

THE PH.D. EXPERIENCE: EXPECTATIONS & REALITIES

Agenda

Dr. Lawrence Morehouse, President & CEO, Presiding

To assist you in finding meeting rooms, we include a map of the Marriott Tampa Airport Hotel on page 4.

Friday, June 20, 2014

1:00-5:00 p.m. ~ Grand Ballroom East Foyer

♦ **Registration**

2:00-3:50 p.m. ~ Grand Ballroom East

♦ **Opening Session**

Welcome and Purpose

- *Dr. Lawrence Morehouse*

The MDF Profile: 2014-2015 Class Portraits

- *Mr. Charles Jackson, MDF Program Manager*

4:00-5:00 p.m. ~ Grand Ballroom East

♦ **Session I: Strategies for Navigating the Ph.D. Process: Expectations and Realities**

This session surveys key academic and psycho-social requirements to successfully navigate a Ph.D. program. By examining the unique nature of doctoral studies, personal learning styles, coping mechanisms, and skill sets, and the span of the doctoral commitment, students will leave the session empowered to create their own “Strategies for Navigating the Ph.D. Process.” The discussion will include information related to analytical note-taking; maintaining mental health, a strong work-ethic, and commitment; and the process of creating knowledge.

- *Dr. Dovie Gamble, Retired Professor, University of Florida*



6:00-8:30 p.m. ~ Grand Ballroom West

McKnight Reception

Mistress of Ceremonies: Dr. Cyndia Morales, Assistant Director, Multi-Cultural Academic and Support Services, University of Central Florida

Dinner

Entertainment: Mr. Alfred Shepherd & Implications, Musicians

Guest Speaker: Dr. Max Poole, Senior Associate Dean, College of Graduate Studies, University of Central Florida

MDF Online Writing Workshops: Lyra Logan, Esq., Vice President & General Counsel, FEF

Closing Remarks: Dr. Lawrence Morehouse

Dr. Poole earned his bachelor's degree in biology from the University of North Carolina-Charlotte, and his Ph.D. in endocrinology from the Medical College of Georgia. After several post-doctoral fellowships, he joined the faculty of the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University, where he remained for 26 years, including nine years as Associate Dean of the Graduate School. In 2005, Dr. Poole joined the College of Graduate Studies at the University of Central Florida as the Senior Associate Dean. He currently is responsible for graduate student retention, which often involves resolving student issues impacting progress to their degrees. Most recently, he led an NSF grant funded partnership of UCF, USF, two community colleges, and the Florida Education Fund in developing strategies to better prepare underrepresented minority students for graduate school success. He has served numerous times on the selection review committee of the McKnight Fellowship program. In August, he will return to his native North Carolina to become the Dean of the Graduate School at Appalachian State University.



Saturday, June 21, 2014

7:00-8:30 a.m.

♦ **Room Checkout**

8:00-8:45 a.m. ~ *Grand Ballroom East Foyer*

♦ **Continental Breakfast**

9:00-10:00 a.m. ~ *Grand Ballroom East*

♦ **Session II: Negotiating the Ph.D. Environment**

This presentation describes key components of the academic department at the Ph.D. level and engages new McKnight Doctoral Fellows in a discussion of strategies that can be developed to successfully negotiate the Ph.D. environment. The session will focus on identifying and addressing challenges faced by new doctoral students. These challenges include cultivating relations with faculty and choosing a major professor, connecting to the faculty's research enterprise, connecting coursework to research interests and dissertation development, forming committees and responding to them at various stages, and understanding the academic culture and its role in facilitating degree completion and career sponsorship.



- *Dr. Marvin P. Dawkins*, Professor of Sociology, University of Miami

10:10-12:00 p.m. ~ *Grand Ballroom East*

♦ **Graduate Deans' Roundtable**

From the Graduate Deans' Perspective: Best Practices for Completing Your Ph.D. Program

On this panel, selected Graduate Deans offer their advice on the most effective practices for completing the Ph.D. program.

- *Dr. Koren Bedeau*, **Chair**, Associate Dean of the Graduate School, University of Miami
- *Dr. Keisha John*, Assistant Dean, Office of the Graduate School, Florida State University
- *Dr. Sonja Montas-Hunter*, Assistant Dean of the Graduate School, Florida International University
- *Dr. Max Poole*, Senior Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, University of Central Florida
- *Dr. Verian Thomas*, Interim Assistant Vice President for Research & Dean for Graduate Studies, Florida A&M University



12:00-12:10 p.m.

♦ **Break**

12:10-1:30 p.m. ~ *Grand Ballroom West*

♦ **Luncheon: The Ph.D. Experience: Expectations and Realities**

- *Dr. Henry T. Frierson*, Dean of the Graduate School, University of Florida



Dr. Frierson is an educational psychologist and Associate Vice President and Dean of the Graduate School at the University of Florida. He received his Ph.D. from Michigan State University. Prior to moving to the University of Florida, he spent 33 years at the University of North Carolina (UNC), where he attained the rank of Professor in the School of Medicine. After transferring to the School of Education, he founded the Research Education Support Program, a broad initiative to engage minority undergraduates in research, support graduate students completing their Ph.D.'s, and help undergraduate students from other institutions participate in summer research. Dr. Frierson also spent seven years as Associate Dean in UNC's Graduate School. At the University of Florida, Dr. Frierson has enjoyed seven years enhancing graduate programs and graduate education. Some of his key objectives are to boost support for Ph.D. students, increase the rate of Ph.D. graduates, increase the proportion of enrolled underrepresented students, and promote professional development for graduate students. He is married to Wendolyn, a retired teacher. They have two children and four grandchildren.

Saturday, June 21, 2014

1:45-3:00 p.m.

♦ Introduction to Graduate Writing

Writing in graduate school presents a number of opportunities and challenges. This session addresses a variety of types of writing students will experience in graduate school, including book reviews, critiques, literature reviews, annotated bibliographies, research papers and proposals, among others. In addition, the session addresses the need for students to familiarize themselves with scholarly journals in their fields, along with writing styles and documentation specific to their disciplines. The session also identifies typical writing problems that occur in students' writing and provides references to remedy the weaknesses.



BUSINESS, EDUCATION, HUMANITIES, SOCIAL SCIENCES ~ Collier Room

- Dr. Vernetta Williams, Visiting Professor, Department of English, University of South Florida

STEM ~ Sarasota Room

- Dr. Sylvia Holladay, Visiting Professor, Department of English, University of South Florida

3:10-4:20 p.m. ~ Grand Ballroom East

♦ MDF Panel: The University Experience

The McKnight Doctoral Fellows' Panel has long been a New Fellows' Orientation highlight. Matriculating Fellows share their experiences and insights on selected topics to help prepare new Fellows for their upcoming Ph.D. experiences.

- Ms. Cinthia Saturnino (2010, Marketing, FSU), **Chair**, "How to Balance Family and Work Life in a Ph.D. Program: Managing Your Time and Making the Best of Your Stress."
- Mr. Michael Grady (2010, Electrical Engineering, USF): "The Class Selection Process: Lessons Learned, Pitfalls to Avoid"
- Ms. Janine Parker (2012, Agriculture Education, UF): "The Importance of Mentoring in Getting the Most Out of a Graduate Education"
- Mr. Rolando Santos (2009, Marine Sciences, UM): "Starting Grad School on the Right Foot"

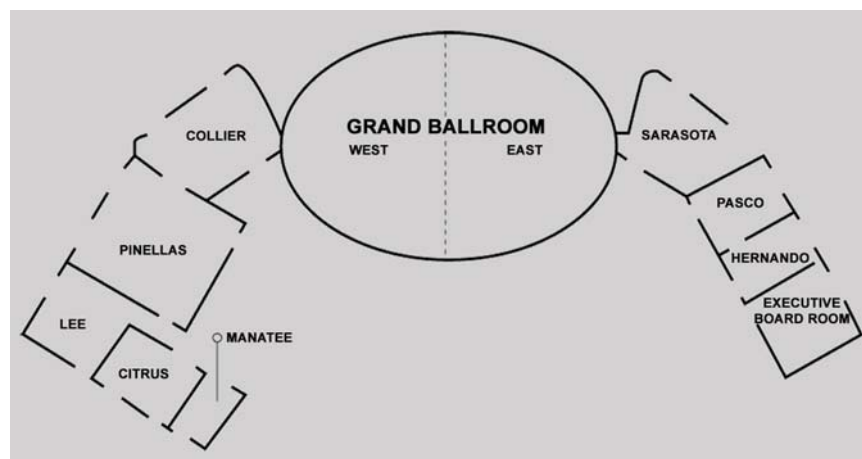


4:30-5:00 p.m. ~ Grand Ballroom East

♦ Closing Session

Business Matters/Policies & Procedures
Meeting Adjournment

MARRIOTT TAMPA AIRPORT HOTEL



LOBBY LEVEL