

Happy Thanksgiving!

With the year winding down and the holidays right around the corner, this issue of From the Dean's Desk will focus on the UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management faculty who know all things about food and beverages. After all, what are the holidays without good food and drinks to share with friends and family?

Here at UCF Rosen College some fine chefs teach our restaurant management and food service curriculum and work with our students on managing restaurants, working with catering facilities and if they are entrepreneurs, developing their own businesses. They know the business from knife skills to the supply chain, from front of house to back of house. We also have faculty who know what beverages pair well with what foods. They teach our students about developing their palates and even work with those who want to become sommeliers.



One of our chef instructors who teaches UCF Rosen College students how to create amazing menus is [Jonathan "Jay" Judy](#). Chef Judy earned his culinary credentials while working as an apprentice at a Michelin Guide rated restaurant before working in various levels of the professional kitchen, from line cook to kitchen manager all the way up to executive chef. Chef Judy specializes in fine dining, catering and banquet preparation and his students have prepared delectable, mouth-watering meals for VIPs, industry partners, and external groups, who use the college's event spaces for corporate meetings and trainings. Reviews have always been exceptional so we know that Chef Judy is imparting the right knowledge to the students who will one day go on to work in the food and beverage industry.

On the beverage side, [Dr. Robin Back](#) shares his knowledge of grapes with UCF Rosen College students. Dr. Back has over 25 years of experience in the retail, travel and tourism, and alcoholic beverage industries in South Africa, the United Kingdom, the Caribbean, and the United States. He teaches "Exploring Wines of the World" and the "History and Culture of Wine". Dr. Back's professional memberships include the Society of Wine Educators, and the American Association of Wine Economists. His family owns a vineyard in his home country of South Africa and produces wines under the label Fairview's Goats do Roam. Dr. Back presents at many international conferences and conducts research on wine tourism and the industry as a whole.

When you sit down for your Thanksgiving dinner, think of the faculty and staff at UCF Rosen College who work diligently throughout each semester, teaching a comprehensive curriculum that covers both the hedonic and the utilitarian, from the great foods and drinks you consume to how they got from the supply chain to your table.

Get to know them all <https://hospitality.ucf.edu/rosen-college-faculty/>.

Charge On!

*Youcheng Wang*

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You may find previous issues of "From the Dean's Desk" [HERE!](#)