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 GENShaft, 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 48,000 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 ranked 25th in the nation for research expenditures, among public U.S. universities and is also 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 in four colleges: Arts & Sciences, Business, Education, and Hospitality and Technology Leadership. 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 SYSTEM LEADERSHIP

Judy Genshaft, USF System President
Ralph Wilcox, USF System Provost & Executive Vice President
David Lechner, USF System Senior Vice President for Business and Financial Strategy
John Long, USF System Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
Charles Lockwood, USF Senior Vice President for USF Health
Paul Sanberg, USF System Senior Vice President for Research, Innovation and Economic Development
Joel Momberg, USF System Senior Vice President for University Advancement
Martin Tadlock, Regional Chancellor, USF St. Petersburg
Karen Holbrook, Regional Chancellor, USF Sarasota-Manatee

USF TAMPA LEADERSHIP

Charles Adams, Dean, Honors College
Paul Aitchley, Associate Vice President and Dean, Undergraduate Studies
Robert Bishop, Dean, College of Engineering
Roger Brindley, Vice President, USF World
Haywood Brown, Vice President, Diversity, Inclusion and Equal Opportunity
Todd Chavez, Dean, Library System
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
Michael Kelly, Vice President, Intercollegiate Athletics
Robert Knoeppel, Dean, College of Education
Mozz 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 Sneed, Dean, College of Pharmacy
Dwayne Smith, Senior Vice Provost, Dean, Graduate Studies
Gerard Sols, General Counsel
Nick Trivunovich, Vice President, Business & Finance
Calvin Williams, Vice President, Administrative Services

USF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Nancy Watkins

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.
THE SYMBOLS OF LEARNING

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 tassel 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 medallion worn by candidates for the bachelor's degree identify those graduating with honors based upon GPA.

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
- Blue (dark) — Philosophy (doctorate)
- Blue (light) — Education
- Blue (peacock) — Public Administration
- Blue (Rhodes) — Audiology
- Brown — Visual and Performing Arts
- Citron — Social Work, Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling
- Crimson — Advertising, Journalism and Mass Communications
- Copper — Economics
- Drab — Business
- Gold — Psychology
- Green (Kelly) — Medicine
- Green (olive) — Pharmacy
- Green (sage) — Political Science (masters)
- Orange — Engineering
- Pink — Music
- Salmon — Public Health
- Scarlet — Religious Studies
- Science Gold — Anthropology, Biology, Biomedical Sciences, Chemistry, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Criminology, Environmental Science, Geography, Geology, Gerontology, Health Sciences, Information Technologies, Medical Science (masters), Medical Technology, Mathematics, Marine Science, Physics, Speech Pathology, Statistics
- Silver — Speech Communications
- Teal — Physical Therapy
- Violet — Architecture
- Yellow (lemon) — Library Science
- Yellow (pineapple) — Hotel and Restaurant Management
ORDER OF EXERCISES
Judy Genshaft, Presiding
Saturday, December 8, 2018 6:00 p.m.
116th Commencement Convocation

PROCESSIONAL (please stand)

CEREMONY OPENING
Timothy Boaz, USF Tampa Faculty Senate President

NATIONAL ANTHEM
Logan Mies, College of The Arts

PLATFORM INTRODUCTIONS
President Judy Genshaft
AND PRESIDENT’S WELCOME

STUDENT WELCOME
Ashlee Painter, Patel College of Global Sustainability

HONORARY DEGREE
Ralph Wilcox, Provost, presenting Cheryl Brown Henderson

PRESENTATION OF DOCTORAL DEGREES
Dwayne Smith, Dean, Graduate Studies

CONFERRING OF DOCTORAL DEGREES
President Judy Genshaft

PRESENTATION OF SPECIALIST
Dwayne Smith, Dean, Graduate Studies
AND MASTER’S DEGREES
(Ranked in college alphabetical order)

Randy Larsen, Associate Dean, Arts and Sciences
Julianne Serovich, Dean, Behavioral and Community Sciences
Moez Limayem, Dean, Business
Robert Knoeppel, 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 SPECIALIST
President Judy Genshaft
AND MASTER DEGREES

ALMA MATER
Logan Mies, College of The Arts

CLOSING/RECESSIONAL
Timothy Boaz

PARTICIPANTS:
University Reader
Mark Schreiner, Assistant News Director, WUSF

Marshals
Dawn Brown, Vicky Buckles, Theresa Crocker,
Robert Edmiston, Heewon Gray, Karla Maldonado,
Travis Miller, Erik Rauch, Kimberly Read, Paul Schnitzler
and Larry Todd

Interpreters
Caleigh Collins and Clint Stinson
CHERYL BROWN-HENDERSON
HONORARY DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

Cheryl Brown-Henderson is one of the three daughters of the late Rev. Oliver L. Brown, who in 1950 filed suit against the local Board of Education against segregated schools, along with 12 other parents and led by attorneys for the NAACP. Their case became known as the landmark decision, “Brown v. the Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas.”

Inspired by her family’s history, Brown-Henderson has devoted her life to education, business and civic leadership. She is the Founding President of the Brown Foundation for Educational Equity, Excellence and Research, and owner of Brown & Associates, an educational consulting firm.

Since its establishment, the Foundation has provided scholarships to more than 100 minority students, presented awards to local, state and national leaders, established libraries for children in low income communities, developed curriculum for educators across the country and sponsored programs on diversity and educational issues.

Brown-Henderson began working with the USF College of Education in 2000. The partnership has yielded cross-disciplinary research and community engagement initiatives. Among others, she has given well-attended keynote speeches to the university, public school and business audiences in Tampa. She has contributed to Diversity Committee work and the doctoral program in Special Education, as well, the Presidential Advisory Committee on Black Affairs, the Black Faculty and Staff Association, and the Institute on Black Life.

Her education includes a Bachelor’s degree in Elementary Education from Baker University, a Master’s degree in Guidance and Counseling from Emporia State University and an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Washburn University.
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
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 and 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 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,

MERRITT MARTIN, ’04, MPA ’06
Chair, USF Alumni Association
CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTORATE

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

**Michael Acheampong**, Geography & Environmental Science & Policy  
B.S., Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology  
M.A., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: Assessing the Impacts of Ghana’s Oil and Gas Industry on Ecosystem Services and Smallholder Livelihoods  
Major Professor(s): David Akiwumi, Ph.D.

**Elsayed Ahmed**, Mathematics  
B.S., Mansoura University  
M.A., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: Groups Generated by Automata Arising from Transformations of the Boundaries of Rooted Trees  
Major Professor(s): David Savchuk, Ph.D.

**Haili Alcorn**, English  
B.A., University of South Florida  
M.A., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: Beauty and the Beasts: Making Places with Literary Animals of Florida  
Major Professor(s): Laura Runge, Ph.D.

**Ryan Anderson**, Chemistry  
B.A., University of South Florida  
M.A., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: Fatty Acid Amides and Their Biosynthetic Enzymes Found in Insect Model Systems  
Major Professor(s): David Merkler, Ph.D.

**Sara Arias-Steel**, Applied Anthropology  
B.A., Columbia University  
M.S., Boston University  
Dissertation: Resolvendolo or “Making it Work” with a Fist: Resilience and Agency Amongst Hispanic Teens Regarding Self, Neighborhood, and Aspirations Living in Low-Income Neighborhoods  
Major Professor(s): David Himmelgreen, Ph.D.

**Nathan Barrick**, Government  
B.S., United States Military Academy  
M.A., Stanford University  
Dissertation: For the Common Defense  
Major Professor(s): Jongseok Woo, Ph.D.

**Sumayah Batwa**, Mathematics  
B.S., King Abdulaziz University  
M.A., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: Lump Solutions and Riemann-Hilbert Approach to Soliton Equations  
Major Professor(s): Wen-Xiu Ma, Ph.D.

**Tanya Beck**, Geology  
B.S., University of South Florida  
M.S., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: Tracking Sediment Bypassing, Geomorphological Analysis, and Regional Sediment Management at Tidal Inlets  
Major Professor(s): Ping Wang, Ph.D.

**Ashley Buchanan**, History  
B.A., University of Tampa  
M.A., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: The Politics of Medicine at the Late Medici Court: The Recipe Collection of Anna Maria Luisa de’ Medici (1667–1743)  
Major Professor(s): Giovanna Benadusi, Ph.D. & Anne Koenig, Ph.D.

**John Correa**, Psychology  
B.S., Louisiana State University  
M.A., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: Message Received? The Relationship Between Graphic Warning Labels, Message Framing, and Psychological Responses Among Smokers  
Major Professor(s): Thomas H. Brandon, Ph.D. & Robert C. Schlauch, Ph.D.

**Robert Craig**, Philosophy  
B.A., Stetson University  
M.A., Emory University  
Ph.D. Pittsburgh Theological Seminary  
Dissertation: Augustine’s Confessions: The Battle Between Two Conversions  
Major Professor(s): Thomas Williams, Ph.D. & Michael De Jonge, Ph.D.

**Timothy Curran**, English  
B.A., Creighton University  
M.A., Seton Hall University  
Dissertation: The Medievalizing Process: Religious Medievalism in Romantic and Victorian Literature  
Major Professor(s): Regina Hewitt, Ph.D.

**Michael Edouf**, Geography & Environmental Science & Policy  
B.A., Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology  
M.S., University of Montana  
Major Professor(s): Kamal Alsharif, Ph.D. & Fenda Akiwumi, Ph.D.

**Lijuan Feng**, Economics  
B.S., CE Wuhan University of Technology, Wuhan, China  
M.S., CE Tsinghua University, Beijing, China  
Dissertation: Essays in Applied Microeconomics  
Major Professor(s): Gabriel Picone, Ph.D.

**Anxhela Gjyshi**, Cancer Biology  
B.A., University of Florida  
M.P.H., University of South Florida  
Ph.D., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: MYC Distal Enhancers Underlie Ovarian Cancer Susceptibility at the 8q24.21 Locus  
Major Professor(s): Alvaro Monteiro, Ph.D.

**Augustine Israel**, Geography & Environmental Science & Policy  
B.S., The Federal University of Technology, Akure, Nigeria  
M.S., University of Lagos, Nigeria  
Dissertation: Measuring Resilience to Natural Disaster: A Case Study of a Nigerian Community After The Great Flood of 2012  
Major Professor(s): Graham Tobin, Ph.D. & Ambe Njoh, Ph.D.

**Tyler Keeley**, Cancer Biology  
B.S., University of New England  
Dissertation: Investigating the Roles of Fucosylation and Calcium Signaling in Melanoma Invasion  
Major Professor(s): Shengyu Yang, Ph.D. & Eric Lau, Ph.D.

**Tiffany Lee**, Psychology  
B.A., University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
M.A., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: Knowledge Sharing Behavior: Clarifying Its Measurement and Antecedents  
Major Professor(s): Michael Coovert, Ph.D.
Catherine Marelia, Cell and Molecular Biology
BS., Florida State University;
B.S., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Investigation of Anemarrhena Asphodeloides and Its Constituent Timosaponin-AIII as Novel, Naturally Derived Adjunctive Therapeutics for the Treatment of Advanced Pancreatic Cancer
Major Professor(s): Brant Burkhardt, Ph.D.

Le Meng, Chemistry
BS., Beijing University of Chemical Technology
Dissertation: Sorbent Enrichment Performance of Aromatic Compounds from Diluted Liquid Solution
Major Professor(s): Abdul Malik, Ph.D.

Stefani Milovanska-Farrington, Economics
B.A., American University in Bulgaria
M.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Essays on Family-Friendly Policies, Child Planning and Children’s Early-Age Outcomes
Major Professor(s): Andrei Barbos, Ph.D.

Scott Neumeister, English
B.A., Duke University
M.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Border-Crossing Travels Across Literary Worlds: My Shamansic Conscientization
Major Professor(s): Gary L. Lemons, Ph.D.

Erika Oshiro, Philosophy
B.S., University of Maryland
M.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: A Historical Approach to Understanding Explanatory Proofs Based on Mathematical Practices
Major Professor(s): Alexander Levine, Ph.D. & Douglas Jeseph, Ph.D.

Elan Pavlinich, English
B.A., Duquesne University
M.A., Western Michigan University
Dissertation: Queer Authority in Old and Middle English Literature
Major Professor(s): Nicole Guenther Discenza, Ph.D.

Kaniqua Robinson, Applied Anthropology
B.A., Georgia State University
M.A., Georgia State University
Dissertation: The Performance of Memorialization: The Role of Religion in the Politics of Memory at the Arthur G. Dozier School for Boys
Major Professor(s): Antonette T. Jackson, Ph.D.

Fengyu She, Chemistry
B.S., Zhejiang Sci-Tech University
Dissertation: Development of Bioactive Peptidomimetics
Major Professor(s): Jianfeng Cai, Ph.D.

Ma Su, Chemistry
B.S., Xiamen University
Dissertation: Structure-Based Design, Synthesis and Applications of a New Class of Peptidomimetics: -AA Peptides and Their Derivatives
Major Professor(s): Jianfeng Cai, Ph.D.

Holly Swayne, Government
B.A., University of South Florida
M.A., BMH University of South Florida
Dissertation: Star Power, Pandemics, and Politics: The Role of Cultural Elites in Global Health Security
Major Professor(s): M. Scott Solomon, Ph.D.

Santana Thomas, Chemistry
B.S., St. Thomas University
Dissertation: The Potential of Marine Flora, Fauna and Microbes in Drug Discovery and Development
Major Professor(s): Bill Baker, Ph.D.

Tiffany Wilgar, English
B.A., University of Nevada Las Vegas
M.A., University of Nevada Las Vegas
Dissertation: The Spectacle of The Bomb: Rhetorical Analysis of Risk of The Nevada Test Site
B.A., Florida Technological Communication, Popular Press, and Pop Culture
Major Professor(s): Julie Staggers, Ph.D. & Elizabeth Metzger, Ph.D.

Qiuyan Yu, Geography & Environmental Science & Policy
B.S., Lanzhou University
M.S., Beijing Normal University
Dissertation: Assessing the Cooling Effects of Urban Vegetation on Urban Heat Mitigation in Selected U.S. Cities
Major Professor(s): Ruiliang Pu, Ph.D.

COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL AND COMMUNITY SCIENCES
Julianne Serovich, Dean

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
Claudia Campos Fleitas, Applied Behavior Analysis
B.A., Florida International University
M.S., Florida International University
Dissertation: Development and Validation of the Waiting Assessment Interview Tool (WAIT) and Evaluation of Individualized Waiting Durations in Signaled Reinforcement
Major Professor(s): Sarah E. Bloom, Ph.D.

Leslie Singer, Applied Behavior Analysis
B.A., University of South Florida
M.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Effects of Interspersing Recall Versus Recognition Questions with Response Cards During Lectures on Students’ Academic and Participation Behaviors in a College Classroom
Major Professor(s): Kimberly A. Crosland, Ph.D., BCBA-D

Xigrid Soto, Communication Sciences & Disorders
B.A., University of South Florida
M.S., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Effects of a Phonological Awareness Intervention on Latino Preschooler’s Dual Language Emergent Literacy Skills
Major Professor(s): Howard Goldstein, Ph.D.

MUMA COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
Moez Limayem, Dean

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
Linh Le, Business Administration
B.S., Foreign Trade University
M.S., West Texas A&M University
Dissertation: Growth Options and Corporate Goodness
Major Professor(s): Jared Williams, Ph.D.

DOCTOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
Guruvileen Ahuja, Business Administration
M.B.A., Case Western Reserve University
Dissertation: Healthcare Price Transparency
Major Professor(s): Carol Saunders, Ph.D. and Jung Chul Park, Ph.D.

Hugh J. Bettendorf, Business Administration
M.B.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Forces Affecting the Survival of Businesses Working in Florida’s Economic Zones
Major Professor(s): Gert-Jan de Vreeede, Ph.D. and Jennifer Cainas, DBA

Desmond Marche Bishop III, Business Administration
M.B.A., Florida Institute of Technology
Dissertation: How to Build a Climate of Quality in a Small to Medium Enterprise: An Action Research Project
Major Professor(s): Anol Bhattacharjee, Ph.D. and Paul Specter, Ph.D.

Ramil L. Cabela, Business Administration
M.B.A., City University of New York, Baruch College
Dissertation: Asian Immigrants in Leadership Roles in the United States: Exploration for Leader Development
Major Professor(s): Carol Stoak Saunders, Ph.D. and Troy A. Montgomery, DBA

Douglas H. Carter, Business Administration
M.B.A., National University
Dissertation: Locating a New Collegiate Entrepreneurship Program, a Framework for a University Campus
Major Professor(s): Dirk Libaers, Ph.D. and Gilbert T. Gonzalez, DBA

Clinton E. Daniel, Business Administration
M.S., University of South Florida
Dissertation: TubeTopic: A System to Capture Latent Topics from User-Generated Video Content in Online Social Networks
Major Professor(s): Don Berndt, Ph.D. and Alan Hevner, Ph.D.

Priya Dozier, Business Administration
M.B.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Banking on Blockchain: A Study of the Innovation Evaluation Process
Major Professor(s): Gaole Chen, Ph.D. and Troy Montgomery, DBA

James Edward Fulford Jr., Business Administration
M.B.A., Troy University
Dissertation: Enhancing the Design of a Cybersecurity Risk Management Solution for Communities of Trust
Major Professor(s): Alan R. Hevner, Ph.D. and Allen R. DeSerranno, DBA
Carl Edward Gilmore Jr., Business Administration
M.B.A., University of Central Florida
Dissertation: Does a Student-Athlete's Socioeconomic Status Matter?
Major Professor(s): Christos Pantzasli, Ph.D. and Dahlia Robinson, Ph.D.

Denise Hunter Gravatt, Business Administration
M.A., Florida Atlantic University
Dissertation: The Impact of Digital Marketing Decisions on Market Outcomes in Residential Real Estate
Major Professor(s): Moez Limayem, Ph.D. and Steven Oscher, DBA

Timothy Roy Greer, Business Administration
M.B.A., Quinnipiac University
Dissertation: Sales Hiring
Major Professor(s): Paul Spector, Ph.D. and Anol Bhattacherjee, Ph.D.

James Russell Gregory, Business Administration
B.F.A., Virginia Commonwealth Univ
Dissertation: Intangible Capital: Culture of Innovation and its Impact on the Cash Flow of a Multiple Business
Major Professor(s): Moez Limayem, Ph.D. and Anand Kumar, Ph.D.

Vjolca Hysenlika, Business Administration
M.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Social Media on a Budget for Small Businesses
Major Professor(s): Sajeev Variki, Ph.D. and Steven Oscher, DBA

Abdoullie Jammeh, Business Administration
Executive M.B.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Diffusion of Innovations in Large Complex Organizations, Strategic Change Management
Major Professor(s): Eric Eisenberg, Ph.D. and James Stikleather, DBA

Loran Tripp Jarrett, Business Administration
M.S., University of Tampa
Dissertation: Social Media Deployment in a Business to Business Environment: Theory and Practice
Major Professor(s): Sajeev Variki, Ph.D. and Richard Plank, Ph.D.

Connie Lynn Kahler, Business Administration
M.B.A., Webster University
Dissertation: Managing Decision-Making Bias in ERP Use by SMEs
Major Professor(s): Matthew Mullarkey, Ph.D. and Alan R. Hervner, Ph.D.

Darryl Joseph Lavender, Business Administration
M.A., United States Army War College
Dissertation: Understanding the Military's Special Forces Assessment and Selection Process to Build a Model for the Selection of the Most Qualified Personnel
Major Professor(s): Lisa Gaynor, Ph.D. and John Townsend, DBA

Robyn Lord, Business Administration
M.B.A., Florida Gulf Coast University
Major Professor(s): T. Grandon Gill, DBA and Robert Tiller, DBA

Gerald Lowe, Business Administration
M.A., Naval Postgraduate School
Dissertation: The Underutilized Tool of Project Management - Emotional Intelligence
Major Professor(s): Eric Eisenberg, Ph.D. and Joann F. Quinn, Ph.D.

James J Mennie, Business Administration
M.B.A., Long Island University
Dissertation: An Examination of Autonomous Vehicle Technology
Major Professor(s): Shivendra Shivendu, Ph.D. and Chris Pantzasli, Ph.D.

Valerie A. Mockus, Business Administration
M.B.A., Saint Francis University
Dissertation: The Impact of Prior-Prior Year on Federal Student Aid Eligibility
Major Professor(s): Gaole Chen, Ph.D. and Jung C. Park, Ph.D.

Marlo Bridgette Murphy-Braynen, Business Administration
M.B.A., University of The Bahamas
Dissertation: Toward Improving Export Diversification: Economic Growth in Small Island Developing States
Major Professor(s): Dirk Libaers, Ph.D. and Delroy M. Hunter, Ph.D.

Christina Astrid Norton, Business Administration
M.S., Cornell University
Dissertation: The Conceptualization of Justice Perceptions in Appraising Performance of Knowledge Work
Major Professor(s): Robert Hammond, DBA and Richard Will, Ph.D.

Shriuncate H. Ojah Maharaj, Business Administration
M.A., University of Florida
Dissertation: How can we increase the supply of a variety of low to mid-rise, housing types, (Missing Middle Housing) in walkable urban core neighborhoods?
Major Professor(s): Gert-Jan de Vreede, Ph.D. and Gilbert T. Gonzalez, DBA

David Charles Pickard, Business Administration
Executive M.B.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: An Examination of the Progressive and Regressive Factors That Business Owners Consider When Implementing an Exit Strategy or Not
Major Professor(s): Dahlia Robinson, Ph.D. and Robert Tiller, DBA

Kunal Ashok Shah, Business Administration
M.S., Texas A&M University – Commerce
Dissertation: The Relationship between Ambient Lighting and Hotel Bar Customer Satisfaction and Behavior
Major Professor(s): Anand Kumar, Ph.D. and Richard Plank Ph.D.

Darren William Spencer, Business Administration
M.S., Harvard University, Extension School
Major Professor(s): T. Grandon Gill, DBA and Shivendra Shivendu Ph.D.

Thomas Patrick Stabelein, Business Administration
M.S., University of Maryland
M.B.A., Universit of Maryland
Dissertation: Assessing the Impact of Information Asymmetry on IT Investment Decisions
Major Professor(s): Donald Berndt, Ph.D. and Matthew Mullarkey, Ph.D.

Douglas Arthur Straka, Business Administration
M.B.A., Embry Riddle Aeronautical University
Dissertation: Intercultural Communication
Major Professor(s): Paul Solomon, Ph.D. and Rebecca Smith, DBA

Kevin Clifton Taliaferro, Business Administration
M.S., Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Dissertation: Influencing Gender Specific Perceptions of the Factors Affecting Women's Career Advancement Opportunities in the United States
Major Professor(s): Lisa Gaynor, Ph.D. and John Townsend, DBA

W. James Wilson, Business Administration
M.S., Florida State University
Dissertation: Mottit Cancer Center: Leadership, Culture and Mission
Major Professor(s): Timothy B. Heath, Ph.D. and James Stikleather, DBA

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
Robert Knoeppel, Dean

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
Adel Alshaikh, Second Language Acquisition & Instructional Technology
B.A., King Abdulaziz University
M.A., Colorado State University
Dissertation: The Effects of Using Textual Enhancement on Processing and Learning Multiword Expressions
Major Professor(s): John I. Liontas, Ph.D.

Cynthia Bauman, Educational Leadership
B.A., University of South Florida
M.Ed., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Exploring the ‘Spaces Between’: Teachers' Perceptions of Teacher Leadership Within Professional Networks
Major Professor(s): Judith A. Ponticell, Ph.D.
Jamie Burriss, Curriculum and Instruction
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University
M.Ed., Middle Tennessee State University
Ph.D., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Examining the Relationship Between a Co-Curricular Service-Learning Experience and Moral Competence
Major Professor(s): Thomas Miller, Ed.D.

Miriam Carballo, Curriculum and Instruction
B.S., Florida State University
M.Ed., Florida Agricultural Mechanical University
Dissertation: Teacher Attitude and Self-Efficacy Differences Regarding English Language Learners and Disabled Learners
Major Professor(s): Wayne B. James, Ed.D.

Sarah Dickinson
Major Professor(s): Thomas Miller, Ed.D.

Kimberly Carter, Curriculum and Instruction
B.S., University of South Florida
M.B.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: One University’s Response to Sections 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act: A Descriptive Case Study of Policy Design
Major Professor(s): Judith A. Ponticell, Ph.D. & W. Robert Sullins, Ed.D.

Megan Cross, Curriculum and Instruction
B.A., Cedarville University
M.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Exploring Young Children’s Digital Composing Practices: A Qualitative Study
Major Professor(s): Jolyon Blank, Ph.D.

Ashley Dees, Curriculum and Instruction
B.S., Florida State University
M.S., Florida State University
Dissertation: The Relationship of First Year Student Expectations and Persistence into the Second Year of College
Major Professor(s): Thomas Miller, Ed.D.

Sarah Dickinson, School Psychology
B.S., University of Florida
M.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Smart Start for Trauma: A Multiple Baseline Design
Major Professor(s): Linda Raffaele Mendez, Ph.D. & Heather Agazzi, Ph.D.

Pakethia Harris, Educational Leadership
B.A., University of South Florida
M.A.T., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Money Matters: An Examination of Special Education Characteristics in Efficient and Inefficient Texas School Districts
Major Professor(s): William R. Black, Ph.D.

Sofia Hatziminaidakis, Curriculum and Instruction
B.S., Baruch College
M.S., Brooklyn College
Dissertation: Students’ Opportunity to Learn Surface Area and Volume in Middle Grades Mathematics Textbooks
Major Professor(s): Eugenia Vomvoridi-Ivanovic, Ph.D.

Mollie Headley, School Psychology
B.S., Florida Southern College
Ed.S., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Improving Elementary Students’ Complete Mental Health: Examining the Added Impact of a Teacher-Focused Strengths-Based Intervention
Major Professor(s): Shannon Suldo, Ph.D.

Aisha Holmes, Curriculum and Instruction
B.A., Slippery Rock University
M.Ed., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Learning in the Margins: The Educational Experiences of an African American Male with Disabilities
Major Professor(s): Brenda L. Walker, Ph.D., J.D.

Alisha Hyslop, Curriculum and Instruction
B.S., Florida State University
M.S., Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Major Professor(s): Victor Hernandez, Ph.D. & Liliana Rodriguez, Ph.D.

Roderick Jones, Educational Leadership
B.S., University of South Florida
M.Ed., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Variations in Experience and Meaning: Accounts of Leadership Involvement and Identities with Special Education and Disability
Major Professor(s): Vonzell Agosto, Ph.D. & William Black, Ph.D.

Lisa Lockhart, Curriculum and Instruction
B., University of Nevada, Las Vegas
M.A.T., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Including Children with Learning Differences: Experiences of Independent Prep School Teachers
Major Professor(s): Ann Cranston-Gingras, Ph.D.

Tony Long, Curriculum and Instruction
B.S., Southern Wesleyan University
M.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Perceived Roles of Academic Advisors in Pursuing Internationalization at Public State and Community Colleges in Florida
Major Professor(s): Amber Dumford, Ph.D. & William Young, Ed.D.

Lori Scribner, Curriculum and Instruction
B.S., St. Petersburg College
M.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Peer Mentoring Effect on Student Satisfaction at Two-Year or Less Institutions
Major Professor(s): Johanna Lasonen, Ph.D.

Elizabeth Storey, School Psychology
B.S., University of Mary Washington
M.A., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Early Identification of Students in Accelerated Curricula with Signs of Academic and Emotional Risk: Working with Teachers to Identify At-Risk Students
Major Professor(s): Shannon Suldo, Ph.D.

Ehsan Arabi, Mechanical Engineering
B.S., Sharif University of Technology
M.S., Amirkabir University of Technology
Dissertation: Control of Uncertain Dynamical Systems with Spatial and Temporal Constraints
Major Professor(s): Tansel Yucelen, Ph.D.

Kelly Costello, Civil Engineering
B.S.C.E., University of South Florida
M.S.C.E., University of South Florida
Dissertation: A Theoretical and Practical Analysis of the Effect of Drilling Fluid on Rebar Bond Strength
Major Professor(s): Austin Gray Mullins, Ph.D.

Pacla Diaz, Environmental Engineering
B.A., University of South Florida
M.C.E., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Achieving Resilient Coastal Communities Through Sustainable and Integrated Urban Water Management
Major Professor(s): Daniel H. Yeh, Ph.D.

Joseph Dituri, Biomedical Engineering
B.S.C.E., University of South Carolina
M.S.E., Naval Post Graduate School
Dissertation: Heart Rate Variability Analysis as a Means of Real-Time Hypercapnia Detection
Major Professor(s): Robert Frisina, Ph.D.

Radwan El Zein, Electrical Engineering
B.S., University of South Florida
M.E.E., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Physical Electronic Properties of Self-Assembled 2D and 3D Surface Mounted Metal Organic Frameworks
Major Professor(s): Rudiger Schlaf, Ph.D.

Kayla Ficarrotta, Biomedical Engineering
B.S.E., University of Florida
M.S.E., University of Florida
Dissertation: Aquous Humor Dynamics and the Constant-Pressure Perfusion Model of Experimental Glaucoma in Brown-Norway Rats
Major Professor(s): Christopher Passaglia, Ph.D.

Rekha Govindaraj, Computer Science & Engineering
B.S., Visvesvaraya Technological University
M.Tech., Indian Institute of Technology
Dissertation: Emerging Non-Volatile Memory Technologies for Computing and Security
Major Professor(s): Swaroop Ghosh, Ph.D. & Srinivas Kattioori, Ph.D.

Lukai Guo, Civil Engineering
B.S.C.E., Nanjing Forestry University
M.C.E., University of South Florida
Dissertation: Development of a New Piezoelectric-Based Energy Harvesting Pavement System
Major Professor(s): Qing Lu, Ph.D.

Yongqiang Huang, Computer Science & Engineering
B.S.E.E., Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications
M.S.E.E., North Carolina State University
Dissertation: Learning to Generate Task-Oriented Robotic Manipulation Trajectories from Demonstrations
Major Professor(s): Yu Sun, Ph.D.

Omar Hussain, Civil Engineering
B.S.C.E., Umm Al-Qura University
M.S.C.E., University of Central Florida
Major Professor(s): Xiaopeng Li, Ph.D.
Jesuossa Asirva Jeyaraj, Civil Engineering  
B.S.C.E., Government College of Technology, Coimbatore, Tamilnadu, India  
M.C.E., Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai, India  
Dissertation: Numerical Modeling of Concrete Flow in Drilled Shafts  
Major Professor(s): Austin G. Mullins, Ph.D., PE & Andres Tejada-Martinez, Ph.D.

Denise Lugo Munoz, Electrical Engineering  
B., Universidad Simon Bolivar  
M.E.E., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: Multilayer Dielectric Rod Waveguide and Dielectric Rod Antenna with Enhanced Performance  
Major Professor(s): Thomas M. Weller, Ph.D. & Jing Wang, Ph.D.

Ananya Markandeya, Civil Engineering  
B.S.C.E., Osmania University  
M.S.C.E., University of Florida  
Dissertation: Improving Early-Age Cracking Resilience and Durability of Concrete Elements  
Major Professor(s): A. Zayed, Ph.D.

Dimitrios Menychtas, Biomedical Engineering  
B.S., University of West Attica  
M.S.B.E., University of South Florida  
Major Professor(s): Rajiv Dubey, Ph.D. & Stephanie Carey, Ph.D.

Cara Morton, Civil Engineering  
B.S.C.E., University of South Florida  
M.C.E., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: The Feasibility of High Strength Stainless Steel in Prestressing Applications for Pile Design  
Major Professor(s): Gray Mullins, Ph.D. & Rajan Sen, Ph.D.

Clayton Neff, Mechanical Engineering  
B.S.M.E., University of South Florida  
M.S.M.E., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: Analysis of Printed Electronic Adhesives, Electrical, Mechanical, and Thermal Performance for Resilient Hybrid Electronics  
Major Professor(s): Nathan B. Crane, Ph.D. & Craig Lusk, Ph.D.

Melanie Pickett, Environmental Engineering  
B.S., Florida Gulf Coast University  
M.E.V.E., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: Isolated Cultivation of Algal Resources Utilizing Selectivity (ICARUS): Understanding Membrane Interactions and Mechanisms for Technology Scale-Up  
Major Professor(s): Daniel Yeh, Ph.D.

Christine Prouty, Environmental Engineering  
B.S.E., Louisiana State University  
M.S.E., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: System-Based Approaches to Improving the Adopion, Sustainability, and Transition to an Improved Wastewater Portfolio: A Comparative Analysis of Trips-Down and Bottom-Up Models  
Major Professor(s): Qiong Zhang, Ph.D.

Thilangi Rajaguru Mudiyanaselage, Civil Engineering  
B.S. University of Moratuwa  
M.C.E. University of South Florida  
Major Professor(s): Manjirika Gunaratne, Ph.D.

Soheil Sarmadi, Computer Science & Engineering  
B.S.C.P., Islamic Azad University  
M.C.P., Islamic Azad University  
Dissertation: On the Feasibility of Profiling, Forecasting and Authenticating Internet Usage Based on Privacy Preserving NetFlow Logs  
Major Professor(s): Shiram Chellappan, Ph.D. & Mingyang Li, Ph.D.

Christopher Slater, Environmental Engineering  
B.S.E., Florida Gulf Coast University  
M.C.E., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: A New Model for Vertical Leaksage in Karst Lake Environments  
Major Professor(s): Mark A. Ross, Ph.D., PE

Longfei Wang, Electrical Engineering  
B.S., Southwest Jiaotong University  
M.S.E.E., Texas Tech University  
Dissertation: High Performance Distribution On-Chip Voltage Regulation for Modern Integrated Systems  
Major Professor(s): Selçuk Köse, Ph.D.

Xiaolong Wang, Computer Science & Engineering  
B.S.C.S., Jinan University  
Major Professor(s): Xinning Ou, Ph.D.

COLLEGE OF MARINE SCIENCE  
Jacqueline Dixon, Dean  
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Shuangling Chen, Marine Science  
B.S., Tianjin University of Science and Technology  
Dissertation: Remote Estimation of Surface Water pCO2 in the Gulf of Mexico  
Major Professor(s): Chuanmin Hu, Ph.D.

Michael Drexler, Marine Science  
B.S., University of Massachusetts Dartmouth  
M.S., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: Evaluating the Use of Larval Connectivity Information in Fisheries Models and Management in the Gulf of Mexico  
Major Professor(s): Cameron H. Ainsworth Ph.D.

Alexander Ilich, Marine Science  
B.S., Cornell University  
Dissertation: Integrating Towed Underwater Video with Multibeam Acoustics for Mapping Benthic Habitat and Assessing Reef Fish Communities on the West Florida Shelf  
Major Professor(s): Steven Murawski, Ph.D.

Benjamin Ross, Marine Science  
B.A., Florida Atlantic University  
M.S., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: Dormancy in the Amphistegina gibbosa holobiont: Ecological and Evolutionary Implications for the Foraminifera  
Major Professor(s): Pamela Hallock Muller, Ph.D.

Elizabeth Smith, Marine Science  
B.A., Boston University  
M.S., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: Exploring Variability in Population Dynamics and the Influence of Environmental Factors on Recruitment of an Estuarine Fish  
Major Professor(s): Steven A. Murawski, Ph.D.

Shaojie Sun, Marine Science  
B.S., Shandong University of Science and Technology  
M.S., Nanjing University  
Dissertation: Optical Remote Sensing of Oil Spills in the Gulf of Mexico  
Major Professor(s): Chuanmin Hu, Ph.D.

MORSANI COLLEGE OF MEDICINE  
Charles Lockwood, Dean  
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Jeremy Baker, Medical Sciences  
B.S., University of South Florida  
M.S.M.S., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: Prolyl-Iminase, Cyclophilin 40, Disintegrates Neurotoxic Tau Fibrils  
Major Professor(s): Robert Deschenes, Ph.D. & Laura Blair, Ph.D.

John Canfield, Medical Sciences  
B.S., University of South Florida  
M.S.M.S., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: Investigating the Role of the RNA Binding Protein LIN28 in the Human Placenta: Implications for Preeclampsia  
Major Professor(s): Hana Totary-Jain, Ph.D.

Dylan Finneran, Medical Sciences  
B.S., Eckerd College  
M.S.M.S., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: Proteolysis of CX3CL1 Impacts CX3CR1 Signaling and Therapeutic Benefits in a Tauopathy Model  
Major Professor(s): Kevin Nash, Ph.D. & David Morgan, Ph.D.

Justin Gibbons, Medical Sciences  
B.S., University of Central Florida  
M.S., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: Genomics and Transcriptomic Approaches to Understanding Drug Resistance Mechanisms in the Malaria Parasite Plasmodium falciparum  
Major Professor(s): Rays H.Y. Jiang, Ph.D & Gloria Ferreira, Ph.D.

Ryan Green, Medical Sciences  
B.S., Florida Atlantic University  
M.S.B., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: Actinomyces D and Telbivudarin Combination Therapy Targets Lung Cancer Stem Cells  
Major Professor(s): Subhira Mohapatra Ph.D.

Natasha Guimaraes Alves, Medical Sciences  
B.A., Rutgers University  
M.S.M.S., University of South Florida  
Dissertation: Mechanisms of S1P-Induced Endothelial Barrier Enhancement  
Major Professor(s): Jerome Breslin, Ph.D. & Sarah Yuan, M.D., Ph.D.

Jamie Meegan, Medical Sciences  
B.S., Trine University  
Dissertation: Neutrophil Extracellular Traps and Vascular Barrier Injury  
Major Professor(s): Sarah Yuan, M.D., Ph.D.
Katherine Stanford, Medical Sciences
B.S., University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
M.S., University of South Florida
Dissertation: "Integrative Signaling of Mitochondria, TRPA1 and TRPV1 in Vagal Neurons"
Major Professor(s): Thomas Taylor-Clark, Ph.D.

COLLEGE OF NURSING
Victoria Rich, Dean

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
Genievee Cline, Nursing Science
B.S., Wayne State University
M.S., Wayne State University
DNP, University of South Florida
Dissertation: "Assessing Abstinence in Infants Greater Than 28 Days Old"
Major Professor(s): Denise Maguire, Ph.D.

Dany Fanfan, Nursing Science
B.S., Florida International University
M.S., University of South Florida
Dissertation: "The Role of Migration-Related Stress in Depression Among Haitian Immigrants in Florida: A Mixed Method Sequential Explanatory Approach"
Major Professor(s): Carmen Rodriguez, Ph.D., ANP-BC, AOCN & Maureen Groer, Ph.D., RN, FAAN

Catherine O’Neil, Nursing Science
BSN, University of Massachusetts-Amherst
MSN, University of Phoenix
Dissertation: "The Effects of Depression, Inflammation and Quality of Sleep on the Risk for Cardiovascular Disease"
Major Professor(s): Ponrathi Athilingham Ph.D., ARNP & Kevin Kip, Ph.D.

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE
Melinda Marie Casey, Nursing
B.S.N., University of Central Florida
Doctoral Project: "Improving Procedure Room Turnover Times by Re-engineering the Patient Flow Process within an Outpatient Endoscopy Center"
Major Professor(s): Melanie Michael, DNP, MS, FNP-C, CPHQ, ENAP

Brittany D. Chabalowski, Nursing
B.S.N., Marymount University
M.S.N., University of Phoenix
Doctoral Project: "Clinical Pathways for Oncologic Emergencies"
Major Professor(s): Marcia Johansson, DNP, MS, RN, ACNP-BC

Claudia Clervil, Nursing
B.S.N., Barry University
M.S.N., Nova Southeastern University
Doctoral Project: "Development of an Adult Diabetes Management Protocol for Incarcerated Patients at the Miami-Dade Pre-Trial Detention Center by Using the Diabetic Self-Management Education and Support Program"
Major Professor(s): Marcia Johansson, DNP, MS, RN, ACNP-BC

Noella J Cypress West, Nursing
B.S.N., St. Petersburgh College
M.S.N., University of South Florida
Doctoral Project: "Improving Stroke Patient and Family Education by using F.A.S.T."
Major Professor(s): Marcia Johansson, DNP, MS, RN, ACNP-BC

Kelly Sullivan Darden, Nursing
B.S.N., University of Central Florida
M.S.N., Duke University
Doctoral Project: "Determining the Benefits of Implementation of Patient Centered Medical Homes within Pediatric Primary Care Practices and the Use of External Support"
Major Professor(s): Sharlene Smith, DNP, ARNP, CPNP

Aurore D Dibly-Clark, Nursing
B.S.N., St. Petersburgh College
M.S.N., University of South Florida
Doctoral Project: "Missed Opportunities for Pediatric Immunization: Will a QI Education Project Increase Healthcare Providers' Knowledge of ACIP Guidelines?"
Major Professor(s): Rebecca Lutz, DNP, APRN

Sandria Foster, Nursing
B.S.N., Barry University
M.S.N., Barry University
Doctoral Project: "Diabetes Management Outcomes in the Primary Care Setting"
Major Professor(s): Elizabeth Remo, DNP, ARNP, FNP-BC

Bryan Paul Hunter, Nursing
B.S.N., University of North Dakota
M.S.N., University of Texas
Doctoral Project: "Development of a Specialized Pain Management Program in a Rural Community"
Major Professor(s): John Maye, Ph.D., CAPT (ret)

Katie LaPorta, Nursing
B.S.N., University of Tampa
Doctoral Project: "Determining the benefits of implementation of Patient Centered Medical Homes within Pediatric Primary Care Practices and the Use of External Support"
Major Professor(s): Sharlene Smith, DNP, MS, ARNP, CPNP

Stephanie Mathews-Brashear, Nursing
B.S.N., Florida Gulf Coast University
M.S.N., University of Phoenix
Doctoral Project: "Combatting the Opioid Crisis: A Quality Improvement Educational Initiative Implementing Best Practice for Opioid Therapy to Measure Practice Change in a primary Care Setting"
Major Professor(s): Candace Burns, Ph.D., ARNP

Dayanara M Pena, Nursing
B.S.N., Boston College
M.S.N., University of South Florida
Doctoral Project: "Missed Opportunities for Pediatric Immunization: Will a QI Education Project Increase Healthcare Providers' Knowledge of ACIP Guidelines?"
Major Professor(s): Rebecca Lutz, DNP, APRN

Kadiy Karina Ruder, Nursing
B.S.N., Grand Canyon University
Doctoral Project: "Improving Postoperative Watchman Device education for clinical nurses"
Major Professor(s): Marcia Johansson DNP, ARNP, ACNP-BC

Matthew Stokes, Nursing
B.S., University of Alabama-Huntsville
M.S., Barry University
Doctoral Project: "Integration of Genetics and Genomics Elements in a Graduate Nurse Practitioner Program"
Major Professor(s): John Maye, Ph.D., CAPT (ret)

COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Donna Petersen, Dean

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
Kristin Hall, Public Health
B.S., Clemson University
M.S.P.H., University of South Florida
Dissertation: "Flougraph Models for Clustered Multistate Time to Event Data"
Major Professor(s): Getachew Dagne, Ph.D. & Wei Wang, Ph.D.

Alison Oberne, Public Health
B.A., University of North Florida
M.P.H., University of South Florida
Dissertation: "An Examination of the Relationship Between Health Literacy and Dietary Practices Among College Students: A Test of the Integrated Model of Health Literacy"
Major Professor(s): Cheryl Vamos, Ph.D.

DOCTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH
John Michael Distefano, Public Health
B.A., Ottawa University
M.P.H., New York Medical College
Doctoral Project: "Electrophysiology Education to Maximize Implantable Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy Response"
Major Professor(s): Janice Zgibor, RPh, Ph.D., CPH, FACE

Lea Annette Heberlein-Larson, Public Health
B.S., University of South Florida
M.P.H., University of South Florida
Doctoral Project: "Phylogenetic and Epidemiological Dynamics of Eastern Equine Encephalitis Virus in the Eastern United States and Florida"
Major Professor(s): Thomas Unnasch, Ph.D.

Kimberly Nguyen, Public Health
B.A., Tufts University
M.P.H., Tufts University
M.S., University of Massachusetts
Doctoral Project: "Use of Global Violence Against Children Surveys to Drive Research, Policy, and Prevention"
Major Professor(s): Ronée E. Wilson, Ph.D.

Kimberly Rogers, Public Health
B.S., University of North Carolina
M.P.H., University of South Florida
Doctoral Project: "Developing a Train-the-Trainer Course for Port Health Service Officers at Points of Entry: Course Curriculum, Training Methodologies, and Evaluation"
Major Professor(s): Miguel Reina Ortiz, M.D., Ph.D.

CANDIDATES FOR THE SPECIALIST DEGREE

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
Robert Knoeppel, Dean

EDUCATION SPECIALIST
Curriculum and Instruction, School Psychology
Renee D. Hoopes

Educational Leadership
Harrison A. Peters
# COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Eric Eisenberg, Dean

## MASTER OF ARTS

### Applied Anthropology
- Spencer R. Bockover
- Gennifer Michelle Goad
- Rene D. Herrera
- Sean M. Litteral
- John C. Pendygraft
- Emily Weisenberger
- Justin P. Winn

### Bio-cultural Medical Anthropology
- Donna J. Barth

### Economics
- Patrick Asamoah
- Riccardo O. Gutierrez
- Maksat Jumamyradov
- Lei Lv
- Pavlina Mendlova
- Minglu Sun
- Taiyen Xiao

### English, Literature
- Johanna Katharine Burton

### French
- Mariela Saad-Delgado

### Latin American, Caribbean and Latino Studies
- Sandra V. Wiatrak

### Liberal Arts, Humanities
- Morgan J. Macey

### Library and Information Science
- Jasmine Alvarado
- Marilla D. Andrews
- Stephanie Y. Arizpe
- Dulcy J. Brown
- Charleen E. Bryson
- Susan Busek Busch
- Heather M. Castano
- Piya Chayananwat

### Political Science
- Fatih Aydogan
- Nevzat Torun

### Psychology, Clinical Psychology
- Erica M. Ahlrich
- Brittany M. Lang
- Emily Noyes

### Psychology, Cognition, Neuroscience and Social Psychology
- Joanna R. Lawler

### Psychology, Industrial-Organizational Psychology
- Cheryl E. Gray

### Religious Studies
- Glenn Hand

### Spanish
- Jenny Angelica Caro
- Eileen R. Valdes

### Statistics
- Jinyong Pang

### Women’s and Gender Studies
- Lindsay Firster

### MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

### Public Administration
- Christopher N. Barnes
- Elizabeth A. Bolles
- Jacob R. Dorff
- Rachel Diane Flora
- Mark Daniel Beetz
- David E. Jewett
- Jane Elizabeth Macioci
- Virginia Eunise Serpas
- Virginia Eunise Serpas

### Intelligence Studies, Cyber Intelligence
- Samuel Vincent Barco
- Brian G. Busch
- Jia-Ching Hao
- Mariliese Nicole Ras
- Andrea V. Rivero

### Intelligence Studies, Strategic Intelligence
- Mehkii Alexander
- Mark Daniel Beetz
- Rachel Diane Flora
- David E. Jewett
- Siana G. Pietri
- Shelby Santos
- Jonathan Whiteside

### Physics
- Dean Hobbis

### Physics, Materials Physics
- Richa Pokharel Madhogaria
- Joshua L. Robles

### MASTER OF URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING

### Urban and Regional Planning
- Vanko Antonov
- Corinn Nicole Beem
- Jensen T. Hackett
- Ryan M. McCaffrey
- Anna Adina Parson
- Hanna Kathryn Shaffer
- Shuyu Wang
- Boyang Xi

# COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL AND COMMUNITY SCIENCES

Julianne M. Serovich, Dean

## MASTER OF ARTS

### Applied Behavior Analysis
- Monika Bardzilauskaite
- Sean M. Blumberg
- Taylor Lee Butts
- Sara E. Cademhead
- Tito C. Carril
- Heather Foote
- Alexis J. Martinez
- Kelsey Olivia Bell Myers
- Alixandria Nicole Ratkowski
- Virginia Eunise Serpas
- Sheridan Tihista

### Gerontology
- Amy G. Corbin
- Rachel Hafer
- Denise D. Michaels

### Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling
- Helen A. Apostolatos
- Lynn P. Bartolotta

### Intelligence Studies, Cyber Intelligence
- Samuel Vincent Barco
- Brian G. Busch
- Jia-Ching Hao
- John A. Rappa
- Mariliese Nicole Ras
- Andrea V. Rivero

### Intelligence Studies, Strategic Intelligence
- Mehkii Alexander
- Mark Daniel Beetz
- Rachel Diane Flora
- David E. Jewett
- Siana G. Pietri
- Shelby Santos
- Lauren E. Singer

### Physics
- Dean Hobbis

### Physics, Materials Physics
- Richa Pokharel Madhogaria
- Joshua L. Robles
Asthana Sharma
Sarbjeet Singh

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING**

Parthkumar Rajeshbhai Baraiya
Raghavendra Basavaraj Dheeraj Bendalama
Abhishek Khandu Bonawate Leandro Carvajal
Harikrishnan Damodaran Benjamin G. P. Deaver
Nader El Ahmad Felipe Framil Assumpcao Piyush Guwai
Phulchand Dattatray Gutte Abdulrahman Baraiya Muhammad Afzal
Venkata SRH Nikhil
Cheng-Hsun Lee
Yunhao Li

**MATERIALS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING**

Masters Science and Engineering

Chang-Ming Hung
Shiman Liu
Hanzhong Shi
Menglin Xue

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING**

Mechanical Engineering

Shivaraman Asoda
Varadu N. N. Ananth
Lakshmi
Laura Marie Byrnes-Blanco
Boyan Li
Xuejun Lian
Rajat Mittal
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**MORSANI COLLEGE OF MEDICINE**

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Kimberly Ann Witke

**HEALTH INFORMATICS**

Jonathan Semidey Hurtado

**BIOTECHNOLOGY**

Fatma Alanas Alghamdhi
Jonathan Semidey Hurtado
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.