Dear graduates,

All of the hours, all of the late nights and early mornings, all of the sacrifices you made over the past few years have led you here. To this day, this stage, this moment. This ceremony represents the culmination of each of the individual decisions you made – day in and day out – to keep reaching for your goals.

But today is more than a closing of a chapter. Today represents continual growth in your chosen craft. Today honors the life-changing insights you’ve gained by engaging in dialogue with others of differing viewpoints. Today knows that you will be empowered by your confidence, and today knows you are only limited by your wildest dreams. It is because you are here, and because again and again you made the choice to reach higher, and because you know that today is just the beginning.

May today’s celebration be not of what’s behind you, but of the incredible potential ahead. May today you toast to the challenges you’ll face head-on; To the problems you will solve; To the opportunities you’ll have to make life better, to change the world.

May you continue to embrace every challenge that comes your way. May your growth never cease. May your journey take you all over the world, and may you always find a way back to USF.

Congratulations, and GO BULLS!

JUDY GENSHTAFT, PRESIDENT
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA SYSTEM
Founded in 1956, the University of South Florida is a multicampus system comprising three separately accredited institutions, USF, USF St. Petersburg, and USF Sarasota-Manatee. The USF System has an annual budget of $1.8 billion, an annual economic impact of $4.4 billion and offers 232 degree programs at the undergraduate, graduate, specialist and doctoral levels, including the doctor of medicine. Serving nearly 49,000 students, USF is large and diverse with students from every state and nearly 160 different countries. More than 30 percent are African American, Hispanic, Asian American, Native American and other races and ethnicities.

USF is the doctoral granting, research intensive member of the USF System and it includes the main campus in Tampa, its College of Marine Science in St. Petersburg and USF Health. USF is one of only 25 public research universities nationwide with very high research activity that is designated as community engaged by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

USF St. Petersburg offers master’s level and undergraduate programs in the arts and sciences, business and education within a student-centered environment. The first regional institution in the USF System with independent accreditation, USFSP distinguishes itself by its urban waterfront location in downtown St. Petersburg and its focus on undergraduate research, civic engagement and small classes. Most faculty members hold the highest degree in their field and teach courses from the freshman to graduate level. USFSP retains its separate identity and mission while contributing to and benefiting from the associations, cooperation, and shared resources of a premier national research university.

USF Sarasota-Manatee is the second regional institution in the USF System to earn an independent accreditation. USFSM strives to be a hometown, comprehensive university with ever-increasing national and global impact. The USF Sarasota-Manatee campus is located on U.S. 41 near Sarasota Bay, the Powell Crosley Mansion, the John & Mable Ringling Museum of Art, and the Sarasota-Bradenton Airport. USFSM offers over forty bachelor’s degree, master’s degree and certificate programs. USFSM provides students with individualized attention from nationally and internationally recognized faculty while capitalizing on the resources of a major public research university.

The USF System member institutions span the Tampa Bay region; however, true to their differentiated missions, the member institutions collectively provide educational services across the state of Florida and beyond.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA SYSTEM

The University of South Florida is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award degrees at the baccalaureate, master’s, specialist and doctoral levels, including the Doctor of Medicine. Events, activities, programs and facilities of the University of South Florida are available to all without regard to race, color, marital status, gender, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, disability, age, Vietnam or disabled veteran status as provided by law and in accordance with the University’s respect for personal dignity.

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Judy Genshaft, USF System President
Ralph Wilcox, USF System Provost & Executive Vice President
John Long, USF System Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
Charles Lockwood, USF Senior Vice President for USF Health and Dean, USF Morsani College of Medicine
Paul Sanberg, USF System Senior Vice President for Research, Innovation and Economic Development
Joel Mombarg, USF System Senior Vice President for University Advancement
Martin Tadlock, Interim Regional Chancellor, USF St. Petersburg
Terry Osborn, Interim Regional Chancellor, USF Sarasota-Manatee

USF TAMPA LEADERSHIP

Charles Adams, Dean, Honors College
Robert Bishop, Dean, College of Engineering
Roger Brindley, Vice President, USF World and Interim Dean, College of Education
Todd Chavez, Dean, Library System
William Cummings, Interim Dean, Undergraduate Studies
Jacqueline Dixon, Dean, College of Marine Science
Paul Dosal, Vice President, Student Affairs and Student Success
Eric Eisenberg, Dean, College of Arts & Sciences
Sidney Fernandes, Vice President, Information Technology, Chief Information Officer
Mark Harlan, Director, Intercollegiate Athletics
Moez Limayem, Dean, Muma College of Business
James Moy, Dean, College of the Arts
Govindan Parayil, Dean, Patel College of Global Sustainability
Donna Petersen, Dean, College of Public Health
Victoria Rich, Dean, College of Nursing
Julianne Serovich, Dean, College of Behavioral and Community Sciences
Kevin Snoed, Dean, College of Pharmacy
Dwayne Smith, Senior Vice Provost, Dean, Graduate Studies
Gerard Solis, General Counsel
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MODERN ACADEMIC REGALIA evolved from the kinds of apparel worn by monks and students in the 11th and 12th centuries to keep warm in the medieval castles and halls in which they studied. Academic life as we know it today began in the Middle Ages — first in the church, then in the guilds. The teaching guild was the Guild of the Master of Arts, and the Bachelor was the apprentice of the Master. Their dress was the outward sign of stature and responsibility. Academic regalia was thus a visible manifestation — in color, pattern and design — that unified those of common discipline and like purpose. In later centuries, to preserve the regalia’s dignity and meaning, universities set rules of academic dress. American universities agreed on a definite system in 1895, establishing a code of approved attire. In 1932, the American Council on Education revised this code, which, for the most part, governs the style of academic dress today. The principal features of academic dress are three: the gown, the cap and the hood.

THE GOWN — The gown has become symbolic of the democracy of scholarship, for it completely covers any dress of rank or social standing. The sleeves of the gown indicate the level of the degree held by the wearer. A long, pointed sleeve indicates the bachelor's degree. The master's gown has an oblong sleeve cut in an arc, with a slit at either the upper arm or wrist. The USF doctor's gown has bell-shaped sleeves and three black bars on the sleeve. The doctoral robe also has the seal of the university on the velvet facing.

THE CAP — The freed slave in ancient Rome won the privilege of wearing a cap, and so the academic cap is a sign of the freedom of scholarship and the responsibility and dignity with which scholarship endows the wearer. Old poetry records the cap of scholarship as a square symbolizing the book, although other authorities claim that it is a mortar board, the symbol of the masons, a privileged guild. The color of the cap on the cap denotes the discipline. The tassels on the caps (mortar boards) worn by the faculty may be black or a color indicating the degree. Those who hold a doctoral degree may wear a gold tassel. It is traditional for degree candidates to wear their tassels on the right and for those holding degrees to wear them on the left. Graduates transfer their tassels to the left after conferring of the degrees by the President.

THE MACE — The USF Mace, used during all Commencement ceremonies, is a ceremonial staff similar to those used by many institutions of higher learning to show the right of academic institutions to grant degrees to graduates. The USF mace is used during all Commencement ceremonies and is carried by the President of the Faculty Senate. Our mace includes a gold pine cone at its top to represent growth and continuity. Eight silver semicircles, which support the pine cone, stand for the eight colleges in existence at USF when the mace was commissioned in 1998. When not in use, today's mace is displayed in the foyer of the President's office. The original university mace is on display in the Alumni Center.

THE MEDALLION — The medallions worn by candidates for the bachelor's degree identify those graduating with honors. The black hood of a bachelor's candidate indicates a student who has earned the Honors College degree.

THE SASH — The golden-colored sash is made available to students who are members of university honors societies. The sash is embroidered with the university seal and the student's honors society. International students may choose to wear a special sash honoring their home country. The colors of their sash reflect the colors of their native flags.

THE HOOD — The hoods are lined with the official colors of the institution conferring the degree. They are edged and bound with velvet of the color appropriate for the degree. At USF, the lining of the hood is green with a gold chevron, representing the university's colors.

THE COLORS — In regalia, academic disciplines are noted by color. These colors can be found on undergraduate and masters tassels and on master and doctorate hoods on the velvet edging.

- Apricot — Nursing
- Black — Independent Studies
- Blue (dark) — Philosophy, African Studies, Economics, History, International Studies, Medical Sciences (doctorate), Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, Women's Studies
- Blue (light) — Education
- Blue (peacock) — Public Administration
- Blue (Rhodes) — Audiology
- Brown — Visual and Performing Arts
- Citron — Social Work, Criminology, Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling
- Crimson — Mass Communications
- Copper — Economics
- Drab — Business
- Green — Medicine
- Orange — Engineering
- Pink — Music
- Salmon — Public Health
- Violet — Architecture
- Silver — Speech Communications
- Teal — Physical Therapy
- Yellow — Anthropology, Biology, Bio Medical Sciences, Chemistry, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Environmental Science, Geography, Geology, Gerontology, Information Technologies, Medical Sciences (Masters), Medical Technology, Mathematics, Marine Science, Physics, Speech Pathology
- Yellow (lemon) — Library Science
- Yellow (pineapple) — Hotel and Restaurant Management
ORDER OF EXERCISES
Judy Genshaft, Presiding

Saturday, December 9, 2017, 6 p.m.
113th Commencement Convocation

PROCESSIONAL (please stand)

CEREMONY OPENING
James Garey, Trustee and President of the Faculty Senate

NATIONAL ANTHEM
Julia Glicksberg, College of The Arts

PLATFORM INTRODUCTIONS
AND PRESIDENT'S WELCOME
President Judy Genshaft

STUDENT WELCOME
Joshua Kilborn, Ph.D., College of Marine Science

HONORARY DEGREE
Ralph Wilcox, Provost, presenting
Patricia Flatley-Brennan

PRESENTATION OF DOCTORAL DEGREES
Dwayne Smith, Dean, Graduate Studies

CONFERRING OF DOCTORAL DEGREES
President Genshaft

PRESENTATION OF SPECIALIST
AND MASTER DEGREES
(Listed in college alphabetical order)
Eric Eisenberg, Dean, Arts and Sciences
Julianne Serovich, Dean, Behavioral & Community Sciences
Moez Limayem, Dean, Business
Roger Brindley, Interim Dean, Education
Robert Bishop, Dean, Engineering
Govindan Parayil, Dean, Global Sustainability
Jacqueline Dixon, Dean, Marine Science
Charles Lockwood, Dean, Medicine
Victoria Rich, Dean, Nursing
Shyam Mohapatra, Associate Dean, Pharmacy
Donna Petersen, Dean, Public Health
Barton Lee, Associate Dean, The Arts

CONFERRING OF MASTER DEGREES
President Genshaft

ALMA MATER
Julia Glicksberg

CLOSING/RECESSIONAL
James Garey

PARTICIPANTS:
University Reader
Jim Louk, Assistant Athletic Director, Broadcasting and Communications

Marshals
Paul Camp, Dorothie Durosier Mertilus, Donna Haiduven, Marcia Johansson, John Maye, Susan Perry, Kimberly Read, Lourdes Rodriguez, Ruthmae Sears, Sharlene Smith

Interpreters
Caitlyn Dollar, Kayla Ellison, Michon Shaw, Samantha Thomas, and Mackenzie Velez
Patricia Flatley Brennan, RN, PhD, is the Director of the National Library of Medicine (NLM). The NLM is the world's largest biomedical library and the producer of digital information services used by scientists, health professionals and members of the public worldwide. She assumed the directorship in August 2016.

In January 2017, with the transition of the trans-NIH data science initiatives to NLM, as recommended by the NLM Working Group Report to the NIH Director, Brennan also assumed the role of NIH Interim Associate Director for Data Science (ADDS).

Brennan came to NIH from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she was the Lillian L. Moehlman Bascom Professor at the School of Nursing and College of Engineering. She also led the Living Environments Laboratory at the Wisconsin Institutes for Discovery, which develops new ways for effective visualization of high dimensional data.

Brennan is a pioneer in the development of information systems for patients. She developed ComputerLink, an electronic network designed to reduce isolation and improve self-care among home care patients. She directed HeartCare, a web-based information and communication service that helps home-dwelling cardiac patients recover faster, and with fewer symptoms. She also directed Project HealthDesign, an initiative designed to stimulate the next generation of personal health records. Dr. Brennan has also conducted external evaluations of health information technology architectures and worked to repurpose engineering methods for health care.

She received a master of science in nursing from the University of Pennsylvania and a PhD in industrial engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Following seven years of clinical practice in critical care nursing and psychiatric nursing, Brennan held several academic positions at Marquette University, Milwaukee; Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland; and the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

A past president of the American Medical Informatics Association, Brennan was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences (now the National Academy of Medicine) in 2001. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, the American College of Medical Informatics, and the New York Academy of Medicine.
Dear graduate,

Congratulations on your graduation today from the University of South Florida. It is an honor for me to acknowledge your great success and receipt of your graduate degree. You can be proud of your degree from the University of South Florida as we continue to climb in national and international prominence for excellence in research, teaching, and community engagement. A major component of the mission of the Office of Graduate Studies is to facilitate the development of present-day and future global leaders – one student at a time.

Today, you represent how that mission is being achieved. Through your work and accomplishments here as students and now graduates, we thank you for strengthening our ability as a university to demonstrate student success. I encourage you to continue your quest for excellence and become the leaders who will transform the world. You now join over 300,000 USF alumni who represent every state and nearly 160 nations. I hope you will be an active alumnus and let us know of your future accomplishments. Congratulations again and best wishes for the stellar future I know you have.

Sincerely,

M. Dwayne Smith, Senior Vice Provost and Dean, Office of Graduate Studies
Dear graduate,

Congratulations! Today is your first day as a USF alumnus, a distinction you have earned and will proudly hold for the rest of your life. It is a special day for you and the friends and family who supported you.

Since the first graduating class in 1963, USF alumni have brought honor and distinction to the university in many areas, including medicine, business, law, the arts, public service, technology, engineering and education. With each passing year — and graduating class — the university’s stature grows as its alumni are recognized across the state and nation, and around the world.

From this day forward, you will carry on that tradition. Wherever your future takes you, you’ll carry with you the distinguished reputation of a world-class university. I personally invite and encourage you to stay connected to your Alma Mater through the USF Alumni Association. Your membership connects you with your fellow Bulls and creates meaningful ways for all of us to:

- Promote and protect USF
- Share your USF pride
- Stay connected
- Make an impact and help USF succeed

Take full advantage of your first year complimentary USF Alumni Association membership by getting involved in your local chapter (we have USF alumni chapters around the globe!) and your college alumni society.

We are incredibly proud of the accomplishments you and your family celebrate today. With your degree and educational experiences to reflect on, you are now truly Unstoppable!

In Bull Pride,

April Monteith ’01, ’03
Chair, USF Alumni Association
DEGREES FROM THE OFFICE OF GRADUATE STUDIES
M. Dwayne Smith, Senior Vice Provost & Dean, the Office of Graduate Studies

CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTORATE

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES
Eric M. Eisenberg, Dean

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Anna Abella, Applied Anthropology
B.A., University of South Florida
M.A., Brandeis University
Dissertation: The Time to Love: Ideologies of ‘Good’ Parenting at a Family Service Organization in the Southeastern United States
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Rebecca Zarger, Ph.D.

Wael Al-Sawai, Mathematics
B.S., Yarmouk University, Irbid/Jordan
M.S., Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Ph.D., Northeastern University
Dissertation: Non-equilibrium Phase Transition in Interacting Diffusions
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Razvan Teodorescu, Ph.D.

Lou-Ella Alexander, Cancer Biology
B.S.A.S., Saxion Universities of Applied Sciences
M.S., Radboud University Nijmegen
Dissertation: The Role of the Transcriptional Elongation Factor ELL3 in B-cell Lymphoma Proliferation
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Kenneth Wright, Ph.D.

Baderaldeen Altazi, Applied Physics
B.S.E., King Abdulaziz University
M.S., University of South Florida
Dissertation: 18F-FDG PET/CT Based Radiomics for the Prediction of Radiochemotherapy Treatment Outcomes of Cervical Cancer
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Eduardo G. Moros, Ph.D. & Sagar Pandit, Ph.D.

Stephanie Andel, Psychology
B.A., Bradley University
M.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: The Impact of Traumatic Event Exposure in the Emergency Medical Services: A Weekly Diary Study
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Paul Spector, Ph.D.

Travis Bell, Communication
B.A., University of Central Florida
M.S., Florida State University
Dissertation: Documenting an Imperfect Past: Examining Tampa’s Racial Integration through Community, Film, and Remembrance of Central Avenue
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Frederick Steier, Ph.D.

Cori Bender, Applied Anthropology
B.A., University of California
M., University of Alaska, Fairbanks
Dissertation: Before the Storm: Water and Energy Utilities, Human Vulnerability and Disaster Risk on St. Thomas, USVI
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Linda Whiteford, Ph.D.

Emily Choquette, Psychology
B., Wake Forest University
Dissertation: A Psychometric Evaluation of the Compensatory Eating and Behaviors in Response to Alcoled Consumption Scale (CEBRACS)
(Co-)Major Professor(s): J. Kevin Thompson, Ph.D. & Diana Rancourt, Ph.D.

Gregory Churchill, Mathematics
B.A., University of South Florida
M.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: On Extending Hansel’s Theorem to Hypergraphs
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Brenda Nagle, Ph.D.

Muditha Devamitta Perera, Mathematics
B.S., University of Colombo
M.S., Kansas State University
Dissertation: Statistical Analysis and Modeling of Ovarian and Breast Cancer
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Chris Tsokos, Ph.D.

Robin Dhakal, Economics
B.A., Warren Wilson College
M.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Education and Health Impacts of an Affirmative Action Policy on Minorities in India
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Kwabena Gyimah-Brempong, Ph.D. & Gabriel Picone, Ph.D.

Lilian Doerfler, Cell and Molecular Biology
B.S., Saint Leo University
Dissertation: The Role of Sgs1 and Exo1 in the Maintenance of Genome Stability
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Kristina Schmidt, Ph.D.

Boliang Dong, Chemistry
B.S., Heilongjiang University of Chinese Medicine
M.S., Tianjin University
Dissertation: Formation of Carbon-Carbon and Carbon-Hetero Bonds through Gold Catalysis
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Xiaodong Michael Shi, Ph.D.

Kiersten Downs, Applied Anthropology
B.A., Binghamton University
M.S., Nova Southeastern University
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Antoinette Jackson, Ph.D.

Nicole Ford, Government
B.A., University of South Florida
M.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Measuring Trust in Post-Communist States: Making the Case For Particularized Trust
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Darrell Slider, Ph.D.

Katherine Forrest, Chemistry
B.S., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Understanding Gas Sorption Mechanisms in Metal-Organic Materials via Computational Experimentation
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Brian Space, Ph.D.

Clayton Fowler, Applied Physics
B.S., University of Utah
M.S., Columbia University
Dissertation: Application of Metamaterial Perfect Absorbers to RF Energy Harvesting and Infrared Photodetection
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Jiangfeng Zhou, Ph.D.
Heather Fox, English
B.A., Mary Baldwin College
M.A., Mary Baldwin College
M.A., Virginia Commonwealth University
Dissertation: Arranging Stories: The Implications of Narrative Decision in Short Story Collections by Southern Women Writers, 1894-1944
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Cynthia Patterson, Ph.D.

Kimberly French, Psychology
B.A., Illinois State University
M.S., California State University, San Bernardino
Dissertation: Episodic Work-Family Conflict and Strain: A Dynamic Perspective
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Tammy Allen, Ph.D.

Chao Gao, Mathematics
B.S., Tianjin Polytechnic University
M.S., University of Toledo
Dissertation: Statistical Analysis and Modeling of Stomach Cancer Data
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Chris P. Tsokos, Ph.D.

Sheila Gobes-Ryan, Communication
B., North Carolina State University
M.L.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Full-Time Teleworkers Sense Making Process for Informal Communication
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Frederick Steier, Ph.D.

Timothy Golob, Government
B.A., University of South Carolina
M.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Hidden: A Case Study on Human Trafficking in Costa Rica
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Harry E. Vanden, Ph.D. & Bernd Reiter, Ph.D.

Chaminda Hettiarachchi, Applied Physics
B.S., University of Colombo
M.S., Missouri University of Science and Technology
Dissertation: Organometal Halide Perovskite Solar Absorbers and Ferroelectric Nanocomposites for Harvesting Solar Energy
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Sarath Witanachchi, Ph.D. & Pritish Mukherjee, Ph.D.

Mahesh Hordagoda, Applied Physics
B., University of Moratuwa
M.S., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Growth, Characterization, and Function of Ferroelectric, Ferroelastic Thin Films and Their Heterostructures
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Sarath Witanachchi, Ph.D. & Pritish Mukherjee, Ph.D.

Sheshanka Kesani, Chemistry
B., Kakatiya University (Warangal, India)
M.S., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Sol-gel Nickel-based Sorbents for the Enrichment of Organophosphorus Compounds by Capillary Microextraction Online Coupled to High Performance Liquid Chromatography
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Abdul Malik Ph.D.

Holly Kilvitis, Biology
B.S., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Ecological Epigenetics of Avian Range Expansions
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Lynn Martin, Ph.D.

Christopher King, Philosophy
B.A., Oral Roberts University
M.A., Trinity International University
Dissertation: From Object to Other: Models of Sociality after Idealism
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Lee Braver, Ph.D. & Michael Dejonge, Ph.D.

Alan Kramer, Applied Physics
B.S., California State University, Northridge
M.S., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Surfaces and Epitaxial Films of Corundum-Structured Mixed Metal Oxides
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Matthias Batzill, Ph.D.

Darline Lott, Geology
B.S., University of Missouri, Kansas City
M.S., University of Missouri, Kansas City
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Mark Rains, Ph.D.

Yujing Ma, Applied Physics
B.S.A.S., Sichuan University
Dissertation: Two Dimensional Layered Materials and Heterostructures: a Surface Science Investigation and Characterization
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Matthias Batzill, Ph.D.

Faeez Mahzamani, Chemistry
B.S., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Studies of Polyacrylate Based Nanoparticle Emulsions
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Edward Turos, Ph.D.

Minphuong Mala, Chemistry
B.S., University of Florida
Dissertation: Sol-Gel Germania- and Tantalum-based Hybrid Organic-Inorganic Sorbents for Capillary Microextraction Coupled to High-Performance Liquid Chromatography
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Abdul Malik, Ph.D.

Morgan McAnally, Mathematics
B.A., University of Tampa
M.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Generalized D-Kaup-Newell Integrable Systems and Their Integrable Couplings and Darboux Transformations
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Wen-Xiu Ma, Ph.D.

Tatiana Miti, Applied Physics
B.S., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Thermodynamic and Kinetic Aspects of Hen Egg White Lysozyme Amyloid Assembly
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Martin Muscol, Ph.D.

Lorraine Monteagut, Communication
B.S., University of Florida
M.L.A., Rollins College
Dissertation: Second-Generation Bruja: Transforming Ancestral Shadows into Spiritual Activism
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Arthur Bochner, Ph.D.

Alekhya Nimmagadda, Chemistry
B., JNTU, Hyderabad, India
M.S., Eastern Michigan University
Dissertation: Design, Synthesis and Applications of Polymers and Dendrimers
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Jianfeng Cai, Ph.D.

Chase Powell, Cell and Molecular Biology
B.S., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Role of Heat Shock Transcription Factor 1 in Ovarian Cancer Epithelial-Mesenchymal Transition and Drug Sensitivity
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Sandy Westerheide, Ph.D.

Tangela Seris, English
B.A., Fort Valley State University
M.Ed., Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University
Dissertation: The Spirit of Friendship: Girlfriends in Contemporary African American Literature
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Diane Price-Herndl, Ph.D.

Keegan Shepherd, History
B.A., University of Central Florida
M.A., University of Central Florida
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): David Johnson, Ph.D.

Sinhara Silva, Applied Physics
B.S., University of Colombo
M.S., Florida Atlantic University
Dissertation: Manipulating Electromagnetic Waves with Enhanced Functionalities using Nonlinear and Chiral Metamaterials
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Jiangfeng Zhou, Ph.D.

Heather Soder, Psychology
B.A., Montclair State University
M.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Contributions of Appetitive and Aversive Motivational Systems to Decision-Making
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Geoffrey Potts, Ph.D.

Nicole Stoddard, English
M.A., Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland
Dissertation: Alpha Bein on the Contemporary American Stage
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Laura Runge, Ph.D.

Jessica Wells, History
B.A., University of South Florida
M.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: The Suffering South: 1878 Yellow Fever Narratives and Post-Reconstruction Southern Identity
(\textit{Co-})Major Professor(s): Julia Irwin, Ph.D.
Julianne Serovich, Dean

College of Behavioral & Sciences & Disorders

Jenna Luque, Communication Sciences & Disorders

Colleen Pappas, Aging Sciences

Amanda Cutchens, Curriculum and Instruction

Milton Wilcox, Philosophy

Ph.D., New College of Florida

Dissertation: Investigations into the Non-Mevalonate Isoprenoid Biosynthesis Pathway's First Two Enzymes utilizing Hybrid QM/MM Techniques

(Co-)Major Professor(s): H. Lee Woodcock, Ph.D.

B.A., Belhaven University

M.A., University of South Florida


(Co-)Major Professor(s): Joanne Waugh, Ph.D. & James Strange, Ph.D.

Kia Williams, Chemistry

Ph.D., Xavier University of Louisiana

Dissertation: Metal-Organic Frameworks and MOF-derived Carbon Materials for Fuel Cell Applications

(Co-)Major Professor(s): Shengqian Ma, Ph.D.

B.S., University of the West Indies

Dissertation: Design and Synthesis of Cpg-Lytic Peptide Conjugate, Brachytherapy Beads and a Combinatorial Library of Primary Amines used as Potential Therapeutics in the Treatment of Cancers

(Co-)Major Professor(s): Mark McLaughlin, Ph.D. & Jianfeng Cai, Ph.D.

Suzanne Young, Biology

B.A., Barnard College

M.A., Queens College

Dissertation: The Ecology of Antibiotic Resistance: Sources and Persistence of Vancomycin-Resistant Enterococci and Antibiotic Resistance Genes in Aquatic Environments

(Co-)Major Professor(s): Valerie Harwood, Ph.D. & Jason Rohr, Ph.D.

College of Education

Doctor of Education

Mehmet Ozturk, Curriculum and Instruction

Ph.D., Inonu University

M.S., Indiana University

Dissertation: Collaboration with Families: Perceptions of Special Education Preservice Teachers and Teacher Preparation

(Co-)Major Professor(s): David Alisopp, Ph.D.

Deidra Sanders-Burnett, Curriculum and Instruction

Ph.D., Bethune-Cookman University

M.A., University of South Florida

Dissertation: School Counselors' Role in Reducing Aggression in Children in Alternative Education Programs

(Co-)Major Professor(s): Herbert Exum, Ph.D. & Cynthia Topdemir, Ph.D.

Doctor of Philosophy

Yolanda Bradham-Cousar, Curriculum and Instruction

Ph.D., University of Southern Colorado

M.A., University of Northern Colorado

Dissertation: Brain Injury: Instrument Development to Measure Counselor Knowledge, Comfort and Self-Awareness

(Co-)Major Professor(s): Tony Tan, Ed.D. & Herbert Exum, Ph.D.

Jimmy Caldwell, Curriculum and Instruction

Ph.D., Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University

M.Ed., University of South Florida

Dissertation: It's A Hard Knock Life: A Phenomenological Analysis of Black Males' Journey along School-to-Prison Pathways

(Co-)Major Professor(s): Brenda L. Walker, Ph.D.

Abeer Mohammad, Second Language Acquisition & Instructional Technology

Ph.D., University of Florida

M.Ed., University of South Florida

Dissertation: Understanding the Relationship between Informal Interactional Diversity and Males' Engagement in the Undergraduate Experience

(Co-)Major Professor(s): Thomas Miller, Ed.D.

Louise Dahm, Curriculum and Instruction

B.A., University of South Florida

M.A., University of South Florida


(Co-)Major Professor(s): P. Jeannie Kleinhammer-Tramill, Ph.D. & David Hoppey, Ph.D.

Tyler Dean, Curriculum and Instruction

B.S., Washington State University

M.S., Walden University

Dissertation: Improving Reading Comprehension of Children with ASD: Implication of Anaphoric Reference Support with Computer Programming

(Co-)Major Professor(s): Ann Cranston-Gingras, Ph.D. & William H. Young III, Ed.D.

Brenda Johnson, Curriculum and Instruction

B.S.W., Eastern Michigan University

M.S.W., University of Georgia

Dissertation: Understanding and Applying Emotional Intelligence: A Qualitative Study of Tantra Veterans Administration Hospital Employees

(Co-)Major Professor(s): Rosemary Closson, Ph.D. & William H. Young III, Ph.D.

Seda Karayazi Ozsayin, Curriculum and Instruction

Ph.D., Gaziantep University

M.Ed., University of Central Arkansas

Dissertation: Improving Reading Comprehension of Children with ASD: Implication of Anaphoric Reference Support with Computer Programming

(Co-)Major Professor(s): Ann Cranston-Gingras, Ph.D.

Yunhyun Lee, Second Language Acquisition & Instructional Technology

B.A., Kongju National University

M.A., University of Central Oklahoma

Dissertation: Lexical Stress Features Affecting the Recognition of English Loanwords in Korean by Native English Speakers

(Co-)Major Professor(s): Amanda Haensch, Ph.D.
Kali Morgan, Curriculum and Instruction
B.S., University of Central Florida
M.Ed., University of Florida
Dissertation: An Exploration of First-Year Students' Engagement in a Postsecondary Common Reading Program
(Co-)Major Professor(s): William H. Young, III, Ed.D.

Lindsey Williams, Curriculum and Instruction
B.S., Ohio University
M.Ed., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Grit and Academic Performance of First- and Second-Year Students Majoring in Education
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Thomas E. Miller, Ed.D.

Kacie Nadeau, Curriculum and Instruction
B.S., University of South Florida
M.A., Columbia University Teachers College
B.A., Assumption College
Acquisition & Instructional Technology
Lillien Tunceren, Second Language Acquisition & Instructional Technology
B.A., Emory University
B.S., National Economics University, Hanoi, Vietnam
Dissertation: Comparing the focus of Pre-service Teachers' Beliefs and Emotions in an EFL Argentine Practicum
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Barbara Shircilife, Ph.D. & Rebecca L. Oxford, Ph.D.

Maria Olivero, Second Language Acquisition & Instructional Technology
B.S., National University of Rio Cuarto
Dissertation: Cultivating Peace Via Language Teaching: Pre-service Teachers' Beliefs and Emotions in an EFL Argentine Practicum
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Amy Thompson, Ph.D. & Rebecca L. Oxford, Ph.D.

Thanh Pham, Curriculum and Instruction
B.S., National Economics University, Hanoi, Vietnam
M.A., Ohio University
Dissertation: The Performance of Multilevel Structural Equation Modeling (MSEM) in Comparison to Multilevel Modeling (MLM) in Multilevel Mediation Analysis with Non-normal Data
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Eun Sook Kim, Ph.D.

Thomas Szumlic, Curriculum and Instruction
B.S., University of Cincinnati
M.S., Florida State University
Dissertation: Architectural Apprenticeship: A Case Study of Exemplary Practice
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Victor M. Hernandez-Gantes, Ph.D.

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B.S., University of Pittsburgh
M.B.A., Duquesne University
Dissertation: Faculty Perceptions of Core Components Perceived to be Effective in their Prominent Graduate Entrepreneurship Education Program
(Co-)Major Professor(s): William H. Young, III, Ed.D. & Wayne B. James, Ed.D.

Lillien Tunceren, Second Language Acquisition & Instructional Technology
B.A., Assumption College
M.A., Columbia University Teachers College
Dissertation: Community College Second Language Students’ Perspectives of Online Learning: A Phenomenological Case Study
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Wei Zhu, Ph.D.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
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DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
Zekeriyya Ankarali, Electrical Engineering
B.S.E.E., Istanbul Technical University
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Dissertation: Physical Layer Algorithms for Reliability and Spectral Efficiency in Wireless Communications
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Huseyin Arslan, Ph.D.

Fabiola Araujo Cespedes, Electrical Engineering
B.S.E.E., Universidad Evangelica Boliviana
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Dissertation: RF Sensing using an ISM Patch Antenna for Continuous Blood Glucose Monitoring
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Stephen Saddow, Ph.D.

Pratool Bharti, Computer Science & Engineering
B.E.T., Kalyani Govt. Engg. College, Kolkata
Dissertation: Context-based Human Activity Recognition using Multimodal Wearable Sensors
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Srimat Cehllapann, Ph.D.

Hamidreza Farhidzadeh, Computer Science & Engineering
B.S.C.S., University of Tehran
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Dissertation: Learning to Predict Clinical Outcomes from Soft Tissue Sarcoma MRI
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Dmitry Goldgof, Ph.D. & Lawrence Hall, Ph.D.

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Amine Hafsi, Civil Engineering
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Dissertation: DNS and LES of Scalar Transfer Across an Air-water Interface during Inception and Growth of Langmuir Circulation
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B.A., Emory University
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Dissertation: Lung CT Radiomics: An Overview of using Images as Data
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Dissertation: Synthesis, Characterization, and Application of Molybdenum Oxide Nanomaterials
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B.S.E., Technological Educational Institute of Athens, Greece
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Dissertation: Human Body Motions Optimization for Able-Bodied individuals and Prosthesis Users During Activities of Daily Living Using a Personalized Robot- Human Model
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Dissertation: Evaluating Satellite and Supercomputing Technologies for Improved Coastal Ecosystem Assessments
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M.S., Texas Agricultural & Mechanical University
Dissertation: Resolving Chronological and Temperature Constraints on Antarctic Deglacial Evolution through Improved Dating Methodology
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Brad Rosenheim Ph.D.

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Dissertation: The Role of Viruses in the Metazoan: Ciona Intestinalis as a Model System
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Mya Breitbart, Ph.D. & Larry Dishaw, Ph.D.

Matthew McCarthy, Marine Science
B.A., University of Florida
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(Co-)Major Professor(s): Frank Muller-Karger, Ph.D.

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(Co-)Major Professor(s): Brad Rosenheim Ph.D.

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Dissertation: What Factors are Causal to Sustainability of Startups at Time Zero?
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MSE, MBA, West Coast University; Lake Forest Graduate School of Management
Doctoral Project: Avoiding the Carnage - A Guidebook through Sales Transformation
Co-Major Professors: Chris Pantzalis, Ph.D. and Jung Chul Park, Ph.D.

Mohamad Ali Hashini, Business
MBA, University of South Florida
Co-Major Professors: Anand Kumar, Ph.D. and Joann Quinn, Ph.D.

Scott Lawrie Hopes, Business
M.P.H., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Healthcare IT in Skilled Nursing and Post-Acute Care Facilities: Reducing Hospital Admissions and Re-Admissions, Improving Reimbursement and Improving Clinical Operations
Co-Major Professors: Jay Wolfson, DrPH, JD, and Shivendu Shivendu, Ph.D.

Elizabeth E. Kerns, Business
MSIS, Hawaii Pacific University
Dissertation: A Study on the Efficacy of the Medicare Bundled Payments for Care Improvement Initiative at a Large Community Hospital in the Southeast United States
Co-Major Professors: Anol Bhattacherjee, Ph.D. and Kaushik Dutta, Ph.D.

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MBA, Terry College of Business University of Georgia
Dissertation: An Examination of Innovation Idea Selection Factors in Large Organizations
Co-Major Professors: Lisa Gaynor, Ph.D. and Donald P. Addison, DM

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MBA, University of Texas at Dallas
Dissertation: The Determinants of Tipping Rates: New Findings and Extensions
Co-Major Professors: Dahila Robinson, Ph.D. and Christos Pantzalis, Ph.D.

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MBA, University of South Florida
Doctoral Project: Transformational Philanthropy
Major Professors: Moez Limayem, Ph.D. and Paul Spector, Ph.D.

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Juris Doctor, Duquesne University School of Law
Dissertation: CrashAppTM – Concurrent Multiple Stakeholder Evaluation of a DSR Artefact
Major Professors: Alan R. Hevner, Ph.D. and Matthew Mullarkey, Ph.D.

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MBA, Saint Leo University
Dissertation: Defining Data Science and Data Scientist
Co-Major Professors: Richard Plank, Ph.D. and Richard Will, Ph.D.

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MS Economics, Boston University
Dissertation: Leaders Who Learn: The Intersection of Behavioral Science, Adult Learning and Leadership
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MS, University of Florida
Dissertation: Facilities Management: The Challenge of Deferred Maintenance
Co-Major Professors: Paul Spector, Ph.D. and T. Grandon Gill, DBA

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Executive MBA, University of South Florida
Dissertation: Toward a Systemic Model for Governance & Strategic Management: Evaluating Stakeholder Theory & Shareholder Theory Approaches
Co-Major Professors: Moez Limayem, Ph.D. and Paul Spector, Ph.D.

Robert Tiller, Business
BA, University of South Florida
Doctoral Project: Forgotten Faces: Family Caregiver Voices
Co-Major Professors: Anand Kumar, Ph.D. and Richard Will, Ph.D.

John Townsend, Business
BA, Randolph-Macon College
Dissertation: A Longitudinal Study of the Effect of Cognitive Awareness Training on Transaction Processing Accuracy: An Introduction to the ACE Theoretical Construct
Co-Major Professors: Paul Spector, Ph.D. and Anand Kumar, Ph.D.

COLLEGE OF NURSING
Victoria L. Rich, Dean

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Suzan Abduljawad, Nursing Science
B.S., King Abdulaziz University
M.S., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Symptom Clusters that Predict Depression in Hospice Patients with Cancer
( Co-Major Professor(s): Susan C. McMillan, Ph.D.

Ashraf Abulhiaja, Nursing Science
B.S., Jordan University of Science and Technology
M.S., University of Utah
Dissertation: Using the Total Neuropathy Score-reduced (TNSr) to Predict Patients’ Function and Symptom Experience
( Co-Major Professor(s): Cindy S. Tothagen, Ph.D.

Patricia Hall, Nursing Science
B.S., University of South Alabama
M.S., University of Phoenix
Dissertation: Validation of the Electronic Kids Dietary Index (E-KINDEX) Dietary Screening Tool for Early Identification of Risk for Overweight/Obesity (OW/OB) in a Pediatric Population: Associations with Quality of Life Perceptions in a Pediatric Population
( Co-Major Professor(s): Susan Carter McMillan, Ph.D.

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

Rachel Appoo, Nursing
BSN, University of Central Florida
MSN, University of Central Florida
Evidence Based Practice Project Poster Presentation: Increasing Psychiatric Outpatient Appointment Adherence
Major Professor: Catherine Gaines-Ling, Ph.D.

Shaquunda Brown, Nursing
BSN, Florida A&M University
Evidence Based Practice Project Poster Presentation: Evaluating Nurses’ Knowledge and Intention to use Acupressure for Chemotherapy-Induced Nausea and Vomiting after an Online Educational Intervention
Co-Major Professors: Carmen Rodriguez, Ph.D. and Hsiao-Lan Wang, Ph.D.

Michele Creamer, Nursing
BSN, University of South Florida
Evidence Based Practice Project Poster Presentation: Increasing Psychiatric Outpatient Appointment Adherence
Major Professor: Catherine Gaines-Ling, Ph.D.
Cheryl Wilson, DNP
Quality Improvement Project of 2015 (MACRA) and Depression Screening: A Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act Presentation: Evidence Based Practice Project Poster
BSN, University of South Florida
Tracy Morin, Nursing
Preparedness?
BSN, University of South Florida
Stephen McGhee, Nursing
Does the Advanced Disaster Life Support Course Improve Its Student Preparedness?
BA, Michigan State University
Evidence Based Practice Project Poster Presentation: An Evaluation of Post-Cardiac Arrest Outcomes among Patients Eligible for Targeted Temperature Management Therapy at a Community Hospital
Co-Major Professors: John Maye, Ph.D., Melanie Michael, DNP
Alyson Harris, Nursing
Evidence Based Practice Project Poster Presentation: Initiative to Improve the Effectiveness of Colorectal Cancer Screening Rates in a Community Health Center
Major Professor: Melanie Michael, DNP
Jovienne Maire, Nursing
BSN, University of Alabama at Birmingham
Evidence Based Practice Project Poster Presentation: An Evaluation of Post-Cardiac Arrest Outcomes among Patients Eligible for Targeted Temperature Management Therapy at a Community Hospital
Co-Major Professors: John Maye, Ph.D., Melanie Michael, DNP and Alan Todd, DNP
Stephanie Stuber, Nursing
BSN, University of Jacksonville
Evidence Based Practice Project Poster Presentation: Does the Advanced Disaster Life Support Course Improve Its Student Preparedness?
Co-Major Professors: John Clochesy, Ph.D., and Fred Stone
Tracy Morin, Nursing
BSN, University of South Florida
Evidence Based Practice Project Poster Presentation: Medicare Access and Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA) and Depression Screening: A Quality Improvement Project
Major Professor: Melanie Michael, DNP and Cheryl Wilson, DNP
Kimberly Sand, Nursing
BSN, Cedarville University
Evidence Based Practice Project Poster Presentation: A Quality Improvement Project to Implement Adult Cardiovascular Disease Risk Assessment and Evaluate its Impact on Patient Perception of Risk
Major Professor: Debra Friedrich, DNP
Jillian Stuper, Nursing
BSN, St. Petersburg College
Evidence Based Practice Project Poster Presentation: A Process Model and Gap Analysis Exemplar to Guide PCMH Redesign Support & Quality Improvement
Co-Major Professors: Catherine Gaines-Ling, Ph.D. and Sharlene Smith, DNP
COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Donna Petersen, Dean
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B.S., Wilkes University
M.P.H., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Evaluation of a Microsphere-Based Immunoassay (MIA) in Measuring Diagnostic and Prognostic Markers of Dengue Virus Infection
(Complete Professor(s): Thomas Unnasch, Ph.D.
Omonigho Bubu, Public Health
B., University of Benin, Nigeria
M.P.H., Emory University
Dissertation: Sleep and Alzheimer’s Disease: A Critical Examination of the Risk that Sleep Problems or Disorders Particularly Obstructive Sleep Apnea Pose Towards Developing Alzheimer’s Disease
(Complete Professor(s): Kevin Kip, Ph.D. & Dave Morgan, Ph.D.
Elizabeth Lockhart, Public Health
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Dissertation: Evaluating Community Health Worker Adoption in New York Health Homes: A Diffusion of Innovations and Consolidated Framework for Implementation Science Perspective
(Complete Professor(s): Stephanie Marhefka, Ph.D.
Daniel Newfang, Public Health
B.S., Rochester Institute of Technology
M.S., University of Rochester
Dissertation: A Historical Assessment of Asbestos Exposure, Abatement Methods and Containment Efficacy During Asbestos Containing Material Removal Activities at a Large Federal Facility
(Complete Professor(s): Raymond Harbison, Ph.D.
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B.S., Kent State University
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Dissertation: Developing an Evidence Base for Mental Health Policy and Services: Inquiries into Points of Intervention, Cost-Effectiveness, and Utilization
(Complete Professor(s): Troy Quast, Ph.D. & Eric A. Storch, Ph.D.
Ryan Tokarz, Public Health
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Dissertation: Spatial-temporal Distribution of Mosquito Larval Hot Spots for Mosquito Control in Uganda: A Community-Based Abatement District Approach
(Complete Professor(s): Robert Novak, Ph.D.
Hanz Zhang, Public Health
B.S., Nanjing Medical University
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Dissertation: Bayesian Inference on Quantile Regression-Based Mixed-Effects Joint Models for Longitudinal-Survival Data from AIDS Studies
(Complete Professor(s): Yangxin Huang, Ph.D. & Wei Wang, Ph.D.
DOCTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Kathleen Glassner, Public Health
B.A., University of South Florida
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Dissertation: Cost-effectiveness Analysis of Targeted Herpes Zoster Vaccination in Adults 50-59 with Increased Cardiovascular Risk
(Complete Professor(s): Ellen Daley, Ph.D.
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Dissertation: An Examination of Factors that Affect the Utilization of Mental Health Services by Adolescents
(Complete Professor(s): Bruce Lubotsky Levin, Dr.P.H. & Mary Armstrong, Ph.D.
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B., University of Pune
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DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Tracy Torrance, Music
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M.M., Illinois State University
Dissertation: Music Ensemble Participation: Personality Traits and Music Experience
(Co-)Major Professor(s): Jennifer A. Bugos, Ph.D.

COLLEGE OF THE ARTS
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DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Tracy Torrance, Music
B.M., Florida Southern College
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Dissertation: Music Ensemble Participation: Personality Traits and Music Experience
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Laura Kathryn Ferrell
Elizabeth G. Guidry

**Microbiology**
Saleh Salem A. Almusabi
Alexandria Krystle
Echevarria
Samuel Robert Gellman
Amanda Fay Mach
Hailey M. Schuckel
Catherine M. Spanoudis

**MA in Urban and Regional Planning**
Joshua Brandon Barber
Carl Wesley Benge
Alex K. Henry
Zi Huang
Kimberly K. Middleton
Xue Zhou

**MA in College of Behavioral and Community Sciences**
Julianne M. Serovich, Dean

**MA in Master of Arts**

**MA in Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health, Developmental Disabilities**
Brenda Granville Clark

**MA in Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health, Leadership in Child & Adolescent Behavioral**
Elissa M. Ak chin
Bethany Jean Girard
Kristina J. Horn
Jenna Pullara
Leah Rao
Melissa M. Singer
Names published in this Commencement program are a list of candidates who have applied to graduate by the deadline noted in the academic calendar for this term. Names do not appear if the application was not submitted by that deadline or for those who applied to graduate in an earlier term or who plan to apply in a later term. Names are also not printed for those who elected total privacy on their university record. The list of candidates in this program is not a certified list of graduates.