

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 19, 2015

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: Ariana Magdaleno, Romance Studies, University of Miami

Entertainment: Daniel Giron, Classical Guitarist

Guest Speaker: Dr. Edythe Abdullah, Special Advisor to the President, University of North Florida

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

Closing Remarks: Dr. Lawrence Morehouse

Dr. Edythe Abdullah has worked in higher education for 30 years. She spent 25 years at Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ) and served as downtown Jacksonville campus president before leaving to become the sixth President, and first female, to lead Essex County College (ECC), one of New Jersey's largest two-year colleges. Her current position is Special Advisor to the



President of the University of North Florida. Among her many accomplishments, Dr. Abdullah oversaw development of FSCJ's Advanced Technology Center and secured millions of dollars in grants and in-kind contributions for workforce development and underrepresented students at the college. At ECC, she was instrumental in the College's achievement of Middle States Reaffirmation during the reaccreditation process. Dr. Abdullah has served on numerous local, state, and national advisory councils and boards. She earned her bachelor's at Valparaiso University in Indiana and her juris doctor degree from the University of Florida. She is the mother of four adult children and grandmother of three.

SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2015

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 the 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. Tyisha Hathorn*, Associate Director, Office of Graduate Minority Programs, University of Florida

- *Dr. Sonja Montas-Hunter*, Assistant Dean of the Graduate School, Florida International University

- *Dr. Verian Thomas*, Interim Assistant Vice President for Research & Dean for Graduate Studies, Florida A&M University



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

♦ **Luncheon and Keynote Address: Student Success and the Ph.D. Experience**

- *Dr. Paul Dosal*, Vice Provost for Student Success, University of South Florida

Dr. Paul Dosal is the Vice Provost for Student Success at the University of South Florida. In that position, he is responsible for coordinating the university-wide student success initiative, a strategic campaign to raise retention and graduation rates, boost student satisfaction, minimize financial indebtedness, and prepare all students for success in their careers or graduate and professional schools. He also directs enrollment planning and management, supervising the offices of Undergraduate, Graduate, and International Admissions, the Registrar, and Financial Aid, as well as the Office of Community Engagement and Partnerships and the Academy for Teaching and Learning Excellence. He is also a Professor of Latin American History and the author of four books and dozens of articles. His most recent book, Comandante Che, is a study of Che Guevara's contributions to the theory and practice of guerrilla warfare in Cuba, Africa, and Latin America. Dr. Dosal, a native of Tampa, earned his Ph.D. in History from Tulane University in 1987.



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. Elizabeth Metzger, Associate 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.



- Dr. William Hardy, **Chair**, (Chemistry, UF, 2014) Post-Doctoral Research Associate, Savannah River National Laboratory: *"The Ph.D. Experience: From Ph.D. Student to the Post Doc"*

- Mr. Juan Arroyo Flores (2013, Sociology, USF): *"One Step at a Time: Managing Stress and Time as a Ph.D. Student"*

- Ms. Andrea Headly (2013, Public Administration, FIU): *"Things to Do Before You Begin Your Ph.D. Program (and During Your First Semester)"*

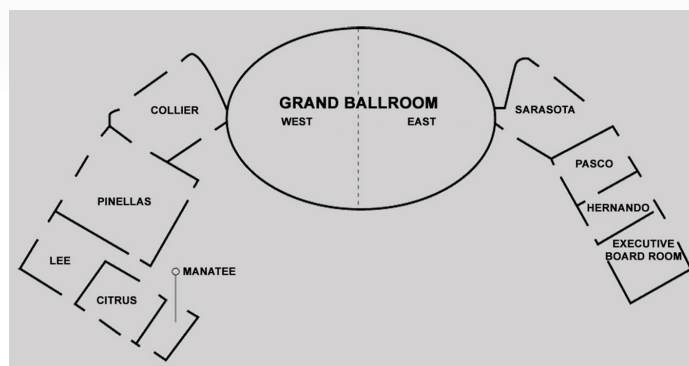
- Ms. Ariana Magdaleno (2008, Romance Studies, UM): *"The Importance of Mentoring and How Class Selection and Research Maximize Mentoring Opportunities"*

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

♦ Closing Session

Business Matters/Policies & Procedures
Meeting Adjournment

MARRIOTT TAMPA AIRPORT HOTEL



LOBBY LEVEL