

31st Annual McKnight Fellows' Meeting & 19th Annual Graduate School Conference

November 13-15, 2015
Marriott Tampa Airport Hotel
Tampa International Airport
Tampa, FL 33607

The Scholar's Imperative: Effecting Positive Change in a Dynamic World

*Lawrence Morehouse, Ph.D., President and Chief Executive Officer
Florida Education Fund
Presiding*

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2015

12:00 p.m. ~ Grand Ballroom East Foyer
Registration

1:00-2:20 p.m.

WORKSHOP I: Strategies for Effective Writing

Whether preparing an article for publication, a paper for class, an academic prospectus, a thesis or a dissertation, scholars need a strategic approach for producing a polished piece of writing that meets academic standards. Numerous students, scholars and researchers struggle to transfer their thoughts and the information they have gathered onto paper. These workshops provide techniques for organizing ideas and research into acceptable writing, recognizing that a metamorphosis occurs when writing, similar to the transition a caterpillar makes to become a beautiful butterfly. In addition, methods for personalizing the traditional writing process will be presented so participants can approach each writing task with a proven plan and the confidence that they are equipped to execute the plan.

BUSINESS, EDUCATION, HUMANITIES, SOCIAL SCIENCES ~ Pinellas Room

- *Dr. Elizabeth Metzger*, Associate Professor, Department of English, University of South Florida
- *Dr. Vernetta Williams*, Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of South Florida

STEM ~ Collier Room

- *Dr. Genyne Boston*, Professor, Department of English; and Provost for Faculty Affairs and Development, Florida A&M University

2:30-3:30 p.m. ~ Pinellas Room

WORKSHOP II: Financial Planning: Building a Solid Investment Program in Today's Volatile Market

This session will discuss key elements and strategies for building a solid investment program in spite of the volatility of financial markets and political and economic uncertainty.

- *Miranda Reiter, CFP*, Financial Advisor, Raymond James & Associates, Inc.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2015

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

3:40-5:15 p.m. ~ Pinellas Room

WORKSHOP III: The Role of Comprehensive Examinations: Strategies for Success

By examining the role of comprehensive examinations, this session will present students with strategies to prepare for “comps” while completing their doctoral coursework. It also will help students establish confidence in their ability to prepare for the examinations and pass them on the first attempt.

- *Dr. Iraida Carrion*, Associate Professor, School of Social Work, University of South Florida
- *Dr. Sylvia Thomas*, Associate Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering, University of South Florida

Sarasota Room

WORKSHOP IV: Best Practices for Writing the Prospectus and Dissertation

This workshop is divided into two parts:

Part I focuses on connections between coursework, research interests, and development of the dissertation proposal; selection of dissertation committee chair and other committee members; the structure and format of the dissertation proposal; and strategies for successful development of the dissertation proposal.

Part II offers innovative strategies for preparing to conduct dissertation research; structure, format, and development of dissertation chapters; and dissertation defense.

- *Dr. Marvin Dawkins*, Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Miami
- *Dr. Bernd Reiter*, Associate Professor & Graduate Director, Department of Government & International Affairs, University of South Florida

6:30-9:00 p.m. ~ Grand Ballroom East

OPENING SESSION

- ♦ Dinner
- ♦ Introductions by MDF Fellows *Justin Dunnivant* (UF) & *Ariana Magdaleno* (UM)
- ♦ Welcome & Purpose: FEF President *Dr. Lawrence Morehouse*
- ♦ Keynote Address: *Commissioner Pam Stewart*, Florida Department of Education
- ♦ Introduction of the new McKnight Fellows – **THE CLASS OF 2015**
- ♦ President’s Awards
- ♦ Dr. Israel Tribble Award for Outstanding Alumni Support
- ♦ Russell V. Ewald Award for Academic Excellence
- ♦ Dr. Carl Crawford Award for Outstanding Pre-College Support
- ♦ Introduction of Exhibitors

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2015

7:30 a.m. ~ Grand Ballroom East Foyer
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:30-9:15 a.m. ~ Grand Ballroom West

OPENING PLENARY ADDRESS: The Scholar's Imperative: Effecting Positive Change in a Dynamic World

• *Dr. Juan Gilbert*, Andrew Banks Family Preeminence Endowed Professor and Chair, Department of Computer & Information Science & Engineering, University of Florida

9:20-10:35 a.m. ~ Grand Ballroom West

SESSION I: Pathways to Becoming College and University-Level Academic Administrators

University administrators wield significant power, determine programmatic goals, set academic and regulatory policy, and hire and terminate faculty and staff. In short, they are the primary leaders of the academy. This panel, consisting of college deans and a university provost, will discuss the role of the administrator, examine how administrators help universities fulfill their missions, and offer strategies for obtaining administrative posts.

- *Dr. Edythe Abdullah*, Moderator, Interim Dean of Continuing Education, University of North Florida
- *Dr. Pamela Carroll*, Dean, College of Education and Human Performance, University of Central Florida
- *Dr. Jaffus Hardrick*, Vice Provost for Student Access & Success, Vice President of Human Resources, Florida International University
- *Dr. John Mecholsky, Jr.*, Professor, Department of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Florida

10:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m. ~ Grand Ballroom West

SESSION II: Pathways to Postdoctoral, Academic, Private Sector and Government Positions

Studies indicate that fewer than one half of today's Ph.D. graduates will secure tenure-track faculty positions. Even so, relatively few resources exist to help students pursue positions outside of academia. This panel introduces several McKnight alumni who have charted paths to the postdoc and/or employment in government and industry. They will discuss their vision for pursuing positions in these sectors and the strategies they used to find their jobs. They also will discuss the types of positions available for doctoral graduates.

- *Dr. Tiffani Williams*, Moderator, Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science, Texas A&M University
- *Dr. Anya Edun*, Organizational Development Manager, Dart Enterprises
- *Dr. Dawn Elliott Martin*, Aerospace Engineer, NASA - Kennedy Space Center
- *Dr. Rolando Santos*, Postdoctoral Fellow, Florida International University
- *Dr. Michelle Walker*, Interdisciplinary Scientist/Pharmacologist, Division of Nonprescription Drug Products, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

12:00-12:20 p.m.

EXHIBITOR BREAK

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2015

12:20-2:00 p.m. ~ Grand Ballroom East

LUNCHEON: KEYNOTE ADDRESS

- *Dr. Todd Wyatt*, Professor, College of Public Health and College of Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

2:10-3:10 p.m. ~ Sarasota Room

The Power of Scientific Discovery: The Advantages of Precision Medicine for Disease Prevention and Treatment

As many diseases lack proven means of prevention or effective treatment, a growing number of scientists believe Precision Medicine, which “customizes healthcare by taking into account individual variability in genes, environment and lifestyle,” will lead to highly effective prevention and treatment outcomes. This session will define Precision Medicine and examine its impact on disease prevention and control, HIPPA regulations, healthcare policy and the economy at large.

- *Dr. Diane Allen-Gipson*, Chair, Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of South Florida
- *Dr. Oluwatoyin Asojo*, Associate Professor and Director of Graduate and Undergraduate Education, Baylor College of Medicine, Baylor University; and Researcher, Sabin Vaccine Institute
- *Dr. Michelle Walker*, Interdisciplinary Scientist/Pharmacologist, Division of Nonprescription Drug Products, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research
- *Dr. A. Valance Washington*, Associate Professor, Department of Biology, University of Puerto Rico

- *Abenaa Acheampong*, Moderator & Campus Facilitator, University of Florida (2012), Public Health

Pinellas Room

An Era of Educational Reform and Innovation: Teaching and Learning for the 21st Century Student

A panel of distinguished professors and university administrators will lead the audience in a discussion focusing on the following topics:

- Trends in teacher evaluation and school accountability
- Increasing STEM proficiency among female, Black, and Hispanic students
- College-readiness and developmental education
- Retooling teacher education
- Online learning for K-12 students

The format is designed to allow audience participation throughout the session.

Panelists

- *Dr. Mark Howse*, Chair, Director of University Assessment, Florida A&M University
- *Dr. Pamela Carroll*, Dean, College of Education and Human Performance, University of Central Florida
- *Dr. Tashana Howse*, Assistant Professor, College of Education, Daytona State College
- *Dr. Elizabeth Jakubowski*, Associate Professor, School of Teacher Education, Florida State University
- *Dr. Sonja Montas-Hunter*, Associate Dean of the Graduate School, Florida International University

- *Jessica Wilson*, Moderator, University of South Florida (2014), Education

- *Lakesia Dupree*, Campus Facilitator, University of South Florida (2014), Education

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2015

Grand Ballroom West

Dangerous Intersection: A Discourse on Race, Law, and Policing

This panel will address the intersectionality of race, law, and policing, using theoretical and applied perspectives in criminology. Panelists will discuss their role in advancing research and policy influencing police-citizen interactions and examine the impact of the disproportionate and differential treatment of minorities in the United States.

- *Dr. Danielle Tolson Cooper*, Chair, Assistant Professor, Department of Criminal Justice, University of New Haven
- *Ms. Andrea Headley*, Florida International University (2013), Public Administration
- *Debrechea Hopkins, J.D.*, University of Florida (2012), Criminology
- *Mr. Cresean Hughes*, Florida State University (2010), Criminology
- *Dr. Lon Lanza-Kaduce*, Professor, Department of Sociology, Criminology and Law, University of Florida

3:10-3:30 p.m.

EXHIBITOR BREAK

CONCURRENT ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

In the following eight panel discussions, the panelists will provide information about completing their Ph.D. programs, developing useful research and publication skills, and securing employment. The discussions will serve as informal, interactive forums to address general topics as well as discipline-specific matters.

General topics will include the relationship between job opportunities and research focuses; the advantages and disadvantages of postdoctorate fellowships; how and what to publish, especially before earning the Ph.D.; how to package oneself for the job market and interview, including creating/assembling a portfolio, preparing a professional presentation, developing/polishing interview skills and conducting a job search; how graduate training impacts the ability to secure tenure and promotion; and the importance of networking.

3:30-4:30 p.m. ~ Pinellas Room

Panel One: Engineering

Panelists

- *Dr. Claude Villiers*, Chair, Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Florida Gulf Coast University
 - *Dr. Fernando Gonzalez*, Assistant Professor, Department of Bioengineering, Florida Gulf Coast University
 - *Dr. Francisco Ortega*, Postdoctoral Fellow, Florida International University
 - *Dr. Federica Robinson-Bryant*, Assistant Professor, College of Aeronautics, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
- *Krystine Pimentel*, Moderator, Florida International University (2015), Engineering
- *Dr. Veronica Aponte-Morales*, Campus Facilitator, University of South Florida (2010), Engineering
- *John Gibson*, Campus Facilitator, Florida International University (2014), Engineering
- *Allen Starke*, Campus Facilitator, University of Florida (2013), Engineering

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Sarasota Room

Panel Two: Psychology

Panelists

- *Dr. LaRicka Wingate*, Chair, Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, Oklahoma State University
 - *Dr. Anya Edun*, Organizational Development Manager, Dart Enterprises
 - *Dr. Tyisha Hathorn*, Director, Graduate Minority Programs, University of Florida
 - *Dr. Benetta Wholuba*, Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Florida/Shands Hospital
- *Tanisha Hill-Jarrett*, Moderator, University of Florida (2011), Psychology
- *Larry Burrell*, Campus Facilitator, University of Florida (2013), Psychology
- *Nick Kasdaglis*, Campus Facilitator, Florida Institute of Technology (2013), Human Factors/Psychology

Lee Room

Panel Three: Humanities

Panelists

- *Dr. Natanya Duncan*, Chair, Assistant Professor, Lehigh University
 - *Dr. Edward Shaw*, Lecturer, Art History and Black Studies Departments, University of Nebraska-Omaha
 - *Dr. Jacqueline Wood*, Associate Professor of Black Studies, University of Missouri-Kansas City
- *Ariana Magdaleno*, Moderator & Campus Facilitator, University of Miami (2008), Humanities
- *Daniel Fernandez*, Campus Facilitator, University of Florida (2013), History

Citrus Room

Panel Four: Epidemiology/Life Sciences/Physical Sciences

Panelists

- *Dr. Oluwatoyin Asojo*, Chair, Associate Professor and Director of Graduate and Undergraduate Education, Baylor College of Medicine, Baylor University; and Researcher, Sabin Vaccine Institute
 - *Dr. Ernest Amankwah*, Epidemiologist, Clinical and Translational Research Organization, All Children's Hospital, Johns Hopkins Medicine; and Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
 - *Dr. Halcyon St. Hill*, Professor of Health Sciences, Florida Gulf Coast University
 - *Dr. A. Valance Washington*, Associate Professor, Department of Biology, University of Puerto Rico
- *Michael Cross*, Moderator & Campus Facilitator, University of South Florida (2015), Physics
- *Abenaa Acheampong*, Campus Facilitator, University of Florida (2012), Public Health
- *Tommy Boykin*, Campus Facilitator, University of Central Florida (2014), Physics
- *Shalay Jackson*, Campus Facilitator, University of South Florida (2014), Public Health

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Collier Room

Panel Five: Social Sciences

Panelists

- *Dr. Tony Barringer*, Chair, Associate Provost and Associate Vice President for Faculty Affairs, Florida Gulf Coast University
- *Dr. June Carrington*, Postdoctoral Fellow, School of Nursing and Health Studies, University of Miami
- *Dr. Joseph Cudjoe*, Associate Professor, Department of Social Sciences, Florida Gulf Coast University
- *Dr. Marvin Dawkins*, Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Miami
- *Dr. Jonathan Gayles*, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Learning and Associate Professor, Department of African American Studies, Georgia State University
- *Dr. S. Janine Parker*, Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Florida

- *Andrea Headley*, Moderator & Campus Facilitator, Florida International University (2013), Public Administration
- *Torrian Pace*, Campus Facilitator, University of Florida (2015), Political Science

Pasco Room

Panel Six: Business

Panelists

- *Dr. Rebeca Perren*, Chair, Assistant Professor, Department of Marketing, California State University - San Marcos
- *Dr. Lonnie Bryant*, Associate Professor, Department of Finance, University of Tampa
- *Dr. Russell Price*, Associate Professor, Department of Finance, Howard University

- *Justin Hall*, Moderator & Campus Facilitator, Florida Atlantic University (2012), Business
- *Jeffrey Anderson*, Campus Facilitator, Florida State University (2013), Business
- *Alberto Ortega*, Campus Facilitator, University of Florida (2012), Economics

Broward Room

Panel Seven: Marine Science

Panelists

- *Dr. Sennai Habtes*, Chair, Research Assistant Professor, University of the Virgin Islands
- *Dr. Frank Muller-Karger*, Professor, College of Marine Science, University of South Florida
- *Dr. Rolando Santos*, Postdoctoral Fellow, Florida International University
- *Dr. Monica Wilson*, Florida Sea Grant Gulf Oil Spill Research Extension Specialist, University of Florida/IFAS Extension

- *Jame McCray*, Moderator, University of Florida (2008), Ecology
- *Chanda Littles*, Campus Facilitator, University of Florida (2011), Ecology

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Santa Rosa Room

Panel Eight: Pharmacy/Biochemistry/Chemistry

Panelists

- *Dr. Diane Allen-Gipson*, Chair, Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of South Florida
- *Dr. Blanca Camoretti-Mercado*, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, University of South Florida
- *Dr. Maj-Linda Selenica*, Assistant Professor, College of Pharmacy, University of South Florida
- *Dr. Adrienne Stephenson*, Assistant Dean, Director of the Office of Graduate Fellowships & Awards, Florida State University
- *Dr. Verian Thomas*, Professor and Associate Dean, College of Food and Agricultural Sciences, Florida A&M University

- *Youcelyne Larose*, Moderator, University of South Florida (2010), Chemistry
- *Ofonime Udofot*, Moderator, Florida A&M University (2012), Pharmacy
- *Gladys Asong*, Campus Facilitator, Florida A&M University (2013), Pharmacy

6:30-8:30 p.m. ~ Grand Ballroom East

DINNER & DIALOGUE WITH THE EXHIBITORS

An Up Close and Personal Faculty Recruitment Experience

- Dinner
- Introduction of Exhibitors by MDF Fellows *Justin Dunnivant* (UF) & *Ariana Magdaleno* (UM)
- Entertainment: Daniel Girón & José Lao

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2015

8:30-9:30 a.m. ~ Sarasota Room

WORSHIP SERVICE: The Message

- *Dr. W. James Favorite*, Pastor, Beulah Baptist Institutional Church

Dr. W. James Favorite has served as pastor of Beulah Baptist Institutional Church, Tampa, Florida, for 20 years. He is a native of Vacherie, Louisiana, and holds degrees from Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana (bachelor's and master's in health, physical education and social studies), Virginia Seminary and College (bachelor of arts in religion and a masters of divinity in theology), and the Maryland Theological Seminary and College (doctor of ministry and an honorary doctor of divinity degree). Prior to coming to Beulah Baptist, he served as pastor of Morning Star Baptist Church in Catonsville, Maryland, for eight years. Dr. Favorite believes in education and that our communities can improve if we all give just a tenth of our time or talent. He has served with numerous community organizations, including Pastors on Patrol, the African American Family Support Initiative, Childcare Facilities Advisory Board, and the Urban League, and has recently completed four years as President of the Congress, Progressive National Baptist Convention, Southern Region. He and his wife Dr. Ann Fuller Favorite have two adult children and a grandchild.

10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. ~ Grand Ballroom East

AWARDS AND JACKETING CEREMONY

- ♦ Brunch
- ♦ William R. Jones Most Valuable Mentor Awards
- ♦ New Graduates' Jacketing Ceremony