

Summer 2016

FIU Commencement Summer 2016

Florida International University

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FIU

Commencement

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

FIU Arena

Modesto A. Maidique Campus, Miami, Florida

Sunday, August 7, 2016

Monday, August 8, 2016

Tuesday, August 9, 2016

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The audience is requested to remain seated for the Processional and rise for the National Anthem and the FIU Alma Mater.

Florida International University is a vibrant, student-centered public research university, ideally located in Miami, that is **Worlds Ahead** in its commitment to learning, research, entrepreneurship, innovation and creativity so that our graduates are prepared to succeed in the global market.

Since 1965, when it was chartered as the area’s first public university, FIU has built a reputation for excellence in teaching, research and community engagement. Since taking office in August 2009, President Mark B. Rosenberg has focused on strengthening student-centered academic excellence, enhancing research that supports community priorities and expanding community partnerships.

FIU has a diverse and nationally celebrated faculty who brings a global perspective to its research and teaching. Our vibrant student body is made up of individuals from throughout the United States and more than 130 countries, and our **Worlds Ahead** alumni have risen to prominence in every field.

FIU offers more than 200 baccalaureate, master’s, doctoral and specialist degree programs in its colleges and schools, including: College of Communication, Architecture + The Arts, College of Arts, Sciences & Education, College of Business, College of Engineering and Computing, Honors College, College of Law, Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine, Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing and Health Sciences, Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, and Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work.

As one of South Florida’s anchor institutions, FIU contributes almost \$9 billion each year to the local economy and is ranked second in Florida in Forbes Magazine’s “America’s Best Employers” list. FIU graduates are consistently among the highest paid college graduates in Florida and are among the leaders of public and private organizations throughout South Florida. FIU is **Worlds Ahead** in finding solutions to the most challenging problems of our time. FIU emphasizes research as a major component of its mission with multiple state-of-the-art research facilities including the Wall of Wind Research and Testing Facility, FIU’s Medina Aquarius Program and the Advanced Materials Engineering Research Institute. FIU has awarded more than 220,000 degrees and enrolls more than 54,000 students in our Modesto A. Maidique and Biscayne Bay campuses, and centers including FIU Downtown on Brickell, FIU@I-75, the Miami Beach Urban Studios, and Tianjin, China. FIU also supports artistic and cultural engagement through its three museums: Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum, the Wolfsonian-FIU, and the Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU. FIU is a member of Conference USA and more than 400 student-athletes participating in 18 sports.

Thanks to the support of the South Florida community, FIU has emerged as a **Worlds Ahead** leader of higher education.

STEVEN J. GREEN SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS..... Jeffrey Gonzalez, *Banner Marshal*
 HONORS COLLEGE Umer Rahman, *Banner Marshal*
 UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL Can Chen, *Banner Marshal*
 STUDENT AFFAIRS Amanda Niguidula, *Banner Marshal*
 ENROLLMENT SERVICES Debra Manning, *Banner Marshal*

PROCESSIONAL Grand Marshal Kathleen Wilson, *Chair, Faculty Senate*
Fanfare for the Common Man, Aaron Copland *Member, FIU Board of Trustees*
Chariots of Fire, Vangelis
Pomp and Circumstance, Sir Edward Elgar

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND FIU ALMA MATER Roberto Lopez-Trigo, *Senior, Vocal Performance*
The Star-Spangled Banner, Francis Scott Key
FIU Alma Mater, Belinda Gunn

CONVENER Kenneth G. Furton, *Provost and Executive Vice President*

WELCOME AND RECOGNITIONS Mark B. Rosenberg, *President*

SGA MESSAGE Allhan Mejia, *SGA President, Biscayne Bay Campus & FIU@I-75*

CONFERRAL OF FIU MEDALLION Vivian Dimond '80, *Cal Kovens Distinguished Community Service Award*

PRESENTATION OF DOCTORAL DIPLOMAS Andrés G. Gil, *Dean, University Graduate School*

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE DIPLOMAS
 Narrator Stephen Neal, *Instructor, Theatre*
 Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs John F. Stack, *Founding Dean*
 Honors College Juan Carlos Espinosa, *Associate Dean*
 University Graduate School Andrés G. Gil, *Dean*

CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES President Rosenberg

RECESSIONAL

Commencement Program

Sunday, August 7, 2016, 6:30 p.m.

The audience is requested to remain seated for the Processional and rise for the National Anthem and the FIU Alma Mater.

COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION, ARCHITECTURE + THE ARTS.....Juliette Saint Louis, *Banner Marshal*
CHAPLIN SCHOOL OF HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM MANAGEMENT Michael Cheng, *Banner Marshal*
HONORS COLLEGE.....Jenyer Paez, *Banner Marshal*
UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL.....Jumyong Lee, *Banner Marshal*
STUDENT AFFAIRS Kerrie A. Montgomery, *Banner Marshal*
ENROLLMENT SERVICES Natalia Garcia, *Banner Marshal*

PROCESSIONAL Grand Marshal Kathleen Wilson, *Chair, Faculty Senate*
Fanfare for the Common Man, Aaron Copland
Chariots of Fire, Vangelis
Pomp and Circumstance, Sir Edward Elgar

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND FIU ALMA MATER Mary Espinosa, *Senior, Vocal Performance*
The Star-Spangled Banner, Francis Scott Key
FIU Alma Mater, Belinda Gunn

CONVENER Kenneth G. Furton, *Provost and Executive Vice President*

WELCOME AND RECOGNITIONS..... Mark B. Rosenberg, *President*

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE DIPLOMAS

Narrator Stephen Neal, *Instructor, Theatre*
College of Communication, Architecture + The Arts Brian Schriener, *Dean*
Chaplin School of Hospitality & Tourism Management Mike Hampton, *Dean*
Honors College Juan Carlos Espinosa, *Associate Dean*
University Graduate School..... Andrés G. Gil, *Dean*

CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES..... President Rosenberg

RECESSIONAL

Commencement Program

Monday, August 8, 2016, 10 a.m.

The audience is requested to remain seated for the Processional and rise for the National Anthem and the FIU Alma Mater.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE..... Karen Schmahl, *Banner Marshal*
NICOLE WERTHEIM COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES Tatayana Maltseva, *Banner Marshal*
HONORS COLLEGE.....Jenyer Paez, *Banner Marshal*
UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL..... Nola Holness, *Banner Marshal*
STUDENT AFFAIRS Tony Delgado, *Banner Marshal*
LIBRARIES Marisol Floren-Romero, *Banner Marshal*
ENROLLMENT SERVICES Edivaldo Mota, *Banner Marshal*

PROCESSIONAL Grand Marshal Kathleen Wilson, *Chair, Faculty Senate*
Fanfare for the Common Man, Aaron Copland
Chariots of Fire, Vangelis
Pomp and Circumstance, Sir Edward Elgar

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND FIU ALMA MATER Orianna Gutierrez, *Sophomore, Vocal Performance*
The Star-Spangled Banner, Francis Scott Key
FIU Alma Mater, Belinda Gunn

CONVENER Kenneth G. Furton, *Provost and Executive Vice President*

WELCOME AND RECOGNITIONS..... Mark B. Rosenberg, *President*

CONFERRAL OF FIU MEDALLION Annie Ruth Miles Neasman '76,
Cal Kovens Distinguished Community Service Award

PRESENTATION OF DOCTORAL DIPLOMAS..... Andrés G. Gil, *Dean, University Graduate School*

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE DIPLOMAS
Narrator Stephen Neal, *Instructor, Theatre*
College of Engineering and Computer Science Ranu Jung, *Interim Dean*
Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing and Health Sciences Ora Strickland, *Dean*
Honors College Lesley A. Northup, *Dean*
University Graduate School..... Andrés G. Gil, *Dean*

CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES..... President Rosenberg

RECESSIONAL

Commencement Program

Monday, August 8, 2016, 3 p.m.

The audience is requested to remain seated for the Processional and rise for the National Anthem and the FIU Alma Mater.

ROBERT STEMPEL COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL WORK Maggie Pagan, *Banner Marshal*
COLLEGE OF ARTS, SCIENCES & EDUCATION Erica Musser, *Banner Marshal*
HONORS COLLEGE Jenyer Paez, *Banner Marshal*
UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL Timothy Allen, *Banner Marshal*
STUDENT AFFAIRS Bronwen Bales-Pelaez, *Banner Marshal*
ENROLLMENT SERVICES Barbara Pita, *Banner Marshal*

PROCESSIONAL Grand Marshal Joerg Reinhold, *Vice Chair, Faculty Senate*
Fanfare for the Common Man, Aaron Copland
Chariots of Fire, Vangelis
Pomp and Circumstance, Sir Edward Elgar

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND FIU ALMA MATER Angelique Johnson, *Graduate, Nutrition and Dietetics*
The Star-Spangled Banner, Francis Scott Key
FIU Alma Mater, Belinda Gunn

CONVENER Kenneth G. Furton, *Provost and Executive Vice President*

WELCOME AND RECOGNITIONS Mark B. Rosenberg, *President*

SGA MESSAGE Allhan Mejia, *President,*
Biscayne Bay Campus & FIU@I-75

PRESENTATION OF DOCTORAL DIPLOMAS Andrés G. Gil, *Dean, University Graduate School*

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE DIPLOMAS
Narrator Stephen Neal, *Instructor, Theatre*
Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work Tomás R. Guilarte, *Dean*
College of Arts, Sciences & Education Michael Heithaus, *Dean*
Honors College Lesley A. Northup, *Dean*
University Graduate School Andrés G. Gil, *Dean*

CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES President Rosenberg

RECESSIONAL

Commencement Program

Monday, August 8, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

The audience is requested to remain seated for the Processional and rise for the National Anthem and the FIU Alma Mater.

COLLEGE OF ARTS, SCIENCES & EDUCATION Martha Barantovich, *Banner Marshal*
HONORS COLLEGE Jenyer Paez, *Banner Marshal*
UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL James Burns, *Banner Marshal*
STUDENT AFFAIRS Tony Delgado, *Banner Marshal*
ENROLLMENT SERVICES Janel Patterson, *Banner Marshal*

PROCESSIONAL Grand Marshal Joerg Reinhold, *Vice Chair, Faculty Senate*
Fanfare for the Common Man, Aaron Copland
Chariots of Fire, Vangelis
Pomp and Circumstance, Sir Edward Elgar

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND FIU ALMA MATER Melissa Iglesias, *Senior, Vocal Performance*
The Star-Spangled Banner, Francis Scott Key
FIU Alma Mater, Belinda Gunn

CONVENER Kenneth G. Furton, *Provost and Executive Vice President*

WELCOME AND RECOGNITIONS Mark B. Rosenberg, *President*

BOARD OF TRUSTEE MESSAGE Jorge L. Arrizurieta, *Vice Chair, FIU Board of Trustees*

SGA MESSAGE Allhan Mejia, *President,*
Biscayne Bay Campus & FIU@I-75

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER Marie Izquierdo, '91, '94

PRESENTATION OF DOCTORAL DIPLOMAS Andrés G. Gil, *Dean, University Graduate School*

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE DIPLOMAS
Narrator Stephen Neal, *Instructor, Theatre*
College of Arts, Sciences & Education Michael Heithaus, *Dean*
Honors College Juan Carlos Espinosa, *Associate Dean*
University Graduate School Andrés G. Gil, *Dean*

CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES President Rosenberg

RECESSIONAL

Commencement Program

Tuesday, August 9, 2016, 10 a.m.

The audience is requested to remain seated for the Processional and rise for the National Anthem and the FIU Alma Mater.

R. KIRK LANDON UNDERGRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS Hemang Subramanian, *Banner Marshal*
 HONORS COLLEGE Jose Rodriguez, *Banner Marshal*
 STUDENT AFFAIRS Kristen Kawczynski, *Banner Marshal*
 LIBRARIES Marisol Floren-Romero, *Banner Marshal*
 ENROLLMENT SERVICES Caridad Babot, *Banner Marshal*

PROCESSIONAL Grand Marshal Kathleen Wilson, *Chair, Faculty Senate*
Fanfare for the Common Man, Aaron Copland *Member, FIU Board of Trustees*
Chariots of Fire, Vangelis
Pomp and Circumstance, Sir Edward Elgar

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND FIU ALMA MATER S. Christopher Ellis, *Professor, College of Business*
The Star-Spangled Banner, Francis Scott Key Donald Roomes, *Professor, College of Business*
 FIU Alma Mater, Belinda Gunn Louis Melbourne, *Professor, College of Business*

CONVENER Kenneth G. Furton, *Provost and Executive Vice President*

WELCOME AND RECOGNITIONS Mark B. Rosenberg, *President*

BOARD OF TRUSTEE MESSAGE Claudia Puig, *Chairperson, FIU Board of Trustees*

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER Miguel “Mike” B. Fernandez

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE DIPLOMAS
 Narrator Stephen Neal, *Instructor, Theatre*
 College of Business Jose Aldrich, *Acting Dean*
 Honors College Lesley A. Northup, *Dean*

CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES President Rosenberg

RECESSIONAL

Commencement Program

Tuesday, August 9, 2016, 3 p.m.

The audience is requested to remain seated for the Processional and rise for the National Anthem and the FIU Alma Mater.

ALVAH H. CHAPMAN GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS Manjul Gupta, *Banner Marshal*
 UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL Manjul Gupta, *Banner Marshal*
 STUDENT AFFAIRS Elias Bardawil, *Banner Marshal*
 ENROLLMENT SERVICES Ester Mesa, *Banner Marshal*

PROCESSIONAL Grand Marshal Kathleen Wilson, *Chair, Faculty Senate*
Fanfare for the Common Man, Aaron Copland *Member, FIU Board of Trustees*
Chariots of Fire, Vangelis
Pomp and Circumstance, Sir Edward Elgar

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND FIU ALMA MATER S. Christopher Ellis, *Professor, College of Business*
The Star-Spangled Banner, Francis Scott Key Donald Roomes, *Professor, College of Business*
 FIU Alma Mater, Belinda Gunn Louis Melbourne, *Professor, College of Business*

CONVENER Kenneth G. Furton, *Provost and Executive Vice President*

WELCOME AND RECOGNITIONS Mark B. Rosenberg, *President*

BOARD OF TRUSTEE MESSAGE Jorge L. Arrizurieta, *Vice Chair, FIU Board of Trustees*

PRESENTATION OF DOCTORAL DIPLOMAS Andrés G. Gil, *Dean, University Graduate School*

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE DIPLOMAS
 Narrator Stephen Neal, *Instructor, Theatre*
 College of Business Jose Aldrich, *Acting Dean*
 University Graduate School Andrés G. Gil, *Dean*

CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES President Rosenberg

RECESSIONAL



FIU Medallion

Vivian Dimond '80

Cal Kovens Distinguished Community Service Award

Vivian Dimond has more than 30 years of experience in real estate marketing and sales, construction, property management, and residential and commercial financing and development. Her strong record has gained her a reputation as one of the most knowledgeable and successful real estate professionals in South Florida.

Vivian earned a real estate license in 1984 and has never looked back. She undertook her first project, The Fountains in South Miami, a 14-unit condominium development in the heart of town, and soon after parlayed that triumph into a remarkable career that has seen her establish myriad companies. Among her portfolio: Dimond Development, Avatar Real Estate Services, Bayshore Grove Management, The Executive Suites at Grand Bay Plaza, Auker Development, the private real estate investment fund Aman Group and the orange-grove leasing company Henlee.

Vivian's unrelenting spirit of entrepreneurship and widely recognized business savvy have garnered her recognition as the Business Leader Media's Women Extraordinaire in 2011, for which she was selected among thousands of nominees for her achievements, leadership and community involvement, and the South Florida Business Journal's Influential Business Woman in 2013. She serves as an example for anyone looking to break barriers, and her innovation and willingness to take risks shine as defining traits.

A proud FIU alumna who holds a degree in criminal justice – recruited by the FBI after graduation, she parlayed her education into a job with the foreign counterintelligence unit – Vivian is today involved with the Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, the Kopernick charity and, along with her husband Alan Dimond, the Jackson Hospital Foundation.



FIU Medallion

Annie Ruth Miles Neasman '76

Cal Kovens Distinguished Community Service Award

Annie Ruth Miles Neasman, MS, RN, is president and chief executive officer of the Jessie Trice Community Health Center, which includes 11 comprehensive community sites and 40 school-based health facilities. The center's staff of 350 serves a diverse clientele of nearly 40,000 low-income individuals in Miami-Dade County who together account for more than 126,000 visits annually.

Under Neasman's leadership, the center has undertaken extensive community outreach via higher education institutions, foundations, coalitions, social service agencies, faith-based organizations and others. These have been instrumental in helping the center accomplish its mission to increase access to high-quality primary care for those in greatest need.

Under Neasman's tenure, the center has earned ranking as one of the best community health care organizations in the nation by the nonprofit accrediting organization known as the Joint Commission. Its success has drawn national attention and resulted in visits by leaders such as, among others, Health and Human Services Secretary Mike Leavitt, First Lady Michelle Obama and Vice President Joe Biden.

A trained nurse who early in her career specialized in the field of cardiology and worked for Jackson Memorial Health System, Neasman went on to serve as the executive administrator of the Miami-Dade County Health Department and played a critical role during the community's recovery following Hurricane Andrew. For the Florida Department of Health, she has held the posts of deputy secretary for health and chief public health nurse. In support of her profession, she has served as president of the Miami chapter of the Black Nurses Association, which honored her with a lifetime achievement award. Among other recognitions, she has been named to the National Association of Community Health Centers Grassroots Advocacy Hall of Fame. Neasman holds a bachelor of nursing from Florida A&M University and a master of science in adult education from FIU.

Neasman is the mother of Barry and Beatrice and grandmother of Miles.



Commencement Speaker

Marie Izquierdo '91, '94

Chief Academic Officer, Miami-Dade County Public Schools

Two-time FIU alumna Marie Izquierdo is a career educator with more than 25 years of experience in school reform. She is the chief academic officer for Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS), the nation's fourth largest school system, which serves more than 350,000 students and employs 53,000 teachers and staff.

A former social studies teacher focused on dropout prevention, Izquierdo gained notice as the assistant principal for curriculum at Ponce de Leon Middle School in Coral Gables. There she worked to dramatically improve student achievement through flexible block scheduling, curriculum mapping and extensive teacher professional development and, ultimately, by procuring a \$1.9 million grant that culminated in authorization of the prestigious International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme at the school. As principal at Henry M. Flagler Elementary, which serves nearly 1,000 mostly low-income English language learners, she brought a renewed focus to instruction, adopted a data-driven approach to performance improvement and increased parental involvement and the effective use of technology. As a result, Flagler Elementary went from being a C-rated school that had not met the requirements of No Child Left Behind (NCLB) to a three-time A-rated school meeting NCLB.

In 2009, the Florida Department of Education recruited Izquierdo to boost student achievement in the state's lowest performing schools. Later, as deputy chief of staff to M-DCPS Superintendent Alberto Carvalho, she was instrumental in securing the favorable passage of a \$1.2 billion General Obligation Bond for facilities renovations and the purchase of technology, and she helped the district win the prestigious Broad Prize in Urban Education in 2012.

As chief academic officer, Izquierdo has spearheaded efforts that have increased the number of A- and B-rated schools to more than 50 percent reduced the number of D and F schools in the urban core by half and garnered M-DCPS the College Board Award for Equity and Access.

Izquierdo resides in Miami with her husband and three children.



Commencement Speaker

Miguel "Mike" B. Fernandez

Chairman, MBF Healthcare Partners

Miguel "Mike" B. Fernandez is chairman of MBF Healthcare Partners, a Coral Gables-based firm that invests in the health care industry. He has founded or served as the majority shareholder of 25 health care-related enterprises, most of which have been acquired by publicly traded companies. In addition to his professional success, which includes the creation of tens of thousands of jobs, Fernandez has enjoyed personal triumphs related to his concern for others.

In 1975, after serving in the United States Army, Fernandez began his career in the insurance field. Inspired to make positive changes in the world, he went on to complete the famed 500-mile "El Camino de Santiago" walk from France to Spain on more than one occasion to raise funds for children's causes. To date he has contributed in excess of \$100 million to charity.

The El Camino pilgrimage also prompted Fernandez to write his life story, "Humbled by the Journey: Life Lessons for My Family...And Yours." The book chronicles his time on the walking path, where he met people from around the world, as well as his rise from a child living in a small Cuban town to a self-made man who has ascended to the pinnacle of U.S. business.

Fernandez has served on the boards of the United Way, Sylvester Cancer Hospital and others. He has been frequently honored for his business acumen and recognized dozens of times with business and community awards.

Fernandez is married to Constance Fernandez and has five children.

THE COMMENCEMENT:

An Academic Tradition

At every academic institution, commencement exercises are the high point of the calendar for students and their families. Since the purpose of a college or university is to prepare its students to merit the conferral of an academic degree, the commencement ceremony serves as the instrument for exhibiting the success of both the university and its students in fulfilling this primary goal. The rites involved in the celebration of commencement stem from civilization's earliest times. In fact, the very word, commencement, means a beginning. If you are familiar with the trappings of this grand ceremony, you are aware that the traditions carried forth from medieval days are revealed in all of their pomp, color and symbolism. It is a celebration of new beginnings. For participants and observers alike, commencement is meant to be both self-serving and an emotional experience.

The Chain of Office

The university president is the ceremony's convener and chief presider at the commencement ceremonies. The great chain, which is the FIU chain of office, is displayed on stage. This ancient symbol is perhaps the most beautiful and artistic of any of the accoutrements of the ceremony. During the Renaissance, holders of very high office sometimes wore a chain as a symbol of their authority. FIU's chain is made of sterling silver and its designs are cast, cut and etched. The center medallion represents the world and is surrounded by sea shells cast from an actual shell. Reflecting the university and the South Florida area are the eight ovals which make up the chain—designed by Clem Pennington, associate professor of art education, now retired, and created in 1977 by Leo Shirker, a Miami goldsmith, art teacher and FIU alumnus.

Grand Marshal

The leader of the academic procession is the Grand Marshal. At FIU, this prestigious honor goes to the chairperson of the Faculty Senate, which is the democratic collegial governance body of the faculty.

The Mace

The Grand Marshal carries a ceremonial club called a mace. In antiquity, when an official of high rank went out in public, a mace-bearer was assigned to accompany him in order to literally beat away those who got close enough to try to petition the favors of the official. Today, the bearing of the university's mace is ceremonial in nature, signifying the authority and authenticity of those who are to follow.

The Dais Party

The Dais Party is also known as the Platform Party. This group is composed of the university's administrative leaders and very special guests. The Dais Party enters the hall before the faculty and proceeds directly to stage.

Academic Regalia

The tradition of wearing distinctive academic attire at commencement ceremonies originated in Europe in the 12th century. However, gowns and capes had been worn by clerics and ecclesiastics even before that date. A heavy black or brown gown was apparently worn at all times. Hoods and capes were also a necessity during the long, cold European winters because the buildings in which scholars lived, studied and taught were cold and drafty. When not being used to provide warmth, hoods and baggy sleeves

served the same purpose as do today's pockets. The academic costume at English universities (from which many of our American commencement traditions originate) can be traced as far back as the middle of the 14th century, to the time when scholars were rebuked that a decent habit was to be worn (Statutes of Peterhouse, 1344). The faculties of American universities have worn academic garb for commencement ceremonies since the beginning of the system. For almost 250 years, each university chose its own costume until it was realized that in 1896 an event unique in history would be taking place. This was the simultaneous celebrations of the 250th anniversary of Harvard University and the 500th anniversary of Heidelberg University. Because of this unique circumstance, the Intercollegiate Bureau of Academic Costume was opened in 1895 to record the distinctive colors of institutions, their arrangement, the particulars of gowns, hoods and caps, as well as information pertaining to academic ceremonies. At that time, an American code of academic dress was agreed upon to which we adhere today with few modifications. Since Spring 2011, FIU has selected to use earth-friendly academic regalia for undergraduate and graduate students. This initiative underlines FIU's commitment to sustainability. At Florida International University, whose colors are blue and gold, the traditional colors of the disciplines are:

Master's candidates wear black gowns and bachelor's candidates wear blue gowns with the following tassel and hood colors representing degrees:

Architecture	Blue Violet
Arts and Sciences	White
Business	Drab
Communication Arts	Crimson
Criminal Justice	Peacock Blue
Economics	Copper
Education	Light Blue
Engineering and Computer Science	Orange
Fine Arts	White
Health Sciences	Green
Honors	Gold
Hospitality and Tourism Management	Navy Blue
Journalism and Mass Communication	Crimson
Music	Pink
Nursing	Apricot
Public Administration	Peacock Blue
Public Health	Salmon
Social Work	Citron

Doctoral candidates wear black gowns with gold tassels and hood colors are assigned as follows:

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)	Navy Blue
Doctor of Education (Ed.D.)	Light Blue
Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.)	Teal
Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.)	Apricot
Doctor of Medicine (M.D.)	Green

State of Florida

The Honorable Rick Scott, *Governor*

The Honorable Carlos Lopez-Cantera, *Lieutenant Governor*

The Honorable Pam Bondi, *Attorney General*

The Honorable Jeff Atwater, *Chief Financial Officer*

The Honorable Adam Putnam, *Commissioner of Agriculture*

Board of Governors

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Vice President

Michael A. Hernández BA '04, MPA '11
Parliamentarian

Benjamin Sardiñas '01
Treasurer

Frank J. Peña '99
Immediate Past President

Enrique Piñero '03
Secretary

Florida International University Commencement Committee 2016-2017

Lynda Rodriguez, *Chair*

Rocio Alves Milho Aguilar '13

Ashley Mendez '12, '15

Amy Aiken

Rachelle Metcalfe

Jimmy Almansa

Birgitta Rausch Montoto '00, '13

Wilfredo Alvarez '84

Ana Ortega '08, '10

Rachel Amezcua '11, '15

Karla Ortega '01, '06

Jesus Arias

Richard Pabon

Laura Benavides

Marco Parra '11

Penny Butler '94, '98

Ahnji Patterson

Julissa Castellanos '93, '08

Ricky Ramirez '11

Odalys Diaz '89

Ron Reyes

Debbie Garcia '14

Wayne Rustad

Glorie Garcia '13

Marisa Salazar '02

Erica Garvey

Travis Stokes '09, '12

Michael Gonzalez

Ann Tackoor

Cameron Jones

Adriana Trespalacio '12

Rhesia Lewis

Silvia Valdes '02, '09

Sanyo Mathew

Vicente Valenzuela

The Honors College

The Honors College provides top students with an interdisciplinary education that complements their majors. The heart of the college is its creative, active and supportive community of outstanding students, superb teachers, accomplished researchers and dedicated staff. Honors College scholars are admitted competitively into a transformational college where they pursue both academic and personal excellence. The curriculum emphasizes critical, integrative and creative thinking; group and independent research; oral and written communication; close contact between students and faculty; and integration of class work with the world outside the university. Students can satisfy requirements by choosing from an array of advanced seminars that complement their major studies by participating in study abroad, and/or by undertaking extended research through the groundbreaking Advanced Research and Creativity in Honors (ARCH) program. Students can satisfy requirements by choosing from an array of advanced seminars that complement their major studies by participating in study abroad, and/or by undertaking extended research through the groundbreaking Advanced Research and Creativity in Honors (ARCH) program.

Honors students embrace their responsibility to the larger society, and engage in service-research that directly benefits external communities, such as the Worlds Ahead Honors-Sweetwater Partnership. Students also take advantage of lectures by distinguished speakers, professional training dinners and seminars, social activities, the Honors Place living-learning wings in campus housing, partnerships with other university units and colleges, the Honors Education in the Arts (HEARTS) program, and study abroad, with intensive opportunities to study and interact with other cultures.

Crystal Abreu
Azelyn Alfonso
Dez Rae Camoy Allen
Indra Alvarez
Romina Angelelli
Marsha-Lee T. Ashworth
Francisca Backenstross
Nelsie Esther Berberena
Kendrick Anthony Bernal
Laura Betancur
Shandon Terrion Bowman
H. Nicole Bramblett
Sasha Brigante
Alexandra Castillo Escobar
Andre Roland Desruisseaux
Andreina Diaz
Danté A. DiGiacomo
Carmen Echavarria
Cory Alan Fairfield
Paula Fernandez
Laura Estelle Flegeau
Dayan Garcia
Lourdes Garcia
Catalina Garzon Vargas
Rachel Glenn
Bianca Alexa Gutierrez
Elizabet Maria Hernandez
Daniela Hernandez Perez
Cyan Jean Baptiste
Andrea Del Pilar Jo
Ashley Megan Juan

Giselle Latorre
Andrea Carolina Macias
Idelis Martinez
Victoria Mason
Tatiana Lee Menacho
Franco Franco Mirabal
Gretert Montano
Lylybell Oramas
Nathalie Pelaez
Danaris Pichardo Rey
Anthony Placeres
Blas Christian Prieto
Lauren Quevedo
Jodi-Ann Angeliqe Richards
Gretel Rodriguez
Penelope Esperanza Rodriguez
Racquel Remaliah Rose
Kaira Victoria Sanchez
Jakob Schwanitz
Samantha Suzanne Smith
Sharon Soprano
Kelly D. Spence
Tiyada Kate Sritrakul
Jose Urbina
Rabiya Usman
Isamar Vilanova
Ifrah Waheed
Jennifer Pereira Weitzel
Syeda H. Zehra



Council for Student Organizations' Honor Societies

The following students have been recognized by their respective Honor Societies and the Florida International University Council for Student Organizations for reaching a high level of academic achievement.

PHI BETA KAPPA

Daniel Benjamin DeBarge
Cristina Diaz
Claudia Diaz
Noelia Maria Fernandez
Jeniffer Fernandez Hernandez
Lauren Gabriele Franklin
Catalina Garzon Vargas
Christina Maria Gonzalez
Julieta Gonzalez Alvarez
Alexa Lee Guerrero
Christopher Vincent Livolsi
Marina Lopes
Caroline Marguerite Marie
Sheyla Moliner
Gerard Anthony Osborne
Suset M. Romano
Joseph Abraham Sela
Anthony James Serpico
Celia Ann Taylor
Isamar Vilanova
Jonathan Cid
Taylor Adele Duran
Jorissa Marie Perez
Tiffanni Hernandez

ALPHA EPSILON DELTA

Ivonne Durand
Catalina Garzon
Julieta Gonzalez Alvarez
Yamilet Guerra
Monica Munoz

ALPHA MU ALPHA

Yulia Acquerella
Guillermo Barrientos
Youssef Bouzoubaa

Omayra D. Escobar
Amanda Marie Diaz
Evelyn Dovale
Nathalie Fleitas
Maria Camila Florez
Carolina Manzanera Salcedo
Genesis Perera
Eleni Pineda
Valentina Rivera

GOLDEN KEY HONOR SOCIETY

Suri Abreu
Jessica Alvarez
Kishia Arnoux
Marsha-Lee Ashworth
Prasad B. Bhoite
Ginna Bocanegra
Isaac Coiffman
Daniel DeBarge
Danté DiGiacomo
Taylor Duran
Fabiana Esteves de Lima
Amber Harrison
Jessica Maclao
Sara C. Medina
Melanie D'Liz Ortega
Jorge L. Perez
Yeney Perez Robert
Juan M. Piñera
Daniel C. Rogers
Nimrod Simeon
Jay Snyder
Ashley Neimi Strand
Yagna Viera
Michelle Lillian Weldy
Craig W. Winter

LAMBDA PI ETA

Bianca Gutierrez
Samuel Cohen
Michelle Torres
Jessica Rivas
Elizabeth Itri-Anderson

OMICRON DELTA KAPPA

Stefan Bahad

PHI ALPHA HONOR SOCIETY

Phi Alpha Honor Society
Pamela Agudelo
Stephanie Alayon
Marilyn Alvarez
Myriam A. Bernardo
Katherine Bonilla
Ruby Duran
Jennifer Fernandez
Nacin Fernandez
Amanda Grant
Bria Hope
Tre L. King
Sara C. Medina
Ornella Michelangeli
Jenny Molina
Dianelis Orbera
Natalie Joanne Rondon Polanco
Aneishia Rishae Richardson

PHI ALPHA THETA

Rafael Socarras

SIGMA IOTA RHO

Nicolette Cook

College of Arts, Sciences & Education

Joshua Allen

Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology

Dissertation: *Conceptualizing Learning Agility and Investigating its Nomological Network*

Major Professor: Dr. Chockalingam Viswesvaran

Rafael A. Badui

Doctor of Philosophy in Physics

Dissertation: *The Beam-Helicity Asymmetry for $\gamma p \rightarrow p\pi^+ \pi^-$ and $\gamma p \rightarrow pK^+ K^-$ and a Partial Wave Analysis for Excited Hyperons*

Co-Major Professor: Dr. Lei Guo

Co-Major Professor: Dr. Brian Raue

Maya M. Boustani

Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology

Dissertation: *Sexual Health Promotion Programming for Youth in or At-Risk for Foster Care: Improving Knowledge, Attitudes, and Behaviors*

Major Professor: Dr. Stacy L. Frazier

Angelle L. Bullard-Roberts

Doctor of Philosophy in Biology

Dissertation: *Medicinal Plants of Trinidad and Tobago: Selection of Antidiabetic Remedies*

Major Professor: Dr. Bradley C. Bennett

Claudia Castillo

Doctor of Education in Higher Education

Dissertation: *Students with Physical Disabilities — Reflections of their Experiences with Work Preparation Programs, Services and Accommodations in a Higher Education Institution*

Major Professor: Dr. Benjamin Baez

Inge Corbin

Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry

Dissertation: *Analysis of Improvised Explosives by Electrospray Ionization–Mass Spectrometry and Microfluidic Techniques*

Major Professor: Dr. Bruce McCord

Kathleen Isabel Crum

Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology

Dissertation: *Anxiety and Callous-Unemotional Traits: Physiological and Behavioral Responses to Others' Distress*

Major Professor: Dr. Jonathan S. Comer

Nan Fang

Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry

Dissertation: *Extraction, Purification and Partial Characterization of a Carotenoid Binding Protein (CBP) from the Epidermis of the Monarch Butterfly Larvae (Danaus plexippu)*

Major Professor: Dr. John T. Landrum

Laura Ferreira Vesga

Doctor of Education in Exceptional Student Education

Dissertation: *High School Content-Area Teachers' Responses to an Exploratory, Investigative, and Experimental Professional Development Program for Content Area Literacy*

Major Professor: Dr. Linda Blanton

Cen Gao

Doctor of Philosophy in Geosciences

Dissertation: *Vortex Rossby Wave Propagation in Three Dimensional Baroclinic Tropical-Cyclone-Like Vortices*

Major Professor: Dr. Ping Zhu

Dainelys Garcia

Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology

Dissertation: *Parent-Child Interaction Therapy as a Family-Focused Approach for Young Children with Traumatic Brain Injury*

Major Professor: Dr. Daniel M. Bagner

Qinghao He

Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry

Dissertation: *The Degradation of Pharmaceutical Pollutants in Wastewater Catalyzed by Chloroperoxidase and the Construction of Chloroperoxidase H105R Mutant*

Major Professor: Dr. Xiaotang Wang

Lynn Nicole Hendricks

Doctor of Education in Adult Education and Human Resource Development

Dissertation: *The Relationship between Undergraduate Hispanic Students' Choice of Living Arrangements and Retention, Academic Achievement, and Graduation at a Hispanic-Serving Institution*

Major Professor: Dr. Thomas G. Reio, Jr.

Ryan M. Hill

Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology

Dissertation: *Open Trial and Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial of a Novel Program to Reduce Perceived Burdensomeness*

Major Professor: Dr. Jeremy W. Pettit

Gabriela Marie Hungerford

Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology

Dissertation: *Characterizing Community-Based Usual Mental Health Care for Infants*

Major Professor: Dr. Daniel M. Bagner

Ian M. Jones

Doctor of Philosophy in Biology

Dissertation: *The Ecology of Extrafloral Nectar in Senna mexicana var. chapmanii*

Major Professor: Dr. Suzanne Koptur

Melissa Kavetski

Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology

Dissertation: *The Field View: An Initial Examination of an Exploratory Eyewitness Identification Procedure*

Major Professor: Dr. Steve Charman

Pingping Liang

Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry

Dissertation: *Gold Nanoparticle-Based Colorimetric Sensors for Detection of DNA and Small Molecules*

Major Professor: Dr. Yi Xiao

Michael C. Meinzer

Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology

Dissertation: *The Development of a Depression Preventive Intervention for Adolescents with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder*

Major Professor: Dr. Jeremy W. Pettit

Mukesh Madan Mudgal

Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry

Dissertation: *Insight into the Inhibition of Ribonucleotide Reductases by 2'-chloro-2'-deoxynucleotides and 2'-azido-2'-deoxynucleotides: Biomimetic Studies with Model Substrates*

Major Professor: Dr. Stanislaw F. Wnuk

Lizette C. Pabón

Doctor of Education in Curriculum and Instruction

Dissertation: *Training through Serious Games: The Relationship between Travel Agent Engagement, Knowledge of Cruise Products and Cruise Sales*

Major Professor: Dr. Thomas G. Reio, Jr.

Cynthia Pellegrini-Lafont

Doctor of Education in Exceptional Student Education

Dissertation: *Peers as an Academic Resource: An Investigation of an Afterschool Program to Socialize At-Risk Students with Disabilities into Greater Academic Engagement*

Major Professor: Dr. Elizabeth Cramer

Khoa N. Pham

Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry

Dissertation: *Conformational Dynamics and Stability Associated with Magnesium or Calcium Binding to Downstream Regulatory Element Antagonist Modulator (DREAM) in the Regulation of Interactions between DREAM and DNA or Presenilins*

Major Professor: Dr. Jaroslava Miksovska

Mujataba Rahiman Sharief

Doctor of Philosophy in Biochemistry

Dissertation: *Regulation of Particle Uptake by PP2A/B56 and LKB1 in Dictyostelium discoideum*

Major Professor: Dr. Lou W. Kim

Jennifer Lynn Sweatman

Doctor of Philosophy in Biology

Dissertation: *Gammaridean Amphipods as Bioindicators in Subtropical Seagrass Ecosystems*

Major Professor: Dr. James W. Fourqurean

Kristina M. Taylor

Doctor of Education in Exceptional Student Education

Dissertation: *A Descriptive Case Study Examining the Perceptions of Haitian American Parents and the Perceptions of their Children's Teachers on the Parents' Involvement in a Structured Parent Intervention Program*

Major Professor: Dr. Elizabeth Cramer

Kristie S. Wendelberger

Doctor of Philosophy in Biology

Dissertation: *Evaluating Plant Community Response to Sea Level Rise and Anthropogenic Drying: Can Life Stage and Competitive Ability Be Used as Indicators in Guiding Conservation Actions?*

Major Professor: Dr. Jennifer Richards

Alvah H. Chapman Graduate School of Business

Arturo Castellanos

Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration
Dissertation: *Relevance is in the Eye of the Beholder: Design Principles for the Extraction of Context-Aware Information*
Major Professor: Dr. Monica Chiarini Tremblay

Antonio M. Figueiredo

Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration
Dissertation: *Essays on Volatility Drivers, Transmissions, and Equity Market Correlations in a Global Setting*
Major Professor: Dr. Ali M. Parhizgari

Catalina I. Hurwitz

Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration
Dissertation: *Three Essays on Diversification and Corporate Policies*
Co-Major Professor: Dr. Wen-Hsiu Chou
Co-Major Professor: Dr. Arun Prakash

Kyungchool Joe

Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration
Dissertation: *Qualities of Informal Leaders, Factors Influencing the Formation of Informal Leadership, and the Paradox of Formal Power*
Major Professor: Dr. Karen Paul

Zhenfeng Liu

Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration
Dissertation: *The Effect of Shortened Reporting Lag on the Usefulness of Form 20-F*
Major Professor: Dr. Steve Lin

Vinh Huy Nguyen

Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration
Dissertation: *Institutional Investors, Insiders and the Firm*
Major Professor: Dr. Suchismita Mishra

Angel Arturo Pacheco Paredes

Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration
Dissertation: *The Association of Real Earnings Management with: Enterprise Resource Planning Systems, Audit Effort, and Future Financial Performance*
Major Professor: Dr. Clark M. Wheatley

Jodonnis Rodriguez

Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration
Dissertation: *Essays on the Effect of Board Gender Diversity on Firm Risk, Performance, and Institutions' Ownership Preferences*
Major Professor: Dr. Edward R. Lawrence

Assma Sawani

Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration
Dissertation: *The Principles-Based Nature of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and Earning Informativeness: An Empirical Analysis of the U.S. GAAP and IFRS Convergence Project*
Major Professor: Dr. Steve Lin

Muhammad Bakhtear Talukdar

Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration
Dissertation: *CFO Turnover, Firm's Debt-Equity Choice and Information Environment*
Co-Major Professor: Dr. Suchismita Mishra
Co-Major Professor: Dr. Kannan Raghunandan

Sheng Yi

Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration
Dissertation: *Earnings Management to Achieve the Peer Performance Benchmark*
Major Professor: Dr. Abhijit Barua

College of Engineering & Computing

Daniel Campello

Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science
Dissertation: *Optimizing Main Memory Usage in Modern Computing Systems to Improve Overall System Performance*
Major Professor: Dr. Raju Rangaswami

Chunhui Chen

Doctor of Philosophy in Material Science and Engineering
Dissertation: *Advanced Electrode Materials by Electrostatic Spray Deposition for Li-Ion Batteries*
Major Professor: Dr. Chunlei Wang

Somaye Fakharian Qom

Doctor of Philosophy in Civil Engineering
Dissertation: *Multi-Resolution Modeling of Managed Lanes with Consideration of Autonomous/Connected Vehicles*
Major Professor: Dr. Mohammed Hadi

Filmon F. Habte

Doctor of Philosophy in Civil Engineering
Dissertation: *Database-Assisted Analysis and Design of Wind Loads on Rigid Buildings*
Major Professor: Dr. Arindam Gan Chowdhury

Ali Hadjikhani

Doctor of Philosophy in Electrical Engineering
Dissertation: *Nanofabrication and Spectroscopy of Magnetic Nanostructures using a Focused Ion Beam*
Major Professor: Dr. Sakhrat Khizroev

Yong Hao

Doctor of Philosophy in Material Science and Engineering
Dissertation: *Sulfur Based Electrode Materials for Secondary Batteries*
Co-Major Professor: Dr. Chunlei Wang
Co-Major Professor: Dr. Arvind Agarwal

Kiar J. Holland

Doctor of Philosophy in Electrical Engineering
Dissertation: *Doping as a Possible Means to Create Superconductivity in Graphene*
Major Professor: Dr. Grover Larkins

Mohamed Ibrahim

Doctor of Philosophy in Civil Engineering
Dissertation: *Analyzing Decision Making in Alternative Contracting for Highway Pavement Rehabilitation Projects*
Co-Major Professor: Dr. Wallied Orabi
Co-Major Professor: Dr. Arindam Gan Chowdhury

Rajesh Jha

Doctor of Philosophy in Material Science and Engineering
Dissertation: *Combined Computational-Experimental Design of High Temperature, High Intensity Permanent Magnetic Alloys with Minimal Addition of Rare-Earth Elements*
Major Professor: Dr. George S. Dulikravich

A.S.M. Hasan Mahmud

Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science
Dissertation: *Sustainable Resource Management for Cloud Data Centers*
Major Professor: Dr. S. S. Iyengar

Roosbeh Nikkhah-Moshaie

Doctor of Philosophy in Material Science and Engineering
Dissertation: *Novel in Situ Study of Magnetocaloric Heusler Alloy*
Co-Major Professor: Dr. Benjamin Boesl
Co-Major Professor: Dr. Kinzy Jones

Mershack Bortey Okoe

Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science
Dissertation: *Supporting Web-Based and Crowdsourced Evaluations of Data Visualizations*
Major Professor: Dr. Radu Jianu

Huy Van Pham

Doctor of Philosophy in Civil Engineering
Dissertation: *Evaluation of Redundancy of Twin Steel Box-Girder Bridges*
Major Professor: Dr. Atorod Azizinamini

Christopher C. Rudolf

Doctor of Philosophy in Mechanical Engineering
Dissertation: *Microstructure and Mechanical Properties of Nanofiller Reinforced Tantalum-Niobium Carbide Formed by Spark Plasma Sintering*
Co-Major Professor: Dr. Benjamin Boesl
Co-Major Professor: Dr. Arvind Agarwal

Nico Saputro

Doctor of Philosophy in Electrical Engineering
Dissertation: *Performance Optimization of Network Protocols for IEEE 802.11s-based Smart Grid Communications*
Major Professor: Dr. Kemal Akkaya

Ramin Taghinezhadbilondy

Doctor of Philosophy in Civil Engineering
Dissertation: *Extending Use of Simple for Dead Load and Continuous for Live Load (SDCL) Steel Bridge System to High Seismic Areas*
Major Professor: Dr. Atorod Azizinamini

Phani Kiran Vabbina

Doctor of Philosophy in Electrical Engineering
Dissertation: *Sonochemical Synthesis of ZnO Nanostructures for Sensing and Energy Harvesting*
Major Professor: Dr. Nezhil Pala

Guangqiang Zhao

Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science
Dissertation: *Online Moving Object Visualization with Geo-Referenced Data*
Major Professor: Dr. Naphtali Rishel

Jin Zhu

Doctor of Philosophy in Civil Engineering
Dissertation: *A System-of-Systems Framework for Assessment of Resilience in Complex Construction Projects*
Co-Major Professor: Dr. Ali Mostafavi
Co-Major Professor: Dr. Ioannis Zisis

Steven J. Green School of International & Public Affairs

John K. Babb

Doctor of Philosophy in History
Dissertation: *The Viceroyalty of Miami: Colonial Nostalgia and the Making of an Imperial City*
Major Professor: Dr. Bianca Premo

Rooholah Hadadi

Doctor of Philosophy in Economics

Dissertation: *Three Essays on International and Intranational Trade and Economic Growth*

Major Professor: Dr. Hakan Yilmazkuday

Brittany Kiessling

Doctor of Philosophy in Global and Sociocultural Studies

Dissertation: *Ethnographic Investigations of Commercial Aquaculture as a Rural Development Technique in Tamil Nadu, India*

Major Professor: Dr. Juliet Erazo

Lindsey Brooke Maxwell

Doctor of Philosophy in History

Dissertation: *The Pneuma Network: Transnational Pentecostal Print Culture in the United States and South Africa, 1906-1948*

Major Professor: Dr. Darden Asbury Pyron

Sisi Meng

Doctor of Philosophy in Economics

Dissertation: *Economic Aspects of Climate Change Adaptation and Natural Hazard Risk Mitigation*

Major Professor: Dr. Pallab Mozumde

Seyed Ahmad Mirtaheri

Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science

Dissertation: *Transnational Capitalism and the Middle East: Understanding the Transnational Elites of the Gulf Cooperation Council*

Major Professor: Dr. Ronald W. Cox

Micah Oelze

Doctor of Philosophy in History

Dissertation: *The Symphony of State: São Paulo's Department of Culture, 1922-1938*

Co-Major Professor: Dr. Bianca Premo

Co-Major Professor: Dr. Victor Uribe

Joaquin A. Pedroso

Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science

Dissertation: *Anarchy and Anti-Intellectualism: Reason, Foundationalism, and the Anarchist Tradition*

Major Professor: Dr. Clement Fatovic

Angela E. Roe

Doctor of Philosophy in Global and Sociocultural Studies

Dissertation: *The Sound of Silence: Ideology of National Identity and Racial Inequality in Contemporary Curaçao*

Major Professor: Dr. Jean Muteba Rahier

Adam M. Silvia

Doctor of Philosophy in History

Dissertation: *Haiti and the Heavens: Nation-Building and Mass Utopia in the Cold War Era*

Co-Major Professor: Dr. Kenneth Lipartito

Co-Major Professor: Dr. Victor Uribe

Jung Hyun Song

Doctor of Philosophy in Public Affairs

Dissertation: *The Effect of Social Capital on Organizational Performance in Different Cultures: A Cross-National Comparison of the United States and South Korea*

Major Professor: Dr. Meredith Newman

Michele Tantardini

Doctor of Philosophy in Public Affairs

Dissertation: *Organizational Social Capital and Performance Information Use: Analyzing the Link and its Implications for Public Management*

Co-Major Professor: Dr. Allan Rosenbaum

Co-Major Professor: Dr. Alexander Kroll

David C. Vitt

Doctor of Philosophy in Economics

Dissertation: *Essays on Retail and Regional Economics*

Major Professor: Dr. Hakan Yilmazkuday

Feifei Wang

Doctor of Philosophy in Economics

Dissertation: *Income Distribution, International Trade and Foreign Direct Investment with Heterogeneous Firms*

Major Professor: Dr. Kaz Miyagiwa

Tiffany N. West

Doctor of Philosophy in History

Dissertation: *A Generation of Race and Nationalism: Thomas Dixon, Jr. and American Identity*

Major Professor: Dr. Darden Asbury Pyron

Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences

Doctor of Nursing Practice

Vivian Alonso-Zaila

Lisa Veronica Brown

Hallie Evans

Yovanit Fajardo Aquino

Darlene Denise Harris

Jampierre Mato

Doctor of Physical Therapy

Mariam Almasi

Christina Marie Andres

Krista L. Beach

Molly Sue Bowden

Lauren Alexandra Calabro

Jennifer Lauren Capi

Michelle Brockwell Carey

Emely Joanne Carpio

Bryan S.A. Cheddar

Jocelyn Cheung

Chentiesha L. Cozart

CJ Carmine Joseph DePalma

Jonathan Ryan Dugan

Hanan Elmasry

Molly Maxine Fagen

Jessica Jane Ferguson

Amanda Michelle Fernandez

Lauren Michelle Garcia

Jorge E. Garrote

Rosanna Gelaz

Kelsey Gil

Christina Susan Glenn

Marta Laurie Heidenreich

Leisy Hernandez

Tamara Kristine Hidalgo

Jared David Howell

Alyssa M. Ingram

Marcos A. Jimenez

Keeley Nicole Johnson

Alixandra Megan Lakow

Jennifer K. Landeta

David Stewart List III

Nelson López

Jon Michael Manguson

Indira Moreno

Angelica Noel Napolitano

Ashley Patricia O'Rourke

Erica Patel

Hardik Shailesh Patel

Anthea Tia-Marie Pitysingh

Cristine Plaza

Nandini Rampersaud

Jessica Lynn Reyes Olsson

Renee Frances Rinard

Shane Harrison Rosonina

Ali Sadeghi

Cassandra Santangelo

Caleb Adam Scholl

Amanda LeAnn Singleton

Michael S. Tang

Erica Jacqueline Uitti

Caitlin Mae Violette

Jeffrey Michael Young

Robert Stempel College of Public Health & Social Work

Muni Balakrishnan Rubens

Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health

Dissertation: *The Effect of Stigma on Treatment Adherence among HIV-Positive Alcohol Users in Haiti*

Major Professor: Dr. Jessy G. Dévieux

Ziyad Ben Taleb

Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health

Dissertation: *Predictors of Adherence, Withdrawal Symptoms and Changes in Body Mass Index: Finding from the First Randomized Smoking Cessation Trial in a Low-Income Country Setting*

Major Professor: Dr. Wasim Maziak

Nadine Mikati

Doctor of Philosophy in Dietetics and Nutrition

Dissertation: *The Effect of Project ProHEART- Promoting Healthy Eating and Activity using Robot-Assisted Training- on Healthy Eating Habits and Physical Activity in School-Aged Children*

Major Professor: Dr. Fatma Huffman

Soumyadeep Mukherjee

Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health

Dissertation: *Antenatal Stressful Life Events and Postpartum Depression in the United States: The Role of Women's Socioeconomic Status at the State Level*

Major Professor: Dr. Mary Jo Trepka

Dudith Pierre-Victor

Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health

Dissertation: *Human Papillomavirus Infection and Vaccination Policies in the American South*

Major Professor: Dr. Purnima Madhivanan

Tania Rivera

Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health

Dissertation: *The Effects of a 12 Week Nutrition and Physical Activity Intervention Program on Mexican Americans Residing in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, TX*

Major Professor: Dr. Elena Bastida

Natalia Shtompel

Doctor of Philosophy in Social Welfare

Dissertation: *Home-Based, Self-Administered Dyadic Cognitive Training for Healthy Older Adults: Feasibility Study*

Major Professor: Dr. Barbara Thomlison



2016 Summer Semester Graduate and Undergraduate Candidates

To graduate **Summa Cum Laude**, a student must have earned a cumulative GPA of 3.90 or better and completed 40 semester hours of coursework for GPA at FIU.

To graduate **Magna Cum Laude**, a student must have earned a cumulative GPA of 3.70 or better and completed 40 semester hours of coursework for GPA at FIU.

To graduate **Cum Laude**, a student must have earned a cumulative GPA of 3.50 or better and completed 40 semester hours of coursework for GPA at FIU.

(Honors designations are based on cumulative GPA through the Spring Semester)

College of Communication, Architecture + The Arts

Master of Architecture

Heidy Acevedo
Anielka M. Arguello
Shane Oniel Batchelor
Alejandra Botero
Luca Alfonso Gabrielle Di Giacomo
Di Giovanni
Albert John Elias
Marie-Denise Melissa Hall
Jheanelle Renee Levy
David Leandro Pinto
Adan Antonio Quesada Matute
David Rojas
Jorge Manuel Triana
Guillermo Wong

Master of Arts in Architecture

Ruth Brooks
Ludovico Ferro

Master of Interior Architecture

Adriana Carolina Lacruz Silva
Marcela Restrepo

Master of Music

Alex J. Lough
Juan Felipe Mansilla

Master of Science in Mass Communication

Rebecca Marie Alvarez
Carla Yamilette Baltodano

Danielle Alicia Barnes
Alejandra Cristina Briceno Geant
Katherine Pilar Carbonell
Sarinis Marie Chu
Christian Alejandro De Abreu
Rafael Daniel De La Portilla
Amadeo Falcone
Marta Fanjul
Scott M. Feder
Hector Fernandez
Claudia Garcia
Christopher Gomez
Josefine Louise Dolores Gyllensporre
Jaleesa Howie-Fears
Eric Johnson
Jessica Juste
Michelle Ivonne Kawas Canales
Jenny Grace Ko
Christine Nicole Llano
Jean R. Milan
Matias Andres Pareja
Maria Andreina Ponce
Paula Andrene Powell
Maria Carolina Rodriguez
Eduardo Santa-maria
Nevaldo Shepherd
Desiree Tizon
Maria Tkachun
Elizabethte Uribe
Adriana Valencia
Adrienne Symone White
Matthew Young
Juan Carlos Zegarra

Bachelor of Arts in Art

Adedolapo Mary Alonge
Michelle Ann Barros, **Summa Cum Laude**
Bibiana Calderon
Akim S. Desire
Anthony Patrick Garcia
Katerine Andrea Huertas Cardenas,
Summa Cum Laude
Rebecca Interian
Nicholas Krug
Melanie Llanes
Vanessa Martinez
Jimmy Mocombe
Desiree Morales
Gonzalo Luis Sanchez
Alan Mauricio Torres
Valeria Zayon, **Cum Laude**
Yana Zaytseva, **Magna Cum Laude**

Bachelor of Arts in Art History

Melinda Beth Fedas
Danilo A. Mantilla, **Cum Laude**
Maria Carla Reyes

Bachelor of Arts in Communication Arts

Elaim Raquel Aaron
Natalia Acuna
Paige Shari Addison
Tayler Nicole Alvarez
Chanda Am
Stephanie Daniela Arismendy

Cali Victoria Arroyave
Christina Ana Barahona
George Marcus Barber, **Cum Laude**
Sean Franklin Barnes
Bryan Austin Blair
Alexandra Sofia Bru
Katerine Bulgado
Cristian Canales
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Bachelor of Arts in Women's and Gender Studies

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 Angela M. Richards
 Holly M. Rivera, **Magna Cum Laude**
 Alicia Mercedes Rodriguez,
Summa Cum Laude

Angel Rodriguez, **Cum Laude**
 Miguel Roman, **Cum Laude**
 Thony Romeus
 Margo Schezel Seymour, **Summa Cum Laude**
 Md Shahaduzzaman, **Magna Cum Laude**
 Ibrahim Hisham Shraim, **Magna Cum Laude**
 Ricardo Enrique Silva, **Magna Cum Laude**
 Jessica Silverio
 Garilynn Sincere
 Marina Josephine Siregar
 Radinka Susana Soto, **Magna Cum Laude**
 Ashley Nicole Stewart, **Cum Laude**
 Wendy Suarez
 Yohjan Pawel Suarez-Martinez,
Magna Cum Laude
 Herald Surya, **Magna Cum Laude**
 Milvia Tellez, **Summa Cum Laude**
 Lides Tema
 Lakivia Thomas, **Cum Laude**
 Elier Tinoco, **Summa Cum Laude**
 Brittany Nicole Tittsler
 Angela Villafranca Tominez, **Cum Laude**
 Rosa Karina Tousent, **Magna Cum Laude**
 Thomas Tuccillo
 Danielle Marie Vargas
 Yanelis Acuna Verdecia, **Summa Cum Laude**
 Brianne Alyse Welch, **Cum Laude**
 Qing Xu, **Magna Cum Laude**
 Rosa Yunes
 Osvil Miguel Zelaya, **Cum Laude**

Robert Stempel College of Public Health & Social Work

Master of Public Health

Ifedolapo Elizabeth Aderibigbe
 Cristina Rosario Ballesteros
 Prasad Bhargav Bhoite
 Alissa Kristen Brown
 Muhammad Abdul Baker Chowdhury
 Michael Phillip Garrote
 Liseth Marisela Guerra
 Ani Joseph
 Casey Lynn McGovern
 Jonique McKenzie
 Jasmine Diana Shahrestani
 Amelia Anna Thames

Master of Science in Dietetics and Nutrition

Michele Lynn Alonzo
 Meital Tania Alter
 Krystal Omari Bally
 Antonio Jose Castillo
 Aimee Joelle Charlesworth
 Angeliqwe Johnson
 Jennifer Lam
 Sruthi Nambiar
 Kathryn Jane Schneider
 Kathryn Marie Slater

Master of Social Work

Aimet Arenas
 Stephanie Bertrand
 Herna Bien-Aime
 Alan Robert Brailsford
 Ashley Canciobello
 Yanique Deane

Philomena Tonie Dolce
 Douglas Estrada
 Elizabeth Amelia Fornoni
 Ariela E. Genao
 Tatyana Gray
 Katerina Danielle Marroquin
 Jorge Omar Martinez
 Romell McLeod
 Jennifer Montiel
 Sabrina Ocegüera
 Melissa Reesor
 Ralph Sanchez

Bachelor of Science in Dietetics and Nutrition

Maria Catalina Armstrong
 Heather Lynn Brenner
 Natalie Marie Carabeo
 Sarah Elza Hyacinthe
 Carly Joan Lewin
 Hanna Stern
 Jessica Valencia, **Magna Cum Laude**
 Rubi Zavala, **Cum Laude**

Bachelor of Science in Social Work

Pamela Denisse Agudelo,
Summa Cum Laude
 Stephanie Alayon
 Marilyn Alvarez, **Magna Cum Laude**
 Myriam Alice Bernardo
 Katherine Bonilla, **Cum Laude**
 Tynetta Brown
 Jennyfer Bustamante
 Wally'S Celisie, **Cum Laude**
 Fabiola M. Charles

Esther Delbeau, **Cum Laude**
 Yvenson Delphonse
 Ruby Duran
 Jennifer Fernandez, **Magna Cum Laude**
 Nacin Fernandez
 Tanzania Obayana Fields
 Yolanda Gonzalez
 Amanda Venise Grant, **Cum Laude**
 Jorge Roy Guijarro, **Cum Laude**
 Bria JoSara Hope, **Cum Laude**
 Arlene Joseph, **Cum Laude**
 Woodney Ron Juste
 Jamara King, **Magna Cum Laude**
 Tre Louis King
 Tiffany Linder, **Summa Cum Laude**
 Michelle Loesmy
 Mishel Paulette Luzuriaga, **Cum Laude**
 Sanquetta McWilliams, **Magna Cum Laude**
 Sara Cristina Medina, **Magna Cum Laude**
 Ornella Michelangeli, **Cum Laude**
 Jenny M. Molina
 Dianelis Orbera
 Annemarie Parapar, **Magna Cum Laude**
 Minerva Amadaliz Perez
 Aneishia Rishae Richardson
 Natalie Joanne Rondon Polanco,
Magna Cum Laude
 Crystal Marie Sturdivant
 Digna Tellez
 Juan Camilo Velasquez, **Cum Laude**
 Mirlyn Venero, **Magna Cum Laude**
 Yagna Viera
 Jennifer Pereira Weitzel, **Magna Cum Laude**
 Ceirra Young

Dear Alumni:

Summer 2016

On behalf of the FIU Alumni Association and its Board of Directors we extend our congratulations and welcome you to your new family of more than 215,000 alumni. **All of our graduates now belong to the FIU Alumni Association – we are no longer charging membership fees!** FIU alumni have access to over 125,000 local and national discounts, numerous benefits and services the Association offers.

Your Alumni Association exists to advance the strategic priorities of FIU and to be a viable resource for engaging alumni. Getting involved, either by volunteering your time and talents or by making a tax deductible gift, is a great way for you to show your school pride. The Association helps fund student scholarships, provide career coaching, engage in legislative advocacy, and sponsors many events and activities throughout the year.

Be loud and proud in your Panther pride for you are forever linked to FIU! Let everyone know about the great education you received here. Wear your FIU colors. Purchase an FIU license plate. Support your alma mater, and come back to experience the many lectures, games and exhibits that are part of the life of our vibrant university. Always show pride in your FIU.

FIU will always be your home away from home! Whenever you are on campus, stop by and pay the Alumni Association a visit in MARC Suite 230 at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus.

Learn more about your Alumni Association by visiting our website at fualumni.com, follow us on social media @fualumni and #fualumni, or call 305-348-3334.

In the spirit of Blue & Gold

Best regards,



Eddie Hondal '88 & '00
President, Alumni Association



Duane M. Wiles
Executive Director and
Associate Vice President

FIU Alma Mater

Belinda Gunn, Lyrics
Carl Strommen, Music



♩ = 75

mf

We pledge to thee dear F. I. U., with voi - ces loud and true, Al - ma

Ma - ter fal - ter ne - ver, shine for e - ver Gold and Blue, We fly our ban - ners

high - ev'ry cul - ture, we em - brace, All our love and Pan - ther spi - rit, young and

mp cresc. poco a poco

old we - make this place, We hail to - ge - ther F. I. U, ev' ry scho - lar side by

mf

side, and we hail to Al - ma Ma - ter, Al - ma Ma - ter be our Guide

Special thank you to our Students, Parents, Family and Friends.

To all the Faculty, Staff, Administration, Ceremony Ambassadors, Divisions and Departments, including Facilities Management and Custodial Services that have a role in this event, we appreciate your ongoing dedication to FIU.

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Florida International University is a vibrant, student-centered public research university, ideally located in Miami, that is **Worlds Ahead** in its commitment to learning, research, entrepreneurship, innovation, and creativity so that our graduates are prepared to succeed in a global market.

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