiconductor Research Corporation and First Growth Family & Children Charities. He has previously served as chairman of the Semiconductor Technical Advisory Committee of the Department of Commerce and as a board member of the Computer and Business Equipment Manufacturers’ Association (CBEMA), SEMI-Sematech/SISA, Electronic Design Automation Consortium (EDAC), University of Michigan National Advisory Council, Lewis and Clark College and SEMATECH.

Dr. Rhines holds a Bachelor of Science degree in metallurgical engineering from the University of Michigan, a Master of Science and Ph.D. in materials science and engineering from Stanford University, a Master of Business Administration from Southern Methodist University and an Honorary Doctor of Technology degree from Nottingham Trent University.
William Logan

William Logan graduated from Yale in 1972 with an intensive B.A. in American Studies. His long flirtation with early American history and game theory, as well as rock criticism, ended in poetry. He owes long debts to two writers with whom he studied senior year: Richard Howard, winner of the Pulitzer Prize in poetry, and David Milch, later the creator of NYPD Blue and Deadwood. Mr. Logan entered the Writers’ Workshop at the University of Iowa, where his thesis director was Donald Justice, later his colleague at the University of Florida. Here Mr. Logan met his wife, the poet Debora Greger, who taught in the M.F.A. program at UF for 25 years. They spent two years in England, where they held Amy Lowell Poetry Traveling Scholarships.

Mr. Logan came to the University of Florida in 1983 as an assistant professor and director of the then M.A. program in Creative Writing. He was director for 17 years, when he moved to full-time teaching. During his tenure as director, he reformed admission policies, oversaw the hiring of new faculty, and created the M.F.A. program.


Among the books he has edited are an expanded edition of Randall Jarrell’s Poetry and the Age (2001); Donald Justice’s Collected Poems (2004), nominated for the National Book Award; and an edition of John Townsend Trowbridge’s Guy Vernon (2012). The latter brought back into print a long-forgotten long poem, originally published in 1878, on a disastrous marriage between a northern belle and a southern plantation owner.

Mr. Logan is known as a slightly temperamental critic — he would say honest.

Mr. Logan won the National Book Critics Circle award in criticism for The Undiscovered Country. Among his other honors are the Peter I. B. Lavan Younger Poets Award from the Academy of American Poets, the Citation for Excellence in Reviewing from the National Book Critics Circle, the Corrington Medal for Literary Excellence, the inaugural Randall Jarrell Award in Poetry Criticism, and the Aiken Taylor Award for Modern Poetry. He also has received two fellowships in poetry from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Mr. Logan is an Alumni/ae Professor of English and Distinguished Teaching-Scholar at the University of Florida. He has been called the “most hated man in American poetry” as well as the “best practical critic around.” The New York Times Book Review referred to him as “Samurai Critic.” He has been teaching at the University of Florida since shortly before the ozone hole was discovered over Antarctica.
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.
Jaafar Jabbar Abdulridha, Bachelor of Science, 1993, Master of Science, 2002, University of Baghdad—Iraq; Master of Science, 2015, University of Florida  
Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering  
Dissertation: Detection of Laurel Wilt Disease for Avocado Trees Using Multispectral Imaging and a Spectrodiometer  
Dissertation Chair: R. J. Ehsani

Heidi Elise Kloefkorn Adams, Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering, 2011, Georgia Institute of Technology; Master of Science, 2015, University of Florida  
Major: Biomedical Engineering  
Dissertation: Examining the Nexus Amongst Joint Degeneration, Disability, and Chronic Pain Using a Rodent Model of Post-Traumatic Knee Osteoarthritis  
Dissertation Chair: K. Allen

Sara Agnelli, Laurea in Lettre Classiche, 2006, Laurea Specialistica, 2009, Universita Cattolica del Sacro Cuore—Italy  
Major: Classical Studies  
Dissertation Chair: K. Kapparis

Akhil Raj Ahir, Bachelor of Engineering, 2008, Punjab Engineering College at Chandigarh—India; Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida  
Major: Chemistry  
Dissertation: Structural Analysis of Heterostructured Core-Shell Prussian Blue Analogues to Study Interfacial Synergistic Effects in Thermal Expansion  
Dissertation Chair: D. R. Talham

Sungjin Ahn, Bachelor of Engineering, 2008, Keimyung University—South Korea; Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida  
Major: Civil Engineering  
Dissertation: Using Building Information Modeling (BIM) in Construction Worker Safety Training  
Dissertation Chair: C. R. Glagola

Razan Mhd Walid Al Fakir, Doctor of Medicine, 1994, Tishreen University—Syria; Doctor of Audiology, 2011, Nova University—Florida  
Major: Communication Sciences and Disorders  
Dissertation: Hearing Disability and Socioemotional Isolation in an Aging Population a Revolutionary Concept Analysis Using the World Health Organization’s International Classification of Functioning Disability and Health  
Dissertation Chair: A. E. Holmes

Samer G. Alam, Bachelor of Science, 2009, University of Wisconsin  
Major: Chemical Engineering  
Dissertation: Nuclear Forces and Gene Expression: An Analysis in Fibroblasts  
Dissertation Chair: T. Lele

Ahmed Mohammed Alkhard, Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, 2009, King Abdulaziz University—Saudi Arabia; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida  
Major: Civil Engineering  
Dissertation: Analysis of Influencing Factors on Safety Culture in the Construction Industry of Saudi Arabia  
Dissertation Chair: R. D. Ellis Jr.

Hannah J. Allen, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2010, University of Florida  
Major: Nutritional Sciences  
Dissertation: Ketogenic Therapy for Seizures: Metabolic Basis for Change in Nutrients Changing Phenotype  
Dissertation Chair: P. L. Borum
Abdullah Saleh Alsultan, Bachelor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, 2007, King Saud University—Saudi Arabia; Doctor of Pharmacy, 2011, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Health Science
Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences
Dissertation: Using Pharmacokinetics to Optimize the Dosing of Antituberculous Drugs
Dissertation Chair: C. A. Peloquin

Kristina Ballard Altes, Bachelor of Science, 2006, Western Washington University; Master of Arts, 2009, University of Florida
Major: Anthropology
Dissertation: The Effect of Body Size, Joint Area, and Bone Density on Age-Related Change at the Pubic Symphysis and Auricular Surface
Dissertation Chair: M. W. Warren

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

Jeremy J. Anderson, Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering, 2000, Master of Science, 2003, University of Florida
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: A Long-Term Average Cepstral Enhancement Technique to Improve Single Microphone Automatic Speech Recognition
Dissertation Chair: J. G. Harris

Major: Anthropology
Dissertation: There’s Something About Quinoa: Small-Scale Andean Farmers, Agrodiversity and the Globalization of the Market
Dissertation Chair: M. C. Schmink
Dissertation Co-chair: C. McCarty

James A. Antonucci Jr., Master of Business Administration, 2006, University of New Haven—Connecticut; Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, 2009, Sacred Heart University—Connecticut
Major: Design, Construction, and Planning
Dissertation: Designing an Elder-Friendly Senior Living Community: A Longitudinal Study of the Village Vitality Program: Implications for the Built Environment
Dissertation Chair: M. B. Tortillo
Dissertation Co-chair: N. Park

Amanda J. Ardente, Bachelor of Science, 2002, Wilson College—Pennsylvania; Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, 2009, North Carolina State University
Major: Veterinary Medical Sciences
Dissertation Chair: R. C. Hill

Ayse Nur Arslan, Bachelor of Science, 2010, Bogazici University—Turkey
Major: Industrial and Systems Engineering
Dissertation: Polyhedral Techniques for Mixed Integer Programs Arising in Production Planning and Logistics
Dissertation Chair: J. P. Richard
Dissertation Co-chair: Y. Guan

Laura M. Avila Segura, Titulo de Ingeniero Agronomo, 2001, Escuela de Agricultura de la Region Tropical Humeda—Costa Rica; Master of Science, 2006, University of Florida
Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology
Dissertation: Stingless Bee Foraging Ecology in Tropical Agricultural Landscapes
Dissertation Chair: H. G. Hall
Deepika Awasthi, Bachelor of Technology in Biotechnology, 2010, Sam Higginbottom Institute of Agriculture, Technology & Sciences—India
Major: Microbiology and Cell Science
Dissertation: Engineering Bacillus subtilis as a Microbial Biocatalyst for the Production of D-Lactic Acid
Dissertation Chair: K. T. Shanmugam

Fikret Aydemir, Bachelor of Science, 1999, Master of Science, 2004, Ankara University—Turkey
Major: Medical Sciences—Genetics
Dissertation: Intracellular Trafficking of AAV2 Capsid Mutants and Effects on Gene Expression
Dissertation Chair: N. Muzyczka

Fatma Ayhan, Bachelor of Science, 2010, Bilkent University—Turkey
Major: Medical Sciences—Genetics
Dissertation: Repeat Associated Non-ATG (RAN) Translation in Spinocerebellar Ataxia Type 8
Dissertation Chair: L. P. Ranum

Major: Curriculum and Instruction
Dissertation: A Dual Language Teacher Understanding of Academic Language in a 5th Grade Language Arts Classroom
Dissertation Chair: E. J. De Jong

Charles Edward Barrett, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2009, Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida
Major: Horticultural Sciences
Dissertation: Development of a Plasticulture Cabbage Production System for Improvement of Best Management Practices, Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability in Florida
Dissertation Chair: L. Zotarelli

Savanna Carlyn Barry, Bachelor of Science, 2009, University of Virginia; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida
Major: Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences
Dissertation: Assessing Structure, Resilience and Habitat Quality of Thalassia testudinum Meadows Along a Gradient in Nutrient Concentrations
Dissertation Chair: T. K. Frazer

Ashton N. Bartley, Bachelor of Science, 2011, College of Charleston—South Carolina; Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida
Major: Chemistry
Dissertation: Functional Molecules via Sequential Aminolysis of Benzotrifuranone
Dissertation Chair: R. K. Castellano

Adam McNeil Bates, Bachelor of Science, 2006, Bachelor of Arts, 2006, University of Maryland at College Park; Master of Science, 2012, University of Oregon
Major: Computer Science
Dissertation: Designing and Leveraging Trustworthy Provenance-Aware Architectures
Dissertation Chair: K. Butler

Sarah E. Bauer, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2010, Master of Public Health, 2012, University of Georgia
Major: Health Services Research
Dissertation: Physician-Hospital Integration and Orthopaedic Joint Replacement Expenditures and Outcomes
Dissertation Chair: J. S. Harman

Joshua David Behl, Bachelor of Arts, 2011, Master of Arts, 2014, University of Florida
Major: Criminology, Law, and Society
Dissertation: Developing a Scale to Predict Bias in Civil Juror Damage Awards
Dissertation Chair: L. M. Levett

Douglas Martin Bennion, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2009, Brigham Young University—Utah
Major: Medical Sciences—Physiology and Pharmacology
Dissertation: Targeting the Protective Renin Angiotensin System in Ischemic Stroke: Steps From Bench Toward Bedside
Dissertation Chair: C. Sumners
Michael T. Bentley, Bachelor of Arts, 2005, Master of Science, 2008, University of Florida
Major: Entomology and Nematology
Dissertation Chair: F. M. Ot

Nawaf Isam Ahmed Blaisi, Bachelor of Science, 2009, Master of Science, 2011, Michigan Technological University
Major: Environmental Engineering Sciences
Dissertation: Environmental Assessment of Industrial Waste Byproducts to Estimate the Release of Elements Under Different Disposal and Environmental Conditions
Dissertation Chair: T. G. Townsend

Karen M. Blyler, Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences, 1974, Florida State University; Bachelor of Science in Education, 1976, Florida Atlantic University; Master of Science, 1987, Nova Southeastern University—Florida
Major: Agricultural Education and Communication
Dissertation: A Qualitative Exploration of Experiential Learning in 4-H Clubs
Dissertation Chair: E. W. Osborne

Olufemi Daniel Bolarinwa, Bachelor of Agriculture, 2006, Federal University of Agriculture at Abeokuta—Nigeria; Master of Science, 2011, University of Delaware
Major: Food and Resource Economics
Dissertation: Agricultural Commercialization and Food Security in Sub-Saharan Africa
Dissertation Chair: C. B. Moss

Christopher Charles Bowland, Bachelor of Science summa cum laude, 2012, University of Tennessee at Knoxville; Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida
Major: Materials Science and Engineering
Dissertation: Conformal Growth Method of Ferroelectric Materials for Multifunctional Composites
Dissertation Chair: H. Sodano

Paul M. Bremner, Bachelor of Science, 2009, University of Central Florida
Major: Geology
Dissertation: Three Dimensional Crustal Shear-Wave Velocity of Central Idaho/ Eastern Oregon and a Verified Method for Modeling Upper Mantle Anisotropy
Dissertation Chair: M. Panning

Carrie Ann Brown, Bachelor of Arts, 2004, Lawrence University—Wisconsin; Master of Arts, 2009, California State University at Chico
Major: Anthropology
Dissertation: Maxillary Sutures as an Indicator of Adult Age at Death: Reducing Error and Codifying Approaches
Dissertation Chair: M. W. Warren

Molly Buchanan, Bachelor of Arts in Psychology magna cum laude, 2008, Framingham State College—Massachusetts
Major: Criminology, Law, and Society
Dissertation: The Interplay of Fathers’ Histories of Criminal Justice System Involvement on Social Capital, Parenting Capacities and Offspring’s Outcomes: An Intergenerational, Structural Equation Approach
Dissertation Chair: M. D. Krohn

Michael Donald Bumbach, Bachelor of Science, 2001, Master of Science in Nursing, 2004, Johns Hopkins University—Maryland
Major: Nursing Sciences
Minor: Policy/Management in Healthcare Systems
Dissertation: Nurse Practitioner Gender Differences and Job Satisfaction and the Intrinsic and Extrinsic Factors
Dissertation Chair: B. A. Weber

Michael S. Butler, Bachelor of Music, 2006, Tennessee Technological University; Master of Music, 2008, University of Florida
Major: Music Education
Dissertation: High School Band Directors’ Pedagogical Approaches to Teaching Expressive Performance
Dissertation Chair: W. Bauer
Vincent L. Cannataro, Bachelor of Science, 2010, State University of New York at Geneseo
   Major: Zoology
   Dissertation: The Influence of Small Stem Cell Niche Sizes on Tissue Homeostasis, Aging, and Tumorigenesis
   Dissertation Chair: C. M. St. Mary
   Dissertation Co-chair: S. McKinley

Jessica-Jean Casler, Bachelor of Arts, 2008, Texas Tech University; Master of Arts, 2012, University of Florida
   Major: Anthropology
   Dissertation: Short-Term Medical Missions in Urban Nicaragua: An Ethnography of Patient Use and Social Network Analysis of Health Care System Integration
   Dissertation Chair: C. C. Gravlee IV

Poulomy Chakraborty, Master of Arts, 2004, Banaras Hindu University—India; Master di Livello, 2006, Sapienza Universita di Roma—Italy
   Major: Public Health
   Dissertation: Influence of Gender and Social Disparities on WASH Associated Outcomes in Periurban Households of Kenya
   Dissertation Chair: R. D. Rheingans

Willandia Chaves Didier, Licenciado em Ciencias Biologicas, 2001, Universidade Federal do Acre—Brazil; Master of Science, 2009, University of Florida
   Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology
   Dissertation: Wild Meat Consumption in the Central Amazon, Brazil: Evaluating Drivers and Conservation Strategies
   Dissertation Chair: K. E. Sieving
   Dissertation Co-chair: M. C. Monroe

Min Chen, Bachelor of Engineering, 2011, University of Science and Technology of China; Master of Science, 2015, University of Florida
   Major: Computer Science
   Dissertation: Improving Efficiency, Security and Privacy of the Internet of Things - From RFID to Networked Tags
   Dissertation Chair: S. Chen

Nusheng Chen, Bachelor of Engineering, 2010, Northwest A&F University—China
   Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering
   Dissertation: Preparation and Modification of Cellulose as Tunable Functional Materials
   Dissertation Chair: Z. Tong

Joonseok Cho, Bachelor of Engineering, 2001, Master of Science, 2005, Handong Global University—South Korea
   Major: Medical Sciences—Molecular Cell Biology
   Dissertation: The Role of Adenine Nucleotide Translocase 2 in Mouse Development and Adult Organs
   Dissertation Chair: N. Terada
   Dissertation Co-chair: S. Oh

   Major: Music Education
   Dissertation: The Effects of a Music Methods Course on Kenyan Pre-Service Generalist Primary School Teacher’s Perceived Confidence and Competence to Teach Music
   Dissertation Chair: R. L. Robinson

Christian Thomas Christensen, Bachelor of Science, 2009, Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida
   Major: Horticultural Sciences
   Dissertation: Alternative Sampling Methodologies for the Identification of Nue Traits in Solanum Chacoense
   Dissertation Chair: L. Zotarelli

Stephen Mark Chrzanowski, Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering, 2010, University of Cincinnati—Ohio
   Major: Medical Sciences—Physiology and Pharmacology
   Dissertation: Near Infrared Optical Imaging and Magnetic Resonance Characterization of Dystrophic and Damaged Muscle
   Dissertation Chair: G. A. Walter
   Dissertation Co-chair: B. J. Byrne
William A. Ciconte III, Bachelor of Science, 2005, Bachelor of Arts, 2005—University of Delaware; Master of Accounting & Professional Consultancy

Major: Business Administration—Accounting
Dissertation: The Role of Auditor Advertising in Audit Market Competition and Accounting Service Provision
Dissertation Chair: W. R. Knechel

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

Major: Chemical Engineering
Dissertation: Corrosion of Copper in Deaerated Deionized Water, Geometric Capacitance and Dielectric Relaxation of a Planar Disk Electrode in Synthetic Motor Oil, and Frequency Dispersion Effects of Ring Electrode
Dissertation Chair: M. E. Orazem

Richard S. Coffey, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2011, University of Florida

Major: Nutritional Sciences
Dissertation: Mechanisms of Non Transferrin Bound Iron Uptake by Human β Cells and the Role of Iron in Diabetic Pathology
Dissertation Chair: M. D. Knutson

Iordania Constantinou, Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering, 2011, Cyprus University of Technology; Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Materials Science and Engineering
Dissertation: The Effects of Materials and Processing on Organic Photovoltaics
Dissertation Chair: F. F. So

Nicole Marie Cranley, Bachelor of Science magna cum laude, 2009, Master of Science, 2012, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

Major: Public Health
Dissertation: Understanding Treatment Decision Making Among Patients with Colorectal Cancer
Dissertation Chair: B. A. Curbow

Soham Das, Bachelor of Technology, 2010, West Bengal University of Technology—India; Master of Technology in Computer Science and Engineering, 2012, Indian Institute of Technology at Delhi—India

Major: Computer Science
Dissertation: Topology Optimization for Aggregation in Data Center Networks
Dissertation Chair: S. K. Sahni

Calvin G. Davis III, Bachelor of Science in Polymer and Fiber Chemistry, 2011, Clemson University—South Carolina

Major: Biomedical Engineering
Dissertation: Glass Ceramic Approaches for Energy Storage Materials
Dissertation Chair: J. C. Nino

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

Major: Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology
Dissertation: The Stromal Innate Immune Response to Pancreatic Cancer Suppresses Adaptive Immunity
Dissertation Chair: S. M. Wallet

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

Major: Biomedical Engineering
Dissertation: Neurological Disease and Drug Delivery: How Structure Influences Treatment Strategies
Dissertation Chair: P. R. Carney

Yan Deng, Bachelor of Engineering, 2010, University of Science and Technology of China; Master of Science, 2015, University of Florida

Major: Computer Science
Dissertation: Novel Algorithms for Uni- and Multi-Modal Image Segmentation
Dissertation Chair: B. C. Vemuri
Dissertation Co-chair: A. Rangarajan

Nathaniel Robert Deyo, Bachelor of Arts, 2009, Michigan State University; Master of Arts, 2011, University of Florida

Major: English
Dissertation: Hollywood’s Inward Turn: Stylistic Self-Reflexivity in Film Noir
Dissertation Chair: R. B. Ray
Saleh Dindar, Bachelor of Science, 2009, Sharif University of Technology—Iran
Major: Computer Engineering
Dissertation: Interactive Soft-Tissue Authoring for Teaching Surgical Procedures
Dissertation Chair: J. Peters

Darsa Donelan, Bachelor of Science in Physics, 2009, Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics summa cum laude, 2009, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts; Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida
Major: Physics
Dissertation: The Effects of Atmospheric Gravity Waves on the Atmosphere of Titan
Dissertation Chair: K. I. Matcheva

He Du, Bachelor of Science, 2007, Leaching University—China; Master of Sciences, 2010, Chinese Academy of Sciences—China
Major: Entomology and Nematology
Dissertation: Age Polyethism in the Formosan Subterranean Termite, Coptotermes formosanus Shiraki
Dissertation Chair: N. Su

Can Duan, Bachelor of Engineering, 2011, Beijing Institute of Technology—China; Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: Planar and Integrated MEMS Micromirrors Based Endoscopic Optical Coherence Tomography
Dissertation Chair: H. Xie

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

Ralph G. Easterly III, Bachelor of Science, 2008, North Carolina State University; Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida
Major: Agricultural Education and Communication
Dissertation: Personal Resilience as a Predictor of Professional Development Engagement and Career Satisfaction of Agriscience Teachers
Dissertation Chair: B. E. Myers

John Eric Ezell, Bachelor of Science in Forest Management magna cum laude, 2008, Bachelor of Science in Geosciences magna cum laude, 2008, Master of Science in Geosciences, 2010, Mississippi State University
Major: Geology
Dissertation: Environmental Controls on Carbonate Mineral Dissolution: Rates and Magnitudes
Dissertation Chair: J. B. Martin

Annette Maleen Fahrenkrog Hashagen, Titulo de Bioquimico, 2007, Universidad Austral de Chile
Major: Plant Molecular and Cellar Biology
Dissertation: Assessment of Genetic Diversity and Dissection of the Genetic Regulation of Bioenergy Traits and Adaptation to Climate in Populus deltoides
Dissertation Chair: M. Kirst

Scott G. Feinstein, Bachelor of Arts, 2004, Concordia College—Minnesota; Master of Arts, 2011, University of Florida
Major: Political Science
Dissertation: The Political Foundations of Secession, Stability, and Chaos: Russia, Moldova, Ukraine
Dissertation Chair: B. B. Smith
Dissertation Co-chair: M. H. Bernhard

Daniel E. Felsing, Bachelor of Music cum laude, 2011, Bachelor of Science summa cum laude, 2011, University of Florida
Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences—Medicinal Chemistry
Dissertation: Drug Discovery Targeting Serotonin G Protein-Coupled Receptors in the Treatment of Neuropsychiatric Disorders
Dissertation Chair: R. G. Booth
Dissertation Co-chair: K. B. Sloan

Chessy M. Fernandez, Bachelor of Biomedical Engineering, 2000, Catholic University of America—District of Columbia; Master of Engineering, 2003, University of Florida
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Dissertation: Development of an Efficient Fluid Structure Interaction Solver for Applications to the Vascular System
Dissertation Chair: R. Tran Son Tay
Laura Ashley Fleites, Bachelor of Science in Advertising, 2004, Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida
Major: Plant Pathology
Dissertation: Studies on Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus Bacteriophages SC1 and SC2: Regulation, Lysogeny and Lysis
Dissertation Chair: D. W. Gabriel

Audrey Sue Flemming, Bachelor of Arts in Spanish, 2006, Bachelor of Arts in Political Science magna cum laude, 2006, Coe College—Iowa; Master of Arts, 2010, University of Florida
Major: Political Science
Dissertation Chair: L. E. Anderson

Norma Cristina Flor, Titulo de Ingeniero Agronomo, 1998, Universidad Nacional de Colombia; Master of Science, 2009, University of Florida
Major: Agronomy
Minor: Plant Pathology
Dissertation: Genetic Analysis of Large Patch Disease in Zoysiagrass
Dissertation Chair: K. E. Kenworthy

Adeline D. Fournet
Major: Chemistry
Dissertation Chair: G. Christou

Kevin Bruce Funk, Bachelor of Arts summa cum laude, 2005, University of Pittsburgh—Pennsylvania; Master of Arts, 2012, University of Florida
Major: Political Science
Dissertation: Between National Attachments, Rooted Transnationalism, and Borderless Utopias: Searching for Imagined Communities in Latin America’s Booming Economic Relations with the Arab World
Dissertation Chair: I. Oren

Major: Higher Education Administration
Minor: Entrepreneurship
Dissertation: American Students’ Experiences with Their International Peers On Campus: Gleaning the Roadblocks and Pathways of Global Engagement
Dissertation Chair: D. F. Campbell
Dissertation Co-chair: D. Miller

Paula Lee Gavin, Bachelor of Science, 1996, George Mason University—Virginia; Master of Science in Mathematics, 1998, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Major: Curriculum and Instruction
Dissertation: Student Achievement and Classroom Connectivity Technology in a Two-Year College Mathematics Classroom
Dissertation Chair: T. L. Adams

Juan Pablo Gomez Echeverri, Titulo de Biologo, 2006, Magister en Ciencias Biologicas, 2009, Universidad de Los Andes—Colombia
Major: Zoology
Dissertation: Influence of Climate on the Origin and Maintenance of Tropical Bird Communities
Dissertation Chair: S. K. Robinson
Dissertation Co-chair: J. M. Ponciano Castellanos

Christina L. Graves, Bachelor of Science in Biology, 2011, Georgia Institute of Technology
Major: Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology
Dissertation: Contribution of Intestinal Epithelial Cell Innate Immune Function to Skewing of Innate and Adaptive Immunity in Type 1 Diabetes
Dissertation Chair: S. M. Wallet
David McCaskill Gray, Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering, 1985, Master of Engineering, 1989, University of Florida
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: Classifier Training Set Augmentation by Warping Synthetic Data in a Subspace Manifold
Dissertation Chair: J. C. Principe
Dissertation Co-chair: J. G. Harris

Dawn M. Graziani, Bachelor of Arts, 1994, Lenoir-Rhyne College—North Carolina; Master of Education, 1999, University of Florida
Major: Curriculum and Instruction
Dissertation: The Transition to Being a College Writer for Nontraditional, Underprepared Students Navigating a Pathway From Developmental Writing
Dissertation Chair: J. S. Townsend

Jeanette Faith Green, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, 2006, Master of Science in Nursing, 2008, University of Central Florida
Major: Nursing Sciences
Dissertation: Constructing the Process of Healthcare Decision-Making by Adolescent Athletes Post Sport-Related Concussion
Dissertation Chair: P. Pieper

Khanh Ha, Diplom Kvalifikatiya, 2009, Irkutsk State Technical University—Russia
Major: Chemistry
Minor: Pharmaceutical Sciences
Dissertation: Development of Strategies for the Coupling and Cyclization of Peptides and Synthesis of Polyketide Fragments for Modified Peptides
Dissertation Chair: H. Luesch

Natalie Aviva Hadad, Bachelor of Arts, 2005, Syracuse University—New York; Master of Arts, 2010, Teachers College Columbia University—New York
Major: Psychology
Dissertation: Corticosterone and Gene Expression in a Novel Animal Model of Comorbid PTSD and Cocaine Dependence
Dissertation Chair: L. Knackstedt

Jungsoo Han, Bachelor of Science, 2006, Master of Science, 2008, Chung-Ang University—South Korea
Major: Chemistry
Dissertation: Chemical Signaling in Caenorhabditis elegans and Interactions with Microorganisms
Dissertation Chair: R. A. Butcher

Kin-Lan Han, Bachelor of Science, 1997, Cornell University—New York; Master of Science, 2006, University of Maryland at College Park
Major: Zoology
Dissertation: Population Genetics of Brown-Headed Nuthatches (Sitta pusilla)
Dissertation Chair: R. T. Kimball

Scott W. Harden, Bachelor of Science, 2007, Union University—Tennessee; Master of Science, 2009, University of Central Florida
Major: Medical Sciences—Neuroscience
Dissertation: Oxytocinergic Modulation of Hippocampal Neurotransmission
Dissertation Chair: C. J. Frazier

Kathryn Leigh Harris, Bachelor of Science in Materials Science and Engineering cum laude, 2011, University of Florida
Major: Materials Science and Engineering
Dissertation: Tribochemical Interactions of a PTFE/β-Alumina Composite at the Sliding Interface: a Mechanism for Ultra Low Wear
Dissertation Chair: W. G. Sawyer

Christopher P. Heagney, Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering, 2006, Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation Chair: J. Lin
Seth B. Heinert, Bachelor of Science, 2005, University of Wyoming; Master of Science, 2009, University of Nebraska at Lincoln
Major: Agricultural Education and Communication
Dissertation: Describing Characteristics of and Best Practices in Entrepreneurship Education for Exemplary School-Based Agricultural Education Programs: A Multiple Case Mixed Methods Study
Dissertation Chair: T. G. Roberts II

Shanjun Helian, Bachelor of Engineering, 2009, Southwest Jiaotong University—China; Master of Science, 2011, University of Central Florida
Major: Biostatistics
Dissertation: Structural Nested Modeling and Penalized Correlation Methods for Clinical Trials
Dissertation Chair: B. A. Brumback

Kelsey Sarah Henderson, Bachelor of Arts, 2011, Master of Arts, 2013, University of Florida
Major: Criminology, Law, and Society
Dissertation: Investigating Predictors of True and False Guilty Pleas
Dissertation Chair: L. M. Levett

José Javier Hernández Ayala, Bachelor of Arts summa cum laude, 2010, University of Puerto Rico at Rio Piedras; Master of Science, 2012, University of Akron—Ohio
Major: Geography
Dissertation: Climatology of Tropical Cyclone Rainfall Over Puerto Rico: Processes, Patterns and Impacts
Dissertation Chair: C. J. Matyas

Tomas Houba, Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering cum laude, 2008, Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida
Major: Aerospace Engineering
Dissertation: Numerical Simulation of Dielectric Barrier Discharge Plasma Actuators
Dissertation Chair: S. Roy

Yih-Feng Hsieh, Bachelor of Science, 2005, Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, 2005, Master of Science, 2008, National Taiwan University
Major: Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology
Dissertation: Characterizing Late Leaf Spot Disease in Peanut via Transgenic and Molecular Approaches
Dissertation Chair: J. Wang
Dissertation Co-chair: M. Gallo

Haiqing Huang, Bachelor of Engineering, 2007, Master of Engineering, 2010, Southeast University—China
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Dissertation: Functional and Structural Connectivity in the Human Brain
Dissertation Chair: M. Ding

Ping Huang, Bachelor of Science, 2006, Tunghai University—Taiwan; Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida
Major: Zoology
Dissertation: Behavioral Syndrome, Stress Hormone, Melanin-Based Morphological Trait and Urban-Rural Variation of Northern Cardinals (Cardinalis Cardinalis)
Dissertation Chair: R. T. Kimball
Dissertation Co-chair: C. M. St. Mary

Christopher Santiago Robert Hughes, Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering cum laude, 2012, Bachelor of Science in Nuclear Engineering cum laude, 2012, University of Florida
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Dissertation: Multiphysics Analysis of Supercritical Fluids for Nuclear Reactor Application
Dissertation Chair: D. Schubring

Emma Maria Viktoria Hyddmark, Bachelor of Science, 2011, Florida Gulf Coast University
Major: Medical Sciences—Genetics
Dissertation: Modulation of Tumorigenic Potential of Osteosarcoma Cells Through Re-Patterning of the Epigenome
Dissertation Chair: S. C. Ghivizzani
Tyler P. Jacoby, Bachelor of Science, 2009, Florida Southern College; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Horticultural Sciences
Minor: Plant Pathology
Dissertation: Improving the Efficacy of Methyl Bromide Alternatives for Vegetable Production in Florida
Dissertation Chair: N. S. Boyd
Dissertation Co-chair: G. E. Vallad

Dan J. Jakubowski, Bachelor of Arts magna cum laude, 2006, Oakland University—Michigan; Master of Science, 2010, Pratt Institute—New York

Major: Art History
Dissertation: Concentric Modernities: A History of Contemporary Egyptian Video Art
Dissertation Chair: V. L. Rovine
Dissertation Co-chair: J. Tsai

Sanaa A. Jaman, Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, 2009, University of Wisconsin at River Falls

Major: Environmental Engineering Sciences
Dissertation: Prediction of Granular Activated Carbon Performance for Taste and Odor Causing Compounds
Dissertation Chair: D. W. Mazyck

Wonseok Jang, Bachelor of Physical Education, 2007, Kyung Hee University—South Korea; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Health and Human Performance
Dissertation: The Effects of Different Types of Choice Goal on Consumers’ Happiness and Product Evaluation Depending on the Levels of Efforts to Make Choices
Dissertation Chair: Y. J. Ko

Emily Rose Johnson, Bachelor of Science in Applied Physiology and Kinesiology cum laude, 2011, Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Health and Human Performance
Minor: Child and Adolescent Development
Dissertation: Maternal Psychological Control and Body Image Dissatisfaction Among College Undergraduate Students
Dissertation Chair: C. B. Stopka

Rosalyn D. Johnson, Bachelor of Arts, 1987, Oberlin College—Ohio; Master of Forest Science, 1992, Yale University—Connecticut

Major: Wildlife Ecology and Conservation
Dissertation: Wild Bee Diversity on North Central Florida Produce Farms: Interactions of Wild Bees with Landscape, Farm Vegetation, and Flower Pollens
Dissertation Chair: K. E. Sieving

Ashley M. Jones, Bachelor of Arts, 2006, University of California at Santa Cruz

Major: Aerospace Engineering
Dissertation: Unsteady Circulation Control for High-Performance Low-Noise Aircraft
Dissertation Chair: L. N. Cattafesta III
Dissertation Co-chair: M. Sheplak

Jared Anthony Jones, Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering cum laude, 2010, University of Florida

Major: Mechanical Engineering
Dissertation: Design of Serial Link Manipulators for End Effector Impedances
Dissertation Chair: S. A. Banks

Daesung Kang, Bachelor of Engineering, 2004, Master of Engineering, 2007, Korea University—South Korea; Master of Science in Electrical Engineering, 2008, Washington University in St. Louis—Missouri; Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida

Major: Biomedical Engineering
Dissertation: Network Analysis of Neural Activity
Dissertation Chair: M. Ding

Michael David Kellar, Bachelor of Arts, 2010, Skidmore College—New York; Bachelor of Engineering, 2011, Dartmouth College—New Hampshire; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Materials Science and Engineering
Dissertation: Strategies for Next Generation Secondary Battery Technology
Dissertation Chair: B. M. Moudgil
Ryan Patrick Kelley, Bachelor of Science, 2007, United States Naval Academy—Maryland; Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida
Major: Nuclear Engineering Sciences
Dissertation: Used Fuel Storage Monitoring Using Novel 4He Scintillation Fast Neutron Detectors and Neutron Energy Discrimination Analysis
Dissertation Chair: K. Jordan

Stefan J. Kelly, Bachelor of Science, 2011, University of Southern Maine; Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida
Major: Materials Science and Engineering
Dissertation: Nanoparticle Systems in Medical Diagnostics and Electrical Device Fabrication
Dissertation Chair: J. Andrew

Sungsik Kim, Bachelor of Engineering, 2002, Kyung Hee University—South Korea; Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Dissertation: DFT Study and Kinetic Model for Investigating Oxidation of Methane Over Bimetallic Catalyst
Dissertation Chair: D. W. Mikolaitis

Jessica Lynn King, Bachelor of Science in Health Education cum laude, 2007, Master of Science, 2008, University of Florida
Major: Public Health
Dissertation: Factors Related to Nicotine Replacement Therapy for Adolescent Smoking Cessation
Dissertation Chair: J. L. Pomeranz

Meghan Laurel Elizabeth Kirkwood, Bachelor of Arts, 2004, Grinnel College—Iowa; Bachelor of Fine Arts, 2006, Rhode Island School of Design; Master of Fine Arts, 2009, Tulane University—Louisiana; Master of Arts, 2011, University of Kansas
Major: Art History
Dissertation: The Representation of Landscape in Contemporary South African Photography
Dissertation Chair: V. L. Rovine

Jaclyn Marie Koopmann, Bachelor of Science in Business Administration summa cum laude, 2006, College of Charleston—South Carolina; Master of Science, 2009, Texas A&M University
Major: Business Administration—Management
Dissertation: A Theoretical Model of Autonomous Helping and Dependent Helping in Teams
Dissertation Chair: M. Wang

Helena Laciuga, Magister Sztuki, 1994, Akademia Muzyczna im Stanislawa Moniuszkic—Poland; Master of Arts, 2011, University of Florida
Major: Communication Sciences and Disorders
Dissertation: Voluntary Cough Airflow Dynamics and True Vocal Fold Kinematics in Persons with Reduced True Vocal Fold Mobility
Dissertation Chair: K. W. Hegland

John J. Lagrosa IV, Bachelor of Economics, 2006, University of South Florida; Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida
Major: Forest Resources and Conservation
Dissertation: An Integrated Approach to Projecting Changes in Carbon Storage Within a Land-Use/Land Cover Context for a Subtropical Urban Watershed
Dissertation Chair: M. G. Andreu

Arthur Leal, Bachelor of Science, 2011, Master of Science, 2013, University of Arkansas
Major: Agricultural Education and Communication
Dissertation: Career Readiness of Agricultural Communication Undergraduate Alumni: A Three-Tiered Perspective
Dissertation Chair: R. W. Telg
Dissertation Co-chair: J. N. Rumble

Sharon Hanna Lebron Gonzalez, Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering, 2009, University of Miami—Florida; Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Dissertation: Automation of a Linear Accelerator Dosimetric Quality Assurance Program
Dissertation Chair: C. Liu
Dissertation Co-chair: G. Yan
Seul Lee, Bachelor of Advertising and Public Relations, 2004, Chung-Ang University—South Korea; Master of Arts, 2007, University of Georgia  
Major: Mass Communication  
Dissertation: The Effects of Media Bound Factors On Cause Related Marketing Audience’s Attitudes and Behavioral Intention  
Dissertation Chair: C. R. Morton Padovano

Flávia Lana Leite, Bacharel, 2003, Fundacao Joao Pinheiro—Brazil; Master of Public Affairs, 2006, University of Texas at Austin; Master of Arts, 2009, University of Florida  
Major: Sociology  
Dissertation: Modern Conflicts over Conservation and Development of the Amazon: The Case of the Conflict Over the Construction of the Belo Monte Hydroelectric Dam in Brazil  
Dissertation Chair: S. G. Perz

Sarah Leigh Lennox, Bachelor of Arts summa cum laude, 2006, Assumption College—Massachusetts; Master of Arts, 2007, Clark University—Massachusetts  
Major: English  
Dissertation: Reading the Body: Physiognomy, Disfigurement, and Disguise in the British Sensation Novel of the 1860s and 70s  
Dissertation Chair: P. K. Gilbert

Devin Courtney Lewis, Bachelor of Science, 2002, Johnson and Wales University—Rhode Island; Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida  
Major: Food Science  
Dissertation: Risk Assessment of Fumonisin B1 Contamination of Muscadine Wine and Grape Juice as a Major Risk to Human Health  
Dissertation Chair: R. M. Goodrich

Kunhua Li, Bachelor of Science, 2010, Peking University—China; Master of Science in Teaching, 2014, University of Florida  
Major: Chemistry  
Dissertation: Structural Insight Into Microbial Natural Product Pathways  
Dissertation Chair: S. D. Bruner

Li Li, Bachelor of Economics, 2005, Tianjin University of Finance & Economics—China; Master of Science, 2008, Hogskolan Dalarna—Sweden; Master of Economics, 2009, Tianjin University of Finance & Economics—China  
Major: Biostatistics  
Dissertation: Adjusting for Confounding Due to Unmeasured Characteristics That Vary Across the Levels of One or Two Factors  
Dissertation Chair: B. A. Brumback

Steven Lynn Lichty, Bachelor of Arts, 1994, Goshen College—Indiana; Master of Arts, 2006, Baylor University—Texas; Master of Arts, 2010, University of Florida  
Major: Political Science  
Dissertation: Pastors, Pulpits, Pews, and Politics: Religious Pedagogies of Democratic Empowerment  
Dissertation Chair: L. A. Villalon

Deoksu Lim, Bachelor of Engineering, 2000, Master of Engineering, 2003, Korea University—South Korea; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida  
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Dissertation: Sparse Radar Imaging and Automatic Target Recognition  
Dissertation Chair: J. Li

Xin Lin, Bachelor of Engineering, 2011, Zhejiang University—China; Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida  
Major: Chemical Engineering  
Dissertation: The Stability of a Pendent Drop and a Closed Liquid Bridge  
Dissertation Chair: R. Narayanan  
Dissertation Co-chair: L. E. Johns

Chanda Jones Littles, Bachelor of Science, 2003, Texas A&M University; Master of Science, 2005, University of Florida  
Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology  
Dissertation: An Investigation of Wintering Florida Manatee Population Dynamics at Multiple Scales  
Dissertation Chair: T. K. Frazer  
Dissertation Co-chair: S. S. Pilyugin
Jun Liu, Bachelor of Engineering, 1999, Shandong University—China; Master of Engineering, 2004, Shanghai University—China
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: Scalable and Synthesizable High Performance Analog/Mixed Signal Circuit Design
Dissertation Chair: N. Maghari

Patrick Dominic Lomenzo, Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering cum laude, 2012, University of Florida
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: Ferroelectric and Antiferroelectric Properties of HfO₂-Based Thin Films
Dissertation Chair: T. Nishida

Wen Donq Looi, Bachelor of Science, 2009, University of Florida
Major: Chemistry
Dissertation: Electrochemistry Mass Spectrometry with Desorption Electrospray Ionization for Analysis of Electrochemical Reactions
Dissertation Chair: A. F. Toth

Jennifer A. Lyon, Bachelor of Science in History magna cum laude, 2006, Bachelor of Science in Political Science, 2006, Kansas State University; Master of Arts, 2010, University of Florida
Major: History
Dissertation: “Cleaning up Hell with a Tooth Brush”: Prohibition, Booze, and Bootlegging in Memphis, Tennessee, 1909-1939
Dissertation Chair: W. Link

Kyungah Maeng, Bachelor of Science, 2006, Master of Science, 2008, Sung Kyun Kwan University—South Korea
Major: Medical Sciences—Molecular Cell Biology
Dissertation: Biological and Therapeutic Implications of Thymidylate Synthase in Pancreatic Neuroendocrine Tumors
Dissertation Chair: M. Zajac-Kaye

Brian P. Mahon, Bachelor of Science, 2011, Wesley College—Delaware
Major: Medical Sciences—Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Dissertation: Towards the Design of Next Generation Carbonic Anhydrase IX Inhibitors: A Biophysical Approach to Anti-Cancer Treatment
Dissertation Chair: R. McKenna

Jerome J. Maleski, Bachelor of Science, 2001, Pennsylvania State University
Major: Agricultural and Biological Engineering
Dissertation: Hydrologic Trends and Predictions for the Alabama-Coosa-Tallapoosa and Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River Basins
Dissertation Chair: C. J. Martinez

Heather Tiffany Daniel Maness, Bachelor of Science, 2007, Master of Science, 2009, University of Florida
Major: Agricultural Education and Communication
Minor: Higher Education Administration
Dissertation: Essential Curriculum Components for Preparing Aquatic Animal Health Veterinarians
Dissertation Chair: T. G. Roberts II

Rasha Abdul-Rasheed Mansouri, Bachelor of Science, 1998, Master of Science, 2003, King Abdulaziz University—Saudi Arabia
Major: Nutritional Sciences
Dissertation: Cranberry Extract Initiates Intrinsic Apoptosis in HL-60 Cells by Increasing Bad Activity Through the Inhibition of Akt Phosphorylation
Dissertation Chair: S. S. Percival

Jackelyn A. Martinez, Bachelor of Science in Materials Science and Engineering cum laude, 2010, Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida
Major: Materials Science and Engineering
Dissertation Chair: S. R. Phillpot

Andrea Michelle Matuska, Bachelor of Science, 2011, Kettering University—Michigan; Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Dissertation: Biomaterial Development and Culture Paradigms to Enhance TMJ Disc Regeneration
Dissertation Chair: P. S. McFetridge
Kelsi M. Matwick, Bachelor of Arts summa cum laude, 2005, University of Notre Dame—Indiana; Master of Arts, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Linguistics
   Dissertation: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Food and Gender in Cookbooks by Female Celebrity Chefs
   Dissertation Chair: A. K. Wehmeyer

Keri M. Matwick, Bachelor of Arts, 2005, University of Notre Dame—Indiana; Master of Arts, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Linguistics
   Dissertation: Performing the Expert: A Linguistic and Multimodal Analysis of TV Cooking Shows
   Dissertation Chair: A. K. Wehmeyer

Ramón Gabriel Mayora, Bachelor of Arts, 2007, Master of Arts, 2010, University of Florida

Major: English
   Dissertation Chair: T. M. Hedrick

Jame Elizabeth McCray, Bachelor of Science, 2002, University of Maryland; Master of Arts, 2004, University of Miami—Florida

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

Mica F. McMillan, Bachelor of Science, 1997, Master of Science, 2001, Auburn University—Alabama

Major: Soil and Water Science
   Dissertation: The Influence of Inorganic Amendments and Surfactants on Turfgrass Establishment, Growth and Quality in Constructed Root Zone Mixes
   Dissertation Chair: S. H. Daroub

Wenbin Mei, Bachelor of Science, 2007, Nanjing Normal University—China; Master of Science in Biology, 2011, Central Washington University

Major: Botany
   Dissertation: Alternative Splicing Landscape in Monocots: Insights From Genetic, Epigenetic and Evolutionary Perspectives
   Dissertation Chair: W. B. Barbazuk

Sarah Elizabeth Mena, Titulo de Ingeniera Quimica, 2006, Universidad Centroamericana—El Salvador; Master of Science, 2010, Clemson University—South Carolina

Major: Chemical Engineering
   Dissertation: Experimental Studies of Fluid-Solid Flows in Turbulent Dilute and Laminar Concentrated Regimes
   Dissertation Chair: J. S. Curtis

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

Major: Medical Sciences—Neuroscience
   Dissertation: Neurophysiological Changes in Respiratory Circuitry From Cervical Spinal Cord Injury and Treatments to Enhance Breathing
   Dissertation Chair: P. J. Reier
   Dissertation Co-chair: M. A. Lane

Andrew J. Meyer, Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering cum laude, 2009, University of Florida

Major: Mechanical Engineering
   Dissertation: Prediction of Optimal Rehabilitation Outcomes Post-Stroke
   Dissertation Chair: B. J. Fregly

Raies Ahmad Mir, Bachelor of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry, 2009, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural, Sciences & Technology of Kashmir—India; Master of Veterinary Science, 2011, Indian Veterinary Research Institute—India

Major: Animal Sciences
   Dissertation: Evaluation of Animal and Microbial Factors Affecting Prevalence of Shiga Toxin Producing e. coli (STEC) and Cefotaxime Resistance
   Dissertation Chair: K. C. Jeong
Nancy Lorena Montes de Soto, Licenciada en Biología, 2004, Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala; Master of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, 2009, University of Florida  
**Major:** Interdisciplinary Ecology  
Dissertation: Analyzing the Distribution of Recreational Boating off the Coast of Northeast Florida to Determine Its’ Implications for the Conservation of the North Atlantic Right Whale  
Dissertation Chair: R. A. Swett

Benjamin R. Mood, Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, 2010, Point Loma Nazarene University—California; Master of Science, 2012, University of Oregon  
**Major:** Computer Science  
Dissertation Chair: K. Butler

Fredy Rafael Mora Solis, Licenciado en Fisioterapia, 2004, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Nicaragua; Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida  
**Major:** Rehabilitation Science  
Dissertation: Physical Activity and Its’ Association with Pain-Related Distress and Pain Processing Before and After Exercise-Induced Low Back Pain  
Dissertation Chair: M. D. Bishop  
Dissertation Co-chair: S. George

Lillian Rebecca Morris, Bachelor of Arts in Geography, 2011, University of Colorado at Boulder; Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida  
**Major:** Geography  
**Minor:** Public Health  
Dissertation: Wildlife Movement and Disease Risk: Anthrax Transmission in Montana  
Dissertation Chair: J. K. Blackburn

Andrew M. Mowson, Bachelor of Science, 2010, State University of New York at Oneonta; Master of Science in Teaching, 2015, University of Florida  
**Major:** Chemistry  
Dissertation: Heterobimetallic Magnetic Clusters and Supramolecular Aggregates of Single-Molecule Magnets  
Dissertation Chair: G. Christou

Lazarus Katana Mramba, Bachelor of Science, 2001, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology—Kenya; Master of Science, 2010, University of Leeds  
**Major:** Forest Resources and Conservation  
Dissertation: Optimal Experimental Designs for Spatially and Genetically Correlated Data Using Linear Mixed Models  
Dissertation Chair: S. Gezan

Ammar Abdulhamid Najj, Bachelor of Science, 1999, King Abdulaziz University—Saudi Arabia; Master of Business Administration, 2007, University of Nebraska at Lincoln  
**Major:** Design, Construction, and Planning  
Dissertation: Using LEED for Neighborhood Development Criteria for the Spatial Assessment of Urban Form and Social Equity at a Regional Scale  
Dissertation Chair: P. D. Zwick

Gia M. Nardini, Bachelor of Science in Business Administration summa cum laude, 2010, University of Florida  
**Major:** Business Administration—Marketing  
Dissertation: Hedonic Consumption and Mindfulness  
Dissertation Chair: R. J. Lutz  
Dissertation Co-chair: R. A. Leboeuf

Joshua Orin Neumann, Bachelor of Music, 2005, Gordon College—Massachusetts  
**Major:** Music  
Dissertation: Towards Defining Tradition: A Statistical and Network Analysis of Performing Giacomo Puccini’s Turandot at the Met  
Dissertation Chair: M. R. Butler
Major: 
Mass Communication
Dissertation: Three Years After Trayvon Martin’s Death: Is Political Alienation Shifting Across Disparate Racial/Ethnic Group Residents of Sanford, Florida?
Dissertation Chair: W. M. Wanta

Anh Ngoc Nguyen, Bachelor of Science, 2011, California State University at East Bay; Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida
Major: 
Aerospace Engineering
Dissertation: Small Satellite Technologies for Precision Drag-free Control and Drag Force Recovery
Dissertation Chair: J. Conklin

Hoang Huu Nguyen, Bachelor of Science, 2007, Vietnam National University
Major: 
Horticultural Sciences—Environmental
Dissertation: In vitro Physiology of Tissue-Culture Recalcitrant Plants in Nymphaeaceae, Alismataceae, and Orchidaceae
Dissertation Chair: M. E. Kane

Major: 
Public Health
Dissertation Chair: J. G. Morris

Valens Nteziyaremye, Bachelor of Science, 2012, University of Arkansas at Little Rock; Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida
Major: 
Mechanical Engineering
Dissertation: High-Speed Surface Finishing of Needles for High-Performance Biopsy
Dissertation Chair: H. Greenslet

Jintaek Ock, Bachelor of Science, 2002, Yonsei University—South Korea; Master of Science in Building Construction, 2011, University of Florida
Major: 
Design, Construction, and Planning
Dissertation: Framework for Climate Responsive Automatic Operation Strategies Development for Double Skin Facade (DSF) System In High Rise Buildings
Dissertation Chair: R. R. Issa
Dissertation Co-chair: I. Flood

Hyunjoo Oh, Bachelor of Home Economics, 1988, Master of Home Economics, 1990, Seoul National University—South Korea; Doctor of Philosophy, 1998, University of Wisconsin at Madison
Major: 
Business Administration—Marketing
Dissertation: How Does Lighting of Stores Interact with Global Versus Local Processing Modes of Shoppers in Retail Environments?
Dissertation Chair: C. A. Janiszewski
Dissertation Co-chair: J. W. Alba

Shannon Elizabeth O’Reilly, Bachelor of Science in Nuclear Engineering cum laude, 2011, Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida
Major: 
Biomedical Engineering
Dissertation: Dosimetric Analysis of Patient Populations at Risk for Secondary Cancers in Radiotherapy and Diagnostic Nuclear Medicine
Dissertation Chair: W. E. Bolch

David R. Owens, Bachelor of Science summa cum laude, 2010, Master of Science, 2012, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Major: 
Entomology and Nematology
Dissertation: Biocology of Host Attraction and Reproduction in Maize-Infesting Ulidiidae
Dissertation Chair: G. S. Nuesly
Erman K. Oztekin, Lisans Diplomasi, 2008, Istanbul University—Turkey; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Dissertation: Differential Laser-Induced Perturbation Spectroscopy for Analysis of Biological and Bio-Related Materials
Dissertation Chair: D. W. Hahn

Thomson M. Paris, Bachelor of Science, 2007, Southern Adventist University—Tennessee; Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida
Major: Entomology and Nematology
Dissertation: A Study of the Morphometrics and Visual Ecology of the Asian Citrus Psyllid Diaphorina citri Kuwayama (Hemiptera: Liviidae)
Dissertation Chair: P. A. Stansly

Brian H. Park, Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, 2008, University of North Carolina at Charlotte; Master of Science, 2011, University of Florida
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Dissertation: Kinematic Analysis and Automatic Segmentation of the Menisci
Dissertation Chair: S. A. Banks

Shaniqua Janine Parker, Bachelor of Science, 2004, Master of Science, 2011, North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University
Major: Agricultural Education and Communication
Dissertation: Perceptions of Ministry Extensions Source Credibility in Trinidad
Dissertation Chair: G. D. Israel

Rainey Elizabeth Patterson, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2011, College of Charleston—South Carolina
Major: Chemistry
Dissertation: Innovative Approaches to Investigating the Metabolomics of Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease by Mass Spectrometry
Dissertation Chair: R. A. Yost

Liqian Peng, Bachelor of Natural Science, 2008, University of Science and Technology of China; Master of Science, 2010, University of Colorado at Boulder
Major: Aerospace Engineering
Minor: Mathematics
Minor: Computer Science
Dissertation: Geometric Model Reduction for Nonlinear Dynamical Systems
Dissertation Chair: K. Mohseni

Joseph Bryce Pfaller, Bachelor of Science summa cum laude, 2005, University of Florida; Master of Science, 2009, Florida State University
Major: Zoology
Dissertation: High Seas Hitchhiker and Sea Turtle Symbiont: Global Genetics and Ecological Interactions of Oceanic Crabs
Dissertation Chair: K. A. Bjorndal

Phong N. Pham, Bachelor of Science, 2011, Michigan State University; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida
Major: Chemical Engineering
Dissertation: Origin of Shear-Induced Diffusion in Particulate Suspensions: Crucial Role of Solid Contacts Between Particles
Dissertation Chair: J. E. Butler

Rajeev Pillay, Master of Science, 2004, University of Calcutta—India
Major: Wildlife Ecology and Conservation
Dissertation: Songbird Vocalization Behaviors and Density-Dependent Seed Predation Reveal the Hidden Impacts of Logging
Dissertation Chair: R. J. Fletcher

Cristina Pisani, Bachelor of Science, 2006, Florida International University; Master of Science, 2011, University of California at Davis
Major: Horticultural Sciences
Minor: Plant Pathology
Dissertation: Exploring Avocado Variability for Laurel Wilt Resistance and Excellent Fruit Quality and Horticultural Traits for Production in East-Central Florida
Dissertation Chair: M. A. Ritenour
Dissertation Co-chair: E. W. Stover
Angela Athena Pitenis, Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, 2012, Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Dissertation: Scaling Concepts for Friction in Soft Matter Interfaces
Dissertation Chair: W. G. Sawyer

Major: English
Dissertation Chair: P. E. Wegner

Bishow P. Poudel, Bachelor of Agriculture, 2005, Tribhuvan University—Nepal; Master of Science, 2009, Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University—India; Master of Science, 2010, Oklahoma State University
Major: Agronomy
Minor: Extension Education
Dissertation: A Study on the Root Architecture of Warm Season Turfgrass Species Associated with Drought and Mowing Heights
Dissertation Chair: D. L. Rowland
Dissertation Co-chair: K. E. Kenworthy

Samiksha Prasad, Bachelor of Technology in Biotechnology, 2010, Sam Higginbottom Institute of Agriculture, Technology & Sciences—India
Major: Microbiology and Cell Science
Dissertation: Characterization of Sec-Translocon Dependent Extracytoplasmic Proteins of Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus
Dissertation Chair: N. Wang

Lin Qi, Bachelor of Engineering, 2010, University of Science and Technology of China
Major: Computer Science
Minor: Statistics
Dissertation: Spatial Networks in Databases
Dissertation Chair: M. P. Schneider

Arian Rahimi, Bachelor in Electrical Engineering, 2008, Shahid Beheshti University—Iran; Master of Science, 2011, Middle East Technical University—Turkey
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: Low Loss Passive Component Technologies for High Performance Radio Frequency Circuits Using Micro/Nano Machining
Dissertation Chair: Y. K. Yoon

Kelvin Randhir, Bachelor of Engineering, 2008, Birla Institute of Technology—India
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Dissertation: Porous Reactive Structures for Thermochemical Processes
Dissertation Chair: D. W. Hahn

Anshu Ranjan, Bachelor of Technology, 2009, Jaypee University of Information Technology—India; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida
Major: Computer Science
Dissertation: Approximation Algorithms for Offline Scheduling of Power Loads in Smart Grids
Dissertation Chair: S. K. Sahni
Dissertation Co-chair: P. P. Khargonekar

Douglas William Rank, Bachelor of Arts cum laude, 2008, Lake Forest College—Illinois
Major: Physics
Dissertation: The Underlying Event @ 13 TeV
Dissertation Chair: R. D. Field

Saitej Ravi, Bachelor of Engineering, 2010, Birla Institute of Technology—India
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Dissertation: Capillary Transport Characteristics of Micropillar Array-Based Homogeneous and Hybrid Wick Structures
Dissertation Chair: S. Moghaddam
Adam M. Reid, Bachelor of Science summa cum laude, 2010, Master of Science, 2012, Master of Science, 2015, University of Florida
Major: Psychology—Clinical and Health Psychology
Dissertation: A Component Analysis of Homework Assignments During the Treatment of Pediatric Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder
Dissertation Chair: G. R. Geffken

Kharyssa Rhodes, Bachelor of Arts summa cum laude, 1995, Rhode Island College; Master of Arts, 2000, University of Colorado at Denver
Major: Anthropology
Dissertation: Historical Consciousness, National Identity, and the Legacy of Colonial Era Anthropological Discourse in Contemporary Uganda
Dissertation Chair: S. D. Gillespie

Sami Walid Rifai, Bachelor of Science, 2005, University of California at Irvine; Master of Science, 2008, University of Georgia
Major: Forest Resources and Conservation
Dissertation: The Frequency of Catastrophic Wind Disturbances in the Northwest Amazon, and Their Impact Upon Tree Mortality and Diversity
Dissertation Chair: S. A. Bohlman

Brittany Lynn Roberts, Bachelor of Arts summa cum laude, 2005, University of Central Florida; Master of Arts, 2007, University of Florida
Major: English
Dissertation: Sensation Stories: The Life of British Short Fiction in the Age of Victorian Sensation
Dissertation Chair: P. K. Gilbert

Eric L. Rohrs, Bachelor of Science, 2010, The College of New Jersey; Master of Engineering, 2012, University of Florida
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Dissertation: Quantifying Behaviors Associated with Orofacial Pain and Temporomandibular Dysfunction in the Rat
Dissertation Chair: K. Allen

Julia Roncoroni, Bachelor of Arts summa cum laude, 2010, San Diego State University—California; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida
Major: Counseling Psychology
Dissertation: Associations of Health Literacy and Health Self Efficacy with Engagement in Health Promoting Behaviors and Treatment Adherence in a Sample of Culturally Diverse Rural Patients
Dissertation Chair: C. M. Tucker

Michael J. Rowin, Bachelor of Arts, 2002, University of Rochester—New York; Master of Arts, 2004, New York University
Major: English
Dissertation: Aural Assault: Noise, Perception, and Politics in the Cinema
Dissertation Chair: B. C. Mennel

Tyler W. Rundel, Bachelor of Arts, 2008, San Francisco State University—California; Master of Science, 2011, California State Polytechnic University at Pomona
Major: Geography
Minor: Tropical Agriculture
Dissertation: Extractivism and Domestication of Indigenous Fruit and Nut Trees in the Tropics
Dissertation Chair: N. J. Smith

Benjamin Peter Russo, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2010, Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida
Major: Mathematics
Dissertation: Lifting Theorems for Tuples of 3-Isometric and 3-Symmetric Operators with Applications
Dissertation Chair: S. A. McCullough

Avinash Rustagi, Master of Science, 2010, Indian Institute of Technology—India
Major: Physics
Dissertation: Optical and Transport Properties of Zero Gap and Finite Gap Semiconductors
Dissertation Chair: C. J. Stanton

Tatiana E. Salazar, Bachillerato en Biologia, 2010, Universidad de Costa Rica
Major: Genetics and Genomics
Dissertation: Maintenance and Mobilization of Adult Progenitor Cells as Essential Steps towards Autologous Regenerative Medicine
Dissertation Chair: M. A. Grant
Mona Brenda Gaturian Sayedul Huq, Bachelor of Science in Applied Physiology and Kinesiology, 2012, Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida
Major: Health and Human Performance
Dissertation: Adverse Childhood Experiences, Resiliency, and Risk of Recidivism Among Juvenile Offenders in Florida
Dissertation Chair: C. B. Stopka

Miranda Leigh Scalabrino, Bachelor of Science, 2012, Auburn University—Alabama
Major: Medical Sciences—Genetics
Dissertation: Adeno Associated Viral Gene Therapy Targeting on Bipolar Cells Restores Function in a Mouse Model of Congenital Stationary Night Blindness
Dissertation Chair: S. E. Boye
Dissertation Co-chair: W. W. Hauswirth

Bryan Colton Perez Schwarz, Bachelor of Science in Nuclear Engineering cum laude, 2011, Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Dissertation: Dosimetric Models of Skeletal and Body Tissues From Internal and Medical Radionuclide Sources
Dissertation Chair: W. E. Bolch

Jodi Michelle Scott, Bachelor of Science, 2008, University of Central Florida; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida
Major: Entomology and Nematology
Dissertation: Attractive Toxic Sugar Baits (ATSB) for Control of Mosquitoes and Their Effects on Non-Target Arthropods
Dissertation Chair: P. G. Koehler

Marina Marlene Scotti, Bachelor of Science, 2004, University of Florida
Major: Medical Sciences—Genetics
Dissertation: Mbn1 Regulation of the Thymic Transcriptome and T-Cell Development
Dissertation Chair: M. Swanson

Mitchell Dylan Sellers, Bachelor of Science, 2009, Texas A&M University; Master of Public Administration, 2011, Texas State University at San Marcos; Master of Arts, 2014, University of Florida
Major: Political Science
Dissertation: Power Play: Gubernatorial Use of Executive Orders in the American States
Dissertation Chair: D. A. Smith

Myengsoo Seo, Bachelor of Science in Architectural Engineering, 2003, Hanyang University—South Korea; Master of Science in Engineering, 2007, Seoul National University—South Korea
Major: Design, Construction, and Planning
Dissertation: Origins of Korean Modern Architecture
Dissertation Chair: H. Zou
Dissertation Co-chair: W. L. Tilson

Daniil E. Shabashvili, Bachelor of Science cum laude, 2006, University of Florida
Major: Medical Sciences—Molecular Cell Biology
Dissertation: Leveraging Improved Mouse Models of Small Cell Lung Cancer for Testing of Novel Therapies
Dissertation Chair: M. Zajac-Kaye

Hamzah A. Shanbari, Bachelor of Science, 2006, King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals—Saudi Arabia; Master of Science in Building Construction, 2010, University of Florida
Major: Design, Construction, and Planning
Dissertation: Evaluating the Use of Video Games in Construction Management Education
Dissertation Chair: R. R. Issa

Sharareh Sharififar, Diploma, 2004, Shiraz University of Medical Sciences—Iran
Major: Rehabilitation Science
Dissertation: Effects of Rehabilitation in the Recovery of Sensorimotor Function Following Stroke
Dissertation Chair: C. Patten
Ravi Shekhar, Bachelor of Technology, 2006, Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of Information and Communication Technology—India; Master of Science, 2009, University of Florida
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: The Adaptive Time Machine
Dissertation Chair: J. G. Harris

Kevin Robert Sherman, Bachelor of Arts, 2002, Master of Arts, 2008, San Francisco State University—California
Major: English
Dissertation: The Literate Voice of Autobiographical Documentary: Toward a Logology of the Moving Image
Dissertation Chair: G. L. Ulmer

Jose Antonio Sierra Huelsz, Titulo de Biologo, 2005, Maestro en Ciencias Biologicas, 2010, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico
Major: Forest Resources and Conservation
Dissertation: Tourism and Forest Livelihoods: Linking Architecture with Tropical Forest Management
Dissertation Chair: K. A. Kainer

Jared W. Skinner, Bachelor of Science, 2009, Master of Science, 2011, Appalachian State University—North Carolina
Major: Health and Human Performance
Dissertation: Influence of Strength on Motor Control and Gait Variability in Persons with Parkinson's Disease
Dissertation Chair: C. J. Hass

Bailey Trump Slagle, Bachelor of Science magna cum laude, 2009, University of Florida
Major: Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences
Dissertation: Ecophysiology and Genetics of the Cyanobacterium Cyanothece Species BG0011: A Candidate for Bioenergy Production
Dissertation Chair: E. J. Phillips

Sarah K. Slocum, Bachelor of Science, 2010, Louisiana State University and A&M College; Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida
Major: Psychology
Dissertation: An Evaluation of Two Emergency Procedures to Treat Severe Escape Behavior
Dissertation Chair: T. R. Vollmer

Hunter Clayton Smith, Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences, 2009, Arkansas State University; Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida
Major: Agronomy
Dissertation: Utilization of Dicamba in Cotton Production Systems
Dissertation Chair: J. A. Ferrell

Jose Roberto Soto Shoender, Liceneiado in Biolog, 2003, Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala; Master of Science, 2008, University of Florida
Major: Wildlife Ecology and Conservation
Dissertation: Response of Mid and Large Sized Mammals to Woody Encroachment in a Southern African Savanna
Dissertation Chair: R. A. McClernon
Dissertation Co-chair: W. M. Giuliano

Jared R. Stees, Bachelor of Science, 2010, University of Central Florida
Major: Genetics and Genomics
Dissertation: The Role of Noncoding RNA and Chromatin Structure in Regulating the β Globin Locus Control Region
Dissertation Chair: J. Bungert
Dissertation Co-chair: S. Huang

Elliott J. Stepusin, Bachelor of Science in Nuclear Engineering Sciences cum laude, 2012, Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Dissertation: Pre-Computed Monte Carlo Dosimetry and Reporting for Computed Tomography
Dissertation Chair: W. E. Bolch
Eric A. Stubbs, Bachelor of Science, 2006, Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida

Major: Agricultural Education and Communication
Dissertation: The Impact of an Integrated STEM Program on Students’ STEM Identity
Dissertation Chair: L. A. Warner
Dissertation Co-chair: B. E. Myers

Mohammad Qanit Takmeel, Bachelor of Technology, 2010, National Institute of Technology at Rourkela—India; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Materials Science and Engineering
Dissertation: 3D Anodes for Direct Methanol Fuel Cells: Science and Synthesis
Dissertation Chair: S. S. Perry
Dissertation Co-chair: S. Moghaddam

Hengxing Tan, Bachelor of Engineering, 2000, Master of Engineering, 2003, Huazhong University of Science and Technology—China; Master of Science, 2014, University of Florida

Major: Computer Engineering
Dissertation: Power and Thermal Aware Issues on Data Parallel Problems
Dissertation Chair: S. Ranka

Jianbo Tang, Bachelor of Engineering, 2009, Master of Engineering, 2011, Harbin Institute of Technology—China

Major: Biomedical Engineering
Dissertation: Photoacoustic Brain Imaging in Behaving Animals
Dissertation Chair: H. Jiang

Nail Tanrioven, Bachelor of Arts, 2007, Bilkent University; Master of Arts, 2009, Koc University—Turkey; Master of Arts, 2013, University of Florida

Major: Political Science
Dissertation: Ordinary Othering and Re-Discovery of the Self: Living and Unveiling the Representation of the Other Among the Ordinary Turks
Dissertation Chair: I. Oren

Nicholas W. Taylor, Bachelor of Science, 2003, North Carolina State University; Master of Science in Building Construction, 2007, University of Florida

Major: Design, Construction, and Planning
Dissertation: Exploring Efficacy of Residential Energy Efficiency Programs in Florida
Dissertation Chair: C. Silver
Dissertation Co-chair: P. H. Jones

Zehra Melis Teksan, Bachelor of Science, 2009, Master of Science, 2011, Bogazici University—Turkey

Major: Industrial and Systems Engineering
Dissertation: Optimization Models for Inventory Systems with Price-Dependent Supply
Dissertation Chair: J. P. Geunes

Zhijing Teng, Bachelor in Administration, 2007, Jinan University—China; Master of Science in Economics, 2010, University of Nebraska at Omaha

Major: Food and Resource Economics
Dissertation: Food-Away-From-Home and Food-at-Home Consumption in Urban China: A Double-Hurdle Model Analysis
Dissertation Chair: J. L. Seale Jr.
Dissertation Co-chair: L. A. House

Nikki A. Thiele, Bachelor of Arts, 2009, State University of New York at Potsdam

Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences—Medicinal Chemistry
Dissertation: Parkinson’s Disease: Prodrug Approaches for Improving the Delivery of Therapeutic Agents
Dissertation Chair: K. B. Sloan

Carlton André Thompson, Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering, 2006, Master of Science, 2008, University of Florida

Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: A Design and Performance Study of a Distributed IP-Based Telecommunication System (D-IPTS)
Dissertation Chair: H. A. Latchman
Dissertation Co-chair: J. Y. McNair
June Elizabeth Tickle, Bachelor of Science, 1985, Master of Science, 1990, University of South Florida

Major: Nursing Sciences
Minor: Aging and Care Transitions
Dissertation: Relationship Between Chronic Lung Disease and End-of-Life Transition in Older Adults
Dissertation Chair: A. L. Horgas

Shanee Toledano, Bachelor of Science magna cum laude, 2009, University of Georgia; Master of Education, 2013, University of Florida

Major: School Psychology
Dissertation: The Roles of Self-Esteem Stability and Sensitivity in Predicting Outcomes for Adults with Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder
Dissertation Chair: J. H. Kranzler
Dissertation Co-chair: J. P. McNamara

Zeynal Topalcengiz, Lisans Diplomasi, 2006, Inonu University—Turkey; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Food Science
Minor: Soil and Water Science
Dissertation: Validation of Agricultural Water and Animal Intrusion Metrics for Produce Safety in Florida
Dissertation Chair: M. D. Danyluk

Megan E. Torpey, Bachelor of Science, 2011, The College of New Jersey

Major: Geology
Dissertation: Investigation of the Maule, Chile Rupture Zone Using Seismic Attenuation Tomography and Shear Wave Splitting Methods
Dissertation Chair: R. M. Russo

Michele R. Traub, Bachelor of Arts, 2002, Brown University—Rhode Island; Master of Science in Education, 2009, Temple University—Pennsylvania

Major: Psychology
Dissertation: Response Latency as a Measure of Behavior in the Assessment and Treatment of Elopement
Dissertation Chair: T. R. Vollmer

Amy Riengchandr Trongnetrpunya, Bachelor of Science, 2007, Boston University—Massachusetts; Master of Science, 2015, University of Florida

Major: Biomedical Engineering
Dissertation: Functional Connectivity in the Brain
Dissertation Chair: M. Ding

Yu-Chien Tseng, Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, 2011, National Taiwan University

Major: Agronomy
Dissertation Chair: B. Tillman
Dissertation Co-chair: J. Wang

Shigeharu Tsuda, Bachelor of Arts, 1991, Tenri University—Japan; Master of Science in Kinesiology, 2003, Indiana University at Bloomington; Master of Science, 2008, University of Florida

Major: Veterinary Medical Sciences
Dissertation: Altered Noradrenergic Innervation to the Anxiety-Related Brain Regions following Closed-Head Traumatic Brain Injury in Rats
Dissertation Chair: P. K. Bose

Ozcan Tunalilar, Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration, 2010, Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, 2010, Koc University—Turkey; Master of Arts, 2012, University of Florida

Major: Sociology
Dissertation: The Importance of Socioemotional Skills for Educational Attainment in the United States
Dissertation Chair: R. G. White

Berik Uzakbaiuly, Bachelor of Science, 2010, Middle East Technical University—Turkey

Major: Physics
Dissertation: Infrared Spectroscopy of High Purity Silicon and Silicon Immersion Gratings
Dissertation Chair: D. B. Tanner
Christopher I. Vincent, Bachelor of Arts magna cum laude, 2006, Master of Science, 2008, University of Arkansas

Major: Interdisciplinary Ecology
Dissertation: Wind and Light Stress in Papaya as Influenced by Intercropping: Stress Priming and Photosynthetic Acclimation
Dissertation Chair: B. A. Schaffer
Dissertation Co-chair: D. L. Rowland

Theresa Marie Walters, Bachelor of Science, 2005, Master of Science, 2008, Central Michigan University

Major: Wildlife Ecology and Conservation
Dissertation: Understanding Current and Potential Distribution of an Introduced Species, Burmese Pythons, Python (Molurus) Bivittatus
Dissertation Chair: F. J. Mazzotti

Nan-Yi Wang, Bachelor of Science, 2005, Master of Science, 2007, National Chung Hsing University—Taiwan

Major: Plant Pathology
Dissertation Chair: M. M. Dewdney

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

Major: Economics
Dissertation: Essays in Two-Sided Markets
Dissertation Chair: S. M. Slutsky

Yi Wang, Bachelor of Engineering, 2009, Huazhong University of Science and Technology—China; Master of Science in Electrical Engineering, 2011, University of Southern California

Major: Computer Science
Minor: Statistics
Dissertation: Scheduling Optimization Algorithms in Wireless Networks and Cloud Computing
Dissertation Chair: Y. Xia

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

Major: Mathematics
Dissertation: Shift Operators on Hilbert Spaces Arising from Trees
Dissertation Chair: M. T. Jury


Major: Counseling and Counselor Education
Dissertation: Attachment, Differentiation, and God Attachment: Three Views of the Togetherness and Separateness Conundrum
Dissertation Chair: M. H. Daniels

Bradford Charles Welliver Jr., Bachelor of Science in Astronomy & Astrophysics cum laude, 2007, Bachelor of Science in Physics cum laude, 2007, Florida Institute of Technology

Major: Physics
Dissertation: Dedicated Searches for Low and High Mass WIMPs with the SuperCDMS Soudan iZIP Detectors
Dissertation Chair: T. Saab

Nanny Wenzlow, Docteur en Medecine Veterinaire, 2003, Universite de Liege—Belgium

Major: Veterinary Medical Sciences
Dissertation: Ribonucleic Acid (RNA) Decay and the Estimation of the Postmortem Interval in Horses
Dissertation Chair: M. T. Long

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

Major: Medical Sciences—Immunology and Microbiology
Dissertation: Investigation Into the Genetic and Molecular Mechanism of Idd22 Based Protection Against Development of Type 1 Diabetes
Dissertation Chair: C. E. Mathews
Casey Alane Wilson, Bachelor of Arts cum laude, 2009, Master of Arts, 2011, University of Florida
Major: English
Dissertation: One Nation, Under Teens: Young Adult Literature and the Evolution of the American Teenager
Dissertation Chair: A. M. Ulanowicz

Justin Chet-Mun Wong, Bachelor of Science, 2011, University of Maryland
Major: Chemical Engineering
Dissertation: Nanopatterning and Nanostructuring Materials for Use in Thermoelectric and Other Alternative Energy Devices
Dissertation Chair: K. J. Ziegler

Yuedong Wu, Bachelor of Science, 2008, North University of China; Master of Engineering, 2011, Peking University—China
Major: Nuclear Engineering Sciences
Dissertation: Evaluation on Thermal Conductivity of Non-Stoichiometric Ceria
Dissertation Chair: Y. Yang

Nicholas L. Wulf, Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering cum laude, 2008, Master of Science, 2010, University of Florida
Major: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dissertation: Framework for Optimizing FPGA-Based Space Systems
Dissertation Chair: A. D. George
Dissertation Co-chair: A. M. Gordon-Ross

Xi Xia, Bachelor of Natural Science, 2008, University of Science and Technology of China; Master of Science, 2010, University of Colorado at Boulder
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Dissertation: Unsteady Aerodynamics of a Flat Plate Wing and Lift Control of the Wing Using Synthetic Jets
Dissertation Chair: K. Mohseni

Jia Xu, Bachelor of Engineering, 2010, Wuhan Institute of Technology—China; Master of Science, 2012, University of Florida
Major: Materials Science and Engineering
Dissertation: Characterization and Application of Surfactant Structure with Single-Walled Carbon Nanotubes
Dissertation Chair: B. M. Moudgil
Dissertation Co-chair: K. J. Ziegler

Semih Sait Yilmaz, Bachelor of Arts, 2006, Bogazici University—Turkey; Master of Business Administration, 2010, Bilkent University—Turkey
Major: Health and Human Performance
Dissertation: Environmentally Sustainable Behavior in Hospitality and Tourism: Implications of Consumers’ Counterfactual Thinking
Dissertation Chair: Y. J. Ko

Wendy M. Yoder, Bachelor of Science in Psychology, 2009, Armstrong Atlantic State University—Georgia; Master of Science, 2013, University of Florida
Major: Psychology
Dissertation: Age-Associated Deficits in Olfactory Processing and Cognitive Decline: Implications for Translational Research
Dissertation Chair: D. W. Smith

Jeung-Ki Yoo, Bachelor of Physical Education, 2007, Kyonggi University—South Korea
Major: Health and Human Performance
Dissertation: Acute Effects of Aerobic Exercise on Vascular Function in Older Men and Postmenopausal Women
Dissertation Chair: D. D. Christou

Rosana Zenil-Ferguson, Titulo de Licenciada en Mathematicas Applicadas, 2005, Instituto Tecnologico Autonomo de Mexico; Maestro en Ciencias, 2008, Centro de Investigacion en Matematicas—Mexico
Major: Zoology
Dissertation: Understanding the Mode and Tempo of Chromosome Number and Genome Size Change in the Evolutionary History of Angiosperms
Dissertation Chair: J. M. Ponciano Castellanos
Dissertation Co-chair: J. G. Burleigh
Junya Zhang, Bachelor of Science, 2008, HuaiHai Institute of Technology—China; Master of Science, 2011, Shanghai University—China
Major: Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology
Dissertation: The Maize Defective Kernel 5 (dek5) Locus Encodes a Chloroplast-Localized Protein Required for Plastid Division, Membrane Stability, and Starch Accumulation
Dissertation Chair: A. M. Settles

Li Qin Zhang, Bachelor of Science, 2009, Master of Science, 2011, Peking University—China
Major: Chemistry
Dissertation: Generation of Functional DNA for Molecular Recognition Based Cancer Thranostics
Dissertation Chair: W. Tan

Lisha Zhang, Bachelor of Economics, 2004, China Agricultural University; Bachelor of Arts, 2004, University of Colorado at Denver; Master of Science, 2008, University of Kentucky; Master of Science, 2010, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Major: Food and Resource Economics
Dissertation: Domestic Production in Import Demand Analyses and Implications of the Food Safety Modernization Act on the Fresh Tomato Industry
Dissertation Chair: J. L. Seale Jr.
Dissertation Co-chair: C. B. Moss

Tong Zhang, Bachelor of Science, 2008, Master of Science, 2011, Northeast Agriculture University—China
Major: Botany
Dissertation: Interactome of Map Kinase 4 and Thioredoxin in Plants
Dissertation Chair: S. Chen
Dissertation Co-chair: A. C. Harmon

Xinxing Zhang, Bachelor of Natural Sciences, 2010, University of Science and Technology of China
Major: Chemistry
Dissertation: The Biosynthesis of Ascarosides in Caenorhabditis elegans
Dissertation Chair: R. A. Butcher

Haibin Zheng, Bachelor of Engineering, 2007, Shenyang Agricultural University—China; Bachelor of Science, 2012, University of Kentucky; Master of Engineering, 2013, University of Florida
Major: Chemical Engineering
Dissertation: Characterization of Catalysts Synthesized Using Atomic Layer Deposition of Platinum Onto Ceria Nanoshapes
Dissertation Chair: H. A. Hagelin

Pan Zheng, Bachelor of Natural Science, 2008, University of Science and Technology of China
Major: Physics
Dissertation: Study of Normal and Superfluid 3He Films with Micro-electro-mechanical Devices
Dissertation Chair: Y. Lee

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 Jr.

Stephanie E. Zick, Bachelor of Science with highest honors, 2005, Rutgers University—New Jersey; Master of Science, 2008, Pennsylvania State University
Major: Geography
Dissertation: An Assessment of Tropical Cyclone Representation in a Regional Reanalysis and a Shape Metric Methodology for Studying the Evolving Precipitation Structure Prior To and During Landfall
Dissertation Chair: C. J. Matyas
DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

Miriam Altman, Bachelor of Arts, 2000, New College of Florida; Master of Arts, 2002, University of South Florida
Major: Curriculum and Instruction
Dissertation: Quality in Early Care and Education: Multiple Perspectives and Critical Considerations in a Diverse Context
Dissertation Chair: B. L. Kennedy-Lewis
Dissertation Co-chair: E. Bondy

Fuad I. Aziz, Artium Baccalaureus magna cum laude, 1993, Rollins College—Florida; Master of Science, 2007, Nova Southeastern University—Florida
Major: Curriculum and Instruction
Dissertation: Understanding Student Engagement and Experiences During the Construction of Interactive Fiction in a Middle School History Course
Dissertation Chair: P. Antonenko

Pamela Bledsoe Brewer, Bachelor of Science, 1992, Florida State University; Master of Science, 1998, Nova Southeastern University—Florida
Major: Educational Leadership
Dissertation: Principal Leadership Evaluation, Teachers Perceptions of Leadership and Student Achievement
Dissertation Chair: L. B. Eldridge

Douglas M. Brown, Bachelor of Science, 1974, Oregon State University; Bachelor of Arts, 1987, Master of Public Administration, 1992, University of Central Florida
Major: Curriculum and Instruction
Dissertation: Training Online Faculty: Best Practices Versus Reality, a Mixed Method Case Study
Dissertation Chair: A. D. Ritzhaupt

Kelly Davey, Bachelor of Arts, 1992, University of Southern Maine; Master of Science, 1994, Chestnut Hill College—Pennsylvania; Master of Education, 2012, University of South Florida
Major: Educational Leadership
Dissertation: Analysis of Teacher and Student Engagement and Achievement In Middle Schools of a Selected Florida School District
Dissertation Chair: L. B. Eldridge

LaVette Spearman Hunter, Bachelor of Arts in Education, 1983, University of Florida; Master of Science, 1992, Barry University—Florida
Major: Curriculum and Instruction
Dissertation: Perceptions of Barriers to Enrolling in College Preparatory Courses by High Ability, High Performing Black Male High School Students
Dissertation Chair: B. L. Kennedy-Lewis

Major: Curriculum and Instruction
Dissertation: The Role of Differentiation and Standards-Based Grading on the Science Learning of Struggling and Advanced Learners in a Detracked High School Honors Biology Classroom
Dissertation Chair: N. L. Dana

Helen Davis Martin, Bachelor of Arts, 2007, Master of Education, 2011, Florida Gulf Coast University
Major: Curriculum and Instruction
Dissertation: Our Children Deserve This: Understanding Highly Effective Teacher Retention in Hard to Staff Schools
Dissertation Chair: E. Bondy

Buyiswa Mavis Njobe-Mini, Bachelor of Arts with Honours, 1976, University of Fort Hare—South Africa; Master of Arts, 1979, University of Reading—United Kingdom
Major: Curriculum and Instruction
Dissertation: Perspectives on a School’s Bilingual Education Program in South Africa
Dissertation Chair: E. J. De Jong
Ana Pizano, Bachelor of Science, 1991, New York University; Master of Education, 1992, Harvard University—Massachusetts
Major: Curriculum and Instruction
Dissertation: Professional Development for Early Care and Education in a Diverse Context: Multiple Perspectives and Critical Considerations
Dissertation Chair: B. L. Kennedy-Lewis

Jennifer Lockner Shorter, Bachelor of Science, 2005, East Tennessee State University; Master of Science in Education, 2007, Milligan College—Tennessee
Major: Educational Leadership
Dissertation: The Impact of Mentoring Programs on Teacher Retention: Teacher Narratives on Mentoring and Retention
Dissertation Chair: B. Oliver
Dissertation Co-chair: L. B. Eldridge

Kristin Marie Nashan Weller, Bachelor of Science, 1991, Florida State University; Master of Education, 2000, University of Florida
Major: Curriculum and Instruction
Dissertation: The Role of Differentiation and Standards-Based Assessment on the Mathematics Learning of Struggling and Advanced Learners in a Detracked High School Geometry Classroom
Dissertation Chair: N. L. Dana
DOCTOR OF AUDIOLOGY

Laura J. Alessandrelli
Sasha Baker Allen
Jennifer L. Anyegah
Marianne Belanger
Natalie Carrie
Jérémie Chiasson
James Gregory Coolen
Alyssa Renee Flippo
Ryan Michael Funderburk
Maryam Ghaderi
Genevieve Holl Harris
Veruschka Jogessar
Omar A. Juarez
Muhammed Ayas Kallaputhiyaveettill
Janelle Kelley
Rebecca L. Landgraf
Tara Pamela Millman
Erika Judith Ortiz
Kristin Marie Pierce

Aubree M. Puzer
Francisco MacClellan Ross
Christanda Marie Sanchez
Jamie W. Sargent
Stacey L. Shults
Chikkanayakanahalli Swamyshrithara Siddhartha
Jessica Tremblay
Rebecca A. Walker
John R. Warner
Sim Yong Hon Lawrence

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

Frances B. Armstrong
Trudi Nirmala Barry
Sarah Alexandra Bernstein
Kyla M. Berrier
Vera Eugenia Brecken-Marquis
Lauren Nicole Carroll
Stephanie A. Clifford
Kristen Anne Cook
Sara B. Copeland
† Philip John Cole Custer
Kasey James Dean
Kimberly R. Díaz
Joslyn Lillian Gross
Stacey M. Hamlett
Kristine Susan Heen
Jennifer Mary Hightfeld
Cheri A. Jennnewein
Jeong Yeon Kang
Michael Anthony Maymi
Elizabeth Ellen McCormack
Christian N. Meade
Elise Marie Perna

Shauna A. Ricci
Courtney Neel Rogers
Lauren Hillary Bowers Rohrs
Laura Elizabeth Sealy
Deanna J. Seymour
Stephanie N. Shivers
Sydney Tario
Haulek Tawmging
Ashley N. Thompson
Kaitlyn Jessica White
Elizabeth L. Winings

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Laura Ann Aitken
Vivian Suzanne Albert
Logan A. Arena
Jamie Lee Beckwith
Brett Christopher Bergy
Elaina Reid Bost
Jessica Elle Bush
Jason B. Candler
Meghna Kaur Chadda
Rebecca Chavarria
Sarah Jeanne Cooper
Kelli Elizabeth Crews
Brooke Davis
Kelsey Lynn Diaz
Philip Mark DiCenzo
Kathy N. Dinh
Kelsey A. Earnheart
Scott A. Edlins
Vanessa J. Escobar
Duncan T. Evans
Brittany A. Forster
Michael Thomas Gray
Joseph Ronald Gross
Cortney Nichole Halstead
Victoria Lauren Harvey
Margaret Lillian Hazlett
Alicia M. Jeffrey
Garrett R. Johnson
Jeniece M. Kegley
Rebecca A. Kern
Monica Trambulo Lim
Ryan Michael Lopez
Makenzie Leigh Marsh
Rachel L. McAhren
Caroline O’Leary McKinney
Andrea J. McNabb
Alex J. Mersch
Erin Merten
Claudia Anne Mezzich
Susan A. Michet
Keely Rae Mihaljevic

Alexandre R. Millette
Daniel L. Morales
Andrew Brooks Mullins
Alexandra N. Perry
Tyler Peter Polomski
Andres F. Ramirez
Rachel Q. Raymond
Richard Joseph Reda
Dallis M. Rossi
Estey Rae Ruppal
Mary A. Schexnayder
Jason A. Sellers
Julia Rose Smith
Ryan G. Specie
Chelsea Marie Spudie
Kelly Nicole Stone
Kevin Yannick Emanuel Strehler
Eric Daniel Van Dongen
Scott J. Venkataraman
William Oliver Wright IV

DOCTOR OF PLANT MEDICINE

Rebecca Barocco
Keumchul Shin

† Degree Awarded Posthumously
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” (2015); No. 2 in the Fiske Guide to Colleges’ list of Best Buys Among Publics (2016); No. 14 on the Forbes’ list of Best Public Universities (2015); and No. 7 on Washington Monthly magazine’s list of national universities that offer the best bang for the buck (2014).

Faculty

- UF has nearly 5,000 faculty members with distinguished records in teaching, research and service, including 36 Eminent Scholar chairs and 41 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 2015 freshman class had an average 4.3 GPA and an average SAT score of 1913.
- More than 1,285 International Baccalaureate students were enrolled in UF in March 2016. The freshman retention rate of 96 percent is among the highest in the country.
- Among AAU public universities, UF ranked first in master’s degrees and second in bachelor’s degrees awarded to Hispanic students in 2014.
- Sixty-seven percent of UF full-time freshmen graduate in four years, and 88 percent of UF freshmen graduate within six years (2008 cohort).
- Fiftysix percent of UF graduates leave the university with no student-loan debt. For the remaining students, their average indebtedness is about $21,028, as compared with the national average of over $28,000 (2014-15).
Chain of Office

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, who leads all academic processions, carries the mace. 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 lifelong 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.

University of Florida Tassels

Fisher School of Accounting ................................................................. Aqua
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences ........................................ Maize
M.E. Rinker Sr. School of Construction Management .......................... Burnt Orange and Opal
Warrington College of Business ....................................................... Drab
Heavener School of Business ................................................................. Drab
College of Dentistry ......................................................................... Lilac
College of Design, Construction and Planning ................................. Blue Violet
College of Education ....................................................................... Light Blue
Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering ........................................ Orange
College of the Arts .......................................................................... Brown
The Graduate School ......................................................................... Black
College of Health and Human Performance ...................................... Sage Green
College of Journalism and Communications ..................................... Black and White
Fredric G. Levin College of Law ........................................................ Purple
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Arts ............................................. White
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Sciences ................................. Gold Yellow
College of Medicine .......................................................................... Green
College of Nursing ............................................................................ Apricot
College of Pharmacy ........................................................................... Olive Green
College of Public Health and Health Professions ............................. Salmon
College of Veterinary Medicine .......................................................... Gray

Diplomas

Diplomas will be mailed to the graduate’s permanent home mailing address in June 2016.
Caps and Gowns, An Explanation

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Milton Yeats*