



From the Dean's Desk

The foundation that UCF Rosen College is built on is hospitality! When the college became a stand-alone institution 15 years ago, the curriculum was anchored by principles that we would share knowledge that encompassed the “generous reception and entertainment of guests, visitors, or strangers”. Now, more than ever, those principles span across many disciplines and industries. In this communique, From the Dean’s Desk, we take a look at our hospitality management degree program, the building blocks of many successful businesses from hotels to healthcare.

UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management is a true innovator in hospitality education, offering five undergraduate academic degrees, three Master’s programs and a Ph.D. in Hospitality Management. When students enroll to study at Rosen College, it is with the knowledge that every degree program will have hospitality infused in the courses, not just the hospitality management degree. The Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management prepares students for leadership careers. Students learn all aspects of the industry, including finance, operations, customer service, human resources, marketing and communications, in order to build a solid foundation of skills that will help them secure positions in the top hospitality companies in the world. We have students who have careers in the hotels, cruise lines, theme parks, entertainment businesses, lodging, restaurants, funeral planning, yes funeral planning, hospitals and senior living. Every industry in the world is influenced by hospitality.



Our award-winning faculty offer students a global perspective on the hospitality industry as well as real-world experience, which enhances the classroom experience because they have actually practiced what they teach. Dr. Nan Hua, our recently appointed chair for the Department of Hospitality Management, earned his Ph.D. in Hotel, Restaurant and Institution Management at the School of Hospitality Management in Smeal College of Business from Pennsylvania State University. And then there’s Ms. Vicki Lavendol who draws on her contacts from industry to bring speakers to the classroom to share real-world experience with her students. Lavendol previously served as the Director of Leadership & Training at the Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center and was the Human Resources Operations Manager at the Walt Disney Company. Drs. Yun Ying (Susan) Zhong and Suja Chaulagain, our newly hired faculty members, will be teaching courses in our Senior Living Management (SLM) curriculum this fall. The SLM course of study will prepare future leaders of independent living, assisted living and advanced care homes to manage those businesses like world-class resorts. With faculty members like these and many others, our students are highly prepared upon graduation for managerial roles in the hospitality industry and beyond.

I am very proud to lead Rosen College as we advance into a new decade. Our degree programs, our faculty and staff make this college among the top five in the world for a higher education in hospitality.

Charge On!

Goucheng Wang

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