

34th Annual McKnight Fellows' Meeting & 23rd Annual Graduate School Conference

November 2-4, 2018
Tampa Airport Marriott Hotel
4200 George J. Bean Parkway
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 2, 2018

To assist you in finding meeting rooms, we include a map of the Tampa Airport Marriott on page 10.

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 ~ Lee Room

- *Dr. Sylvia Holladay*, Former STEM Senior Editor, Pearsons, and Retired Professor of English, University of South Florida and 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.

- *Mo Waineo, MACC, CPA*, Finance Manager, Florida Education Fund
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CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

3:40-5:15 p.m. ~ Collier 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

Pinellas Room

WORKSHOP V: Writing a Successful NIH Grant Application: Some Helpful Tips

This workshop will introduce the art and science of writing a successful NIH grant application. Topics such as finding the best NIH institute to apply to, identifying the best funding mechanism for your career stage, and how to engage NIH staff will be discussed. This workshop also will provide general tips on how to write the specific aims, significance, and innovation sections of a grant application.

- *Dr. Guillermo Prado*, Dean of the Graduate School, University of Miami, and 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

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

OPENING SESSION

- ♦ Dinner
- ♦ Introductions by MDF Fellows *Lakeisha Cousin* (USF) & *Oren Okhovat* (UF)
- ♦ Welcome & Purpose: *Dr. Lawrence Morehouse*, FEF President & CEO
- ♦ Keynote Address: *Dr. M. Rony François*, Director of Public Health Services, Naval Health Clinic, Corpus Christi, Texas
- ♦ President’s Awards: *Dr. Lawrence Morehouse*
- ♦ Dr. Israel Tribble Award for Outstanding Alumni Support: *Dr. Lawrence Morehouse*
- ♦ Russell V. Ewald Award for Academic Excellence: *Lyra Logan, Esq.*, FEF Executive Vice President & General Counsel
- ♦ Dr. Carl Crawford Award for Outstanding Pre-College Support: *Lyra Logan, Esq.*
- ♦ Introduction of the new McKnight Fellows – **THE CLASS OF 2018**: *Mr. Charles Jackson, MPA*, MDF Program Manager
- ♦ Introduction of Exhibitors: *Mr. Charles Jackson*

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2018

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

8:30-8:50 a.m. ~ Grand Ballroom West

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

• *Dr. Traki Taylor*, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, Florida Board of Governors

8:50-11:30 a.m. ~ Grand Ballroom West

FORGING PATHWAYS TO IMPACTFUL CAREERS

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 discusses the role of the administrator, examines how administrators help universities fulfill their missions, and offers strategies for obtaining administrative posts.

The session this morning is divided into two parts: **Part I** will examine the role of Department Chairs, while **Part II** focuses on College Deans.

PART I: DEPARTMENT CHAIRS' ROUNDTABLE (8:50-10:05 a.m.)

- *Dr. RoSusan Bartee*, Moderator, Professor and Chair, Department of Educational Leadership and Higher Education, University of Central Florida
- *Dr. Patricia Pedroza González*, Associate Professor and Chair, Women's and Gender Studies/American Studies, Keene State College
- *Dr. Sudeep Sarkar*, Professor and Chair, Computer Science and Engineering; Associate Vice President, I-Corps Programs, University of South Florida
- *Dr. Steven Tauber*, Associate Professor and Director, School of Interdisciplinary Global Studies, University of South Florida
- *Dr. Srinivas Tipparaju*, Associate Professor and Acting Chair, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of South Florida

PART II: DEANS' ROUNDTABLE (10:15-11:30 a.m.)

- *Dr. Jonathan Gayles*, Moderator, Professor of African-American Studies, Georgia State University
- *Dr. Farrukh Alvi*, Associate Dean for Research & Graduate Studies, Florida A&M University-Florida State University College of Engineering
- *Dr. Mark C. Dawkins*, Dean, Coggin College of Business, University of North Florida
- *Dr. Eric M. Eisenberg*, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, and Professor of Communication, University of South Florida
- *Dr. Christopher McCarty*, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Professor of Anthropology, Director Bureau of Economic and Business Research, Director Clinical and Translational Science Network Science Program, University of Florida
- *Dr. José L. Zayas-Castro*, Professor and Executive Associate Dean, College of Engineering, University of South Florida

11:30-12:00 p.m.

EXHIBITOR BREAK

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2018

12:00-1:50 p.m. ~ Grand Ballroom East

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

♦ Keynote Address: *Dr. Walter Zakahi*, Provost & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Bradley University

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

2:00-3:20 p.m. ~ Pinellas Room

SESSION I: Healthcare Inequity and Pharmacogenomics: Assessing the Impact of Precision Medicine on Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities

Although scientific and technological advances have helped improve U.S. health overall, racial/ethnic minority, socio-economically disadvantaged and rural populations still disproportionately experience disease and poor health outcomes. Structural or systemic factors often hinder the equitable distribution of the benefits of medical advances. This session will review health interventions and social determinants of health including poverty and racism, and will explore the relevance of pharmacogenomics and precision medicine in mitigating health disparities.

The panel, comprised of experts in public health, internal medicine, pharmacology, and pharmacogenomics, will address the following and other queries:

1. What are the levels of health interventions and their impact on access to quality health care?
2. How does health disparity arise, especially racial health disparity?
3. What is the role of pharmacogenomics in the infrastructure of racialization?
4. What might be best practices to promote greater institutional oversight of race-based scientific claims?
5. Can pharmacogenomics potentially eliminate racial profiling in biomedicine?
6. What can we do to help reduce health inequity in the new era of big data?

- *Dr. Diane Allen-Gipson*, Moderator, Associate Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of South Florida
- *Dr. Alicia Best*, Assistant Professor, Department of Community and Family Health, University of South Florida
- *Dr. Teresa Ho*, Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmacotherapeutics and Clinical Research, University of South Florida College of Pharmacy
- *Dr. Siva Kumar Panguluri*, Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of South Florida
- *Dr. Srinivas Tipparaju*, Associate Professor and Acting Chair, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of South Florida

Grand Ballroom West

SESSION II: Strategically Planning Research to Maximize Career Opportunities

Achieving your career goals and securing employment in a highly competitive marketplace requires developing a strategic plan to complete the Ph.D. program and create an attractive portfolio that demonstrates your capacity to conduct timely and cutting-edge research, develop basic and innovative courses and produce dynamic lectures, while meeting expectations for publishing articles and books and securing grants.

This panel, comprised of experts in STEM, Social and Behavioral Sciences and Business, will address the following topics related to strategically planning for employment in these highly competitive times:

- Developing marketable research interests, topics, and questions that are timely, relate to problem-solving and create new insights;
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SESSION II: Strategically Planning Research to Maximize Career Opportunities (Cont.)

- Preparing to conduct interdisciplinary research or working on interdisciplinary research teams in both academic and non-academic settings;
- Creating presentations tailored to different audiences (e.g., the dissertation defense, professional academic research conferences, job interviews for positions in academia or outside of academia);
- Setting a research agenda that maximizes chances for pursuing employment opportunities and career paths both inside and outside of academia; and
- Choosing modes of publishing and publication outlets that maximize opportunities for seeking positions at colleges and universities, private corporations (both for-profit and non-profit) and governmental agencies.

• *Dr. Daphne Simmonds*, Moderator, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Information Systems and Business Analytics, Metropolitan State University

• *Dr. Vivek Bhargava*, Professor of Finance and Associate Dean of Faculty & Administration, Florida Gulf Coast University

• *Dr. Anol Bhattacharjee*, Professor, College of Business, University of South Florida

• *Dr. Marvin Dawkins*, Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Miami

• *Dr. Antoinette Smith*, Associate Professor, College of Business, Florida International University

• *Dr. Claude Villiers*, Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Florida Gulf Coast University

- *Faisal Awwal*, Campus Facilitator, Florida International University (2016), Economics

- *Emanuel Garcia Munoz*, Campus Facilitator, University of Florida (2018), Economics

- *Brandon Mendez*, Campus Facilitator, Florida State University (2017), Business Administration

Sarasota Room

SESSION III: Best Practices for Securing Funding for Domestic and International Research Travel

Increasingly, conducting original research requires not only working in a lab, but also collecting data in the field, which may necessitate domestic and international travel, special research equipment, and expensive data collection methodology. This panel discusses methods for securing funding to support your research, especially as it relates to international travel. The panel also will explore how international travel helps to enhance networking, collaboration, and paid consulting opportunities.

• *Dr. Rocío Lalanda*, Moderator, Consultant

• *Mr. Tommy Boykin*, University of Central Florida (2014), Physics

• *Dr. Tiffany Lang*, Interior Designer, NCIDQ-certified & LEED AP Interior Design and Construction

• *Dr. Jamē McCray*, Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Delaware

• *Dr. Emmanuel Pereira*, Ethnomusicologist, Florida State University

• *Dr. Guitele Rahill*, Associate Professor of Social Work, College of Behavioral and Community Sciences, University of South Florida

- *Ivory Council*, Campus Facilitator, Florida A&M University (2013), Environmental Science

- *Ivan Rodriguez-Pinto*, Campus Facilitator, Florida International University (2017), Ecology

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CONCURRENT ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

In the following five 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.

3:30-5:00 p.m. ~ Collier Room

Panel One: Engineering

In addition to the *general topics*, this roundtable discussion will address the importance of engineering and technology sciences in the 21st Century, focusing on research, practice, and application; employment opportunities; and career advancement.

This panel is divided into two parts:

Part I

Panelists

- *Dr. Claude Villiers*, Moderator, Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Florida Gulf Coast University
- *Dr. Fernando Gonzalez*, Assistant Professor, Department of Bioengineering, Florida Gulf Coast University
- *Dr. Teresa Benitez Gregory*, Lecturer, Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, University of Florida
- *Dr. Seneshaw Tsegaye*, Assistant Professor, Department of Environmental & Civil Engineering, Florida Gulf Coast University

Part II will focus on pathways to securing postdoctoral, government and private sector appointments.

Panelists

- *Dr. Shamara Collins*, Postdoctoral Fellow, U.S. Department of Energy
 - *Dr. John Gibson*, Electrical Engineer, U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory
 - *Dr. Michael Grady*, Research Engineer, Georgia Tech Research Institute
 - *Dr. Earnest Hansley*, Colonel, U.S. Army (Retired)
- *Dieff Vital*, Moderator & Campus Facilitator, Florida International University (2018), Electrical Engineering
- *Maya Carrasquillo*, Campus Facilitator, University of South Florida (2015), Environmental Engineering
- *Anthony Colas*, Campus Facilitator, University of Florida (2017), Computer Science
- *David Perez*, Campus Facilitator, Florida A&M University (2018), Civil Engineering

Executive Board Room

Panel Two: Education

In addition to the listed *general topics*, this discussion will cover the effects of changing demographics on education in America; the importance of science and mathematics education; the recruitment of culturally and linguistically diverse teachers; and the effectiveness of current pedagogy practices. This discussion also will address the Elementary & Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and its impact on education in the future.

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3:30-5:00 p.m. ~ Executive Board Room

Panel Two: Education (Cont.)

Panelists

- *Dr. Mark Howse*, Associate Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness and Director of Educational Outcomes and Assessment, Morehouse School of Medicine
- *Dr. Tashana Howse*, Associate Professor of Mathematics Education, Georgia Gwinnett College
- *Dr. Sonja Montas-Hunter*, Assistant Vice-Provost, Office of Student Access & Success, Florida International University
- *Dr. Monique Ositelu*, Education Legislative Policy Analyst, Florida State Legislature
- *Dr. Irene Walker*, Assistant Professor, College of Education, Curriculum and Instruction, University of Northern Iowa
- *Dr. Alisa Zujovic*, Director of Institutional Research and Grants, Hillsborough Community College

- *Deborah McEwan*, Moderator & Campus Facilitator, Florida Atlantic University (2014), Education

- *Jesse Ford*, Campus Facilitator, Florida State University (2017), Education

Pinellas Room

Panel Three: Health Sciences

In addition to covering the *general topics* listed, this discussion will cover academic and non-academic career opportunities in the health sciences, including postdoctoral positions.

This panel is divided into two parts:

Part I

Panelists

- *Dr. Diane Allen-Gipson*, Associate Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of South Florida
- *Dr. Arlesia Brock-Mathis*, Associate Professor and Track Leader, Health Policy and Management, Florida A&M University

Part II will focus on pathways to securing postdoctoral, government and private sector appointments.

Panelists

- *Dr. Maryam Agharahimi*, Analytical Chemist, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and Adjunct Faculty, Tallahassee Community College
- *Dr. Tomia Austin*, Behavioral Scientist, Health Educator, Researcher and Executive Director, As One Foundation
- *Dr. Genevieve Bell*, Postdoctoral Fellow, The Monell Chemical Senses Center
- *Dr. Makini Cobourne-Duval*, Pharmacologist/Research Scientist, U.S. Food & Drug Administration
- *Dr. Vladimir J. Geneus*, Research Scientist, Eli Lilly & Company
- *Dr. Jaleesa Moore*, Postdoctoral Fellow, Vanderbilt University Medical Center
- *Dr. Shenae Samuels*, Research Scholar, Office of Human Research, Memorial Healthcare System
- *Dr. Chante Washington-Oates*, Postdoctoral Associate, School of Nursing and Health Studies, University of Miami
- *Dr. Aurellia Whitmore*, Postdoctoral Fellow, Omnicom Health Group

- *Enrico Barrozo*, Moderator & Campus Facilitator, University of Florida (2015), Genetics

- *James Brown*, Campus Facilitator, Florida State University (2018), Neuroscience

- *Leah Davis-Ewart*, Campus Facilitator, University of Miami (2018), Public Health

- *Michelle Tall*, Campus Facilitator, University of Central Florida (2018), Nursing

- *Calandra Whitted*, Campus Facilitator, Florida A&M University (2018), Public Health

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3:30-5:00 p.m. ~ Citrus Room

Panel Four: Psychology

In addition to covering the *general topics* listed, this discussion will cover academic and non-academic career opportunities in psychology, internships, and clinical versus research postdoctoral positions.

Panelists

- *Dr. Larry Burrell*, HIV and Liver Disease Behavioral Medicine Fellow, San Francisco Veterans Affairs Health Care System
- *Dr. Allyson Diggins*, Postdoctoral Fellow, Bariatric and Metabolic Institute
- *Dr. Jessica Hill*, Associate Professor of Psychology, Utah Valley University
- *Dr. Tanisha Hill-Jarrett*, Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Michigan
- *Dr. Jenay Sermon*, Learning Innovator and Founder, Learn Ubique

- *Kylie Fernandez*, Moderator & Campus Facilitator, University of Central Florida (2015), Human Factors Psychology
- *Nataly Abrams*, Campus Facilitator, Florida State University (2017), Psychology
- *Erica Anderson*, Campus Facilitator, University of South Florida (2018), Psychology
- *Diane Lawong*, Campus Facilitator, Florida State University (2015), Organizational Behavior

Sarasota Room

Panel Five: Social Sciences

In addition to the *general topics* listed, this roundtable will address the role of research in maximizing academic career opportunities for scholars and highlight publishing and research guidelines for obtaining tenure and promotion in social sciences. The importance of grant writing and collaboration in the social sciences will also be addressed.

Panelists

- *Dr. Tony Barringer*, Associate Provost & Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, Florida Gulf Coast University
- *Dr. Miltonette Craig*, Assistant Professor, Department of Criminal Justice Sciences, Illinois State University
- *Dr. Andrea Headley*, Assistant Professor, John Glenn College of Public Affairs, Ohio State University
- *Dr. Jonathan Gayles*, Professor of African-American Studies, Georgia State University
- *Dr. Hadassah St. Hubert*, Postdoctoral Fellow, Florida International University

- *Shanice Jones*, Moderator & Campus Facilitator, Florida State University (2017), Urban Planning/Public Administration
- *Dr. Atalie Ashley-West*, Campus Facilitator, University of Central Florida, Public Affairs
- *Cherelle Carrington*, Campus Facilitator, Florida International University (2013), Public Health
- *Oren Okhovat*, Campus Facilitator, University of Florida (2015), History
- *Torrian Pace*, Campus Facilitator, University of Florida (2015), Political Science
- *Katie Shakour*, Campus Facilitator, University of South Florida (2015), Anthropology
- *Janae Thomas*, Campus Facilitator, University of South Florida (2018), Political Science
- *Judith Williams*, Campus Facilitator, Florida International University (2015), Anthropology

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 *Lakeisha Cousin* (USF) & *Daniel Fernandez* (UF)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2018

**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

TAMPA AIRPORT MARRIOTT

