

32nd Annual McKnight Fellows' Meeting & 20th Annual Graduate School Conference

November 11-13, 2016
Marriott Tampa Airport Hotel
Tampa International Airport
Tampa, FL 33607

The Scholar's Imperative: Meeting the Demands of a Changing World

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

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2016

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. Sylvia Holladay*, Professor of English, Hillsborough Community College

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 despite the volatility of financial markets and political and economic uncertainty.

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

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2016

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
- ♦ Entertainment: USF Jazz Trio
- ♦ Introductions by MDF Fellows *Justin Dunnivant* (UF) & *Xigris Soto* (USF)
- ♦ Welcome & Purpose: FEF President *Dr. Lawrence Morehouse*
- ♦ Keynote Address: *Dr. Juan E. Gilbert*, Andrew Banks Family Preeminence Endowed Professor and Chair, Department of Computer & Information Science & Engineering, University of Florida
- ♦ 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 the new McKnight Fellows – **THE CLASS OF 2016**
- ♦ Introduction of Exhibitors
- ♦ Book signings by Dr. Ylce Irizarry and Dr. Vernetta Williams

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2016

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

8:30-9:10 a.m. ~ Grand Ballroom West

OPENING PLENARY ADDRESS: The Scholar's Imperative: Meeting the Demands of a Changing World

• *Dr. Rick Kittles*, Director, Division of Population Genetics, Center for Applied Genetics and Genomic Medicine and Professor of Cancer Biology, Public Health and Surgery, University of Arizona

9:15-10:25 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 university provosts, will discuss the role of the administrator, examine how administrators help universities fulfill their missions, and offer strategies for obtaining administrative posts.

• *Dr. Jaffus Hardrick*, Moderator, Vice Provost for Student Access & Success, Vice President of Human Resources, Florida International University

• *Dr. Tony A. Barringer*, Associate Provost and Associate Vice President, Academic Affairs, Florida Gulf Coast University

• *Ms. Diana Bien-Aime*, Interim Dean, Academic Affairs, Miami-Dade College, Wolfson Campus

• *Dr. Norma M. Goonen*, Clinical Associate Professor and Graduate Program Director, Higher Education Administration, Florida International University

• *Dr. Norman Munroe*, Professor of Mechanical and Materials Engineering and Director, Office of Student Access and Success & Center for Diversity in Engineering and Computing, Florida International University

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. ~ Grand Ballroom West

SESSION II: Best Practices for Securing Tenure Track and Post Doctorate Appointments and Private and Governmental Employment

Studies indicate that less than one half of today's Ph.D. graduates will secure tenure-track faculty positions, while others will pursue post doctorates and positions outside of academia. This panel discusses current trends in Ph.D. employment and offers strategies for charting the path to an impactful career.

• *Dr. Jayne Reuben*, Moderator, Clinical Associate Professor of Pharmacology, Division of Basic Medical Sciences, University of South Carolina, School of Medicine

• *Dr. Mark A. Lawson*, Director, President's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program and Professor in Residence of Reproductive Medicine, University of California - San Diego

• *Dr. Mildred Maldonado-Molina*, Associate Professor, Health Outcomes & Policy and Director, Health Outcomes & Policy Training and Education, University of Florida

• *Dr. Kenyatta Rivers*, Associate Professor, College of Health and Public Affairs, University of Central Florida

• *Dr. Michelle Walker*, Interdisciplinary Scientist/Pharmacologist, Division of Nonprescription Drug Products, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, U.S. Food & Drug Administration

12:00-12:30 p.m.

EXHIBITOR BREAK

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2016

12:30-2:00 p.m. ~ Grand Ballroom East

LUNCHEON

- ♦ Keynote Address: *Dr. Guillermo Prado*, Dean of the Graduate School, Leonard M. Miller Professor of Public Health Sciences and Director of the Division of Prevention Science and Community Health, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine
- ♦ President's Award: *Dr. Lawrence Morehouse*

2:00-2:30 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.

2:30-4:00 p.m. ~ Sarasota Room

Panel One: Engineering

Panelists

- *Dr. Erick Maxwell*, Principal Research Engineer, Georgia Tech
- *Dr. Claude Villiers*, Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Florida Gulf Coast University
- *Krystine Pimentel*, Moderator & Campus Facilitator, Florida International University (2015), Electrical Engineering
- *Patrick Emami*, Campus Facilitator, University of Florida (2016), Computer Science
- *Daniel Perez*, Campus Facilitator, University of Miami (2016), Mechanical Engineering
- *Kiesha Pierre*, Campus Facilitator, University of South Florida (2015), Environmental Engineering
- *Raul Vidal*, Campus Facilitator, Florida Atlantic University (2014), Ocean Engineering
- *Shanon Wooden*, Campus Facilitator, University of Central Florida (2010), Industrial Engineering

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2016

2:30-4:00 p.m. ~ Executive Board Room

Panel Two: Education

Panelists

- *Dr. Natalie King*, Assistant Professor, Department of Middle and Secondary Education, Georgia State University
- *Dr. Sonja Montas-Hunter*, Assistant Vice-Provost, Office of Student Access & Success, Florida International University
- *Dr. Rhonda Williams*, Excellent Initiatives Department, Dallas Independent School District

- *Jessica Wilson*, Moderator & Campus Facilitator, University of South Florida (2014), Math Education
- *Zachary Collier*, Campus Facilitator, University of Florida (2016), Research Evaluation & Methodology
- *Clausell Mathis*, Campus Facilitator, Florida State University (2015), Science Education
- *Deborah McEwan*, Campus Facilitator, Florida Atlantic University (2014), Curriculum & Instruction
- *Faith Ezekiel Wilder*, Campus Facilitator, University of Central Florida (2015), Education

Pinellas Room

Panel Three: Psychology

Panelists

- *Dr. Marcia McNutt-Tan*, Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Preventive Medicine, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
- *Dr. Nicole Whitehead*, Assistant Professor, Department of Clinical and Health Psychology, University of Florida

- *Larry Burrell*, Moderator & Campus Facilitator, University of Florida (2013), Clinical Psychology
- *Claudia Campos*, Campus Facilitator, University of South Florida (2015), Psychology
- *Danielle Krusemark*, Campus Facilitator, Florida State University (2016), Psychology
- *Jessica Maura*, Campus Facilitator, University of Miami (2013), Clinical Psychology
- *Vanessa Quiroz*, Campus Facilitator, Florida International University (2014), I/O Psychology
- *Betsir Zemen*, Campus Facilitator, University of Central Florida (2014), Psychology

Pasco Room

Panel Four: Business

Panelists

- *Dr. Jevay Grooms*, Senior Fellow, University of Washington
- *Dr. Yvette Holmes*, Assistant Professor of Marketing, Alabama State University
- *Dr. Cinthia Satormino*, Assistant Professor of Marketing, Northeastern University/University of Connecticut

- *Tessa Garcia Collart*, Moderator & Campus Facilitator, Florida International University (2015), Marketing
- *Nadra Pencle*, Campus Facilitator, University of Central Florida (2014), Accounting

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2016

Citrus Room

Panel Five: Physical Sciences/Natural Sciences/Life Sciences

Panelists

- *Dr. Juan Blandon*, Former Assistant Professor, Angelo State University
- *Dr. Michael Cross*, Educator, Technologist, and Intrapreneur, University of South Florida Honors College
- *Dr. Chanda Littles*, Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Florida
- *Dr. Candice Ulmer*, NIST NRC Postdoctoral Research Associate, National Institute of Standards and Technology

- *Rocio Lalanda*, Moderator & Campus Facilitator, University of South Florida (2016), Geosciences
- *Natalia Borrego*, Campus Facilitator, University of Miami (2008), Ecology
- *Eve Culbreth*, Campus Facilitator, Florida State University (2013), Biology
- *Samantha Jones*, Campus Facilitator, Florida A&M University (2016), Basic Sciences
- *Vanessa Londono*, Campus Facilitator, Florida International University (2016), Earth Systems Science
- *Cassandra Newkirk*, Campus Facilitator, University of Florida (2013), Marine Science

Collier Room

Panel Six: Health Sciences

Panelists

- *Dr. Diane Allen-Gipson*, Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of South Florida
- *Dr. Javier Cuevas*, Professor, Department of Molecular Pharmacology and Physiology, University of South Florida
- *Dr. Tyisha Hathorn*, Director, Graduate Minority Programs, University of Florida
- *Dr. Kenyatta Rivers*, Associate Professor, College of Health and Public Affairs, University of Central Florida
- *Dr. Michelle Walker*, Interdisciplinary Scientist/Pharmacologist, Division of Nonprescription Drug Products, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, U.S. Food and Drug Administration
- *Dr. A. Valance Washington*, Associate Professor, Department of Biology, University of Puerto Rico

- *Gladys Asong*, Moderator & Campus Facilitator, Florida A&M University (2013), Pharmaceutical Sciences
- *Ashley Carter*, Campus Facilitator, Florida State University (2016), Nutrition & Exercise Science
- *Brittney Dixon*, Campus Facilitator, University of Florida (2016), Public Health
- *Luis Garbinski*, Campus Facilitator, Florida International University (2016), Biomedical Sciences
- *Giorvani Merillis*, Campus Facilitator, University of South Florida (2015), Public Health
- *Tanica Minnis*, Campus Facilitator, University of Central Florida (2015), Nursing
- *Ariel Smith*, Campus Facilitator, University of Miami (2016), Nursing

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2016

Lee Room

Panel Seven: Social Sciences

Panelists

- *Dr. Marvin Dawkins*, Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Miami
- *Dr. Corliss Heath*, Health Scientist, HIV/AIDS Bureau of the Department of Health and Human Services
- *Dr. Ylce Irizarry*, Associate Professor, Department of English, University of South Florida
- *Dr. Bernd Reiter*, Associate Professor & Graduate Director, Department of Government & International Affairs, University of South Florida

- *Justin Dunnivant*, Moderator & Campus Facilitator, University of Florida (2011), Anthropology
- *Juan Arroyo Flores*, Campus Facilitator, University of South Florida (2013), Sociology
- *Yolanda Franklin*, Campus Facilitator, Florida State University (2016), English/Poetry
- *Vincent Pereira*, Campus Facilitator, University of Central Florida (2016), Public Affairs
- *Shameka Thomas*, Campus Facilitator, University of Miami (2015), Sociology

6:30-9:00 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) & *Xigrif Soto* (USF)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2016

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

WORSHIP SERVICE: The Message

- *Reverend Dr. Corliss Heath*, Health Scientist, HIV/AIDS Bureau of the Department of Health and Human Services

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