



From the Dean's Desk

As the year 2021 draws to a close, my thoughts **From the Dean's Desk** turn to all the things that I am grateful for at this most wonderful time of the year.

I am grateful for our faculty and staff who worked countless hours to maintain the high standards that UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management is known for, earning the college a #1 ranking in the nation and #2 in the world in the ShanghaiRankings. The faculty and staff's dedication to ensuring that this college is a global center of excellence when it comes to hospitality education, research, scholarship, industry engagement, and distinctive impact by embracing a Hospitality+ ecosystem as our strategy for curriculum development and teaching, makes this college exceptional, as it prepares the future leaders of a service dominant economy. I am grateful to see so many of our students back on campus for the fall semester, taking in-person classes after a year of virtual learning. I am grateful that our faculty was able to adjust so quickly to the virtual education landscape they faced from spring of 2020 to summer of 2021, and then to a hybrid way of teaching, sometimes in-person and sometimes via Zoom. Our undergraduate students were able to stay on track towards their degree programs goals and those who set out to graduate in four years are on their way to doing so.



The Covid-19 pandemic changed the face of hospitality and tourism. With the help of vaccines and practical health and safety guidelines, the industry is bouncing back and I am grateful to see our partners welcoming guests once again. I am grateful to hear the roar of the airlines as they soar overhead taking people on vacation and to see their loved ones after many, many months apart. I am grateful to see 100% of our students who are employed back in the workforce after the pandemic brought their internships and jobs to a halt.

While we have all endured many hardships over the past 18 months, there is so much to be grateful for, and I for one will adopt an attitude of gratitude during this holiday season. Charge On!



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