

Spring 2012

2012 Spring Florida International University Commencement

Florida International University

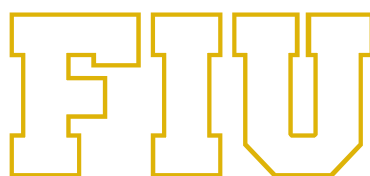
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Commencement

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

U.S. Century Bank Arena
Modesto A. Maidique Campus, Miami, Florida
Monday, April 30, 2012
Tuesday, May 1, 2012

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FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

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

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

FIU has a diverse and nationally celebrated faculty who bring a global perspective to their research and teaching. Our vibrant student body comes from throughout the United States and more than 130 countries. FIU’s worlds ahead alumni have risen to prominence in every field. The university takes full advantage of its ideal location, which serves as a “living laboratory” for many of its programs and offers unparalleled career opportunities. As a public university located in one of the nation’s great cities, FIU offers a combination of vast resources, personal attention and affordability.

The university offers more than 180 baccalaureate, master’s, doctoral and specialist degree programs in its colleges and schools: College of Architecture + The Arts, College of Arts & Sciences, College of Business Administration, College of Education, College of Engineering & Computing, Honors College, College of Law, Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine, College of Nursing and Health Sciences, Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, and Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work.

FIU has more than 46,000 students, 1,000 full-time faculty and more than 160,000 alumni. The university has three campuses: Modesto A. Maidique Campus in western Miami-Dade County; the Biscayne Bay Campus in northeast Miami-Dade County, and the FIU Broward Pines Center, an academic facility in nearby Broward County. The 40-acre Engineering Center, a major research facility, is located near Modesto A. Maidique Campus.

Thanks to the support of the South Florida community, FIU has emerged as a Worlds Ahead leader of higher education, and will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2015.

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Commencement Program
Monday, April 30, 10:00 a.m.

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

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES..... Ali Karayalcin, *Banner Marshal*
UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL..... Sonja Montas-Hunter, *Banner Marshal*
HONORS COLLEGE..... Ruben Garote, *Banner Marshal*
UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION... Hilarion Martinez, *Banner Marshal*
STUDENT AFFAIRS... Elias Bardawil, *Banner Marshal*

PROCESSIONAL Grand Marshal Thomas Breslin, *Chair, Faculty Senate*
Fanfare for the Common Man, Aaron Copland
Pomp and Circumstance, Sir Edward Elgar

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND FIU ALMA MATER..... Evelyn Saavedra *Sophomore, Voice Performance*
The Star-Spangled Banner, Francis Scott Key

CONVENER..... Douglas Wartzok, *Provost and Executive Vice President*

WELCOME AND RECOGNITIONS Mark B. Rosenberg, *President*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MESSAGE..... Jorge L. Arrizurieta, *Member*

SGA MESSAGE..... Patrick O’Keefe, *SGA President, Modesto A. Maidique Campus*
and member, FIU Board of Trustees

CONFERRAL OF HONORARY DEGREE President Rosenberg and Provost Wartzok
Dipak C. Jain, *Doctor of Public Service*

PRESENTATION OF DOCTORAL DIPLOMAS Lakshmi N. Reddi, *Dean, University Graduate School*

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE DIPLOMAS
Narrator Stephen Neal, *Instructor, Department of Theatre*
College of Arts and Sciences Kenneth Furton, *Dean*
University Graduate School..... Lakshmi N. Reddi, *Dean*
Undergraduate Education..... Douglas L. Robertson, *Dean*

CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES..... President Rosenberg

RECESSIONAL



Honorary Degree

Dipak C. Jain
Doctor of Public Service

Dipak C. Jain is the dean of INSEAD in Paris, France, one of the largest and most prominent graduate business schools in the world, and its chaired professor of marketing. A highly regarded champion of spirituality studies, he also is the chair of the Jain Education and Research Foundation, through which he helped establish the perpetual Bhagwan Mahavir Professorship in Jain Studies at FIU.

Prior to being named dean in 2010, Jain was the Sandy and Morton Goldman Professor in Entrepreneurial Studies and a professor of marketing at the Kellogg School of Management, which he joined as a member of the faculty in 1986. From 2001-2009, he served as dean of the Kellogg School, bringing more than 20 years of experience in management and education to his position.

His work as an educator has earned the Indian-born, American-educated scholar (he has a Ph.D. in marketing from the University of Texas) numerous awards. These include the 1995 Sidney Levy Award for Excellence in Teaching, Kraft research professorships in 1989-’90 and 1990-’91 and the 1982 Outstanding Educator Award from the state of Assam in India.

An author with three books and more than 60 articles published in leading academic journals, Jain was appointed a foreign affairs adviser to Thailand’s prime minister in 2003. He also has served as a marketing consultant to worldwide companies such as Microsoft, Sony and Hyatt International.

Commencement Program

Monday, April 30, 3:00 p.m.

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

ROBERT STEMPEL COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL WORK.....Vijaya Narayanan, *Banner Marshal*
COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCESYvonne Parchment, *Banner Marshal*
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES.....William Kurtines, *Banner Marshal*
UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL.....Sheldon Fields, *Banner Marshal*
HONORS COLLEGE.....Mary Lou Pfeiffer, *Banner Marshal*
UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATIONCharlie Andrews, *Banner Marshal*
STUDENT AFFAIRSSofia Santiesteban, *Banner Marshal*

PROCESSIONALGrand Marshal Thomas Breslin, *Chair, Faculty Senate*
Fanfare for the Common Man, Aaron Copland
Pomp and Circumstance, Sir Edward Elgar

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND FIU ALMA MATER.....Vindhya Khare, *Graduate Student, Voice Performance*
The Star-Spangled Banner, Francis Scott Key

CONVENERDouglas Wartzok, *Provost and Executive Vice President*

WELCOME AND RECOGNITIONSMark B. Rosenberg, *President*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MESSAGE.....Albert R. Maury ’96, ’02, *Chairperson*

SGA MESSAGE.....Denise Halpin, *SGA President, Biscayne Bay Campus and Pines Center*
Member, FIU Foundation Board of Directors

CONFERRAL OF FIU MEDALLIONPresident Rosenberg and Provost Wartzok
Kathleen Koernig Blais ’74, M.Ed. ’75, RN, Ed.D.
Outstanding Alumna and University Service

PRESENTATION OF DOCTORAL DIPLOMAS.....Victoria Castellanos, *Associate Dean, University Graduate School*

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE DIPLOMAS
NarratorStephen Neal, *Instructor, Department of Theatre*
Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social WorkMichele Ciccazzo, *Interim Dean*
College of Nursing and Health SciencesOra Strickland, *Dean*
College of Arts and SciencesKenneth Furton, *Dean*
University Graduate School.....Victoria Castellanos, *Associate Dean*
Undergraduate EducationDouglas L. Robertson, *Dean*

CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES.....President Rosenberg

RECESSIONAL



FIU Medallion

Kathleen Koernig Blais ’74, M.Ed. ’75, RN, Ed.D.
Outstanding Alumna and University Service

Professor Emerita Kathleen Blais has had a fruitful relationship with FIU since the university opened in 1972, growing from a student into a dedicated educator in the College of Nursing & Health Sciences and proud lifetime member of the FIU Alumni Association.

Blais first entered FIU as a registered nurse seeking to complete her baccalaureate degree. She then earned a master’s in education to enhance her nursing roles in the Emergency Department at Jackson Memorial Hospital. She returned to FIU in 1983 as a faculty member in the School of Nursing, helping to develop the new undergraduate program in nursing. Throughout her tenure at the university, she held leadership positions including department chair of Adult Gerontologic Nursing, director of the Broward RN/BSN completion program and interim associate dean of Nursing. She also served as vice chairperson of the Faculty Senate and chairperson of the Faculty Senate Budget Committee.

She has received more than \$1 million in grants from governmental agencies and private foundations including the Florida Department of Education to expand the RN/BSN program and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. She also received funds from the Health Resources and Services Administration to provide scholarship support for disadvantaged students, as well as the Hartford Foundation to integrate content on gerontologic nursing into the undergraduate curriculum.

A published author (her *Professional Nursing Practice: Concepts and Perspectives* textbook is used in the United States and abroad), she was named Florida Nurses Association Nurse Educator of the Year in 1995. Blais also received FIU Excellence in Teaching and Advising awards and the 2010 Outstanding Faculty Torch Award. This year, she left retirement to resume teaching in the College of Nursing & Health Sciences.

Commencement Program

Monday, April 30, 7:30 p.m.

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

COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND THE ARTS.....Kathy Dambach, *Banner Marshal*
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES.....Peter Hargitai, *Banner Marshal*
UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL..... Kateel Shetty, *Banner Marshal*
HONORS COLLEGE.....Rachelle Galindo, *Banner Marshal*
UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION.....Maria Kulick, *Banner Marshal*
STUDENT AFFAIRSIvette Duarte, *Banner Marshal*

PROCESSIONAL Grand Marshal Thomas Breslin, *Chair, Faculty Senate*
Fanfare for the Common Man, Aaron Copland
Pomp and Circumstance, Sir Edward Elgar

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND FIU ALMA MATER.....“*Class of 2012 Vocal Ensemble*”:
The Star-Spangled Banner, *Francis Scott Key*
Marlina Diaz-Portorreal, Anjane Girwarr,
Ashely Lewis, Julia Swindoll,
Rebecca Longtemps, Scott Tripp

CONVENER.....Douglas Wartzok, *Provost and Executive Vice President*

WELCOME AND RECOGNITIONSMark B. Rosenberg, *President*

SGA MESSAGE.....Denise Halpin, *SGA President, Biscayne Bay Campus and Pines Center*
Member, FIU Foundation Board of Directors

CONFERRAL OF HONORARY DEGREEPresident Rosenberg and Provost Wartzok
Roger L. Hammer, *Doctor of Science*

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER.....The Honorable Jennifer Carroll, *Lieutenant Governor of Florida*

PRESENTATION OF DOCTORAL DIPLOMAS.....Victoria Castellanos, *Associate Dean, University Graduate School*

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE DIPLOMAS
Narrator.....Stephen Neal, *Instructor, Department of Theatre*
College of Architecture and The Arts Brian Schriner, *Dean*
College of Arts and Sciences Kenneth Furton, *Dean*
University Graduate School Victoria Castellanos, *Associate Dean*
Undergraduate Education Douglas L. Robertson, *Dean*

CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES..... President Rosenberg

RECESSIONAL



Honorary Degree

Roger L. Hammer
Doctor of Science

Native Floridian Roger Hammer has spent more than 30 years earning his nickname “Father Nature,” most recently as a senior interpretive naturalist with the Miami-Dade Parks Department. A former surfer from Cocoa Beach and longtime Homestead resident, he also managed the Castellow Hammock Nature Center until his retirement in 2010.

Over the years, Hammer has led educational initiatives that helped identify and locate rare and endangered plants throughout the Everglades, Big Cypress and the Florida Keys. He spearheaded the creation of a butterfly and hummingbird garden at Castellow Hammock. An avid photographer, author and botanist, he has been instrumental in educating Floridians about “gardening for wildlife” and their natural environment. He has published three well-received and widely used field guides, the most recent of which focuses on the Everglades National Park and its surrounding area.

One of his greatest professional joys has been promoting the South Florida ecosystem, especially that of Castellow Hammock. A natural born storyteller, he loves sharing facts about South Florida’s natural history, flora and fauna with people of all ages, including FIU biology students as a guest lecturer.

Hammer’s service has been recognized by key environmental organizations, such as the Florida Native Plant Society, which gave him the Green Palmetto Award for Education in 2003.



Commencement Speaker

The Honorable Jennifer Carroll
Lieutenant Governor of Florida

As Florida’s 18th lieutenant governor, Jennifer Carroll is the first female and the first African-American elected to that office. To fulfill her duties assisting the governor in matters related to economic development, the Trinidad West Indies-born official draws from her past experience as a seven-year state legislator, a highly decorated Navy veteran and a small business owner.

Carroll also oversees the Florida departments of Military Affairs and of Veterans’ Affairs and is a governor designee on the Florida Defense Support Task Force, as well as chairperson of Space Florida. In her leadership role with the Department of Military Affairs, she routinely visits every military installation in Florida and travels to the nation’s capital to meet with congressional and Pentagon officials to advocate on behalf of Florida’s \$65 billion military economy and defense industry. As chair of Space Florida, she has been instrumental in creating thousands of new private sector space- and aerospace-related jobs.

An entrepreneur, Carroll and her husband established and ran a successful public relations consulting and franchising firm until she was elected to office.

Commencement Program

Tuesday, May 1, 10:00 a.m.

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

COLLEGE OF EDUCATIONCharles Bleiker, *Banner Marshal*
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTING.....Stavros Georgakopoulos, *Banner Marshal*
UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL.....SS Iyengar, *Banner Marshal*
HONORS COLLEGE..... Miranda Parvis, *Banner Marshal*
UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATIONHugo Jimenez, *Banner Marshal*
STUDENT AFFAIRS..... Ana Sippin, *Banner Marshal*

PROCESSIONAL.....Grand Marshal Thomas Breslin, *Chair, Faculty Senate*
Fanfare for the Common Man, Aaron Copland
Pomp and Circumstance, Sir Edward Elgar

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND FIU ALMA MATER.....Katherine P. Smith, *Master of Music, Voice Performance*
The Star-Spangled Banner, Francis Scott Key

CONVENER..... Douglas Wartzok, *Provost and Executive Vice President*

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

SGA MESSAGEDenise Halpin, *SGA President, Biscayne Bay Campus and Pines Center*
Member, FIU Foundation Board of Directors

CONFERRAL OF FIU MEDALLION.....President Rosenberg and Provost Wartzok
Milagros Fornell ’77, MS ’84, *Outstanding Alumna*

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE DIPLOMAS
Narrator.....Stephen Neal, *Instructor, Department of Theatre*
College of Education..... Delia C. Garcia, *Dean*
College of Engineering and Computing Amir Mirmiran, *Dean*
University Graduate School... Lakshmi N. Reddi, *Dean*
Undergraduate Education Douglas L. Robertson, *Dean*

CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES..... President Rosenberg

RECESSIONAL



FIU Medallion

Milagros Fornell ’77, MS ’84
Outstanding Alumna

Milagros Fornell is a longtime educator who has had a powerful impact on her community, students, parents and peers since her first day as a teacher at McMillan Junior High in 1978.

The 1983 McMillan Mathematics Teacher of the Year went on to chair the Math Department at Hammocks Junior High School and was selected Miami-Dade County Public Schools’ (MDCPS) Teacher of the Year in 1984.

Today, she is MDCPS associate superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction, a position to which she was promoted in 2009 after almost five years holding numerous leadership titles within the county. Among her many achievements in this role is the increase of participation and performance of MDCPS students in Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment courses.

Throughout her career, Fornell has served as regional curriculum coordinator, school-site administrator and regional administrator. Her commitment to education has earned her recognitions including the 1998 South Florida Phi Beta Kappa Superior High School Principal award and Student Services Principal of the Year and Region VI Principal of the Year honors for 2001.

Commencement Program

Tuesday, May 1, 3:00 p.m.

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

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION..... Gerard Klonarides, *Banner Marshal*
HONORS COLLEGE..... David Aviles, *Banner Marshal*
UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION Janie Valdes, *Banner Marshal*
STUDENT AFFAIRS..... Amanda Niguidula, *Banner Marshal*
UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES..... ZhaoHui Fu, *Banner Marshal*

PROCESSIONAL..... Grand Marshal Thomas Breslin, *Chair, Faculty Senate*
Fanfare for the Common Man, Aaron Copland
Pomp and Circumstance, Sir Edward Elgar

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND FIU ALMA MATER..... Sarah Payne, *Sophomore, Voice Performance*
The Star-Spangled Banner, Francis Scott Key

CONVENER..... Douglas Wartzok, *Provost and Executive Vice President*

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

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MESSAGE..... Mayi de la Vega, *Member*

SGA MESSAGE Denise Halpin, *SGA President, Biscayne Bay Campus and Pines Center*
Member, FIU Foundation Board of Directors

CONFERRAL OF FIU MEDALLION President Rosenberg and Provost Wartzok
Josefina Cagigal, *University Service*

PRESENTATION OF UNDERGRADUATE DIPLOMAS
Narrator.....Stephen Neal, *Instructor, Department of Theatre*
R. Kirk Landon Undergraduate School of Business Joyce Elam, *Executive Dean*
Undergraduate Education Douglas L. Robertson, *Dean*

CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES..... President Rosenberg

RECESSIONAL



FIU Medallion

Josefina Cagigal
University Service

The work that Josefina Cagigal has produced as director of the FIU Office of Protocol and Special Events should be familiar to anyone who has attended a major event on campus, including these Commencement ceremonies.

A Cuban native, Cagigal first joined FIU in 1994 as director of operations for the Office of the President. Four years later, she became the founding director of the Office of Community Relations, now known as Protocol and Special Events. Fluent in English, Spanish and French, Cagigal has acted as the university’s honorary diplomat in residence for almost 20 years.

In her role, she has planned, managed and executed momentous events such as Freshman and Faculty convocations and Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine’s White Coat ceremonies; and the Conference for the Council of Urban and Metropolitan Universities (CUMU). Her portfolio also includes the visits of high-profile dignitaries such as His Holiness the Dalai Lama and that of international presidents and prime ministers.

Every time the university has broken ground on a new project – as it did on the School of International & Public Affairs in 2008 – or celebrated the opening of a new structure on or off campus, such as the FIU Downtown on Brickell opening and FIU CARTA Miami Beach Studios, Cagigal was there ensuring every detail ran smoothly.

A proud lifetime member of the FIU Alumni Association, she has bore witness to the growth of the university, helping to shape FIU into the Worlds Ahead institution it has become.

Commencement Program

Tuesday, May 1, 7:30 p.m.

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

SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION..... Neil Reisner, *Banner Marshal*
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION..... Annabelle Rojas, *Banner Marshal*
CHAPLIN SCHOOL OF HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM MANAGEMENT..... Jinlin Zhao, *Banner Marshal*
UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL..... Juliana Fernandes, *Banner Marshal*
HONORS COLLEGE..... Fred Blevens, *Banner Marshal*
UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION... .. Leslie Richardson, *Banner Marshal*
STUDENT AFFAIRS... .. Kristen Kawczynski, *Banner Marshal*

PROCESSIONAL..... Grand Marshal Thomas Breslin, *Chair, Faculty Senate*
Fanfare for the Common Man, Aaron Copland
Pomp and Circumstance, Sir Edward Elgar

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND FIU ALMA MATER..... Michelle Kemp, *Graduate Student, Voice Performance*
The Star-Spangled Banner, Francis Scott Key

CONVENER..... Douglas Wartzok, *Provost and Executive Vice President*

WELCOME AND RECOGNITIONS Mark B. Rosenberg, *President*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MESSAGE..... Jorge L. Arrizurieta, *Member*

SGA MESSAGE Denise Halpin, *SGA President, Biscayne Bay Campus and Pines Center*
Member, FIU Foundation Board of Directors

CONFERRAL OF FIU MEDALLION President Rosenberg and Provost Wartzok
Don V. Browne, *Cal Kovens Distinguished Community Service Award*

PRESENTATION OF DOCTORAL DEGREES Victoria Castellanos, *Associate Dean, University Graduate School*

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE DIPLOMAS
Narrator..... Stephen Neal, *Instructor, Department of Theatre*
Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work Michele Ciccazzo, *Interim Dean*
College of Nursing and Health Sciences..... Ora Strickland, *Dean*
Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management..... Mike Hampton, *Dean*
University Graduate School..... Victoria Castellanos, *Associate Dean*
Undergraduate Education Douglas L. Robertson, *Dean*

CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES..... President Rosenberg

RECESSIONAL



FIU Medallion

Don V. Browne
Cal Kovens Distinguished Community Service Award

A journalist and television executive with more than four decades of experience, Don Browne is a media consultant and former president of the Telemundo Communications Group, an NBCUniversal (NBCU) property. Under his leadership, Telemundo transformed into an original content producer and one of the world’s leading distributors. He also spearheaded a historic partnership with Televisa and opened Telemundo’s headquarters and news bureau in Mexico City. As the executive vice president of NBC News, he led the Today Show and Nightly News to their No. 1 positions in network news ratings.

A longtime mentor and advocate of Hispanics in media, Browne created Taller Telemundo, a successful educational program that recruits and develops up-and-coming Latino actors and writers. His advocacy and understanding of the power of U.S. Hispanics led to the network-wide, national launch of the Hazte Contar! (Be Counted!) initiative to increase awareness of the 2010 census.

Closer to home, the Miami Beach resident facilitated a partnership between Telemundo and the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at FIU to establish the innovative Hispanic Media Futures program to train future Hispanic journalists and communicators.

A Peabody- and Emmy-winning member of the Broadcasting and Cable Hall of Fame, Browne is the co-founder of the Women of Tomorrow Mentor and Scholarship Program for at-risk high school girls and a charter member of NBCU’s Taskforce on Diversity.

An Academic Tradition

Michael J. Wagner, Ph.D., Retired Professor of Music Education

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

The Chain of Office

The University President is the ceremony’s convener and chief presider at the commencement ceremonies. The great chain, which is the FIU chain of office, is displayed on stage. This ancient symbol is perhaps the most beautiful and artistic of any of the accoutrements of the ceremony. During the Renaissance, holders of very high office sometimes wore a chain as a symbol of their authority. FIU’s chain is made of sterling silver and its designs are cast, cut and etched. The center medallion represents the world and is surrounded by sea shells cast from an actual shell. Reflecting the university and the South Florida area are the eight ovals which make up the chain. Each link is connected by a shell motif and exemplifies a specific entity: 1) the University Park tower, 2) the Vrana sculpture over the entrance of Primera Casa, and 3) the Torch of Friendship. The others represent the five original schools in the FIU community: Arts and Sciences, Business, Education, Hospitality Management, and Engineering. Inscribed upon four of the medallions are the names and dates of tenure of FIU presidents — Charles Perry, Harold Crosby, Gregory Wolfe, Modesto A. Maidique. The chain was designed by Dr. Clem Pennington, associate professor of art education, now retired, and executed in 1977 by Leo Shirker, a Miami goldsmith, art teacher and FIU alumnus.

The Mace

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

Music

Music plays an important role in the commencement experience. The commencement procession begins with the playing of Aaron Copland’s Fanfare for the Common Man. It is followed by the familiar Pomp and Circumstance March #1, by Sir Edward Elgar. This march, one of a set of five Pomp and Circumstance marches by Elgar, is traditionally played at commencement ceremonies throughout the United States, and many places around the world. It has come to symbolize the commencement experience. After the processional, and after the academic body is assembled, our national anthem, The Star Spangled Banner, is played. The National Anthem is followed by the FIU Alma Mater, a piece of FIU symbolism composed by Clair McElfresh of the FIU Music faculty, former dean of undergraduate studies, and now retired.

Marshals

The leader of the academic procession is the Grand Marshal. At FIU, this prestigious honor goes to the chairperson of the Faculty Senate, which is the democratic collegial governance body of the faculty. You will notice that as the Grand Marshal processes, the mace (a formidable weapon) is held at port arms, the ready position for quick protection. Faculty and student marshals have been elected to lead candidates for graduation from each of the university’s schools and colleges.

The Dais Party

The Dais Party is also known as the Platform Party. This group is composed of the university’s administrative leaders and very special guests. The Dais Party enters the hall before the faculty and proceeds directly to stage. At the end of the processional, the Grand Marshal declares the proceedings open, and the ceremony moves forward.

Academic Regalia

The tradition of wearing distinctive academic attire at commencement ceremonies originated in Europe in the twelfth century. However, gowns and capes had been worn by clerics and ecclesiastics even before that date. A heavy black or brown gown was apparently worn at all times. Hoods and capes were also a necessity during the long, cold European winters because the buildings in which scholars lived, studied and taught were cold and drafty. When not being used to provide warmth, hoods and baggy sleeves served the same purpose as do today’s pockets. Often a crust of bread or some cheese were tucked away in them for sustenance on a long journey. The academic costume at English universities (from which many of our American commencement traditions originate) can be traced as far back as the middle of the fourteenth century, to the time

An Academic Tradition continued

when scholars were rebuked that a decent habit was to be worn (Statutes of Peterhouse, 1344). This document further prescribed the code of dress for university teachers of that era. In a 1432 statute, students and even doctors of theology were restricted to bunge and sad-colored habits. The robes of master were to be flowing and reach the ankles. In an order dated 1358, tailors were admonished not to stint the robes, which should be argae et talares, because clerks (of whom scholars were one type) should be distinguished from the laity. A few universities still require students and faculty to wear a short gown both on and off the university campus. Oxford, Cambridge and some Scottish universities maintain this custom. The faculties of American universities have worn academic garb for commencement ceremonies since the beginning of the system. For almost 250 years, each university chose its own costume until it was realized that in 1896 an event unique in history would be taking place. This was the simultaneous celebrations of the 250th anniversary of Harvard University and the 500th anniversary of Heidelberg University. Because of this unique circumstance, the Intercollegiate Bureau of Academic Costume was opened in 1895 to record the distinctive colors of institutions, their arrangement, the particulars of gowns, hoods and caps, as well as information pertaining to academic ceremonies. At that time, an American code of academic dress was agreed upon to which we adhere today with few modifications. Since Spring 2011, FIU has selected to use earth-friendly academic regalia for undergraduate and graduate students. The fabric is manufactured from molten plastic pellets recycled from approximately 23 water bottles and feels like traditional fabric. This initiative underlines FIU’s commitment to sustainability.

Gowns

Academic gowns of today are most easily identified by the distinctive style of their sleeves. The bachelor’s gown is worn closed and its sleeves are long, open and pointed. The master’s gown can be worn either open or closed, and has long distinctive sleeves which are closed, with a slit near the elbow to free the hand and forearm. These pointed sleeves hang down from the elbow to below the hand. The doctor’s gown can be worn either opened or closed, and has five inches of velvet trim down both front edges, and three velvet chevrons on each sleeve. The velvet trim may be either black or the color of the discipline in which the degree is granted. The sleeves are closed and bloused.

Hoods

Probably the greatest degree of symbolism is expressed with the academic hood. Those who hold bachelor’s degrees and participate in commencement sometimes wear a hood. Candidates for the bachelor’s degree do not. The bachelor’s hood is black and is three-feet long, with a two-inch velvet border in the color of discipline in which the degree is awarded. The master’s hood is also of black material, and is three-and-one-half feet long with a three-inch velvet border in the color of the discipline. It is lined with the colors of the institution conferring

the degree. The doctor’s hood is four-feet long, has a five-inch velvet border in the the color of the discipline, and is lined with the colors of the institution granting the degree.

Caps

Traditionally, the Oxford style square cap is considered proper headdress. In recent times, however, it has become stylish to wear a soft cap of either square or octagonal shape. All graduates wear a tassel over the left side of the cap. Bachelor’s and master’s tassels may be black or the color of the academic discipline, while doctor’s tassels are always gold.

These are by no means all of the styles or accoutrements worn as academic dress. Indeed, in South American, Spanish and Dutch universities, the academic attire can be likened to plumage. It is not uncommon to see brightly colored gowns adorned with ermine and other furs, flowing capes, and caps trimmed with beads or tassels. Some universities in South America even add Indian feathers to the headdress, in honor of the Inca Indians. At Florida International University, whose colors are blue and gold, the traditional colors of the disciplines are:

FIU traditional tassel colors, according to college/school are:

School of Architecture and The Arts	
— Architecture	Blue Violet
— Music	Pink
— The Arts	White
College of Arts and Sciences	White
— Public Administration	Peacock Blue
— Criminal Justice	Peacock Blue
College of Business Administration	Drab
College of Education	Light Blue
College of Engineering and Computing	Orange
Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management	Navy Blue
School of Journalism and Mass Communication	Crimson
College of Nursing and Health Sciences	
— Nursing	Apricot
— Health Sciences	Green
Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work	
— Public Health	Salmon
— Social Work	Citron
Honors College	Gold

State of Florida

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- The Honorable Jennifer Carroll, *Lieutenant Governor*
- The Honorable Pam Bondi, *Attorney General*
- The Honorable Jeff Atwater, *Chief Financial Officer*
- The Honorable Adam Putnam, *Commissioner*

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Florida International University

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Florida International University

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The Honors College

Graduates of the Honors College have had the opportunity to work with some of the University’s most outstanding faculty members in a program of excellence in academics, personal development, and service. The College boasts faculty from a wide array of academic disciplines and students from 80 different nations and states. The Honors College provides top students with an interdisciplinary education that complements their major fields and prepares them to compete in the workplace or for graduate or professional school placement after graduation.

Created as a program in 1990, the College has grown to include over a thousand students and forty-three faculty members in an exciting and challenging academic environment. The Honors College now provides a full range of opportunities and support activities for its students, including study abroad courses, individual advising, research and internship programs, and service opportunities. The heart of the college is its creative and supportive community.

The Curriculum
Honors seminars are unique classes that assure a challenging thread winds through the undergraduate experience of all students in the College, regardless of major. Every semester Honors College students take an interdisciplinary honors seminar. Most are team-taught by three to four

members of the Honors faculty. Students and faculty members meet each week for large group lectures, panel discussions, student presentations and films; they also meet weekly in small discussion sessions to analyze reading assignments and to elaborate on issues raised during the large group. Students thus have the opportunity to work closely with one faculty member, while learning from several in their large group, from the earliest point in their studies. Third and fourth year students take advanced trans-disciplinary seminars and/or study abroad trips or participate in research.

The Students
Students chosen for the College are excellent students capable of performing well in the rigorous Honors curriculum as well as in their other course work. Since the “ideal” Honors student should be active in the community and seeks out challenges both academically and personally, emphasis is placed on letters of recommendation, a personal essay, and the breadth of the student’s experiences.

The success of these graduates of the Honors College is yet another example of Florida International University’s continuing commitment to providing an exceptional undergraduate education for its students.

The Honors College Graduates

Diego Abaroa	Astrid Dalmady	Vanessa Grijalba	Daylena Montano	Maria Santana
Gabriela Abascal	Caitlin Daniels	Kimberly Harvey	Jessica Napuri	Maray Santin
Krizia Acosta	Yanel Delossantos	Pablo Haspel	Christina Olivos	Belinda Sardinas
Arnedith Adarmes	Warren Desouza	Priscilla Henry	Shamira Oneal	Luis Saumellsanmartin
Graciela Aguero	Lynn Diptee	Shayna Hudson	James Ortega	Kristen Schmidt
Juan Alonso	Shanell Disla	Stephanie Hussaini	Remin Ozbay	Christopher Silva
Walter Alves	Alina Dorrego	Jessica Iquique	Marlene Palomo	Stephanie Simeon
Armando Amin III	Peter Dorschner	Mais Kayyali	Dale Parsan	Humberto Solanocosta
Maximilian Appelt	Nardo Dorsin	Tiffany Kilby	Rita Pereyra	Caroline Spitzer
Kristina Artigas	Sonja Drydal	Kelly Knight	Jose Perez	Nataly Suarez
Kristina Bado	Aldo Enderica	Mirella Larocerie Joyce	Pedro Perez	Alondra Torresaponte
Renzo Barrantes	Edgar Fernandez	Michael Leduc	Rachel Persaud	Nicole Valderrama
Zaimat Beiro	Veronica Fernandez	James Lee	Diana Petruk	Oscar Valdes
Augusto Bejar	Barquin	Michael Lopez	Caterina Pette	Roberto Valdes
Francisco Brenes	Elizabeth Figueroa	Stefan Mahabir	Kathleen Pfahlert	Karin Vallega
Daniel Bressner	Chelsea Franco	Lorette Malik	Allen Pierrelouis	Yvette Vega
Areej Bukhari	Anthony Fulchi	Maegan Marquez	Andrew Podley	Matias Vidret
Stephanie Cabrera	Brian Garbarz	Darlanne Martinez	Michelle Porter	Katharine Villalobos
Claudia Campos	Denise Garcia	Cailun McCarty	Laura Rodriguez	Beverly Virues
Katie Campos	Jose Garcia	Trudy McLeary	Yorlenis Rodriguez	Linda Ward
Christopher Caproni	Jesica Geevarghese	Dana Mekler	Alexander Rojas	Farida Wazidali
Michelle Castillo	Agostina Giobio	Octavio Mella	Cesar Rojas	Brooke Wertman
Stephanie Chenyin	Darlen Gonzalez	Anna Mendez	Luis Rojas	Marien Yanes
Michelle Cole	Lara Gonzalez	Gabriela Mendez	Maria Rojo	
Andres Cordova	Lauren Gonzalez	Michael Mesa	Corey Ryan	
Ryan Cruz	Patricia Gonzalez	Prince Mikado	Alexander Sanchez	
Stephanie Cruz	Shelly Gonzalez	Alexander Monciombaez	Alexis Sanchez	



Council for Student Organizations’ Honor Societies

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

PHI BETA KAPPA

Natalia Álvarez
Gabriela Abascal
Krizia D. Acosta
Graciela K. Aguero
Claudia V. Balzan
Zaimat Beiro
Augusto Bejar
Cinthia Benitez
Eric Taylor Betancourt
Stephanie Tania Bowles
Daniel Steven Bressner
Giovanni Bruna
Areej Fatima Bukhari
Amber Lyn Byrne
Ashley Navitte Carreras
Nicole Alexandra Cedeño
Yasmin Nour Chebbi
Nina Mari Crutchfield
Astrid Dalmady
Joseph Michael Di Lascio
Patricia Dinardi
Peter Bjorkman Dorschner
Jonas Emilsson
Leah Nicole Davis Ewart
Anna Rosa Ferrer
Jesica Marie Geevarghese
Patricia Margarita Gonzalez
Yoel A. Gonzalez
Shayna Krystal Hudson
Jay Phillip Jefferson
Betsy Wheeler Johnson
Vanessa Marie Layne
Priscilla Macias
Dayanna Machado
Carmen Deisy Manresa
Trudy C. McLeary
Julia Marie Mohler
Nataly Mojena
Dana Mekler
Kristen Marie Navarro
Steven Michael Ocampo
Christina Danielle Olivos

Isabella Gabrielle Ong
Jessica Michelle Orozco
James Richard Ortega
Alexandra V. Ortiz-López
Rita F. Pereyra
Ana Cristina Perez
Glauco Antonio Puig-Santana
Gisel Rodriguez
Alexander Frederick Rojas
Lauren Ashley Rovira
Karina Gabriela Ruiz
Audrey-Jade Salbo
Renata F. Santeli
Maray Santin
Jason Robert Satterfield
James R. Savage III
Stephanie B. Sigler
Natalia Sigmund
Sean Bradley Smith
Thanya Maria Smith
Sean S. Stewart
Federica Tentor
Liset Torres
Rina Tsohn
Nicole Valderrama
Yvette Vega
Rachel Velázquez
Nicholas Ryan Wels

ALPHA EPSILON DELTA

Gabriela Abascal
Andy Araujo
Francisco Brenes
Gretel Carmenate
Catherine Cepeda
Yanel De Los Santos
Simone Higgins
Leslie Leal
Juan Mendez
Jairo Mercedes
Jessica Napuri
Lissette Pola
Javier Sanchez

Janis Verwey

ALPHA ETA MU BETA

Karen De la Pena
Fernando Rea
Andrew K. Musto
Reynier Santos
Kathryn N Tracy
Kamau Pierre
Caterina Pette
Mohammed Goryawala
Michael Prieto

ALPHA KAPPA DELTA

Patricia Dinardi
Jay Phillip Jefferson
Guillermo De Nacimineto III

ALPHA MU ALPHA

Jose Arredondo
Blaine Zachary Chetram
Andres Estevez
Marc Fernandez
Karina Jimenez
Erik R. Maguina Molina
Kristina Menendez
Alyssa Mosher
Alyssa Perez
Jenique Smith
Katharina Warzel

ALPHA PHI SIGMA

Christopher Perez
Kaylan Pereira
Dayli Avila
Nestor Reyes
Rubens Severe
Kristina Michelle Artigas
Allison Bendana
Tatiana Benitez

DELTA EPSILON IOTA

Maya Alexis

Mushira Ali
Zahra Arbabi Aski
Camila Arteaga
Jackeline Aycardi
Carolina Barrientos
Maria Isabel Bendixen
Natalie Blasco
Melissa Cabrera
Orlando Cajamarca
Heather Carter
Rodica Nastasa Charles
Karla Cortez
Mya Cramer
Yanel De los Santos
Naima Makeda de Windt
Annie Diaz
Maritza Diaz
Brigitte Duenas
Evenson Dufour
Keiliss Echemendia
Jacqueline Escobar
Jacqueline Vanessa Escobar
Jacqueline Gretchen Marie Failer
Alejandra Fernandez-Baca
Jesus Garcia
Betsabe N. Garrammone
Patricia Margarita Gonzalez
Yoel Gonzalez
Amanda Gonzalez
Shannon Green
Brittney Gursky
Amelia Gutierrez
Monica Hendrickson
Thais Hernandez
Ronald Jarquin
Marcia Jones
Alexandra Rae Kaplan
Jennifer Lancet
Sarah Lewis
Katerina Nicole Martinez
Walter Ruben Martinez
Celia Martinez
Abigail McClain

Council for Student Organizations’ Honor Societies *(continued)*

Maria B. Medal
Stephanie Miranda
Brianna Moc
Andrew Musto
Kremena Nikolova
Gissela Novoa
Milton Ojeda
Marie Astrid Olivas
Catherine L. Pantelakos
Mauricio Pelaez
Kevin Perez
Claudia Perez
Anggela Carolina Pimentel
Warstonh
Anthea Pitysingh
Ashley Pumares
Raul Quintana Selleras
Erika Yahaira Quiones
Lilliam Quiones
Alice Ramos
Fernando Rea
Natalie Ann Rodriguez
Andrea Roofe Sattlethight
Carla A. Russo
Lisa Sakowitz
Nelson Salgado
Martha Lorena Sanchez Rivera
Maray Santin
Reynier Santos de Armas
Rubens Severe
Victor Sierra
Natalia Sigmund
Chelsey Annette Smith
Thanya Smith
Krysten W. Smith
Orlando Soto
Darcel Taylor
Amanda Torres
Kathryn Tracy-Parrilla
Ramiro Valdes
Jenny Valencia
Vanessa Vaquer
Melanie Vega
Myrlyn Verdelus
Amanda Vilain
Katharine Villalobos
Alessandra Villaraos
Estrella Viniachi
Vahinerii Nancy Vongue
Ramone Walker

Kelsey-Lynce Ward
Janay Waters
Heather Wright
Wanhua Yang

GAMMA EPSILON PHI
Kristina Artigas
Rachel Sarika Persaud
Cesar Andres Rojas
Yanel De los Santos
Rubens Severe

GOLDEN KEY

Ethelence O. Aburto
Natalia Alvarez
Shadae Anderson
Bridgette Marie Arias
Camila Arteaga
Kathlene Ayala
Jackeline Aycardi
Norka Balboa
Tiara Ball
Carolina Barrientos
Zaimat Beiro
Ashley Benitez
Andrea Blanco
Natalie Blasco
LeAnne Bobo
Stephanie Bowles
Hassien Branch
Melissa Cabrera
Michelle Castillo
Rosemary Cervera
Maribel Chaluja
Rodica Nastasa Charles
TingJun Chen
Mara Rosa Collazo Sueiras
Rosa Cristina Corrales Rodriguez
Guillermo De Nacimiento
Naima de Windt
Mariangela Del Bianco
Rosalin Delgado
Patricia Dinardi
Aida Maria Echazabal
Juan Estremera
Jacqueline Gretchen Marie Failer
Yanella Gilbert
Agostina Giobio
Lauren Gonzalez
Patricia Margarita Gonzalez

Shelly Gonzalez
Marcynth Hall
Pablo Haspel
Monica Hendrickson
Michelle Hernandez
Thais Hernandez
Shayna Hudson
Yanetsy Iturralde
Sandy Jean-Louis
Jay Phillip Jefferson
Marcia Jones
Chizette Kremer
Jennifer Lancet
Didier Ledain
Dale Lewis
Dayanna Machado
Melissa Martinez
Walter R Martinez
Indira Mato
Maria B. Medal
Casandra Mejias
Dana Mekler
Carlos Mendoza
Kristina Menendez
Brianna Moc
Nataly Mojena
Freddy Morales
Colleen Neubert
Nheoma Ogali
Mary-Eugenia Olivera
Tesi Pelaez
Zandra B. Puente
Elise Puma
Ashley Pumares
Raul Quintana-Selleras
Lilliam Quiones
Robert S. Rivera
Julian Rojas
Maria Nubia Rojo
Nelson Salgado
Ximena Tafur Salgado
Colleen Saunders
April Schantz
Bertamaria Shaheen
Vanquilla Shellman
Victor Sierra
Natasha Simoes Batista
Thanya Smith
Annie Soto
Gino Tabet

Xinyu Tian
Amanda Torres Mendez
Amanda Tristan
Daniel Velastegui
Viviana Villamizar
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Juliana Encarnacao
Maximilian Kalinowski
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Benjamin Weckerle

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Julie-Ann Elaine Burton
Lisa Maria Cavallo
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Renalta D’net Fleming
Merry Christine Haislip
Charlie Channell Holliday
Kate Nichole Jochimsen
Anthony Vincent Salvaggio
Nicolette Annette Stallworth

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Vanessa Arrua
Michele Artiz
Yoany Barcelo
Jennifer Barnes
Eric Caines
Stephanie Chavez
Alianny Cobas
Vanessa Corujo
Christina Enriquez
Elizabeth Gandia
Jennifer Gonzalez
Emilia Gutierrez
Jennifer Jimenez
Brittni Knowles
Elizabeth Ledesma
Amanda Lora
Iris Ramos
Lisa Sakowitz
Ingrid Sibila
Lourdes Sotolongo

Council for Student Organizations’ Honor Societies (continued)

LAMBDA ALPHA
Rosalyn Delgado
Guillermo De Nacimiento

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF
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Gabriela Abascal
Zahra Arbabi Aski
Kristina Michelle Artigas
Deriz Baez
Veronica Helena Fernandez-

Barquin
Carolina Barrientos
Odette Barrientos
Ana Bush
Janelle Capo
Maribel E. Chaluja
TingJun Chen
Lindsay Compton
Jerel David
Shanell Disla
Jean Stephane Elie
Kali Galvan
Jasmy Garbalosa
Dayana Garcia
Edna Gonsales
Patricia Margarita Gonzalez
Luis Roberto Herrera
Jay Phillip Jefferson
Mais Kayyali
Nimat Lalani
Afya Matthews
Robert Michael Molina
Carla A. Russo
Tatiana Valencia

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LAMBDA CHI
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Omar Carcamo
Kidon Craig
Jose De La Torre
Armando Del Busto
Natalia Escobar
Sergio Figueredo
Jason Gomez
Karim Hazzi
Johnny Ho
Robayna Ana Laura
Jeremy Jelonek
Zach Nelson

Randy Ramirez
Michael Valdes

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Donovan Dawson
Laura Espinosa
Allen Feliz
Kimberly Harvey
Octavio Mella
Stephanie Suarez

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Michael Alvarez
Aimee Bojorquez
Diane Benitez
Kelly Day
Marcos De La Rosa
Miguel De La Rosa
Mauricio Escarra
Eduardo Jose Gloria
Claire E. Hutchins
Sophia G. Iglesias
Evelyn Marte
Mallika Muthiah
Maria Cristina Ramirez
Elida Reyes
Annie Barbara Soto
Leah Valenzuela
Diana Young

PI DELTA PHI
Azadeh Peykani

PHI KAPPA PHI
Ashley Pumares

PI SIGMA ALPHA
Kristina Bado
Daniel Bressner
Saul Canelo
Caitlin Daniels
Jimmy Daniels
Carlos Diaz
Gavin McLean
Felix Reyes
Maggie Riquelme
Amanda Torres
Kelsey-Lynnee V. Ward

PSI CHI
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Carolina Barrientos
Andrea Blanco
Mauricio Borda
Amber Byrne
Ashley Carreras
Leslie Chacko
Jocelin I. Chiu
Carmen Corea
Cindy De La Cruz
Naima De Windt
Samantha DuBarry
Jacqueline Escobar
Alejandra Fernandez-Baca
Sarah Feliu
Brittney Gursky
Ingrid Gonzalez
Giovanni Gonzalez
Lauren Elyse Hayes
Jay Phillip Jefferson
Illiana Lourdes Jimenez
Jennifer Lancer
Brenda Machin
Brandy Sky Martinez
Janette Mendez
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Laurny Morrison
Paula Nunez
Nina Polini
Amanda Rodriguez
Gisel Rodriguez
Natalie A. Rodriguez
Luis Rojas
Leticia Salazar
Carla Samudio
Natalia Sarabia
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Daniella Stroppa
David Tacoronte
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Katrina Varela
Nilian Varela
Diana Vergara
Jasmine Elisa Villacis

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Veronica H. Fernandez-Barquin
Shayna K. Hudson
Marie K. Moorman
Hali E. Neal
Sadia H. Patel
Michelle Perez
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Jasmine E. Villacis

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Sabrina Herzong
Ramiro Gonzalez Lorca
Dana Mekler
Karen Slosaski
Daniela Sanchez Zamora

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Chelsea Franco
Shelly Gonzalez
Ana Munoz
Christina Olivos
Natalie Rodriguez
Chelsey Annette Smith

THETA ALPHA KAPPA
Natalie Blasco
Nicole Cedeno
Dorcas Dennis
Patricia Dinardi
Cheryl Fernandez
Dolores Heredia-Wood
Mohammed Khan
Steven Ocampo
Ariella Siegel
Seth Tweneboah

UPSILON PI EPSILON
Francisco Montas
Cesar Rojas



2012 Spring Semester Doctoral Candidates

College of Arts and Sciences

Mohannad Al-Kasaji
Doctor of Philosophy in International Relations
Dissertation: *Evaluating the Jordanian National Security Strategy toward the Palestinian-Jordanians (Palestinian-Jordanians as a Securitization Case-Study)*
Major Professor: Dr. Mohiaddin Mesbahi

Veronica Wenette Averhart
Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology
Dissertation: *Ageism in the Workplace: Examining the Influence of Age Conceptualization on the Advancement Opportunities of Older Workers*
Major Professor: Dr. Victoria Pace

Patrick Michael Bell
Doctor of Philosophy in Public Affairs
Dissertation: *Development of Local Homeland Security Networks in the State of Florida: A Social Network Analysis Approach*
Major Professor: Dr. Meredith Newman

Erica Marie Cahoon
Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry
Dissertation: *The Discrimination and Association of Float Glass and the Quantitative Analysis of Liquids from Aerosols and Microdrops using Laser Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy*
Major Professor: Dr. José R. Almirall

Christopher William Calvo
Doctor of Philosophy in History
Dissertation: *An American Political Economy: Industry, Trade, and Finance in the Antebellum Mind*
Major Professor: Dr. Kenneth Lipartito

Yirgalem Assegid Chebud
Doctor of Philosophy in Geosciences
Dissertation: *Operational Prediction of Groundwater-Phosphorus Interaction over Surficial Aquifers of South Florida*
Major Professor: Dr. Assefa M. Melesse

Courtney Marie Dowdall
Doctor of Philosophy in Comparative Sociology
Dissertation: *Small Farmer Market Knowledge and Specialty Coffee Commodity Chains in Western Highlands Guatemala*
Major Professor: Dr. Guillermo Grenier

Julio Ernesto Fernandez de Cueto
Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology
Dissertation: *Relative Importance of False Positives in the Selection Process*
Major Professor: Dr. Chockalingam Viswesvaran

Marianna Y. Gabrielyan
Doctor of Philosophy in Physics
Dissertation: *Measurement of the Induced Polarization ofΛ(1116) in Kaon Electroproduction with CEBAF Large Acceptance Spectrometer (CLAS)*
Major Professor: Dr. Brian Raue

Tracey Anne Garcia McCue
Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology
Dissertation: *Evaluating Heavy Episodic Drinking Effects on Educational Attainment*
Major Professor: Dr. Wendy K. Silverman

Tenzin Gayden
Doctor of Philosophy in Biology
Dissertation: *Genetic Diversity in the Himalayan Populations of Nepal and Tibet*
Major Professor: Dr. Rene J. Herrera

Mohammad Homayounvash
Doctor of Philosophy in International Relations
Dissertation: *History and Evolutionary Trajectory of the Iranian Nuclear Program*
Major Professor: Dr. Mohiaddin Mesbahi

Robert Lowery
Doctor of Philosophy in Biology
Dissertation: *Neanderthal Admixture in Current Human Populations*
Major Professor: Dr. Rene J. Herrera

2012 Doctoral Candidates (continued)

John Paul Lucas
Doctor of Philosophy in Economics
Dissertation: *Essays on City Size Distribution and Real Estate Bubbles*
Major Professor: Dr. Cem Karayalcin

Beverley E. McDermott
Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology
Dissertation: *Promoting Positive Development: Family Processes and Risk Behavior among Adolescents*
Co-Major Professor: Dr. Mary Levitt
Co-Major Professor: Dr. Jonathan Tubman

Patricia Helena Micolta
Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science
Dissertation: *Illicit Interest Groups: The Political Impact of the Medellin Drug Trafficking Organizations in Colombia*
Major Professor: Dr. Eduardo Gamarra

Aaron Miller
Doctor of Philosophy in Biology
Dissertation: *Black Band Disease: Elucidating the Origins and Disease Mechanisms*
Major Professor: Dr. Laurie Richardson

Sayed Amir Mirtaheri
Doctor of Philosophy in International Relations
Dissertation: *(In)Security of the Chosen People: Theological Foundations of Shi'a Strategic Culture*
Major Professor: Dr. Mohiaddin Mesbahi

Mohamad Nassereddine
Doctor of Philosophy in Economics
Dissertation: *Three Empirical Essays on Startups' Survival using the Kauffman Firm Survey*
Major Professor: Dr. Peter Thompson

Heidi Jane M. Smith
Doctor of Philosophy in Public Affairs
Dissertation: *Fiscal Decentralization and Development: An Analysis of City Governments in Argentina and Mexico, 1980-2010*
Major Professor: Dr. Allan Rosenbaum

College of Business Administration

Armando Juan Borda
Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration
Dissertation: *Assessing the Impact of Business Group Diversification on the Internationalization of their Affiliates: The Case of Latin American Firms*
Major Professor: Dr. William Newburry

Chaiyuth Padungsaksawasdi
Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration
Dissertation: *The US Financial Crisis and the Behavior of the Foreign Exchange Market*
Major Professor: Dr. Ali M. Parhizgari

College of Education

Anthony Cruz
Doctor of Education in Higher Education
Dissertation: *The Relationship between Parental Involvement and the Persistence of First-Generation Hispanic Millennial College Students*
Major Professor: Dr. Benjamin Baez

Antonio Delgado
Doctor of Education in Adult Education and Human Resource Development
Dissertation: *A Hermeneutic Phenomenology of Graduate Education Students' Perceptions of Instructor Power in a Higher Education Classroom*
Major Professor: Dr. Tonette S. Rocco

Stephanie Paul Doscher
Doctor of Education in Educational Administration and Supervision
Dissertation: *The Development of Rubrics to measure Undergraduate Students' Global Awareness and Global Perspective: A Validity Study*
Major Professor: Dr. Hilary Landorf

Lianhong Gao
Doctor of Philosophy in Curriculum and Instruction
Dissertation: *Examining Argumentative Coherence in Essays by Undergraduate Students of English as a Foreign Language in Mainland China and their English Speaking Peers in the United States*
Major Professor: Dr. Eric Dwyer

2012 Doctoral Candidates (continued)

Victor Malo-Juvera
Doctor of Education in Curriculum and Instruction
Dissertation: *The Effect of Young Adult Literature on Adolescents' Rape Myth Acceptance*
Major Professor: Dr. Linda Spears-Bunton

Roxanne Valerie Molina
Doctor of Philosophy in Curriculum and Instruction
Dissertation: *Microteaching Lesson Study: Mentor Interaction Structure and its Relation to Elementary Preservice Mathematical Teacher Knowledge Development*
Major Professor: Dr. Maria L. Fernandez

Michelle L. Odai
Doctor of Philosophy in Curriculum and Instruction
Dissertation: *An Investigation of the Relationships between Selected Characteristics and Leadership Outcomes of Athletic Training Education Program Directors*
Co-Major Professor: Dr. Mohammed Farouk
Co-Major Professor: Dr. Glenda Droogsma-Musoba

Yvette Perez
Doctor of Education in Exceptional Student Education
Dissertation: *Early Career Special Education Teachers' Perceptions of School Site Induction Support*
Major Professor: Dr. Linda Blanton

Deidre Marshall Phillips
Doctor of Education in Exceptional Student Education
Dissertation: *The Relationship between Educational Placement, Instructional Practices, and Achievement Gains of Black Students with Specific Learning Disabilities in Secondary Urban School Settings*
Major Professor: Dr. Elizabeth Cramer

Valmarie Rhoden
Doctor of Education in Adult Education and Human Resource Development
Dissertation: *The Examination of the Relation among Secondary Principals' Leadership Behaviors, School Climate, and Student Achievement in an Urban Context*
Major Professor: Dr. Thomas G. Reio, Jr.

Maryam Soltan Zadeh
Doctor of Philosophy in Curriculum and Instruction
Dissertation: *History Education and the Construction of National Identity in Iran*
Major Professor: Dr. Mohammed K. Farouk

Mary Anne Ullery
Doctor of Education in Curriculum and Instruction
Dissertation: *An Examination of the Effects of a Summer Book-Reading Program on the Language and Early Literacy Outcomes of Toddlers from High-Risk Environments*
Major Professor: Dr. Laura Dinehart

College of Engineering and Computing

Mahmoud Mohamed Neam Amin
Doctor of Philosophy in Electrical Engineering
Dissertation: *Efficiency and Power Density Improvement of Grid-Connected Hybrid Renewable Energy Systems utilizing High Frequency-Based Power Converters*
Major Professor: Dr. Osama Mohammed

Patricio Alvarez
Doctor of Philosophy in Civil Engineering
Dissertation: *A Parameter Estimation Framework of Road Pricing with Consideration of User Behavior Response Based on Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Data*
Major Professor: Dr. Mohammed Hadi

Javier Delgado
Doctor of Philosophy in Electrical Engineering
Dissertation: *Scheduling Medical Application Workloads on Virtualized Computing Systems*
Co-Major Professor: Dr. Malek Adjouadi
Co-Major Professor: Dr. S. Masoud Sajadi

Yu Du
Doctor of Philosophy in Electrical Engineering
Dissertation: *Multiuser Detection in Multiple Input and Multiple Output (MIMO) Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing (OFDM) Systems by Blind Signal Separation Techniques*
Co-Major Professor: Dr. Kang K. Yen
Co-Major Professor: Dr. Jean H. Andrian

Mohammed Goryawala
Doctor of Philosophy in Biomedical Engineering
Dissertation: *A Novel 3-D Segmentation Algorithm for Anatomic Liver and Tumor Volume Calculations for Cancer Treatment Planning*
Major Professor: Dr. Malek Adjouadi

2012 Doctoral Candidates *(continued)*

Huang Huang Doctor of Philosophy in Electrical Engineering Dissertation: <i>Leakage Conscious Power and Thermal Aware Scheduling for Real-Time Computing Systems</i> Major Professor: Dr. Gang Quan	
Faisal Kaleem Doctor of Philosophy in Electrical Engineering Dissertation: <i>VHITS:Vertical Handoff Initiation and Target Selection in a Heterogeneos Wireless Network</i> Major Professor: Dr. Kang K. Yen	
Shabnam Mansourie Namin Doctor of Philosophy in Biomedical Engineering Dissertation: <i>An Experimental and Theoretical Analysis of Nitric Oxide Availability in the Microcirculation</i> Major Professor: Dr. Nikolaos Tsoukias	
Nathanael Murray Van Vorst Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science Dissertation: <i>Towards Simulation and Emulation of Large-Scale Computer Networks</i> Major Professor: Dr. Jason Liu	
Huan Wang Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science Dissertation: <i>A Large-Scale Dynamic Vector and Raster Data Visualization Geographic Information System based on Parallel Map Tiling</i> Major Professor: Dr. Naphtali Rishe	
Tao Wang Doctor of Philosophy in Civil Engineering Dissertation: <i>Improved Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) Estimation in Local Roads using Parcel-Level Travel Demand Modeling</i> Major Professor: Dr. Albert Gan	
Nansong Wu Doctor of Philosophy in Electrical Engineering Dissertation: <i>Resource Allocation, Scheduling and Feedback Reduction in Multiple Input Multiple Output (MIMO) Orthogonal Frequency-Division Multiplexing (OFDM) Systems</i> Major Professor: Dr. Kang K. Yen	
Pedram Zohrevand Doctor of Philosophy in Civil Engineering Dissertation: <i>Novel Hybrid Columns made of Ultra-High Performance Concrete and Fiber Reinforced Polymers</i> Major Professor: Dr. Amir Mirmiran	

Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work

Nana Aisha Garba Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health Dissertation: <i>The Role of Redox Signaling in the Molecular Mechanism of Tamoxifen Resistance in Breast Cancer</i> Major Professor: Dr. Deodutta Roy	
Michael Andrew Melchior Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health Dissertation: <i>Investigating the Outcomes of Two Chronic Disease Self-Management Programs and Understanding the Correlates of Completion for Each Program</i> Major Professor: Dr. Richard C. Palmer	
Beverly Alaina Ruffin Doctor of Philosophy in Social Welfare Dissertation: <i>The Longitudinal Influence of Physical Activity on Adolescent Alcohol Use</i> Major Professor: Dr. Eric Wagner	
Mariana Sanchez Doctor of Philosophy in Social Welfare Dissertation: <i>The Influence of Religious Coping on the Substance Use and HIV Risk Behaviors of Recent Latino Immigrants</i> Major Professor: Dr. Mario De La Rosa	
Lamya Habib Shaban Doctor of Philosophy in Dietetics and Nutrition Dissertation: <i>Vitamin D Levels, Vitamin D Receptor Polymorphisms and HOMA2 Model in Cuban Americans, Haitian Americans, and African Americans with and without Type 2 Diabetes</i> Major Professor: Dr. Fatma Huffman	
Shiryn D. Sukhram Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health Dissertation: <i>Cardiovascular Risk Factors in Turkish Immigrants with Type 2 Diabetes Living in the Netherlands</i> Major Professor: Dr. Fatma Huffman	
Michael Scott Tims Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health Dissertation: <i>Adapting the Mpowerment Project for a Rural Area</i> Major Professor: Dr. H. Virginia McCoy	

2012 Doctoral Candidates *(continued)*

College of Nursing and Health Sciences

Theresa Elizabeth Adderley Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing Dissertation: <i>Bahamian Men’s Sexual Risks for HIV Infection</i> Major Professor: Dr. Anahid Kulwicki
Dawn Hawthorne Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing Dissertation: <i>The Influence of Spirituality, Race/Ethnicity and Religion on Parent Grief and Mental Health at One and Three Months Post their Infant’s/Child’s Neonatal or Pediatric Intensive Care Death</i> Major Professor: Dr. JoAnne Youngblut



FLORIDA
INTERNATIONAL
UNIVERSITY

2012 Spring Semester Graduate and Undergraduate Candidates

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

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

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

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

College of Architecture and The Arts



Master of Music

Enrique Caboverde
John J. Cogollo
Michelle Janee Brock Kemp
Rebecca A. Longtemps
Joseph A. Saenz
Kai Sanchez
Karen Schoenhals
Katherine P. Smith
Leon Thomas
Kennan D. Torgerson
Scott T. Tripp

Master of Architecture

Maike Acosta
Mario Jovani Alfonso
Catalina Arce
Kristen Marie Argalas
Louis E. Bardi
Elizabeth Bassuk
Tara J. Beck
Johana Milena Bohorquez
Ashley Allen Braden
Ronna Burgoyne
Clint Robinson Comer
Javier Cuevas Gonzalez
Alan V. Damore
Deshawn Brandon Davis
Josue I. Feito
Abilio Aguiar Furtado
Cory J. Garcell
Maylin Garcia

Aileen A. Garrido
Tristan W. Gibbs
Hermann Alexander Gonzalez
Mauricio Andres Gonzalez
Francisco Julio Gonzalez Montaner
Mureka Africa Green
Raven Guerra
Kevin Gurley
Silvana Herrera
Joseph K. Kim
Ariadna Lemos
Felix Marcial Lorenzo
Javier Jesus Lorenzo
Lucille Yasmeen Malacouti
Monica Bettina Mamani
Anibette Margarita Mansilla
Fiorella Mavares
Marsha McDonald
Daniela Motta
Valentina Nahon
Mark Adam Pataky
Andrea P. Preciado Reynoso
Ashley Pumares
Viviana Paola Restrepo
Stephanie Elise Ruiz
Tulio Henry Sandoval
Veronica Scharf
Dalila Leite Serrao
Peter A. Zegarra

Master of Arts in Landscape

Architecture
Andrzej Kris Mikulski

Master of Fine Arts in Visual Arts

Peter M. Hammar
Jose D. Mar
Alexandra Trimino

Master of Interior Architecture

Marcela Arbelaez
Adriana Ares
Elisa Ayres Netto Figueiroa
Judith P. Bradley
Katherine Elizabeth Brown
Natasha Diminich
Jacqueline Gretchen Marie Failer
Sabrina L. Ocner
Diana M. Rodriguez
Andrea Leano Rojkes
Jessica Samboni
Ismabys Senra
Jenny Valencia
Heather Dawn Wright

Master of Landscape Architecture

Mark A. Brown
Carolina Carvajal
Cristina Leigh Cordero
Dennis Efren Espinal Cardona
Ricardo Gil Garcia

Kristen D. Hoover
Joanna M. Ibarra
Tim Shawn McKernan
Andres F. Pineda
Maria Pizano Rodriguez
Mario M. Rojo
Elizabeth V. Vandillewijn

Bachelor of Arts in Architecture

Clark Vincent Agravante
Claudia Alonso
Ricardo Enrique Augustin
Kenlong A. Castillo
Rosa Cristina Corrales Rodriguez,
Summa Cum Laude
Joann Feng, **Cum Laude**
Carlos A. Fernandez
Nathalie S. Goshen
Andrea Gutierrez
Robert Hogan
Lizzet R. Lozada
Jamie Nicole Musgrave
Anaxor Nicole Padron
Lourdes Picanes
Freddy Gustavo Renazco
Andrea C. Riba Combatti,
Summa Cum Laude

Marylin Roa
Marco Ruiz
Jennifer Sandoval
Jennifer Carolina Sarmiento
Christopher Scull
Jonathan Thole
Oscar Vega, **Cum Laude**
Christopher P. Villalta

Bachelor of Arts in Art

Eilyn Aguirre
Miguel A. Asencio
Dorys Leonora Bello
Leanne Joy Bobo, **Cum Laude**
Daniel J. Cabrera
Rebekah F. Christian, **Cum Laude**
Leydi Diana Coba
Loreta Feldon-Butler, **Cum Laude**
Yanara Ferreira
Sara Ellen I. Fleming
Juliana Garcia
Stephanie Frances Hibbard
Rebecca Interian
Violeta A. Lopez-Bumgartner, **Cum Laude**
Lida Medell
Hansel Perez

Claudia Pretelt
Diane Ramirez
Katia Anne Sanchez
Luis F. Sanchez
Kaitlin N. Simmons
Cassandra Suarez, **Cum Laude**
Pamela Nadine Waijman
Joseph Francis Walker

Bachelor of Arts in Art History

Natashia Betancourt
Johanny K. Ditren
Nicole M. Espaillet
Eliza Aimee Gonzalez, **Cum Laude**
Janell Jordi
Kaitlin Cherice Joyce
Chizette Jahsel A. Kremer,
Magna Cum Laude
Megan Elizabeth Lynch
Ashley E. Montano
Gabriela Victoria Perez-Dumois
Michael Paolo Restivo
Marcos Cesar Rodriguez,
Summa Cum Laude
Melanie Ruiz, **Magna Cum Laude**
Asiel Sepulveda, **Magna Cum Laude**

Bachelor of Arts in Music

Anthony V. Berkley, **Magna Cum Laude**

Bachelor of Arts in Theatre

Odette J. Barrientos
Jeannette L. Galup
Melissa Gonzalez
John Andrew Guzman
Asha C. Loring
Pedro J. Mir

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art

Sasha Maris Adorno, **Magna Cum Laude**
Jaime Adrover
Dogan Arslanoglu, **Magna Cum Laude**
Emily Ann Crawford, **Magna Cum Laude**
Rick Diaz
Denise Ekendahl
Maria Guadalupe Figueras
Jesus A. Garcia
Deseree N. Gonzalez, **Cum Laude**
Eliza Amiee Gonzalez, **Cum Laude**
Oliver M. Guido
Amy Joiner, **Magna Cum Laude**
Alvaro Labanino

Melanie N. Lewis Boyce
Gardner Cole Miller, **Summa Cum Laude**
Gwendolyn Ann Murphy-Coyard
Andrea Nones
Jorge Gabriel Palomino
Maria Perry
Miguel Saludes, **Summa Cum Laude**
Maria Santana, **Magna Cum Laude**
Bertamaria Shaheen, **Cum Laude**
Humberto A. Torres
Javier Alejandro Torres

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre

Elizabeth Abad, **Cum Laude**
Roxanne Almaguer
Michelle L. Antelo
Victoria Collado
Jamie Lynne Hartwell
Ewan K. McLaughlin
Michael Adam Mena
Alessandro A. Parayuelos
Carina Skrande
Caroline Rose Spitzer, **Magna Cum Laude**

Bachelor of Interior Design

Brett Karas

Bachelor of Landscape Architecture

Christopher A. Garcia

Bachelor of Music

Angelique Aguilera
Christopher S. Best
Lina M. Borda Lozano, **Magna Cum Laude**
Ezra R. Carias
Alan David Criado
Marlina Diaz-Portorreal, **Summa Cum Laude**
Anjane Cecilia Girwarr
Stephanie Jaimes
Ashley Marie Lewis, **Cum Laude**
Nick A. Mastrovito
Bryan Munera, **Cum Laude**
Mihai Preda, **Magna Cum Laude**
Kemuel Roig, **Cum Laude**
Julia Jean Swindoll, **Summa Cum Laude**
Andres Villa

College of Arts and Sciences

Master of Arts in African and African Diaspora Studies

Jameel Barnes
Fiacre Bienvenu
Sabrina Collins

Master of Arts in Asian Studies

Amy Bui
Steven W. Crowe
Rakellie Morgan Fruits
Johanna Maria Roegele

Master of Arts in English

Laura E. Creel
Jeanette Garcia
Carly A. Orshan
Michael A. Riobueno
Patrick M. Vega
Monica A. Vera

Master of Arts in Global and Sociocultural Studies

Brittany L. Kiessling

Master of Arts in History

Paul A. Burkart
Monica L. Crowe
Elizabeth L. Hoisington
Marta Alina Pomar
Marquita R. Reed
Alexander Joseph Sawdye
Rene J. Silva
Gracia Guadalupe Solis
Tiffany N. West
Deborah Wood

Master of Arts in International Studies

Deborah Broxton
William D. Dovale
Kelly Maharaj
Samantha Rose Nolan
Laura Rodriguez
David Tooch

Master of Arts in Latin American and Caribbean Studies

Natalie Melissa Carlier
Jennifer S. Dias
Eduardo E. Gesio
Monica Weeks

Master of Arts in Liberal Studies

Kristina De La Cal
Agostina Morgante Giuliani

Master of Arts in Linguistics

Max Diaz
Mary A. Myers
Kristen J. Quinones
Kezia A. Walker

Master of Arts in Political Science

Murat Altuglu
Mirsad Krijestorac
Joaquin A. Pedroso

Master of Arts in Religious Studies

Diego Giovanni Castellanos
Dorcas Dennis
Benedicte T. Morel-Guilbot
Jeremy S. Paulovkin
Seth Tweneboah

Master of Arts in Spanish

Concepcion Barbara Cosano
Migdalia P. Diaz-Nieves
Maria Sol Echarren
Janaina F. Lopez
Mildred Lopez
Valerie Ann Lopez
Silvia Maria Munoz-Moll
Alberto J. Salazar
Cristina Stumbaugh

Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing

Guillermo Miguel Cancio-Bello
Anjanette V. Delgado
James N. Elens II
Daniel Grech
Alexandra Marshall Handwerger

Amanda C. Hosey
Amy Lynn Hughes
Yaddyra Peralta
Deborah Lee Shannon

Master of Public Administration

Teri Alberto-Nagel
Michael Alvarez
Tamara C. Ayraud
Miguel Angel Baquero
Diane Benitez
Jayanie D. Bennett-Sherwood
Sandra Isabel Berrios
Regina Lacole Bloom
Aimee Bojorquez
Morgan Elizabeth Brooks
Camile A. Campbell
Frances Ann Cherestal
Sharon Cino
Cayten Elizabeth Clark
Kelly Carrara Day
Marcos Antonio De La Rosa
Miguel Angel De La Rosa
Patricia Delgado
Moise Duge
Mauricio Escarra
Johnshay Footman
Eduardo Jose Gloria
Jessica Gregoire
Claire Elise Hutchins
Sophia Iglesias
Jessica Ashby Jones
Aziz Klebleyev
Daniel Edward Levasser
Walter Jose Lopez
Margarita Lorenzo
Evelyn Lucia Marte
Takushi Matsuo
Hugues Montoban
Mallika Muthiah
Oscar Luis Ojeda
Kelli Palmer
Pierre Holly Paul
Mary C. Radnor
Maria Cristina Ramirez
Philamena Sandra Robinson
Vanessa Irene Rodriguez
Juan Salaverria
Constance Saltof

Annie Barbara Soto
Jacqueline Bueno Sousa
Kanika Stamp
Melvin Tanner
Ryan W. Tesnow
Leah Carolina Valenzuela
Susana Villarino
Diana Maria Young
Keiba Kenishia Young

Master of Science in Statistics
Rodrigo J. Aristizabal
Suisui Che
Fan Yang

Master of Science in Chemistry
Zhiwei Duan
Jorge Enrique Quintana
Katherine E. Walton

Master of Science in Criminal Justice
Diana R. Becerra
Amanda Lee Dannaker
Stephanie Yvette Delgado
Jessica Lynn Dodson
Carlito Douyon
Elpide Emile
Marcella Garcia
Ana M. Gonzalez
Marquis Travon Hannah
Jose Raul Hernandez
Chantelle Lewis
Michelle Yee-Har Ma
Nitza I. Maldonado
Yanique Marie McGregor
Henna Mir
Adrian Javier Morales
Ariel Antonio Morales
Jessenia Munoz
Dennis A. Obando
Belky Yadira Oseguera
Christopher Michael Perez
Ercilia Auxiliadora Porras
Elise N. Puma
Carmen Julia Ramon
Yandro Recio
Nestor Reyes
Maykelin L. Salmeron
Chester Dario Vargas
Kristina M. Willenbacher
Jessica Zapata

Master of Science in Environmental Studies
Wuying Lin
Juliana James Msaghaa
Amour Seleman
Melissa Ussa
Victor James Zulich

Master of Science in Forensic Science
Beatrice Kallifatidis

Master of Science in Geosciences
Amaryllis Cotto

Master of Science in Mathematical Sciences
Fnu Anudeep Kumar
Shivanni P. Ramhit
Luis Rodriguez
Luis E. Saumell San Martin

Master of Science in Psychology
Monica Christie Amador-Vale
Kimberly Marie Courrau
Didiana De La Osa
Elaine Espanola
Holly Olivia George-John
Erika Marie Hernandez
Ileana Hernandez
Daniel Cain Kemp
Maythe Martin
Alan Meca
Patricia Montero
Juan Carlos Morales
Alina Nazareth
Briana M. Odowd
Laura A. Oramas
Karina Orofino
Lauren Ashley Petrick
Galyna Pushkar
Shaena T. Quiceno
Erika Genevieve Reyes
Brad St. John
Daniella K. Villalba
Jacob Michael Waldrup
Jessica Marie Weber
William Albert Woomer

Bachelor of Arts in Asian Studies
Augusto Bejar, **Summa Cum Laude**
Dana Odalis Cedillo
Chad Cournoyer, **Magna Cum Laude**
Christina Cuellar
Amanda Michelle Feijoo
Alex Jesus Fernandez
Nicolle J. Garber, **Cum Laude**
Rossana Cristina Garcia
Miguel Edward Hill
Joshua Paul Korn, **Magna Cum Laude**
Rebekah M. Lyew-Ayee, **Cum Laude**
Joanna Raye Nelson
Gregory Ezriel Post
Ethan Royce Thomas
Carlos A. Uriarte, **Summa Cum Laude**

Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry
Christian Camilo Afanador
Hilda Maria Alvarez
Jessica Arias
Andres J. Berrio, **Magna Cum Laude**
Jason Michael Birn
Fabiola Guadalupe Coloma
Raul Comin, **Magna Cum Laude**
Fernando R. Dager
Iralbe Egana
Laura Espinosa
Jonathan Gabriel Gabison, **Summa Cum Laude**
Lauren C. Gonzalez, **Cum Laude**
Lavinia Iordache, **Magna Cum Laude**
Kathleen Izquierdo
Carlos Alberto Jimenez
Carmen D. Manresa, **Summa Cum Laude**
Claudia Martinez, **Magna Cum Laude**
Juan Alfredo Mendez
Tatiana Nunez
Rafael Alejandro Oliva
Janell Penha
Andrew Stephen Podley, **Summa Cum Laude**
Eric E. Quinoa
Bibi Samira Rahaman
Jessica Reyes
Krystle M. Rios
Yorlenis Rodriguez, **Cum Laude**
Vanquilla La'Shay Shellman, **Magna Cum Laude**
Rodolfo Wilfredo Sigler
Stephanie D. Venero
Michael Zamora

Bachelor of Arts in Earth Science
Rebecca Clark
Pete Curran
Fatima Bejar Funk

Bachelor of Arts in Economics
Virgilio Acuna
Oliver Alber, **Magna Cum Laude**
Fawaz Sulaiman Almughrabi
Ginette Dina Behar
Conrad Buckler
Bruno F. Cevallos, **Magna Cum Laude**
Natasha W. Chatila
Jonas Emilsson, **Magna Cum Laude**
Diego Gabriel Espinosa
Damon Nicholas Fitzgerald, **Magna Cum Laude**
Quentin Gomez
Janet Guerra
Roberto J. Guzman
Pablo Adam Haspel, **Cum Laude**
Daniel Hernandez
Michelangelo Hernandez
Andrew D. Hofmeyer
Shayna Krystal Hudson, **Summa Cum Laude**
Mario Antonio Chavez Iturri
Justin Kindler
Jules Cesar Laguerre
Thomas X. Lequerica
Fredy Rodrigo Lopez
WeiXiong Luo
Matthew D. Macko
Van Joaquin Magee
Ziqi Mao
Michael Meyer
Nataly Mojena, **Magna Cum Laude**
Alexander Ariel Molina
John Paul Morales
Mathew Murgo
Angelica Navarrete
Joel David Ortega
Joseph R. Ortega
Alejandro Pacheco
Denise Marie Palacios
Joshua S. Pestano
Shenaah Previus
Ashley M. Reid
Alexander Frederick Rojas, **Magna Cum Laude**
Mateo Romero
Carla A. Russo
Jonathan Robert Schaez
Adrian A. Sierra

Leilani Soto
Nataly Suarez
Iman Johan Taylor
Luis A. Tobar
Brettany A. Tucker
Mizraim D. Valdes
Jason Valdivia
Andrea Valenzuela, **Cum Laude**
Manuel Vasquez
Kevin J. Vincent
Erik Zorrilla

Bachelor of Arts in English
Carlos Mario Acevedo
Elizabeth Acosta
Krizia De La Caridad Acosta, **Magna Cum Laude**
Natali Aguero, **Cum Laude**
Amelia Narine Badri
Marilyn E. Baez, **Cum Laude**
Mariel R. Basurco
Christina Becena
Jason A. Benitez
Maryleen J. Beras
Jared Kyle Berg
Patricia B. Bilbao
Nicole Billitz
Jennifer L. Blaise
Ruth Bon-Ami
Katir Ann Britton
Jennifer L. Brown
Leah Bryant
Christopher P. Cabrera
Yaniel Miguel Cantelar, **Cum Laude**
Christopher Caproni, **Cum Laude**
Hans Paul Chamorro
Sarah Dacosta
Talli Daniel
Jason A. Dasilva
Maria Jose Delgadillo
Elizabeth L. Fava
Chelsea Elena Montague Franco
Elizabeth Funes
Caroline Gabela
Denise Veronica Garcia
Shelby Lee Goldberg
Amanda Gonzalez
Shelly Stephanie Gonzalez, **Magna Cum Laude**
Veronica M. Gonzalez
Ricia Grant, **Magna Cum Laude**
Jake Guyton
Miray Mikhael Hayek

Stefan Eric Henry
Ana Ruxandra Heretoiu
John W. Holbrook
Massiel Hurtado
Stephanie S. Hussaini, **Cum Laude**
Alejandra Jidy
Gabriela Jimenez, **Cum Laude**
Kelsea M. Jones
Rashida M. Jones
Kelly M. Knight, **Cum Laude**
Courtney L. Kohout
Gerardo Laso
Ashley Tatiana Lawrenson
Freddy Leon
Natalie R. Levy
Brandon Lee Lodenquai, **Magna Cum Laude**
Nilda Elena Lopez
Jennifer Alicia Louissaint
Cristina Maria Martinez
Heriberto Martinez
Katerina Nicole Martinez
Kristin McGuire
Tatiana D. McInnis, **Cum Laude**
Katrina Marie McLaughlin
Hector A. Miranda
Marie K. Moorman
Ricardo Adolfo Mor
Gabriel Morales
Ana Cristina Munoz, **Cum Laude**
Sergio G. Naser
Kristen M. Navarro, **Magna Cum Laude**
Christina Danielle Olivos, **Summa Cum Laude**
Kevin Ondarza
Silvia Pilar Oseira
Danelys Paiz
Marlene M. Palomo, **Cum Laude**
Rita F. Pereyra, **Summa Cum Laude**
Donna Maria Perez
Jennifer A. Perez
Jennifer Mariands Perez
Amy Cristina Ramirez
Corey Ryan
James R. Sallee
Maray Santin, **Summa Cum Laude**
Erica Schlumbrecht
Alia E. Silvera
Chelsey A. Smith, **Cum Laude**
Natacha St. Fort
Yvonne Tennyson
Yvette Vega, **Summa Cum Laude**
Katharine Marie Villalobos, **Summa Cum Laude**
Linda Ward

Kaleena P. Waters
Jonathan Andrew Welin
Joshua Steven Zagelbaum

Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies

Elizabeth Rocío Alcalá-Taieb
Camille Cristina Arca
Eric Taylor Betancourt, **Summa Cum Laude**
Alexandra Burt
Kathryn S. Cabrisas
Nicole Frances Calandra
Kimberly S. Carnall
Rachael A. Congdon
Nina Natalia De La Rosa, **Cum Laude**
Maria De Los Angeles Evora
Junnio Freixa
Lee Edward Hartman
Jennifer Lopez, **Cum Laude**
Valerie J. Mull
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Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences

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Bachelor of Science in Geosciences

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Di Wu
Kai Wu
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Berenice Mayren Arellano
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Gretel Perez, **Magna Cum Laude**
Kevin Pezua, **Magna Cum Laude**
Anggela Carolina Pimentel Warstonh
Shani Suzi Pinhas
Patricia Esther Polo
Alejandro Prada
Jonathan M. Ramos
Michelle Ramos
John P. Reguera
Silvia Irene Revilla
Michelle Maria Reyes
Xochilt I. Rios
Bianca Rossato
Alexandra Durso Sanchez
Cynthia Sanchez
Gabriella Joa Sanchez
Abner Ivan Santana, **Magna Cum Laude**
Hilda Isabel Sarduy
Daniela Esmeralda Sayegh,
 Magna Cum Laude
Jamie Lynne Schwartz, **Summa Cum Laude**
Martina Jae Schwartz
Michelle Serrano
Elmo F. Siggia, **Cum Laude**
Stephanie R. Simeon, **Cum Laude**
Ashley M. Sixto
Megan B. Small
Katherine Eloisa Terc
Elizabeth Thephithack
Morrisia Sonya Thomas
Joseph T. Turman
Juan C. Ugarte
Leyani Sarah Valdes
Ivy Jeanette Velasquez, **Summa Cum Laude**
Jackeline M. Wallace

College of Nursing and Health Sciences

Master of Science in Athletic

Training

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Julie-Ann Burton
Lisa Maria Cavallo
Kimi Lee Daniel
Renalta D’Net Fleming
Merry Christine Haislip
Courtney Bianca Hall
Christopher Allan Hayhurst
Charlie Channell Holliday
Kate N. Jochimsen
Jasmine Elizabeth Johnson
Anthony Vincent Salvaggio
Nicolette Annette Stallworth

Master of Science in Occupational

Therapy

Girlie Baylon
Kimberly K. Fisher
Brooke E. Lafferty

Master of Science in Speech

Language Pathology

Odalís Abreu
Joanna Blanco
Stephanie Virginia Carr
Mairim Castilla
Francesca Correa
Lourdes I. De La Torre
Vanessa Maria Diaz
Katy Echevarria
Yusleydi Folgar
Suzanne Grissel Harrawood
Mallory Brooke Kanziger
Lauren Marie Lesende
Christine Luzuriaga
Julie Anne Milian
Jorge E. Solana
Bianka Gissel Vasquez

Bachelor of Health Services

Administration

Gregory Keith Belskis
Andrea Chaves, **Magna Cum Laude**
Khadija N. Cleghorn
Jessica Marie Cruz

Kristin Elaine Dixon, **Cum Laude**
Jaslyn Angelica Dover
Aleki Rene Edwards
Priscilla K. Esquijarosa, **Cum Laude**
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Johnny Frontal Jr
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Katie Brianne Goins
Jeanne Marie Gomez
Karina Gonzalez
Jeffery Dwight Gordon, **Cum Laude**
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Juan F. Jaramillo
Alejandra Justo
Alejandro Javier Leiva
Sobeida Jaqueline Leiva
Leonardo Lizano
Judith Lopez
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Steven Navarro
Gissela Elizabeth Novoa
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Alexander Paz
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Erica Marie Redik
Mahrukh Riaz
Gladys Mercedes Rivas, **Cum Laude**
Ricky Rivera
Melissa Rodriguez
Michelle Soto
Florence D. Ukpai
Janis Z. Verwey
Amanda K. Vilain, **Cum Laude**
Eileen Warwar
Wanhua Yang, **Cum Laude**
Emily Christine Zangari, **Cum Laude**
Karla Zeledon, **Magna Cum Laude**

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Elizabeth Akande
Diana Idis Alea
Maya Alexis, **Cum Laude**
Claudia Alonso, **Cum Laude**
Rafael Alonso

Florencia Alvarado, **Magna Cum Laude**
Dawn Marie Arevalo
Kathlene J. Ayala, **Cum Laude**
Yesenia Baena, **Cum Laude**
Dayana Barrios, **Magna Cum Laude**
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Jessica Blanco
Carla L. Bland, **Cum Laude**
Christine Bon-Blanco
Eric Ian Boruck, **Cum Laude**
Doris Bowman
Brenda Karina Bravo, **Cum Laude**
Francisco Brenes, **Magna Cum Laude**
Lisel Ann Butts, **Cum Laude**
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Juliette Cardenas, **Cum Laude**
Cristina Carnicer, **Cum Laude**
Lucia Nichole Carranza, **Magna Cum Laude**
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Tahnee Morgan Clark, **Cum Laude**
Megan S. Collier, **Cum Laude**
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Rufat Dasayev
David J. De La Hoz, **Cum Laude**
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Brigitte Duenas, **Magna Cum Laude**
Diana Illari Escalante, **Cum Laude**
Sahily Eva Escalar
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Miseline Fabre
Dany Amanda C. Fanfan, **Magna Cum Laude**
Natalie G. Felipe, **Magna Cum Laude**
Jose Orlando Fernandez, **Magna Cum Laude**
Tatiana Foreman, **Cum Laude**
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Kali Galvan, **Cum Laude**
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Cristina A. Haizlett
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Patricia Hall, **Cum Laude**
Darcy Hamlin, **Cum Laude**
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Yailyn Marimon, **Magna Cum Laude**
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Juan Gustavo Ojeda, **Cum Laude**
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Viviana Castro Parra, **Cum Laude**
Christina Pengelley, **Magna Cum Laude**
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Rusana Rassokhina, **Magna Cum Laude**
Alison Michelle Robert, **Cum Laude**
Yailin Rodriguez, **Magna Cum Laude**
Libia Romero, **Magna Cum Laude**
Nathalia Ruiz, **Magna Cum Laude**

Oscar L. Ruque, **Magna Cum Laude**
Diane Sabogal
Kathy I. Salas, **Cum Laude**
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Ismael Valdes, **Cum Laude**
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Eduardo Felipe Vega
Giselle C. Vieitez, **Cum Laude**
Gretel Vigo
Maria Fernanda Villota
Michael Weinberg, **Cum Laude**
Nicole M. Wilber, **Cum Laude**
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Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work

Master of Public Health

Danielle Adrien
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Lubna Aijaz
Nojoud Al Hakeem
Davina Allert
Tenesha Latoya Avent
Abisola Olatokunmba Balogun
Stephanie Baptiste
William H. Barry
Jasmine Bharj
Vicki Grace Boguszewski
Celicia S. Boykin
Frantz Charles
Maria - Teresa De Cespedes
Francheska Olecha Desravines
James Carlo Desroches
Rose Marie Fadul
Jara Rae Fleishman
Ervin Jesus Garcia
Gail Celeste Garcia
Leah A. Harman
Jeanmarie Jeanpierre
Claudia Iris Jimenez
Ameer S. Juman
Vismay Kanthe *
Tarang Nareshchandra Kheradia
Shebutina Kinsey
Charles Casey Letizia
Devan-Ann Michelle Lewis
Rakesh Mishra
Joseph Obidah Nabaka
Kevin A. Ngala
Yanisleidy Paez
Jenelle Jane Penha
Marianne Petit-Frere
Marianyela Plaza Rincon
Keren J. Rivera
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Crystal Lee Romero
Nellian Evadney Rose
Ana Maria Ruiz-castaneda
Armini Antennia Scott
Joel Silva
Nana K. Toure
Anna-Kay Marie Watson
Jessica E. Weinger
Tremaine Lumuss Wilson
Aline Zirakamwa

Master of Science in Dietetics and Nutrition

Amanda L. Amigo
Carlota Azpurua
Maria V. Berg Bustamante
Emanuela Ramona Damse
Leslie Anne Deason
Deborah Dawn Harrell
Gabrielle Hernandez
Celines Martinez
Terri Lee Michael
Nura Tahirih Mickler
Sheri A. Nelson
Monica Pirez

Master of Social Work

Evelin Delcarmen Castro
Sabrina Orelia Cherry
Rachel Freedman
Gianina Gabillo
Norris Hardemon
Latasha Nicole James
Woseline Jean
Barry Allen Ladis
Erica Lynn Lara
Maria Lourdes Meana
Lisette Mira
Derlyn Julia Mora
Laura Lee Needham
Priya Hasmukh Patel
Mailyn Perez
Christine Portilla
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Shanna Dee Ratliff
Gira J. Ravelo
Alexander Recalt
Victoria Amparo Rodriguez
Begona Saiz
Kyrie Shanerica Salters
Judith Thomas
Emily Velandia
Jeanine Ceceil Wooden

Bachelor of Science in Dietetics and Nutrition

Monica Arenas
Jatniel Azze
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Chelsea Couceiro
Clarence S. Denis
Vashti C. Duncker
Esther Gabay
Veronica S. Miller
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Brittany Padron
Basilia N. Theofilou
Carhen Torrealba

Bachelor of Science in Social Work

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Patricia E. Adelufosi
Patricia Aguilera, **Magna Cum Laude**
Deborah Agurcia
Natasha Simoes Batista
Robert Lawrence Blevens
Genesis Lucia Bohorquez
Pennée Mikela Brown, **Cum Laude**
Michael Josue Carrillo, **Magna Cum Laude**
Rosemary Cervera-Cimadevila, **Cum Laude**
Makia Shanique Curry
Ashley Desir-Salomon
Milagros Diaz
Eliaana Alejandra Galeano
Hila Golan, **Summa Cum Laude**
Vanessa Gonzalez, **Cum Laude**
Edith Joseph
Sadia Joseph
Kayla Meghan Keiter, **Magna Cum Laude**
Erika Carmen Labadie
Yadira Martinez
Katherine Mojica
Niketa Christina Newell, **Cum Laude**
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Sabrina T. Tirfagnehu
Mildrenne Vital

** Posthumous Degree Awarded*



Dear Graduates:

Spring 2012

On behalf of the FIU Alumni Association and its Board of Directors we extend our congratulations and welcome you to your new family of more than 160,000 alumni.

Your Alumni Association exists to support the goals and mission of FIU and to be a viable resource for engaging alumni. The Association helps fund scholarships and sponsors numerous events including the Torch Awards Gala, Fishing Tournament, Silver Pride Reunion, Panther Pit tailgates and Career Networking.

Membership in the Alumni Association is a great way for you to show your school pride and establish a lifelong relationship with the university. As a member, you have a huge alumni network at your finger tips. The FIU Alumni Association is over 18,000 members strong and growing.

Stay connected and get perks:
Receive member-only event invitations and discounts to theme parks, car rentals, hotels and much more.

Jumpstart your career:
Find out about job opportunities from alumni and Fortune 100 companies by registering to My Panther Network, a career networking site exclusive for FIU Alumni

Get your lifetime email address:
Sign up for a lifetime affinity email address with alumni.fiu.edu as your tag.

Network, Network, Network:
Attend one of our many upcoming events or join an Alumni Chapter.

Keep in touch with old friends:
Search for your classmates online.

The FIU Alumni Association will always be your home away from home! Whenever you are on campus, stop by and pay us a visit in MARC Suite 510 at MMC. Remember membership has its privileges. You can enjoy all the benefits of being an active member by joining online at www.fualumni.com or calling 305-348-3334.

GO PANTHERS!

Best regards,

Jack Gonzalez '97
President, Alumni Association

Duane Wiles
Executive Director and
Associate Vice President
Florida International University
Office of Alumni Relations
Modesto A. Maidique Campus,
MARC 510
Miami, FL 33199

FIU Alma Mater

by Dr. Clair T. McElfresh

Rededicated on November 3, 1988 • Orchestration by Dr. Philip Fink

Hail to thee dear F. I. U. with voi - ces true we
pledge to thee. All our love and our de - vo - tion.
Hum - ble faith and loy - al - ty. We will strive for un - der -
stand - ing and for peace and un - i - ty.
We will search for truth and wis - dom. We will al - ways hon - or thee.
F. I. U. Al - ma Ma - ter Hail! Hail To Thee.

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