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Academic News

Secrets of the Swamp

## Academic News and Happenings

### Faculty Senate Meeting Feb 19

Please join us tomorrow February 19<sup>th</sup> for the Faculty Senate meeting in the Reitz Union Chamber at 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

View the agenda at: <https://fora.aa.ufl.edu/docs//78///2025-2026//2-19-26.Agenda.Senatep.pdf>.

The live stream is available at: <https://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/Mediasite/Channel/8456cbab10b449868436ee51ddb84dc45f/watch/87325aa8ce06463dba927bb634a27fbd1d?sortBy=most-recent>

### Smathers Libraries and Center for Latin American Studies Feb 20

A graphic for a book presentation. At the top, the title 'First-Wave Feminism and Women's Civil and Political Rights in South America' is written in white on a dark blue background, with 'BY CARMEN DIANA DEERE' below it. Below this is a smaller image of the book cover, which features the title and author's name on a black background. To the right of the book cover is a white text box with a blue border containing a description of the book: 'First-Wave Feminism and Women's Civil and Political Rights in South America is a seven-country study of the interaction between feminists, jurists and legislators in the reform of married women's property rights and the attainment of suffrage in the first half of the twentieth century.' Below the text box is a 'BOOK PRESENTATION' section listing the speakers: JULIANA RESTREPO SANÍN (Assistant Professor of Political Science, UF), MAGDALENA LEÓN (Professor of Sociology, Universidad Nacional de Colombia), DANAYA WRIGHT (Sessums/Sohn Professor of Constitutional Law, UF), and CARMEN DIANA DEERE (Distinguished Professor Emerita of Latin American). At the bottom of the graphic is a black and white photograph of a group of women from the early 20th century.

Studies and Food & Resource Economics  
MODERATED BY  
**LEONARDO A. VILLALÓN**  
Interim Director, UF Center for Latin American Studies

**FRIDAY 20 FEBRUARY**  
**SMATHERS RM 100 5:00 PM**

**UF** Center for Latin American Studies  
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

**UF** Smathers Library  
George A. Smathers Libraries  
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

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## New training available for AI in Higher Education Teaching Excellence



A brand-new, faculty-focused training series just launched to help UF instructors gain a deeper understanding of artificial intelligence. The 3-course “AI Adventure” series explores the transformative potential of AI, how AI systems work, ethical implications for AI in education, and ways AI can be applied to their own teaching. A crew of top UF faculty designed and developed this course series, in collaboration with the AI<sup>2</sup> Center, the Center for Teaching Excellence, and the Center for Instructional Technology and Training.

More info [here](#)

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## Congratulations January Passport to Great Teaching Completers

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To participate in the passport to great teaching program, visit the [Center for Teaching Excellence's website](#).

#### CIRTL Associate Certificate

- Mengjun Wang

#### Great Teaching Certificate

- Oliver Grundmann

#### Great Teaching for New Faculty Certificate

- David Lucier

#### Artificial Intelligence in Teaching and Learning Certificate

- Tyler Carney

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## UF Center for Latin American Studies 74th Annual Conference

UF CENTER FOR LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES  
74<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Sunday, February 22 – Friday, February 27, 2026  
University of Florida Gainesville, FL

THE  
**POWER** OF  
CONNECTIONS

HARVESTING **LESSONS** AND  
STRENGTHENING **COALITIONS** FOR  
**AMAZONIAN CONSERVATION**

THE POWER OF CONNECTIONS  
HARVESTING LESSONS AND STRENGTHENING COALITIONS FOR AMAZONIAN CONSERVATION

- Bacardi keynote speaker
- Plenary talks
- Poster session
- Training clinics & discussion forums



The Center for Latin American Studies and the Tropical Conservation Development Program are hosting the conference “The Power of Connections: Harvesting Lessons and Strengthening Coalitions for Amazonian Conservation.” This event is part of a 19-month-long project, generously funded by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, that has brought together experts from across the Amazon region to share knowledge and develop effective conservation strategies. Please join us for plenary talks, training clinics and discussion forums, a poster session, and insights from the grant team’s collaborative workshops!

#### Monday, February 23

- 1 - 5:30 pm | Smathers Room 100 | Discussion forums

#### Tuesday, February 24

- 8:30 am - 12 pm | Smathers Room 100 | Power of Connections project
- 1:30 - 5 pm | Smathers Room 100 | Plenary talks
- 5 - 7 pm | Smathers Room 100 | Poster session

#### Friday, February 27

- 8:30 am - 4:30 pm | Holiday Inn University Center Ballroom | Conservation training clinics

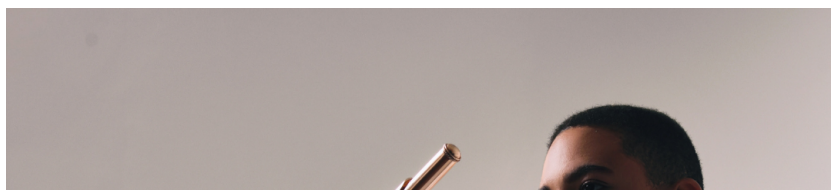
[More information](#)  
[Register to attend](#)

### Tech Byte: Remediate Complex Content for Accessibility Feb 24

Course instructors are invited to attend UF Information Technology’s upcoming Tech Byte event on Tuesday, Feb. 24, from 10-11 a.m. Registration is open via [Zoom](#).

Led by instructional designer Laura Jervis, this live, virtual Tech Byte will introduce techniques for remediating complex content to prepare for the [updated regulations](#) for Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Featured techniques include providing descriptive audio options, remediating handwritten notes, describing formulas and graphs, and what it takes to remediate PDFs using paid tools.

### UFPA Presents





**Anthony Trionfo, flute**

Sunday, March 1, 2026 | 7:30 pm | Squitieri Studio Theatre (Phillips Center)

Event Page: [bit.ly/4bLIYkU](https://bit.ly/4bLIYkU)

Anthony Trionfo's flute doesn't just sing — it dances. With effortless charm and dazzling technique, Trionfo brings the great chamber music you know to life in a way that feels fresh and personal. Expect a program that is playful, thoughtful, and full of surprises, as this trailblazing flautist reshapes the classical landscape. Experience the “soaring flute” of Anthony Trionfo.

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**VOCES8**

Tuesday, March 3, 2026 | 7:30 pm | Phillips Center

Event Page: [bit.ly/4ciCie4](https://bit.ly/4ciCie4)

VOCES8's stunning performances are both emotionally moving and beautifully executed. VOCES8 approaches music with incredible skill and depth, creating a rich and layered sound that feels almost sacred. Their transcendent harmonies will lead you through centuries of music, from contemporary pop covers to timeless traditional and classical works. Don't miss this rare U.S. appearance!

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**bang bang**

Tuesday, March 10 + Wednesday, March 11, 2026 | 7:30 pm | Squitieri Studio Theatre (Phillips Center)

Event Page: [bit.ly/3ZZyc3a](https://bit.ly/3ZZyc3a)

This *Leading Edge* performance goes beyond just dance and self-expression, exploring the idea of pushing oneself past limits, where the body shows its most intense and raw feelings, both fighting and freeing itself. Experience this trippy, multidimensional journey for two nights only and prepare for a high-energy performance that will activate your senses!

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**UFCE Learn over Lunch webinar Mar 11**



# LEARN OVER LUNCH

## COMPLIANCE AND ETHICS UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

**UF Compliance and Ethics and UF Health Compliance: Where Roles Align and Differ**, will explore where these teams' responsibilities overlap and where they diverge, with practical, real-world examples you can apply to daily work. Our speakers will be Chelsey Clements, Chief Compliance, Ethics, and Privacy Officer (University of Florida), and Robert Michalski, Vice President and Chief Compliance & Privacy Officer (UF Health).

Register [here](#) to join this fifty-minute webinar designed to strengthen cross-department coordination and reinforce a culture of compliance across the UF enterprise. This webinar will be recorded and will be available on our Learn over Lunch [webpage](#) soon after the webinar.

### Occupational Therapy hosts 10th Annual Sandra Edwards Colloquium Mar 28

	
<p><b>Keynote Speaker</b></p> <p>Dr. Sherrilene Classen, Professor and immediate past Chair of the Department of Occupational Therapy at the University of Florida, will deliver a visionary keynote on an integral model of leadership and spirituality—a framework designed to empower current and future academic and clinical leaders.</p>	<p><b>Featured Presentation</b></p> <p>Dr. Monika Ardelt, Professor of Sociology at the University of Florida, will share her research on wisdom development and spiritual growth, offering insights that resonate across disciplines.</p>

The Department of Occupational Therapy proudly invites you to the **10th Sandra Edwards Colloquium**, a milestone event dedicated to advancing the future of our profession.

The 2026 theme, **“Envisioning the Future of Occupational Therapy: Integrating Science, Practice, and Transformational Leadership,”** sets the stage for an inspiring day of leadership, innovation, and collaboration.

Visit [here](#) for more information

### Law School Events

#### OnlyFans, More Than Taxpayers: Toward a Compliance Aesthetic in the Gig Economy

Bridget Crawford, University Distinguished Professor and Professor of Law, Pace University Elizabeth Haub School of Law

Friday, February 20, 11:30, HH 359

Please contact [brauner@law.ufl.edu](mailto:brauner@law.ufl.edu) for more information

Part of the [University of Florida Levin College of Law Graduate Tax Colloquia](#)

#### Shadow Jurisdiction

Ben Johnson, Professor of Law, University of Florida Levin College of Law  
 Monday, February 23 at noon in Bailey Event Space  
 Please contact [ruthm@law.ufl.edu](mailto:ruthm@law.ufl.edu) for more information  
 Part of the [Marshall M. Criser Distinguished Internal Faculty Workshop Series](#)

## Register NOW for the 2026 UF Assessment in Higher Education Conference

# I Assessment

Registration is now open for this year's conference on April 6 & 7 at the Hilton UF Conference Center. Opening with a keynote address from Dr. Amelia Parnell, President and CEO of NASPA, this conference includes a range of sessions about assessment, curriculum, and tools to support a common goal of translating assessment to student success. To register, visit <https://assessment.aa.ufl.edu/2026-assessment-conference/>

### Secrets of the Swamp

If we knew where to find a crown of oak leaves, we'd get one for **Dr. Victoria Pagán**, UF professor of classics.

Instead, she'll have to settle for the Provost's Pen and UF Travel Mug: The prizes for successfully completing last week's *Secrets of the Swamp* puzzle.

Here are Dr. Pagán's answers (expanded slightly in parenthesis):

- A. Cheers on the Gators, never says a word: **Albert (the alligator mascot)**.
- B. Stays out all night, never goes to a bar: **The bats (at Lake Alice)**.
- C. Everyone knows her first name, no one knows her last: **Alberta (the other alligator mascot. Alice ((as in Lake Alice)) also accepted)**.
- D. Rare mammalian, not reptilian, tribute: **Heisman Trophy winner statues (at the stadium)**.
- E. Always heard, never seen: **The carillon (used to play the bells in Century Tower)**.
- F. Place for contemplation, not worship: **The Baughman Center**.
- G. Fifty-years-old-plus, fresh every day: **Krishna lunch**.

### Doors of Distinction





Snatch your very own Provost's Pen and UF travel mug by becoming the first to correctly identify the four UF structures accessed via these doors in an email to [ahover@ufl.edu](mailto:ahover@ufl.edu).

Share your thoughts or submit items by **emailing the Provost Faculty Update staff.**

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