Message from the Dean
This is a warm welcome to all returning graduate students and to those who have enrolled for the first time at the University of Florida Graduate School. Please know that the Graduate School is a location of resources for you and we will be offering a number of activities this semester in which we hope many of you will choose to participate. Importantly, we offer congratulations to those graduating this semester and summer. To our upcoming graduates, we share our hopes for major successes as you embark on your postgraduate school careers. Finally, please know too that as graduate students at the University of Florida you are one of our most precious resources, and you have the fullest support from the Graduate School. Go Gators!

Henry T. Frierson, Ph.D.
Associate Vice President and Dean of the Graduate School
What We Were Up To:

Graduate School Pre-Homecoming Open House Tailgate

The Graduate School hosted a Pre-Homecoming Open House Tailgate to welcome the UF community to our newly renovated space on the first floor of Grinter Hall. With hot dogs, burgers, snow cones and raffle prizes, we had more than 240 students, faculty and staff who attended the event!

Chat with the Dean

In the fall, the Graduate School kicked off its monthly Chat with the Dean Brown Bag Lunch series. Students were able to share some of their graduate school experiences and ask questions about what it means to be a graduate student at UF. This event will continue in the spring and will be held the first Wednesday in February, March and April from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. in 110 Grinter Hall. Current and prospective graduate students are encouraged to attend.

Gator Graduate Programs Fair

In October, the Graduate School hosted its annual Gator Graduate Programs Fair, formerly known as Graduate Information Day, in the Reitz Union. This event is an opportunity for the UF and Gainesville community to learn about the many degree programs offered at the University of Florida. More than 50 UF colleges and departments were represented. This event is open to the public and will be held again in October 2018.
Dissertation Writing Workshop and Writing Boot Camp

On Nov. 9, the Graduate School hosted its first Dissertation Writing Workshop. More than 100 graduate students were in attendance, and the workshop was facilitated by Dr. Vernetta Williams, author of “I’m Not a Writer...I’m Just in Graduate School: A Guide to Writing Critically, Clearly and Coherently.” The following week, 12 graduate students were selected to participate in the Writing Boot Camp, facilitated by the Office of Graduate Diversity Initiatives and Dr. Williams. For more information regarding the Dissertation Writing Workshop, please contact ogdi@aa.ufl.edu.

Puerto Rico Relief Efforts

In September, Hurricane Maria left thousands of people in Puerto Rico without food, power, shelter or transportation. Doctoral student Pedro Adorno Maldonado, alongside the Engineering School of Sustainable Infrastructure and Environment (ESSIE) and the Office of Graduate Diversity Initiatives, collected water, other liquids, clothing, hygiene products, pet food, batteries, first aid kits and other items which were successfully delivered to the affected Puerto Rico community. We are grateful for the overwhelming amount of support that Pedro’s team received from the UF community.

Three Minute Thesis Competition

This past November, the Graduate School held the fourth UF Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competition with help from the Organization for Graduate Student Advancement and Professional Development. The competition is designed for students to present their research in only three minutes to a panel of judges. Our winners were:

- **1st Place:** Thiago Borba Onofre, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences
- **Runner-Up:** Ting Dong, College of Engineering
- **People’s Choice:** Enrico Barrozo, College of Medicine

[Click Here to Learn More About 3MT]
Where Have We Been?

Recruitment and Conferences
The Graduate School had a busy fall semester traveling. Staff attended several recruitment fairs and conferences, including:

- National Black Student Union Conference
- Bouchet Society Steering Committee Meeting
- Southern Regional Education Board
- Graduate and Professional Fair
- McKnight Conference
- FAMU Feeder Conference
- NASPA Multicultural Institute

The Graduate School and English Language Institute also participated in the 2017 South American EducationUSA Fair Circuit including stops in Asuncion, Paraguay; Santiago, Chile; Lima, Peru; Quito and Guayaquil, Ecuador; and Bogota, Colombia. During the circuit, there were networking events with officials from institutions of higher education, Fulbright, the US Embassy, and EducationUSA in each city. There were also meetings with two government agencies (BECAL in Paraguay and CONICYT in Chile) that fund students for graduate study abroad. Participation in the circuit resulted in the development of connections with high-quality institutional partners throughout the region.

Teaching Abroad in Summer 2017
Four UF graduate students taught for a two-week period at Universidad de La Salle in Bogota, Colombia while two other students taught for four weeks at Universidad del Norte (UNINORTE) in Barranquilla, Colombia. At La Salle, students taught courses in Network Infrastructure for Smart Cities, Entrepreneurship and Human Rights and Social Justice across the Spectrum of Culture and Lifespan Development. College of Education students taught in the English Language Program at UNINORTE’s Instituto de Idiomas. The students said they were pleased with the quality of their experiences, and enjoyed interacting with the students and engaging in cultural experiences.
For first-year Ph.D. student Isabel Laurenceau, the increasing popularity of wearable technology presents a chance to study how people relate to their technology and an opportunity to shape the trend for the better.

“I think wearables can definitely be used for good, and we need to always be conscious about how our current technologies can be implemented to better society,” she wrote. Laurenceau’s current research into this frontier aims to see if low-income users without consistent access to healthcare can benefit from wearable technology that could help them recognize illness symptoms.

Laurenceau chose UF to continue her education because she had already worked in Dr. Juan Gilbert’s (Chair of the Computer & Information Science & Engineering Department) Human-Experience Research Lab as an undergraduate and saw an opportunity to continue projects with his support. She decided to go into her field because it offered her the chance to be creative while also being able to help people.

“Programming and tech in general gives me the freedom to stay creative in my work while still contributing to society in a positive manner.”

Laurenceau hopes to stay in academia as a professor before pursuing leadership positions.
New Graduate Student Funding (‘17-'18 fiscal year):

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>213</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>15</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate School Funding Awards</td>
<td>Graduate School Doctoral Research Travel Awards</td>
<td>Graduate School Doctoral Dissertation Awards</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>103</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplemental Retention Scholarships</td>
<td>Dolores Auzenne Dissertation Awards</td>
<td>Graduate School Preeminence Awards</td>
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Award and Program Application Deadlines:

- **Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society**: Deadline: January 26
- **Diversity Enhancement Award**: Deadline: N/A
- **Graduate School Doctoral Dissertation Award**: Deadline: March 30
- **Graduate School Doctoral Research Travel Award**: Deadline: April 6
- **Dolores Auzenne Dissertation Award**: Deadline: April 9
- **Supplemental Retention Scholarship**: Deadline: April 13
- **FAMU Feeder Fellowship**: Deadline: April 23
- **McNair Graduate Fellowship**: Deadline: April 23
- **UF/Santa Fe Faculty Development Project**: Deadline: May 1

[Click Here to Read More About Our Funding Opportunities and See Applications]
**Employment Opportunities:**

**Alachua County**

The Alachua County Equal Opportunity Office would like to share its employment opportunities with our graduate students and alumni. A complete listing of available opportunities can be found on the Alachua County website: [http://www.alachuacounty.us/Employment/Pages/Employment.aspx](http://www.alachuacounty.us/Employment/Pages/Employment.aspx). Employment opportunities are updated every Friday.

**Click Here to Visit the Career Resource Center Website**

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**Dates to Remember:**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>February 02</td>
<td>Degree application deadline for degree award this term</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 02</td>
<td>Deadline to withdraw all courses with 25% refund (W assigned)</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 14</td>
<td>Doctoral dissertation first submission to Graduate Editorial Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 03 - March 11</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 16</td>
<td>Master’s thesis first submission to Graduate Editorial Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 02-08</td>
<td>Graduate Student Appreciation Week</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 03</td>
<td>Graduate Student Research Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 11</td>
<td>Final submission deadline to Graduate Editorial Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 13</td>
<td>Last day to withdraw (all courses) via ONE.UF without failing grades</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 25</td>
<td>Classes end</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 25</td>
<td>Deadline for thesis and dissertation students to receive confirmation of Final Clearance status with Graduate Editorial for degree this term</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 04</td>
<td>Commencement</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 08</td>
<td>Degree certification by Graduate Records Office</td>
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**Click Here to See the Full Graduate School Calendar**