

ANNUAL REPORT  
2019



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

DIVISION OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES



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# LETTER FROM THE DEAN OF

Hello from Florida State University! As the Dean of Undergraduate Studies, I handle academic issues for most freshmen and sophomores and work with a broad range of programs designed to support and strengthen students' undergraduate experience.

We hope that the information included in this report gives you a clear idea of what FSU has to offer and why you should attend this university. Florida State University is proud to be recognized as a Preeminent University by the State of Florida and as one of the most respected research institutions in the country. Our four-year graduation rate places FSU among the Top 10 public universities in the country and No. 1 in the state of Florida. We are ranked Number 18 among national public universities in the most recent U.S. News & World Report rankings, having moved up 8 places from last year and 25 places over the last five years. We are also ranked No. 9 in the nation for "Best Values in Public Colleges" on Kiplinger's annual list. We are making these remarkable strides upward while maintaining the hands-on feel of a small liberal arts college, and we have earned national recognition for our work in promoting student success.

To maintain that feel, we are promoting high-level engagement activities outside of the classroom from the first term of enrollment through graduation. Research shows that students who are more engaged in their college community perform better. Our Engage 100 program gets students involved in an approved engagement experience during their first semester. These are small, mentor-guided group experiences centered on a particular topic or curriculum that assist students in acclimating to university life. Our students really enjoy the experiences as well.

Some of these engagement activities include:

### **Freshman Interest Groups (FIGs)**

A FIG is a pre-packaged cluster of high-demand freshman courses linked by a theme or academic area of interest. FIGs help new students in many ways, including showing them all that the university can provide and connecting them with other students who have similar interests.



# UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

### **Living-Learning Communities (LLC)**

A Living-Learning Community is a small group of students who live together, share an interest, and take one or two of their classes together in a small classroom inside their residence hall. An LLC is a great place for freshmen to find themselves among friends from the beginning of their college experience, supporting and caring for one another.

### **Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP)**

We are a leader in undergraduate research, which provides motivated students with the opportunity to conduct research with our award-winning faculty. Students choose from hundreds of projects representing all areas of study, gaining hands-on experience and learning principles of research and creative practice, that provide an attractive skillset for future employers and graduate schools.

### **Experiential Learning**

In addition, the freshman class this year will be the first required to participate in experiential learning before graduation. This can be defined as the process of "learning while doing." Experiences such as internships, service learning, undergraduate research or international study are experiential and can improve academic performance and post-graduation outcomes. We're very excited to offer this cutting edge approach.

These programs demonstrate that everything we do at Florida State University is dedicated to our students' success in college and beyond. We hope that the information contained herein will show that we have your future in mind and that we have the resources and programs to make that future both successful and fulfilling.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Karen Laughlin*

Dean of Undergraduate Studies





## ACADEMIC CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE (ACE)

ACE is a university learning center that helps students develop study skills and success habits that are necessary to achieve their educational and career goals.

### We provide:

#### Tutoring

Peer tutoring supports student learning by strengthening a wide variety of educational skills in potentially challenging subjects. ACE provided **15,664** tutoring sessions last year.

#### Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS)

PASS is a high impact program offered in selected undergraduate courses that have been targeted as historically difficult at FSU. PASS Leaders focus on the most challenging content of the course and give students an opportunity to work collaboratively with their peers outside of class time in an effort to develop critical thinking skills and a deeper understanding of concepts presented in lecture.

In 2018-2019, PASS sessions were available to **19** courses in various academic fields of study such as accounting, economics, biology, nutrients, genetics, chemistry, physics, and psychology. We received **9,301** visits from **3,282** students who attended PASS sessions in one or more courses. Students who attended five or more PASS sessions throughout the semester earned higher final grades in these classes than students who did not attend PASS.

#### Technology and Facilities

We have a modern, technologically advanced facility dedicated to students' academic success. The learning center provides free academic resources including desktop computers, study spaces, and media equipment. Last year, **1,641** students used our technology resources and **9,031** used our study rooms or open study areas.

#### Workshops

ACE offers free academic workshops on topics such as time management, test preparation strategies, and graduate school entrance exams (GRE, LSAT, GMAT). A total of **2319** students participated in our workshops.

#### Personal Academic Consultations (PACs)

ACE offers students an opportunity to meet with an ACE faculty member to review and make improvements to their study and personal success habits. A total of **122** students completed personal academic consultations last year.

#### Early and Proactive Interventions

New in the 2018-2019 academic year, the Proactive Referral and Engagement (PRE) program offered support to **817** students who were identified by faculty as struggling in their courses and in need of academic intervention. Approximately **40%** of those referred (**327** students) responded to outreach and received assistance via email, phone, or in-person meeting.

#### Study Skills Tutoring

ACE offers students an opportunity to meet with ACE faculty members or peer study skills tutors to make improvements to their study and personal success habits. During Spring 2019, **54** students engaged in **59** study skills sessions with a peer tutor. **63%** of study skills sessions focused on improving learning strategies while **29%** focused on improving time management strategies.



## ADVISING FIRST

Advising First has a well-trained team of professional academic advisors and college life coaches located throughout campus whose role is to support our students in finding their community on campus as well as making the best educational decisions to graduate within 4 to 6 years.

With extensive training in effective guidance and expertise on university policies, resources, and opportunities, our Advising First professionals promote students' progress and growth.

### We provide:

#### Academic Advising

Our advisors educate students on academic requirements and degree progress and guide students in setting educational and career goals. We also connect students with relevant university resources and recommend hands-on learning opportunities.

We had over **56,062** face to face meetings with students last year and interacted with more than **453,660** electronically.

#### College Life Coaching

Pre-selected students receive one-on-one attention twice per month during the academic year from a college life coach who is committed to student development and success. Our coaches actively assist incoming students with their transition to the university and help define academic, personal, and career paths.

Our coaches held over **13,083** student meetings in person and sent out **119,405** advising messages electronically.

#### Additional Services

- Student workshops and conferences
- Web-based outreach efforts
- Campus-wide events
- Class and residence hall presentations

## STUDENT PROFILE LAUREN MORAN

Major: Psychology and International Affairs  
Graduation: Spring 2020

Senior Lauren Moran arrived at Florida State University in 2016 with an open mind about trying new things and an open heart to helping improve the lives of others.

That receptive attitude not only taught Moran unexpected lessons about herself, it also changed her life's trajectory.

"A lot of different experiences have pushed me out of my comfort zone, and they pushed me in a supportive way," said Moran, a member of FSU's Honors Program who's pursuing a double major in psychology and international affairs. "I've been open to trying things, and that's led to a lot of personal growth and helped me realize what my main interests are."

Moran was selected for the Presidential Scholars Program, FSU's premier undergraduate merit scholarship, which awards more than \$30,000 over four years to students with potential to become transformative leaders. The Presidential Scholars Program opened the door for Moran to join FSU's Global Scholars Program, which helps students set up summer internships with international nonprofits.

Moran completed two summer internships with the Honduras Child Alliance. In 2017, she worked as a mentor in an elementary after-school program in El Porvenir, Honduras.

In 2018, she was invited back. The return trip was made possible by FSU's Moellership Program, which provides stipends of up to \$4,000. For that application process, she took advantage of the information and support available through FSU's Office of National Fellowships.

Another unexpected opportunity at Florida State helped Moran make a surprising discovery about herself, and it changed her future.

As a member of the Presidential Scholars Program, she was required to participate in FSU's Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP). Moran discovered a passion for research after completing a study on FSU's E-Series courses, which challenge students to "engage, explore, examine and evaluate" issues with analytical tools they'll use for the rest of their lives.

Moran's record of trying new things has helped her map out a clear path forward. She plans to pursue a doctorate in industrial/organizational psychology and continue working with nonprofits. As she does, you can bet she will sustain her open-minded attitude that has helped create so many transformative opportunities for her at Florida State University.

*By: Dave Heller/Stephanie Allen University Communications, edited for length*





## CENTER FOR ACADEMIC RETENTION AND ENHANCEMENT (CARE)

CARE provides preparation, orientation, and academic support programming for students who are among the first in their families to attend college. Our students may face unique challenges in college because of economic and educational circumstances. We can help.

### We provide:

#### Pre-Collegiate Programs

Beginning in middle and high school, CARE's College Reach-Out and Upward Bound Programs connect students to resources that motivate and promote their acceptance, enrollment, and completion of a college education.

**100%** of CARE high school seniors enrolled in the College Reach-Out Program and Upward Bound Program graduated from high school and were accepted into a post-secondary institution.

#### Summer Bridge Program (SBP)

SBP helps students get to know the Florida State campus and assists students with developing the academic habits vital for their success at FSU.

**400** students enrolled in the 2018 Summer Bridge Program.

#### Unconquered Scholars Program (USP)

The Unconquered Scholars Program provides additional support for students who were in foster care, homeless, or classified as wards of the State.

Of the **170** total students enrolled in the Unconquered Scholars Program since 2012, **98%** were retained at FSU following their first year.

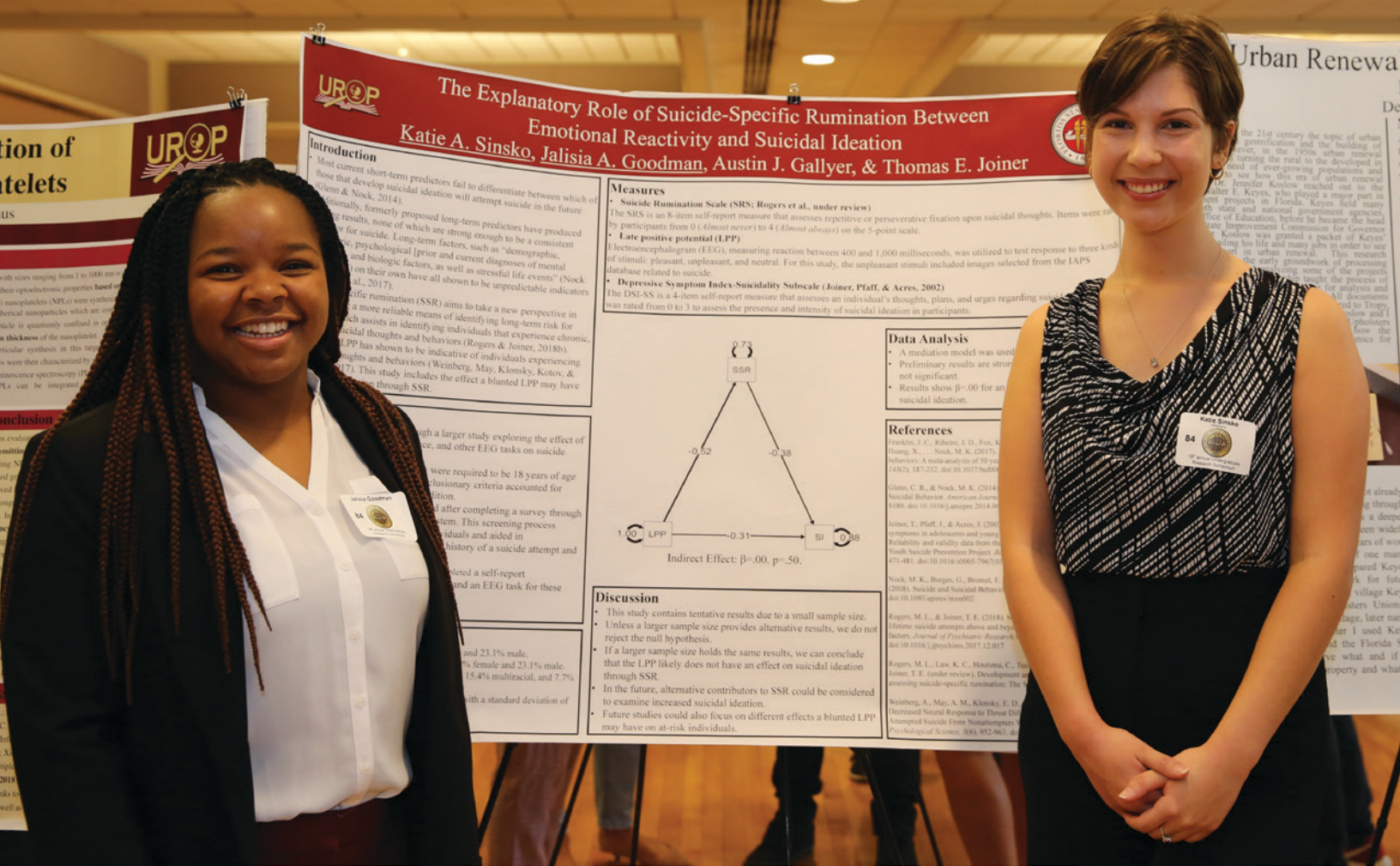
USP boasts an astounding **70%** 6-year graduation rate of all of our Scholars (compared to a 2-3% national graduation rate for students with the same background).

#### CARE Tutoring and Computer Lab

Our lab provides academic assistance, computer access, and dedicated study space for CARE students.

In 2018-19 The CARE Tutoring and Computer Lab had over **136,610** student visits.





## CENTER FOR UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC ENGAGEMENT (CRE)

The Center for Undergraduate Research & Academic Engagement (CRE) is leading a growing movement to involve undergraduate students in the highest levels of academic engagement, helping students take advantage of the very best a major research university like FSU has to offer.

We support faculty and instructors as they include research and creative projects in their courses and service learning (facilitating meaningful community service), entrepreneurship and innovation, and research projects with community-based organizations around the world.

We also offer programming to involve undergraduates and historically underrepresented students in research and scholarship and to showcase the work of student researchers through conferences and publications.

### We provide:

#### Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP)

As undergraduates, students can join Research Mentors in their work in laboratories, libraries, studios, and beyond to assist on research and creative projects, while also engaging with other like-minded peers in a UROP colloquium and presenting their research findings at the annual Undergraduate Research Symposium.

Last year we had **375** UROP students with **61** peer leaders.

Last year **400** students presented posters at the annual Undergraduate Research Symposium.



### IDEA Grants

IDEA grants fund research, creative projects, and the development or evaluation of new or existing ideas. This year, we awarded **47** grants for a total of **\$68,000**, with **\$55,000** provided by generous donors as named awards.

### Tech Fellows

This year saw the fourth year of the Tech Fellows program, which supports the diversification of the tech and start-up industry by embedding CARE students in start-up incubators around Florida. This year we fully funded:

- 5 Tech Fellows to complete ten-week internships with Canvs (Orlando), Tampa Bay WaVE, 500 Startups (Miami), Groundswell (Melbourne), and Domi Station (Tallahassee).

### Global Scholars

This year **41** Global Scholars interned in **15** different countries on **5** continents. We also provided **17** of these students, including **11** CARE students, with travel grants totaling **\$46,800**.

### Gap Year Fellows

FSU is proud to be one of the few universities in the country (and the second public university) to offer financial assistance to incoming students taking a Gap Year between high school and college. The Gap Year Fellows program provides up to **\$5,000** for students to undertake service projects in an intercultural context for a minimum of six months.

We are currently funding **5** students who will volunteer around the world.

### Academic Recruitment Organization (ARO)

Since Fall 2015, this student-led initiative has recruited high-potential students to Florida State University. To do so, ARO emphasizes one-on-one interactions between current and prospective students with similar majors, interests, or professional fields. During ARO's first three years of operations, recruitment strategies have included high school visits, tabling at admissions events, phone calls, emails, student panels, and individual campus tours.

### Student Council for Undergraduate Research and Creativity (SCURC)

SCURC, a student organization funded by the Student Government Association, aims to increase the quantity and diversity of undergraduate students involved in research on Florida State's campus. SCURC publishes The Owl, Florida State's Undergraduate Research Journal, and organizes Undergraduate Research Ambassadors, who volunteer to promote undergraduate research and creativity among their peers. Talking to an Ambassador is a great first step in getting involved in research at Florida State.

## GLOBAL SCHOLARS

The FSU Global Scholars program helps students secure summer internships at nonprofit organizations in developing countries around the world. Developed by the Center for Undergraduate Research and Academic Engagement and currently in its fifth year, Global Scholars' placements are low-cost and high-impact, providing a challenging academic and personal student development experience.

Our Global Scholars are making an impact all over the world. If this sounds appealing to you, Florida State University is the place for you.

Miguel Rivera, Global Scholar, is working for IPBio in Iporanga, Brazil (pictured in Sao Paulo)



## UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM (UROP)

UROP launches students into the fascinating world of a research university by allowing them to actively participate in the research process. Florida State University provides high-achieving students an engaging community with the flexibility and funding opportunities to explore their full range of interests.

Choose from hundreds of projects representing all areas of study, including fine arts, humanities, sciences, medicine, engineering, business, and social sciences, including the freedom to engage research outside of your proposed, or declared, field of study.



## ENGAGE 100

The Engage 100 program was designed to get students involved in an approved engagement experience during their first semester. These are small, mentor-guided group experiences centered on a particular topic or curriculum that assist students in acclimating to university life. Engage 100 is designed to connect, engage, and challenge students during their first semester at FSU, as well as pave the way to future success in college. Examples of approved experiences include Freshmen Interest Groups (FIGs), the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP), and Living Learning Communities.





## TRANSFER STUDENT SERVICES

Transfer students make up a third of our undergraduate population. We have transfer students from all parts of Florida, the U.S., and from diverse countries across the globe. It is a transition for everyone and that's why we are here to help.

Our office connects students to the academic, engagement, career, and self-care resources at FSU to support a holistic and satisfying transfer experience. The Transfer Student Services team is here to help you thrive.

### We provide:

- Transfer Experience Workshops
- Orientation Sessions for transfer students
- Personal Academic Consultations, 591 student appointments last year
- Collaboration with campus partners to develop outreach and support initiatives that benefit transfer students
- Supervision of course SLS 3140 "Academic Success Strategies for Transfer Students"



## TECH FELLOWS

The Center for Undergraduate Research and Academic Engagement (CRE) has partnered with Tallahassee incubator Domi Station and Launch Florida, a coalition of the state's top entrepreneurship and innovation organizations, to promote diversity in the technology sector by providing summer internships for first-generation college students affiliated with Center for Academic Retention & Enhancement (CARE). In this program students gain hands-on experience and connections in tech entrepreneurship through working with incubator staff, startup companies, and mentors. Tech Fellows spend a dynamic summer embedded with ecosystem building organizations and work alongside startup companies.





## COMMUNITY COLLEGE RELATIONS

The Office of Community College Relations works closely with the academic colleges and schools to support the articulation of academic programs and services between the **12** public Florida universities and the **28** Florida College System institutions (formerly community colleges).

**22** campus visits to Florida College System institutions

The office creates a cooperative climate between the universities and colleges, which assists FSU in its efforts to attract and retain quality transfer students and helps transfer students make a smooth transition to the university.

Processed **9,032** applications for permission to do transient student work at other state institutions.



## UNCONQUERED SCHOLARS

FSU's Unconquered Scholars Program provides support services to students who have experienced foster care, homelessness, relative care, or ward of the state status.

Established in 2012, the Unconquered Scholars Program is housed in the Center for Academic Retention and Enhancement (CARE). The program collaborates with partners across campus to offer services that include college life coaching, tutoring, financial aid assistance, mental health counseling, and academic and skills workshops. The program has been named a "Model of Excellence" by University Business magazine.



## PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS

The Presidential Scholars award is the premier undergraduate merit scholarship at Florida State University. The program provides four years of support and is open to high school seniors who are admitted into the Florida State University Honors Program.

The highly competitive program attracts the best and brightest students to the university, but it doesn't concentrate solely on academics.

The program also offers support to help students shape their entire college experience. In addition to covering most tuition expenses, the scholarship provides \$12,000 for educational enrichment opportunities such as international experiences and service learning projects.

## STUDENT PROFILE SHEENA CHEGE

**Major: Community Patient Care/  
Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences**  
**Graduation: Spring 2020**



Premedical student Sheena Chege has distinguished herself at Florida State University by achieving academic excellence, serving others and taking on leadership roles.

Chege brings attitude to the College of Medicine's outreach program called SSTRIDE – Science Students Together Reaching Instructional Diversity & Excellence. Its mission is to deliver STEM education resources to middle- and high-school students in rural areas. Chege has worked with students in Gadsden County.

"I work in an 8th grade biology class, and this experience has taught me the power of investing in the next generation," Chege said. "It is amazing to witness what these students can accomplish when someone believes in them and helps them believe in themselves."

Chege's own record of academic success is exceptional. She has earned spots on the dean's list and president's list. As a freshman, she was accepted into the Honors Medical Scholars Society. The program is designed to welcome aspiring medical students into the College of Medicine community and offers them service opportunities.

The Honors Medical Scholars Society was such a positive experience, she decided to run for leadership positions in the organization. First, she was elected service chair, and later she was elected to serve as co-president.

Chege also became a member of FSU's Honors Program, which made her an ambassador of sorts for the university. She and other Honors Delegates greeted high school students at special events on campus and conducted tours.

Looking to the future after graduation next spring, Chege hopes to be accepted into FSU's medical school. She strongly believes in the school's mission to train doctors to work in medically underserved areas.

"This is such an incredible school. I feel blessed and honored to go to this great university, and I look forward to carrying on the FSU tradition."

*By University Communications, edited for length*



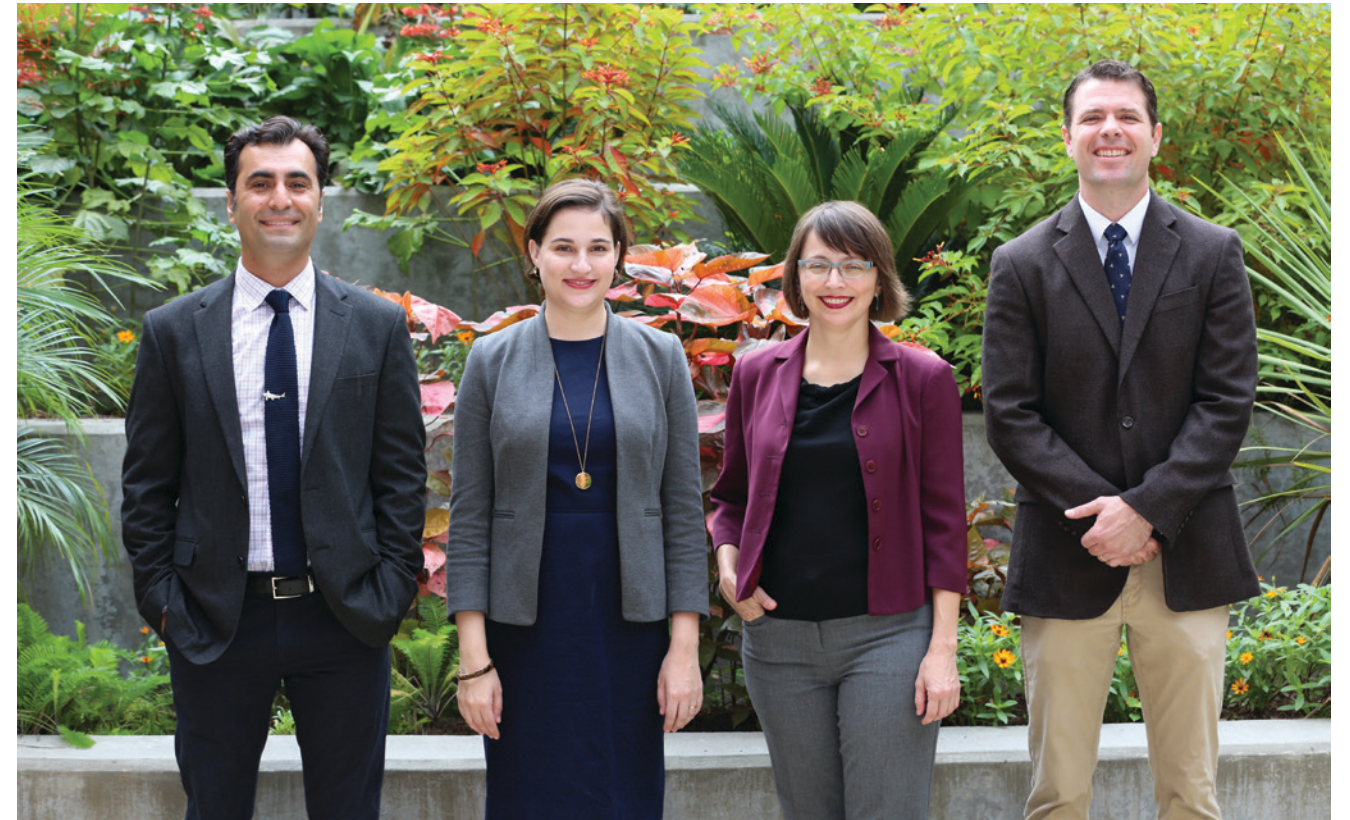


## UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM

FSU Honors is a caring community of dedicated faculty, staff, and talented students providing support and encouragement to aspiring scholars. We are located in the Honors, Scholars and Fellows House, a building designed to foster cooperation, achievement, and intellectual curiosity. FSU Honors students are encouraged to participate via two avenues. Students can achieve their full academic potential by completing the coursework and experiences of the University Honors Program. They can also satisfy their intellectual curiosity by engaging in research projects/creative endeavors outside the classroom via the Honors in the Major Program.

The past year ushered in the inaugural Honors Experience Program (HEP), which was first offered to

**106** students in Fall 2018. The program integrates a rich student-centered curriculum comprised of cutting-edge courses with an interdisciplinary focus taught by honors-dedicated faculty with a record of teaching excellence. These courses explored the theme of Freedom and (In) Equality and were enriched through related on- and off-campus activities including the development of a high school tutoring program, a speaker series, community dialog events organized by students, and a civil rights field trip in the Southern U.S. Taken in close community with other Honors students, the Experience is designed to foster flexible, higher-order thinking as a foundation for academic success and social and personal development, including leadership skills.



Also housed within the FSU Honors Program is the Presidential Scholars Program. Our Presidential Scholars are critical and innovative thinkers who are awarded four years of support to use their talents to make meaningful contributions to society. Scholars receive additional funding for educational enrichment opportunities including international experiences, research and creative projects, service learning projects or public service, internships, and entrepreneurial development.

The Presidential Scholars program is the premier scholarship program on campus and is made possible by civic-minded private donors.

The Presidential Scholars program is in its fifth year with a total of **104** current Scholars.

A total of **473** students earned the Honors Medallion this year across four categories of achievement including:

University Honors: **282**

Honors in the Major Thesis: **112**

Dual Honors (University Honors and Honors in the Major): **48**

Outstanding Senior Scholars (awarded dual honors and achieved a GPA of 3.9 or higher): **31**

In total, **160** earned Honors in the Major this year, up from **125** last year.



## STUDENT PROFILE

### CHRISTIAN GAYA

Major: Computer Engineering  
Graduation: Spring 2019

Senior computer engineering student Christian Gaya has dedicated his time at Florida State University to his interest in technology and a desire to create positive change in the world.

Growing up in Naples, Florida, Gaya realized his passion for engineering early on and believed it was the ideal way for him to link his love for technology and a desire to serve his community.

Gaya said FSU's Center for Academic Retention and Enhancement (CARE) had a big impact on his success at the university. CARE offers a summer bridge program for incoming students to help them transition from high school to college, and it provides continued support to ensure they succeed. Gaya said CARE opened up priceless opportunities for him that changed his life.

Part of his preparation for campus life as a freshman included the Service Leadership Seminar (SLS). SLS is a program offered by the Center for Leadership and Social Change. The weeklong seminar introduces incoming freshmen to community service and helps them identify their leadership skills. The goal of the program is to show students how they can have a meaningful impact on campus.

SLS motivated Gaya to get involved in other campus leadership opportunities. He joined the Global Scholars Program, which funds students' travels to volunteer for nonprofit organizations worldwide. The program offered Gaya the opportunity to travel to Cochabamba, Bolivia, for the summer to work for the nonprofit Proyecto Horizonte. The organization supports communities by offering education, health and development initiatives for children and adults.

The priceless opportunities Gaya had with Global Scholars encouraged him to continue seeking new experiences and expanding his goals. That receptive attitude led him to the FSU Tech Fellows program at the Center for Undergraduate Research and Academic Engagement. The program is designed to promote diversity in the technology sector by providing summer internships for first-generation college students, who work with business incubators, technology entrepreneurs and startups.

Gaya partnered with Techstars, a company that provides connections, resources and mentorships for developing businesses. He spent the summer in Chicago working with 10 different companies and their CEOs, learning how they run their businesses and what they can do to accelerate success.

Gaya's next opportunity came from the Florida Georgia Louis Stokes Alliance for Minorities Participation (FGLSAMP). The group's mission is to help prepare students for careers and graduate opportunities in STEM fields. It offers mentorships, workshops and other learning options to help students refine their goals.

Gaya completed his research at the Aero-Propulsion, Mechatronics and Energy Center's Power Science Lab at the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering.

After graduation, Gaya will work as an electrical controls engineer for Cummins Inc., a Fortune 500 company that designs and manufactures diesel and natural gas-powered engines for on- and off-highway use, as well as parts for commercial, residential, telecom and health care applications.

By: Katherine Bernstine Edited for length



## STUDENT PROFILE

### NIA HARMON

Major: Chemistry  
Graduation: Fall 2019

Senior Nia Harmon is on the fast track to success, and one of the main reasons why is her intellectual curiosity.

The chemistry major wants clear answers to complex questions – often complicated queries – and that mindset has propelled her personally and academically.

She took on the challenging International Baccalaureate program and earned enough credits to start college as a sophomore, and it has guided her ambitious schedule at Florida State.

Harmon has taken advantage of a wide variety of FSU's research opportunities. In her first year on campus, she joined the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP), which offers rare opportunities for first- and second-year students, as well as transfer students, to conduct research with faculty members. Harmon's undergraduate research projects have placed her in an organic chemistry lab and the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory

Harmon received the 2019 Scott and Ina McNichols Undergraduate Research Award to fund her Honors in the Major thesis research in physical chemistry at the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory. Honors in the Major is a distinction that students earn by completing a research or creative project in their major and defending it before a committee.

Harmon has compiled a long list of awards and achievements at Florida State.

She served as a mentor and leader for students in FSU's Freshman Interest Groups program, made the President's List multiple times, received the Katherine Blood and Harold H. Hoffman Scholarship in Chemistry and was selected for membership in the Phi Beta Kappa Society, the oldest academic honor society in the United States.

In addition, Harmon has been active in the Florida Georgia Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation, which aims to increase the number of underrepresented students with science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) degrees. She completed two terms as president of the group and another term as vice president.

Harmon's FSU career also included membership in the American Chemical Society Club and the American Chemical Society's Scholars Program, the Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society, the FSU Honors Program and the Garnet and Gold Scholar Society.

The next goal in that mission is graduate school. Harmon wants to become a college professor, and she hopes to inspire future generations of chemists.

By University Communications, edited for length





## OFFICE OF NATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS (ONF)

The Office of National Fellowships supports the FSU community in developing academic and interpersonal student and alumni excellence by connecting them to fellowship opportunities and challenging them to reflect on and articulate their passions persuasively within a fellowship application. Through our one-on-one mentoring, students and alumni can identify and achieve their academic, career, service, creative, and leadership goals.

Since its inception in the spring of 2005, the Florida State University Office of National Fellowships has mentored and assisted some of our most talented students. Our students have won over **300** nationally competitive awards, including **3** prestigious Rhodes Scholarships, **4** Truman Scholarships, **9** Goldwater Scholarships, **20** Hollings Scholarships, **5** Pickering Fellowships, **3** Payne Fellowships, and over **100** Gilman Scholarships and Fulbright U.S. Student Scholarships each. Our students have travelled to over **50** countries, expanding FSU's influence around the globe.



## OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

Staff members in Office of Undergraduate Studies (OUS) are frontline problem-solvers for students and carry out their mission with courtesy, professionalism, and respect. They serve as the Academic Dean's office for most freshmen and sophomores (with the exception of Fine Arts and Music students admitted directly into their degree-granting programs).

The office provides information and services on all academic matters, including earning credit through test exemption, general education and liberal studies

courses, academic standing (warning/probation/dismissal), readmission, remediation/preparatory classes, registration holds, enrollment in courses at other colleges and universities, requests for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grading, and requests for taking an overload/underload schedule. They are good people to know.

They counsel and advise approximately **6,300** students each year.





## OFFICE OF RETENTION

The Office of Retention monitors undergraduates at Florida State University to ensure that they have ample opportunity to complete a degree. The office provides academic advising for individual students and coordination with the colleges and university programs to help ensure student success.

The office identifies and tracks specific groups of students who may benefit from special help and coordinates university resources to assist them. The Director of Retention assists students in developing individual academic plans for graduation and monitors their progress toward completion. Students who have received warnings, academic probation, or academic dismissal are encouraged to come to the office for advising and academic support.

The office also oversees the Freshman Interest Groups (FIGs) and the Engage 100 initiative. A FIG is a pre-packaged cluster of high-demand freshman courses that are linked by a theme or academic program. Last year **59** FIG leaders served over **1000** incoming students. The Engage 100 program aims to connect **100%** of our incoming students with a program that is structured to assist students in acclimating to university life.

Florida State University has a **94%** retention rate and the highest four-year and six-year graduation rate in the state of Florida, placing FSU among the Top **15** public universities in the country in both categories.



## FRESHMAN INTEREST GROUPS (FIGS)

A FIG is a pre-packaged cluster of high-demand freshman courses that have been linked by a theme or academic program. They are only available in the fall. Freshmen find them to be a great way to simplify registration and explore what interests them while forming a community of students with similar intent.

FIGs come in clusters of interest. Examples include business, engineering, pre-law, pre-med, and assorted STEMs (science, technology, engineering and math).





## STUDENT ATHLETE ACADEMIC SERVICES

The primary focus of Student Athlete Academic Services (SAAS) is to facilitate the academic success of each student athlete. Student success is encouraged through academic counseling, study skills development, individualized assessment and support, and a wide array of tutorial services.

- We had a record number of **259** student athletes on the 2018-2019 ACC Honor Roll.
- Approximately **10,158** tutoring sessions were conducted last year.
- SAAS provides a comprehensive support program that assists all student athletes with the transition into college and provides continued support in all phases of academic and professional development, culminating in graduation, job placement, or graduate school.
- Approximately **802** mentoring appointments were conducted last year.
- Spring 2019 GPA was above **3.0**, while the cumulative departmental GPA is also above **3.0**.





Florida State University  
Division of Undergraduate Studies  
600 West College Avenue  
Tallahassee, FL 32306

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FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY | DIVISION OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

