



# THE GRAD CONNECTION

The Graduate School Newsletter

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

## Message from the Dean



*Dr. Mark Riley  
Interim Dean  
The Graduate School*

Welcome to The Graduate School newsletter for fall 2017! As you all know FSU is a very special place indeed, with a wonderful family atmosphere in which we all help each other to succeed.

We are very serious about our work endeavors, but we also have fun along the way! I hope you get a flavor of this from all the exciting stories highlighted in the

following pages of The Grad Connection.

But before getting into all that I'd like to mention that FSU continues on its stellar trajectory as evidenced by the recent U.S. News & World Report where FSU leaped five spots up in the national rankings for the second consecutive year. This latter feat is unmatched by any other public university! It's a team effort as always but clearly the brilliance of our graduate students and post-docs are a major factor in this fabulous achievement along with faculty, staff and alumni of course.

Coming back to the newsletter, a very major event took place on September 6th, which saw the retirement of Dr. Nancy Marcus as Dean of The Graduate School. What Dr. Marcus has achieved at FSU and what she has done to propel the graduate experience at FSU forward is beyond epic!

Over the years Nancy put together an incredible team and of course she has been a huge help to me already. There is no substitute for wisdom and experience.

"Nancy, HAPPY RETIREMENT and THANK YOU for all you have done for the thousands of graduate

students, the hundreds of post-docs, The Graduate School and our beloved institution of FSU over the decades."

Other events I hope you enjoy reading about in this newsletter include the new CIES partnership with the American Homestay Network enabling for the first time the opportunity for our students to stay with host families in the Tallahassee area, and this fall's Fellow's Society induction ceremony and networking session when 45 graduate students were inducted as new members.

The two-day fall Program for Instructional Excellence (PIE) and TA Orientation conference for new FSU graduate students and post-docs was once again highly successful.

Please don't forget about the very fun and rewarding (\$1000, \$750, \$500!) 3 Minute Thesis competition.

Speaking about awards and accolades, we include a recent sampling of special student and alumni achievements. Please be sure to alert us to any noteworthy happenings which we can brag about in our next newsletter.

This year, our graduate students were able to secure over \$3.5M in external funding to support their research and creative activities. This is spectacular news indeed and the Office of Graduate Fellowships and Awards (OGFA) is here to help all graduate students and post-docs in their search for funding opportunities. Finally, don't forget that FSU offers outstanding support and assistance for career development in the form of presentations, workshops and online resources to help you chart your path post-FSU and to help you "Change the World" in an optimal fashion.

Very best regards and happy reading to each and every one of you!

## CIES Partners with American Homestay Network

By: Andrew Wilson

As those of us who have ever tried learning a second (or third or fourth) language can attest, simple classroom instruction is not adequate. Since CIES is an intensive English program, our students participate in 24 hours a week of immersion instruction. However, this does not always guarantee that a student will speak and use English outside of class in the evening and on the weekends. This semester CIES will begin a partnership with the American Homestay Network (AHN). For the first time, this will enable our students to stay with host families throughout Tallahassee and provide our students with a rich and truly immersive experience. Our students have requested the opportunity to stay with local families for years, and this exciting new partnership will make this a reality. As this partnership is beginning, we are looking for people who would be eager to host and mentor our incoming students from around the world. We are all enthusiastic about this new partnership, and there will be exciting updates to share in the future. If you are interested in this paid opportunity, please contact CIES at [cies@fsu.edu](mailto:cies@fsu.edu), or you can contact AHN at [www.homestaynetwork.com](http://www.homestaynetwork.com).



### ACES Program Update

CIES experienced significant growth in its ACES program during summer 2017. ACES, or Accelerated Programs for Enrolled Students, is a program that transitions incoming international graduate students to life at FSU. During an intensive seven-week session lasting from June to August, students have a dual focus on polishing English language skills as well as understanding the culture of university life. The curriculum has evolved since the program's founding three years ago. This summer we expanded into two classes. One class was only for students newly enrolled in the College of Motion Picture Arts. A second class had a variety of students from statistics, law, modern languages, sports

management, and computer science. These students brushed up on their language skills, and, more importantly, adjusted to new cultural expectations before beginning graduate coursework. Social language use is a crucial component of learning English, and these students often emerge more confident in their speaking and overall language skills after this class. According to Dr. Patrick Kennell, the director of CIES, most of the students from this past summer have already reported back to CIES after starting graduate school. Kennell says that “[the ACES students] are so thankful to have taken the course. They are amazed by how much reading and writing is expected of them and are appreciative of the language skills developed.” The ACES program looks to expand even further in 2018, and with it the strategic partnerships across all sixteen colleges in The Graduate School.



# Fellows Society Induction Ceremony & Networking Session

By: Dr. Lisa Liseno

On Friday, August 25th, 2017, 45 Florida State University graduate students were inducted as new members of the FSU Fellows Society at the Annual Induction Ceremony and Networking Session.

This event is where new Fellows are formally inducted into the Fellows Society, and both new and returning Fellows have an opportunity to meet.

The Fellows Society, Florida State University's graduate fellowship society, brings together FSU's outstanding graduate students who hold competitive university-wide and prestigious external fellowships for the purpose of interdisciplinary learning. The mission of the Fellows Society includes "encouraging service to the University and Community," and "developing leadership skills."

This year's event capitalized on these parts of the mission as Dr. Felicia Coleman, Director of the FSU Coastal & Marine Lab, gave her keynote address entitled "Descending from the Ivory Tower – As Scientist's Splash in the Policy Pool."

During her talk, Dr. Coleman discussed the importance and process of sharing research with policy makers, and encouraged the Fellows to begin thinking about doing so as well.

A panel of three returning members of the Fellows Society, Miltonette Craig, Criminology; Keanan Joyner, Psychology, and Austin Schwartz, Molecular Biophysics, and Business Administration, discussed their

ideas about sharing research with the public.

The event concluded by having returning Fellows, McKenna Milici and Marisa Tillery, lead their colleagues in a brainstorming session where the goal was to generate ideas that could be used as the topic for the 2018 Fellows Forum, the Fellows Society signature spring event.



*Keynote Speech from Dr. Felicia Coleman*

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## Fall 2017 Teaching Conference/ TA Orientation

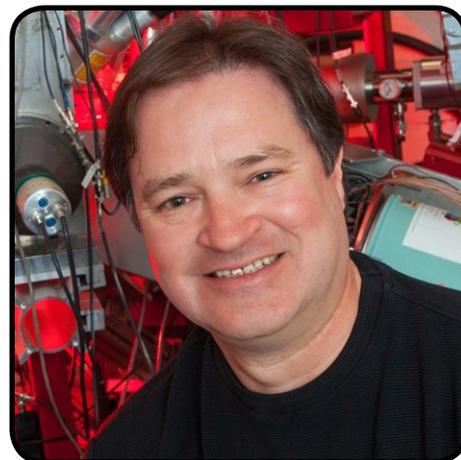
The Program for Instructional Excellence (PIE), in The Graduate School, offers all FSU graduate students, post-docs, faculty, and staff the opportunity to attend a two-day university-wide teaching conference held the week before fall semester classes begin. This annual conference is designed to support graduate teaching assistants (TAs) in their teaching responsibilities by introducing them to best practices in teaching and learning and university-wide teaching policies. Over 660 FSU graduate students attended the conference that was held on August 23rd and 24th in HCB 101 and HCB 102.

Dr. Lisa Scott, FSU Distinguished Teaching Professor, served as the conference plenary speaker. Several University offices, along with other award-winning faculty and experienced FSU TAs, also participated in sharing key policies and teaching strategies to assist TAs and faculty in creating and facilitating the best learning environment for today's FSU student.

# Introducing Dr. Mark Riley as Interim Dean

**D**r. Mark Riley, a Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor, is the Interim Dean of The Graduate School at Florida State University. His responsibilities include oversight of the education of approximately 8,000 graduate and professional students. Riley earned a Bachelor of Science with Honors in physics and a doctorate in nuclear physics, both from the University of Liverpool in England. He worked as a research associate at the Niels Bohr Institute at the University of Copenhagen and then as a research associate at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and University of Tennessee. Prior to joining the Florida State faculty as an assistant professor in 1991 he served as an Advanced Fellow at the University of Liverpool. Riley was named the Raymond K. Sheline Professor of Physics in 2001, selected for an FSU Distinguished

Research Professor Award in 2008 and became a Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor in 2014. He has won two university teaching awards. He served the Department of Physics as chair from 2007 to 2013. His research involves the detection of gamma-ray emission signals from excited atomic nuclei under extreme conditions. High-resolution gamma-ray detection plays an ubiquitous role in nuclear science, and he has been deeply involved in the development and use of the world's most powerful gamma-ray detector systems, such as Gammasphere and GRETINA-GRETA. He has served on Users Executive Committees at the national laboratories of Oak Ridge, Argonne and Michigan State University. Other national level committee participation has included the Nuclear Science Advisory Committee to the DOE and NSF,



*Dr. Mark Riley*

and Program Advisory Committees of national laboratories at Berkeley, Argonne and iTHEMBA LABS in South Africa. He is a Fellow of the American Physical Society and is a past chair of the APS's Publication Oversight Committee. Riley's publication record includes ~200 research articles and he has delivered ~100 invited talks.

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## Participate in the 3 Minute Thesis at FSU

**I**t might sound crazy - trying to explain all of your research in only 3 minutes? But that's what the international competition, 3 Minute Thesis, requires students to do.

The Graduate School invites doctoral students to participate in the 4th 3MT competition at FSU. Registration is open until October 16 and the preliminary rounds take place October 20-26, with the finals on November 29, 2017. This competition is open to doctoral students at any stage of their research.

Two of the last three first-place winners of the FSU 3MT went on to win first place at the regional competition, earning an additional \$1000 prize.

Students can register at The Graduate School website under [Funding and Awards](#).

First-place winners at FSU receive \$1000, second place receives \$750 and the audience at the finals is asked to vote on their favorite participant, and the person with the most votes wins the People's Choice award and receives \$500.

From the preliminary rounds, typically 10 finalists are selected from the 40-50 initial participants.

Please join us in making this year's 3MT competition the best yet.



RECEPTION IN  
CELEBRATION OF DR.  
NANCY MARCUS

## Nancy Marcus Retires as Dean of Graduate School

By: Pamela Brown

The Graduate School, with the Office of the President and Office of the Provost, celebrated the retirement of Dr. Nancy Marcus as Dean of The Graduate School at FSU on Wednesday, September 6, 2017, at 4 p.m.

Over 100 faculty, staff and invited guests attended the event in the Great Hall of the Honors, Scholars, and Fellows House.

Speakers included President Thrasher, faculty members, family and students who lauded Dr. Marcus's 30 years as a member of the FSU community. The emcee for the event was Dr. Judy Devine, Senior Associate Dean of The Graduate School.

President Thrasher began by giving the audience an overview of Dr. Marcus's various accomplishments at and for FSU.

She began her journey here at FSU in 1987 when she joined the faculty as an associate professor in what was then the Department of Oceanography. She also served as the Director of the FSU Marine Laboratory from 1987-2001.

"Nancy has such a stellar reputation that I must tell you," President Thrasher said, "I was a little intimidated when I first met her."

This renown is why she was named a Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor in the 2000-2001 year.

This is the highest honor FSU faculty bestow to a professor at FSU.

Dr. Marcus went on to serve as the Dean of The Graduate School from 2005-2017.

Dr. Sally McRorie, Provost at FSU, noted many of Dr. Marcus's accomplishments, including the many programs she established as Dean of The Graduate School, including the Professional Development Workshop Series and the online tracking system to monitor progress of graduate students.

*Continued*

## Marcus Retirement (continued)

Dr. McRorie credits these accomplishments as to why Dr. Marcus was named chair of the Council of Graduate Schools Board of Directors. “All they had to do,” Dr. McRorie said, “was take a look at what Nancy has done here at FSU.”

Dr. Robert Bradley, Professor with the Institute for Academic Leadership, spoke of Dr. Marcus’s role as an administrator, commenting on her valuable insight each year for tasks such as program reviews and strategic plans.

Dr. Penny Gilmer highlighted Dr. Marcus’s work for women in science. Dr. Marcus was the director of the Women in Math, Science and Engineering program (WIMSE) from 2001-2005. Several speakers focused on how she has been a champion for diversity at FSU and in academia as a whole.

Dr. Mark Riley, Interim Dean of The Graduate School, discussed his first weeks stepping into this new role, including the many fall events that were held by The Graduate School in August.

These events included New Graduate Student Orientation, the Program for Instructional Excellence TA Orientation, the Fellows Society Induction Ceremony and Networking Session, and Postdoc Orientation. Many of these events were pioneered or expanded under Dr. Marcus’s tenure as Dean.

Gabriel Williams, a member of the Fellows Society, celebrated Dr. Marcus’s influence on students and her desire to see interdepartmental collaboration encouraged at FSU.

Dr. Marcus founded the Fellows Society under The Graduate School in 2007. This organization is comprised of graduate students at FSU who have been awarded competitive, university-wide fellowships. They are encouraged to participate in regular research sharing events, networking socials, and the annual Fellows Forum, which is a conference constructed by the members of the Fellows Society to highlight an interdisciplinary approach to an issue facing society as a whole.



*Dr. Nancy Marcus speaks to attendees  
Photo by University Communications*

Dr. Jeffrey Chanton, FSU's most recent Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor, from the Department of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Science, reflected on their research together, having co-authored numerous papers with Dr. Marcus on copepods, “the cows of the sea.”

Finally, Dr. Marcus’s brother, Teddy, was a surprise guest to the honoree. As her older brother, he spoke of living life in his little sister’s shadow, but it was clear to attendees that she thinks the world of him. He spoke of her surprising love of magic and ventriloquism, hobbies that most faculty, staff and students may not have known she enjoys.

Gifts for Dr. Marcus included a Westcott brick, a bench to be placed in her honor outside the Honors, Scholars and Fellows House, and the renaming of the Great Hall at HSF to be the Nancy H. Marcus Great Hall.

Read the University News article on Dr. Marcus's retirement party [here](#) and a profile on her time at FSU [here](#).



*Cecile Reynaud, Teddy Marcus, Nancy Marcus, Barbara Marcus  
Photo by University Communications*

# Marcus Retirement Reception Photos

*Photos by University Communications*



*President Thrasher and First Lady Jean Thrasher*



*Provost Sally McRorie*



*Dr. Robert Bradley*



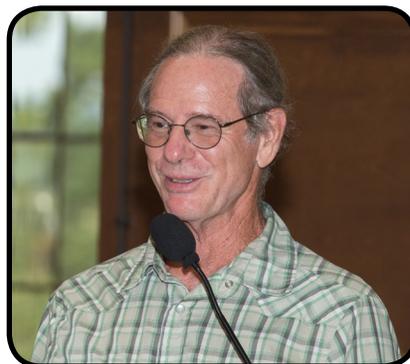
*Dr. Penny Gilmer*



*Dr. Mark Riley, Interim Dean*



*Gabriel Williams*



*Dr. Jeffrey Chanton*



*Dr. Nancy Marcus with Alicia Crew*



*Teddy Marcus, brother of Dr. Marcus*



*Dr. Nancy Marcus receives gifts from colleagues and the University*

## Career Center Graduate Student Initiative

The FSU Career Center is committed to providing services in support of graduate student career development and planning at Florida State University and beyond. In collaboration with The Graduate School, presentations for graduate students will be offered covering topics such as Writing CVs, Interviewing, and Negotiating Job Offers. Targeted career resources can be viewed in the graduate student section of the Career Center [website](#). See the list below for descriptions of Career Center services and resources available NOW for graduate students:

### Career Center Services for Graduate Students

- Drop-in Career Advising (no appointment needed!) available at the Career Center, Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM
  - Get Curriculum Vitae (CV), personal statement, résumé, cover letter, and other job search/career-related documents critiqued
  - Create a job search strategy and/or get help navigating job offer evaluation/negotiation
  - Prepare for interviews, career fairs, and networking events
- Mock Interview Program (in-person, Skype, phone) – participate in a mock interview tailored to your field/area of interest and receive feedback from a trained mock-interview mentor
- On-Campus Recruiting – Participate in recruiting opportunities and interviews with employers
- Workshops, Career Fairs, and Events – Attend employability workshops, networking events, information sessions, and career fairs (Seminole Futures, Engineering Day, etc.) occurring multiple times throughout the year to build skills, connect with employers, and find opportunities
- [Career Center Library & Website](#) – Access hundreds of online and print resources available to address any step in the career development/job campaign process.
- Graduate-Specific Advising – Drop in to the Career Center, visit your [Career Center College Liaison](#), and/or Contact the [Career Center Liaison for Graduate Students](#)
- [Graduate Resources](#) – Access resources and information tailored specifically to graduate student needs.

### [SeminoleLink](#) Powered by [Handshake](#) Online Career Management System Services

- Opportunity Listings – Identify internship, full-time, and part-time work opportunities
- NACELink Network – Search aggregate job listings from online job search sites
- Newsletters & Announcements – Receive email notifications about Career Center events
- CareerShift – Search potential job opportunities by job title, organization name, keywords, or location from multiple websites and job boards
- GoinGlobal – Explore international career guides, job postings, and internship listings, and access more than 400,000 country-specific organization profiles
- Employer Database – Search thousands of employer profiles by industry, location, or keyword
- ProfessioNole – Network with professional alumni and friends of FSU to learn more about industry demands, career expectations, job outlook, and employment opportunities

### Online Resources

- [The Career Platform](#) – View online video modules to help you build employability skills
- Versatile PhD – Access the interactive online website dedicated to assisting graduate students build networks and explore opportunities for a wide range of post-graduate employment options
- SIGI3 and FOCUS2 – Take assessments, explore career pathways, and find occupational information related to your values, interests, and skills
- Career Portfolio – Build your online portfolio and market your skills
- Virtual SEC & ACC Career Fair – Attend the virtual career fair to identify employment opportunities
- Career Planning and Job Search Guides/Modules – Review resources on career planning, employability, job search topics
- Career Center Social Media pages – Network with other alumni and recruiters, and stay up-to-date with Career Center workshops and events through Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, and YouTube.

# Student and Alumni Accolades

## Kelly J. Baker, PhD 2008

- Received the 2017 Apex Award of Excellence for Column Writing for, "The Editor's Odds and Ends," in *Women in Higher Education*.
- Published *Grace Period: A Memoir in Pieces*, in June.

## Keith Berry, MA 1991, PhD 2005

- Appointed as the permanent Dean of Academic Affairs at the Ybor City Campus of Hillsborough Community College in Tampa, Florida.

## Colleen Boyett, PhD 2014

- Appointed as Associate Principal, Korea International School, Jeju Island, South Korea.

## Gylbert Garvin Coker, PhD 2010

- Executive Director of Historic House Museum in Thomasville, GA.

## Paul M. Gignac, PhD 2010

- Published a research paper with Dr. Greg Erickson (FSU Biology) on *T. rex* in the journal *Scientific Reports*, which was picked up by the *New York Times*, *USA Today*, *BBC*, and *National Public Radio*, among other news outlets.
- Awarded a \$700,000 NSF equipment grant to build a micro-CT scanning facility for region. Fifth NSF grant since becoming an Assistant Professor in 2013.

## Doris H. Gray, PhD 2005

- Published *Women and Social Change in North Africa: What counts as Revolutionary?* with co-editor.

## Hardeep Gumber, PhD Candidate

- Awarded first position in oral presentation competition at the American Society of Plant Biologists - southern section meeting, held in Orlando from April 8 -10, 2017, to present research work on "The maize LINC complex components."

## Daniel L. Hollar, PhD 2010

- Appointed to Assistant professorship-tenure track at Bethune-Cookman University. Promoted to Department Head (Chair of the Psychology Department at B-CU).

## Nathaniel Jue, PhD 2010

- Received a \$300,000 grant from the W.M. Keck Foundation that will help modernize how biology is taught at California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB) by integrating experiences in genomics and bioinformatics across biology curricula.

## Castle Kim, PhD Candidate

- Received the 2017 Museum Computer Network (MCN) Scholarship awarding promising individuals to attend the MCN conference in Pittsburgh this November.

# Student and Alumni Accolades

### **Kerry Lenius, MS 2001, PhD 2008**

- Promoted to Clinical Chief of Speech-Language Pathology and Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Florida.

### **Christopher Martin, MA 2005**

- Presented at a developers conference on the opportunity to improve Incident Management through integrating collaboration and network monitoring platforms.

### **Jason McKahan, PhD 2009**

- Promoted to Associate Professor and Chair of Communication and New Media at Shepherd University in Shepherdstown, WV.
- Film adaptation of Lewis Wager's 16th-century play, *The Life and Repentance of Mary Magdalene*, was screened at the International Society for Medieval Theatre in Durham, England last summer.
- Published an essay on post-war superbiblical films entitled, "King of Kings and the Politics of Masculinity in the Cold War Biblical Epic," in *Lonely Places, Dangerous Ground: Nicholas Ray in American Cinema* (SUNY series, Horizons of Cinema, 2015).

### **Greg McCandless, PhD 2010**

- Published a new music textbook titled *The Craft of Contemporary Commercial Music* (Routledge 2017).

### **Dyan Neary, MFA 2015, PhD Candidate**

- Awarded first place in the Annual Writer's Digest Writing Competition in the magazine feature category.

### **Kim Van Orden, PhD 2009**

- Awarded a grant from the National Institute on Aging (R01AG054457) to study the potential beneficial effects of volunteering on well-being and loneliness in older adults who report significant loneliness.

### **Roger C. Richards, PhD 2008**

- Named to the John Sullivan Chair of Baptist History and Curator/Archivist for the Florida Baptist History and Heritage Center at The Baptist College of Florida. Previously held position as Dean of Students, but will also continue as Associate Professor of History.

## 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 GradConnection at the link below.*

[https://fsu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_245t0ETXT325Gf3](https://fsu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_245t0ETXT325Gf3)

## Meet the New Staff of The Graduate School

The Graduate School staff members are here to assist faculty, staff and students with a wide variety of issues facing the University as a whole. Staff members handle issues such as graduate enrollment and marketing, tuition waivers and health insurance subsidy, web developments, and clearance of the final dissertations, theses and treatises for graduation. If you have questions or issues, please contact our office Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for assistance. Below are our newest additions to The Graduate School staff.

### Alexis Driggers

Alexis Driggers joined The Graduate School in June 2017 as the Office Administrator. She brings to the office over 7 years of experience with Florida State University, where she has gained extensive human resources, customer service, travel, and purchasing experience. She is excited to join The Graduate School in supporting the graduate students, faculty and staff. She enjoys spending time with her husband and two boys.



### Courtney Nester

Courtney Nester joined The Graduate School as a Marketing Representative in November 2016. She received a bachelor's degree in Communications from FSU in 2007 and spent the next 9 years working in the advertising industry. Her experience runs the gamut from website project management to promotional product production. She hopes to apply her experience in advertising to graduate recruitment and become a source of marketing innovation for The Graduate School.



### Ashley Jarvis

Ashley Jarvis joined The Graduate School as the Deputy Director of Business Operations in July 2017. Before joining The Graduate School, Ashley served as the Alumni Relations coordinator for the Student Veteran Center and the Program Manager for the Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities and Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans' Families programs within the College of Business. Ashley loves to travel with her husband and is a committed member of the Junior League of Tallahassee and its mission by supporting basic needs for local children and families through strategic partnerships, sustainable community programs and volunteer resources. As a proud alumna, she is passionate about all things Florida State and looks forward to continuing her service to the university she loves.



### Michael Walsh

Michael Walsh joined The Graduate School as a Marketing Representative in the summer of 2017. He received his bachelor's degree in Digital Media Production from Florida State University in 2017. He has experience marketing for numerous campus initiatives and hopes to use that experience to help Florida State's graduate programs in their recruitment processes. On weekends, he enjoys taking spontaneous trips to Disney World with his family.



# The PIE Coffee Hour & Teaching Workshop Series

PIE offers FSU Graduate Student teaching assistants (TAs) and instructors from across disciplines the opportunity to get together in a relaxing atmosphere and discuss strategies and techniques that promote excellence in teaching and learning. Pie Coffee Hour & Teaching Workshops are offered every fall, spring, and summer. PIE's Fall 2017 workshop topics include:



*Attendees at a PIE Coffee Hour and Teaching Workshop*

preparing to teach sensitive topics, reflections from first time TAs/instructors, designing classes that promote engagement, how to grade using Canvas, and lessons learned at the end of a course. PIE is also proud to announce a special guest speaker, Dr. Rhonda Baynes Jeffries, from the University of South Carolina, who will facilitate our workshop on diversity and inclusion on October 9, 2017. This interactive workshop will provide an opportunity for participants to explore ways to create culturally inclusive and academically rigorous learning environments.

Preregistration is encouraged for all workshops, as the pie and coffee will be provided! Please visit the PIE website for a complete list of workshops, and registration links: <http://pie.fsu.edu/coffee-hour-teaching-workshop-series>. These free workshops count towards the Preparing Future Faculty and the Preparing Future Professionals Certificates (PFF and/or PFP Certificates), as well as the Advanced PIE Teaching Training Recognition.

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## What Are PIE Associates?

A PIE Teaching Associate is an experienced graduate student teaching assistant (TA) nominated by his/her academic department and trained by the Program for Instructional Excellence (PIE). They serve as mentors for other TAs in their department and assist PIE with university workshops, conferences, teaching awards, and other events.

Successful candidates demonstrate an interest in pedagogy and teaching related issues, a commitment to helping new graduate students, and a commitment to service and scholarly activities.

This year's 14 PIE Associates come from a wide range of departments including Biology, Physics, Economics, Theatre, and Philosophy. Together, these PIE Associates teach over 1,000 undergraduates and assist with the teaching training of 791 TAs across all of their 14 departments.

The deadline for applications to serve as a 2018-2019 PIE Associate will be in mid-spring 2018. For more information, visit <http://pie.fsu.edu/pie-teaching-associate-assistantship>.

## Fall 2017 PIE Coffee Hour & Teaching Workshop Series



Come join fellow TAs and instructors to discuss strategies and techniques that promote excellence in teaching and learning -- bring your questions, concerns, and ideas! As always, coffee and pie will be provided!

**FRIDAY, SEPT 8**

**TRIGGER WARNING! PREPARING TO TEACH SENSITIVE TOPICS**

At times the content we teach can trigger “hot moments” in the classroom. Come learn strategies to guide you & your class through these moments!

**THURSDAY, SEPT 21**

**REFLECTIONS FROM A FIRST TIME TEACHER**

Join us for suggestions, reflections, and support from TAs and instructors who’ve just recently completed their first semester of teaching.

**MONDAY, OCT 9**

**EXPLORING YOUR DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVITY LENS: AN INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP ON TEACHING**

This interactive workshop provides an opportunity for teaching assistants to explore ways to create culturally inclusive and academically rigorous learning environments. Participants will collaborate to role play various scenarios that assist instructors to develop and sustain equity pedagogies.

**WEDNESDAY, NOV 1**

**PLANNING AHEAD -- DESIGNING CLASSES THAT PROMOTE ENGAGEMENT**

Drawing from the book *Teaching Naked Techniques*, this workshop will explore ways to create massively better classrooms and incorporate surprises into your lesson plans.

**THURSDAY, NOV 16**

**MAKING GRADING MANAGEABLE WITH CANVAS**

Grading can be a time consuming task, whether your role is grader or instructor of record. Save time & come find out best practices for the Canvas grading system.

**TUESDAY, DEC 5**

**A POST-MORTEM ON THE FALL SEMESTER**

We know the end of the semester is a chaotic time, but it’s also a great time to take a moment and reflect. Join us for a panel discussion on the successes and failures from the fall.

To register for these workshops, go to [pie.fsu.edu](http://pie.fsu.edu). All workshops qualify for PFF, PFP, and PIE credit

All workshops take place from 3:30-5:00pm in the Great Hall (4th floor) of the Honors, Scholars, & Fellows House

## Graduate Fellowships and Awards Information

The Office of Graduate Fellowships and Awards (OGFA) is proud of the meaningful work that Florida State graduate students have done this past year to secure external funding to support their graduate education. We are even more excited about what lies ahead.

This year, FSU graduate students received prestigious and competitive awards to support their research and creative activities totaling over \$3.5 million.

### BY THE NUMBERS

Among the external fellowship recipients for 2017-2018 are:

- 9 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program Awards
- 6 McKnight Doctoral Fellowships
- 6 McKnight Dissertation Fellowships
- 5 P.E.O. Scholar Awards
- 3 NIH Fellowships
- 1 NASA Earth and Space Science Fellowship
- 1 Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship
- 1 Chateaubriand Fellowship in the Humanities and Social Sciences
- 1 American Heart Association Predoctoral Fellowship
- 1 National Art Education Foundation Research Grant

## OGFA Advising

OGFA has numerous resources to support current FSU graduate students in their funding search and throughout the application process. These include group meetings, workshops, and individual advising. To schedule a meeting with OGFA, [click here](#). To learn more about our workshops and other resources, visit us online at [ogfa.fsu.edu](http://ogfa.fsu.edu) and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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## Graduate School Scholarships and Grants

Do you know your options for receiving a Graduate School Fellowship for Current Students? While many university awards must be received prior to beginning a program, there are plenty of opportunities to receive an award while in school.

The Graduate School administers several different awards that currently enrolled students are eligible to apply for. The application window for each award varies, so look out for these deadlines throughout the year.

For more information on these awards, visit The Graduate School [Funding and Awards](#) website.

Some of these awards include:

- Interdisciplinary Symposia/Conferences
- Dissertation Research Grants
- Gubernatorial Fellows
- Henderson Family Fellowship
- International Dissertation Semester Research Fellowship
- Leslie N. Wilson - Delores Auzenne Assistantship for Minorities

# Contact Us



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Editor: Pamela Brown