



# FOUNDERS' DAY

A CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

APRIL 3, 2024



WELCOME TO OUR

# FOUNDERS' DAY CELEBRATION

Founders' Day is a celebration of UCF's excellence and an opportunity to recognize the employees, faculty, and students who make this place so special and who power our collective impact.

*Thank you for helping us honor  
some of our **outstanding Knights**.*

# REMEMBERING OUR HISTORY

AND CELEBRATING OUR FUTURE

The annual tradition of Founders' Day was started to honor the **visionary leadership and generosity** of an extraordinary group of community leaders known as the **UCF Founders**.

*Theirs is a powerful story of partnership, determination, and perseverance.*

In 1963, the state authorized the creation of a university for Central Florida. In January 1964, state officials selected a site of 1,227 acres in east Orange County. Yet, neither the Legislature nor the governor moved to fund the new school, and Orange County lacked the money. The land was in danger of slipping away, which would have been a devastating setback.

Just in time, 89 local residents — the UCF Founders — came together to pledge the \$1 million in cash and securities needed to purchase the land with no guarantees of repayment, ensuring UCF was built here in East Orlando.

Today, the spirit of teamwork shown by our founders lives on in the incredible employees, faculty, and students who make up our UCF community and keep our university charging on to greatness.



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# EMPLOYEE AWARDS

RECOGNITION OF SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY  
RECOGNITION OF RETIREES  
EMERITUS AND EMERITA MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATION  
CHAMPION OF STUDENT SUCCESS AND WELL-BEING  
EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE AWARDS



# RECOGNITION OF SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY

5 YEARS

Melinda Abreu  
Amber Abud  
Gabriella Agosto  
Christina Alecse  
Amanda Allman  
David Amaro  
Amanda Ammirati  
Christine Anderson  
Karen Austin  
Joshua Bedwell  
Kelly Belga  
Claudia Bello Punto  
Caitlin Bradbury  
Tia Bramwell  
Sherry Brown  
Ida-Raquel Burgos  
Edwin Cabral  
Jennifer Calame  
Shannon Callahan  
Tianna Campbell  
Tyler Campbell  
Ramon Candelaria Rivera  
Carmen Caraballo  
Edgar Castellanos  
Tiffany Chestnut  
Christopher Childs  
Padmini Coopamah Waldron  
David Correia  
Victor Cosme  
Geoffrey Cravero  
Aaron Davis  
Jennifer De Leon Diaz  
Jerald DeFord  
Kathiana Desir  
Silvia Diaz  
Elimar Diaz Martinez  
Katelyn Dillon  
Janeza Dino

Sharon Doras  
Henry Dubel  
Amy Duvall  
James Ehmer  
Hannah Estes  
Anne Everett  
Kathryn Feehrer  
Bin Feng  
Melissa Findling  
Joseph Finnigan  
Michelle Flis  
Wantao Frashier  
Tattianna Fuentes-Duarte  
Nester Garcia  
Sara Garrabrant  
Stephanie Gavarrete  
Karina Girgis  
Christina Gonzalez  
Jennifer Gonzalez  
Darryl Gordon  
Rose-A-Lee Guillemi  
Iolanda Guseman  
Kimberly Hannush  
James Hardy  
Heather Hargreaves  
Cherie Herrin  
Randy Holmes  
George Holt  
Jeffrey Hopkins  
Yujun Huang  
Louann Huynh  
Bernadette Isidro  
Angela Jackson  
Carl Jackson Jr  
Carmen Jarquin  
Roy Johnston II  
William Kent  
Ashley Khalil

Bryan Kirk  
David Kramer  
Joshua Kuhn  
Rebecca Lasala  
Hayden Lau  
Alex Lazin  
Heather Lovett  
Bernice Lugo  
Eva Lynch  
Barbara Macias Castaneda  
Jay Malcolm  
Frederick Marshall II  
Kyle Martin  
Jennifer Mckinley  
Carlos Medina  
William Mollenkopf III  
Laszlo Molnar  
Carmen Montijo  
Kelli Morales  
Norma Morell  
Megan Morris  
Robert Mott  
Devindra Narine  
Gregg Nelson Jr  
Adam Novak  
Eduardo Ortiz  
Janet Owen  
Andres Pagan  
Santos Pardo  
Nicole Phanstiel  
Thomas Porter  
Mari Rains  
Marisa Ramiccio  
Patricia Riva  
Yadira Rivera-Vazquez  
Katherine Rocco  
Lorna Rodriguez  
Sandra Rodriguez

Stephanie Rodriguez-Makhlouf  
Lorena Roedan  
Jillian Rogero  
Tijuana Rollins  
Wrenz Ronas  
Amber Ryder  
Melissa Saint James  
Michelle Salcedo  
Albert Sammelian  
Vanessa Sanchez  
Natalia Santana  
Evaristo Santana Estrella  
John Settle  
Stephen Shier Jr  
Daniella Shuch  
Carolina Silva  
Sean Simmons  
Rachel Sims  
Quinton Smith Jr  
Cindy Spiers  
Louis Stevens  
Paul Sturgis  
Yariela Thompson  
Amanda Tier  
Sharon Tinny  
Emily Troilo  
Zenobia Turk  
Jaclyn Velez  
Jairo Vidal  
Whitney Walker  
Jennifer Walters  
Robert Wells II  
Maichoua Yang  
Dorothy Yates  
Julianna Zink



Luribel Abreu  
Joseph Alcala  
Nicole Arft  
Aaron Banfield  
Bill Barker  
Gesa Barto  
Danae Barulich  
Lauren Becker  
Bonnie Belot  
Amelia Bray  
Derick Brown  
Allison Bryant  
Arian Bryant  
Gabriel Camejo  
Jordan Castillo  
Amy Childs  
Jennifer Cicia  
Luisa Cintron  
Ashley Connors  
Carla Craig  
Danielle Darwich  
Reshard Denard  
Matthew DeSalvo  
Kristin Donnelly  
Sarah Drehoff  
Keely Duffy  
David Dumke  
Allen Dunn  
Jodi Elder  
Kimberly Esterline  
Jennifer Fackler  
Lawrence Falkenhausen  
Jennifer Farran  
Vilma Ferrer  
Maria Ffrench  
Amy Floyd  
Heliana Forero Martinez  
Anita Gabbard  
Javier Gioia  
Casey Goerg

Sue Gonzalez  
Sandra Griggs  
Melissa Guadagnino  
Miguel Guzman  
Lavera Henderson  
Sunny Heyl  
Ashley Hilyer  
Jackie Hop  
Latoya Jackson  
Louisdor Jean  
Michael Jimenez  
Stephen Johnson  
Alicia Keaton  
Schuyler Kerby  
Jeannie Kiriwas  
Christina Kittipatarin  
Zachary Knauer  
TJ Krattinger  
Nasrin Lakhani  
Tonya LaPrarie  
Vernet Lasrado  
Elizabeth LaTorre  
Celia Linton Walker  
Ashley Longoria  
Maria Lopes  
Philip Lopez  
Keanna Machado  
Leslie Marchand  
Jesus Martinez  
Kim Martinez  
Ashley McConnell  
Mike McKee  
Derrick McQuern  
Adam Meyer  
Shawna Meyers  
Eric Michael  
Christine Michel  
Lisa Miller  
Oscar Monzon  
Laurie Morin

Beejal Nana  
David Nelson  
Aracelis Nieves  
Venessa Nieves  
Martin Nyenkan  
Stephanie Odierno  
Dana Pagan  
Alex Parlato  
Leonardo Pascua  
Brenda Perez  
Sean Pinto  
Jon Pizzo  
Macrina Raghunanan  
Taneisha Ralph  
Chauatrice Riley-Stanford  
Sarahis Rodriguez Pacheco  
Stacey Royalty-Rose  
Marisa Salazar  
Rachel Schaefer  
Jessica Scheck  
Donald Scrip  
Mary Scroggs  
Christina Serra  
Michelle Shirzad  
Shela Siegrist  
Giji Skaria  
Tracy Slavik  
James Smith  
Erica Spaulding  
Vanessa Stein  
Kimberley Thrash  
Dawn Tripp  
Ashley Turner  
Steven Valdez  
Nicole Williams  
Lee Williams-Lana  
Mark Wright  
Maria Yebra-Teimouri  
Chip Youngblood



Peter Alfieris  
Abby Amo Snipes  
Heather Anderson  
Maria Aragon  
Elba Arroyo-Cid  
Teresa Ayers  
Edilu Becerra  
Leslie Brunswick  
Rafael Caamano  
Adelino Cardona  
Katie Connolly  
Morayma Cubero  
Annette Gamarra  
Caryn Garcia  
Leben Goldman  
Monique Gregory  
David Griffin Jr  
Lynn Hansen  
Mark Hartman  
Arne Hestad  
Fazal Jameer  
Erick Jauregui  
Aaron Keyser  
Jade Laderwarg  
Nicole Lamoureux  
Elizabeth Lozada-Rivera  
Yee Lui  
Liara Maharaj  
Jessica Mays  
Christy Miranda Perez

Aisha Morfe-Bencosme  
Amber Mullens  
Trang-Minh Nguyen  
Jenna Nobili  
Christey Oberbeck  
Joel Okun  
Annette Ortiz-Rivera  
James Padel  
Brandy Pieper  
Brooks Pingston  
Laurel Poole  
Patricia Potashner  
Cynthia Rahrle  
Evelyn Ramos  
Iris Rios  
Elexis Ritz  
Cassandra Schauff  
Jeanette Schreiber  
Svetlana Shtrom  
Lisa Simcoe  
Karen Smith  
Soraya Smith  
Emily Stettner  
Patricia Stroupe  
Cheryl Suter Thorn  
Carlee Thomas  
Paul Turner  
Katherine Vazquez  
Jacqueline West-Lee  
Spencer Williams



## RECOGNITION OF SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY

### 20 YEARS

Rocio Alfonso  
Maria Alvarez-Medina  
Benton Anderson  
Edwanna Andrews  
Alia Asi  
Chad Binette  
Patrick Blount  
Margaret Bolinger  
Michelle Brooks  
Nikki Cason  
Nataly Chandia Viano  
Jordan Clark  
Richard Colon  
Cynthia Contreras  
Debra Copertino  
Sophie Cortes-Thomas  
James Costa  
Maria Cseh  
Christopher Dahlstrand  
Nicholas Deavellar  
Esther D'Silva  
Elizabeth Exner  
Joseph Fauvel  
Bendetta Fuller  
Patrick Hadlock  
Laurence Jaffe  
Kathryne Janeiro  
Dana Juntunen  
Shane Juntunen  
Fred Kittinger

### 25 YEARS

Grisette Acevedo  
Rebeca Alonso  
Melissa Anderson  
William Atkinson  
Ray Bacchus  
Elena Beredo

Ana Mack  
Enrique Martinez  
Vivian Martinez  
Lisa Massi  
Erica Mendoza  
Mary Montgomery  
Susan Nisavic  
Stephen O'Connell  
Suphi Ogreten  
Fredrick Okumu  
Jennifer Parham  
Nelson Perez  
Maria Piloto  
Cheryl Piper  
Robert Ramos  
Jan Reason  
Tracey Robinson-Crawford  
Jose Santos  
Gregory Saunders Jr  
Victoria Sharp  
Angelia Smith  
Kellie Tabor  
Martha Tirado  
Thien-Thanh Tran  
Kinte Vickers  
Pete Wallace  
Heidi Watt  
Kristin Wetherbee  
Mary Williams

Joseph Bizon  
Jeanne Blank  
Yasmin Brady  
Thomas Campana  
Pedro Cordero  
Carla Cordoba

### 25 YEARS

Laura Crouch  
Stefanie DelGiudice  
Madi Dogariu  
Jeffery Golub  
Susan Hicks  
Pamela Jaggernaut  
Barbara Kelly-Hursey  
Jennifer Krolowitz  
Narene Lindauer  
Julio Luna  
Dennis Maddox  
Paula McClure  
Robin McCormick  
Douglas O'Brien

### 30 YEARS

Jeanine Clements  
Kellie Dearmas  
Larry Eflin  
Michelle Embach  
Perry Fraser  
Jamie LaMoreaux  
Judith Montilla  
Jacqueline Morales

### 35 YEARS

Marisa Gonzalez  
Antionette Lee  
Delores Lewis  
Lisa Matty

### 40 YEARS

Patricia Hall

David Pavlonnis  
Esther Pennepacker  
Miyerladi Perez  
Rebecca Piety  
Emily Rank  
Debra Reynolds  
Susan Schroen  
Lavonia Scott  
Bradley Smith  
Kimberly Smith  
Mary Stanley  
Kelly Stevens  
Cheryl Stripling  
Dale Voorhees

Vallery Morton  
Amy Perry  
Ray Ramotar  
Lori Safford  
Carolyn Standner  
Lisa Vaughn  
Mark Wagenhauser  
David Zambri

Karen Norum  
Kari Stiles  
Lisa Wayte

# RECOGNITION OF RETIREES

Sandra Austin  
Griselle Baez-Munoz  
Elena Beredo  
Wayne Bonacci  
Carmen Brache  
Deirdre Campbell  
Ron Carey  
Ina Carpenter  
Laurie Carroll  
Brenda Catrett  
Patricia Coderre  
Amparo Contreras  
Theresa Corral  
Angie Feliciano  
Allan Garnett  
Elizabeth Irizarry  
Bunnie Jackson  
Kathleen Janda  
Michael Jimenez  
Jacqueline Johnson  
Tamara Jones  
Thomas Lancione  
Maggie LeClair  
Toni Lee  
Elizabeth Livingston  
Fanny Lopez  
Ivette Martinez

Ellen McDade  
Russell Muller  
Dorann Mullins  
Janet Nettles  
Karen Norum  
Sophie Overlock  
Cindy Padilla  
Renee Phillips  
Buddy Pittman  
Susan Pruchnicki  
Ray Ramotar  
Wylette Robinson  
Edna Rolle  
Miriam Rosario  
Maryline Rosario  
Jerry Ross  
Rajendra Shah  
Alana Shepherd  
Kari Stiles  
Yu Tang  
Debra Urban  
Jose Vazquez  
Julie Wagner  
Paul White  
Jan Whitehouse  
Chip Youngblood



# EMERITUS AND EMERITA MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATION

Lynn Hepner

# CHAMPION OF STUDENT SUCCESS AND WELL-BEING

Shane Juntunen

*Unleashing  
Potential*



# EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE AWARDS

These awards are offered by the university to highlight **A&P, USPS, and OPS-Non-Student Employees who have done something innovative, inspiring, and/or exceptional** in support of our campus community. Honorees were nominated by university leadership to be considered for this special recognition.

## WINNERS

### COMMUNITY WELL-BEING

Nissa Suarez Saldana  
Roman Watkins

### DISCOVERY AND INNOVATION

Avra Kundu  
Venessa Nieves

### OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Austin Bott  
Patrick Higman

### SERVICE AND PARTNERSHIP

Rick Catusus  
Margaret Zorrilla

### STUDENT SUCCESS

Jenna Nobili  
Judy Rechsteiner

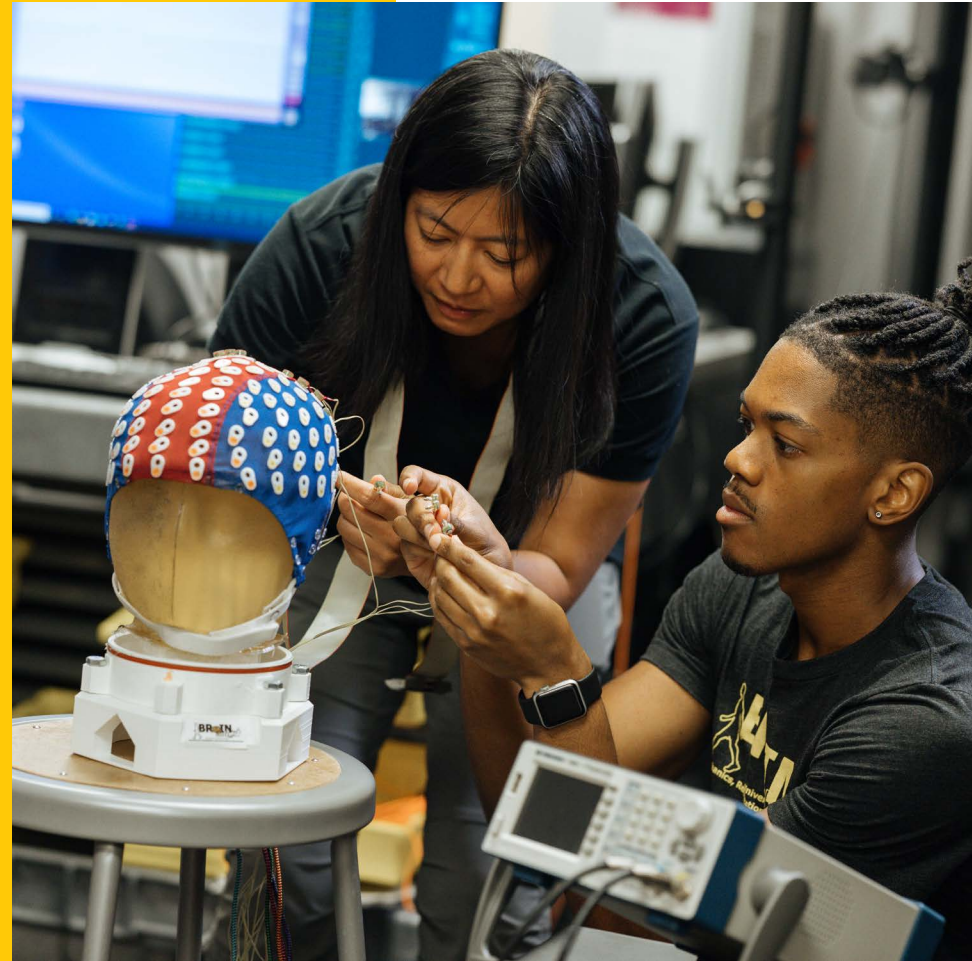
## NOMINEES

Sarah Miklos  
Rodger (Lee) Smith  
Edwanna Andrews  
Kimberly Banks  
Morgan Bauer  
Josh Bedwell  
Bonnie Belot  
Robin Chan  
Padmini Coopamah Waldron  
Regina Dennison  
Mario DeVera  
Andrea Gandy  
Nancy Gayton  
Mary Gladding  
Christina Grosso  
Jordan Grushka  
Isha Guerrero-Londeree  
Louann Huynh  
Lee Anne Kirkpatrick  
Stacy Little  
Carla Markx  
Mike McKee  
Stephanie Mederos

Vanessa Nixon  
Kyrie Ottaviani  
Kristell Padell  
Marilez Pagan  
Debbie Pope  
Michael Pugh  
Raiza Ramos-Deatherage  
Ryan Retherford  
Rex Roberts  
Josefina Rosario  
Kimberly Santiago  
Jessica Scheck  
Heather Simeon  
Jenny Shen  
Barbara Smith  
Nicole Stahl  
Jennifer Steele  
Farrah Torres  
Suzette Turner  
Ashli VanHorn  
Kristin Wetherbee  
Danta White  
Deanna Williams

# FACULTY AWARDS

UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING  
GRADUATE TEACHING  
RESEARCH  
MENTORING DOCTORAL STUDENTS  
MENTORING POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLARS  
FACULTY ACADEMIC ADVISING  
INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN  
PROFESSIONAL SERVICE  
LIBRARIANSHIP  
CHAMPION OF STUDENT SUCCESS AND WELL-BEING  
FACULTY SENATE SERVICE  
RECOGNITION OF SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY  
RECOGNITION OF RETIREES  
MEDAL OF SOCIETAL IMPACT  
EMERITUS AND EMERITA MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY  
REACH FOR THE STARS  
PEGASUS PROFESSOR



# EXCELLENCE IN UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING

## COLLEGE AWARDS

### College of Arts and Humanities

Ilenia Colon  
Matthew Dombrowski  
Ashley Taylor  
Keri Watson

### College of Business Administration

Leslie Connell

### College of Community Innovation and Education

Elizabeth Hoffman  
Iryna Malendevych  
Olga Russell

### College of Engineering and Computer Science

Zakhia Abichar  
Sudeshna Pal

### College of Health Professions and Sciences

Susanny Beltran  
Alison Redd

### College of Medicine

Kersten Schroeder

### College of Nursing

Jonathan Decker

### College of Optics and Photonics

Ivan Divliansky

### College of Sciences

Rachid Ait Maalem Lahcen  
Michael Callaghan  
Michelle Gaither  
Ann Miller  
Joanna Mishtal

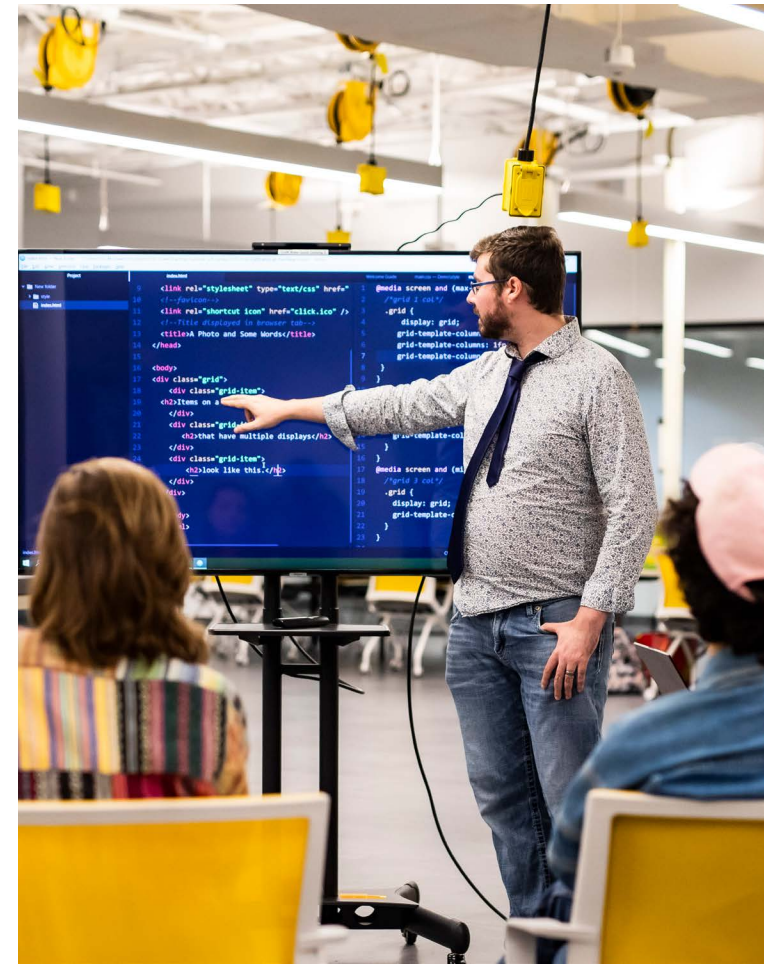
### Rosen College of Hospitality Management

Steven Brinkman

## UNIVERSITY AWARD

### College of Sciences

Rachid Ait Maalem Lahcen



# EXCELLENCE IN GRADUATE TEACHING

## COLLEGE AWARDS

### College of Arts and Humanities

Julia Listengarten

### College of Business Administration

Lealand Morin

### College of Community Innovation and Education

Debbie Hahs-Vaughn

### College of Engineering and Computer Science

George Atia

### College of Health Professions and Sciences

Morris Beato

### College of Medicine

Mariana Dangiolo

### College of Nursing

Desiree Diaz

### College of Optics and Photonics

Romain Gaume

### College of Sciences

Thomas Dolan

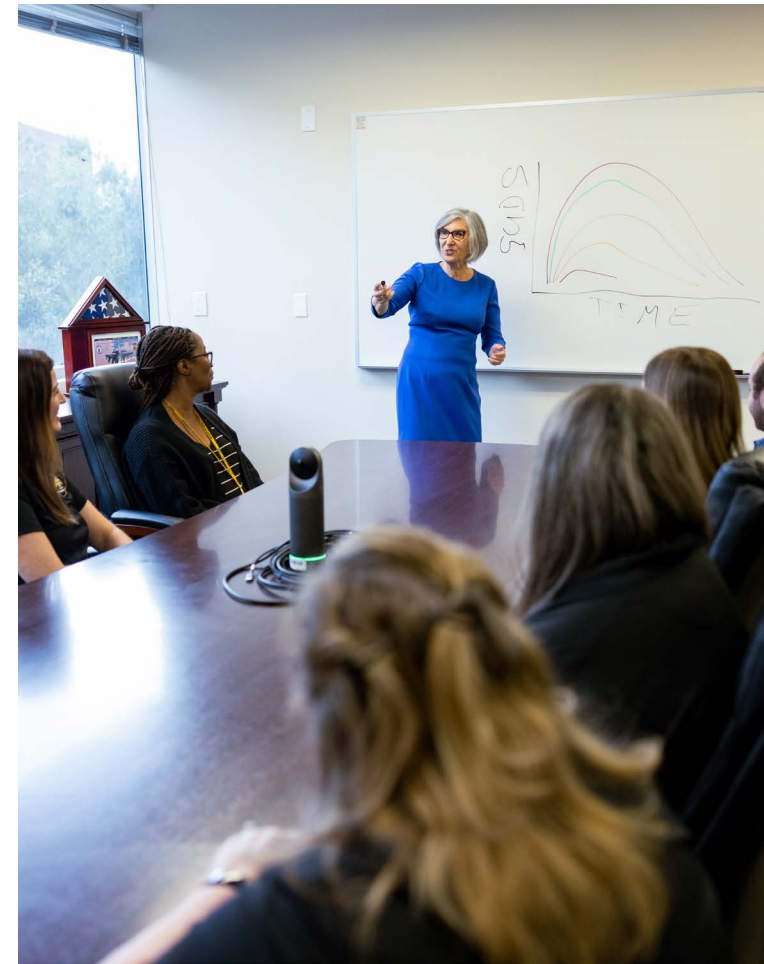
### Rosen College of Hospitality Management

Juhee Kang

## UNIVERSITY AWARD

### College of Community Innovation and Education

Debbie Hahs-Vaughn



# EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

## COLLEGE AWARDS

### College of Arts and Humanities

Sandra Sousa

### College of Business Administration

Khim Kelly

### College of Community Innovation and Education

Bethany Backes

### College of Engineering and Computer Science

Yongho Sohn

### College of Health Professions and Sciences

Lauren Bislick

### College of Medicine

Debopam Chakrabarti

### College of Nursing

Victoria Loerzel

### College of Optics and Photonics

Kyle Renshaw

### College of Sciences

Joanna Mishtal

### College of Undergraduate Studies

Sharon Woodill

### Rosen College of Hospitality Management

Arthur Huang

## UNIVERSITY AWARD

### College of Engineering and Computer Science

Yongho Sohn



## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

“In my time working at UCF I’ve gotten to see lunar simulant (synthetic moon dirt), learn about the world’s shortest laser pulses at CREOL, listen to speakers talk about the engineering of the James Webb space telescope, and run into teachers from local schools who gushed about UCF STEM Day events. It’s cool that we get to *contribute to all those amazing things just by doing a good job* in our own areas. We really do make a difference.”

**GIAN-KARLO ALVAREZ**  
Partner  
Human Resources

## EXCELLENCE IN MENTORING DOCTORAL STUDENTS

### College of Sciences

Robert Dvorak

### College of Engineering and Computer Science

Ahmad Elshennawy

## EXCELLENCE IN MENTORING POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLARS

### College of Engineering and Computer Science

Mubarak Shah

## EXCELLENCE IN FACULTY ACADEMIC ADVISING

### College of Sciences

Tamra Legron-Rodriguez

## EXCELLENCE IN INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN

### Division of Digital Learning

Denise Lowe

## EXCELLENCE IN PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

### UCF Libraries

Kristine Shrauger

## EXCELLENCE IN LIBRARIANSHIP

### UCF Libraries

Lily Dubach

## CHAMPION OF STUDENT SUCCESS AND WELL-BEING

### College of Health Professions and Sciences

Kim Anderson

### College of Sciences

Alison Cares  
Amie Newins

## FACULTY SENATE SERVICE

### 10 YEARS

### College of Community Innovation and Education

Bobby Hoffman

### College of Engineering and Computer Science

Kevin Coffey  
Sumanta Pattanaik

### 20 YEARS

### College of Arts and Humanities

Mason Cash

# RECOGNITION OF SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY

## 20 YEARS

### College of Arts and Humanities

Amy Darty  
Luis Martinez Fernandez  
Judi Siegfried

### College of Business Administration

Xin He  
Anand Krishnamoorthy

### College of Community Innovation and Education

Alice Noblin  
Lee-Anne Trimble Spalding

### College of Engineering and Computer Science

Ozlem Garibay

### College of Health Professions and Sciences

Shawn Lawrence

### College of Nursing

Christopher Blackwell  
Stephen Heglund

### College of Sciences

Timothy Brown  
Thomas Brueckner  
Enrique Del Barco  
Tammy Muhs  
Jeffrey Bedwell  
Steven Neel

### Florida Solar Energy Center

James Fenton

### Office of Research

Artem Masunov

### Rosen College of Hospitality Management

Hans Hagglund

### UCF Libraries

Andrew Todd

## 30 YEARS

### College of Arts and Humanities

Amy Barnickel  
Jocelyn Bartkevicius  
Rosalind Beiler  
Marie Leticee  
Jeffrey Moore  
Joanne Stephenson

### College of Business Administration

James Gilkeson

### College of Community Innovation and Education

Karol Lucken

### College of Engineering and Computer Science

Michael Proctor

### College of Health Professions and Sciences

Martine Vanryckeghem

### College of Sciences

Kerstin Hamann  
Mustapha Mouloua  
Elizabeth Mustaine

## 40 YEARS

### College of Sciences

Ram Mohapatra  
Gary Richardson  
Kuppalapalle Vajravelu

## 45 YEARS

### Florida Solar Energy Center

Philip Fairey

## 48 YEARS

### College of Health Professions and Sciences

L. Timothy Worrell

# RECOGNITION OF RETIREES

## College of Arts and Humanities

Michelle Adams  
Stephen Ethridge  
Keith Kovach  
Earl Weaver

## College of Business Administration

Anthony Byrd  
Barbara Durham  
Richard Lapchick  
Pamela Roush  
John Solow

## College of Community Innovation and Education

Sue Mahan  
Roberto Potter  
Maria Reyes

## College of Engineering and Computer Science

Richard Biehl  
Samuel Richie

## College of Health Professions and Sciences

Joseph DiNapoli  
Jacqueline Withers

## College of Medicine

Diane Davey  
Victor Davidson

## College of Nursing

Charlotte Neubauer

## College of Optics and Photonics

Jim Moharam

## College of Sciences

Robert Bledsoe  
Mohammed Daoudi  
Seth Elsheimer  
Terri Fine  
Elizabeth Grauerholz  
Elizabeth Harris  
Lisa Peterson  
Mark Schafer

## Division of Digital Learning

Kathleen Bastedo

## UCF Libraries

Terrie Sypolt

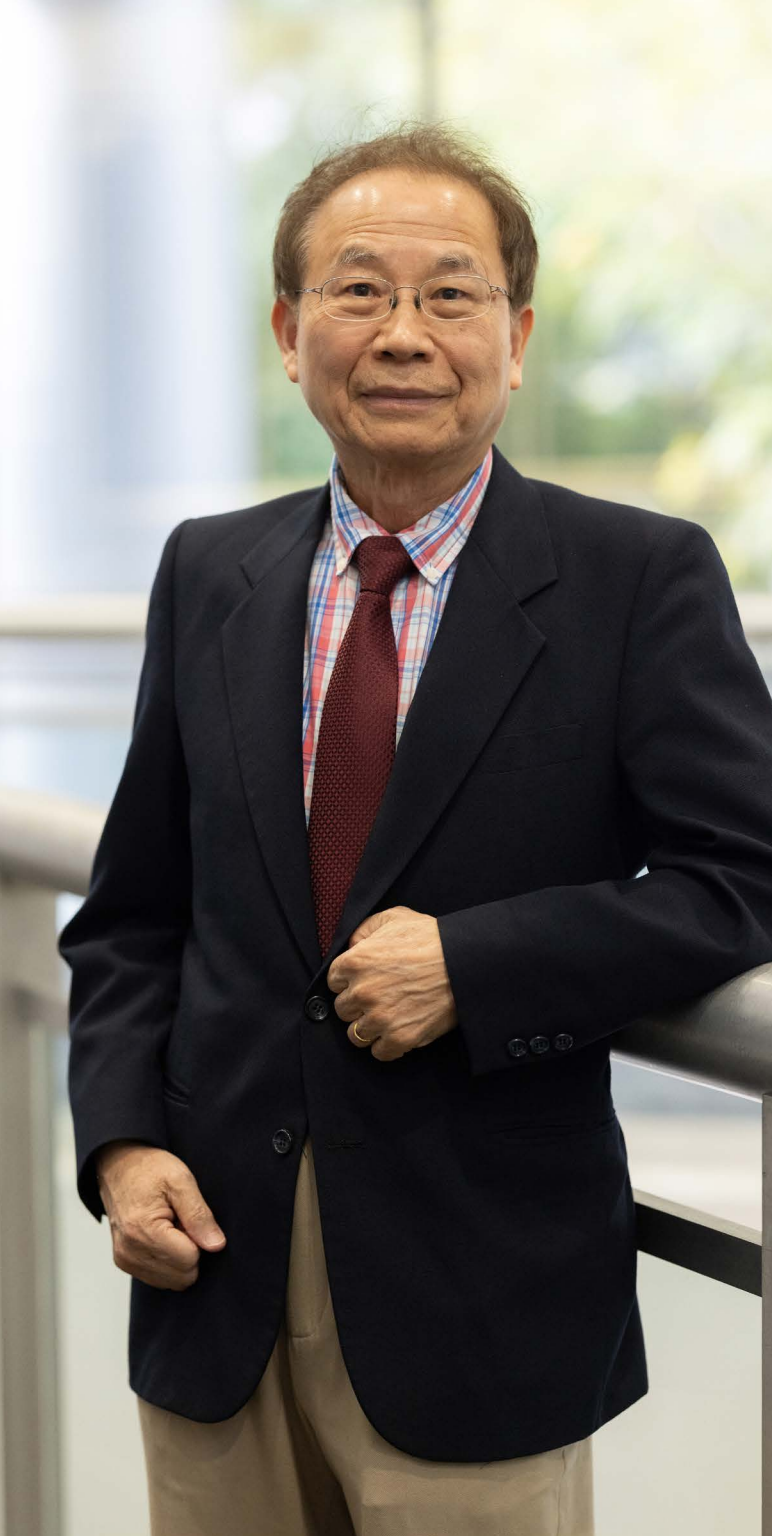


## UNLEASHING POTENTIAL

“I chose to work at UCF because I was impressed by UCF’s level of commitment not only for the success of their students but for their employees.

UCF places a **strong emphasis and value on the unleashing of one’s potential** and provides the tools and resources necessary for their employees to thrive and grow both personally and professionally and I experienced this firsthand in the hiring process before even starting at UCF.”

**JASMIN A. JONES**  
Academic Advocate  
*Student Success and Advising*



# MEDAL OF SOCIETAL IMPACT

UCF's newest faculty honor, the **Medal of Societal Impact**, recognizes faculty whose research has contributed significantly to the benefit of humankind. Honorees are selected by an external committee comprised of members from the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering and the National Academy of Medicine.

The award includes a \$50,000 grant and shines a bright spotlight on a core aspect of a public university's mission — conducting research, scholarship and creative activities for the betterment of our society.

**SHIN-TSON WU**

COLLEGE OF OPTICS AND PHOTONICS

# EMERITUS & EMERITA



## EMERITUS AND EMERITA MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY

### College of Arts and Humanities

PROFESSOR EMERITUS  
Keith Koons

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR EMERITUS  
Keith Kovach

### College of Business Administration

PROFESSOR EMERITA  
Maureen Ambrose

PROFESSOR EMERITUS  
Marshall Schminke

### College of Engineering and Computer Science

PROFESSOR EMERITUS  
Kevin Coffey

### College of Nursing

PROFESSOR EMERITUS  
Angeline Bushy

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR EMERITA  
Maureen Covelli

### College of Optics and Photonics

PROFESSOR EMERITUS  
Leonid Glebov

UNIVERSITY DISTINGUISHED  
PROFESSOR EMERITUS  
Bahaa Saleh

### College of Sciences

PROFESSOR EMERITA  
Terri Fine

PROFESSOR EMERITA  
Elizabeth Grauerholz

PROFESSOR EMERITUS  
Steve Jex

PROFESSOR EMERITUS  
Philip Pollock

PROFESSOR EMERITUS  
David Rollins



## LASTING IMPACT

“The best aspect of the job is the weekly teaching that I do with UCF nursing students. They are the best of the best and I am very proud of them.

*The students in my classes today will be my RN colleagues tomorrow.* The clinical, classroom, and global service-learning teaching that I do at UCF is the very best part of my job.”

**SOTOS G. DJIOVANIS**  
Instructor, Nursing Practice  
College of Nursing

# EMERITUS AND EMERITA MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATION

Louis J. Acierno	William F. Carroll	Robert C. Ford	William H. Johnson
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Henry R. Anderson	Lee Chow	Ke Francis	Halsey R. Jones
Diane Andrews	Christian Clausen	Terry J. Frederick	Frank E. Juge, Jr.
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Dale Bandy	Jay Corzine	Harold E. Green	James L. Koevenig
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Zeldovich Boris	Sophia Dziegielewski	Susan Hubbard	Brooks C. Madsen
Subir K. Bose	Charles D. Dziuban	John W. Hubler	Donald Malocha
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 M. Timothy O'Keefe  
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 Walter K. Taylor  
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 Margaret Thomas  
 William Thompson  
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 Dawn Trouard  
 LeVester Tubbs  
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 Marty Wanielista  
 Bruce Whisler  
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 Gary E. Whitehouse  
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 Diane Wink  
 Rudy J. Wodzinski  
 J. Gary Wolf  
 Burton Wright  
 James Wright  
 Edgar B. Wycoff  
 Marvin M. Yarosh  
 Bonnie Yegidis  
 Gour-Tsyh (George) Yeh  
 Denise Young  
 Mark Young  
 Yousef A. Yousef  
 Boris Zeldovich



# REACH FOR THE STARS

The prestigious **Reach for the Stars** award recognizes early-career professionals with highly successful research and creative activity that has a national or international impact. Honorees share a dedication to advancing knowledge and addressing real-world challenges within their respective fields. Each researcher demonstrates a commitment to innovation, whether it's in clean energy, healthcare, performing arts or manufacturing.

Their Reach for the Stars awards highlight their contributions to academia and underscore UCF's commitment to fostering groundbreaking research. The prestigious award is second only to Pegasus Professor as UCF's highest faculty honor.

Honorees will receive a \$10,000 annual research grant for three years in addition to the distinction of being an award recipient.



**VASILEIOS ANAGNOSTOPOULOS**

COLLEGE OF SCIENCES



**LAUREN BISLICK**

COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS  
AND SCIENCES



**HUNG NGUYEN**

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE



**CHLOË SPENCER**

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES



**DAZHONG WU**

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING  
AND COMPUTER SCIENCE



# PEGASUS PROFESSORS



UCF's **Pegasus Professor** award is the highest honor a faculty member can earn from the university.

Established in 1991, this prestigious award recognizes extraordinary contributions in teaching, research and service. Recipients are distinguished scholars who demonstrate exceptional dedication to their students, innovative research and creative activity, and impactful community engagement.

Pegasus Professors serve as role models for faculty and students, inspiring a university culture of excellence, innovation and community service across campus. Their achievements contribute significantly to UCF's drive to unleash potential as a leading metropolitan research university of local, national and global impact. Honorees are selected by the president and provost and each receives \$5,000.



#### PEGASUS PROFESSOR '24

**“BEING ABLE TO MENTOR STUDENTS IS THE MOST SPECIAL THING FOR ME. THEIR PASSION IS INFECTIOUS.”**

---

**DR. THOMAS BRYER** is a professor in the School of Public Administration within the **College of Community Innovation and Education**. Based at UCF Downtown, where he is director of Community-Engaged Scholarship, he is a global authority on civic engagement and how communities, government, business, faith-based and other organizations can collaborate for a brighter future.

His prolific research includes 10 books that address that address democracy's great challenges, including teaching the next generation about democratic ideals and overcoming civic apathy and paralysis to improve neighborhoods and communities. He has won multiple awards for his research, teaching, and service. Those include being earning a Global Lithuanian Leader Award for Scientific Contribution. He maintains an affiliation at Kaunas University of Technology in Lithuania as project chief researcher and professor. He has also done work in Russia and is a visiting professor in the Institute for Social Responsibility at Edge Hill University in the United Kingdom.

He joined UCF in 2007 and earned his Ph.D. in public administration from the University of Southern California in Los Angeles.

**“UCF IS A YOUNG INSTITUTION. ITS GROWTH IS CREATING NEW OPPORTUNITIES AND DIRECTIONS, AND THAT’S VERY GRATIFYING.”**

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**DR. DEBOPAM CHAKRABARTI** is a professor with the **College of Medicine** where he also heads the Molecular Microbiology Division. He enjoys training the next generation of scientists and is internationally recognized for his pioneering work to treat and prevent malaria, which afflicts about half of the world population.

He arrived at UCF in 1995 and has been instrumental in the growth of UCF’s biomedical research programs and the formation of UCF’s Burnett School of Biomedical Sciences. Chakrabarti has received grant funding from organizations such as the National Institutes of Health and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and his work has resulted in four patents and four pending patent applications for novel antimalarial compounds.

He has served on various NIH and Department of Defense grant review panels and has a long record of engagement with professional organizations in his field. He earned his Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of Calcutta and did post-doctoral training in molecular biology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.



#### PEGASUS PROFESSOR '24

**“MY FAVORITE THING ABOUT UCF IS WATCHING IT GROW, EXPANDING THE EDUCATIONAL AREAS, AND BECOMING MORE PRESTIGIOUS IN RESEARCH.”**

---

**DR. DAMLA TURGUT** is the Charles Millican Professor and chair of the Computer Science Department in the **College of Engineering and Computer Science**. She is highly regarded for her research in wireless communication networks, swarm robotics and mobile computing and champions the development of faculty and programs that advance student success.

Her extensive research interests include edge-cloud computing, smart cities, smart grids, Internet of Things-enabled healthcare and augmented reality, as well as considerations of privacy on the internet. Turgut has held visiting researcher positions at the University of Rome, the Imperial College London and the KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Sweden. She is widely published and active in various professional organizations, including as the current editor-in-chief of Computer Communications, an international journal for the computer and telecommunications industry. Turgut is also deeply committed to mentoring students.

She joined UCF in 2002 after earning her Ph.D. in computer science and engineering from the University of Texas at Arlington.

## PAST RECIPIENTS OF THE PEGASUS PROFESSOR AWARD

Mohamed Abdel-Aty  
 Maureen Ambrose  
 Issa Batarseh  
 Deborah Beidel  
 Kevin Belfield  
 Clint Bowers  
 Daniel Britt  
 Humberto Campins  
 Zenghu Chang  
 Arlen F. Chase  
 Diane Z. Chase  
 Demetrios Christodoulides  
 Joshua Colwell  
 Humberto Cruz  
 Henry Daniell  
 Peter J. Delfyett, Jr.  
 Enrique Del Barco  
 Ronald DeMara  
 Lisa Dieker  
 Aristide Dogariu  
 Karen Dow  
 Charles D. Dziuban  
 Llewellyn M. Ehrhart  
 Jose B. Fernandez  
 Cristina Fernandez-Valle  
 Stephen Fiore  
 Robert Folger  
 Michael Georgiopoulos  
 Jane Gibson  
 Avelino Gonzalez  
 David Hagan  
 Kerstin Hamann  
 Peter Hancock  
 Joseph Harrington  
 Kien A. Hua  
 Charles E. Hughes  
 Michael C. Hynes  
 Jana Jasinski  
 Jayanta Kapat  
 Naim Kapucu  
 Waldemar Karwowski

Alain Kassab  
 Jennifer Kent-Walsh  
 Ranganathan Kumar  
 Julia Listengarten  
 Donald Malocha  
 Luis Martinez-Fernandez  
 Reed Noss  
 Marianna Pensky  
 Jennifer Platt  
 Tison Pugh  
 Zhihua Qu  
 Talat Rahman  
 Debra R. Reinhart  
 Kathleen Richardson  
 Martin Richardson  
 Robin Roberts  
 Jeff Rupert  
 Eduardo Salas  
 Marshall Schminke  
 Sudipta Seal  
 Timothy Sellnow  
 Mubarak Shah  
 Yongho Sohn  
 Mary Lou Sole  
 Jeffrey Stout  
 Eric Van Stryland  
 Stella Sung  
 Martine Vanryckeghem  
 Linda Walters  
 Marty Wanielista  
 Gregory Welch  
 Graham Worthy  
 James Wright  
 Shin-Tson Wu  
 Cherie Yestrebsky  
 Cynthia Young  
 Jiann-Shiun Yuan



### UNLEASHING POTENTIAL

“UCF is a place of **unparalleled opportunities, a bastion of excellence** where I can fervently pursue my curiosities and passions. I’ve met many incredible people and forged lifelong memories while developing qualities that will allow me to make an impact on the world.”

#### JUSTIN DAVIS

2024 Class of the Order of Pegasus  
 Majoring in Biomedical Sciences,  
 Biotechnology, and Political Science

Burnett Honors College, College of  
 Medicine, College of Sciences



# STUDENT AWARDS

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COLLEGE FOUNDERS' AWARDS  
UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARDS  
GRADUATE RESEARCH AWARDS  
ORDER OF PEGASUS



# COLLEGE FOUNDERS' AWARDS

Each dean chooses one **exceptional undergraduate student** who has demonstrated outstanding ability in their field of study. This recognition and award acknowledge the commitment and accomplishments of a college winner who has achieved success beyond the classroom. As an award recipient, honorees will receive a \$500 Founders' Student Award in addition to the distinction of being recognized for their achievements.



**Isabella Moreno**  
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND  
HUMANITIES



**Trey Abrahams**  
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS  
ADMINISTRATION



**Thomas Robertson**  
COLLEGE OF COMMUNITY  
INNOVATION AND EDUCATION



**Catherine Gregorius**  
COLLEGE OF COMMUNITY  
INNOVATION AND EDUCATION,  
BURNETT HONORS COLLEGE



**Natalie Longtin**  
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING  
AND COMPUTER SCIENCE



**Calvin MacDonald**  
COLLEGE OF HEALTH  
PROFESSIONS  
AND SCIENCES



**Shreya Pawar**  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE



**Rebekah May**  
COLLEGE OF NURSING



**Isabelle Lebron**  
COLLEGE OF OPTICS AND  
PHOTONICS



**Christine Bui**  
COLLEGE OF SCIENCES



**Emily Padden**  
COLLEGE OF  
UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES



**Eduin Rodriguez**  
ROSEN COLLEGE OF  
HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT

# UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARDS

## Outstanding Honors Undergraduate Thesis

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Alyssa Bent

COLLEGE OF COMMUNITY INNOVATION  
AND EDUCATION

Nefertari Elshiekh

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND  
COMPUTER SCIENCE

Kevin Hanekom

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Raj Patel

# GRADUATE RESEARCH AWARDS

## Outstanding Creative Work

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

(Anne) Njeri Kinuthia

## Outstanding Dissertation

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Corey Seavey

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Ce Zheng

## Outstanding Master's Thesis

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

Tajnuba Hasan

COLLEGE OF HEALTH

PROFESSIONS AND SCIENCES

Jason Pagan

# ORDER OF PEGASUS

The **Order of Pegasus** is the highest honor that a student can achieve at UCF. Honorees are selected because of their exemplary academic achievement, leadership, and community service, as well as outstanding university involvement.

Induction into the prestigious Order of Pegasus is reserved for students who have significantly impacted their field of study, campus community, or broader. They are researchers, athletes, student leaders, teaching assistants, and artists who have achieved groundbreaking, national and global recognition and impact.

Since 2001, a total of 421 exceptional individuals have joined the ranks of the Order of Pegasus, each contributing their unique talents and achievements to our university's legacy.

ORDER OF PEGASUS



**Jida Awa**  
ROSEN COLLEGE OF HOSPITALITY  
MANAGEMENT



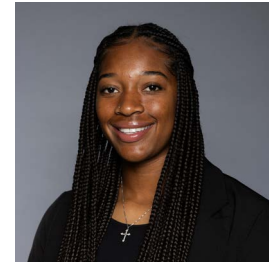
**Leah Basaria**  
COLLEGE OF SCIENCES,  
BURNETT HONORS COLLEGE



**PS Berge**  
COLLEGE OF ARTS  
AND HUMANITIES



**Olivia Bitcon**  
COLLEGE OF SCIENCES



**Jada Cody**  
COLLEGE OF HEALTH  
PROFESSIONS AND SCIENCES



**Nathalia Cordero  
Rodriguez**  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE



**Akhila Damarla**  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE



**Justin Davis**  
COLLEGE OF SCIENCES,  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE,  
BURNETT HONORS COLLEGE



**Yasmine Ghattas**  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE



**Brandon Greenaway**  
COLLEGE OF SCIENCES



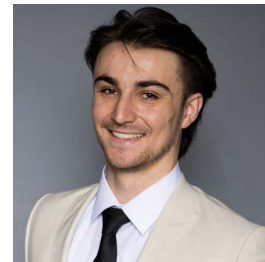
**Taylor Haycock**  
COLLEGE OF SCIENCES,  
BURNETT HONORS COLLEGE



**Katherine Johnsen**  
COLLEGE OF SCIENCES



**Alejandro Lopez Zelaya**  
COLLEGE OF OPTICS  
AND PHOTONICS



**Calvin MacDonald**  
COLLEGE OF HEALTH  
PROFESSIONS AND SCIENCES



**Sydney Martinez**  
COLLEGE OF HEALTH  
PROFESSIONS AND SCIENCES

## ORDER OF PEGASUS



**Rebekah May**  
COLLEGE OF NURSING



**Aadith Menon**  
COLLEGE OF HEALTH  
PROFESSIONS AND SCIENCES



**Charlotte Moore**  
COLLEGE OF SCIENCES



**Keidra Daniels Navaroli**  
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND  
HUMANITIES



**Mai Ly Nguyen-Luu**  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE,  
BURNETT HONORS COLLEGE



**Ishaan Patel**  
COLLEGE OF HEALTH  
PROFESSIONS AND SCIENCES,  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE



**Nisha Phillip-Malahoo**  
COLLEGE OF COMMUNITY  
INNOVATION AND EDUCATION



**Lauren Ray**  
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND  
COMPUTER SCIENCE



**Paola M. Rivera**  
COLLEGE OF HEALTH  
PROFESSIONS AND SCIENCES



**James Rujimora**  
COLLEGE OF COMMUNITY  
INNOVATION AND EDUCATION



**Mariana Sorroza Aguilar**  
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND  
COMPUTER SCIENCE,  
COLLEGE OF SCIENCES



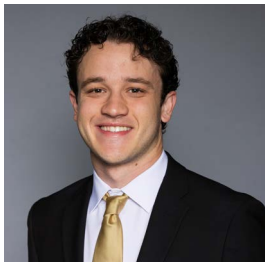
**Samantha Stoltz**  
COLLEGE OF SCIENCES



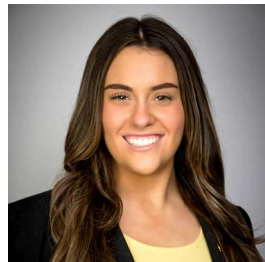
**Darya Sulkouskaya**  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE,  
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND  
HUMANITIES



**Isabeau Tyndall**  
COLLEGE OF SCIENCES



**Lucas Vieira**  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE



**Gianna Wegman**  
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS  
ADMINISTRATION

Thank you to the **incredible employees, faculty, students, alumni, families, and supporters** who help to unleash the potential within every individual, enriching the human experience through access, discovery, and innovation, and propelling broad-based prosperity for the many communities we serve.

# GO KNIGHTS, CHARGE ON!



KEEP REACHING FOR THE STARS