

COMMENCEMENT

UF







# COMMENCEMENT

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SUMMER 2015



## Dr. W. Kent Fuchs

Dr. W. Kent Fuchs became the University of Florida's 12<sup>th</sup> president in January 2015.

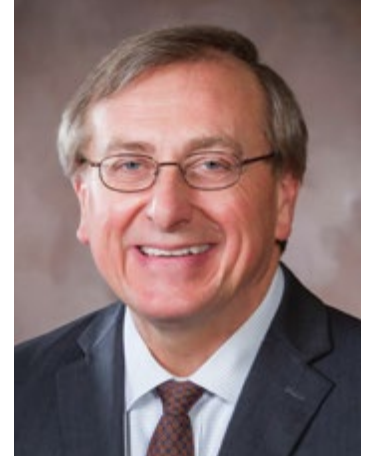
Most recently the provost of Cornell University, Dr. Fuchs' experience combines academic leadership as a provost, dean and department chair; a distinguished career as an engineering professor; and graduate education in both engineering and divinity. In accepting the presidency, Dr. Fuchs outlined his 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 university wide 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*

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**O**n behalf of the University of Florida and our administration, faculty and staff, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to you, the Class of 2015, and to your family and friends.

Today's ceremony celebrates your considerable accomplishment in completing a degree program at one of the world's great universities. I share your pride and excitement, and I am confident that your degree – and the skills and experience you acquired while at this university – will serve you well in your careers and lives.

As you enjoy this celebration, you may already be headed for graduate school or a professional opportunity. I urge you to pursue your highest career aspirations while remaining attuned to your capacity to make meaningful and lasting change in people's lives.

UF graduates have a long history of service to others, and I know you will continue that tradition "For the Gator Good."

It has been a privilege to have you as a part of our community, and the university is better for your time here. As the first students to graduate during my tenure as president, I will always think fondly of the Class of 2015. I hope you remain connected to UF as active alumni and members of the Gator Nation.

Good luck, best wishes, and Go Gators!

W. Kent Fuchs

**UF**

2015 SUMMER  
COMMENCEMENT

# University of Florida Leadership

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**David Norton, Ph.D.**  
*Vice President - Research*

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

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## DEANS OF THE UNIVERSITY

**R. Elaine Turner, Ph.D.**  
*College of Agricultural and Life Sciences*

**Lucinda Lavelli, M.F.A.**  
*College of the Arts*

**John Kraft, Ph.D.**  
*Warrington College of Business Administration*

**A. Isabel Garcia, D.D.S.**  
*College of Dentistry*

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*College of Design, Construction and Planning*

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

**Cammy R. Abernathy, Ph.D.**  
*College of Engineering*

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

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

**Nick Place, Ph.D.**  
*IFAS Extension*

**Jacqueline Burns, Ph.D.**  
*IFAS Research*

**Leonardo Villalón, Ph.D.**  
*International Center*

**Diane H. McFarlin, B.S.**  
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*College of Veterinary Medicine*

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*University Libraries*

**Jen Day Shaw, Ph.D.**  
*Dean of Students*



# Commencement Agenda – August 8, 2015, 10:00 a.m.

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Presiding .....	W. Kent Fuchs President
Processional .....	Gainesville Brass Quintet
National Anthem .....	Anthony Offerle Gainesville Brass Quintet
Welcome and Introductions.....	W. Kent Fuchs
Alumni Association Remarks and Presentation of Awards .....	Timothy Cerio President, UF Alumni Association, Inc.
<i>Outstanding Four-Year Scholars</i>	
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences .....	Joanna Longueira
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences .....	Alexandra Monroe
<i>Outstanding Two-Year Scholar</i>	
Warrington College of Business Administration .....	Dominick Gargano
<i>Outstanding Leader</i>	
College of Health and Human Performance.....	Hannah Theis
Awarding of 2014-2015 Teacher/Scholar of the Year .....	W. Kent Fuchs
College of Engineering .....	Jose C. Principe
Commencement Address .....	W. Kent Fuchs
Presenting Candidates for Masters and Specialist Degrees .....	Paul Duncan Associate Dean, Graduate School
Conferring of Masters and Specialist Degrees .....	Paul W. Davenport Member, UF Board of Trustees
Presenting Candidates for Undergraduate Degrees .....	Angel Kwolek-Folland Associate Provost, Academic and Faculty Affairs
Conferring of Undergraduate Degrees .....	Paul W. Davenport
Alma Mater .....	Anthony Offerle Gainesville Brass Quintet
Postlude .....	Gainesville Brass Quintet

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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 the 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](http://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](http://www.digitalworlds.ufl.edu).



# Award to Outstanding Scholars

The Selection Committee for Outstanding Scholars considers grade point average, curriculum, academic awards and research projects or honors thesis. Four-year scholars must have started as freshmen at UF and have no more than minimal work at other institutions.

**Joanna Longueira**  
Four-Year Scholar



## What is your proudest Gator moment?

When my father was undergoing a medical procedure in Miami and the doctor performing it was a UF graduate. It made me realize how very successful and widespread the Gators are, and in that moment I was very proud to be a Gator.

## What is something every Gator should know?

Gatorade was invented at UF.

## What is your favorite Gator icon or tradition?

Singing “We Are the Boys from Old Florida” at football games. I feel like it really connects me to my fellow Gators and unifies us as The Gator Nation.

## Who are the Gators who inspire you?

Marshall W. Nirenberg, the scientist credited with cracking the genetic code. I find the topic of genetics extremely interesting, so when I found out Nirenberg was a Gator it made me extremely proud. I hope one day to be successful enough in the science field, like Nirenberg, to leave my mark on people worldwide.

## What is the most important lesson you learned from (or taught) a fellow Gator?

It came from my cousin, who is a Gator alumna. She taught me that it is important to balance an academic life with a social life in order to get the full college experience. She taught me that while it is important to study and maintain good grades, it is also important to become involved in campus activities and venture out of my comfort zone.

## What was your most fulfilling UF role?

Biochemistry walk-in tutor. As a tutor, I have been able to make a noticeable difference in the lives of students taking the course by both decreasing stress levels and making it easier to understand information that will be helpful in their future health careers. I am able to observe the impact that I have on my peers, which I find extremely fulfilling.

## Which of your UF affiliations or activities nurtured you most?

My affiliation with the Pi Beta Phi sorority. I have been able to participate in many philanthropic events, develop leadership skills by organizing various events and build lifelong friendships. In addition, it has given me opportunities for shadowing and volunteering that I would not have otherwise been able to obtain. This will undoubtedly help me in my future as a pharmacist because pharmacy is a profession that deals with patient contact and giving back.

## How will you pay it forward?

I plan to stay connected with the Pi Beta Phi sorority by being a part of the alumni committee and donating money to the organization when I am able to. This organization has truly developed me into the woman I am today, and I hope that it is able to have the same effect on other members of the chapter. To this end, I will serve this organization in any way I can.

## What will your legacy be?

The impact I have made on those I have served, both on campus and around the Gainesville community. In addition, I hope that the research I am a part of will end up yielding useful practical applications for those with renal failure and kidney problems.

## Why do you bleed orange and blue?

Because the University of Florida has shaped me into the person I am today, both by allowing me to explore my curiosity for different fields of academics and allowing me to foster relationships in the scientific community. All the experiences I had at UF have inextricably tied me to the university, and I feel proud to be a Gator.



# Award to Outstanding Scholars

The Selection Committee for Outstanding Scholars considers grade point average, curriculum, academic awards and research projects or honors thesis. Four-year scholars must have started as freshmen at UF and have no more than minimal work at other institutions.

**Alexandra Monroe**  
Four-Year Scholar



## Why did you become a Gator?

I was born a Gator. My mom went to UF, my aunts each worked here for over 30 years and I watched every football game growing up. Even though I lived in New Jersey, my room was decked out in Gator gear from an early age; and when we could make a trip down, Mom would take me to football or basketball games. Growing up, I spent every summer in Gainesville and always loved visiting campus and imagining that one day I would be a student here.

## What is the most important lesson you learned from (or taught) a fellow Gator?

You don't have to have every detail of your life planned, and sometimes no matter how much you prepare, you can't predict where life will take you. When I entered UF, I couldn't decide on a major and really wasn't sure what I wanted to do – which was scary for a habitual planner like myself. However, after taking classes, talking to professors and a little self-exploration, I'm graduating knowing I picked the right degree and am headed to grad school.

## What is your favorite Gator memory?

It actually takes place before I was a student, back in 2010. My mom and I flew down to the Homecoming

game and Gator Growl. It was my first time attending Homecoming weekend. I also got the chance to see Tim Tebow play before he graduated. It was so much fun getting into the spirit of the weekend with the pep rally, tailgating and doing the chomp – all essential parts of football in the Swamp.

## What advice would you give an incoming freshman?

Get involved. Starting college is the perfect time to step out of your comfort zone. Join clubs and organizations. Go to football games and other sports. Explore different subjects and look into all the majors and minors available. Finally, get to know your professors. Find the ones who inspire you and talk to them after class, because they can be invaluable resources.

## What is your biggest personal UF-related accomplishment?

Selecting my English degree and becoming part of the AEC leadership minor. Choosing these programs put me in contact with some incredible professors who profoundly impacted my education and future goals. Professors Schorb, Gilbert and Homan in the English department pushed, motivated and inspired me, giving me confidence in my work and abilities. Professors Andenoro and Stedman introduced me to new perspectives on people, life and leadership. The work I produced under these professors has been my biggest accomplishment, and I plan to keep in touch with them through grad school and beyond.



# Award to Outstanding Scholars

The Selection Committee for Outstanding Scholars considers grade point average, curriculum, academic awards and research projects or honors thesis. Two-year scholars must have earned an Associate of Arts degree at a Florida state college and have completed the remainder of their degree at UF.

**Dominick Gargano**  
Outstanding Two-Year Scholar



**What is your proudest Gator moment?**

Sharing stories about my time at UF with high school students. Seeing them light up with excitement made me proud to be a Gator.

**What is something every Gator should know?**

Right over left, chomp.

**What is your favorite Gator icon or tradition?**

Singing "We Are the Boys." The strength in The Gator Nation is exhibited best at the end of the third quarter.

**Who are the Gators who inspire you?**

Every Gator who decided to come back to Gainesville and poured their energy into enriching the UF experience for other students. Doing so speaks volumes of their pride to be a Gator and determination to grow our community.

**What is the most important lesson you learned from (or taught) a fellow Gator?**

If you possess courage, you can lead any team beyond expectations.

**What was your most fulfilling UF role?**

Mentoring students within the Heavener Leadership Challenge, empowering them to assess and embrace their unique leadership style, strengths and skills.

**How will you pay it forward?**

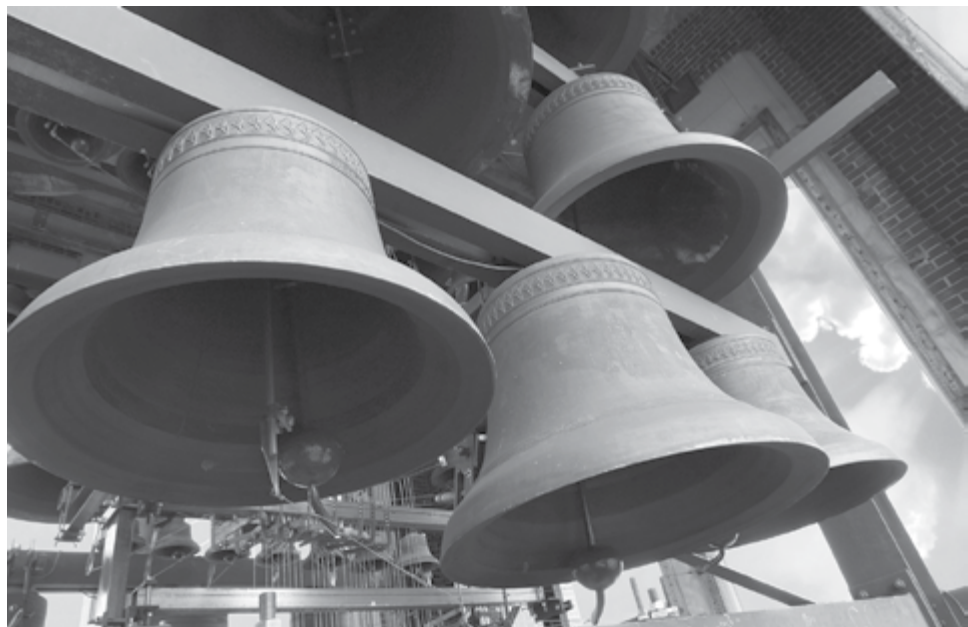
By sharing what I've learned from experience with those who fill the shoes I once wore.

**What will your legacy be?**

Pushing my peers to want to strive to become better students, leaders and businesspeople.

**How do you bleed Orange and Blue?**

With my fellow Gators during late-night study sessions. We are Gators and we persist.



# Award to Outstanding Leader

The Selection Committee for Outstanding Graduating Student Leaders considers the quality and scope of leadership activities, universitywide leadership, experience, special awards, recognition and recommendations of faculty, staff and students.

**Hannah Theis**  
*Outstanding Leader*



**What is your proudest Gator moment?**

When I reflected on my time at UF and realized I made the right decision in coming to the University of Florida. I have had so many opportunities as a Gator I couldn't have gotten somewhere else, and I am so unbelievably proud to be a UF student.

**What is something every Gator should know?**

The Gator Nation is here to support you. Whether you're going through a tough time or celebrating the happiest moment of your life, there will always be someone there to support you. Being part of something way bigger than myself, like The Gator Nation, has been one of the most impactful experiences of my life.

**What is your favorite Gator icon or tradition?**

The old honors apples tradition. It is funny for me to think back on a time when it was possible to just leave a basket of apples out in the plaza for students to take and obey the honor system.

**Who are the Gators who inspire you?**

The ones standing beside me right now. I have seen my friends and peers accomplish such amazing things at this university and their drive has pushed me to be better.

**What was your most fulfilling UF role?**

By far, serving as a member of the Florida Cicerones. This organization taught me so much about myself, working with others and about the university I care so dearly for. I have been privileged to see firsthand the impact this university can make on people and how coming to UF can change someone's life.

**How will you pay it forward?**

The most valuable thing I have taken from my college experience is the mentorship I received. I hope to one day pass along that wisdom and investment faculty and staff at UF made in me. The impact these relationships have made on me during such a formative time is hard to put into words.

**What will your legacy be?**

My hope is that everyone I interacted with here at the University of Florida felt included, valued and appreciated. I think that is the best thing I could ever accomplish as a student leader.

**How do you bleed Orange and Blue?**

By taking the valuable lessons I learned during my time at UF and bringing them into everything I do on a daily basis.

## Honorable Mention

The following student has been recognized for her scholarship and leadership at the University of Florida. She deserves congratulations for her contributions to the university.

### OUTSTANDING LEADER

**Holly Pole**  
Warrington College of Business Administration  
Fisher School of Accounting  
College of Health and Human Performance



# Teacher/Scholar of the Year

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## Jose C. Principe

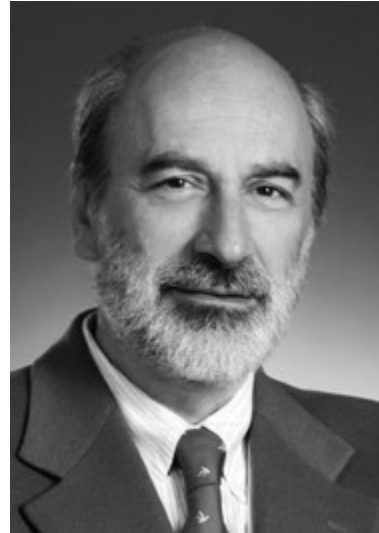
*College of Engineering*

Electrical engineering professor Jose Principe is the University of Florida's Teacher/Scholar of the Year, the university's most prestigious and oldest faculty award. It honors faculty members who demonstrate distinguished achievement in both teaching and scholarly activity, and visibility within and beyond the university.

Dr. Principe is the BellSouth Professor and founding director of UF's Computational Neuro-Engineering Laboratory. His research interests are centered in advanced signal processing and machine learning, Brain-Machine Interface, and modeling and applications of cognitive systems. He has authored six books and is named in 20 patents and 12 other disclosures.

Dr. Principe is a fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering. He is past editor-in-chief of IEEE Transactions on Biomedical Engineering, past chair of the technical committee on neural networks of the IEEE Signal Processing Society and past president of the International Neural Network Society. He is also a former member of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Science Advisory Board.

He has received the International Neural Network Society's Gabor Award and the highest honors from two Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers' societies: the Career Award from the Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society and the Neural Network Pioneer Award from the Computational Intelligence Society. He holds honorary doctoral degrees from universities in



Italy, Brazil, Finland, China and Colombia. Currently, he is editor-in-chief of the IEEE Reviews in Biomedical Engineering and vice president for technical activities of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society. At UF, he is a three-time winner of the Research Professor Fellowship Award and has received the Graduate Dissertation Mentorship Award.





# THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

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DEAN Henry T. Frierson

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## SPECIALIST IN EDUCATION

Stephen K. Alli

*Mental Health Counseling*

Jennifer Baselice

*Curriculum and Instruction*

Melanie Anne Dinardo

*Mental Health Counseling*

Hannah Warwick Dykehouse

*Marriage and Family Counseling*

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*Mental Health Counseling*

Stuart Joel Levit

*Marriage and Family Counseling*

Chelsea C. Morris

*Mental Health Counseling*

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*Mental Health Counseling*

Leah M. Parker

*Mental Health Counseling*

Elizabeth Hughes Register

*Curriculum and Instruction*

Brittany L. Rivers

*Mental Health Counseling*

Malila Naon Robinson

*Special Education*

Stephanie M. Weldon

*Marriage and Family Counseling*

Cyndy Wolansky

*Mental Health Counseling*

## MASTER OF ACCOUNTING

Tyler M. Dingman

Dariya Dolglova

Aitang Guan

Stephen R. Peters

Hannah Leigh Tucker

## MASTER OF ADVERTISING

Aqsa Bashir

Lericia R. Harris

Peng Lu

Linjie Zhu

## MASTER OF AGRIBUSINESS

Hannah Rose Shetters

## MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE

Maria Estefania Barrios

Junda He

Diane Erica C. Lindsey

## MASTER OF ARTS

Danette Marie Albino

*Art Education*

Natalie A. Amgott

*French and Francophone Studies*

Altan Apar

*Political Science - International Relations*

Zoe Selina Arthurson-McColl

*Criminology, Law and Society*

Alicia Joanne Bagley

*Art Education*

Kimberly Jean Blair

*Art Education*

Michelle Blanck

*Latin American Studies*

Robin L. Borland

*Arts in Medicine*

Michelle Lynn Brown

*French and Francophone Studies*

Christina Morgan Cain

*Art Education*

Shawna D. Caldwell

*Art Education*

Spencer M. Chalifour

*English*

Reilly-Owen Gabriel Clemens

*Women's Studies*

Daniel J Conigliaro

*History*

Amy Kay Conway

*Communication Sciences and Disorders*

Joan Hastings Crane

*Art Education*

Fabio Dal Conti Lampert

*Philosophy*

Heather Denmark

*Art Education*

Cristobal Andres Gonzalez

*Sociology*

Bradley Wayne Gullett

*Political Science*

Tammy R. Hoppe

*Art Education*

Robert Scott Hughes

*Art Education*

Ricci D. Justis

*Art Education*

Misty Louise Lackey

*Art Education*

Jason Robert LeClair

*Art Education*

Adam G. McCollum

*Linguistics*

Austin S. McCray

*History*

Antionette M. Mcfarlane

*Sociology*

Gordon Mills

*Philosophy*

Olivia Cristina Ordoñez

*English*

Lynnsey Nicole Patterson

*Art Education*

Courtney Anne Pla

*Art Education*

Emily A. Pozek

*Arts in Medicine*

Christine M. Prieto

*Art Education*

Christina J. Quintana

*English*

Manu Samnotra

*Political Science*

Caitlin Hays Schroering  
*Latin American Studies*  
Brandon S. Shufelt  
*Spanish*  
Aubrey Cierra Spivey  
*Philosophy*

Lila I. Stone  
*Art History*  
Marcela Varona Carrillo  
*Art History*  
Stacey Benedict Wiseman  
*Art Education*

April Lively Wright  
*Art Education*  
Jingchen Xu  
*Linguistics*  
Zhuangzhuang Zhuang  
*Digital Arts and Sciences*

## MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION

Lou-Ann E. Boemio  
*English Education*

Zachary K. Collier  
*Research and Evaluation Methodology*  
Thomas A. De Ceglie  
*Curriculum and Instruction*

Han Wang  
*Curriculum and Instruction*

## MASTER OF ARTS IN MASS COMMUNICATION

Whitney Leigh Agan  
Patricia Alba  
Amber L Allen  
Edward M Alonzo III  
Stephanie Milene Grace Bechara  
Katherine Anne Clary  
Royce W Copeland  
Daniel Adam DeLuca  
Lin Deng  
Ellen Angelle Ellick  
Michelle Catherine Fay  
Manuel I Ferrer de Simon  
Kelsey A Formel  
Han Gao  
Greta O Holness  
AnnMarie Hoyt

Ashley P Huntsberry-Lett  
Lori Kifer Johnson  
Elizabeth Joy Juliot  
Paul E Kalish  
Whitney E Lavaux  
Kristin Renée Letsch  
Celeste Martinez Pérez  
Allison L McDaniel  
Kelsey Brooke Mulligan  
Emily Anne Natalio  
Kelly Lei Ngo  
Melissa Nicole Pilkey  
Hampton Collins Ray  
Rachel Ann Reardon  
Jonelle Marie Reed  
Emily Christine Rios

Gavin Marshall Saul  
Steven M Schiraldi  
Michael S Shields  
Destinee L Simmons  
Thomas J Stresen-Reuter  
Gabriela P Tamariz Escorcía  
Aldona M Tront  
Julia Katherine Truitt  
Cristina J. Vargas  
Veronica Eibeth Vilar  
Weixue Wang  
Stephenson Waters  
Lori T Webb  
Yifan Wen  
Marc Daniel Whiteman  
Jing Zhang

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Galo E. Ceballos  
Prasanth Chaganti  
Lei Chen  
Yailen Chenlo  
Salvatore Rosario Louis Ciolino  
Kayleanne McCall Correa  
Robert J. Cusmano  
John W. Demaske  
Kristen Marie Engelmann  
Danielle M. Escasena  
Kasey Ann Bickley Faulk

Michael C. Fernandez  
Heath Andrew Habermann  
Jennifer L. Herron  
Shayan Jalali  
Shaila Bhagwan Kirpalani  
Diego Lopez-Arguello  
Edward Harry Lubawski  
Brooke Alys Motley  
Elise L. Munoz  
Ashley Morgan Nasby  
Benjamin James Neff  
Donald Joseph Parker

Francisco Alejandro Ramirez Campana  
Rafael Y. Sabbagh  
Luis Gabriel Salcedo  
Francheska Marie Sanchez  
Jorge G. Sotolongo  
Alyssa Dawn Ten Eyck  
Tomas Manuel Trujillo  
Olga Vaskinova  
Christopher Sean Vastine  
Natalia A. Vesga Chaves  
Meenakshi Viswanathan  
Marc Jonathan Worman

## MASTER OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

Ryan Jordan Garcia  
Timothy Dana Hall

Jiaxuan Li

Christian Trucco  
Rexford C. Tullius

## MASTER OF EDUCATION

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*Mental Health Counseling*  
Taylor Lynn Allore  
*Reading Education*  
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*Curriculum and Instruction*  
Michelle Paula Barrow  
*English Education*  
Diana F. Beachy  
*Reading Education*  
Shelby Marie Boehm  
*English Education*  
Ryann Ja'nelle Brown  
*Elementary Education*

Catelyn J. Cantrell  
*English Education*  
Torian Crane  
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*Educational Leadership*  
Nicole Anne de Almeida  
*Social Studies Education*  
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*Mental Health Counseling*  
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*Mathematics Education*  
William Connor Donovan  
*Social Studies Education*

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Anitta Elizabeth Francis  
*English Education*  
Emily N. Gonzalez  
*Social Studies Education*  
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*Curriculum and Instruction*  
Alexis Ann Hinchey  
*Special Education*  
Kathryne S. Howard  
*Curriculum and Instruction*  
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*Curriculum and Instruction*  
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*Mental Health Counseling*  
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*Reading Education*  
Cherie Anne Sanders  
*Curriculum and Instruction*

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*Social Studies Education*  
Cody C. Starling  
*Social Studies Education*  
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*Mathematics Education*  
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*English Education*  
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Lindsay Britt Whitaker  
*Special Education*  
Suzanne Holland Wilcox  
*Social Studies Education*  
Lauren Alexandra Wiles  
*English Education*  
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*Mental Health Counseling*  
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*English Education*

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*Industrial and Systems Engineering*  
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*Chemical Engineering*  
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*Civil Engineering*  
James Robert Corbett  
*Civil Engineering*  
Pedro Jose Crespi  
*Civil Engineering*

Lei Fan  
*Industrial and Systems Engineering*  
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*Coastal and Oceanographic Engineering*  
Stuart A. Holland  
*Civil Engineering*  
Siteng Huang  
*Chemical Engineering*  
Jena Alexandra Lococo  
*Environmental Engineering Sciences*  
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*Civil Engineering*  
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*Mechanical Engineering*  
Gregory Dean Neville Jr.  
*Industrial and Systems Engineering*

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*Civil Engineering*  
Rohan Gavindra Purshotam Punit  
*Civil Engineering*  
Michael R. Schmid  
*Mechanical Engineering*  
Darin Joseph Shearer  
*Civil Engineering*  
Shawn Christian Steers  
*Civil Engineering*  
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*Civil Engineering*  
Ian H. Underwood  
*Civil Engineering*  
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*Environmental Engineering Sciences*

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*Theatre*  
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*Applied Physiology and Kinesiology*

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Navneeth Gokul  
*Chemical Engineering*

Benjamin S. Goldberg  
*Medical Sciences*

Zakia I. Goodwin  
*Veterinary Medical Sciences*

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*Agricultural and Biological Engineering*

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*Computer Science*

Yi Han  
*Food Science and Human Nutrition*

Martha A. Hanes  
*Veterinary Medical Sciences*

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*Recreation, Parks and Tourism*

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*Soil and Water Science*

Lin Huang  
*Civil Engineering*

Hok Tung Hui  
*Civil Engineering*

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*Medical Sciences*

Sai Jagtap  
*Computer Science*

Yun Jiang  
*Animal Sciences*

Ryan Peter Jiorle  
*Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences*

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*Nuclear Engineering Sciences*

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Soumitra Siddharth Johri  
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*Sport Management*

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*Wildlife Ecology and Conservation*

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*Biomedical Engineering*

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*Mechanical Engineering*

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*Mechanical Engineering*

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*Materials Science and Engineering*

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*Electrical and Computer Engineering*

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*Industrial and Systems Engineering*

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*Industrial and Systems Engineering*

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Interdisciplinary Ecology  
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Industrial and Systems Engineering  
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Applied Physiology and Kinesiology  
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Agricultural Education and Communication  
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Sport Management  
Sharhat Satil  
Management  
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Food Science and Human Nutrition  
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Applied Physiology and Kinesiology  
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Forest Resources and Conservation  
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Mayuri Sharma  
Computer Science  
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Sport Management  
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Biostatistics  
Hannah Rose Shetters  
Animal Sciences  
Jianru Shi  
Soil and Water Science  
Zachary A. Shulman  
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Stephen Sider  
Environmental Engineering Sciences

Nicolas Silva  
Nuclear Engineering Sciences  
Anil Singh  
Industrial and Systems Engineering  
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Geology  
Kelly Anne Speer  
Zoology  
David C. Springfels  
Nuclear Engineering Sciences  
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Whitney Grace Stohr  
Forest Resources and Conservation  
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Gillian Peta-Gay Stoney  
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Travis J. Streeter  
Entomology and Nematology  
Leandra Nicole Stubbs  
Medical Sciences  
Eric Suarez  
Wildlife Ecology and Conservation  
Emily Marie Sullivan  
Health Education and Behavior  
Jordan Dave Sun  
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Jorge Luis Tameron  
Computer Engineering  
Douglas J. Terza  
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Recreation, Parks and Tourism  
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Forest Resources and Conservation  
Tia A. Tyler  
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Kristina Camille Underthun  
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Applied Physiology and Kinesiology

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Animal Sciences  
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Animal Sciences  
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Entomology and Nematology  
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Soil and Water Science  
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Sport Management  
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Enrique Enrique Wong Jr.  
Nuclear Engineering Sciences  
Yi Wu  
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Qian Xiao  
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Liangke Zhao  
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Yang Du

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Yujing Jiao  
Irene L. Luster  
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Claudio Jaime Noriega  
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Phyllis D. Bennett-Mobley

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Weijing Cai

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 James E. Monnerville-Frankel  
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 Sterling Ashton James Monroe  
 Amanda Morejon  
 Andrew Moschiano  
 Victoria C. Motley  
 \*Keven Munoz  
 \*Victoria Catherine Murphy  
 Sanela Music  
 Gabriela Negron  
 Dominique L. Norris  
 \*Kyle Jacob O'Malley  
 \*Daniel A. Oglesby  
 Sarah Dale Orens  
 Kimberly Michelle Oswalt  
 Bhavani V. Patel

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 Dhara M. Patel  
 Namrata Mayur Patel  
 Yash Bhasker Patel  
 Janeen Monay Patterson  
 \*Kailyn Pearce  
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 Alyssa Renee Pennell  
 Rodolfo A. Pérez Cordero  
 \*Marisa L. Petrick  
 Peterson Pierre-louis  
 Aaron Peter Pirkkala  
 \*Elena Nicole Plocek  
 Austin Michael Pohle  
 Hannah Marie Pohlmann  
 Chloe K. Potter  
 \*Michael C. Precourt  
 Shyanne Lea Prescott  
 \*\*\*Brian Eddy Pujols  
 \*Megan Rainey  
 Gabrielle L. Ramos  
 Rafael Geronimo Ramos  
 Emilie Kathryn Rappel  
 April Helen Rembis  
 Marshane Romaina Rhoden  
 Hannah Fabiola Rodriguez  
 \*Mirialys Ruano  
 Peyton Alexandria Rydell  
 Capriana Sanchez  
 \*Elise Schaefer  
 Jacob Alan Schattie  
 Serena Danielle Scott  
 Tyler Scott Scull  
 James W. Selby  
 \*Daniel Patrick Shaffer  
 Yasmeen Shanata  
 Wesley R. Shelnut  
 Shakira Lyntiana Sherwood  
 \*Jacob M. Silver  
 Diamond Edwina Sims  
 Erik T. Skipper

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 \*James Blake Snyder  
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 \*Brittany L. Strizelka  
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 Katia Suarez  
 Cheyenne K. Suhre-Korn  
 Ilkhom Suleymanov  
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 Kamia Jalisa Taylor  
 \*Sean M. Taylor  
 \*Lindsay Marie Thill  
 Razidah Jahmeela Thomas  
 Tina A. Thomas  
 Matthew Ryan Thompson  
 D'Anna Alisha Tillis  
 Maria Jose Tinoco  
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 Brittany N. Tucker  
 Richard Cong Van  
 Pia Alejandra Venegas  
 Vanessa Andrea Vergara  
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 Jared R. Walker  
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 Michael Alexander Weyer  
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 David A. Widergren  
 Patryk Kazimierz Wiech  
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 William M. Willcox Jr.  
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 \*\*Jane Leconte Wilson  
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 Samantha C. Wortsman  
 Bernard L. Wright  
 Victoria Lucia Zacka  
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 Catalina Paz Cisternas  
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 Lindsay Taylor Fawcett  
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 \*Stephen M. Lagor  
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 Lais Moreira Lima  
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 Melinda Suzanne Lopez  
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 \*Loreen Sonji Magariño  
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 Raeburn Ganesh Mangroo  
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Michael Paul Snider  
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\*Marja Ameka Sheree Gillette

\*Shelby Kaytlyn Hart  
Danielle Michelle Khalife





# 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. 4 in the Fiske Guide to Colleges' list of Best Buys Among Publics (2015); No. 14 on the Forbes' list of best public universities (2014); 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 4,000 faculty members with distinguished records in teaching, research and service, including 37 Eminent Scholar chairs and 42 faculty elections to the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, the Institute of Medicine or the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.
- Awards include a Fields Medal, two Pulitzer Prizes, NASA's top award for research, and the Smithsonian Institution's conservation award.

## Students

- More than 97 percent of incoming freshmen score above the national average (1497/21) on standardized exams. Students admitted for the fall 2015 freshman class had an average 4.3 GPA and an average SAT score of 1918.
- More than 1,200 International Baccalaureate students were enrolled in UF in April 2015 - more than any other university in the United States. The freshman retention rate of 96 percent is among the highest in the country.
- Among AAU public universities, UF ranked first in master's degrees and second in bachelor's degrees awarded to Hispanic students in 2013.
- Sixty-seven percent of UF freshmen graduate in four years, and 88 percent of UF freshmen graduate within six years.
- Nearly two-thirds of UF graduates leave the university with no student-loan debt. For the remaining third, their average indebtedness is about \$20,708, as compared with the national average of roughly \$29,400.

# UF

2015 SUMMER  
COMMENCEMENT



## Chain of Office

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 12 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 life long learning. The brick pattern on the handle symbolizes higher education tradition and structure. Like the institution it represents, the mace is not static; growth and movement are expressed with loose rings engraved with the names of the university’s presidents and their years in office.

## University of Florida Tassels

Fisher School of Accounting.....	Aqua
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences.....	Maize
College of the Arts.....	Brown
M.E. Rinker Sr. School of Construction Management.....	Burnt Orange and Opal
Warrington College of Business Administration.....	Drab
College of Dentistry.....	Lilac
College of Design, Construction and Planning.....	Blue Violet
College of Education.....	Light Blue
College of Engineering.....	Orange
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.....	Golden 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 September 2015.



## *Caps and Gowns, An Explanation*

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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.



Decorating the platform today are 'Gator Glory' coleus plants. These are a new variety of garden plant developed and provided by the UF/IFAS Institute for Plant Innovation.

The 2012-2013 academic year was spent celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Morrill Act. This federal legislation, signed by President Abraham Lincoln on July 2, 1862, established a nationwide network of public land-grant universities with a new mission. They would not only offer traditional subjects such as medicine, theology and law; they would also teach agricultural science, military tactics and engineering. Moreover, these institutions were created with federal financial support, designed to make higher education affordable to people from modest

backgrounds.

UF's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) is dedicated to furthering the tripartite land-grant mission of teaching, research and extension. The idea for developing a Gator-orange coleus originated in ORH 1030, Plants Gardening and You. Taught by Dr. David Clark, professor of environmental horticulture, the class studies the art and science of plants and makes students more aware of the plants they eat and the plants in their surroundings. Students in the course receive plants of their own each week. In the last four years, more than 25,000 plants have been given to the 2,000 students who have taken the class and to friends they have brought with them from every major on campus.

Working with research colleagues in the UF/IFAS Institute for Plant Innovation, Dr. Clark used novel breeding techniques to develop this variety. The gold band around the bright orange leaves symbolizes the color traditionally used for agricultural disciplines in academic regalia. This new variety has proven to be tough in the warm Florida sunshine and is now given to the people of Florida for their continued support of the Gator Nation.





# UF

## 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