

START THE  
**UF**  
TRADITION

# FIRST YEAR CONNECTIONS

*UNDERSTANDING THE GATOR FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE*

**LETS GO BACK IN TIME**

# TRANSITION...

- Can have varying emotions!
- Navigating new locations, new settings, new people
- Process of self-discovery
- Success is critical!

# A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF A FIRST YEAR STUDENT

# GATOR FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE

- Goal: *To provide new students opportunities for self-discovery and life exploration which will empower them to make the most of their college experience inside and outside of the classroom.*
  
- Engagement
  - With UF faculty/staff, peer mentors and fellow students
- Awareness and respect of diversity
- Involvement
  - On campus and community involvement
- Knowledge of resources
- Active engagement in one's own learning
- Healthy lifestyle
- Understanding of UF expectations

# GATOR FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE PRESENTS...

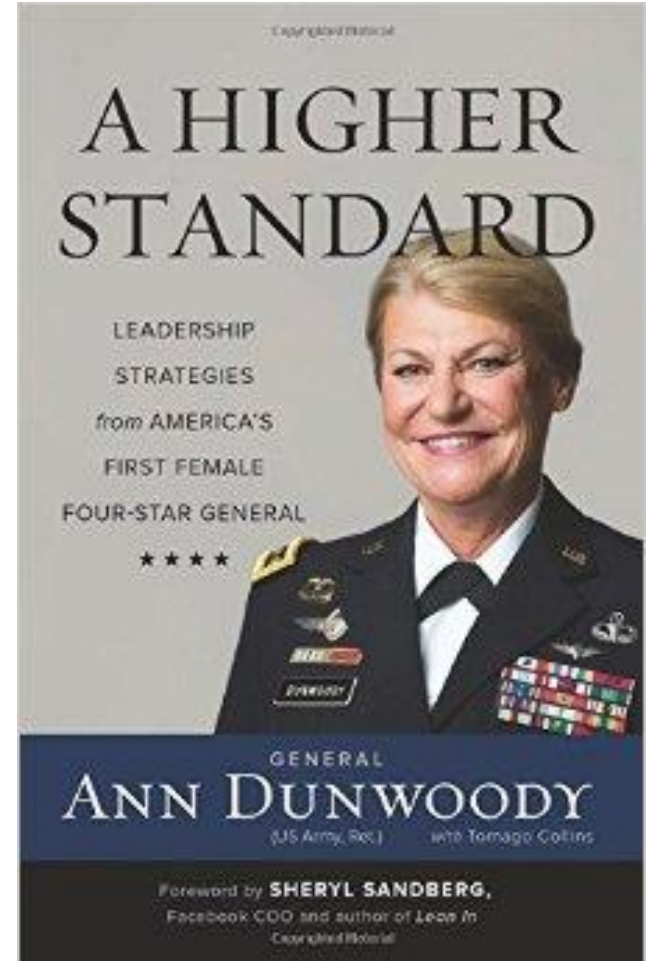
- Common Reading Program
- New Student Convocation
- Weeks of Welcome (WOW!) & Workshop Success Series
- SLSI 102: First Year Florida

# COMMON READING PROGRAM

- Unifying academic and intellectual experience for all first-year students.
- Selected by a committee of faculty, staff and students.
- Relevancy to all students across different majors and interests.
- Students received a copy during lunch from their Preview Staffer.
- Utilized in:
  - SLSI 102: First Year Florida
  - IUF1000: What is the Good Life?
- Out of the classroom experiences available.

# COMMON READING PROGRAM

- *A Higher Standard* by General Ann Dunwoody
- Various Themes
  - Resiliency
  - Overcoming Obstacles
  - Leadership
  - Finding your identity
  - Staying true to who you are





# PICTURE ME READING

- Read the Common Reading Program book this *summer!*
- Connect to UF and individualize your experience
- Take a picture reading *A Higher Standard* or representing a theme
  - What themes have you been able to relate to?
  - What obstacles in the book seem similar to those you will encounter?
- Post your photo to New Student and Family Programs' Facebook page or Twitter (**@UF\_NSFP**)
- Use #UFCRP
- Deadline is **August 5<sup>th</sup>!**

# NEW STUDENT CONVOCATION

**\*Required\*** for all new first-year students

- Friday, August 19, 2016 at 7 p.m.
- The official welcome into the Gator Nation
- Family members are welcome!
- Author of the 2016 Common Reading Program book
- College Session 5:30-6:30 p.m.



# WEEKS OF WELCOME

- **WOW!** is a campus-wide series of events designed to welcome both new, first-year and transfer students to UF, as well as to welcome back returning students.
- Several UF colleges, departments and student organizations help welcome students to UF, contributing over 150 events to the **WOW!** calendar!
- Events range in style and type.
- **Features Workshop Success Series**
  - 50-minute workshops, small group setting
  - Sample Topics: financial literacy, time management, selecting a major, writing skills, campus safety, etc.

# FIRST YEAR FLORIDA (FYF)

- The University of Florida's signature first-year success course.
- Students who enroll in First Year Florida have a higher overall GPA than their non-First Year Florida peers.
- One Credit Hour Course, meets once a week (Fall) and some meet twice a week (Summer B).
- Taught by UF Faculty/Staff and a FYF Peer Leader.



# FIRST YEAR FLORIDA (FYF)

- A semester in First Year Florida includes:
  - **Connection to the University of Florida**
    - Campus Resources
    - UF History and Traditions
    - Networking with staff, faculty, and students
  - **Self-Discovery**
    - Major and Career Exploration
    - Involvement and Leadership Opportunities
    - Diversity and Values
    - Wellness
  - **Academic Success**
    - Academic strategies
    - Communication skills
    - Time Management
- Various sections offered during Summer B, Fall and Spring!



We are here to assist in your students success but don't take our word for it...

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# JACKELINE BONILLA

DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE  
NEW STUDENT AND FAMILY PROGRAMS

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TRADITION

IS AT THE HEART OF THE

#GATORGOOD