



# THE GRAD CONNECTION

The Graduate School Newsletter

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY



*Dr. Mark Riley  
Dean, The Graduate School*

## Message from the Dean

Welcome to the latest edition of The Grad Connection! Our newsletter gives us a chance to share some of the past year's outstanding highlights with you. We hope it brightens up your day during these challenging times! COVID-19 has certainly perturbed things in many significant ways, but our brilliant graduate students have "kept calm, stayed safe and carried on" in their brilliant endeavors.

In the last newsletter, we introduced GradWorld FSU, a new interactive video library about the amazing research activities being accomplished by our students, faculty and post-docs (and yes, we would love to include our alumni too). We launched GradWorld FSU in November 2019 as part of International Student Month, and it has been a spectacular success. Please check out the story and the website for more information. In addition to the well-known Three Minute Thesis competition for doctoral students, we expanded the fun to include Master's students with Master's in 4 and postdoctoral scholars with 5-Minute Research for Postdocs. As always, there has been a lot of activity from our students in securing external funding for their research projects, and you can read

about this plus other related activities in the Office of Graduate Fellowships and Awards (OGFA) updates. There have also been many fantastic things happening with the Fellows Society, the Program for Instructional Excellence (PIE), and the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs (OPDA). Please also check out the latest news from the graduate student-led Diversity & Inclusion in Research & Teaching Organization (DIRECTO), which is winning awards and making such a difference.

As always, we have a special section dedicated to recent accolades of our students and alumni. Please always be sure to alert us to any noteworthy happenings, which we can brag about on our webpage, social media, or in our next newsletter. Please visit The Graduate School's webpage for the latest news and events, and be sure to follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Finally, many thanks to Laura Minor for compiling this newsletter.

Very best regards to each and every one of you! Please do not hesitate to drop me a line so we can continue to inform the world about all the amazing happenings related to graduate education at FSU! Keep mega-safe and well. Enjoy and cherish your family, friends and Mother Earth.... we all need each other! Together, we will get through these challenging times. Go Noles!

Mark Riley, Ph.D.  
Dean of The Graduate School  
[mriley@fsu.edu](mailto:mriley@fsu.edu)



# GRADWorld FSU

## What Is GradWorld FSU?

Florida State University is a global community of students, scholars, researchers and alumni. Now, FSU’s scholarly endeavors will be accessible around the globe through the new, revolutionary website “*GradWorld FSU*”. Similar to Google Earth, *GradWorld FSU* displays a variety of personalized videos from a number of departments and colleges on campus for the purpose of showcasing graduate student achievements and their tremendous contributions to the university and the world at large. Another goal by highlighting scholarly activities at FSU is to attract potential graduate students to apply to Florida State and join our community.

Inspired by the late FSU chemistry professor and Nobel Laureate Sir Harry Kroto’s GEOSSET project, the Graduate School in collaboration with University Communications, University Libraries and the Center for Intensive English Studies, embarked on an initiative to develop an interactive mapping website and video

archive for all FSU degree-seeking or professional graduate students, postdoctoral scholars, alumni and faculty.

## GradWorld FSU Today

Two years later, after collecting more than 250 videos from graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, faculty and alumni, representing over 30 countries and nearly 70 different degree programs the website was launched as part of International Education Month in November 2019.



# GRADWorld FSU

Today, *GradWorld FSU* has expanded with even more videos and representation from FSU students and faculty. The database is sortable by country of origin, language, college, degree program and degree level. To increase the website’s global reach, international participants are asked to record two videos — one in English and one in their native tongue — with the hope of inspiring their countrymen and countrywomen to apply to Florida State.

## Collaboration with FSU Career Center

The *GradWorld FSU* portfolio is still growing with a constant stream of videos, and graduate students are encouraged to create videos of their own and upload them. Students are realizing the extraordinary professional benefits to creating a video for *GradWorld FSU* as it gives them an opportunity to showcase their personality, research, skills and passion to potential employers. The *GradWorld FSU* website is also closely linked with the Career Center and already some students have reported its positive role while seeking employment opportunities.

Starting in Summer 2020, James Beck (The Graduate Policy Program Coordinator in the Graduate School) and Megan Crowe (The



From L to R: Dean Mark Riley, Rodney Johnson (University Communications), & James Beck

Graduate Career Liaison in the Career Center) have started offering a professional development workshop related to *GradWorld FSU*, where they explore this exciting resource and show how to search for videos, find resources and create/submit one of these wonderful videos to share with friends, family and their own global network.

James Beck had the following to say, “In today’s competitive job market, it’s all about thinking outside of the box. By creating one of these short videos, graduate students are building up their professional portfolios with something that is both unique and inspiring. Employers are looking for this and it could be a deciding factor that helps a graduate student land their dream job after college!”

For more information on *GradWorld FSU* or to create a video, **please visit the *GradWorld FSU* website here.**



## 2020 Research and Creativity Awards

Each spring, the Graduate School awards \$1,000 to students in three disciplinary categories: natural and physical sciences including mathematics and engineering; social and behavioral sciences; and the humanities and arts. The students selected must show evidence of outstanding scholarly/creative productivity and evidence of national visibility in research/creative activity (e.g., publications, presentations, juried exhibits or performances). This could also include evidence of recognition and honors in endeavors related to the research and/or creative activities. Applications are reviewed and judged by FSU faculty and administrators in each of the three disciplines.

The 2020 Research and Creativity Awardees are:

- **Eleanor Boudreau** (*English*)
- **Brittany Mathes** (*Psychology*)
- **Jin Zheng** (*Chemistry & Biochemistry*)

**E**leanor is a poet whose *Earnest, Earnest?* recently garnered the 2019 Agnes Lynch

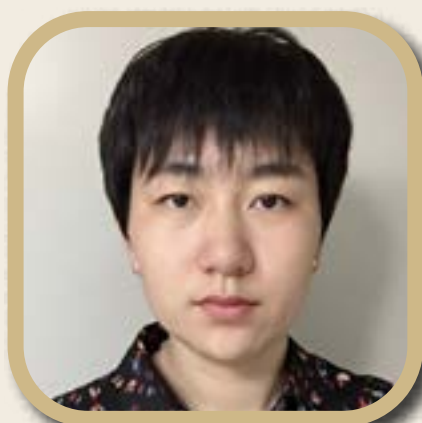


Starrett Prize from the University of Pittsburgh Press and will be released in September 2020. Eleanor's major professor is Dr. James Kimbrell.

**B**rittany developed a novel theoretical model of hoarding disorder that posits an inverse relationship between interpersonal and object attachment in hoarding. Brittany is testing her theory through her National Institute of Mental Health National Research Service Award project. Brittany's major professor is Dr. Norman B. Schmidt.



**J**in developed a new nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) method that can track ion transport in three-dimensional solids. Another important focus of Jin's creative work is to develop high-performance sustainable organic materials for rechargeable lithium-ion batteries. Current batteries heavily employ metal elements, which pose issues of toxicity, pollution, and non-sustainability. Jin's major professor is Dr. Yan-Yan Hu.



The **2021 Research and Creativity Award** application materials will be due via the FSU Dropbox, Monday, February 1st by 5:00 PM. Senior Associate Dean Judy Devine ([jdevine@fsu.edu](mailto:jdevine@fsu.edu)) is the contact person for the award.

## 2019 Three Minute Thesis Competition



For the fifth year, the Graduate School conducted the *Three Minute Thesis (3MT)* competition for doctoral students. Developed by the University of Queensland in Australia, *3MT* has spread internationally. FSU competes statewide, regionally among ACC universities, and nationally through the Council of Graduate Schools. Doctoral students have three minutes to describe their research or creative endeavor to a lay audience, using one static slide. No costumes, music, video, or poetry are allowed. The first two winners (\$1,000 and \$750) are selected by judges, while the audience votes for People's Choice (\$500).

Following the Preliminary Rounds conducted in October 2019, 14 finalists were selected to compete on November 19, 2019 in the College of Medicine's Durell Peaden Auditorium. The judges were Emerita Dean and Professor Marie Cowart, Mayor John Dailey, FSU General

Counsel Carolyn Egan, FSU Associate Vice President Renisha Gibbs, FSU Board of Trustee Mark Hillis, and Senior Associate Dean (College of Medicine) Myra Hurt.

Winners of the *Three Minute Thesis* Finals were:

- **1<sup>st</sup> Place (Tie): Alyssa Henderson** (*Physics*) & **Sara Jones** (*Biomedical Sciences*)
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Bryan Keller** (*Earth, Ocean & Atmospheric Science*)
- **People's Choice: Grace Kennedy** (*Psychology*)

Alyssa Henderson described the potential of quantum materials in creating faster, more efficient technology. Sara Jones presented her research on the effects of aspartame on males and their children. Bryan Keller described his research on sharks' use of the earth's magnetic field to navigate between the east coast of the U.S. and the Bahamas. Grace Kennedy presented her research on weight stigma in anti-obesity campaigns.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's *3MT* competition will be conducted remotely. Competitors will submit three-minute videos and one slide for Preliminary Rounds in October. Finalists may resubmit revised videos and slides prior to the Finalist Competition on November 17, 2020. Visit **The Graduate School's 3MT website** to view presentations and find information about competing in this year's competition.



From L to R: Senior Associate Dean Judy Devine, Bryan Keller, Grace Kennedy, Sara Jones, Alyssa Henderson, & Dean Mark Riley



# Master’s in Four (Min4) Competition

For the second year, the Graduate School conducted its *Master’s in Four (Min4)* competition for master’s students who have earned at least 18 hours toward their degree. Students have four minutes, using four static slides and no props/notes, to describe their research or creative project for a general audience. Following the Preliminary Rounds in January 2020, 14 finalists competed February 25th, 2020 in the Askew Student Life Cinema before a large audience. The first, second and third place winners were selected by the judges while the “4 the People” awardee was selected by the audience. The winners received monetary awards of \$1,000 (1<sup>st</sup> Place), \$750 (2<sup>nd</sup> Place), \$500 (3<sup>rd</sup> Place), and \$500 (4 the People).

While the competition’s guests enjoyed refreshments, Dean Mark Riley and Senior Associate Dean Judy Devine announced the *Min4* winners:

- **1<sup>st</sup> Place: John (Jay) Pension** (*Theatre*; "Connecting Consumers with the Arts")
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Place (Tie): Stephanie Gipson** (*Nutrition, Food, & Exercise Science*; "Circulating Brain-Derived Neurotropic Factor in Response to Three-Day Ultra-Endurance Racing")
- **Keri Miller** (*English*; "Crafting the Setting of a



From L to R: Dean Mark Riley, Hyosoon Yim, Lauren Harris, James Ippolito, Jay Pension, Keri Miller, Stephanie Gipson, & Senior Associate Dean Judy Devine



- Novel: Inspiration, Imitation & Invention")
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Place (Tie): Lauren Harris** (*Psychology*; "Sleep Deprivation and Suicidal Behaviors in Virtual Reality")
  - **James Ippolito** (*Nutrition, Food, & Exercise Science*; "Can Iron Supplementation Increase the Severity of Salmonella Infections?")
  - **4 the People: Hyosoon Yim** (*Sport Management*; "Is Sport Medicine? Sport Involvement, Acculturative Stress, and Depression")

Visit **The Graduate School’s Min4 website** to view presentations and find information about competing in next year's competition. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Spring 2021 *Min4* Competition may need to be conducted remotely. Stay tuned for an update!

# OFFICE OF POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS National Postdoctoral Appreciation Week (2019)

We celebrated the 2019 National Postdoctoral Appreciation Week with our 7th Annual Postdoctoral Symposium, 5-Minute Research, & Poster Competition at the King Life Science Building.

Postdoctoral scholars joined in a book club to discuss the most recent work of Dr. Rachel Herz, Brown University, “Why you eat, what you eat”. Mid-week the author visited the campus to give a special lecture.

This was our second year conducting our newly established 5-Minute Research Competition in which postdoctoral scholars had 5 minutes to deliver a creative talk giving the audience insight into their many areas of research. If you want to hear about blue carbon, forest canopies, climate change, superconductivity, child welfare, or polar oceans – **it’s all captured in action, right here on our website!**



From L to R: Shirin Mozaffari, Yana Bebieva, Derrick Vaughn, & Katy Sparrow

*Atmospheric Science*; “New Methods to Study the Vulnerability of Peatland Carbon to Climate Change")

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Shirin Mozaffari** (*National High Magnetic Field Laboratory*; “Pushing Towards Room Temperature Superconductivity”)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Yana Bebieva** (*Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Institute*; “Deep Dive: What Do Polar Oceans Conceal?”)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place (Tie): Derrick Vaughn** (*Earth, Ocean, & Atmospheric Science*; “Blue Carbon in Northern Florida Wetlands: Implications for Climate Change Mitigation”)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place (Tie) & People’s Choice: Katy Sparrow** (*Earth, Ocean, &*

Please see details of upcoming opportunities and postdoctoral trainings on the **Postdoctoral Affairs website**, especially for activities surrounding the 2020 National Postdoctoral Appreciation Week on September 21-25, 2020!



## OFFICE OF POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS

### Provost Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (PPFP)

Due to the generosity of the Provost, in partnership with the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs, there has been a new effort to recruit, support, and retain diverse postdoctoral trainees to competitively transition to faculty in academia. The inaugural class of 2018-2020 Provost Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (PPFP) Scholars represents the fields of Chemistry, Oceanography, Geography, Biodiversity, Genetics, and Reading.



We are currently accepting applications for the next incoming class for 2020-2022. **Please visit our website for more details and eligibility.**

## FSU's Postdoctoral Association (PDA)

We have a terrific group of officers that formulate the leadership team for our current Postdoctoral Association (PDA). Before the gathering setbacks driven by the Covid-19 pandemic, this current slate of PDA officers successfully submitted a proposal to present at the National Postdoctoral Association this Spring and had been working hard at designing professional development events and proposed new employment policies. The Spring Event was converted into a Career Workshop held in August 2020. Postdoctoral scholars were coached to promote themselves for the job market by specialists at the Career Center and had the opportunity to conduct mock interviews administered by faculty in 8 different disciplines.

Beginning March 8, 2020 – all postdoctoral scholars began to accrue 4 hours towards official Paid Time Off (PTO) – a new employment policy that allows 13 days of leave per year. Thanks again to our hard-working PDA!



## DIRECTO: THE DIVERSITY & INCLUSION IN RESEARCH & TEACHING ORGANIZATION

### 2020 Mary B. Coburn Organization of the Year Award

DIRECTO is honored to have received the **2020 Mary B. Coburn Organization of the Year Award**. This award is presented annually to a recognized student organization at FSU that has been responsible for major contributions to the university community or constituent group in the areas

of service and leadership. DIRECTO is a graduate student-led organization that was initially conceived at FSU in 2017 by members of the Program for Instructional Excellence (PIE), The Fellows Society, and Dr. Lisa Liseno. The Organization hosts three annual signature events: an Annual Fall Symposium on Diversity & Inclusion in Research & Teaching, a Book Club, and the Spring Conversation Series.



*Pictured (left to right): Kate Hill (founding co-chair, Biological Science), FSU President, John Thrasher, Yancili Lozano (founding co-chair, Urban & Regional Planning), Brittany Dennis (board member, Sociology), Dr. Lisa Liseno (faculty advisor), Valeria Rigobon (board member, Psychology), Kerestin Goodman (board member, Chemistry & Biochemistry). Not pictured, Kate Pierson (founding co-chair, Theatre).*

**Visit DIRECTO's website for details.**



## DIRECTO's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Book Club

DIRECTO is excited to announce its **3rd Annual Book Club**, which is being held virtually this year. DIRECTO is co-partnering with the Program for Instructional Excellence (PIE) to discuss Dr. Derald Wing Sue's *Race Talk and the Conspiracy of Silence - Understanding and Facilitating Difficult Dialogues on Race*. **Dr. Wing Sue**, an internationally renowned multicultural scholar and expert on microaggressions, is also serving as one of the keynote speakers during DIRECTO's upcoming 3rd Annual Symposium.


DIRECTO's book club is open to everyone at FSU and in the surrounding community, and held virtually via Zoom for a six-week period, where one section of the book is covered each week by a different staff or faculty facilitator.



# DIRECTO: THE DIVERSITY & INCLUSION IN RESEARCH & TEACHING ORGANIZATION




FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY  
THE GRADUATE SCHOOL  
*Office of the Dean*




## FALL 2020 BOOK CLUB


brought to you by  
The Diversity & Inclusion in Research & Teaching Organization (DIRECTO)  
and The Program for Instructional Excellence (PIE)




**Week 1 - 8/28**  
**Shantel Gabriel Buggs, Ph.D.**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Sociology




**Week 2 - 9/4**  
**Sabrina L. Dickey, Ph.D., MSN, RN**  
Assistant Professor  
College of Nursing




**Week 3 - 9/11**  
**Cameron C. Beatty, Ph.D.**  
Assistant Professor  
College of Education



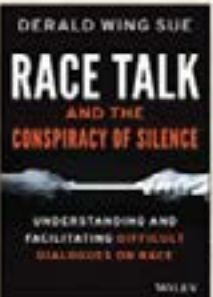
**Week 4 - 9/25**  
**James E. Wright II, PhD**  
Assistant Professor  
Askew School of Public  
Administration and Policy



**Week 5 - 10/2**  
**Ashton Henderson, M.A., MBA**  
Assistant Athletics Director  
Student-Athlete Development



**Week 6 - 10/9**  
**Gregory J. Harris, Ph.D.**  
Interim Department Chair  
Department of Family and Child  
Sciences



### RACE TALK AND THE CONSPIRACY OF SILENCE

A guide for facilitating and participating in difficult dialogues about race. **Dr Derald Wing Sue** explores the characteristics, dynamics, and meaning behind discussions about race as well as the hidden "ground rules" that inhibit honest and productive dialogue.

**Fridays 10am-noon**  
**Via Zoom**

# DIRECTO: THE DIVERSITY & INCLUSION IN RESEARCH & TEACHING ORGANIZATION

## DIRECTO's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fall Symposium

DIRECTO cordially invites attendance from all students, faculty, alumni, staff, and post docs, from FSU, FAMU, TCC, and the surrounding community for its **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fall Symposium**. This year's symposium will be held virtually, and highlight keynote speaker Dr. Derald Wing Sue, author of DIRECTO's Fall Book Club selection, *Race Talk and The Conspiracy of Silence: Understanding and Facilitating Difficult Dialogues on Race*. Dr. Erin O'Hara O'Connor, Dean of the FSU College of Law, will also serve as a keynote speaker. The event will host approximately 24 concurrent sessions from a variety of faculty, staff and students.

This year our theme is "Diversity and Inclusion in Times of Crisis". The global disruption of everyday life caused by the coronavirus pandemic disproportionately strained the most vulnerable groups in society, as nation-wide crises often do. Our symposium will consider strategies, challenges, and best practices for addressing the needs of the most vulnerable in higher-learning environments in the midst of crisis, as well as ideas for keeping issues of diversity & inclusion at the forefront of research and teaching agendas in an increasingly virtual world.

DIRECTO's Annual Fall Symposium seeks to promote constructive dialogue and provide participants opportunities to discuss issues surrounding diversity, inclusion, and equity. More importantly, we want attendees and participants to walk away from the event with tangible ways to promote diversity and foster inclusion in their research projects and teaching methods.

### 3rd Annual Symposium: "Diversity & Inclusion in Times of Crisis"

Organized by **DIRECTO** - The Diversity & Inclusion in Research & Teaching Organization



**Derald Wing Sue**  
Professor, Department of  
Counseling & Clinical Psychology  
Columbia University



**Erin O'Hara O'Connor**  
Dean and McKenzie  
Professor, College of Law  
Florida State University

<b>Dates:</b>	Thursday, September 17, and Friday, September 18, 2020 <a href="#">See schedule of events here.</a>
<b>Location:</b>	Virtually conducted per COVID-19 policy
<b>Questions?</b>	Contact us at <a href="mailto:fsudirecto@gmail.com">fsudirecto@gmail.com</a> or visit <a href="https://directo.fsu.edu">https://directo.fsu.edu</a>
<b>Register to Attend:</b>	<a href="https://fla.st/34Lopm3">https://fla.st/34Lopm3</a>



# THE FELLOWS SOCIETY

## Annual Induction Ceremony & Networking Session



On Friday, August 21st, 2020, the **FSU Fellows Society** virtually hosted its annual **Induction Ceremony and Networking Session** via Zoom. Each new member of the Fellows Society was introduced by the Dean of the Graduate School, Dr. Mark Riley. The elected members of the **2020-2021 Fellows Society Advisory Board** were also introduced. The Board welcomed the new and returning Fellows by discussing upcoming plans for service events and social and interdisciplinary activities. All members were provided the opportunity to get to know one another by spending time in virtual breakout rooms.

### MEET THE 2020-2021 ADVISORY BOARD

					
Co-Coordinator of Development <b>Marielena Dias</b> <small>Doctoral Candidate - Political Science</small> <a href="mailto:mdias@fsu.edu">mdias@fsu.edu</a>	Co-Coordinator of Development <b>Joshua Mathon</b> <small>Second Candidate - Religion</small> <a href="mailto:jmathon@fsu.edu">jmathon@fsu.edu</a>	Co-Coordinator of the Fellows Forum <b>Joshua Scriven</b> <small>Doctoral Candidate - Political Science</small> <a href="mailto:jscriven@fsu.edu">jscriven@fsu.edu</a>	Co-Coordinator of the Fellows Forum <b>Cassandra Kepple</b> <small>Doctoral Student - Higher Education</small> <a href="mailto:ckepple@fsu.edu">ckepple@fsu.edu</a>	Co-Secretary/ Historian <b>Honoline Roullier</b> <small>Doctoral Student - Contemporary French and Transatlantic Studies</small> <a href="mailto:h18@fsu.edu">h18@fsu.edu</a>	Co-Secretary/ Historian <b>Cassandra White</b> <small>Doctoral Student - Theatre Studies</small> <a href="mailto:cw15@fsu.edu">cw15@fsu.edu</a>

# PROGRAM FOR INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE (PIE)

## Summer 2020 Online Course Design Virtual Boot Camp

In July 2020, the Program for Instructional Excellence (PIE) hosted a two week virtual Online Course Design Boot Camp aimed at assisting instructional staff with developing their online courses for the fall semester. Participants received advice from experts in instructional design, Dr. Vanessa Dennen and Caity Kelly, and were also provided with time to exchange feedback and ideas with peers. Materials and presentations from these workshops, along with any previous PIE workshop, are available on the **PIE website**.

# PROGRAM FOR INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE (PIE)

## Teaching Assistant (TA) and Instructional Support for Online Teaching Transition

PIE is offering several ways to support FSU Teaching Assistants (TAs) and instructional staff during the move of many courses from a face-to-face to online format amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

### TA Community Online Teaching Support Canvas Site

PIE has launched a new **Canvas organizational site** that serves to provide TAs and instructional staff from across campus the opportunity to find peer community and support while more courses are being offered in an online format due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Resources include virtual office hours where visitors can connect via Zoom to **PIE Teaching Associate TAs** from a variety of disciplines to discuss challenges, brainstorm ideas, share tips, and receive referrals to additional resources to assist in the online teaching transition. Video tutorials, discipline specific online teaching tips, and links to a variety of resources available at FSU (and beyond) are also located on this site.

Anyone can self-enroll in this Canvas site by [clicking here](#).

## Fall 2020 Training Conference/TA Orientation

This year over 800 attendees participated in the annual Fall PIE Training Conference/TA Orientation. The event was held fully online due to COVID-19 restrictions and concerns. A portion of the training was delivered asynchronously via Canvas. There were also six synchronous Zoom training sessions on Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020. This training

is essential to ensuring that graduate student TAs, post-docs, and other FSU instructional staff are provided with essential policies, best practices, and ongoing support for teaching at FSU. Presenters included plenary speaker Dr. John Ribo, English Department; Dr. Elcin Hoskollar, Center for Global Engagement; Dr. Alysia Roehrig, College of Education; Dr. Joe Calhoun, Economics; Mark Zeigler, College of Communication & Information; and John Braswell, the Office of Distance Learning.

is essential to ensuring that graduate student TAs, post-docs, and other FSU instructional staff are provided with essential policies, best practices, and

### 2020-2021 PIE ASSOCIATES





# PROGRAM FOR INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE (PIE)

## Upcoming Fall 2020 Virtual PIE Teaching Workshops

PIE will continue offering its year-round series of workshops virtually. Workshops are open to instructional staff to assist them in creating the optimal learning environment for their students.

**Title:** Lowstakes Online Evaluation  
**Date & Time:** 9/15, 2-3:30pm (via Zoom)  
**Workshop Facilitator:** Dr. Kevin Dixon, Department of Biological Science, FSU

[Click here to register.](#)

**Description:** We will cover issues related to student feedback and evaluation, particularly in online and STEM classes (instructional staff from all areas welcome). We will consider types of evaluation and relationships to learning goals and student perceptions. We will discuss how to give meaningful feedback while avoiding student discouragement. We will also look at some simple Canvas functionality that can be particularly valuable during online instruction.

**Title:** Engaging Learners with Online Activities  
**Date & Time:** 10/1, 3-4:30pm (via Zoom)  
**Workshop Facilitator:** Liying Miao, Instructional Development Faculty, Office of Distance Learning, FSU

[Click here to register.](#)

**Description:** Learn ways to engage your students in the remote learning environment. We will analyze remote course survey data and recommend strategies like content engagement, instructional videos, group work, and best practices for discussions. We will also see how Canvas-integrated engagement tools like Flipgrid are used in courses.



**LOWSTAKES ONLINE EVALUATION**  
Tuesday, 9/15,  
2-3:30pm (via Zoom)  
Facilitator:  
Dr. Kevin Dixon  
Department of Biological Science  
Registration:  
<https://fsu.at/2acPIL4>



**ENGAGING LEARNERS WITH ONLINE ACTIVITIES**  
Thursday, 10/1  
3-4:30pm (via Zoom)  
Facilitator:  
Liying Miao  
Instructional Development Faculty,  
Office of Distance Learning  
Registration:  
<https://fsu.at/2QXRanb>

# OFFICE OF GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS (OGFA)

In addition to departmental and university awards, graduate students are eligible for many highly competitive, national, international, and state-funded fellowships, scholarships, and grants to support their research and scholarship during their graduate school journey at Florida State University. 124 graduate scholars received over \$3 million dollars in nationally competitive fellowships and awards for the 2019-2020 academic year. This is a huge accomplishment and a testament to the hard work of our graduate students and the high level of scholarship in graduate education at Florida State University.

If you would like assistance identifying external fellowships and awards, crafting application materials, or navigating fellowship and awards databases, [schedule a virtual meeting with OGFA here.](#)

## Graduate Student Fellows Spotlight

Seven FSU students received the highly competitive Graduate Research Fellowship from the National Science Foundation. [Read full story here.](#)





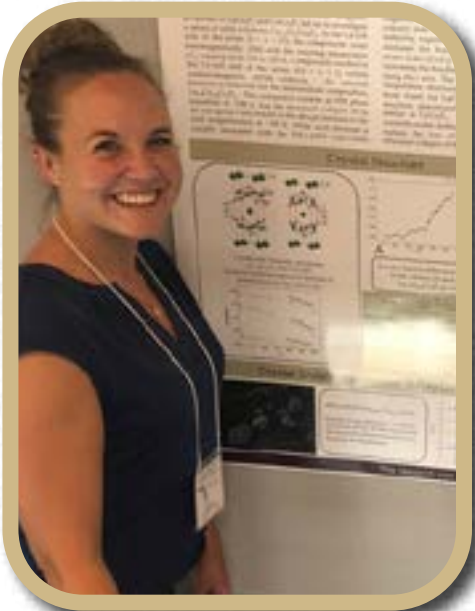
# OFFICE OF GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS (OGFA)

**Jackie Jermyn**, a Florida State University graduate student pursuing a doctoral degree in engineering is unstoppable. Her research on mobile robot navigation earned her a prestigious SMART Scholarship from the Department of Defense (DoD) which will fully fund her doctoral studies for the next three years. [Read full story here.](#)



**Mallory Nanny**, a graduate student in the College of Fine Arts - Department of Art History has received the prestigious American Art History Fellowship in support of her dissertation project, "Framing Absence: Photographic Narratives of the Vietnam War."

**Judith Roth**, a doctoral student in the Department of Chemistry, was one of 62 graduate students from across the nation selected for the Department of Energy's Office of Science Graduate Student Research (SCGSR) Program.



Two FSU graduate students, **Brittany Mathes** and **Jessi Thomsen**, won Florida's only Philanthropic Educational Organization (P.E.O.) Scholar Awards. [Read full story here.](#)

# OFFICE OF GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS (OGFA)

## University of Florida McNair Scholars Boot Camp (2019)

Looking back on The Graduate School's efforts to educate undergraduate students about graduate school as a viable option! The Office of Graduate Fellowships and Awards with the assistance of Katrina Williams hosted the University of Florida McNair Scholars Program for their 2019 Boot Camp. This was the first time the UF McNair Scholars Boot Camp was held away from the UF campus. The students enjoyed a welcome from Dean Riley, a graduate student panel, several departmental walking tours, lab tours hosted by Dr. Debi Fadool, and a visit from one of their recent scholars, TehQuin Forbes who is currently finishing his Ph.D. in Sociology at FSU!





# OFFICE OF GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS (OGFA)

## Reaching the Community

At the start of the pandemic, doctoral graduate students, Honorine Rouiller (Modern Languages and Linguistics), Charlisa Whyms (Chemistry and Biochemistry), and Dr. Adrienne Stephenson joined the FSU community of Makers to provide protective gear to the brave and courageous frontline heroes in the Tallahassee community that are sacrificing their lives daily to keep us safe. Over time, this effort grew into **Mask 4 Class**, an initiative created by Drs. Darice Richard and Adrienne Stephenson to bring the

Tallahassee community together to provide support to youth in the city as they prepared to phase back into the classroom for the start of the new school year.

This **labor of love** distributed over 8,000 masks to 16 Title I Elementary Schools in Leon County and Havana with the help of graduate students, faculty, and staff at Florida State University, as well as volunteers, sponsors, and community partners all over Tallahassee.



# OFFICE OF GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS (OGFA)

## Digital Narratives: Celebrating Graduate Education

The **GradImpact Project** continues to share and preserve the lived experiences of graduate students at Florida State University through video, podcast, and written narratives. These stories bring to life the research and work that graduate students do every day that impact the university, the communities where we live and work, and the world around us. It is our goal to archive these experiences in the university’s digital repository, **DigiNole**, and to share them widely in various platforms. **Check out how we are reaching out to the FSU community.**

To share your story or to nominate a Rockstar graduate student to be highlighted for the Digital Narratives Project, **submit information here.**

## #FSUnited during COVID-19

The FSU GradImpact Project recently started a **Coffee and Conversations** video chat series where graduate and undergraduate students are connecting virtually during this COVID-19 period of social isolation. Check out our **Coffee & Conversation Video Playlist** where graduate students chat about life then—prior to the COVID-19 pandemic—and now!





# Student and Alumni Accolades

## College of Arts and Sciences

### SHAMIK BOSE

Currently pursuing Ph.D. in Computer Science

Research paper ("Explaining AI for Malware Detection: Analysis of the mechanisms of MalConv ") accepted to the International Joint Conference on Neural Networks. Presented at conference virtually on July 22<sup>nd</sup>.



### NICK BYRD

Graduated with Ph.D. in Philosophy, Summer 2020

- Awarded a postdoctoral fellowship with the Intelligence Community starting in 2020
- Will then begin a tenure-track Assistant Professorship at Stevens Institute of Technology.



### ETHAN CISELL

Currently pursuing Ph.D. in Biological Science

- Received the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, a nationally competitive fellowship awarded to outstanding graduate students in STEM.
- Received the Explorers Club OceanX Explorer Grant, an internationally competitive grant awarded to scientists that seek to push the boundaries of their field.

- First-author publication in *Scientific Reports*, titled "Consumption of benthic cyanobacterial mats on a Caribbean coral reef", which was first to document consumption of cyanobacterial mats by reef fishes on a Caribbean coral reef surrounding Bonaire, Netherlands.



### PATRICK EASTHAM

Graduated with Ph.D. in Mathematics, Summer 2020

- Two first-author papers published in prominent

journals: "Axisymmetric squirmers in Stokes fluid with nonuniform viscosity" in *Physical Review Fluids* and "Multiphase modeling of precipitation-induced membrane formation" in *Journal of Fluid Mechanics*.

- The paper in *Physical Review Fluids* was selected as an "Editors' Suggestion", an honor given to only several papers published in the journal every month that the "editors and referees find of particular interest, importance, or clarity".



### TANYA GRAE

Currently pursuing Ph.D. in English

- Won the 2019-20 Edward H. and Marie C. Kingsbury Graduate Fellowship and the 2020 Sassaman Graduate Award for Creative Writing.

- Tanya's first poetry collection, *Undoll* (YesYes Books), debuted in September 2019 and won the 2019 Florida Book Award.

- Selected for Best New Poets 2019 Anthology.
- Won the Longleaf Writers Conference 2020 Poetry Fellowship and a 2020 Kerouac House Residency.

### DARREN JOHNSON

Currently pursuing M.A. in History

Awarded the General Omar Bradley Research Fellowship.



### KATHRYN LINTHICUM

Currently pursuing Ph.D. in Psychology

Awarded the American Psychological Association Early Graduate Student Researcher

Award, 2019. This national award recognizes students for conducting outstanding psychology research within the first two years of their graduate training.



### BOBBIE RENFRO

Currently pursuing Ph.D. in Biological Science

Awarded a 1 month research continuation grant from the Smithsonian Tropical

Research Institute for work at the Bocas del Toro Research Station.

## College of Business



### MICHAEL RESNICK

Currently pursuing M.S. in Management Information Systems

Hired by Bank of America as Vice President - Systems Engineer as part of their Client Facing Platform Technology team.

## College of Education



### LAUREN BIRCH

Graduated with M.S. in Teacher Education, Summer 2020

Collaborated as part of the Learning Concerns and Enhancement Committee within the National Association of Academic and Student-Athlete Development Professionals on article ("Defining Risk and the Use of Risk Assessments by Learning Specialists within NCAA Academic Units: An Exploratory Study") published in *Journal of Higher Education Athletics & Innovation*. Learning Specialists in college athletics work with student-athletes who are deemed at-risk based on a number of variables, but identifying them is subjective. This research sought to determine which risk assessments are used by Learning Specialists.



### JAMES HERNÁNDEZ

Currently pursuing M.S. in Educational Psychology & Learning Systems

- Awarded the Florida Education Fund's McKnight Doctoral Fellowship. This fellowship provides five years of funding to doctoral students with merit who are from historically underrepresented populations

- Awarded the Dr. Linda J. Smith Endowed Scholarship for Lifelong Learning. This scholarship is presented to students in the College of Education who have taken a break and eventually returned to complete their education.



### ALEXIS ROJAS

Currently pursuing Ph.D. in Educational Psychology & Learning Systems

Symposium proposal, "Opportunities for Behavioral Health Navigation (BHN) in Pain Management", accepted by the Society for Health Psychology (Division 38) for the 2020 American Psychological Association (APA) Annual Conference. This interdisciplinary panel consisted of professionals from varying health specialties and included the demonstrated application of a novel model of patient navigation (BHN) utilization within a pain clinic. As indicated by APA, symposium participation in the annual program should be viewed as a significant accomplishment due to the overwhelming amount of proposals submitted and limited time available for the 2020 conference.

## FAMU-FSU College of Engineering



### JUNAYED PASHA

Graduated with Ph.D. in Civil & Environmental Engineering, Summer 2020

- Awarded the Big Bend Florida ITE Annual Student Scholarship, 1st Place (2019). This is awarded by the Big Bend Florida Chapter of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (BBFCITE) to



JUNAYED PASHA, CONTINUED

- students enrolled at FSU and FAMU based on the professionalism and presentation experience expected at the graduate level.
- Awarded the CEE Future Faculty Award (2019-2020). This award is given by the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering to students who have an excellent research profile and a good potential for academic positions.
  - Two first-author publications: "A Comprehensive Assessment of the Existing Accident and Hazard Prediction Models for the Highway-Rail Grade Crossings in the State of Florida" in *Sustainability* and "Holistic Tactical-Level Planning in Liner Shipping: An Exact Optimization Approach" in *Journal of Shipping and Trade*.

College of Fine Arts



**JULIA ATKINS**  
*Currently pursuing Ph.D. in Art Education*

- Presented her paper, "Sustainability of Symphony Orchestras as an Instrument of Cultural Policy", at the Social, Theory, Politics & the Arts Conference in October 2019. Julia also co-led a round table discussion on the value of regional gatherings for arts administration at the same conference.
- Article, "Critical Pedagogy and the Arts Management Classroom", was recently published in the *American Journal of Arts Management* in February 2020. It discusses Paulo Freire's theory of critical pedagogy and how it can be incorporated in the arts administration classroom.
- Received the Marylou Kuhn & Ernestine Kuhn Endowed Scholarship in April 2020.



**RACHEL CARLISLE**  
*Currently pursuing Ph.D. in Art History*

Received Fulbright Research Award for the 2020–21

academic year. Rachel will conduct research in Germany for her dissertation, "All'antica Augsburg: Picturing German Antiquity in the Age of Print," as an affiliate of the University of Augsburg.



**TERESA SIMONE**  
*Currently pursuing Ph.D. in Theatre*

- Received the Southeastern Theatre Conference Young Scholars Award for "Performing Monkeys in Rococo France" in February 2020.
- Received the Ada Belle Winthrop-King Visual Arts Endowment in Spring 2020.
- Received the Jay & Sue Newman Conference Paper Award for "Confederate Pageantry: Natchez" in Fall 2019.

College of Music



**KELSEY PAQUIN**  
*Currently pursuing D.M. in Music Performance*

Awarded the Presser Graduate Music Award, which will fund her research project entitled, "The Clarinet Works of Indian Classical Composer John Mayer." Kelsey will travel to London, England and Kolkata, India to complete this research, followed by a series of lecture recitals across the country.

College of Nursing



**EUDEUM KIM**  
*Currently pursuing D.N.P. in Nursing*

Awarded FSU College of Nursing Scholarship for academic achievement. Eudeum has maintained a 4.0 GPA.

College of Social Sciences & Public Policy



**BRENNAN FUGATE**  
*Graduated with M.S. in Demography, Summer 2020*

Received the Serow Award, chosen by the executive board to be most likely to succeed in the field of Demography.



**DONGFANG GAOZHAO**  
*Currently pursuing Ph.D. in Public Administration*

- Awarded the Equity and Inclusion Student Fellowship from the Association for Public Policy Analysis and

Management. This Association recognizes up to 40 students and their accomplishments every year. Its goal is to introduce recipients to the world of public policy and foster a lifelong affiliation and engagement.

- Received a Fee Waiver Scholarship, from Midwest Political Science Association. This scholarship is provided to a select group of qualifying members of the MPSA to attend and present at the MPSA Annual Conference.



**ANTHONY STOWERS**  
*Currently pursuing M.S. in Political Science*

This summer, Anthony became the first openly transgender person ever to teach a course in the field of international relations, with overall course ratings well above the departmental or university averages. According to Anthony, Dr. Amanda Driscoll and Dr. Brad Gomez have worked incredibly hard to understand LGBTQ+ students' needs better, foster greater acceptance in his department, and turn the impossible into something achievable. Anthony says, "I still have a lot to learn in terms of teaching, but am so grateful for the support of the FSU community."

College of Social Work



**HOLLEY NICHOLSON**  
*Currently pursuing M.S.W. in Social Work*

Named the 2020 NASW-FL Big Bend Unit Social Work Student of the Year.



**CAMILLE TURNER-BRAGDON**  
*Graduated with M.S.W. in Social Work, Summer 2020*

- Current member of Phi Alpha, the FSU College of Social Work's Honor Society, with a 3.8 GPA.
- Completed summer internship at the FSU C.A.R.E./Unconquered Scholars Program.
- Conducts goal-setting workshops and has presented at the Domi Station for the Tallahassee Women's Wednesday Events.
- Recently launched a motivational website and is in the process of publishing 2 e-books.
- Completed volunteer hours at The Sickel Cell Foundation Inc., Pace School For Girls, Kate Sullivan Elementary School and Refuge House.

TO SUBMIT ACCOLADES

We want to hear about Graduate Student and Alumni accomplishments!

If you are a current graduate student or alumni who had a recent publication, grant, promotion, or other noteworthy achievement, please submit your information to the Grad Connection using The Graduate School's **Student and Alumni Accolades Submission Form**.





**KEEP CALM  
BE SAFE  
AND  
CARRY ON**

**#GoNoles**

The Graduate School



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