

Alumni Awards History: Shining Knights



Alumni

Distinguished Alumni Award

Highest honor UCF Alumni bestows on a graduate

1979 | Dick Batchelor '71
1980 | JoAnne Puglisi '73
1981 | Gerald McGratty Jr. '71
1982 | Roy Werner '70
1983 | Walter Komanski '71
1984 | Patrick Morley '72
1985 | Richard Walsh '77 '83MS HC'14
1986 | Richard Crotty '72
1987 | Debbie Komanski '79
1988 | Mary Scott '70
1989 | Roger Pynn '73
1990 | Alan Fickett '71 '72MBA
1991 | R. Glenn Hubbard '79, PhD
1992 | Bob Opsahl '76
1993 | Michelle Akers '89
1994 | Cari Coats '79
1995 | Allen Weiss '76
1996 | D. Lee Constantine '74
1997 | John Hart '73
1998 | Tico Perez '83
1999 | Fred Carter '72
2000 | John Bersia '77
2001 | Craig Miller '74
2002 | Joe Durek '78
2002 | Lou Lentine '93
2003 | Blaine Sweatt '76MBA
2004 | Bill Parsons '93
2005 | Laurette Koellner '77
2006 | J. Greg Hanson '87
2007 | Rasesh Thakkar '84
2008 | Catherine Weeden '86
2009 | Eric J. Smith '78MEd, EdD
2010 | M. Jayne Parker '83 '84EdM '94MBA
2011 | Nelson Marchioli '72
2012 | David Bettner '03
2013 | George A. Kalogridis '76
2014 | Lesa Roe '91MS
2015 | Alex Martins '01
2016 | Steve Crisafulli '96
2017 | Mike Manglardi '84
2018 | James Rosengren '81
2019 | The Honorable Michael "Micky" Grindstaff '78
2019 | The Honorable Olga Calvet '71

John C. and Martha Hitt Honorary Alumni Award

Highest honor UCF Alumni bestows on a friend and supporter of the university

2017 | President John C. Hitt H'17
2017 | Martha Hitt H'17
2017 | Loretta Corey H'17
2017 | Michael Corey H'17
2018 | Nancy Gidusko H'18
2018 | John D. Euliano, Sr. H'18, EdS
2018 | Neil R. Euliano H'18, PhD
2018 | The Honorable Beverly J. Seay H'18
2018 | The Honorable Robert A. Garvy H'18
2019 | John F. Lowndes H'19, Esq.
2019 | Rita A. Lowndes H'19, Esq.
2019 | The Honorable Harris Rosen H'19
2019 | Antonia "Julia" Rosengren H'19

Young Alumni Award

Highest honor UCF Alumni bestows on a graduate under the age of 30 years old

2017 | Carey Sobel '09
2018 | Arielle Bardzell '13, Esq
2019 | Meyonka Gray '13



Alumni Awards History: 30 Under 30

30 Under 30 recognizes outstanding young alumni who reach for the stars in their professional and personal lives.

2015 Class

Joshua A. Andone '11
Stephanie C. Bolyard '12MS '16PhD
Keith Brawner '08 '10MS '13PhD
Naomi Brownstein '08, PhD
Janelle N. Burrowes '13
Shelby (Campbell) Roemer '09, AuD
Amanda N. Castro '12
Chris Castro '10
Brett R. Chiavari '07
Aaron Dietz '13MA '14PhD
Reshad D. Favors '11
Julie Frost '12
Christopher R. Frye '13
Andre Garcia '08 '16MBA, PhD
Lindsay C. Gartrell '10
Adam J. Giery '08 '11MA
Jen Glantz '10
Kristin Harris '11
John "Jake" Junot '11MBA
Bridget D. Keefe '09 '11MPA
Jamile M. Kitnurse '08 '10MBA '11MSBM
Stephanie Ann Koszalka '12MSW
Albert C. Manero '12 '14MS '16PhD
Lauren Niederhiser '12
Gregory A. Pearlman Jr. '08
Leigha Audrey Proctor '10
Aubree A. Rider '10
Danny A. Rivera '12 '14MPA
Colton J. Tapoler '12 '17EdD
Victoria Vighetto '10 '13MNM

2016 Class

Sarina Amin '13MD
Tim Arnold '13
Matthew Ayala '11
Michael Barber '08
Blake Battle '12MS
Erik Bon Fleur '12
Amanda Booz '13
Stefanie Cash '14
Linh Anh Cat '14
Alyssa Dietz '12MS '16PhD
Anna Eskamani '12 '15MPA '15MNM
Ida Eskamani '12 '16MPA
Timothy Evans '10
Jaclyn Fraser '09
William Furiosi '13 '14MA
Jennifer Johnstone '10
Jerica Lee '12
Sherri Littlefield '12MFA
Kimberlee Martin '09
Zerek Mayes '09 '11MSW
Julien Meyer '14
Ted Moskovitz '09
Jeannina Perez-Harrington '08 '10MA
Chris Pombonyo '12
Benji Rabhan '10
Ryan Rapolti '11MBA
Tiffany Schleeter '09

2016 Class Continued

Raquel Tapia '15MNM '15MPA
Vladimir Voyard-Tadal '07
Codeye Woody '15

2017 Class

Melissa Amoi-Belinda Smith '11, PhD
Ashley Beilan '09
Jonathan Beilan '09 '13MD
Tava Bingham '12MA
Keal Blache '11
Jacqueline Boehme '11, MD
Sasha Dookhoo '11 '15MA
Andre Ferrari '13
Jessica Gottsleben '15
Ashley Gudzak '10
Nicholas Gurney '11
Angela Huston '10
Kevin Kulbacki '11
Dasha Kuret '12
Heather Lawrence '15 '17MS
Blaire Martin '11 '13MBA
JaVonte' Mottley '08 '09MPA
Brandon Naidis '14 '16MS
Brandon Naidus '12
Rupert Neish '09 '12MA
Jordan Ostroff '09
Stephanie Parenti '11
Dane Paul '09 '11MS
Michael Rape '10 '13MS
Lauren Rehm '10
Joseph Rogan '11
Kyle Simpson '11
Carey Sobel '09
Joseph Taylor '10
Amity Wyss '10

2018 Class

Yazen Abdin '12
Michelle (Skaf) Anderson '12
Arielle Bardzell '13
Shane Chism '12
Shantavia Conner '11 '13MBA
Gregory Eisenberg '13
Jamison Gavin '11
Alexandra Gentry '09 '10MS
Sarah Gitto '11 '14MS '17PhD
Shaquem Griffin '16
Marlon Gutierrez '11
Joshua Haley '12 '14MS
Shannon Hassett '16
Ron Hawks '12
Brittany Howell '10, PsyD
Samuel Jimenez '11 '14MFA
Michele (Mixon) Jones '11 '14MPA
Amber Mariano '17
Michael McGriskin '10
David Moskovitz '12
B. Mia Mota '12
Katherine Payares '12 '13MSW

2018 Class Continued

Allison (Blum) Peterson '10
Eugene Pringle '17EdD
Kristi Ray '13, DO
Sara Singer '10
John Sparkman '13 '15MS
Lindsey Turnbull '10 '12MA
Heather (Grenitz) Ulbrik '10
Demitria Vasilatis '11, DVM

2019 Class

Shainna Ali '10 '12MA '16PhD
Chelsea Ball '12
Andrea Bejarano '12
Kate Champnella '14
Victoria Claypoole '15MS '18PhD
Tyler Egbert '11
Kacie Escobar '13
Chris Garcia '12 '13MBA
Sarah Gates '14
Danielle Gelfand '13
Jean-Pierre Gilbert '11
Fawn Goldstein '14 '17MA
Meyonka Gray '13
Jamie Gregor '13
Abby Jaros '14
Ali Kurnaz '13
Darius Lana '11
Amanda Leyva '18
Jonathon Little '11
Valerie Moses '13 '19MBA
Selina Mullenax '12
Jenny Nguyen '16PhD
Lee Perry '18
Trevor Persaud '14
Dominic Piscitello '12
Danielle Price '14
Ashley Rogan '10
Nicholas Simons '14
Alyssa Tanaka '12 '13MS '15PhD
Alvaro Velasquez '14 '16MS '18PhD



Alumni Awards History: Retired Categories

Community Service

Given to alumni who have serviced their community over a number of years or alumni who have made a huge impact to improve their community

- 1994 | Julie Gooding Loy '81
- 1995 | Tico Perez '83
- 1996 | Dan Mahurin '71
- 1997 | Jim Theriac '71
- 1998 | Bill Hoskinson '71
- 1999 | Karen Lougheed '88 '92MBA
- 2000 | Tracey Sullivan '73 '75MEd
- 2001 | Olga Calvet '71
- 2002 | Chris Gent '87
- 2003 | Jovanna Nelson '97
- 2004 | Angela Sharkey Engel '88 '94MA
- 2005 | German Romero '78 '86MS
- 2006 | Ana Handshuh '98
- 2007 | Linda Flannery '86 '93MS
- 2008 | Larry Tobin '83
- 2009 | Karl S. Palvisak '83
- 2010 | Andrea Lockhart Cardona '03 '04MS
- 2011 | Julie Colombino '08MNM
- 2012 | Craig Suazo '81

Service to UCF Award

Given to an alumnus who has served UCF over a number of years in either a volunteer capacity or as a lifetime employee

- 1994 | Mike Candelaria '83
- 1995 | Jackie Sullivan '87 '91MS
- 1996 | Steven Stein '70 '73MS
- 1997 | Roger Pynn '73
- 1998 | Alan Gooch '84 '89MA
- 1999 | Scott Bell '83
- 2000 | Laura Pooser '75
- 2001 | Micky Grindstaff '78
- 2002 | Todd Bowers '77
- 2003 | Mack McLaughlin '81
- 2004 | Mike Manglardi '84
- 2005 | Doug Long '82
- 2006 | Manny Rodriguez '75
- 2007 | Ivan Lefkowitz '73
- 2008 | JoAnne Puglisi '73
- 2009 | Debbie Kay Phillis '84 '91MA
- 2010 | Larry Chastang '80
- 2011 | Karl Hodges '82 '13MBA
- 2012 | Jimmy Ferrell '80

Service to UCF Award Continued

- 2013 | Marcos Marchena '82
- 2014 | Melanie Fernandez '86 '91MBA
- 2015 | Olga M. Calvet '71

Distinguished Student Award

Given to a current undergraduate student who is active on campus and in the community and has displayed leadership and academic success

- 1980 | Fred Kittinger '80
- 1981 | Rosemary Johnson '81 '82MBA
- 1982 | Donna Denicole '83 '88MS
- 1983 | Scott Bell '83
- 1984 | Cheryl Harriman '84
- 1985 | Michael Ogle '85
- 1986 | Michele Spisak '86
- 1987 | Douglas Meyer '87
- 1988 | Jodi Freeman '88
- 1989 | Cynthia Whitson '89
- 1990 | Barry Altland '90
- 1991 | Sundar Sinnappan '91 '96MS '01MBA
- 1992 | Ann Marie Gilio '92
- 1993 | Jason DiBona '93
- 1994 | Chris Marlin '94
- 1995 | Carmen Garcia '96
- 1996 | Nicole Penne '96
- 1997 | Brian Dornbusch '97 '99MPA
- 1998 | Lori Ritterstein '99
- 1999 | Sarah Kureshi '01, MD
- 2000 | Anna Berger '01
- 2001 | Delia Goolsby '02 '04MA
- 2002 | Sadye Paez '01 '03MS
- 2003 | Anne Cecil '04
- 2004 | Vanja Grbic '05 '06MBA
- 2005 | Vanessa Bowman '05
- 2006 | Julie Helton '07 '09MA
- 2007 | Ashley Conyers '08 '10MA
- 2008 | Brittany Moscato '09 '13MD
- 2009 | Lalita Booth '09
- 2010 | Stephanie Koffler '10
- 2011 | Melissa Blette '11
- 2012 | Jamie Perry Gregor '13
- 2013 | Paula Henry '14 '15MS
- 2014 | Cynthia Florentino '14
- 2015 | Yudeysis Cores '16

Alumni Awards History: Retired Categories

Champions Award

Given to an individual or corporation that has consistently advocated and championed the cause of UCF and/or UCF Alumni

- 2009 | FAIRWINDS Credit Union
- 2010 | Charles Millican, PhD
- 2012 | President John C. Hitt H'17
- 2015 | J. Charles Gray

Michelle Akers Award

Given to an alumnus who has brought international positive attention to UCF through his or her accomplishments

- 1996 | Michelle Akers '89
- 1999 | Robin Cowie '93
- 1999 | Greg Hale '95
- 1999 | Dan Myrick '93
- 1999 | Eduardo Sanchez '94
- 2001 | R. Glenn Hubbard '79, PhD
- 2004 | Ericka Dunlap '05
- 2008 | Cheryl Hines '90
- 2009 | Phil Dalhausser '02
- 2011 | Daniel Tosh '96
- 2013 | Julia Pierson '81
- 2015 | Limbitless Solutions



Professional Achievement Awards (Selected by colleges)

Burnett College of Biomedical Sciences

2006 | Michael Scholla '77 '81MS

The Burnett Honors College

- 2002 | Chris Marlin '94
- 2004 | Trevor Brewer '97
- 2005 | Nicolette Fontaine '99
- 2006 | Jessica Mock '00 '02MS '07PhD
- 2007 | Jeffrey Douglas '02
- 2008 | Carlos Gittens '98 '00MBA
- 2009 | Emily Ashworth Hamilton '96
- 2010 | Vanessa De Rosa Lipsky '04
- 2011 | Seth Jonas '01, PhD
- 2012 | Sarah Kureshi '01, MD
- 2013 | My Linn Sawyer '90, MD
- 2014 | David Huffaker '97
- 2015 | Susan D. Rozelle '94

College of Arts & Humanities

- 2006 | Robin Cowie '93
- 2007 | Mack McLaughlin '81
- 2008 | Ron Ellis '95
- 2009 | David Blue '01
- 2010 | Robert Venditti '01MA
- 2011 | William J. Sheaffer '75
- 2012 | Travis Heath '99, DMA
- 2013 | Omar Carmona-Sánchez '03 '05MA
- 2014 | Rob Schaer '02
- 2015 | Juliann Hickey '95

College of Arts & Sciences

- 1987 | Bob Opsahl '76 (Sciences)
- 1988 | Bettye Smith '73 (Arts)
- 1989 | Douglas Stanley '74 (Sciences)
- 1990 | Deborah Ann Dunn '72 (Sciences)
- 1991 | Eduardo Salas '80MS, PhD (Sciences)
- 1992 | Richard Walsh '77 '83MS HC'14 (Sciences)
- 1993 | Roger Pynn '73 (Sciences)
- 1994 | Kathryn Kinsley '79MS '83PhD (Sciences)
- 1995 | Ron Sikes '74 (Sciences)
- 1996 | Stuart Fullerton '78 (Education)
- 1997 | Cari Coats '79 (Sciences)
- 1997 | Aqdas Khan Jamali '78 (Arts)
- 1998 | Cynthia Sucher '75 (Sciences)
- 1999 | Mary Collier '85 (Arts)
- 1999 | Richard Lee '85 (Sciences)

- 2000 | Charles O'Meara '78 (Arts)
- 2000 | George Kalogridis '76 (Sciences)
- 2001 | Peter Cranis '84 '88MA (Arts)
- 2001 | Dennis Bellar '70 (Sciences)
- 2002 | Catherine Weeden '86 (Arts)
- 2002 | Steven Qualls '88 (Sciences)
- 2003 | Richard Jacobs '78MS (Arts)
- 2003 | Beth Greene '91 (Sciences)
- 2004 | Christopher Tomasso '93 (Arts)
- 2004 | Monisha A. Seth '93 (Sciences)
- 2005 | Shalisa Sloan '92 (Arts)
- 2005 | Joseph T. Sefcik Jr. '82MS (Sciences)

College of Business Administration

- 1987 | Patrick Morley '72, PhD
- 1988 | Eric Yount '78
- 1989 | Jim Hunt '77
- 1990 | Blaine Sweatt '76MBA
- 1991 | R. Glenn Hubbard '79, PhD
- 1992 | Joe Wallace '76
- 1993 | Todd Bowers '77
- 1994 | Doug Long '82
- 1995 | Joe Russell '80
- 1996 | Karl Hodges '82 '13MBA
- 1997 | Andrew Fore III '76 '83MBA
- 1998 | Craig Miller '74
- 1999 | Rocky Santomassino '79
- 2000 | Theresa Schefstad '80
- 2001 | Nan McCormick '83
- 2002 | William Christy '86
- 2003 | Jeff Lehman '78 '80MBA
- 2004 | James D. Atchison '92MBA
- 2005 | James Balachak '86 '92MBA
- 2006 | Damien Madsen '86
- 2007 | Roy Reid '88
- 2008 | Henry Davis '70
- 2009 | Alex Martins '01MBA
- 2010 | G. Thomas Bland Jr. '75 '79MBA
- 2011 | Stan Horton '73
- 2012 | Mark Plaumann '74 '79MBA
- 2013 | Steven Felkowitz '79
- 2014 | Merrell Bailey '85 '89MBA '01MS '07MS
- 2015 | Terry D. McNew '86

Professional Achievement Awards (Selected by colleges)



Alumni

College of Education & Human Performance

1987 | Merle Grady '71 '73MEd
1988 | Candace B. Dearing '77MEd
1989 | Albert Helms '80MEd '85EdD
1990 | Kathi Philbrick '78MEd
1991 | LuAnn MacNitt '75 '82MA
1992 | Ella Greenwade '78MEd
1993 | E. Zeke Kinney '72 '75MEd '86EdD
1994 | Richard Hitt '73 '74MEd
1995 | Joyce McLeod '78
1996 | Roger Dearing '71 '73MEd '87EdD
1997 | Thelma Dudley '93EdD
1998 | Artie Almedia '79 '85MEd '02EdD
1999 | R. Jerry Smith '89EdD
2000 | Silva Zapico '91EdD
2001 | Paul "Van" Mitchell '74 '76MEd '88EdD
2002 | Barbara Barry '73 '77MEd
2003 | James Stofan '94MA
2004 | Juanita E. Hernandez-Black '82 '94MEd
2005 | Joseph Joyner '86MEd '96EdD
2006 | Kristen Springfield '91MEd, EdD
2007 | Peter Gorman '89MEd '92EdD
2008 | Richard Ellenburg '78 '85MEd
2009 | Roger Dearing '71 '73MEd '87EdD
2010 | Susan Moxley '82 '88MEd '03EdD
2011 | Gregg A. Buckingham '02EdD
2012 | David Rock '94MA '98EdD
2013 | Barbara M. Jenkins '83 '86MEd '96EdD
2014 | Pam Stewart '85MEd
2015 | Gonzalo S. La Cava '97 '01MEd '09EdD

College of Engineering & Computer Science

1987 | Edgar Allen Stewart III '76MS
1988 | John Dowdle '75, PhD
1989 | Raymond Wilson '83
1990 | Kermit Prime '72
1991 | Kemal Pasamehmetoglu '83MS '86PhD
1992 | Debra Reinhart '76, PhD
1993 | Robert Beaver '76 '77MS '09PhD
1994 | Larry Reuter '73
1995 | Kathleen Gill '81MS
1996 | Dan Hammond '73
1997 | Kevin Jackson '90MS
1998 | Robert Douglas '93PhD
1999 | Leila Nodarse '82
2000 | Tom Washburn '77MS

2001 | Frank Caldeiro '95MS
2002 | JoAnne Puglisi '73
2003 | Denver Stutler '87 '89MS
2004 | Mark Calabrese '78 '79MS
2005 | Ben Patz '85MS
2006 | Keith Flannery '99
2007 | Angel Ruiz '78
2008 | Andy Schwalb '84
2009 | Maryam Ghyabi '83 '86MS
2010 | Guillermo Novo '84
2011 | Nicole Stott '92MS
2012 | Eric Singleton '86
2013 | Gene A. Frantz '71
2014 | Vinod Philip '00MS
2015 | Ben Patz '85MS

College of Health & Public Affairs

1987 | Scott Higgins '71
1988 | Charles Gutierrez '82 '85MS, PhD
1989 | Wendy Sullivan '81
1990 | Claude "Jake" Miller '75
1991 | Judy Smith '79 '85MPH
1992 | Phillip Penland '72
1993 | David Shelledy '74, PhD
1994 | Willa Fuller '90 (Health)
1994 | W. Rickey Ricks '78 '00MS
(Public Affairs)
1995 | Kevin Hall '83 (Health)
1995 | Mary Ann Salazar '77 '95MPA
(Public Affairs)
1996 | Patricia Lafferty '86 '97MS '14PhD
(Health)
1996 | Ray McCleese '75 (Public Affairs)
1997 | Jeffrey Elsberry '77 (Health)
1997 | Dean Sprague '86MPA (Public Affairs)
1998 | Denisha Torres '87 '92MS (Health)
1998 | Sharon Donoghue '86 '90MPA
(Public Affairs)
1999 | Scott Worrell '85, MD (Health)
1999 | Fred Kittinger '80 (Public Affairs)
2000 | Ann Quirk '89 '16PhD (Health)
2000 | Pedro Leon '95MPA (Public Affairs)
2001 | Andrea Hunt '86 '91MS (Health)
2001 | John Sowinski '86 (Public Affairs)
2002 | Brett E. Stanaland '83 '85MS, MD
(Health)



Professional Achievement Awards (Selected by colleges)

- 2002 | Kevin Beary '01MS (Public Affairs)
- 2003 | Kerry Mullen '97 (Health)
- 2003 | Karen Broussard '97MSW (Public Affairs)
- 2004 | Jose I. Fernandez '94MPA (Health)
- 2004 | Christopher S. Kennedy '79 (Public Affairs)
- 2005 | Kenneth Dion '91, PhD (Health)
- 2005 | Sidney Roman '91 (Public Affairs)
- 2006 | Marcy Shapiro '91MA, PhD (Health)
- 2006 | Vincent Torphy Jr. '81 (Public Affairs)
- 2007 | Torrance Williams '00 (Health)
- 2007 | Bill Cowles '76 (Public Affairs)
- 2008 | Judith Thames '73
- 2009 | Mark Nation '87
- 2010 | Sherrie Sitarik '93MS
- 2011 | Lawrence G. Walters '85
- 2012 | Meredith Newman '90MPA, PhD
- 2013 | Julius Fridriksson '95 '97MA, PhD
- 2014 | Jean-Marc Chanoine '07
- 2015 | Bernard Rousseau '98 '00MA, PhD

College of Medicine

- 2007 | Jesse Johnson '75 '79MS, MD
- 2010 | Carmelo Licitra '77, MD
- 2011 | James McClelland '75, MD
- 2012 | William B. Moskowitz '75, MD
- 2013 | Eric A. Utt '84 '87MS, PhD
- 2014 | James Norman '82, MD
- 2015 | Michael Makowski '80, MD

College of Nursing

- 2007 | Adaline "Rocky" Thomas '82BSN
- 2008 | Sanford "Bucky" Boaz '94BSN 98MS
- 2009 | Editha Dulce Ruiz '95BSN
- 2010 | Virginia Giroux '89BSN
- 2011 | David R. Hanke '81BSN
- 2012 | MeLisa Gantt '10PhD
- 2013 | Jim Hart '83 '98BSN
- 2014 | Patricia Celano '10MS
- 2015 | Thomas K. Weichart '04MS

College of Optics and Photonics

- 2012 | Jason M. Eichenholz '95MS '98PhD
- 2013 | Tiejun J. Xia '94PhD
- 2014 | Michael M. Mielke '00MS '03PhD
- 2015 | Frank J. Effenberger '95PhD

College of Sciences

- 2006 | Robert Easton '77, OD
- 2007 | Heissam Jebailey '00
- 2008 | Jose R. Rodriguez '74
- 2009 | Clay Newbill '82
- 2010 | Michael Griffin '84
- 2011 | Yvette Kanouff '88 '93MS
- 2012 | Douglas K. Dew '79, MD
- 2013 | Philip Inderwiesen '74, PhD
- 2014 | Gwen Griffin '85
- 2015 | James Rosengren '81

Rosen College of Hospitality Management

- 2006 | Chuck Zell '03
- 2007 | Scott Kaylor '93
- 2008 | Alinda Ramos '96
- 2009 | Scott Spilker '99
- 2010 | Jeff Carcara '92
- 2011 | G. Tom Vogel '89
- 2012 | Mario Ponce '90
- 2013 | David Heckaman '93
- 2014 | Stuart R. Newmark '08
- 2015 | Christopher L. Iacifoli '03