



FLORIDA  
GULF COAST  
UNIVERSITY

HONORS COLLEGE

GRADUATION CELEBRATION

2020

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# HONORS COLLEGE

2020  
GRADUATION CELEBRATION

## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

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Congratulations on your graduation from FGCU and completion of the Honors College curriculum! The Honors College is a community that learns from one another, challenges one another, and supports one another. Our community is currently tested in ways that were nearly impossible to imagine a month ago. Our Honors College Graduation Celebration is just one of our many events that have forcibly been altered due to COVID-19.

Although, like you, I am very disappointed that we cannot have our Graduation Celebration in person, I am heartened by the ways we are carrying on under imperfect circumstances. The Graduation Celebration normally only lasts an hour or so, but what it commemorates is far more important than the ceremony itself. Your years of hard work, the good times, the friends you've made, setbacks you faced, the challenges you've accepted, and the evolution you've experienced as a scholar and a person cannot be diminished.

Each year the Graduation Celebration culminates with the Honors College presenting each student with a gold stole representing their graduation from the Honors College. We now proudly present the gold Honors College stole to you in this mailing. This stole and the Graduation Celebration program are permanent keepsakes in recognition of your many accomplishments.

During the Graduation Celebration, I present the gold Honors stole to a faculty mentor or family member selected by the graduating student who then presents it to the student. We do this in recognition that the student's accomplishments are not individual but are the product of a large network of supporters. While we can't continue that tradition this semester, I encourage you to reach out and thank those people in your life who have helped you get to this moment. For the time being, you may have to thank those people remotely. However, when this crisis has passed, please thank them in person for everything they've done for you and take a picture with them and your gold Honors College stole. When you do that, please share the picture with the Honors College.

Stay safe and know that we are immensely proud of your accomplishments in the Honors College and at Florida Gulf Coast University. You will always be a member of the Honors College community. Go Eagles!

Sincerely,

Clay Motley, Ph.D.  
Director, Honors College

*Clay Motley*



# HONORS COLLEGE

2020  
GRADUATION CELEBRATION

## LETTER FROM AN HONORS ALUM

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To the unrelenting FGCU Honors Class of 2020,

Congratulations! Although this milestone may be celebrated differently than expected, it does not change or take away the hard work and amazing memories you have made along the way. From the moment I became part of the Honors College back in 2013, I knew I had made one of the best decisions in my college career. I was now part of a community of hard working, inspiring leaders who I knew would one day change the world. That is YOU! Now it is your turn to go into the world, find what you love, and make a difference. It is not always an easy road but it is never the easy roads that bring us to the best destinations. So as you begin this next journey, take everything you have learned with you and ask yourself this: What will the world look like once you change it? Whatever your answer may be... use this as your motivation and remember success all depends on the second letter... u.

With Eagle Pride,

Emmalyn Green  
Honors College Class of 2017

*Emmalyn Green*



# HONORS COLLEGE

GRADUATION CELEBRATION  
2020

## STOLE PRESENTATION

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### Graduate

Lauren Alvaro  
Gabrianna Andrews  
Alyson Baumgardner  
Hind Bernmerabet  
Janeil Birch  
Katelyn Bronder  
Joshua Brusseau  
Francheska Castano  
Alyssa Chermak  
Ketty Consuegra  
Carolina Cora Pedroso de Moraes  
Brooklyn Crum  
Raliyah Dawson  
Johan Elrubaie  
Arienne Fort  
Brent Connor Fredericksen  
Nonnel Galaviz-Johnson  
Jake Goguen  
Aimee Greco  
Cade Green  
Tony Guarino IV  
Lauren Guinn  
Sofia Halbisen  
Jacod Hatfield  
Camille Hemry  
Cesar Hernandez-Isidro  
Kelsey Holder  
Leia Holland  
Kaitlyn Hynoski  
Chisara Ibezim  
Chloe Jackson  
James Javaruski  
Allison Jones  
Marissa Jurasovich  
Madison Kasbaum  
Sara Kelly  
Sorena Kleinschmidt-Vargas

### Stole Presented By

Dr. Scott Michael  
Dr. Hidetoshi  
Caleb Riggs  
Dr. Daniel Paull  
Janet and Avril-Henry Birch  
Kenneth Bronder  
Debbie and Joel Brusseau  
Claudia Betancur  
Dr. Elizabeth Bouldin  
Katia Consuegra  
Timothy Gjini  
Dr. Steven Fraser  
Katiana Gibson  
Ruth Rodrigues  
Dr. Jeanie Darnell  
Andrew Danna  
Dr. Phil Allman  
Dr. Yainitza Hernandez-Rodriguez  
Anne Carncross  
Dr. Thomas Matthews  
Klaudia Fisheku  
Laure and Doug Guinn  
Jessica Rhea  
Sydney VanDreason  
Jorge Lopez  
Genaro Hernandez & Lourdes Isidro  
Jessica Rhea  
Dr. Black  
Sasha Minsky  
Dr. Elizabeth Bouldin  
Rachel Walter  
Dr. Puspa Adhikari  
Lisa Jones  
Kira Lewis  
Dr. Charles Gunnels  
Dr. Myra Mendile  
Jose and Sonya Vargas

# HONORS COLLEGE

## GRADUATION CELEBRATION

### STOLE PRESENTATION

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#### **Graduate**

Samuel Kozlowski  
Michael Kratz  
Samantha Lambro  
Jasmine Lollino  
Stephanie Lukasik  
Bianca Masone  
Alana McFadden  
Kyle McQuillan  
Luca Missaglia  
Josh Morgan  
Jacob Nadreau  
Rebecca Nance  
Rebecca Nelson  
Emma Nichols  
Kathryn Nimmo  
Precious Okungbowa  
Alysa Osterman  
Andyara Passos  
Kayla Perez  
Alexandra Perrine  
Stephanie Ramirez  
Kelly Rico  
Hayden Rieves  
Caroline Rimel  
Sierra Ritchey  
Maritza Rivera  
Luisa Rodriguez  
Olivia Romas  
Megan Shinham  
Shannon Solotar  
Pascal Spork  
Olivia Szpunar  
Arianna Turello  
Mikaela Vitug  
Savannah Walter  
Samantha Wills  
Austin Wise  
Krystal Young

#### **Stole Presented By**

Dr. Danvers Johnston  
Kevin Kratz  
Robin Lambro  
Dr. Amy Lehigh  
Dr. Scott Lee  
Stephanie Masone  
Tiffany Baldwin  
Oney Pino  
Shelby Smith  
Dr. Daniel Huerta  
Dr. Clay Motley  
Mary Ann Nance  
Anne Carncross  
Alyssa Jo Johnson  
Lindsey Johns  
Francesco Masala-Martínez  
Dr. Coughlin  
Angelica and Alciony Passos  
Omar Saavedra and Family  
Raymond and Daniela Perrine  
Jorge Ramirez and Paola Lopez  
Dr. Debbie Giambo  
Bruce Battey  
Virginia Stamper  
Ken and Mindy Ritchey  
Courtney Dwyer Satkoski  
Courtney Dwyer Satkoski  
Tanya Romas  
Andrew Owen  
Ellen Novak  
Ally Zamitalo  
Bruce Battey  
Dr. Peter Reuter  
Dr. Gregory McManus  
Bobbie Jo and Michael Walter  
Cassandra Ellis  
Dr. Ashley Thomson  
Alex Pipitone

# HONORS COLLEGE

## 2020

### GRADUATION CELEBRATION

**We would like to congratulate all our graduates, including those who elected to not be shown in the pages below**

<i>Max Agronin</i>	<i>Hailey Goff</i>	<i>Mary Meinberg</i>	<i>Brandon Schultz</i>
<i>Cooper Alligood</i>	<i>Dominique Granja</i>	<i>Viridiana Mendez</i>	<i>Sofia Sciancalepore</i>
<i>Jesseros Anderson</i>	<i>Abby Gruner</i>	<i>William Merritt</i>	<i>Jason Scott</i>
<i>Thomas Anderson</i>	<i>Juan Guarnizo</i>	<i>Jessica Meza</i>	<i>Samuel Sherman</i>
<i>Hannah Andrews</i>	<i>Elizabeth Haines</i>	<i>Sean Mooney</i>	<i>Meka Sillevs</i>
<i>Davina Angstenberger</i>	<i>Sara Hannon</i>	<i>Rhodora Moore</i>	<i>Kiera Sleigh</i>
<i>Ryan Antos</i>	<i>Allison Hawkins</i>	<i>Karla Moreno-Perez</i>	<i>Alexandra Smith</i>
<i>Hannah Arteaga</i>	<i>Cierra Homic</i>	<i>Nina Morice</i>	<i>Natalie Solla</i>
<i>Kayla Baker</i>	<i>Anthony Horvath</i>	<i>Shelby Morris</i>	<i>Kayla Stanton</i>
<i>Ian Baxter</i>	<i>Lily Horwitz</i>	<i>Tatiana Mrazik</i>	<i>Brynna Stilwell</i>
<i>Cassandra Bayes</i>	<i>Ching-yi Hsu</i>	<i>Anthony Muller</i>	<i>Shane Stoeber</i>
<i>Darby Betz</i>	<i>Abigail Hudson</i>	<i>Sarah Newton</i>	<i>Johana Stubbs</i>
<i>Risa Bhairo</i>	<i>Lillianna Hymans</i>	<i>Nicholas Nicastro</i>	<i>Julia Suarez</i>
<i>Shania Bogner</i>	<i>Laura Jaaskelainen</i>	<i>Caitlin O'Brien</i>	<i>Kendyll Sumler</i>
<i>Allyson Bourque</i>	<i>Carley Johnson</i>	<i>Christina Olivastro</i>	<i>Aricely Tavares</i>
<i>Marie Bozor</i>	<i>Katy Johnson</i>	<i>Julia Olivastro</i>	<i>Michael Tench</i>
<i>Morgan Brady</i>	<i>Matthew Josephson</i>	<i>Lauren Owens</i>	<i>Zachary Thiesing</i>
<i>Conor Brandon</i>	<i>Marissa Jurasovich</i>	<i>Sophia Pandey</i>	<i>Edward Thinger</i>
<i>Andres Brealey</i>	<i>Matthew Kaminski</i>	<i>Cassie Payne</i>	<i>Kendel Tomlin</i>
<i>Matthew Brown</i>	<i>William Kapp</i>	<i>Hoyuky Pec</i>	<i>Tamarys Torres-Mercado</i>
<i>Chandler Burwell</i>	<i>Alexandria Kerr</i>	<i>Isabella Peedle</i>	<i>Kristin Trainer</i>
<i>Harvey Cajina</i>	<i>Haley Kinart</i>	<i>Brerly Perez-Ramos</i>	<i>Nicholas Tucker</i>
<i>Cierra Canty</i>	<i>Kathryn Koirtyohann</i>	<i>Kenneth Petter</i>	<i>Cameron Van Boekel</i>
<i>Monica Castro</i>	<i>Courtney Kramer</i>	<i>Sierra Pitts</i>	<i>Jenna VanBoxtel</i>
<i>Francine Anne Celis</i>	<i>Lindsey Ksiazek</i>	<i>Krista Prince</i>	<i>Gabrielle Vignet-Williams</i>
<i>Garrett Chapman</i>	<i>Loygdna Laurissaint</i>	<i>Shivashish Puri</i>	<i>Kelly Walker</i>
<i>Melissa Chen</i>	<i>Sarah Lee</i>	<i>Daniel Quiroz</i>	<i>Emily Wallace</i>
<i>Ailsa Clark</i>	<i>Maura Lofton</i>	<i>Jahan Rajae</i>	<i>Savannah Walter</i>
<i>Kailee Claustro</i>	<i>Felix Ludy</i>	<i>Erica Rankin</i>	<i>Kelsey Wheeler</i>
<i>Tristan Colon</i>	<i>Walter Malcolm</i>	<i>Briana Ravelo</i>	<i>Julia White</i>
<i>Sara Combs</i>	<i>Manuela Marin</i>	<i>Carlos Reyes</i>	<i>Alexandra Williamson</i>
<i>Larenz L.T. Dixon</i>	<i>Ahilimis Martos Gato</i>	<i>Jessica Rich</i>	
<i>Tamija Douglas</i>	<i>Betzaira Mayorga-Calleros</i>	<i>Chastity Roark</i>	
<i>Brittney Drayton</i>	<i>Kevin Mcclenithan</i>	<i>Alexandra Ruiz</i>	
<i>Hunter Engel</i>	<i>Kyler McCown</i>	<i>Emily Sabin</i>	
<i>Sophiste Etienne</i>	<i>Emily McLean</i>	<i>Joe Samuel</i>	
<i>Jacob Foster</i>	<i>Colin McMullen</i>	<i>Thelma Sanchez</i>	
<i>Ciara Frame</i>	<i>Juan Medina</i>	<i>Karin Schienvar</i>	
<i>Meghan Gaddis</i>	<i>Matthew Medovich</i>		

HONORS COLLEGE

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# *Introducing our Spring 2020 Honors Graduates*



## *Lauren Alvaro*

As an undergraduate, I have participated in a broad range of research dealing with various environmental, ecological, and molecular topics. During my first year at FGCU, I gave poster and oral presentations on lysis-lysogeny decision proteins in bacteriophage at the 2017 Florida SEA-PHAGES Symposium. I later became an intern in FGCU's Benthic Ecology Lab and have been involved with various projects related to seagrass monitoring and restoration since 2018. In summer 2019, I conducted my own research project as an NSF Research Fellow at the DISL REU. My project's findings were published in the Gulf and Caribbean Research Journal and presented at the Ocean Sciences Meeting. I also had the opportunity to participate in the SACNAS National Diversity in STEM Conference in Hawaii through the NSF Geo-Futures Program. After earning my degree at FGCU, I will pursue a Masters in Marine Science at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science.

Major: Marine Science

Minors: Biology and Climate Change



## *Gabrianna Andrews*

My name is Gabrianna and during my time at FGCU I have been lucky enough to be a founding centennial member of the Lion's Club and now President. I have spent a lot of my free time giving free eye and eye exams throughout both Lee and Collier County to preschool students and low income families who cannot afford to do so themselves. I also am the Vice President of Red Cross. In addition, I have done immense research on nitrifying bacteria and archaea. One of my greatest accomplishments was being awarded with the Seidler Grant which went towards my ecophysiology research on a newly discovered ammonia-oxidizing bacteria APG5. In addition, I have also done volunteer work with Freedom Waters, Paws Crossed, and Lovers Key State Park as a park liaison and writer for the Fort Myers Sandpaper.

Major: Biology, Pre-Professional Studies Concentration  
Minor: Anthropology



## *Alyson Baumgardner*

Through FGCU Honors College, I was afforded the opportunity to interact with caring and compassionate professors who encouraged me and helped me find my passion in mathematics. I learned what research in mathematics looks like and was able to attend and present at several conferences, surrounding myself with like-minded and driven people. I'm grateful for the exposure that I had to the mathematical community and look forward to where it takes me.

Major: Mathematics  
Minor: Statistics



## *Hind Benmerabet*

When I applied to FGCU as a sophomore, all I wanted was earning my bachelor's degree as quickly as possible and getting a job right after. However, things didn't go as planned. The opportunities afforded by the institution and the ambitions that the amazing faculty here have installed in me have opened my eyes. I suddenly craved for more knowledge, more research, and more experiences. After spending countless hours in my research laboratory, I was awarded an honors developmental grant, the honors summer research fellowship, and the title of best undergraduate research presentation on research day 2019. Furthermore, I have been accepted into the Cancer Chemical Biology PhD program at the Moffitt Cancer Center/USF! Looking back, I wonder if all of this would have happened had I not studied at FGCU. I am grateful to the Honor's college for encouraging my efforts and I hope I will continue to succeed, if God Will.

Major: Clinical Laboratory Science  
Minor: Chemistry



## *Janeil Birch*

My name is Janeil Birch and I am an international student from Montego Bay, Jamaica. I am elated to be a Spring 2020 graduate despite ongoing circumstances. I've accomplished so much while being at FGCU and I am forever grateful. I'm an Accounting major who has been a part of FGCU's Honors College since my Freshman year of college. I've also had many achievements such as being past President and Treasurer of my sorority Hermandad de Sigma Iota Alpha, Incorporada. I was also a Resident Assistant in Westlake Village for a max of two years and I'm also currently a member of Beta Gamma Sigma International Business Honor Society. My future plans are to continue pursuing my dreams by getting my CPA license and eventually work for a reputable accounting firm.

Major: Accounting



\*Photo not available

## *Katelyn Bronder*

FGCU has given me the ultimate experience to better myself as a person and student. I have held an executive board position for FGCU's chapter of the honor society, National Society of Leadership and Success the past two and a half years (community service chair and graduating as vice president). I have completed over 300 community service hours, most with the organization near and dear to my heart, Be a Buddy. I plan to continue my academics in a graduate program to receive my doctorate in Physical Therapy, concentrating on sports rehabilitation.

Major: Public Health



## *Joshua Brusseau*

Hi! My name is Josh Brusseau and I am a proud Honor's College Graduate! I started out quietly in college, getting my feet wet if you will. I quickly became involved once I realized that college is what you make out of it, not what it gives you. I got in touch with a professor who shared my desire for consumer research and flash forward a year, ended up co-authoring a paper with her for an International Marketing Journal. I also worked with this same professor to help gather current FGCU student's perception on the Library and help them to re-brand themselves. Looking towards the future, I am extremely excited! The only thing that I can ask of my career is to be able to make someone feel like they matter. Real world, Here I come!!

Major: Marketing



## *Francheska Castano*

My name is Francheska Castano, and I am a Colombian-American First-Generation student graduating with a Bachelor's in Art. The entire college experience feels like a vivid dream, where you are conscious but it does not feel real. I never thought that I would be achieving the goals that I had simply thought of in my mind. I would think to myself, that it would be amazing to go to college, study what I love, and positively impact people through it; but I did not really think that I would get to do that. I was told that I would not make it past the first semester, but I thank God that I have beat the odds. I wanted to master my craft and teach others to love theirs as well. I wanted to make my parents proud. Thankfully, I have met the goals, but I would like to extend them as a lifelong endeavor. After I graduate, I will do my best to Positively impact every person that I meet and help others through art, whether it is through therapy or teaching. My thoughts are no longer "if only," but "I will."

Major: Art



## *Alyssa Chermak*

My name is Alyssa Chermak and I am beyond excited to say that I am graduating with my bachelors in Music Education with a Choral Concentration! During my time here, I have been largely involved with our vocal department and the Honors College. Throughout the years, I have been a member of all three of FGCU's choirs, I was one of the founding members of FGCU's chapter of the National Association for Music Education, and I successfully completed my very own vocal recital! In the Honors College, I was the first Honors T.A., an Honors mentor, and co-chair of the scholarship committee in Honors Senate. I want to thank everyone in the Honors College, especially Dr. Motley, for supporting all of my endeavors and always making me feel at home! After graduation, I plan to spread the beauty of music to the younger generation as a music teacher in the school system!

Major: Music Education, Choral Concentration



## *Ketty Consuegra*

My name is Ketty Consuegra and I am graduating with a Biology B.S. During my time at FGCU I was able to work under Dr. Rhodes studying the extracellular matrix of pancreatic cancer for almost two years and we were able to present our findings at FURC 2020. I was also able to serve as one of SiHM's student program creators and mentor. One of my most incredible experiences at FGCU was serving as the Director of Community Outreach for Global Medical Brigades 2018-2019, where I learned so much about myself and others. I am happy to say that for the next chapter in my life I will be attend FSU College of Medicine in the summer as part of the 2024 graduating class. I am sad to see my time at FGCU end, but very excited to welcome my future as a medical student, future resident and physician.

Major: Biology, Pre-Professional Concentration



## *Carolina Cora Pedroso de Moraes*

My mission at FGCU was always to inspire others to work together to pursue their educational and professional dreams. I have been privileged to combine both of these missions through my service and my leadership roles during my college years. I was able to work as a mentor for the Honors College, instructional assistant for biology, administrative leader for Eagle View Orientation, and student-athlete academic mentor and tutor. Working with these organizations I discovered a passion for advocating for the funding and research of areas that are under-represented in medicine, which led me to become involved in genetics research. My next goal is to return to FGCU as a master's student in physician assistant studies so that I may spread my knowledge, care, and compassion throughout the SWFL community. I look forward to this opportunity and to build positive experiences, lifelong friendships, indelible memories, and building on the FGCU legacy.

Major: Biotechnology  
Minor: Chemistry



## *Brooklyn Crum*

My time at FGCU has been nothing short of amazing. I have encountered many incredible opportunities that have helped me develop as a young professional. I had the pleasure to volunteer 500+ hours with the FGCU Women's Basketball Team, where I was able to be apart of practices, game-day operations, and travel all over the country. I also volunteered time to Junior Achievement and Boys and Girls Club. I was president of Beta Alpha Psi and created my own organization, Future Female Business Leaders. I had the privilege to study abroad and live in Germany for three months. Lastly, I was recognized for all of my incredible opportunities and success by receiving the LCOB Student of the Year Award. Going forward, I will begin a career in Accounting and Financial Systems at Gartner. I also plan on returning to FGCU as a graduate in the future to pursue my MBA.

Majors; Accounting and Mathematics  
Minor: German



## *Raliyah Dawson*

I am Raliyah Dawson and I am a Senior graduating in May from FGCU with a Bachelors of Science in Nursing. After graduation, I plan to return to my hometown of Vero Beach and complete a residency program at a local hospital, volunteer at my local church, while also working with local high schools and after school organizations to help minority students in underserved communities pursue college. One of my greatest accomplishments is being inducted into the FGCU Hall of Fame 2020. It is because of FGCU that I have been able to learn my true identity and transforming the lives of those around me while helping those in the community has become my life's mission.

Major: Nursing



## *Johan Elrubaie*

During my time at FGCU, I was able to participate in, design, and perform numerous scientific research projects on a wide variety of topics ranging from the discovery of the previously unknown bacteriophage Skog to synthesizing, imaging, and analyzing gold nanoparticles using green chemistry to working with the human pathogen *Aspergillus fumigatus*. I have also been highly involved in public safety, emergency management, and disaster response as I am the president of the FGCU Community Emergency Response Team. After graduating from FGCU, I plan on working as a biologist or chemist in industry for a year before applying to medical school and pursuing a career as a doctor specializing in emergency medicine. Over the past year, my involvement in the FGCU Community Emergency Response Team has sparked an interest in working with first responders to provide the best possible medical care to those who need it the most.

Major: Biology

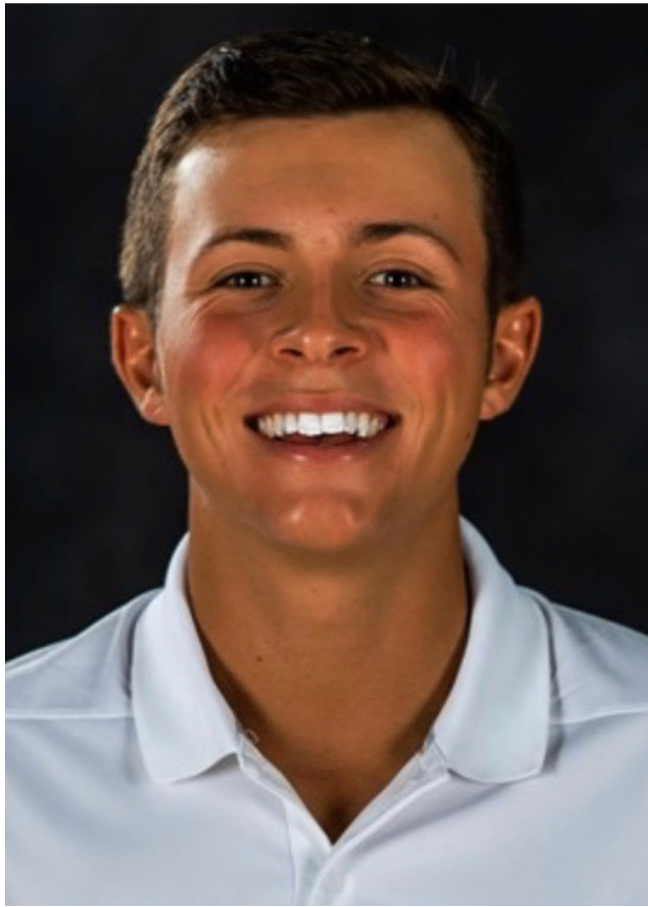
Major: Chemistry



## *Arienne Fort*

I was born and raised in Lima, Peru. I discovered I wanted to study voice/opera when I was 17 years old. I won a full scholarship to the Interlochen Arts Camp in Michigan and I fell in love with this career. I came to Fort Myers in 2015 and I was majoring only in Voice Performance. After my first year at the school I also fell in love with conducting and I decided to double major, adding Music Ed. Here at FGCU I have had the opportunity to grow as a musician and performer. I have interpreted several opera roles at the school, in studies abroad (Opera Viva in Verona, Italy and Music Study Abroad in Szeged, Hungary) and with Opera Naples. I also got the opportunity to visit the Baltic States with the whole Chamber Choir and we got to perform in different churches around the 3 countries. I have won several vocal competitions including NATS and Van Sickle. I performed 2 full recitals at the U. Tobe Recital Hall at the school of Music. I am very grateful for all the opportunities the university has brought to me. For my future plans, I am getting ready to audition for several music schools in Europe and hopefully starting my masters in Opera Performance in September, 2020.

Major: Voice Performance, BME Choral Concentration



## *Brent Connor Fredericksen*

My experience at FGCU has opened up a bigger world to me than I could have ever imagined. When I first arrived here, I wasn't certain what my future would hold. That future began to take shape over time, and I couldn't have asked for a better college experience. I learned so much about myself during my years at FGCU: what it means to work hard, thrive, be open to new ideas, think outside the box, and conquer obstacles. Above all, I learned to never stop pushing forward towards my dreams. It hasn't always been easy to navigate my way, however, each challenge I encountered brought me closer to unveiling the person I have grown into today. As I get ready to start this next chapter in my life and venture out into the unknown, I am content in knowing that I will take with me the collective knowledge, friendships, and memories of FGCU that I cherish. I am eternally grateful for the opportunities that being an FGCU student-athlete has granted me. Thank you, FGCU... Forever Wings Up!

Major: Business Management  
Minor: Psychology



## *Nonnel Galaviz-Johnson*

My research abroad to Ghana in 2017 remains as one of my most impactful experiences. It was there I realized my work going forward must always be intersectional. While studying sea turtle ecology, I was able to walk the beach filled with fisherman and converse with them on their lives. I discovered the depths of social inequities which can be found around the world and how they connect to environmental concerns. This experience directed my future involvements including, studying permaculture & acquiring my PDC, joining a grassroots organization called Action Corps, and participating in the FGCU/MIT Pilot Program which indulged me in learning about civic design and its application to the communities I care most about. My future is focused on environmental justice research and community work. I am hoping my future work is always rooted in culture, the arts, environmental regeneration, and empowering communities.

Major: Environmental Studies, Ecology and Environmental Assessment Concentration



## *Jake Goquen*

Born in Naples, FL, I am extremely happy to have completed my major in Biology and minor in Chemistry right up the road from where I grew up. I've loved my time at FGCU and have had to opportunity to work with other great students and amazing faculty. I've had the opportunity to work closely with many classmates as the president of the FGCU Roller Hockey Club, secretary of the Pre-Student Osteopathic Medical Association, as a mentor for the Students in Healthcare and Medicine Mentoring Program, and as a University Ambassador. Through outstanding faculty members such as Dr. Hernandez-Rodriguez I've had the opportunity to explore research fields I would have never gotten into before, and present at conferences such as the Florida Undergraduate Research Conference. I hope to be able to take the lessons I've learned with me as I prepare to apply for medical schools.

Major: Biology, Pre-Professional Concentration  
Minor: Chemistry



## *Aimee Greco*

My four years at FGCU have been a tremendous success with a multitude of accomplishments. I have grown as a scholar, theatre practitioner, and person in such a short amount of time. My academics were more successful than I could have imagined; earning a majority of A's throughout the semesters and joining the Honors College my junior year. As a theatre major, I have grown as a theatre practitioner and am now fully prepared to join the professional industry. I spent majority of my college career working at the FGCU Theatre; being involved in 11 productions working as a stage manager, costume designer, and actor. Furthermore, I completed an internship at the Illinois Shakespeare Festival, one of the largest Shakespeare festivals in the country! I am eager to begin my professional career as a stage manager, starting in Florida and later across the country.

Major: Theatre



## *Cade Green*

During my time at Florida Gulf Coast University I was blessed to be both the Vice President of Sigma Phi Epsilon and the Director of Concert's for FGCU's Programming Board. I have also been lucky enough to be involved with some incredible organizations including the Men's Club Basketball Team and the Pi Sigma Epsilon Business Fraternity. Upon graduation I will attend the University of Florida in my pursuit of an M.S. in Sport Management. I am incredibly grateful for the amazing professors I have had and lifelong friends I have made at FGCU. Additionally, I would like to give special recognition and a sincere thank you to my parents for always supporting me and providing me with so many opportunities to succeed.

Wings Up and Go Gators!

Major: Finance



## *Tony Guarino IV*

Hello Friends! Through out my time here at FGCU, I have lead and started organizations, traveled the world, and met some phenomenal friends in the process. My plans are changing everyday as new opportunities and challenges present themselves. I can't imagine where I will be a few years from now, but I know my world will shine like I've had too much wine.

Majors: Finance and Economics

Minor: Real Estate



## *Lauren Guinn*

I served as Kappa Delta's 2019 Secretary, was the 2019-2020 President of SPIOP, completed three internships, worked part-time each semester, added two minors on top of my major course load, made Dean's and President's List, and completed this all in three years. With my degree, I will be pursuing a career in the Human Resources field with a Supply-Chain Healthcare company in Fort Myers. I will also be working towards my Master's in Human Resources Management and a SHRM certification.

Major: Psychology

Minors: Management and Interdisciplinary Studies



## *Sofia Halbisen*

After earning my AA at Florida SouthWestern State College, I continued on to Florida Gulf Coast University to earn my degree in Psychology. During this time, I became very involved in the Honors College where I took on roles such as Honors Mentor and Vice President of Honors Senate. My involvement in the Honors College lead me to working with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers as well as the Student/Farmworker Alliance as their Service Coordinator. While I love serving my community, I also love helping others develop their passion for service-learning and civic engagement. I was able to do this through my role as a Service-Ambassador where I connected FGCU students with over 350+ community partners. I will be applying to a master's program at the college and I am looking forward to continuing my time here at FGCU.

Major: Psychology, Neuroscience & Cognition Concentration

Minor: Medical Humanities



## *Jacob Hatfield*

During my time at FGCU, I earned a BS degree in biomedical engineering. Through the Honors College, my proudest achievement was participating in the Immokalee trip two years in a row and getting to learn about the incredible community and culture of our neighbors. I also attended several incredible honors events, my personal favorite being the Office Olympics. Outside of Honors, I was a university ambassador and academic tutor for the CAA. After graduation, I plan on getting a masters degree in computer science with a concentration of software engineering, with the dream of working for Disney!

Major: Bioengineering



## *Camille Hemry*

I am so grateful to have been an Eagle at FGCU. Coming from Oklahoma I did not know a single student here, but I quickly got involved in many enriching activities. The Honors College has challenged me to grow in my scholarship through my Management major & Spanish minor, I served as the Vice President of Chapter Development in Phi Mu Sorority, and I loved serving on the Leadership team of IGNITE student ministry. One of my favorite activities has been getting paid-to-play through Campus Recreation where I have been a lifeguard and drove our boat; teaching students how to wake-surf and wakeboard on our beautiful lake. I am fortunate to have traveled often, including New Zealand, Peru, and studying abroad in Spain. Now I look forward to pursuing a career in international business to apply all I have experienced through FGCU. Thank you!

Major: Business Management, International Business  
Concentration  
Minor: Spanish



## *Cesar Hernandez Isidro*

I am a first generation student from Hidalgo, Mexico. At FGCU I was able to conduct undergraduate research on the Design and Development of an All-Terrain Powered Wheel Chair Base with Variable Width. I have also been involved with the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers and the Biomedical Engineering Society during my time at FGCU. I am also one of 10 inductees into the 2020 FGCU Hall of Fame. I plan on pursuing a career with biomechatronics and develop mobility assistive devices such as exoskeletons and prosthetic devices. Through this I wish to help people that need mobility assistance to help them be independent. The devices that I wish to develop would also help people that are in labor intensive positions such as agriculture and construction.

Major: Bioengineering



## *Kelsey Holder*

I was dual-enrolled in high school and received my Associate's Degree before attending FGCU. Knowing I only had two years before graduating with my Bachelor's Degree, I was worried about finding experience. After taking Foundations of Civic Engagement, the community partner that I worked with, My Autism Connection, offered me an internship. Since then, I have discovered new passions and have received an ample amount of experience. I have since been promoted twice within that organization and I am now the Program Coordinator for their adult group for members with autism. I have FGCU to thank for that.

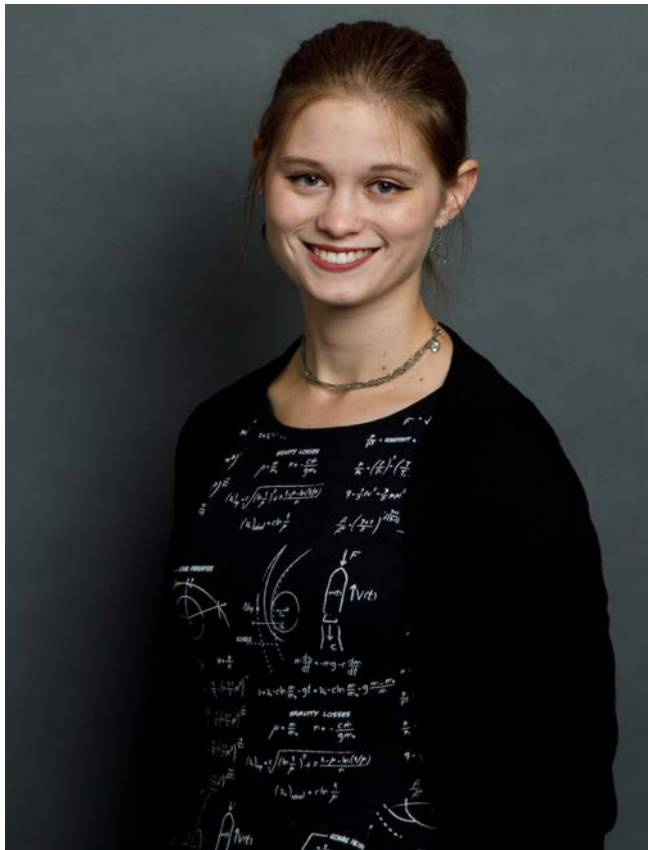
Major: Psychology



## Leia Holland

I am an Exercise Science student graduating from the Honors College with 24 credit hours. My time in the Honors College gave me opportunities for research and travel that I wouldn't have been able to do without their help. I did a study abroad to Peru, which was life changing and inspired me to pursue research in prostheses. I completed an Honors Thesis on my research creating a low-budget prosthetic socket designed for developing areas in Latin America. I was also able to travel to Portland, OR for a national conference to present a research poster on the perception and knowledge of holistic medicine practices. My time spent with honors has furthered my education with these experiences, and allowed me to meet so many great mentors and colleagues. I plan to apply to a Doctorate of Physical Therapy program after building more experience in my field, and I feel confident that these experiences will help build my application.

Major: Exercise Science



## Morgan Humphrey

In my four years at FGCU, I worked three jobs as a research assistant, was a peer mentor for two years, presented at conferences around the country, and visited four different countries. I worked at an internship at the Naval Research Laboratory and ran three different organizations, one of which I started. My relationship with my professors encouraged me to pursue graduate school for a Master's in Ocean Engineering at Texas A&M University, where I plan to use my background in sustainability to help the planet.

Majors: Environmental Engineering and Civil Engineering  
Minor: Spanish



## *Kaitlyn Hynoski*

I am graduating with a Bachelor of Art with a Digital Media Design concentration. I was the Inaugural Honors House leader for the Panther House in 2019-2020. I joined the Honors College my freshman year and continued to remain dedicated to the program. I have participated in many honors organizations including Trails For Tails from 2017-2018. I have also been active in the West Lake Area Council as a delegate, a member of FGCU swim club, and a member of the Design club. I have worked for the past year as a design intern at Prestige Printing. I plan on working in house as a graphic designer in the future.

Major: Art, Digital Media Design Concentration



## *Chisara Ibezim*

My name is Chisara Ibezim and I majored in Political Science. Here at FGCU, I was involved in many organizations and programs. I had the opportunity to serve two terms in Student Government and as a Honors Senator. I was also involved in the PAGES Program and the Rotaract Club. I worked on campus as an Athletics Mentor and ACE Mentor. Additionally, I worked as a Parent Program Assistant for Eagle View Orientation. I also had the opportunity to complete two internship programs away as well as present at the National Collegiate Honors Conference. After graduation, I will be attending Vanderbilt University Law School in Nashville, Tennessee.

Major: Political Science



## *Chloe Jackson*

My name is Chloe Jackson, and I am graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Health. Throughout my time at Florida Gulf Coast University, I have had the privilege of serving as an Honors Mentor for First Year Honors students, collaborating with peers as a tutor and a Learning Assistant, and representing FGCU as a University Ambassador. My college experience has consisted of so many incredible opportunities I could not have imagined. For starters, through my unique service-learning experiences, I have traveled abroad to Thailand where I taught English to school-children, and worked on a permaculture farm that directly supplements the diets of the kids I worked with. Furthermore, I have found a home away from home at Shy Wolf Sanctuary working with wolves and wolf-dogs. I am excited to continue my journey at FGCU as a graduate student pursuing my Master of Occupational Therapy degree in Fall 2020!

Major: Public Health



## *James Javaruski*

I've been at FGCU for three fantastic years. In that time, I've had the opportunity to do more than I honestly ever believed I would. I've studied abroad in Belize and San Salvador with the Honors Colleges assistance. I've spent three semesters in a genuine marine chemistry laboratory participating in Red Tide research. In addition to presenting at multiple other conferences, I flew to San Diego, California to present my research at the American Geophysical Union Ocean Sciences 2020, the largest global oceanographic conference. That couldn't have been accomplished without the help of FGCU Undergraduate Scholars. At that conference I had the opportunity to meet Dr. Kanchan Maiti, who is now going to be my graduate advisor at Louisiana State University starting in Fall 2020. Once I obtain my Masters, I plan to continue on and earn a Ph.D before teaching at a university, potentially at the Water School.

Major: Marine Science

Minors: Biology and Geology



## *Allison Jones*

I have received such an amazing undergraduate experience here at FGCU. I was able to get involved in a variety of organizations, that including the Honors college, where I attended social events building friendships and memories, and Tennis Club, where I was able to develop leadership as President and competitively play the sport I love while building friendships. My program in Athletic Training has also provided me with memorable educational experiences, such as my senior internship working with the Minnesota Twins Organization. I have had so much fulfillment in the past 4 years that have helped shape the path and desire to continue my education further, with a goal to obtain a doctorate in physical therapy.

Major: Athletic Training



## *Marissa Jurasovich*

I am extremely grateful for the opportunities the Honors College has provided me. Possibly the most significant was my semester abroad at Harlaxton College in England. Getting the chance to travel and met new people is something I will forever be thankful for. I also was able to work on an article, which will be applied for an academic journal. After graduation, my goal is to continue to travel and begin a career. Wherever that may be, I hope it is one that challenges me and allows me to continue learning. Being a part of this program has allowed me to gain more out of my college experience than I could have ever imagined. Thank you for an amazing four years!

Major: Marketing



## *Madison Kasbaum*

Traveling to Fort Myers from Chicago for college was daunting, but Florida Gulf Coast University welcomed me with open arms and a proud wings up. Over the four years at FGCU, I've had many accomplishments. From being enrolled in many challenging courses for my Marine Science degree and double minors of Biology and Chemistry, I know that FGCU has set me up for a successful future. I became a member of Kappa Delta sorority, studied abroad in the Peruvian Amazon through the Honors College, completed an internship at Mote Marine Laboratories in their Marine Mammal and Reptile Department, and volunteered for a variety of organizations. As a graduating senior, I will look back, grateful for my many invaluable experiences. I look forward to utilizing the skills gained from FGCU and the Honors College for my future plans. Which includes studying at an elephant sanctuary in Thailand and then veterinary school.

Major: Marine Science

Minors: Biology and Chemistry



## *Sara Kelly*

During my freshmen year on the FGCU women's tennis team, we won the 2017 ASUN conference for the first time in school history. In spring 2019, I was awarded ASUN all-conference honors, and our team achieved a top 50 national ranking for the first time. In the fall of my senior year, I presented research at the South Atlantic Modern Language Association's annual literary conference in Atlanta, Georgia. My project was about Florida's high school English Language Learner program, the teachers, and their students.

Major: English

Minors: Journalism and Creative Writing



## *Sorena Kleinschmidt-Vargas*

My time at FGCU has shaped me in ways I could have never imagined as a freshman back in 2016. In the last four years, I have had many great experiences and opportunities that have shaped me both personally and professionally. For over a year I interned with the Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau as well as held the position of Marketing Director for the Florida Public Relations Association FGCU chapter. I have been able to polish my graphic design skills through the completion of multiple projects. Some highlights include creating the rebranding material for the new FGCU University Recreation & Wellness Center as well as designing the Lee County Conservation 20/20 30,000th acre commemorative logo. My graphic design work has also been featured in multiple exhibitions at FGCU. I will always be indebted to this university for what it has given me. Once an eagle, always an eagle.

Major: Communication, Public Relations Concentration

Minors: Digital Media Design and Interdisciplinary Studies



## *Samuel Kozlowski*

I am graduating in May with a bachelor's of Science in Environmental Engineering. While at FGCU I was part of the Ultimate Frisbee and Medieval Combat Sports Clubs. I also aided Dr. Johnston in research on electromagnetic polymers for solar panels as well as antimicrobial growth factors in RO membrane systems. During the summer of 2017 I participated in a study abroad trip to Rome, Italy where I was able to travel across Europe. In the summer of 2018, I had an internship working at Waldrop Engineering in Bonita Springs. The following year I had an internship working at the Great Lakes Environmental Center in Columbus, Ohio. After graduation I plan to travel to Australia to dive the Great Barrier Reef. My future career goal is to work as a Water Recourse Engineer.

Major: Environmental Engineering



## *Michael Kratz*

I have learned so much about the environment while at FGCU and I have grown as a person over this time period as well. Seeing how the chemicals we use, the food we grow and eat, the packaging we dispose of, and our transportation methods impact the planet makes me want to work harder to achieve more eco-friendly ways of living our lives. I have also had many great experiences conducting research in the lab and the field, primarily focused with water quality in nearby watersheds like the Estero Bay. Through these in person experiences, I was able to apply the knowledge I gained in the classroom towards meaningful research in helping our environment here in Fort Myers. I plan in the Fall of 2020 to continue my Estero River and Imperial River research by becoming a Graduate student in the M.S Environmental Science program here at FGCU.

Major: Marine Science  
Minor: Biology



## *Samantha Lambro*

I started my journey at FGCU as a participant in the MLD program called Frosh Mosh! From there, I was accepted into the Leadership Through Service LLC program. During my freshman year, I accumulated over 130 service-learning hours through this program! I had a service project that won a “Phenomenal First-Year Award” at community engagement day! I then became a mentor for Frosh Mosh and Leadership Through Service in my sophomore year! I also became a resident assistant in the spring of 2018. Through LTS I was able to work alongside Courtney Satkoski. I became a leadership member for her non-profit organization called Hunting for a Cure, which raises awareness and advocates for children who suffer from Hunter’s Syndrome. During my senior year, I had the amazing opportunity to work with Kim Willis, who is the advisor of a program called Opening Minds Through Art. I was an intern for the program which provides art therapy for individuals with dementia. Unfortunately, my internship was cut short due to the coronavirus.

Major: Public Health



## *Jasmine Lollino*

I am originally from the Northwest Suburbs of Chicago, and moved to Southwest Florida in late 2016 to continue both my academic career and life as a whole. I am graduating Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Public Health. I have served on Chi Omega's Executive Board as Secretary, Camp Kesem's Executive Board as Volunteer Coordinator, and been a member of multiple honor societies on campus including Order of Omega and Phi Eta Sigma. I have volunteered my time with Girls in Engineering, Mathematics, and Science (GEMS), Habitat for Humanity, and more, and completed an internship with the Florida Department of Health in Lee County. I will be pursuing a Doctorate of Physical Therapy come the 2021 academic year, and cannot wait to be a physical therapist one day. I am thankful for FGCU, and am ready to see where life takes me!

Major: Public Health



## *Stephanie Lukasik*

I started my FGCU career in 2016. I joined Phi Mu that fall and gained so much leadership by doing so. I was able to serve on the Executive Board as our Director of Harm Reduction & Prevention, as well as serve as our Ritual Chairman. As for my future plans, I am currently applying to graduate schools to earn my Masters in Resort & Hospitality Management!

Major: Resort & Hospitality Management, Event Management Concentration

Minor: Theatre



## *Bianca Masone*

Throughout my four years at Florida Gulf Coast University, I have been a part of the Honors College as an honors student, Honors Senate as Chair of the Finance Committee, Phi Eta Sigma Honors Society, Golden Key International Honors Society, Chi Omega Fraternity, and as a Violinist for the Bower School of Music Symphonic Orchestra. In addition, I have had the opportunity to have my artwork featured in the FGCU Art Lab Gallery Typography Exhibition. As a marketing major and a digital media design minor, FGCU has given me countless opportunities to expand beyond my own boundaries and develop into the person I am today.

Major; Marketing

Minor: Digital Media Design



## *Alana McFadden*

First, I would like to say congratulations, we did it! This is a great accomplishment for all of us. I'm a Florida girl, growing up in Plant City before moving to Fort Myers for college. I have hopes of continuing my education at the University of Denver; double majoring in international studies and social work to become an international social worker. One of my dream jobs would be working in international affairs or homeland security to bring awareness and aid to our immigrant population in the USA. My other job would be promoting lifestyle skills and education to low income families by building community centers/schools in areas with high poverty. I can definitely say that FGCU has helped begin my growth into a person I am so proud of and has given me the right start for all my future endeavors. So proud to call myself an eagle for life!

Major: Social Work

Minor: Spanish



## *Kyle McQuillan*

I am Kyle McQuillan. I was born and raised in Philadelphia until I moved down to Stuart, FL, my freshmen year of college. I rushed Fall 16 and joined Sigma Phi Epsilon. Throughout my time in SigEp, I have had the honor of being president, rush chairman, sigma coordinator, social chair, sorority relations, formal planner, powderpuff coach, and recruitment board. I have also had internships at Gartner, the Philadelphia Eagles, Boston RedSox, and the Fort Myers Mighty Mussels Baseball team.

Major: Business Management, Sports Concentration



## *Luca Missaglia*

My name is Luca Missaglia and I come all the way from Agrate Brianza, Italy. I am a Software Engineering major and a first-generation college student, graduating Summa Cum Laude. I have earned 215 service learning hours while volunteering at FGCU. One of my most memorable experiences was to create a website for an organization on campus, S(he) Will Fade. During my time at FGCU, I have had the opportunity to meet wonderful professors that taught me invaluable skills: professionalism, excellency, and ways to improve myself as an engineer. After graduation, I hope to obtain a software engineering position in a large corporation. My dream job would require great problem-solving skills. I hope to utilize the knowledge that I gained here at FGCU to serve the community and continue advancing in my future endeavors.

Major: Software Engineering



## *Josh Morgan*

I had the privilege of representing the FGCU community as a member of the Division 1 Men's Soccer team and enjoyed every minute of it. From pursuing my passion of finance and my passion on the field I've cherished every bit of it! Once an Eagle always an Eagle!

Major: Finance

Minor: Entrepreneurship



## *Jacob Nadreau*

I started my time at FGCU coming in with an Associates in Arts degree with a plan to graduate in biochemistry. Through the benefits of the honors college first year sequence options I was given the opportunity to travel to Austin Texas and partake in a research convention revolving around astrophysics and astronomy. Although not directly related to my major these experiences aided in broadening my horizon and enabling me to consider about how I could apply my major and interests in more ways than I have before. My time at FGCU has shaped my future interests in the field by providing me with a variety of elective classes such as NMR and forensic chemistry, and varying learning experiences that will certainly assist me in the future as I look towards the exciting potential of hopefully working with biochemistry within the forensics sector.

Major: Biochemistry



## *Rebecca Nance*

I am an environmental engineering student who has tried to take every opportunity FGCU gave to me. Over the last four years I was an intern with Lee County Utilities, I was a researcher on two different projects: Clean Water Project, and Dispersed Water Management. I was a university ambassador and an engineering ambassador. I was an honors mentor for two years. In several student organizations, and an officer for the past two years for Florida Water Environment Association. I have been to more conferences than I can count. I was lucky enough to do two faculty-led study abroads. I am so grateful for my time at FGCU and I am excited for the future. I have accepted a position to be an Environmental Engineer I with CDM Smith in Raleigh, NC.

Major: Environmental Engineering



## *Rebecca Nelson*

I started at FGCU in the Spring of 2017 with the President's Gold Scholarship. In my time in the theatre program at FGCU, I've put countless hours into eight shows in the last three seasons. Some honorable mentions include: Costume Designer for Junie B. In Jingle Bells Batman Smells (which we traveled with and took to Golisano Children's Hospital for a special performance), Master Carpenter for Life is a Dream and The Importance of Being Earnest, and Scenic Designer for Water Stories. I've also had the opportunity to work professionally at TheatreZone in Naples and at Brevard Music Center in North Carolina. I will be the first on my dad's side of my family to graduate college. This fall I will be starting as a production apprentice for a full season at Riverside Theatre.

Major: Theatre



## *Emma Nichols*

In my three years at FGCU, I have been involved with Kappa Delta Sorority as Girl Scout Chair and Assistant VP of Community Service, Housing and Residence Life as a Resident Assistant, Student Government as Senate Secretary, & Multicultural Leadership Development as a member of LEAD Team and Emerging Eagles. I had the opportunity to study abroad in Mexico in Summer 2018 as well as complete an internship in Washington, DC in Summer 2019. I will be returning to Washington, DC to attend American University and pursue a Master's in Political Communication. I hope to one day work on a political campaign as a digital campaign manager.

Major: Political Science



## *Kathryn Nimmo*

During my time at FGCU, I was able to accomplish so many things. I worked as a Resident Assistant my Sophomore year in Osprey Hall and won an award for my valentine's day event. I completed over 150 hours of Service Learning. I volunteered with Brevard Zoo at home. I also volunteered with local ministries to do blood pressure screenings for low income neighborhoods. I have served in leadership for Nurses Christian fellowship since my Sophomore year and as VP for Intervarsity this past year. I also was able to be on the Nursing Student Association for one year as communications chair. Following graduation, I hope to work as a Registered Nurse in the Pediatric Field. I would also love to be able to do international nursing mission trips in the future.

Major: Nursing  
Minor: Psychology



## *Precious Okungbowa*

My name is Precious Okungbowa and I am from Nigeria. Exposure to Nigeria's poverty cultivated a passion for medicine, specifically neurosurgery. In secondary school, Biology was poorly taught, which gave me uncertainties that developed into doubts against my dream. Attending FGCU gave me exposure to an amazing Biology professor that made me love Biology through developing my critical thinking skills and teaching me to see the bigger picture through smaller details. These new skills strengthened my passion and allowed me to excel with all Biology related courses. This growth allowed me to go on medical missions back to Nigeria, experience volunteer trips, medical research, and community volunteering through FGCU, which all have helped mold my vision of being a surgeon. Graduating among the top of my class has increased my future plans of getting into a medical school, completing a residency, and specializing in neurosurgery.

Major: Biology, Pre-Professional Concentration  
Minor: Chemistry



## *Alysa Osterman*

During my three years at Florida Gulf Coast University I studied Political Science and was able to present a research paper at the Honors Research Symposium. I completed a summer internship with the City of Okeechobee where I was able to work in each department to better understand multiple aspects of local government. I am currently the Assistant to the Village Clerk for Florida's newest municipality the Village of Indiantown. After graduation, I plan to become a teacher. Eventually, I would like to attend graduate school abroad and become a United States Foreign Service Officer.

Major: Political Science, International Relations Concentration  
Minor: Global Studies



## *Andyara Passos*

During my time at FGCU I have been a member of the honors college, TRIO SSS which is for first generation college students, a member of the American Academy of Physician Assistants and Florida Academy of Physician Assistants. Throughout my college career, I worked part time as a registered medical assistant at MedExpress Urgent Care and obtained over 230 community service hours, including attending a medical mission trip to Costa Rica with Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children, working with children with special needs at Gigi's Down Syndrome Play House, painting a mural at the Happaeehatchee foundation and a student volunteer at my local community hospital. I will then graduate with my Bachelors of Science in Biology and I hope to be able to give back to the underserved community by earning a Masters of Science in Physician Assistant Studies.

Major: Biology



## *Kayla Perez*

I am graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary Education and I am a first-generation college student. I am beyond blessed to have been given the opportunity to be a part of the College of Education and the Honors College community at Florida Gulf Coast University. I am humbled to have received the Eagle Gold Transfer Scholarship and appreciative for my loved ones that have continuously supported my academic journey. While at FGCU, I have discovered my passion for volunteering with many organizations and even got the opportunity to attend the Florida Collegiate Honors Council Annual Conference with the Honors College. After graduation, I am looking forward to teaching my own group of elementary students and pursue a master's degree in an education field. I am grateful to have had these opportunities and looking forward to the path that God has in store for me. Go Eagles!

Major: Elementary Education



## *Alexandra Perrine*

My focus for the past twenty-two years has remained on fueling my passion through education. In high school, I was a part of the National Honor Society, the student council, and the women's basketball team. As I transitioned into my college years, I excelled as evident by: being acknowledged on the Dean's or President's list every semester; induction into Psi Chi; and acceptance into the Honor's College my freshman year. These academic achievements allowed me a glimpse into my future through an internship in the judicial system. After obtaining my license as a Clinical Psychologist, I will continue my passionate journey into forensic psychology for a better comprehension of the criminal psyche. Through this knowledge, I intend to further the field of psychology and help educate first responders for the benefit of all.

Major: Psychology



## *Stephanie Ramirez*

My name is Stephanie Ramirez and I will be graduating this spring with a double major in Political Science and Philosophy. These last 3 years at FGCU have brought me so many great memories and experiences. Some of those include joining the Honors College, studying abroad in Barcelona, getting a leadership position in Student Government, joining Kappa Delta sorority, obtaining dean's list every semester, being inducted in the Order of Omega Honor Society, getting an amazing internship and having the opportunity to volunteer with several organizations I am passionate about. This fall I will be enrolling in Law school with the goal of becoming a licensed attorney helping further the public good.

Majors: Political Science and Philosophy



## *Kelly Rico*

My name is Kelly Rico and I originally transferred from Florida SouthWestern State College. The realization that I could make an impact in my community through forensics was the motivation for me to decide that I wanted to study this field. During my time at Florida SouthWestern I was in the Honors Scholars Program. At FGCU, I was able to have the opportunity to present research. I presented my research on Alcohol Abuse in the Zuni Pueblo in spring 2019 and in spring 2020. My older sister became the first in our family to graduate from high school and college. For me it was incredible not only to go to college but to also be accepted into the Honors College. My plan for the future is to go to graduate school. I'm taking a year off and deciding what I want to major in next.

Major: Forensic Studies



## *Hayden Rieves*

During my four years at FGCU, I focused much of my energy on leadership. My sorority, Zeta Tau Alpha, afforded me many opportunities to hone my leadership and public speaking skills. I held many offices in the chapter including Greek Relations Chair, Ritual Chair, Vice President 1, and Chapter President. I attended the Zeta Tau Alpha National Leadership Conference, Officer Leadership training, and the Zeta Tau Alpha International Convention. I was recently selected to sit on the ZTA National Slating Council. I was inducted into Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society, Beta Gamma Sigma international business honorary honoring the top 3% of business students, and The Order of Omega, honoring leaders in the Greek community. After graduation I will be beginning my career in professional sales with Gartner Services Global Conference Sales in Fort Myers. I will be continuing my education in the MBA program at FGCU.

Major: Marketing

Minors: Professional Sales and Entrepreneurship



## *Caroline Rimel*

I am a proud sister of Alpha Chi Omega and serve as the cultural chair as well as the homecoming chair. I also serve as the Vice President of the West Lake area council and am a member of the FGCU chapter of the Florida Public Relations Association. Currently I work as an intern with the City of Fort Myers government, working in the PR department of city hall and will advance to become the director of sustainability after I graduate. My dream job is to work as a public relations or communications specialist for an ocean conservancy organization, such as Oceana, to provide education about the preservation of our marine environments.

Major: Communication, Public Relations Concentration  
Minor in Marketing



## *Sierra Ritchey*

My name is Sierra Ritchey. I am a psychology major with a minor in management. I have been very involved in the Honors College during my time at FGCU including living in the SoVi Honors Live Learn Community, serving as the co-lead for the Honors Mentor Program, and serving as a member of the Honors Senate. I also was an officer for SPIOP. Off campus, I am a big sister in the Big Brothers Big Sisters Organization as well as a group facilitator for Valerie's House (a group for grieving children). I found my passion during my internship at Scotlynn USA Division as the Human Resources Intern. I want to thank the Honors College, the life-long friends I have made here, and my family for my successes and accomplishments during this journey.

Major: Psychology  
Minor: Management



## *Maritza Rivera*

The last four years at FGCU have shaped me into a person I am proud of. As a sophomore I joined Global Medical Brigades and that is where I found my passion of serving underserved communities. Determined to extend my reach I began volunteering at Immokalee and with Hunting For A Cure Inc. I hope to continue my journey and take the next steps into becoming a doctor, so I can help underserved communities and countries in more ways. Not only would I be able to provide medical care, but also have the opportunity to connect with others and show them that you don't have to come from a privileged or affluent background to achieve your dreams.

Major: Biology, Pre-Professional Concentration

Minor: Chemistry



## *Luisa Rodriguez*

During my time at FGCU, I have had the privilege of serving as the President of Global Medical Brigades (GMB) and THE Big C. These organizations focus on serving the under-resourced as one big community. I have traveled to Nicaragua and Panama through GMB to provide free medical and dental healthcare to rural areas in need. These experiences, along with participating in the Honors College Immokalee Immersion Weekend, led me to begin a new outreach opportunity for FGCU students: Project Ciclovía. For the remainder of the year, I will continue to travel with a group of students to Immokalee to provide free services while making a connection with our neighbors. Furthermore, I have volunteered with Hunting For a Cure for two years and now serve as the COO of this non-profit organization. We will continue the fight to end Hunter's syndrome - a deadly and aggressive disease affecting less than 500 boys in the United States. My involvement at FGCU and through the Honors College has led me to pursue a career in medicine. My future plans include applying to medical school this summer and working in the medical field for a year after graduation!

Major: Biology, Pre-Professional Concentration



## *Olivia Romas*

I have attended Florida Gulf Coast University and been a part of the Honors College for the past four years. The Honors College has played a huge role in furthering my education and has also helped to connect me with so many of my peers. I have spent my time at FGCU working towards and degree in Biology and I cannot believe that the time has already come to leave. FGCU helped me to foster my love for medicine and also solidified my dream of becoming a doctor through my coursework and involvement. So, of course, in the coming months I will be applying to medical school! I must also thank FGCU for connecting me with so many amazing people and friends. Specifically, I will forever be thankful for joining CHAARG, Students in Health and Medicine, and FGCUScholar's.

Major: Biology, Pre-Professional Concentration



## *Megan Shinham*

My years at FGCU helped to develop me into the person I am today. With every opportunity offered to me, new doors were opened for my future. Now, thanks to FGCU, I've had my work seen in numerous art exhibitions. With help from an honors grant, I've been exposed to countries and cultures other than my own through study abroad. FGCU even introduced me to an internship opportunity that helped me to confirm what I want to do for a career following graduation, and now I'm making efforts to become an Art Teacher who can inspire my students like my professors at FGCU did for me.

Major: Art

Minor: Art History



## *Shannon Solotar*

I have become a personable, enterprising graduate with a creative mind and innovative vision in resort management. I began my hospitality career as a recreation intern with the Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort of Naples. After 3 months, I was given a part time position while dual interning in Guest Relations. After a week of Guest Relations, I was hired full time as a Guest Relations Coordinator and Lobby Concierge during here time here at FGCU. While at FGCU, I was the 2018 Wanderlust Scholarship recipient and was a part of the FGCU Student Exchange Program to CETT-UB School of Tourism, Barcelona, Spain. I am seeking an opportunity to utilize and enhance existing hospitality skills, bolstered by academic study in Resort and Hospitality Management.

Minor: Resort and Hospitality Management



## *Pascal Spork*

My past accomplishments include graduating in 3 years with a 4.0 GPA, while balancing being an international student, being a Resident Assistant for 2 years and playing club tennis. My future plans are going to medical school in Germany, and upon graduating medical school I would like to specialize in surgery. Once I am a surgeon I would like to specialize in either Cardio-Thoracic, Trauma or possibly Pediatric surgery. I am planning on continuing and furthering cancer research as I have done here with Dr. Lee. My eventual goal is to find a good treatment for lung cancer.

Major: Biology, Pre-Professional Concentration

Minor: Chemistry



## *Olivia Szpunar*

Throughout the past 4 years, I have taken full advantage of being an FGCU Eagle! Before starting my senior year, I was offered a full-time position as an Account Executive at Gartner after completing an internship with them this past summer. I will be starting my journey at Gartner this fall! I also completed full-time paid internships in the Marketing Department of Norwegian Cruise Lines for two consecutive summers. Additionally, I am a Head Lifeguard for FGCU Campus Recreation and have thoroughly enjoyed doing so. Some of my greatest memories throughout my college career have been through my membership in Phi Mu Theta Nu. During my time in Phi Mu, I held positions on the Executive Board as both Sisterhood and New Member Educator. I am very thankful my younger sister, Sophia, and I were able to experience FGCU together. Go Eagles!

Major: Marketing

Minors: Advertising and Entrepreneurship



## *Arianna Turello*

I am from Waterford, Connecticut and began my journey in Florida as a freshman at FGCU. I am graduating from FGCU with a Bachelor Degree of Science in Nursing. Through the support of the Honors College, I have been able to conduct research projects related to holistic medicine and academic performance and health behaviors alongside her mentor Dr. Peter Reuter. In addition, I have been part of the founding group of FGCUScholars Ambassadors and has served as the Executive Director for the past year. Also, I have been on the board for Aquila: The FGCU Student Research Journal. I have gained a vast amount of knowledge in my field from the resources provided by the Honors College. I plan to leave FGCU and become an Acute Care Nurse and to return to school to peruse a Master's Degree in Nursing to become a Nurse Educator.

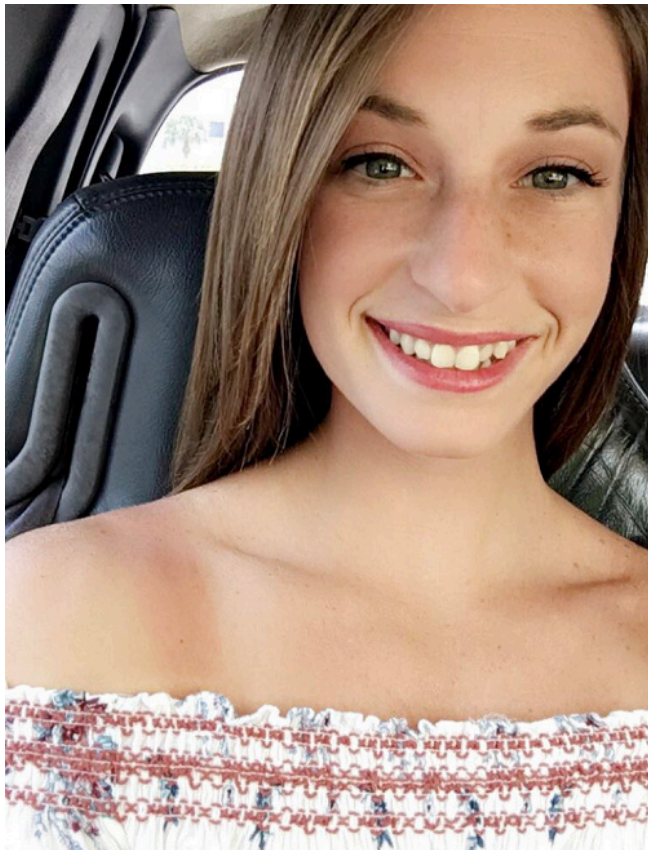
Major: Nursing



## *Mikaela Vitug*

In my short 3 years at Florida Gulf Coast University, I have served as the President of the Pre-Student Osteopathic Medical Association, Vice President of the FGCU Chemistry Club, and Secretary of the FGCU STEMInists. I've had the opportunity of conducting research (funded graciously by the Honors College), of introducing girls in the local community to the wonders of the STEM field, and assisting our fellow student-athletes in managing their coursework along with their rigorous schedules. I am scheduled to start medical school at Michigan State University in June, but wherever I go next, I'll leave with the knowledge of what it means to be an eagle, and for that I'll always be grateful.

Major: Biochemistry



## *Savannah Walter*

I maintain my tenacity from a persevering, honest, and hard-working family. I have always been bright because of my hard work and athletic because of my talent. In high school I became a scholar athlete continued into my first two years of college. I was awarded for my outstanding achievements in leadership, academics, and athletic performance from professors, college athlete associations, and coaches. My greatest award in life has not been recognition for any of these accomplishments as hard as I have worked for them. I am honored to be a child of two amazing parents who support me in everything that I do and everything that I am. I am honored to be supported as a daughter, best friend, granddaughter, sister, girlfriend, and coworker while I continue my journey into medical school.

Major: Biology, Pre-Professional Concentration



## *Samantha Wills*

Hi Eagles! My name is Samantha Wills and I am a Social Work major and a Peace & Social Justice minor. As a freshman, I discovered my own bacteriophage through the honors course Virus Hunters. I also participated in every retreat the Multicultural and Leadership Development Center offered. Throughout my sophomore and junior year, I was a Frosh Mosh Peer Mentor, the Director of the Multicultural Ambassador Program, an Emerging Eagles Mentor, a member of LEAD Team, and a Senator in Student Government on the Appropriations Committee. During my senior year I was a Social Work Intern for TriO (Student Support Services) and the Office of Community Outreach on campus. I now plan on attending Florida State University to pursue my Master's of Social Work Degree. My long-term goal is to relocate to Orlando and work with at-risk youth in some way or start working in the Veterans Affairs arena.

Major: Social Work

Minor: Peace & Social Justice



## *Austin Wise*

I am a local student from Punta Gorda. When I wasn't consumed with playing football, playing baseball or wrestling, I was exploring the outdoors by fishing, Scuba diving, heading to the beach, or floating down Ichucknee Spring Run. With a passion for aquatic, marine, and estuarine ecosystems, I decided to study environmental engineering with aspirations to make a difference for South Florida's rich, yet struggling ecology. In college, I have served as an officer for Engineering Community Outreach and Sigma Phi Epsilon, and conducted or assisted in multiple research projects related to human and ecological health. I plan to work in the field of coastal engineering to ensure an equitable balance between development and nature.

Major: Environmental Engineering

Minor: Geology



## *Krystal Young*

As a first-generation college student, my experience at FGCU and the road to college has been different than some of my fellow eagles. I could sum up my feelings in five words: proud, humbled, pressured, scared and thankful. I will carry all of the skills I have learned in my college years as I tread the paths of my future in the medical field. A big thanks to all the staff members and faculty, I can't even begin naming every one because I'd be here for a while so thank you for everything and to all my friends I've made along the way.

Major: Biology

Minor: Chemistry and Interdisciplinary Studies

# *Congratulations Spring 2020 Honors Graduates*



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HONORS COLLEGE