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Volume 30 Number 2
Fall 2023

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THE NEWMAN RECITAL HALL IN THE KNIGHT CENTER FOR MUSIC INNOVATION OVERLOOKS LAKE OSCEOLA.

PHOTO: KIKOR

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Housing Project Advances

Two residential colleges slated to open next fall

Construction of Coral Residential College and Ibis Residential College—the first two buildings of the Centennial Village project—moved closer to completion with the two new facilities set to open and accommodate the first student residents next fall.

The Centennial Village project is the second phase of the University’s Housing Facilities Strategic Plan, which was launched a decade ago and aims to modernize campus housing. The project is poised to become a focal point of the Coral Gables Campus.

“We are looking forward to opening the next phase of our Housing Facilities Strategic Plan with these first two buildings next fall and are excited to officially name them in a way that befits our vibrant campus culture and community,” says Patricia A. Whitely, Ed.D. ’94, senior vice president for student affairs and alumni engagement.

The two residential colleges will accommodate approximately 880 students when they open. They will offer a combination of double and single rooms, with centrally located private bathrooms, shared resident lounges, and collaborative academic spaces.

And, by seamlessly transitioning between indoor and outdoor spaces, Centennial Village takes full advantage of the natural surroundings of the campus and Lake Osceola, providing students with a South Florida lifestyle.

“In addition to the residential spaces on the upper floors, we are really continuing with the concept of engaging Lake Osceola, similar to how we did with Lakeside Village,” says Jessica Brumley, vice president for facilities operations and planning. “This includes more student amenities, as well as areas to be able to congregate and connect with the community outside.”

Brumley highlighted that focus on sustainability is



a standout feature of Centennial Village. The project will employ durable and sustainable materials and aims to attain at least LEED Gold Certification, underscoring the University’s commitment to environmental responsibility.

The first phase of this project involved the replacement of Hecht Residential College. The Hecht-Stanford Dining Hall also will be replaced by a new dining facility integrated into Centennial Village. The eatery not only will provide a convenient dining option but also serve as a vibrant hub for social interaction and community building.

Centennial Village also will continue the successful

First-Year Experience program, fostering a supportive environment for students making the transition to college life. Live-in faculty, staff, and student support personnel will be present to ensure students have access to the guidance and resources they need to thrive in their first year.

The next phase of Centennial Village will begin in May 2024 with the closing and demolition of the remaining Stanford Residential College. The final additions to Centennial Village, buildings three, four, and five—which will add another 1,145 beds, bringing to the total to 2,025 beds—are expected to open in August 2026.



Prado Named Interim Provost

Passionate public health researcher selected for leadership post

Guillermo “Willy” Prado, M.S. ’00, Ph.D. ’05, who was dean of the Graduate School and vice provost for faculty affairs—in addition to being a professor of nursing and health studies, public health sciences, and psychology—became the interim provost and executive vice president for academic affairs on July 1.

Prado replaces Jeffrey L. Duerk, who took a one-year sabbatical and will join the faculty as a full-time member when he returns.

In his new post, Prado is tasked with maintaining a focus on continuous improvement across the University’s schools and colleges and enhancing the reputation of academic programs, according to President Julio Frenk.

“Ultimately, the responsibility for the chief academic officer is to influence what the future of education will look like, not only at the University but also globally,” says Prado. “Equally as important is assisting faculty, students, and postdocs in their quest to continue to conduct innovative research and helping them to translate that research into practice.”

Prado, who holds a Master of Science in statistics and a Ph.D. in epidemiology and public health, joined the faculty in 2007 and is the founding director of the Division of Prevention Science and Community Health in the Department of Public Health Sciences at the Miller School of Medicine. He has held leadership positions with multiple national and state boards and committees. Two years ago, he was elected to the prestigious National Academy of Medicine.

Recently, Prado received a \$3 million grant from the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities—part of the National Institutes of Health—to expand an intervention he and his research team created and piloted called “Familias Con Orgullo,” or Families with Pride. The family-based program aims to reduce drug use and depression among Hispanic sexual minority youth.



Studying Stress on Children

Landmark NIH grant awarded to School of Nursing and Health Studies

The largest grant in Coral Gables Campus history will support a School of Nursing and Health Studies study to better understand how parents' stress—fueled by social and economic inequities—can biologically and psychologically affect their children.

The \$23.57 million interdisciplinary grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) links the school to the Environmental influences on Child Health Outcomes (ECHO) Program, which studies the health of generations to come and enables a multidisciplinary research team to pioneer the first-ever Miami-ECHO cohort of parents and children.

“This collaborative research initiative could fundamentally reshape our understanding of health disparities and maternal-child health,” says Cindy L. Munro, the school's dean. “The potential for far-reaching, long-lasting impact on policy and health outcomes is profound.”

Hudson Santos, the school's vice dean for research affairs, is spearheading this ambitious program as the lead principal investigator supported by multiple principal investigator Michael Paidas, professor and chair of the Miller School of Medicine's Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences.

Santos highlighted that the diversity

of Miami-Dade County, with its majority-minority population, makes it an ideal location for the study.

“With the NIH ECHO Program support, we can help lead the ongoing discourse around maternal-child health disparities by focusing our research on South Florida, especially around Miami-Dade County,” says Santos, president-elect of the International Society of Nurses in Genetics and also Dolores J. Chambreau Endowed Chair at the school and interim associate dean for the University's Graduate School.

Miami-ECHO will join several other groups across the nation to create a historical cohort of more than 50,000 children and their parents.

The seven-year grant consists of two phases. The first phase includes a nearly \$6.7 million award. After phase one is completed in May 2025, an additional \$16.9 million will be awarded for the second phase of the study.

The research team seeks to enroll a racially and ethnically diverse group of 1,250 pregnant participants from Miami-Dade County and follow their offspring from birth to age 7 years. The research will focus on specific clinical areas—from understanding the interplay of the social environment, genetics, and prenatal health on child development to

identifying the factors that protect against social adversity effects on children's neurodevelopment and foster positive health outcomes. Early-life protective biological mechanisms will be considered to develop interventions and tools to optimize development in at-risk children.

The research team also includes renowned co-investigators from the Miller School: JoNell E. Potter, M.S.N. '87, Ph.D. '03, professor of obstetrics, gynecology, and reproductive sciences; Ruby Natale, B.S. '93, professor of clinical pediatrics; Lunthita Duthely, B.A. '86, M.S. '92, M.S. '21, associate research professor, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences; Dr. Karen Young, M.S. '17, associate professor of pediatrics and associate director of the Neonatology Fellowship Program at the Miller School/Holtz Children's Hospital; and a highly qualified staff team.

“As we better understand health disparities, particularly in the context of maternal and child health, we gain essential insight into the multitude of social, economic, and cultural factors that affect well-being,” says Henri Ford, dean of the Miller School. “This vital initiative has the power to drive substantial and long-lasting change for generations to come.”

Center Dedicated to Student Veterans

New facility aims to be a one-stop source for support and connection

While veterans have studied, trained, and transitioned their careers at the University for decades, for the first time they now can access a dedicated center to inquire about VA benefits, connect with other veterans, or learn about the range of available services.

Jon Baldessari is the inaugural director of the newly opened Veterans Resource Center, located in the new Student Village on the second floor of the University Center. “The resource center is a place to connect a lot of the good things that were happening with and for veterans on campus, such as mentor and mentee relationships, departments that offered programs geared toward veterans or even some of the peer-to-peer assistance—though sometimes those were the best kept secrets,” Baldessari says.

As director, his responsibilities include overseeing programs and initiatives for the academic and professional success of veteran and military-connected students. Additionally, Baldessari advises the Veteran Students Organization



(VSO), which is located next door to the resource center.

The new center helps identify the needs of veteran students, aiding their transition to life as civilian college students, providing management and assistance for processing veterans' benefits, helping them find a community on campus, and providing outreach-based support.

Based on statistics of those accessing VA benefits, there are approximately 400 student-veterans on campus, with representation across all the schools, colleges, and campuses, according to the director.

The new center, the VSO, and the Veterans Unite employee resource group, hosted a number of open houses, career fairs, and engagement events throughout the fall, especially during Veterans Week.

Already recognized by U.S. Veterans Magazine as a “Top Veterans-Friendly School” and by U.S. News & World Report as a “Best Colleges for Veterans,” the University recently earned a spot on the Military Support list with Colleges of Distinction.

Shelter from the Storms

Architecture students render design projects for disaster victims

Veruska Vasconez, B.Arch. '03, M.A.S.T. '04, a School of Architecture lecturer, thought something should be done to assist the millions of people around the world displaced by earthquakes, fires, hurricanes, war, political conflict, human rights violations, economic chaos, and other disasters.

Vasconez challenged her 13 Summer Design Studio students to create emergency deployable shelters for those in need.

Students could choose any location in the world as long as the structures differed from the tents that are standard in refugee camps. Instead, their projects were to resemble houses and together look like a community or a mini-urban design.

Entries included projects ranging from communities in Lebanon and Bangladesh to Sierra Leone and Turkey. The class projects were entered in a competition and two winners were chosen this fall by the Portugal-based design firm Go Friday.

Lauren Elia, B.Arch. '23, earned a top prize for her multiunit residential community that used locally sourced materials and provided opportunities for the women to enhance their dwellings so that they felt ownership over



Alumna Lauren Elia designed safe spaces for women in in Mozambique.



the project. It was set in the flatlands of Mozambique. She received a cash prize and a one-week trip to visit the Go Friday headquarters in Portugal.

Students were tasked to research their projects to ensure they were culturally appropriate, adaptable to local climatic conditions, and utilized locally sourced materials.

Isabella Adelsohn, a fifth-year architecture student, situated her project in the community of Choco, among the poorest districts in her native Colombia.

Her designed community, “Casa Embera,” named after the Indigenous groups in the region, won second prize. The units were built with local wood, and the shutters covering the structures were made from native trees like caracole, abarco, and ceiba.

Vasconez was impressed by the diversity and creativity of the students' projects.

“It is remarkable how creative they can be in the short time they had,” she says.

Take a Tour of Mangrove City

New app helps students envision the future of coastal cities

An interdisciplinary team headed by a School of Communication professor has developed an application that creates a virtual experience to teach students how they might navigate a coastal city like Miami 100 years from now.

Media professor Kim Grinfeder, B.A. '94, and a small interdisciplinary group of students and faculty and staff members with expertise in virtual reality, mangrove ecology, coastal management, and architecture unveiled their exciting immersive Mangrove City app this summer.

"Often, the most effective learning is experiential, and virtual reality offers a unique opportunity to transport students into mangroves and to consider alternative realities," says Grinfeder.

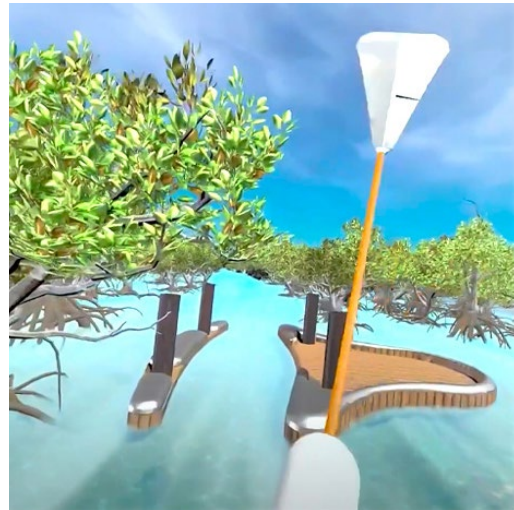
Geared toward middle and high school students, Mangrove City lets students "paddle" through a fictional metropolis and experience virtually what it might be like to traverse a U.S. coastal hub of

the future. They learn about coastal destruction, common types of mangroves, and bird and fish species that thrive in a mangrove ecosystem.

Grinfeder and Zevensuy Rodriguez, B.S.C. '08, a senior lecturer in interactive media, previously explored "self-propelled locomotion" through a School of Communication research grant. Their collaboration using a paddleboard to navigate a virtual environment worked so well that they decided to co-create Mangrove City.

As the project grew, Grinfeder reached out to architecture lecturer Ruth Ron and Rafael Araujo, M.A. '98, a senior research associate, lecturer, and mangrove expert at the Rosenstiel School of Marine, Atmospheric, and Earth Science. Both used the opportunity to engage their students.

The Mangrove City team placed first in the education category at an XR Prize Climate Change Challenge as part of the Augmented World Expo in California.



A Clinic for Justice

School of Law partnership helps to tackle environmental concerns in Overtown



Not long after forming, the Overtown Parks Group (OPG)—a coalition of organizations intent on raising awareness of environmental injustices in and around this long-neglected historic neighborhood—sought out the School of Law's

Environmental Justice Clinic (EJC) to enlist its support.

EJC students jumped in to assist the partnership, which is helping residents of this historic community reverse environmental injustices that have plagued their neighborhood for years.

From conducting research on brown-fields to filing public records requests, students have lent their expertise and energy, going door to door in the community to question residents about their concerns.

Abigail Fleming, J.D. '19, EJC's associate director, says the students' canvassing efforts have generated critical information about dust and noise levels and helped to engage residents.

"Our goal is to build relationships with City of Miami elected officials and

to try to navigate the maze of tackling some of the issues that concern residents," Fleming explains.

Chris Mader, senior director of software engineering at the University's Frost Institute for Data Science and Computing, flew a fixed-wing drone over Dorsey Park, capturing detailed aerial images that showed the proximity of dust-spewing cement plants to a neighborhood park.

"Environmental injustices are the challenge for us today," says Keith Ivory, who grew up in Overtown and still lives there. "And part of what EJC has helped us with is research—looking at how other communities have dealt with cement plants in their neighborhoods and how residents responded."

Fleming has applied for an Environmental Protection Agency grant to keep the partnership afloat.

Project Studies Extreme Heat

From Allapattah to El Portal, Homestead to Hialeah, and Liberty City to Little Havana, a team of University graduate students canvassed several Miami-Dade County neighborhoods, placing sensors in 59 households and asking residents how heat and humidity have impacted their lives, whether by exacerbating existing health conditions or causing higher energy bills.

"We engaged residents throughout the entire county, trying to understand their experiences with indoor heat—specifically, how they are being impacted by temperature and humidity in the household," says Lynée

Turek-Hankins, one of five graduate students conducting research for the project Training in Heat-Related Equity and Disparities, or THREAD. The project recently received renewed funding through the University of Miami Laboratory for Integrative Knowledge (U-LINK), which addresses complex challenges in climate, health, and other areas.

"I wasn't expecting to see the level of vulnerability we encountered," says Mayra Cruz, a Ph.D. student in the University's Abess Center for Ecosystem Science and Policy and a member of the THREAD team.

Also as part of the study, students are analyzing land surface temperature patterns in different Miami neighborhoods. Other students are

developing projections of future heat conditions in the city and mapping the network of local organizations addressing climate- and heat-related issues.

The data produced by THREAD will add considerable traction to the conversations around heat that are taking place in the county, notes Turek-Hankins.



Lynée Turek-Hankins, center, with Nkosi Muse, left, and Mayra Cruz, points to a graph showing temperature fluctuations inside a Miami-Dade household.



Speech and Virus Spread

As the pandemic spread in 2020 and it became increasingly clear that infected people sneezing and coughing were a prime reason for contagion, Caleb Everett, professor in the Department of Anthropology, worried that

there were too few studies examining which peculiarities and patterns of speech were most pernicious.

So, Everett, who has studied the interaction of language with nonlinguistic cognition, culture, and the environment for decades, joined biomedical investigators from the University of California San Diego to

investigate how air flow variations and aerosol particles potentially impact the spread of respiratory viruses like COVID-19.

The team began collecting aerosol and acoustic data simultaneously to better analyze the role of a range of factors: voice volume, individual sound types, amount of airflow produced, and the role of the speaker's body size, among others.

"There clearly seems to be some variation in terms of the kinds of sounds or at least things going on in the vocal tract and there are variations within speakers," Everett notes. "Some speakers seem to be super emitters, where they produce

a lot of aerosols. And we don't know why exactly, we just know that there are some."

Early research sampled only a small base of healthy people, yet indications were that whispering, contrary to what some sources were suggesting, produced more aerosols because it generates high velocity air coming from the lungs and past the vocal cords.

By isolating activity in the vocal tract, Everett and team believe they can better gauge which sounds or movements are more responsible for the aerosol productions—and thereby provide health guidance.

Teaching Platform Gets a Boost

A new grant enables PETAL to scale up innovations in pedagogy



A new \$5 million grant will expand the scope and boost the capacity of the Platform for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (PETAL), which was launched in 2019 to translate empirical research into strategies and advance the art of teaching and the science of learning.

PETAL is guided by Laura Kohn-Wood, dean of the School of Education and Human Development, and Allan Gyorke, assistant provost for educational innovation and chief academic technology officer. The platform serves to improve student engagement, integrate technology with pedagogy, and reimagine

classrooms for the 21st century—a strategic priority for the University.

Kohn-Wood highlights the potential of the new grant to scale and institutionalize the platform, originally launched by a working group of faculty members.

The grant from the Sherman Fairchild Foundation is part of the University’s Ever Brighter: The Campaign for Our Next Century and establishes the Ilene M. Dresner Endowed Fund for Educational Innovation.

In 2022, PETAL took a major step forward with the arrival of historian Kathi Kern, the inaugural vice provost for educational innovation. Kern said she was drawn to Miami by the Roadmap to Our New Century, the University’s strategic plan.

“I see this gift as an opportunity to actualize those elements of the roadmap that focus on incubation,” says Kern, also a professor of religious studies in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Since its inception, PETAL has collaborated with partners across the University to host workshops, learning groups, and speaker series. It also provides faculty members with an online repository of teaching and learning resources. In addition, it sponsors awards that recognize excellence in teaching. Instructional innovations are implemented in real time, giving students access to cutting-edge learning opportunities.

Shaping a Sustainable World

Student competition, business school roundtable spur goals

As part of its sustainability focus, this fall the Patti and Allan Herbert Business School helped coordinate a University-wide student-led competition that engaged local academia, policymakers, companies, and key city stakeholders to advance United Nations sustainable development goals (SDGs).

Students, both graduates and undergrads, from any discipline were encouraged to apply to “SDG Challenge Miami,” the first time the competition that advances SDGs was sponsored in the United States.

Seven University of Miami students were among 19 total from the University, Florida International University, Miami Dade College, and Lynn University, according to Scarlett Lanzas, CEO and

founder of Accountability Impact, the initiative coordinator.

Student teams assigned to a participating local business assessed adherence to one of the 17 sustainability goals created by the United Nations in 2012. Carbon Biocapture, a firm that uses scalable microalgal technology to reduce carbon emissions, was among the participating firms.

Also this fall, the business school hosted “A Deep Dive: Shaping a Sustainable World,” a conversation that convened students, alumni, and faculty members to explore SDG #9, which focuses on industry, innovation, and infrastructure.

Silvia Garrigo, J.D. ’87, assistant professor of professional practice in business



law, moderated the panel discussion.

“Every year students bring innovative sustainable solutions to our campus,” says Teddy L’Houtellier, the University’s sustainability director. “It’s natural for them to address those same issues at the regional, national, and global scale.”

Faculty Files

Chemist Conquers Molecules and Miles

For James Wilson, competitive cycling is a prescription for health and an exercise in self-reliance

As an organic chemist who designs molecules to exhibit traits needed by other researchers, James Wilson relies on team science to shape his work.

For example, in a recent National Institutes of Health-funded study, Wilson collaborated with a researcher at Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, part of the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, to develop fluorescent molecules used for staging cancer and to assess drug efficacy.

Outside of the classroom and lab, Wilson is a solo warrior who pushes his body to the limits as a competitive cyclist. He recently completed the infamous GAPCO (Great Allegheny Passage and Chesapeake and Ohio Canal), a 335-mile gravel ride from Pittsburgh to Washington, D.C., in 19 hours and 39 minutes—one of the fastest times ever recorded. He did it by himself, without sleeping and without support.

A track athlete in high school, Wilson began

cycling as an undergraduate at the University of South Carolina but tapered his riding while completing his Ph.D. at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Wilson is now associate professor of chemistry in the College of Arts and Sciences and director of PRISM, a program that provides selected undergraduates with a strong foundation in science, math, and research skills. His lab also markets two commercially successful stains for DNA and cells in colors he unabashedly named “Miami orange” and “Miami green.” But when he first joined the University in 2008, he wasn’t cycling much.

“By then I had two kids, I had been through tenure, and at about 35 years old, age caught up to me,” Wilson reflects. “My blood pressure was going up, I had trouble sleeping at night, and other little sources of inflammation would pop up.”

So, Wilson vowed to start racing again when he turned 40.

“I needed the focus,” he explains. “Racing my bike



James Wilson

JAMES WILSON

was a prescription for a holistic health intervention.”

Today, Wilson competes in road and gravel cycling events around the world. In October 2022 he represented the United States in the Union Cycliste Internationale Gravel Worlds competition in Italy. He admits that the GAPCO ride was “probably the stupidest thing I have ever done.” But in the process, he discovered his capacity to overcome adversity.

Wilson started the ride at 2 a.m. to reach the most treacherous sections during daylight hours. A downed tree branch prompted a nasty fall at mile 100, but with no cell phone service and no one around, he

cleaned his wounds and kept going. After 16 hours, he felt “leg-locking pain” and had to coax his legs into slowly increasing their speed.

Through it all, his motivation stayed strong. At times, he reflected on a family member recently diagnosed with cancer whose treatment regimen is a much harder journey than the miles under his wheel.

“I can go and do something like this, and I could climb off my bike and call an Uber. But what I am going through is nothing compared to what somebody on chemo deals with,” Wilson says. “If they decide to quit, they die. It was truly perspective changing.”



Thomas Gore

A New Playbook: Miami's Black History

Learning about Miami's Black history has become both a pastime and a passion for Thomas Gore, a redshirt junior defensive lineman majoring in American Studies.

Gore, who transferred to the University from Georgia State earlier this year, spent the summer off-season working as an intern at the Historic Hampton House in Miami's downtown Brownsville neighborhood.

Between football workouts and classes, Gore learned enough about the Hampton House to guide visitors through the old Green Book site motel that during the 1960s hosted Black luminaries such as Muhammad Ali, Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, Jackie Robinson, Sammy Davis Jr., Sam Cooke, Joe Louis, and Althea Gibson, among countless others.

Often those visitors are

large groups of youngsters with whom Gore is delighted to share what he has learned.

"It's been a big chance for me because I haven't been around kids—especially like 60 kids—in a while," Gore says. He appreciated hearing from the kids and providing help to fill in gaps and expand on what they know about the neighborhoods where they live and the celebrities who visited here.

Along with helping to guide visitors through the Hampton House, Gore's responsibilities include collecting and compiling media clippings about the museum and helping the staff with day-to-day tasks around the two-story, 50-room motel, which closed in 1976 and was in disrepair until it was renovated in 2015.

And Gore's efforts are making a difference, particularly with younger visitors.

"When Thomas came, we were like 'Whoa.' He just fit in so well and became part of the family immediately," says

Jacqui Colyer, board chair of the historic facility.

And when the children learn that Gore is an intern from the University and that he plays football, they get all excited, Colyer notes. "He talks about his major and shares with them that he loves history, so being here fits right into everything he loves."

While he's now well versed in the Hampton House's history, Gore—who hails from Antioch, Tennessee—wasn't familiar with the museum or Miami's history when he arrived.

But a visit to the Hampton House with some of his teammates piqued his curiosity, and after a conversation with LaToya Farris, Miami's assistant athletic director for student-athlete development, the idea for the internship took shape.

"For me to be able to come in and see the history literally on the walls or sit in the area where Muhammad Ali sat, go into the room and see the MLK picture [where he's] swimming in the pool . . . and getting to see these little details of history that you don't normally see, I think that's a big thing," Gore says.

Basketball Star Returns to Miami

Bruce Brown, a standout guard with the University's 2016-18 team, was back on the hard court in Miami last spring for the NBA Finals, but he wasn't wearing Miami colors—at least not on the court.

Brown, in fact, ended up being a key piece of the Denver

Nuggets offensive juggernaut that beat the Miami Heat in five games to win the championship. His performance in Denver's Game 4 victory, where he scored 11 of his 21 points in the fourth quarter, was one of the biggest games of his professional career.

Yet during one of the pregame media availabilities at the Kaseya Center, the former 'Cane sported an orange-and-green cap emblazoned with Miami's famed "split-U" mark. He spoke about how playing for Hurricanes head coach Jim Larrañaga helped him develop the skills to succeed in the NBA.

During the few days he was back in Miami, Brown says he couldn't help but reminisce about his college days.

"We drove by the campus, and it just brought back memories," said Brown, "Me going to the McDonald's across the street on U.S. 1 and being in the CVS a lot. It's great to be back."

Asked about the University's incredible run last year in the NCAA Tournament, where the 'Canes knocked off the likes of Drake, Indiana, top-seeded Houston, and Texas to advance to the men's Final Four for the first time in program history, Brown says he wasn't surprised by the team's success.

"Coach L is a great coach who gets great players to come to the U. They buy into his system and want to win. He gets winners to come in and play extremely hard, so not surprising," Brown says.



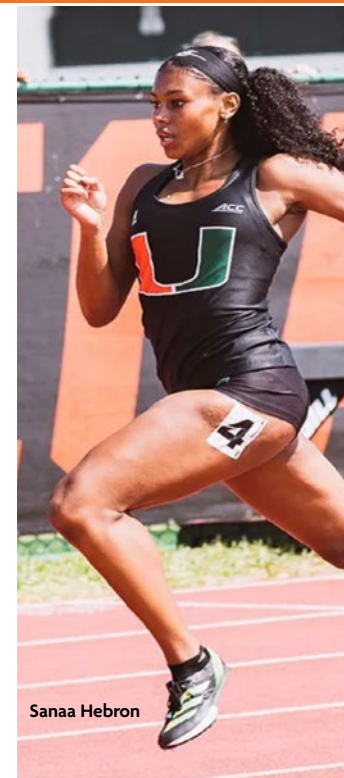
Bruce Brown

Sprinting to Success

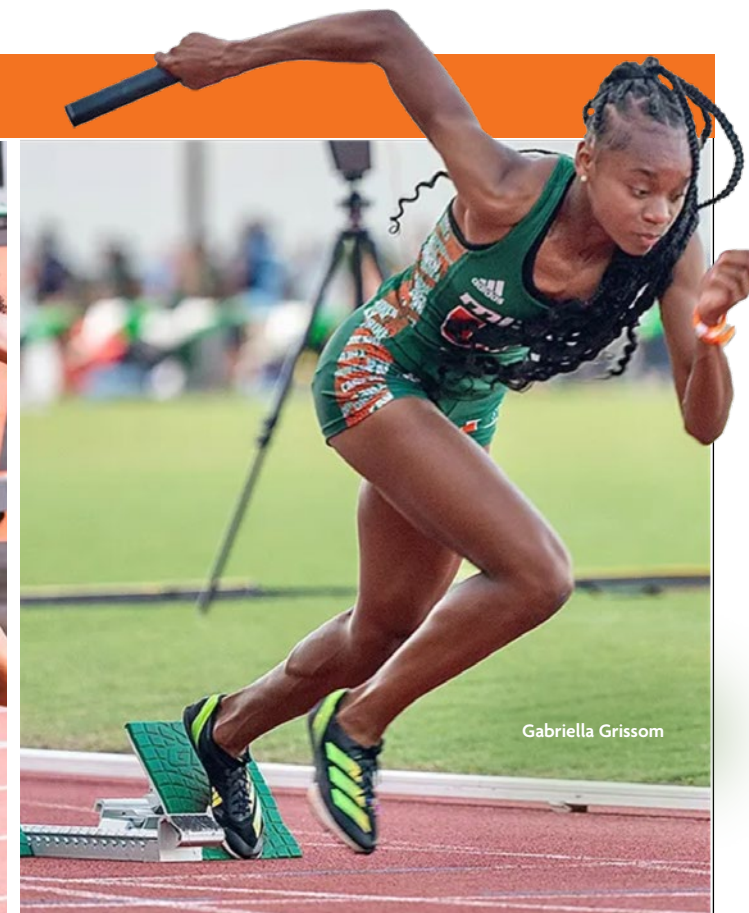
Sophomore sprinters Sanaa Hebron and Gabriella Grissom grew up in athletic families that both inspired and challenged them to excel in their own right.

Hebron won a treasure chest of state titles during her time at Neshaminy High School in her hometown of Newtown, Pennsylvania. Her father, Vaughn, won two Super Bowls with the Denver Broncos, and her brother, Savion, is a standout sprinter at Penn State University.

Gabriella Grissom's father, Marquis, was a professional athlete, too—a World Series winner, a two-time All-Star and four-time Gold Glove winner during a 16-year Major League Baseball career. Her brother, Marquis Jr., played baseball at Georgia Tech before being drafted by the Washington Nationals.



Sanaa Hebron



Gabriella Grissom

Needless to say, here at the University, Hebron and Grissom bonded almost instantly.

"It's honestly really funny because we were talking and were just like 'That's so weird. Our dads are so similar,'" Hebron says. "And while we may not have the same kind of personality, we work very well together. We have so many similarities outside of track."

"We definitely have a lot of similarities, and I'm glad that she's my roommate.

Sanaa's very competitive as well and works hard," Grissom says. "She can motivate me, and I can motivate her. If one of us is having a rough day, we both understand because we go out there and do hard workouts. It's important having somebody to relate to."

As first-year students, the two made an impact for the Hurricanes.

Hebron notched one of the top 10 times in the nation in the 400-meter hurdles with a mark of 56.08 and had a strong outing at the ACC Outdoor Track & Field Championships last spring, while Grissom contributed points in both her individual events and on the Hurricanes' 4×400 relay team.

Amy Deem, director of Track & Field/Cross Country, watched the two grow closer in their first year and applauded the progress that both made.

"They've been a great addition to our team. They're very focused, very driven, and team oriented," says Deem. "It's just been really fun to watch them become a part of the track and field family.

And watching them mesh has been a joy."

The lessons they've learned from each other, their teammates, their famous dads, and their competitive siblings have helped Hebron and Grissom prepare for the next steps on their journeys.

"I'm very happy with how I've gotten acclimated to the training and competing in collegiate track," Hebron says. "I'm happy with my results so far and excited to see where it goes."

Grissom is grateful for the many lessons she's learned in her first year.

"This is the most I've ever grown in my life," she says. "I want to make sure that I pay attention to everything I've learned and keep learning. So, as I head into this next season, the new me that I am, I think it can be that much better."

“Targeting underlying mechanisms could improve the quality of life for patients with chronic gut complications.”

—Nadine Kerr



ROB CAMARENA

Exploring the Gut-Brain Link

An Alzheimer’s Association grant advances Miller School research

A new grant supports scientists with The Miami Project to Cure Paralysis, a Center of Excellence at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, to further their research of a bidirectional relationship between the brain and the gut.

New evidence has increasingly shown that people with existing gut conditions—like colitis or irritable bowel syndrome—may be more vulnerable to develop a neurodegenerative condition like Alzheimer’s disease or cerebrovascular disorders such as stroke. Likewise, people with existing neurological conditions like Alzheimer’s disease, or who have suffered a stroke, are also more likely to develop gut-related disorders.

“Patients with Alzheimer’s disease are more susceptible to stroke and also can suffer from gut disorders. We therefore proposed to examine how the bidirectional gut-brain axis plays a role in the development of Alzheimer’s disease after stroke and long-term consequences,” says Nadine Kerr, Ph.D. ’19, a research assistant professor in the Department of Neurological Surgery.

Kerr recently received a three-year, \$250,000 grant from the Alzheimer’s Association to study what is called the bidirectional gut-brain axis after stroke and to examine the implications for those diagnosed with Alzheimer’s.

“Targeting underlying mechanisms could improve the quality of life for patients with chronic gut complications from developing Alzheimer’s disease or having a stroke,” she adds.

Kerr emphasizes the need to critically study and understand this process because research has shown that chronic gut problems, such as constipation, are often more prone to accelerated cognitive decline.

“After stroke or getting Alzheimer’s disease, people with gut problems often end up with worsened neurological outcomes, which is one of the main reasons why we chose to study the bidirectional communication between these organs,” Kerr says.

Her team is focused particularly on how proteins called inflammasomes are transported from the brain to the gut through extracellular vesicles. These small particles released from various cell types into bodily fluids, such as blood, cerebrospinal fluid, and stool, can prompt an inflammatory response within the first few days after a stroke.

By better understanding the regulated cell death that may occur, Kerr says she believes her team may be able to study therapeutic drugs that could block the transfer of these inflammasomes to the gut and thereby potentially help patients who have experienced stroke or Alzheimer’s disease. The scientists’ research also could benefit other neurological disorders, Kerr notes, because it could allow clinicians to better understand how the brain communicates with the gut.

“I’m sure most people have had some gut issues, whether diagnosed or not,” Kerr says. “The health of the gut is dependent on what we eat as well as other factors, and studying how the brain and the gut interact and how that link can be modified is really important.”

Kerr’s team science program includes Helen Bramlett, M.S. ’98, Ph.D. ’99, professor of neurological surgery; W. Dalton Dietrich, scientific director of The Miami Project and professor of neurological surgery; Juan Pablo de Rivero Vaccari, Ph.D. ’07, M.S.B.A. ’20, associate professor of neurological surgery; and Robert Keane, professor of physiology, biophysics, and neurological surgery.

Striving to Excel

Siblings are first to both earn prestigious merit awards

Logan and Hannah Beatty, the first siblings in University history to receive Stamps Scholarships, recall that education always was a priority in their home growing up.

“Our parents definitely encouraged an educational environment, though it was never like we had to take class X, Y, or Z because both of us have always been very self-driven,” says Logan, a senior biomedical engineering major and a student researcher at the Diabetes Research Institute Foundation in Miami.

Hannah is a first-year computer engineering major and plans on pursuing a double major.

Born in Philadelphia, Logan moved with his parents to the Tampa area when he was 2. Hannah was born soon after. The siblings attended gifted programs in elementary school, and at Land O’Lakes High School they were enrolled in the International Baccalaureate (IB) program. The focus on education at home and the rigors of IB studies laid the bedrock for academic success.

“In IB in order to thrive, you have to be driven,” says Hannah. “It requires a lot of willpower because there’s a lot of work that you have to do outside of the classwork. Time management skills are definitely something I built

up in high school, and those have definitely helped me in college.”

“I was surrounded by peers who were hard working and also passionate about whatever field they wanted to go into,” Logan says. “That drove me to find my interests and better myself. I’ve always been fairly humble, but definitely the advanced coursework in IB really helped prepare me for my first college semester.”

Both know that hard work, passion, and persistence are key criteria to earn a Stamps Scholarship.

“In life, just like in high school and in everything you do, it’s important to be hard-working and to apply yourself,” says Hannah. “To get to this point, I had to push in all my activities, such as when I was president of the clubs—that involves leadership and dedication. The good thing about Stamps is it allows you to continue that path of leadership and determination in college.”

Logan and Hannah Beatty



Logan’s passion sparked while sitting in a higher-level biology class in high school.

“I liked learning about the systems of the body and how they work. But I enjoyed physics and my art classes, too,” he recalls. “I thought how cool it would be in college to combine those interests into one nice little package—biomedical engineering. So, I picked that and am so glad I did.”

Hannah’s passion sparked in high school as well, not so specifically for a career direction as it did for her brother, but in terms of understanding her motivation.

“One of the big things for me is intellectual stimulation,” Hannah says. “I’m happy and content when I’m doing something that makes my mind work. I love working with logic and am very intrinsically motivated—it’ll be 12 a.m. and I’m like ‘what am I doing here,’ but then

I get back to it because I so enjoy it.”

An internship this past summer in New York City with Jane Street, a research-driven trading firm, helped her realize that she could pursue software engineering in the finance industry. She joined TAMID, an investment consultancy club, and is looking for ways to use her talents to help others, another big motivator for her.

Logan used part of his enrichment fund to intern for two months in Barcelona, Spain, with the Josep Carreras Leukaemia Research Institute, where he prepared samples for strategic mass spectrometry to determine their protein content.

Hannah plans to use money from the fund to enter a college-sponsored trading competition. She also wants to attend an engineering conference this fall and the Grace Hopper Celebration, a major tech conference for women, next year.

Both Logan and Hannah say they are excited for their futures and tremendously appreciative for the opportunities Stamps provided.

BY MICHAEL R. MALONE

With its crystalline acoustics, superlative technologies, and breathtaking view, the Frost School's new Knight Center for Music Innovation heralds a magnificent future for music performance and instruction on campus and for the community.

Frost School Enters a New Era of Supreme Sound

Frost School Dean Shelton Berg accompanies jazz artist and Frost alumna Carmen Lundy during the opening gala for the Knight Center.

LIKE THE HOTTEST NEW DIVA IN TOWN, THE KNIGHT CENTER FOR MUSIC INNOVATION TOOK CENTER STAGE IN EARLY NOVEMBER TO SHOWCASE THE EXTRAORDINARY TALENTS OF THIS DAZZLING NEW INCUBATOR OF ARTISTIC CREATIVITY.

The Frost Symphony Orchestra, Studio Jazz Band, and Musical Theater, as well as Stamps Scholars, American Ensembles, and other acts sampled the sparkling new space, providing a weeklong repertoire of gala events and performances that gave audiences a thrilling intro to the center's future—and to the future of music.

"Universities were founded to be centers of research and experimentation, and the Knight Center for Music Innovation is an essential, physical hub for innovation at the Frost School of Music," says Shelton Berg, dean of the Phillip and Patricia Frost School of Music.

"Musicians will continue to perform music spanning centuries of creativity, but more and more, technology and cultural diversity will figure prominently in our work," the dean adds. "Our students and graduates will need to master technology along with musical artistry. They will need to be comfortable with a more interactive relationship with audiences that technology empowers and able to leverage musical relationships that cross traditional borders of genre and culture."

Reynaldo Sanchez, B.M. '80, M.M. '82, music professor and associate dean for strategic initiatives and innovation, was among the chorus of visionaries who years ago began to shape the conceptualization and the construction of the new performance and technology center.

"This new center is the kind of asset that can push the school to the next level," Sanchez says. "It's more than a performance space—this is something else altogether. This really gives us a blank canvas to do so many things. I really believe that a space helps create the music," Sanchez adds. "A space is not just to put music in, it's to get music out. And these spaces we created are going to incentivize lots of new creativity."

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Technology to Engage

The \$36.5 million, 25,000-square-foot performance and technology space is located in the heart of the Coral Gables Campus, and its design and technology features aim to engage audiences inside as well as outside—and even passersby.

The center houses two primary venues. The Robert and Judi Prokop Newman Recital Hall is a classically fixed acoustically sensitive room with seating for 200. The Thomas D. Hormel Music Innovation Stage is a fully flexible innovation stage, with an open floor and a grid above in the ceiling to allow for variable sound and lighting configurations.

“As a state-of-the-art musical venue, the hall serves to prepare students for professional life, so there is that inward focus, but simultaneously it is leveraging technology and a building in a way that makes music more accessible to the entire campus,” says Ariel Fausto, design principal for H3, the architectural firm that designed the center.

“The visual transparency of the recital hall—created by the large window that faces the lake—allows for passersby to see at any moment when a performance is happening and telegraphs the energy from within the building,” Fausto explains.

The massive west-facing 20-by-40-foot window, made of “smart glass” that can be switched from clear to opaque and allows for vision to be directed inward or outward, will be utilized for “Windowcasts” onto the outdoor plaza.

The innovation stage, named in honor of Thomas D. Hormel, a renowned innovator in both music and art, is essentially a black box—albeit a very high-tech, hybrid one—and defined by its versatility, Sanchez explains.

“It’s a blank canvas. The curtains can be opened, so the space can be very lively, such as for an opera, or closed for a rock concert. And it’ll all sound fabulous,” Sanchez says.

The floors are black, yet the walls white and outfitted with acoustical panels that can be used for “projection mapping,” a technique of visually creating 3D dimensionality.

“And because there’s no permanent seating, we can build stages and orient them in different ways. We’re not stuck with one stage in one space,” Sanchez adds.

In Harmony With Its Surroundings

Jessica Brumley, vice president for facilities operations and planning, emphasizes that the new center aligns strategically within the University landscape.

“The Knight Center is an extraordinary facility that incorporates the latest technologies and innovations, and its construction continues the University’s commitment to green initiatives and LEED certification with a focus on sustainable design,” Brumley says.

“The proximity to Lake Osceola adds to the aesthetic and community togetherness that was started by the opening of the Shalala Student Center a decade ago and continued with the amazing student housing additions of Lakeside Village and Centennial Village,” she adds.

Deborah Hunley, assistant vice president for the design and construction department, has been part of the team overseeing construction since she joined the University a year ago.

“The building design is very unique in its curvature and placement on our campus,” Hunley notes. “The prime focus of the recital hall’s large picture window is to direct the view onto the lake, and that view is definitely the first thing that everyone talks about—it’s absolutely gorgeous.”

A Space to Create and Innovate

In advance of the opening, Sanchez researched to craft a 10-minute immersive experience that documented the story of innovation at the Frost School from 1965 to the present. The presentation was broadcast through a 12:1 immersive video and audio system as part of Frost Tech Day, one of nine Knight Center opening events that took place in late October and early November.

“The history is amazing—it could have been a Hollywood script,” Sanchez says of his findings. He credits the late William F. Lee III, jazz pianist, composer, arranger, and third dean of the school from 1964–82, with setting the innovation tempo.

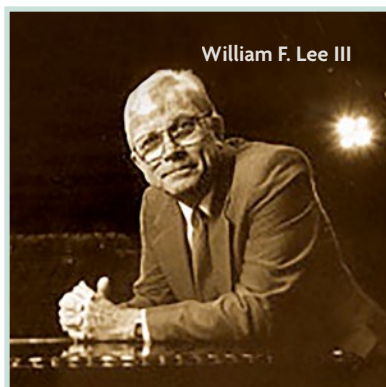
“Bill Lee was so far ahead of his time and helped create a culture that’s been here for a long time. It seems like with every new step of innovation a new building is built, and then that new building spurs more new creativity,” Sanchez says.

The Frost School today is the number one music school in Florida and among the top 10 in the country.

Jeffrey Buchman, associate professor and stage director for opera, participated in the early conversations to conceptualize a Frost School space that would shape the future of music.

“Ultimately, spaces like this are meant to bring talents together in collaborative ways and also to bring audiences together in more interactive ways,” says Buchman, who will be producing an opera this spring in the new center.

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William F. Lee III

The center houses two primary venues.

Robert and
Judi Prokop
Newman
Recital Hall



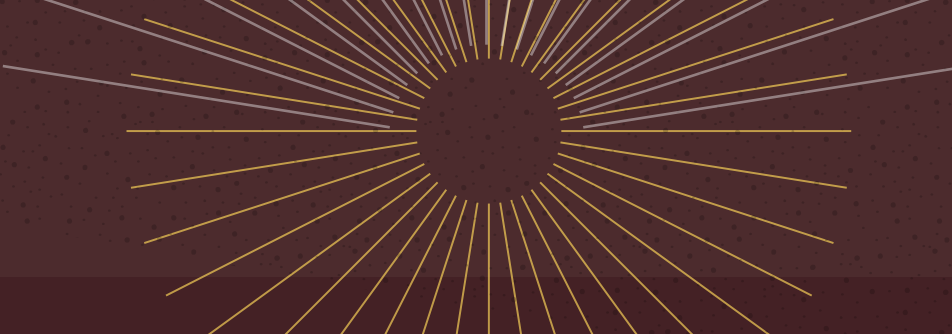
“The prime focus
of the recital hall’s
large picture window
is to direct the view
onto the lake.”

—Deborah Hunley

Thomas D.
Hormel Music
Innovation
Stage ---->



The Thomas D. Hormel Music Innovation Stage is a flexible stage with windowcasts.



VERSATILE LIGHT



EDIN STUDIOS



MATT RICE PHOTOGRAPHY



JOSÉ FELIPE DA FRAGA



VERSATILE LIGHT



EDIN STUDIOS

a 360-degree musical experience

The Frost School of Music presented a weeklong celebration to inaugurate the Knight Center for Music Innovation. Events ranged from family-friendly concerts to an immersive 360-degree musical experience.

“You need flexibility above all else in order to have a venue that adapts with technology.” —Reynaldo Sanchez



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“It’s not that in our other spaces we couldn’t do this kind of innovative work, but this is a new environment that holds even greater possibilities,” he says. “We’re not dealing with a proscenium stage or an audience with only one perspective to the stage. Now we can put the audience wherever we want, including giving them the freedom to walk around the stage during the performance.”

Buchman, who has extensively researched mixed and augmented reality and has a long history of using multimedia in his operatic productions, celebrates the sophisticated technology that the center offers and that its directors will continue to explore. He emphasizes, though, not to confuse “technology” with “innovation.”

“All these types of technology that we’re exploring and playing with and utilizing are not in and of themselves innovation—they’re just tools that these wonderful creative minds, whether they be students or the faculty, are now able to employ to further innovation,” Buchman points out.

In the early design conversations, Sanchez and others urged that permanent technology installations be minimized in favor of flexible, open space to accommodate an infinite range of configurations. They likewise recommended that questions of technology become part of the center’s ongoing experimentation.

“Whatever we might have decided in 2018 in terms of technology was going to be moot by the time we opened,”

Sanchez notes. “You need flexibility above all else in order to have a venue that adapts with technology.”

While both rooms are outfitted with state-of-the-art cameras, lights, and recording and broadcasting equipment, Sanchez believes the decision to forego excessive investment in technology and instead install a grid system that allows crews to hang whatever is needed proved to be a sound one.

The innovation stage particularly will incubate experimentation with augmented and mixed reality, artificial intelligence, volumetric video capture, surround audio, and technologies yet to be identified, according to Berg.

The new Knight Center for Music Innovation is also fully designed to be cross genre and not just to spotlight one kind of music.

“That was the whole thing, because we don’t know what music is going to sound like in 20 years,” Sanchez says.

Beyond its ability to accommodate future innovations and yet-unknown advances in music, the new center is designed to promote engagement.

“Music at its core is all about engagement with others,” Sanchez says. “If there’s no engagement between the performers and the music, the performers with each other, and the performers and the audience, then we don’t have anything. So that’s what the technology is helping us achieve.” ■

BY ROBERT C. JONES JR.

From the Atlantic to Pacific to the Indian Ocean, researchers navigate the high seas to better understand how the dynamics of ocean currents and other phenomena affect global climate.

NEW DEPTHS IN

OCEAN SCIENCE

OCEANOGRAPHER LISA BEAL HAS LED A MULTITUDE OF VOYAGES TO THE INDIAN OCEAN, BRAVING SOME OF THE WORLD'S MOST MONSTROUS SWELLS.

It is there that Beal has deployed hundreds of ocean-monitoring instruments to learn more about how the Agulhas Current, one of the swiftest and strongest in the world, influences climate patterns around the world.

Denis Volkov grew up in southern Russia along the coast of the tiny and shallow Sea of Azov and on the Baltic Sea coast in Estonia. He always knew he wanted to study the oceans, and now he focuses his research on ocean circulation and sea levels.

William Johns researches the intricate relationship between the oceans and the atmosphere above it and how this interaction is impacting the global climate.

And Paloma Cartwright, after surviving a devastating hurricane in 2015 that destroyed her home in the Bahamas, is now a doctoral student devoted to a career in ocean science. She represents the next generation of researchers and scientists passionate about the oceans.

These people are part of the dedicated group of oceanographers and students at the University of Miami Rosenstiel School of Marine, Atmospheric, and Earth Science who delve into the dynamics of ocean currents, helping to deepen our understanding of the vital role they play in shaping the global climate system.

In constant motion, the oceans cover more than 70 percent

of the Earth's surface, yet as much as 80 percent of the ocean's depths remain unexplored. Answers to critical questions on everything from sea level rise and marine heatwaves to the future of life in the ocean could be found in ocean currents.

The Lifeblood of Our Planet

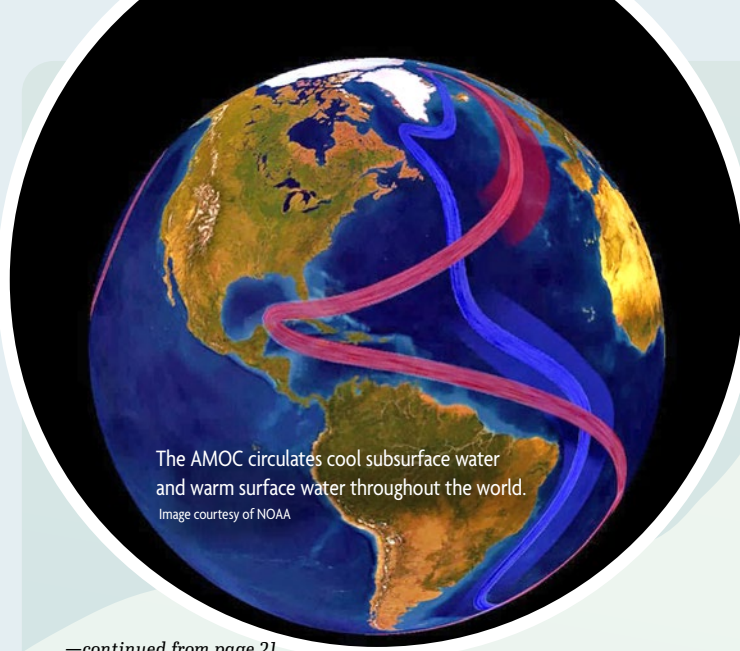
Some travel only short distances. Others encircle the globe. But whatever path they take, ocean currents—like the 60,000 miles of arteries and veins that run throughout the human body—are the lifeblood of the planet. And in that regard, the Atlantic Meridional

Benita Maritz of the Institute for Maritime Technology in Cape Town secures instrumentation during an expedition in the Agulhas Current led by Rosenstiel School professor Lisa Beal. Credit: Valery Lyman, 2013

Overturning Circulation, or AMOC, is the aorta of the sea.

A complex system of currents, it is a global conveyor belt, distributing heat throughout the Atlantic by carrying warmer waters north and cooler waters south. "For the Earth's climate to remain in equilibrium, there has to be a huge transport of heat from low to high latitudes by the combined atmospheric and oceanic circulations," says Johns, a professor of ocean sciences, who uses long-term moored instrumentation to study ocean circulation. "In the northern hemisphere, the AMOC accounts for nearly 25 percent of that heat transport on a global basis. It is unique in the global oceans because the Atlantic is the

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The AMOC circulates cool subsurface water and warm surface water throughout the world.
Image courtesy of NOAA

Array (RAPID-MOCHA) project and the Overturning in the Subpolar North Atlantic Program, or OSNAP, he collaborates with teams of scientists from around the world, deploying deep-ocean moorings that monitor the strength of the AMOC. “In RAPID-MOCHA, we have observed a general decline of the AMOC over the nearly 20 years we have been making those measurements,” he says, “but we are not certain yet how much of that is related to global warming versus natural variability on decadal time scales.” Still, the future of the AMOC remains a concern, as both global warming and one of its major consequences—the increase in sea and land ice melting in the Arctic—will tend to slow it down, leading to an eventual tipping point, Johns warns.

Held in the Sea’s ‘Net of Wonder’

Long ago, the sea cast its spell on Volkov when he was a little boy growing up and going to school in southern Russia and Estonia, with the Sea of Azov and the Baltic Sea beckoning to him each day. And ever since, as legendary oceanographer Jacques Cousteau once said, he’s been held “in its net of wonder.” “That’s why I pursued a career in earth sciences; I had absolutely no doubt that I wanted to become an oceanographer,” says Volkov, a physical oceanographer at the Rosenstiel School-based Cooperative Institute for Marine and Atmospheric Studies (CIMAS).

Volkov specifically focuses on regional sea level and ocean circulation changes. With Johns, fellow CIMAS scientist Marlos Goes, and others, he recently led a study that revealed that AMOC-induced changes in gyre-scale heat content, superimposed on global mean sea level rise, are already influencing the frequency of floods along the U.S. southeastern seaboard. Specifically, the investigators found that ocean heat convergence, being the primary driver for interannual sea level changes in the subtropical North Atlantic, accounted for 30 percent to 50 percent of the flood days from 2015–20.

He serves as the principal investigator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Western Boundary Time Series, monitoring the volume transport and seawater properties of the western boundary currents in the subtropical North Atlantic. Those currents include the northward flowing Florida Current, which is part of the Gulf Stream as it passes through the Straits of Florida from the southernmost Florida Keys to the northernmost Bahamas Islands, the near-surface northward Antilles Current, and the southward Deep Western Boundary Current. The latter two are both found to the east of the Bahamas.

While his work often makes use of spaceborne observations such as satellite altimetry, Volkov also is a seagoing oceanographer who has sailed across four oceans. And he has

encountered a multitude of challenges—but none quite like that of obtaining clearance for marine scientific research.

“Research ships often have to cross multiple exclusive economic zones (EEZs); and for each zone, we have to obtain permission to do any type of operation associated with measurements and sampling,” Volkov says.

During a 2018 cruise to the western part of the Indian Ocean—the first in 20 years to that region—Volkov and a team of other researchers aboard the NOAA ship Ronald H. Brown had to cross six EEZs. One of them, Tromelin Island, is a territory claimed by both France and Mauritius, which required the scientists to apply for two clearances to work near the island.

“While we had successfully obtained marine scientific research clearance from France, we were getting more and more anxious about not having a permit from Mauritius,” Volkov recalls. “We finally received it when we were only a day away from entering the Tromelin EEZ. But the situation became much worse with getting clearance from the [Indian Ocean island state] of Seychelles. By the time we reached the boundary between the Mauritius and Seychelles EEZs, the clearance was not issued. Whatever the bureaucratic reasons were, we were just stranded. And the situation was complicated by the fact that our Mauritius clearance was expiring,” he adds. “So, all science operations had to cease. We were just anchored at the boundary between two EEZs and already thinking of alternative routes. Fortunately, we finally received the clearance, but the delay cost us one full day at sea.”

Studying the Agulhas

From braving rogue waves to taking her turn on lonely night watches aboard ships, Beal can speak better than anyone on the challenges long scientific cruises can present, such as the 5,600-nautical-mile voyage from Africa to Australia that she took in 2003 aboard the RSS Charles Darwin. That cruise, which lasted for 47 days, was part of the Global Ocean Ship-based Hydrographic Investigations Program, or GO-SHIP, an international initiative to sustainably survey the ocean’s interior. It’s these taxing endeavors that test a researcher’s mettle.

“I stayed sane by breaking out some Michael Jackson moves on the flying bridge, listening on my fancy, new iPod,” she recalls of how she coped during the voyage.

“It’s this odd other existence away from your typical life, and it’s not for everybody,” explains the professor of ocean sciences at the Rosenstiel School. “You’re thrown together with other researchers and crew members you don’t know. So, you end up lacking the support of family and friends.”

Beal is an expert on the Agulhas system of currents. And through her many scientific voyages and publications, she has brought worldwide attention to the key role this remote system plays in a warming climate.

One of the swiftest and strongest in the world, the Agulhas is a western boundary current, flowing along the east coast of South Africa and transporting warm, salty water toward the Southern Ocean. “It’s the Indian Ocean’s version of the Gulf Stream, but it’s a bit of an enigma,” Beal says.



She has studied the Agulhas since her graduate school days at the University of Southampton in the United Kingdom, deploying to the Indian Ocean on a multitude of expeditions that lasted for weeks at sea. As chief scientist on many of those cruises, Beal quantified how much water, heat, and salt the Agulhas carries as an artery of Earth’s climate system.

Her Agulhas Current Time (ACT) Series of research cruises, funded by the National Science Foundation, produced some of the most captivating, and surprising, scientific data on the current. Combining shipboard measurements with more than 20 years of satellite data, she and her team discovered that the current has broadened, not strengthened, since the early 1990s. “We weren’t expecting that,” Beal reveals. “Based on observations from space, we’ve seen that these regions are warming at three times the rate of the rest of the world’s oceans. We also understand from atmospheric scientists that the world’s wind systems are intensifying and expanding poleward with climate change. So, we expected the Agulhas was intensifying over time. But that just isn’t the case. It appears to have broadened, largely because there are now more eddies. So, the current is more turbulent.”

On a later joint scientific mission with South African scientists, Beal investigated the heat carried by the Agulhas. The current dominates the heat budget of the Indian Ocean, impacting sea level rise, sea surface temperature, East African rainfall, and storm tracks. Some of the current’s waters even leak directly into the Atlantic Ocean. Combining moored measurements with a cluster of robotic instruments that drift throughout the ocean, Beal and her team were able to estimate for the first time how the heat transport of the Indian Ocean varies over time.

The role our oceans play in shaping global climate is as yet underestimated, according to Beal. “In terms of the global carbon cycle, our oceans have huge reserves of heat and carbon that they’re able to cycle back and forth with the atmosphere,” she says. “When and where will this heat and carbon be given up to the atmosphere? And how will those feedbacks from the ocean to the atmosphere affect the future of our climate? Those are the questions we must answer.”



Ocean scientist William Johns has been studying the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation system for nearly 20 years.

Ocean flows colored with sea surface temperature data

90%

Ninety percent of the excess heat in the Earth system due to global warming has been absorbed by the oceans.

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An Inseparable Link

You might say they are joined at the hip, inseparably linked. The ocean and atmosphere are a coupled system, playing important roles in climate variability and climate change. But does one play a bigger role than the other?

“The ocean is often thought of as being the long-term ‘memory’ of the system because of the large heat capacity of water compared to air. It can store vast amounts of heat for prolonged periods of time that can then feed back to the atmosphere, sometimes after traveling long distances in the ocean circulation,” explains Johns.

Ninety percent of the excess heat in the Earth system due to global warming has been absorbed by the oceans, he notes. “The atmosphere is just not able to store much heat, even though that is what we feel as humans when we talk about climate change. The atmosphere has many modes of short-term climate variability that are not strongly coupled to the oceans, but on longer time scales, the ocean’s role is critically important.”

As the ocean and atmosphere are a coupled system, to say which plays a bigger role is difficult according to Beal. “To follow the climate, you need to follow the carbon and the heat. About half the excess carbon and 95 percent of the excess heat from anthropogenic climate change goes into the ocean,” she points out. “The atmosphere is well-mixed—our carbon emissions are everyone’s carbon emissions, mixed around the globe within a few days. But the ocean takes hundreds to thousands of years to mix and adjust, so it holds a lot of memory about what the atmosphere was like many years ago and eventually feeds it back on the present-day atmosphere. That is a long feedback loop.”

Ben Kirtman

The cryosphere—those portions of Earth’s surface where water is in solid form such as sea ice—has an even longer memory of climate, Beal notes. “The Antarctic ice sheet is millions of years old,” she says. “But in short, asking which is more important—the ocean or the atmosphere—is like asking whether the chicken or the egg is more important.”

Ben Kirtman, a professor of atmospheric sciences and the William R. Middelthorn III Endowed Chair of Earth Sciences at the Rosenstiel School, calls ocean-atmosphere coupling a complex phenomenon. When it comes to which system is forcing which, “it can depend on location and all kinds of things,” he says. It critically depends on timescale and location and just where you are in the world,” he adds.

“In the Gulf Stream, the ocean is transporting huge amounts of warm subtropical and tropical water poleward, so the Gulf Stream is really warm and it’s really strongly forcing the atmosphere, even affecting where it rains,” Kirtman continues. “On the other hand, the North Atlantic subtropical high is this circulation that kind of steers our hurricanes. When that circulation retracts or expands, it affects where the Gulf Stream sits. So, the which is forcing which gets tricky.”

El Niño, the climate pattern that describes the unusual warming of surface waters in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean, is the perfect example of the importance of coupled interactions, Kirtman points out.

At any rate, the nature of ocean-atmosphere coupling has given rise to collaborations between oceanographers and atmospheric scientists. Using atmospheric models and observations, Johns, for example, has collaborated with atmospheric scientists involved in estimating the heat exchange between the atmosphere and ocean through the sea surface.

“When we try to keep track of ocean heat content changes, we need to know how they were generated, how they move in the ocean circulation, and how they may be further affected by air-sea interaction along their pathways,” he says. “We do this by combining our ocean-heat transport measurements with estimates of atmosphere-ocean surface heat fluxes as well as estimates of regional ocean heat content derived from in-situ ocean observations.”

And while the ocean and atmospheric scientists examine these complex systems, they are sharing knowledge and mentoring the next generation of researchers at the Rosenstiel School.

Tomorrow’s Ocean Scientists Earn Their Stripes at Sea

In 2015, doctoral candidate Paloma Cartwright witnessed firsthand the power of a wind-sea interaction when Hurricane Joaquin, supercharged by warm ocean waters, swept through her home in Long Island, Bahamas, destroying nearly everything she owned. But the cyclone didn’t break her will to learn.

“I was old enough at 15 to understand the repercussions of what had happened and to realize that this was climate change in action,” says Cartwright, who is doing her graduate work in Beal’s lab. “I knew from that experience that I wanted to devote who I was to studying climate change and its consequences.”

For Cartwright, that meant studying one of the biggest influences on climate: the ocean. She is one of several students who have put out to sea on extended research expeditions, working alongside Rosenstiel School investigators to deploy special instruments to better understand the role the ocean plays in shaping weather and climate, including rising sea levels and sunny-day flooding in Miami and other coastal communities.

They are treated as equals, not underlings.

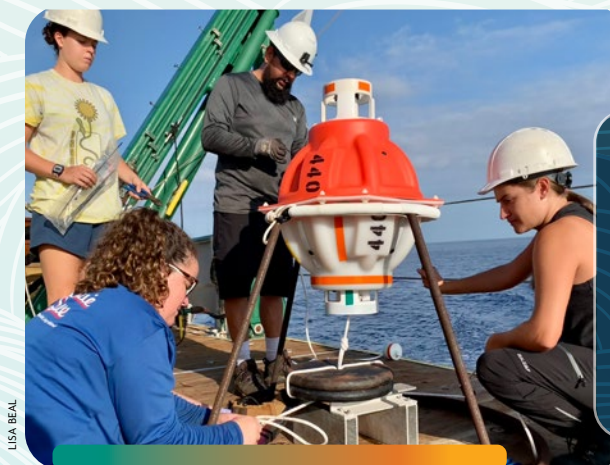
Samantha Medina, a third-year Ph.D. student in ocean sciences, has participated in a series of cruises as part of the \$6.74 million Coastal Land-Air-Sea Interaction Experiment that

will help the U.S. Navy improve its high-resolution weather forecast model—the Coupled Ocean/Atmosphere Mesoscale Prediction System. In the waters of Monterey Bay, California, and Pensacola, Florida, Medina helped assemble, deploy, and recover 40-foot-long buoys that collect critical information on near-shore wind and wave conditions.

“This project has cemented my passion for ocean sciences,” Medina says of the study, which is led by Brian Haus, professor and chair of ocean sciences. “I’m planning to use the data collected from instruments used in this project to help improve parameterizations for forecast models as well as improve our understanding of waves in coastal areas.”

Rachel Sampson, a doctoral candidate in meteorology and physical oceanography, spent 26 days in a region of the Southeastern Atlantic Ocean called the Cape Cauldron, deploying equipment that will measure the dynamic mixing of Agulhas Current waters into the Atlantic to learn more about weather and climate.

The expedition, led by a trio of female scientists, which included Beal, inspired Sampson. She calls it “an unmatched opportunity for my still-fledgling career.” ■



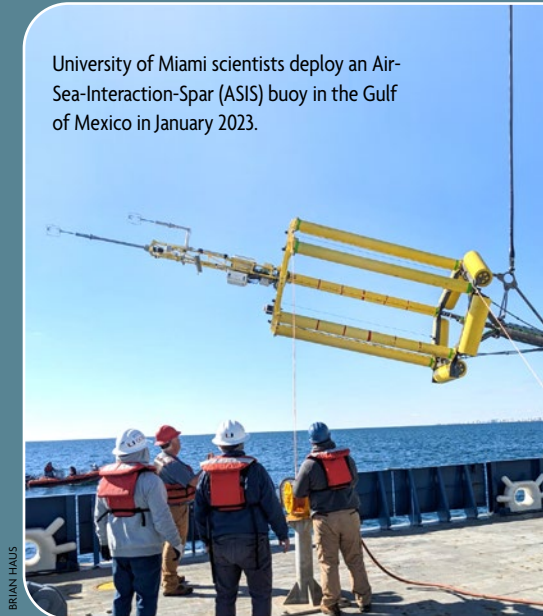
LISA BEAL

“I wanted to devote who I was to studying climate change and its consequences.”
—Paloma Cartwright

Graduate students Rachel Sampson, right, and Paloma Cartwright, bottom left, and undergraduate oceanography student Allie Cook, top left, work with mooring technician Eduardo Jardim to prepare a CIPES monitoring device for deployment.

WAVE ACTION

University of Miami scientists deploy an Air-Sea-Interaction-Spar (ASIS) buoy in the Gulf of Mexico in January 2023.



BRIAN HAUS

Ocean waves are quite distinct from ocean currents because of their shape, longevity, and direction. But like ocean currents, waves can impact weather.

When he’s not dialing up Category 5 hurricane conditions in the Rosenstiel School’s 75-foot-long wind-wave tank, Brian Haus journeys out to sea to help improve the scientific community’s knowledge of wave action. “Waves and winds behave quite differently in coastal areas than in the open ocean. But unfortunately, there’s a paucity of research data on those complex interactions,” says Haus, professor of ocean sciences and the lead investigator of the \$6.74 million Coastal Land-Air-Sea Interaction Experiment.

As part of the five-year experiment, which is funded by the Office of Naval Research, Haus and others deployed a multitude of massive air-sea interaction spar (ASIS) buoys offshore in Monterey Bay, California, and Santa Rosa Beach, Florida. Sampling from a network of land-based flux towers, aircraft, radars, drones, and satellites will augment the data recorded by the buoys. The goal, according to Haus, is to better understand the dynamics of winds and waves in the critical zone about four miles from sandy, rocky, urban, and mountainous shorelines.

“It’s been known for quite some time that operational wind forecasts for various models have been deficient at the coastal boundary,” he says. “Our experiments will help the U.S. Navy improve its high-resolution weather forecast model.”

Whitely Takes on Alumni Role

Beloved administrator now also engages with 'Canes after they graduate



Patricia A. Whitely meets with alumni across the nation, including during a recent visit in Washington, D.C.

As a devoted Miami Hurricane focused on building an inclusive campus community since her arrival in 1982, it seems fitting that Patricia A. Whitely, Ed.D. '94, would be called on to add alumni engagement to her impressive resume. Few know more about the 'Canes experience than Whitely, who, even before she took the helm of the Division of Student Affairs, held several positions at the heart of student life.

Between 1982 and 1994, Whitely was residence coordinator, assistant director of residence halls, and associate director of residence halls. She then served as director of student life and the Whitten University Center before becoming vice president for student affairs in 1997. Whitely's new title, senior vice president for student affairs and alumni engagement, reflects her expanded responsibilities.

"I am truly humbled to take on this new role, and I cannot wait to get started," says Whitely. "I look forward to connecting with many of our alums in the coming year."

She is off to a fast start, having already visited 'Canes Communities in New York, Boston, and Washington, D.C., with plans for several more visits in the spring. During Alumni Weekend and Homecoming in October, Whitely welcomed the University's Black Alumni Society and LGBTQ+ 'Canes back to campus, participated in a panel discussion at a meeting of volunteer leaders, and attended the 30 Under 30 awards ceremony, among other events.

"In this new role, my goal is to bring the ever-present excitement of our amazing campus to our alums no matter where they live," explains Whitely. "I intend to drive our strategy of actively engaging our alumni by developing new ways to connect with each one of them."

Whitely, who created the tradition of "Pancakes with Pat" in 2017, is always cooking up fun and new ways to build community and help students connect with each other. She is looking forward to bringing this delicious tradition and other ideas to alumni in some of our 'Canes Communities around the country.

One of her first priorities has been listening to what alumni want and need from their alma mater. In September, Whitely launched an alumni feedback survey designed to capture just that.

"We are always excited to see our alums when they come back to campus," says Whitely. "But just as important, we want to hear from alums and have them share their thoughts on how they've enjoyed engaging with us already and how we can strengthen their connection with the University. What we do is all about the Miami Hurricane experience from student days to life as an alum."



If you have thoughts and ideas about alumni engagement, Whitely would like to hear from you directly at pwhitely@miami.edu.

Alumni Coast to Coast Support Students

'Canes Communities raise funds for a record number of scholarships

The spirit of giving is alive and well in 'Canes Communities. Over the past year, these regional networks of alumni, parents, and friends of the U have held various events—everything from professional networking events to family outings—and diligently raised funds for scholarships.

Every dollar the 'Canes Communities raise is awarded back to University of Miami students who are selected based on academic achievement and financial need. During the 2022-23 academic year, 38 students representing 10 'Canes Communities from coast to coast received scholarships, a two-thirds increase over the prior year.

"The support we've received to provide scholarship support to local 'Canes has been humbling," says Carlos E. Lowell, B.S.M.E. '94, immediate past president

of the Miami 'Canes Community. "The outpouring of generosity shows what a wonderful community we have right in the University's backyard."

Valentina Cevallos, a sophomore neuroscience major and proud 'Canes Community Scholarship recipient, says that "knowing there are those who want me to succeed drives me to wake up each morning and cherish what I have." She expresses profound gratitude to her community for "making my world so much brighter."

Gianna Satchell, a sophomore broadcast journalism major, feels lucky to attend the University of Miami, and the 'Canes Community Scholarship helps ease the financial burden. For Satchell, "getting an education here means the world to me."



Valentina Cevallos

Welcoming Women Leaders

Notable alumnae take the helm of all three national volunteer alumni organizations

Strengthening 'Canes Communities and engaging and retaining alumni donors are key priorities for Maribel Perez Wadsworth, B.S.C. '93, the new president of the Alumni Association Board of Directors. "We are really leaning into the idea of collaboration. As we plan events and initiatives, we want to coordinate efforts so that 'Canes spirit really comes alive across all alumni communities," Wadsworth says.

Wadsworth, along with Brianna Hathaway, B.A. '16, and Alice Vilma, B.B.A. '99, are making history. This is the first time the three national volunteer alumni organizations—the Alumni Association Board of Directors, the Young Alumni Leaders Council, and the President's Council—are led by women.

As the new president of the Young Alumni Leaders Council, Hathaway is focused on supporting the needs of



Left to right, Maribel Perez Wadsworth, Alice Vilma, and Brianna Hathaway

recent graduates with tailored communications and events that foster relationships, facilitate networking activities, and create a strong culture of giving among young 'Canes alumni. "In my role, I hope we can continue to create pride in being a 'Cane for life," Hathaway says.

Vilma is the new chair of the executive

committee of the President's Council, which includes some of the University's most prominent alumni. "As we look ahead to our next century, the council will reinforce our commitment to advancing the University's core priorities in research, education, innovation, and service," she says.

Research Takes Center Stage at Homecoming

Audrey R. Finkelstein UM Experience Highlights Innovation at the U



Left to right, Rodolphe el-Khoury, Patricia A. Whitely, Sebastian the Ibis, Guillermo Prado, Maribel Perez Wadsworth, and Erin Kobetz

The University of Miami's rise as a research powerhouse was the focus of this year's Audrey R. Finkelstein UM Experience, an educational series that features prominent University faculty members each year during Alumni Weekend and Homecoming.

Guillermo "Willy" Prado, M.S. '00, Ph.D. '05, interim executive vice president for academic affairs and provost, presented "UM: From Infancy to an Elite Comprehensive Research University." This talk traced the institution's path to greatness, along with the challenges, triumphs, and decisions that resulted in the University's membership in the Association of American Universities (AAU). The University of Miami is one of only 71 leading research universities across the United States and Canada included in the prestigious organization.

Erin Kobetz, vice provost for research and scholarship, presented "The Story of a Tar Heel Who Bleeds Orange and Green: How UM Became My Alma Mater by Choice." The story of her personal journey highlighted the transformative power of research and community engagement that has informed her work over the years.

In his talk, "Smart Cities, Responsive Homes," School of Architecture Dean Rodolphe el-Khoury examined the possibilities that exist when you combine responsive homes



Guillermo Prado presents the University's journey toward recognition as a research powerhouse.

with interconnected smart cities, including new ways to deliver health care at home.

The interactive series is made possible by an endowment created by the late Audrey Finkelstein, B.A. '38, a passionate proponent of lifelong learning, and her husband Charles.

Alumni Weekend and Homecoming also united 'Canes on campus in a celebration of traditions, including 'Canes Lounge, fireworks, and the boat burning in Lake Osceola—which foretold a 'Canes football victory against the Virginia Cavaliers the following day.

Alumni Weekend and Homecoming united 'Canes on campus in a celebration of traditions.



A 'Canes football victory against the Virginia Cavaliers and fireworks over Lake Osceola were part of the celebrations.

'Canes Show Up for Fifth Annual Giving Day

On Oct. 11, the University of Miami global community celebrated the fifth annual Giving Day with record generosity.

3,500 +
donors

TOTAL OF MORE THAN
\$5.1 million

Generous 'Canes propel the U forward
during record-breaking Giving Day.

49 states
+ Puerto Rico

8 other
countries



TikTok Star Pays It Forward

Even before she graduated from the Patti and Allan Herbert Business School this past May, Alix Earle, B.B.A. '23, was a social media sensation, with more than 5 million followers on TikTok and more than 2 million on Instagram.

Now Earle has given back to the institution that supported her entrepreneurship journey. She has made a generous gift to establish a scholarship that supports Miami Herbert Business School students and further strengthens the school's commitment to diversity and inclusion.

"I feel very lucky to have had the opportunity to go to the U, and I'm very proud of being part of the UM family," Earle says. "If I can help someone in need complete their degree at the University of Miami, I'm honored to help."

Earle took TikTok by storm, becoming one of the fastest-growing creators on the platform. Despite her growing fame and attendance at high-profile events alongside A-list celebrities, her education remained a priority. In her view, academics played a pivotal role in shaping her entrepreneurial success.

"During my junior year, there was a marketing class that significantly helped me in my career path. We learned about the analytics and data behind posts. It allowed me to look at my work and see what was working or not working and why," Earle says.

She credits William Bolton, a lecturer at Miami Herbert, for having a significant impact on her throughout her time at the U. She said that his congratulatory email during her

last semester meant more to her than he could ever imagine.

"I always loved his class and learned so much from it," she says. "I was juggling a lot during my last semester, and I often felt like I wasn't doing enough or was always behind. Professor Bolton reaching out to me was so impactful, especially because he is someone I look up to."

The scholarship fund established by Earle will provide financial assistance to outstanding students who demonstrate significant potential in the field of business. Earle says she hopes it will help break down monetary barriers and elevate business-minded students, especially women.

"It is super important for women to know that they can be just as powerful as men," says Earle. "There is no limit on what you can accomplish as long as you believe in yourself. I had professors, friends, and family believe in me, and now it's my turn to help another student live out their dreams."

"Alix's gift underlines the value of Miami Herbert's curriculum in propelling business students forward in real time. It's gratifying to see her translating classroom learning into entrepreneurial success, and we're deeply proud of her role in motivating the next generation of business leaders," says Ann Olazábal, M.B.A. '97, interim dean of the Miami Herbert Business School.

Earle's advice to people contemplating a career in business or entrepreneurship is simple but powerful: "Dream big. Don't let anyone tell you 'no.' And don't be afraid to fail."

UMTV Alumnus Catalyzes Change Through Storytelling

Julian Glover, B.S.C. '13, has an innate gift for communication that was evident from his early days as a chatty student in the classroom. Little did he know that his natural gift of gab would later transform into a powerful tool.

"In seventh grade, we toured a local television station in Washington, D.C., and that's when it clicked," Glover says. "It was so incredible to meet Leon Harris, a news anchor I grew up watching. That was kind of the full circle moment where it was like, 'Oh, this is a really incredible profession and an important one too.'"

While at the University of Miami, Glover worked as executive producer and later as station manager for UMTV—the award-winning, student-run television station. He started two news programs, "NewsBreak" and "Pulse," that continue to inform viewers more than a decade later as staples in the UMTV lineup.

"I had the opportunity to be in a leadership position at such a young age and be able to ideate, identify a need, and figure out a way to meet that need," Glover recalls. "By launching UMTV 'Pulse' and 'NewsBreak,' we were able

to get fast, easily digestible information to the smartphones of folks all across campus. It certainly set me up to where I am today."

After graduating, Glover left his mark in different regions across the country. From his work as the morning anchor at WOIO-CBS 19 in Cleveland, Ohio, to being an anchor and reporter for WAVE 3 News in Louisville, Kentucky, he delved into important stories and received an Associated Press award for his coverage of the opioid epidemic's toll on children born dependent on the drug.

Glover embraced a new role in 2021, leading the ABC 7 Bay Area TV station's coverage of race, culture, and social justice. His reporting on discrimination against people of color within the home appraisal process earned national accolades, such as the 2022 Emmy and regional Edward R. Murrow awards. His work also culminated in a documentary film, "Our America: Lowballed," which explored families' experiences with systemic housing inequality.

His reporting ignited substantial change, prompting the Biden-Harris

administration to create an inter-agency task force. Subsequently, legislation aimed at addressing long-standing housing inequities was introduced in Congress.

"It reminds me of why I got into journalism in the first place—the idea of informing people about an issue that's impacting them, and in this case, an issue that some knew of and just brushed aside," Glover says. "To educate the public in that way, I know middle-school Julian is very proud."

Glover emphasizes the importance of storytelling regardless of one's career or interests.

"Storytelling is at the heart of how we connect interpersonally. We need skilled communicators and storytellers across a number of mediums and professions," he says. "Once you realize that at the heart of it all, we all want the same thing—to be happy, healthy, and to see our families grow and flourish—you're able to connect with people authentically and make an impact."

“Storytelling is at the heart of how we connect interpersonally.”

—Julian Glover





Vickie Rubin and her daughter, Jessica

A Mother's Inspiring Journey

In a world where compassion and understanding can make all the difference, Vickie Rubin, B.S.Ed. '79, stands as a beacon of hope for families navigating the challenges of raising children with special needs. Rubin's unwavering dedication to her daughter, Jessica, who was born with a rare chromosome deletion, has transformed her into an advocate, an educator, and a source of inspiration. Her journey comes to life in her award-winning memoir, "Raising Jess: A Story of Hope."

Before becoming a parent, Rubin built a strong foundation in child development and education theory as an undergraduate student at the University of Miami.

"Learning how to teach at the University of Miami, then later for my master's degree, really helped me engage with a wide range of ages and people with different needs," Rubin says. "I understood what families were going through, and I also had the professional hat. So I could connect to other professionals, teachers, and therapists."

Rubin recalls a conversation she had upon graduating from the University with a professor who encouraged her to explore a master's degree in special education.

"At the time, I thought I wouldn't have the patience for that," Rubin shares. "But that's how the universe works. Later on, I realized that my patience was more than I would ever have anticipated as I became a mom of a daughter with special needs and a teacher."

After graduation, Rubin worked as a parent educator for families of children with disabilities. Later, she became

the director of the Western New York Early Childhood Direction Center, where she provided education for families and professionals working with children with disabilities.

Navigating the complicated systems of doctors, educators, and other professionals involved in Jess's care was a significant challenge but one that Rubin and her husband, Mitch, B.B.A. '79, were able to face through patience, research, and the support of friends.

"It was very important for us to find friends who were supportive of us, not felt sorry for us, but who genuinely felt a connection to Jessica on their own," she says.

As Rubin's journey unfolded, so did the landscape of education, particularly in relation to students with special needs.

"The education of teachers has also evolved, whereas it used to be you were strictly special education or you were general education," Rubin says. "There's been more of a mix so that teachers who are going into general education know more about the special education population and have a lot more awareness."

Rubin hopes that her family's story can serve as a powerful reminder that love, perseverance, and hope can conquer even the most formidable of obstacles.

"My dream for families who have the experience of having a child with special needs is that they gain hope from reading the book and that it shows them they're not alone," she says.

Early Fascination Lays a Solid Foundation for Architecture

For Christian Giordano, B.Arch. '97, president and co-owner of Mancini Duffy, a national design firm based in New York City, the spark of architecture was ignited at a young age.

"I think that with most architects, it's just something that you're interested in from very early on, whether that comes from Lego playing or model making or involvement around construction," he says. "My mother was obsessed with design and was always doing renovations in her house. I liked the construction part of it, and that sparked the idea."

Throughout high school, Giordano explored his passion for architecture through self-study and hands-on projects. "I would get architecture books, that's kind of what I wanted for Christmas. And I did a lot of model making," he explains.

He created intricate models, including remote-controlled cars, buildings, and even dollhouses for relatives. Despite not having formal architectural training or experience, Giordano's early dedication to learning and honing his skills laid a solid foundation for his future career. Then came his formal education at the University of Miami, which he considers a pivotal experience.

"I cherished that time for many reasons," he says. "There was a series of professors who were genuinely excited about architecture. They loved it."

One key aspect of his Miami education was a focus on traditional architectural principles.

"At the University of Miami, there was an emphasis on historical architecture, proportion, drawing, and the hand-eye connection," Giordano explains. "That was a very informative way of learning for me."

This approach, emphasizing drawing and physical models, would later be a valuable asset in his career. Even as technology advances in the field, Giordano continues to rely on these traditional skills. "Still, to this day, when I sit down to design, I start out with pencil and paper," he says.

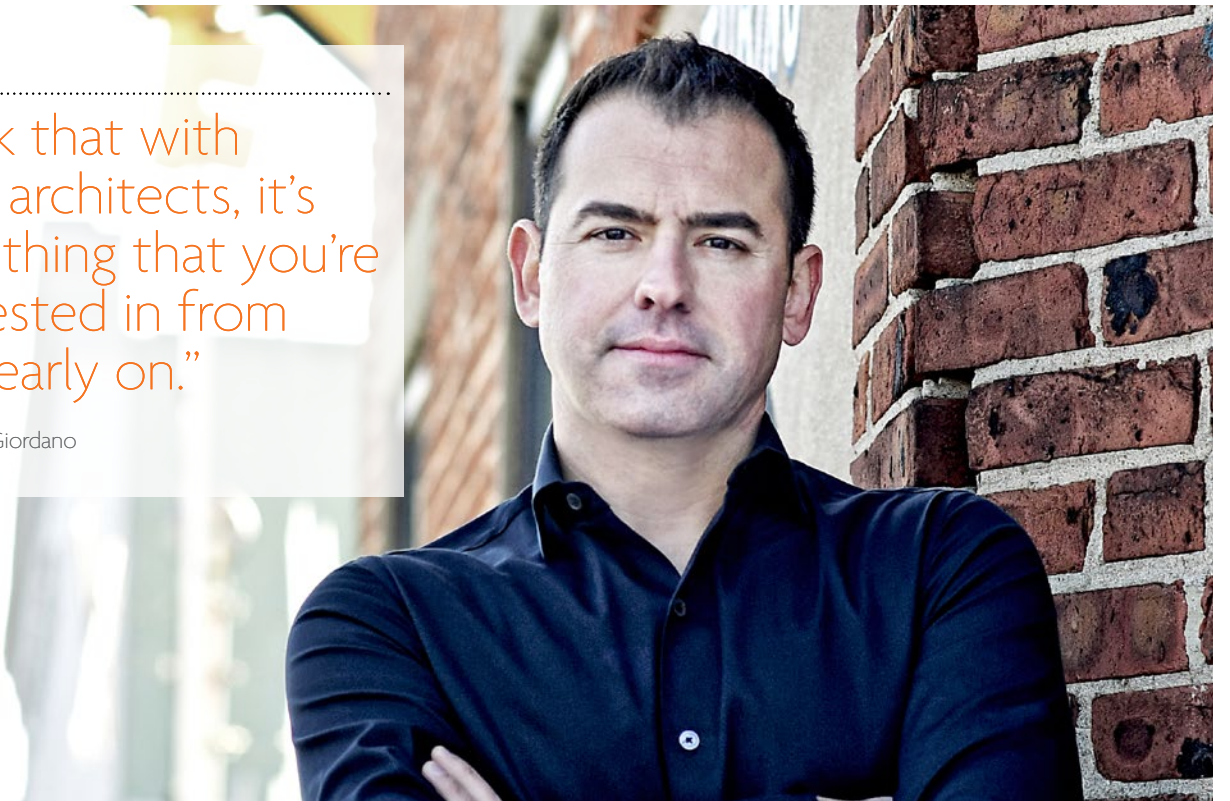
Giordano encourages young and aspiring architects to gain hands-on experience through freelance work or personal projects. He believes these experiences help architects better understand client interactions and business management.

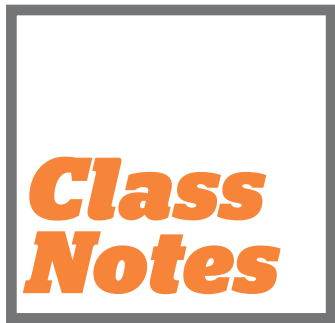
He also notes that architects often don't pursue the profession for monetary gain but instead for the love of design. He advises, "I think that for those who are looking to go into the field of architecture, it's definitely something that you have to have a passion for."

Giordano's journey underscores the power of early influences, a balanced education, and the pursuit of innovation. He hopes that through the transformative potential of technology and collaboration in architecture, he and his firm can contribute to the profession for years to come.

"I think that with most architects, it's something that you're interested in from very early on."

—Christian Giordano





1960s

Richard A. Smith, M.D. '65, initiated groundbreaking preclinical research on “antisense” drugs for neurological disorders, marking a pivotal moment in scientific advancement as the FDA approved a drug for people with genetic ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, “Lou Gehrig’s disease”).

Octavio Delasuaree, B.A. '66, published “La Familia Borrero,” a chronicle of three successive generations of Cuban artists who represent Cuban National pride.

Wayne E. Mcowen, B.B.A. '66, was honored by the Council of the District of Columbia with a resolution acknowledging his many years of service to the financial services industry as a lobbyist and thought leader.

Randolph H. Femmer, B.A. '69, is an author, editor, and senior director of Biospheric Literacy 101 and The Weckskaop Project (What Every Citizen Should KNOW About Our Planet).

Carl E. Westman, J.D. '69, is among a new group of private client services professionals at Gray Robinson. He specializes in private client services in Southwest Florida and Naples and offers expertise in tax, estate, trust, probate, and wealth transfer matters, along with charitable planning, estate administration, and tax-exempt organization counsel.

1970s

Arnold I. Menchel, B.A. '72, was named the Best Lawyers: Lawyer of the Year 2024 in Hartford, Connecticut, for health care law, where only a single lawyer is recognized with this award.

Richard B. Streeter, Ed.D. '72, published an e-book with his spouse.

Janet G. Streeter, B.Ed. '73. “The Order” is a novel that envisions an order to parallel universes and what happens when they interact. The story crosses several genres, where the main character finds friendship and love as he deals with an impending ecological disaster, covert missions, espionage, and betrayal.

Gerardo M. Simms, B.A. '73, J.D. '82, was just inducted into the Belen Jesuit Hall of Fame 2023.

George A. Mason, B.B.A. '78, has been “preaching God’s love for every body” at Wilshire Baptist Church in Dallas. He is the author of “The Word Made Fresh: Preaching God’s Love for Every Body.”

Richard J. Phillips, B.A. '78, published his new novel, “Cucamonga Pete—the Caddy Shack King.” The book provides a perspicuous narrative of friendship, humor, and heroism.

Arthur H. Rutter, B.A. '79, is the founder and talent and literary manager of Critical Mass Management and executive producer of two films for television, “Adventures In Christmasing” (MTV Entertainment Studios in 2021) and “You Light Up My Christmas” (Lifetime 2019).

Brian K. Ziegler, J.D. '79, LL.M. '81, a highly experienced attorney and co-chair of the Corporate/Securities Law Practice Group at Certilman Balin Adler & Hyman, LLP, was honored as one of Long Island’s Top Lawyers. With more than 40 years of expertise in mergers and acquisitions, finance, and various legal areas, Ziegler also continues to be an active leader in the community, charity, and golf circles.

1980s

Andrew J. Krause, LL.M.E. '81, a veteran wealth management lawyer at Gray Robinson with more than four decades of experience, employs a client-centric approach in estate planning

and trusts, specializing in tax-efficient strategies, communication, and plan refinement.

Gordan C. Murray, Sr., B.A. '82, J.D. '85, was awarded the William M. Hoeveler Professionalism Award at the Florida Bar Annual Convention and the Florida Supreme Court’s Chief Justice of Excellence Award at the 2023 Conference of County Court Judges of Florida.

Kathryn R. Kortering, B.S. '83, was a chiropractor for more than 30 years in several states but transitioned to preparing taxes at Carr, Riggs & Ingram.

Jeffrey A. Bass, B.B.A. '84, is a sports handicapper in Las Vegas.

Thomas J. Frechette, B.Arch. '84, has more than 30 years of design experience on a broad range of innovative corporate, mixed-use, research, and cultural projects. He is co-leader of the design of the CoStar Group’s new campus in Richmond, Virginia.

Kimberly Kolback, J.D. '86, of the Law Offices of Kimberly Kolback in Miami, organized and hosted the “New Age Tech Meets Ethics for the Ages” symposium, along with a behind-the-scenes tour of Maxx Volume Media Recording Studio on behalf of The Florida Bar Entertainment, Arts & Sports Law Section.

Linda B. Brown, B.S.N. '87, was reelected as secretary of the American Legion Auxiliary Post 31. She continues to be an R.N. Case Manager II with a CCM certification at South Miami Hospital.

Roberto Cabanelas, M.B.A. '87, vice president, corporate HR at ADM also has been appointed co-chair of the firm’s North America Hispanic/Latino employee resource group. He also is a director of the Latino Policy Forum in Chicago.

Laird A. Lile, LL.M.E. '87, board-certified wills, trust, and estates attorney, has been named as a Top 10 Florida Super Lawyer for the sixth consecutive year, the 17th year that Lile is among the Top 100 Florida Super Lawyers. He also was named to The Best Lawyers in America 2023 for the 27th consecutive year.

Gary A. Bremen, B.S. '88, retired from a 36-year career as a National Park Ranger, with nearly 30 years of that at Biscayne National Park.

He launched his own travel consulting website and blog at TheTravelingRanger.com.

Donna J. Turetsky, B.B.A. '88, LL.M.T. '93, has been named to the 2024 Best Lawyers List, a prestigious award entirely determined by peer review. She also was selected to the list in 2023 and 2022. She is the co-chair of Certilman Balin Adler & Hyman, LLP’s trust and estates and elder law practice groups.

Barrett Mincey, B.B.A. '89, was inducted into the Marquis Who’s Who Biographical Registry, honored for his two-decade career as an educator and consultant for higher education leaders and organizations.

Johnny C. Taylor, Jr., B.S.C. '89, the president and CEO of SHRM, has joined LifeGuides’ Social Impact Council as chairman. Taylor has more than 20 years of experience as a lawyer and executive, with roles at organizations like IAC, Paramount Pictures, and Blockbuster Entertainment Group. He serves on various boards including the University of Miami Board of Trustees, United Way Worldwide, and XPO Logistics, while also being a weekly contributor to USA Today and a fellow of the National Academy of Human Resources.

1990s

Deborah J. Gander, B.S.C. '91, J.D. '94, a prominent trial attorney known for securing more than \$100 million in verdicts and settlements, joined Freedland Harwin Valori as a named partner, establishing a new Coral Gables office specializing in medical malpractice and catastrophic injury cases.

Mark Rennella, M.A. '91, published a writing primer, “The One-Idea Rule: An Efficient Way to Improve Your Writing at School and Work,” to help students and young professionals improve their writing. The method is built on the assertion that every component of a successful piece of writing should express only one idea.

Magda M. Theodate, B.S.C. '93, is now INTERPOL’s new deputy director for Corporate Procurement & Contracts, Travel and Events.

Michael W. Thrailkill, B.Arch. '93, celebrated eight years of the success and growth of his Portland-based architecture firm with a five-week sabbatical in Tanzania.

Afi S. Johnson Parris, B.B.A. '94, was named chair-elect of ABA’s Law Practice Division, which teaches the business of practicing law through marketing, management, technology, and finance to more than 27,000 members.

James S. Crowell, B.Arch. '95, a seasoned executive with more than 32 years of development and construction experience, has joined Newgard Development Group as chief development officer to oversee new opportunities and expand the company’s market presence in North America. Crowell previously had key roles in significant projects like the \$1.5 billion World Center in Miami and the \$5 billion Centennial Yards project in Atlanta during his tenure at CIM Group.

Nancy S. Gutsell, Ph.D. '95, earned a second Ph.D. in the History of Christianity from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California.

Joshua A. Cohen, B.A. '96, has been recognized as top financial advisor by Northwestern Mutual (NM). This elite membership, the 2023 Forum Group, represents the top segment of NM’s industry-leading financial professionals and is a testament to their exceptional service and commitment to clients. Cohen is based in the Northwestern Mutual Boston office and resides in Canton, Massachusetts.

David F. Eccles, M.M. '96, was named an O. Wayne Rollins Family Master Educator by The Lovett School.

Michelle J. Cooper, M.B.A. '97, joined Touchstone Communities, Inc., as vice president and corporate controller in San Antonio, Texas.

Tiffani G. Lee, J.D. '97, has been appointed as deputy managing partner of Holland & Knight, bringing experience as a litigation attorney and a commitment to diversity and community involvement to her new leadership role.

Charles A. Judkins, B.A. '98, has been DJing for more than 20 years. Last year he started his own company, which has granted him the opportunity to do the pre- and post-game shows for the Atlanta Braves.

Giuseppina L. Latino van Splunteren, M.S. '98,

M.B.A. '98, was appointed by FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel to the Telecommunications Interagency Working Group, which was charged to present a report to Congress on the state of the broadband workforce in the United States.

Kendra P. Leonard, M.M. '98, co-edited the book “Hidden Harmonies: Women and Music in Popular Entertainment,” which is an exploration of the untold stories of lesser-known female musicians.

Charles P. Buscemi, B.S.N. '99, M.S.N. '01, Ph.D. '05, was promoted to full clinical professor at the Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing and Health Sciences at Florida International University. Buscemi also was selected as fellow of the Wound Ostomy Continence Nurses Society.

2000s

Yvette R. Garcia, B.S.N. '00, has worked for Nicklaus Children’s Hospital as a nurse for 23 years and accepted a new position in the outpatient radiology department.

Heather L. Rodriguez, J.D. '00, became the lead Law Studies program teacher at South Dade Senior High School in 2022.

Jeremy R. Lake, M.A.S.T. '01, who has been a driving force in Union Studio Architecture & Community Design and committed to designing connected, walkable, equitable neighborhoods and places for more than a decade, has been appointed principal. He will concentrate on establishing the firm as a regional and national leader in neighborhood design, bringing experience in mixed-use neighborhoods and urban infill to a diverse range of clients.

Michael S. Williams, B.B.A. '01, was promoted to senior director, Human Resources Total Rewards at Yahoo.

Ramiro A. Restrepo, B.B.A. '01, is a Kentucky Derby-winning owner and bloodstock agent. Restrepo’s family roots trace to Colombia. He grew up a racing fan in South Florida, attending races at Gulfstream Park and Hialeah.

Rossana Arteaga-Gomez, B.A. '02, J.D. '05, is a partner at AXS Law Group who practices in both federal and state courts and has a track

record of trying many jury trials and effectively arguing motions that can determine the outcome of a case before trial.

Joshua D. Green, M.Pr.A. '03, J.D. '06, was featured on “Shark Tank,” season 15, for his creation, PIE Wine, “The OG Pizza Wine.” Green also is the CFO of Survios, a VR spatial gaming company, and has a career that spans from investment banking to private equity.

Roberto Castro, B.B.A. '04, M.B.A. '08, is vice president of marketing at Scenic Group USA. He has more than a decade of cruise industry experience working with companies like Carnival Cruise Line, Royal Caribbean International, and Silversea Cruises. Castro has taken on a new role at Scenic Group USA as it focuses on brand differentiation and storytelling in the luxury river, ocean, and expedition cruise segment.

Kimberly D. Stone, M.B.A. '04, was included in Billboard’s Women In Music Top Executives 2023 list.

Belkys Torres, M.A. '04, has been promoted to the inaugural position of associate vice provost for inclusive excellence at the University of Pittsburgh. She aims to expand the university’s commitment to equity and inclusion by fostering collaboration and breaking down structural barriers for underrepresented student groups.

Brendan A. McQuaid, J.D. '05, founded McQuaid Injury Law, PLLC, providing personal injury services in Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, and Florida.

Alison J. Smart, B.F.A. '05, is a Grist 50 honoree. The Grist 50 list, presented in partnership with the Clinton Global Initiative, showcases 50 individuals who have found unique ways to address pressing issues of our time—spanning policy, fashion, technology, food systems, comedy, music, clean energy, and more—reflecting the vibrant and inclusive nature of the climate movement.

Eric S. Kane, J.D. '06, LL.M.P. '06, was awarded the 2022 National Professional Advisor of the Year Award by the American Cancer



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Society (ACS) for his outstanding work in promoting charitable estate planning and securing future gifts exceeding \$5 million for ACS. He also was recognized for his dedication to the ACS mission and his leadership role in their Nationwide Gift Planning Advisory Council.

Justin C. Shepherd, B.B.A. '06, has been elected chair of the Association of American Universities Data Exchange and promoted to associate vice provost at Emory University.

Ivan L. Hernandez, M.F.A. '07, published the novel "Island Vulnerable,"—an Amazon Instant Best Seller, which launched in Miami at the Actors' Playhouse. The book started off as a screenplay in 2005, while Hernandez was enrolled as a University student.

Kali Martin-Schick, B.A. '07, joined the National Medal of Honor Museum as the senior historian.

James J. Curnin, B.L.A. '08, was honored at the awards program and profiled within South Florida's Business Journal 40 Under 40 Awards special publication.

Johnathon V. Jadvani, M.M. '08, received an invitation for his group, the Liberty HS Percussion Ensemble, to perform a showcase concert at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention in the fall of 2023.

Brendan M. Merrill, B.S.C. '08, co-produced the film "Under My Skin," which debuted at the Raindance Film Festival, where it received six awards. He is developing a book series titled "The Tale of Mordred," which will be released in early 2024.

Derek D. Nankivil, M.S.B.E. '08, was awarded Patent of the Year by Johnson & Johnson Vision for a contact lens designed for presbyopia.

Benjamin L. Nussbaum, B.B.A. '08, was honored at the awards program and profiled within South Florida's Business Journal 40 Under 40 Awards special publication.

Michael Sarrow, M.F.A. '08, produced the independent film "Smile as You Kill." It premiered in Los Angeles at the TCL Chinese Theatres in Hollywood during the Silicon Beach Film Festival.

John D. Sparks, M.B.A. '08, completed the 2023 Tokyo Marathon in 3:41:05 and became an Abbott

Six Star Finisher. He received this honor for completing all 6 of the World Major Marathons.

Claudia A. Larrea, B.A. '09, M.S.Ed. '13, started a new position as grants and programs manager for Beyond Sport.

Michael V. Rangel, B.B.A. '09, was honored at the awards program and profiled within South Florida's Business Journal 40 Under 40 Awards special publication.

Elizabeth L. Vieito-Smith, M.S.N. '09, D.N.P. '13, chief nursing officer for UHealth/UMHC—University of Miami Hospital and Clinics, has been reelected to serve a two-year term on the Nursing Consortium of Florida's Board of Directors, citing her 35 years of nursing leadership experience and dedication to help strengthen the nursing community.

2010s

Alexander Ruiz, M.B.A. '10, was honored at the awards program and profiled within South Florida's Business Journal 40 Under 40 Awards special publication.

Ricardo E. Zulueta, M.F.A. '10, Ph.D. '14, received a prestigious 2023 South Florida Cultural Consortium Artist Fellowship from the Miami-Dade Department of Cultural Affairs and The Ellices Creator Award from Oolite Arts.

Elsbeth G. Black-Carpenter, B.S. '11, is happily married and had her first child this fall. She enjoys serving her community as a family physician in the Lehigh Valley of Pennsylvania.

Michelle E. Burgett, B.S. '11, was hired as science division chair to run the science department at Woodstock High School.

Christina Singh, B.A. '11, runs a financial planning practice in New York City.

Ryan A. Zangeneh, B.S.B.A. '11, LL.M.E. '18, joined Fox Rothschild LLP in New York as an associate in the taxation and wealth planning department. Zangeneh focuses his practice on tax, trust, and estate planning for high-net-worth individuals. He assists clients in minimizing gift, estate, and generation-skipping taxes and in the creation of wills and revocable trusts.

Christopher R. Callahan, J.D. '12, LL.M. '12, M.B.A. '13, is the co-chair of the International Taxation & Wealth Planning Practice at Fox Rothschild LLP. He was selected to the 40 Under 40 List by the South Florida Business Journal, which spotlights professionals for their leadership, success in business, and contributions to their communities.

Taylor A. Grenda, B.S.C. '12, joined FOX 5 in Washington, D.C., as the morning meteorologist.

Zachary Tohen, B.A. '12, joined Fox Rothschild LLP in Dallas as an associate in the Litigation Department.

Bibi Katsev, B.A. '13, is the new executive director of Teach For America for its Dallas-Fort Worth region.

Alexander J. Monje, B.S.C. '13, J.D. '17, joined 10X Capital, a NY-based alternative investment firm and asset manager as executive director, general counsel.

Jeremy Shir, J.D. '13, joined the land use and zoning practice group at Shutts & Bowen, bringing eight years of experience representing developers, property owners, companies, and investors in obtaining development approvals and permits, as well as specializing in negotiations between homeowners and condominium associations and developers.

Lauren M. Spahn, M.M. '13, J.D. '13, a partner at Shackelford, Bowen, McKinley & Norton, LLP, specializing in entertainment and business litigation, earned a spot on Billboard magazine's 2023 list of Top Music Lawyers, recognized for her work in talent and litigation.

Sean T. Adkins, M.P.A. '14, was appointed town manager of Saint Albans, Vermont.

Colleen M. Farrelly, M.S. '14, partnered with No Starch Press for the publishing of her book, "The Shape of Data," which explores algorithms through geometry and practical scientific applications of data analysis. It features Farrelly's journey from her biostatistics master's degree to her current role as the chief data scientist at Statisclysm LLC, aiding startups with technology, funding, and regulatory guidance through data science and machine learning.

Benjamin N. Birns, B.S.C. '15, joined CHEQ as the director of partnership development for the Miami-based mobile order and social gifting platform.

Rob Cancio, M.A. '15, Ph.D. '18, won his reelection to the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District.

Samuel C. Katz, B.A. '15, joined the Houston office of Am Law 100 law firm Akerman LLP.

Eric R. Louderback, M.A. '15, Ph.D. '18, was appointed to the Harvard Medical School faculty as an instructor in November 2021.

Raul A. Velarde, B.S.En.E. '15, M.S.C.E. '15, joined CP Group as their director of environment, social, and governance.

Xeba H. Zareie, B.S.C. '15, founded a functional food company called Preme in 2022.

Michelle E. Jimenez, B.A.M.A. '16, M.S.Ed. '20, received recognition for a student earning the top score in the work for Cambridge Environmental Management.

Danielle E. Schimmenti, B.S.M.A.S. '16, graduated with her Ph.D. in Geology from Texas A&M University in August 2023.

Darik Hoff, M.S.F. '17, transitioned to RBC Wealth Management as lead financial advisor and portfolio manager in Seattle.

Yukun Pei, B.S. '17, received a Master of Music at NYU Steinhardt Music Technology and an advanced Certificate in Tonmeister Studies in 2021.

Kai H. Weitekamper, B.S.M.E. '17, was promoted to senior supervisor of the Machine Shop at Abbott Neuromodulation in 2022.

Andre K. Buchanan, B.A. '18, launched Athletech, a sports technology company.

Carolyn Dueñas, M.B.A. '18, is a contributing author to Hispanic Stars Rising Volume 2.

Julio M. Pimentel, M.S. '18, received his Ph.D. in cancer biology.

Michelle D. Williams, B.S. '18, graduated from medical school in May of 2023.

Gabrielle M. Argimon, B.M. '19, a rising 3L, played a pivotal

role in the School of Law's victory at the Young Lawyer's Florida Bar Robert Orseck Moot Court Competition by receiving the Best Oralist Award.

Kyle Sonlin, B.B.A. '19, co-founder and CEO of Security Token Market—a media and data analytics company focused on digital, tokenized assets that utilize blockchain technology—announced the publication of the book "Blockchain Explained: Your Ultimate Guide to the Tokenization of Finance," which covers a wide range of topics in the blockchain space.

2020s

Matthew D. Grossi, Ph.D. '21, was selected as a data scientist with the NOAA Fisheries Southeast

Fisheries Science Center to oversee innovative data management solutions and cutting-edge research in machine learning and workflow automation.

Oswald A. Joseph, B.B.A. '21, M.S.Tx. '22, is an associate with Alvarez & Marsal's practice in Miami.

Victoria A. Nordquist, B.S.B.A. '21, started a new career in real estate private equity.

Emma G. Pitcairn, B.A. '21, is studying for her master's degree in education at Vanderbilt University.

Olivia A. Watts, B.A.M.A. '21, after moving to the Washington, D.C.-area in 2022, got her first job as a billing representative at a radiation oncology clinic in Rockville, Maryland, which made her realize

her passion for creating change in the national health care system.

Marissa N. Katz, B.M. '22, is doing an accelerated law school program focusing on music law.

Evelina A. Khodykina, B.A. '22, is a law school student at Florida International University and is working as a real estate agent.

Juan P. Quintero, M.S. '22, moved to Silicon Valley last summer to begin his career in consulting.

Timothy B. Callahan, B.S.B.A. '23, started working as a personal banking analyst on the Mass Cobrands Portfolio team at Citi in its New York office.

Geethika Kataru, B.A. '23, received an internship at Starz through the TV Academy's internship program.

James S. Lu, B.S.M.A.S. '23, is an air permitting consultant with Trinity Consultants in Orlando.

Aria D. Modirmassihai, B.S.I.E. '23, is working full time at Citi in San Francisco working as a sales analyst.

Mikaela C. Sanders, B.S.B.A. '23, is working as an associate product marketing manager at Google.

Juliette A. Valle, B.A. '23, with a background in musical theater and political science, is Miss Florida and an advocate for diversity in pageantry. She is aspiring to become the next Hispanic Miss America and is promoting Hispanic representation, all while actively engaging in charity work and leveraging her musical talent to support various causes. ■

The University of Miami Alumni Association notes the passing of the following graduates.

In Memoriam

1940s

Priscilla Helmers, B.B.A. '45
Anita Wander, B.A. '46
Edward F. Delaplaine, B.B.A. '47
Emerson L. Allsworth, B.B.A. '48, J.D. '52
Gerald S. Harris, B.S. '48
Gloria C. Deuel, B.B.A. '49

1950s

Richard W. Goldberg, B.B.A. '50, J.D. '52
David Z. Sokol, B.B.A. '50
Irving A. Beyda, B.B.A. '51
Carl I. Cohen, B.A. '51
Lorraine K. Feuer, B.B.A. '51
Bertrand A. Goudreau, B.B.A. '51
John G. Gray, B.B.A. '51
H. I. Levy, J.D. '51
Margot A. Mazeau, B.A. '51
Mary W. Pingle, B.S. '51
William C. Zophres, B.S.C.E. '51
Robert A. Koppen, J.D. '52
Herbert A. Sprigle, B.A. '52, M.S. '55
Jack Hazen, B.S. '53
Harry C. Mallios, B.Ed. '53, M.Ed. '66, Ed.D. '70

Elsa E. Caldwell, B.S. '54
Louise H. Courtelis, B.S. '54
J. David Covalt, B.B.A. '54
Richard O. Dowling, B.B.A. '54, J.D. '67
Charles K. George, J.D. '54
Dagmar R. Henney, B.S. '54, M.S. '56
Robert S. Newman, B.S.E.E. '54
Byron F. Cirlin, B.S. '55
Donald F. Light, B.B.A. '55
Patsy R. Moffett, B.Ed. '55
Lawrence E. Ogle, B.A. '55
Jerry V. Wilkey, B.A. '55, J.D. '57
William J. Bean, B.S. '56
Allan P. Heard, B.Ed. '56
Linda S. Lentini, B.A. '56
Robert R. Lerman, B.B.A. '56
John Underwood, B.A. '56
Gay S. Voss, B.Ed. '56
J Melvin Chaves, B.B.A. '57
Bernard P. Herskowitz, B.B.A. '57
Carlos N. Quijano, B.B.A. '57
John F. Corrigan, B.S.M.E. '58
Barbara Gillman, B.A. '58
Margaret M. Kunz, B.A. '58
Fernando J. Valdivia, B.A. '58
Russell P. Chaiser, B.S.M.E. '59
Grace S. Hall, J.D. '59

Marta Weeks Wulf

Marta Weeks Wulf, who became a University of Miami Board of Trustee member in 1983 and was the first woman to chair the institution's board, passed away on Sept. 1 at the age of 93. She served on numerous boards and committees and was a passionate benefactor to the University and especially the Frost School of Music. She influenced nearly all disciplines through her service on visiting committees for the Frost School; the Rosenstiel School of Marine, Atmospheric, and Earth Science; the College of Arts and Sciences; the Miami Herbert Business School; and the then-School of Continuing Studies.

"Marta's intellectual curiosity, leadership, and generosity of spirit made her a force for good," University of Miami President Julio Frenk. "We will miss her, and our hearts go out to her loved ones at this difficult time."

Laurie Silvers, B.A. '74, J.D. '77, chair of the University's Board of Trustees, described Weeks Wulf as "a visionary who put her heart into serving her community. She was a role model to all of us on the board and we will continue to draw inspiration from her servant leadership and her legacy of kindness and generosity."

Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Weeks Wulf received her early education in Utah and earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Stanford University. After she married Austin Weeks in 1951, she lived in Utah, Colorado, California, and Maryland before moving to Florida in 1967. In 2008, she married Karleton Wulf, who passed away in 2020.

Weeks Wulf is survived by a son, Kermit Weeks; a daughter, Leslie Davies, B.S.Ed. '85; and three grandchildren.



In Memoriam

Barry J. Materson, B.S. '59,
M.D. '62, M.B.A. '93
Edwin C. Ratiner, B.B.A. '59,
J.D. '61
Jack H. Tendrich, B.Ed. '59
Hazel H. White, B.Ed. '59

1960s

Catherine F. Billings, B.Ed. '60
James J. Blosser, B.B.A. '60,
J.D. '65
Sheldon A. Dunkel, B.Ed. '60
Sonia W. Roth, B.A. '60
Adon C. Taft, M.A. '60
Barbara L. Benson, B.S. '61
Margaret A. Schwartzburg,
B.A. '61
Richard A. Bailey, B.A. '62,
J.D. '65
Ruth L. Carpenter, B.S.Ed. '62
Howard N. Galbut, B.B.A. '62,
J.D. '65
Joseph D. Grier, B.A. '62
Robert A. Miller, B.B.A. '62
Philip M. Sassoon, J.D. '62
Vincent R. Napoli, B.A. '63,
M.A. '65
Louis P. Ricci, B.M. '63,
M.M. '64
Constance J. Stemper,
M.Ed. '63
Gil F. Acosta, B.M. '64
Charles A. Adimaro, B.A. '65
Joan H. Cauley, B.S.N. '65
Francis J. McRickard, B.A. '65
Robert L. Satz, B.B.A. '65
Jane A. Feinstein, B.S.N. '66
Dino Giamatti, B.A. '66
Charles Kantor, B.A. '66,
J.D. '69
Carlos A. Montaner, M.A. '66
Ralph H. Polster, B.B.A. '66
James D. Ruppert, B.A. '66
Harold W. Spaet, B.A. '66,
J.D. '69
Steven H. Brotman, B.A. '67,
J.D. '71
William O. Brown, B.A. '67,
M.A. '75
Ronald M. Friedman, J.D. '67
Andris A. Zoltners, B.S. '67
Suzanne G. Brawner, B.A. '69
Gregg A. Gibson, B.B.A. '69
Glen Z. Goldberg, B.A. '69,
J.D. '72

1980s

Charles A. Hazday, B.B.A. '81
William G. Liston, J.D. '81
David G. Orrell, M.B.A. '81
Teresa E. Curtis, B.B.A. '82
Nanette J. Fox, J.D. '82
Joel G. MacDonald, LL.M.O. '82
Ricardo E. Pines, LL.M. '82
Hilda S. Mitrani, B.M. '84
Richard A. Jaffe, M.D. '85
Jacqueline R. Edelstein,
M.S.N. '86
Warren R. Janowitz, J.D. '86
Todd A. Stanish, B.B.A. '86
Maryann K. McLane, B.S.Ed. '87
Linda Battista, M.S.Ed. '89
James W. R. Hacker, B.M. '89
Daniel J. Levy, M.D. '89
Robert G. Squillante, M.D. '89

1990s

Brooks K. Bates, Ph.D. '90
Cynthia I. Boyer, M.D. '90
David A. Cobham, M.D. '90
Trafford Dick, LL.M.T. '90
Juan M. Furne, M.B.A. '90
Ketty P. Gonzalez, M.S. '92,
Ph.D. '98
Denise H. Harris, M.B.A. '92
M.S.N. '92
Amanda M. McGovern, J.D. '92
Tanya Rishmavy, B.B.A. '92
Mildred E. Smith, Ed.S. '93
Justin F. Kaplan, B.B.A. '97
Gordon H. Pimm, M.A.L.S. '98

1970s

Mary P. Alloway, B.Ed. '70
Sheldon Kerper, B.S.M.E. '70
Patrick W. Matthews, M.M. '70
Mercedes A. Scopetta, M.S. '70,
Ph.D. '72
John O. Truitt, B.Ed. '70
Eleanor C. Zahner, Ed.S. '70
Edward J. Barrett, B.A. '71
Neil L. Eisenberg, B.M. '71,
M.M. '73
Frederick W. Koehl, B.A. '71

Benito A. Carmona,
B.S.C.E. '72
Fernando I. de Zarraga,
B.Ed. '72, M.S.Ed. '79
Helene R. Kovens, B.Ed. '72
Robert F. McRoberts, LL.M. '73
Sharlane M. Packar, B.Ed. '73
Ronald J. Pennella, B.Ed. '73
Michael S. Prudenti, M.Ed. '74
Susan R. Seigel, B.F.A. '74
Jon V. Halpern, M.D. '75
Joy V. Malakoff, B.A. '75
Jerry I. Meyers, J.D. '75
Elias N. Ede, M.B.A. '76
Ruth W. Greenfield, D.M.A. '76
John A. Wicker, B.M. '76
Mildred S. Crowder, B.A. '77,
J.D. '83
Frederick F. Monroe, M.A. '77
Richard E. Bortle, B.Arch. '78
Joel E. Cohen, M.D. '78
Randall L. Beauregard, B.A. '79

2000s

Alice M. Hudder, Ph.D. '00
Marcos V. Suero, B.A. '00

2010s

Adam R. Cavender,
B.S.M.A.S. '14
Nivit Poochareon, M.B.A. '15
Dulaney C. Logan, B.B.A. '19

Richard Bookman

Richard Bookman, an innovative leader in biomedical research, academic programs, and health policy for the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, died Oct. 3 at the age of 71. He was an associate professor of molecular and cellular pharmacology, senior advisor for program development and policy, and director of the UHealth Care Lab for the University of Miami Health System.

From 1997 to 2011, Bookman served as associate dean for graduate studies, associate dean for research and graduate studies, and executive dean for research and research training at the medical school. As the University’s vice provost for research, he unified the research administration group and launched units dedicated to research reporting, research strategic planning, research space planning, and initiation of clinical trials.

In addition to his research, Bookman served the Miller School in a variety of leadership roles, including directing the M.D./Ph.D. program for 12 years.

“Dr. Bookman was a wonderful colleague renowned for his farsighted vision and deep commitment to our university,” said Dr. Henri R. Ford, dean and chief academic officer for the Miller School. “His passing is truly a loss for our medical school.”

Neil Schneiderman

Neil Schneiderman, the James L. Knight Professor of Psychology, passed away on Oct. 6 at the age of 86. He joined the Department of Psychology in the College of Arts and Sciences in 1965 and helped to shape its direction for the past half-century.

During his time at the University, Schneiderman was awarded more than \$125 million in research grants. He led clinical trials involving behavioral management of coronary heart disease and HIV and population-based epidemiological studies, as well as basic research on psychosocial/behavioral contributions of stressors to cardiovascular risk and biological disease processes.

During his illustrious career, Schneiderman published more than 450 journal articles and edited or wrote 18 books and monographs.

Maureen Seaton

Maureen Seaton, professor and former director of the Creative Writing Program in the College of Arts and Sciences, died in August at the age of 76. She joined the University in 2002, and over the course of her career as a poet authored 14 solo poetry books and co-authored 13 titles. She is the recipient of two Pushcart Prizes, and her memoir, “Sex Talks to Girls,” received a Lambda Literary Award in 2009.

Names recorded as of Nov. 9, 2023. We research each name, but errors can occur. Please email any corrections or clarifications to alumni@miami.edu or call 305-284-2872.

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Vice President



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Vice President



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Jennifer Vega, a motion pictures and advertising major with a minor in art, works on the finishing touches of a self-portrait.



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