

**2022-2023**

**DEAN'S AMBASSADORS**

Supporters of the UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management,

I am delighted to introduce you to the 2022-2023 Rosen College Leadership Council (RCLC). This exemplary group of Dean's Student Ambassadors represent a commitment to the UCF Rosen College's three pillars of excellence: Leadership, Professionalism, and Service. These students embody the College's values and Service Promise as shown through the remarkable example they set.



The position of a RCLC Dean's Student Ambassador is unique as these students serve as advocates, advisors, and role models. RCLC members provide specialized experiences for both students and visitors of our college by sharing their unique experiences and showcasing their unparalleled passion for the college and the industry. Through their interactions, members of our communities are able to gain a true understanding of what the Rosen College and the spirit of hospitality is all about.

This booklet provides information on how each Rosen College Leadership Council member exemplifies leadership, professionalism, and service to the institution. RCLC students are committed to a variety of engagement activities including honor societies, mentorship programs, student organizations, LEAD Scholars, diversity committees, and philanthropy opportunities. This group can be seen around campus creating events for the student body, mentoring fellow peers, and developing initiatives that support other students' growth, development, and involvement in the campus community.

I am proud of the valuable contributions the Rosen College Leadership Council has made to our college. It is my hope that all stakeholders, supporters, and friends of the Rosen College will have the chance to connect with RCLC Dean's Student Ambassadors to experience, firsthand, their distinct professionalism, dedication to service, and exceptional leadership.

*Youcheng Wang*

Youcheng Wang, Ph.D. Dean  
UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management



ALEXA CAPUTO

**PRESIDENT / SENIOR**

Hometown

Cherry Hill, NJ

Major, Minor, & Certificate

Hospitality Management

*Certificate in Beverage*

*Management*

Favorite Course

History and Culture of

Wine

## Work Experience

VIP Services Concierge, Waldorf Astoria Orlando

Hilton HRCC Team Member Communications

Intern, Hilton Corporate

## Campus Involvement

Peer Mentor, Peer Outreach Mentoring Program

Member, Women's Club Volleyball Team

Member, Wine Club

## Honors

Eta Sigma Delta Honor Society

President's Honor Roll

Luxury Leadership Certification, JOR Hospitality Solutions

## Career Aspirations

To work in the Corporate Quality Assurance sector of hotel brands.

## Work Experience

Rotational Intern, Loews Hotels & Co.

Resort Operations Intern, Marriott Vacations

Worldwide

Building Manager, UCF Recreation & Wellness Center

## Campus Involvement

Festival Director, Rosen Life

Peer Mentor, Peer Outreach Mentoring Program

## Honors

Young SKAL Orlando Chapter

Latin American and Caribbean Scholarship

CFHLA Scholarship

Peer Mentor of the Year Award

## Career Aspirations

To be a manager in the hotel industry



KAREN BODDEN

**VICE PRESIDENT / SENIOR**

Hometown

La Ceiba, Honduras

Major

Hospitality Management

Favorite Course

Hospitality Communications



**SAMAR AL HASHMI**  
**JUNIOR**

**Hometown**

Muscat, Oman

**Majors**

Event Management  
*Marketing*

**Favorite Course**

Event Services

## Work Experience

Social Media & Store Manager, Amani Karim's  
Luxury Beauty and Spa

Volunteer, ITF Davis Cup NBO Golf Classic  
Final

Volunteer Director, UCF Homecoming

## Campus Involvement

Volunteer Director, UCF Homecoming

## Honors

President's Honor Roll

Dean's List

Omani Government Scholarship

## Career Aspirations

To work in the Ministry of Tourism in Oman  
to help develop and expand the tourism and  
hospitality sector of Oman.

## Work Experience

Front of house, Chick-Fil-A

Marketing Intern, Mall at Millenia

Food & Beverage Supervisor, Rosen Shingle Creek

Front Desk Agent, Rosen Shingle Creek

Hostess & Server, Seasons 52

Front Desk, Rosen College Student Services

## Campus Involvement

Member, President's Leadership Council

Mentee Support Leader & Mentee, POMP

President/ Founder, Cultures Around the World

Member, Rosen College Diversity Committee

Member, MUSLIM Student Association

Young Skal, Skal International Orlando

Secretary, Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association

Team Member, Rosen Knight-Thon

Rosen Area Council

## Honors

Toni Wisne Sabrina Foundation Scholarship

Harris Rosen Hospitality Management Scholarship

University of Central Florida Award

G.R.I.T Award

AHLA Foundation Scholarship

Arthur J. Packard Memorial Scholarship

Iris Larson Student scholarship

## Career Aspirations

Have her own company in social media and event planning



**JIDA AWA**  
**JUNIOR**

**Hometown**

Damascus, Syria

**Major**

Hospitality Management  
Information Technology

**Favorite Course**

Restaurant Management





CITLALI AYALA  
**SENIOR**

Hometown

Florida City, FL

Major & Minor

Hospitality Management  
*Business Administration*

Favorite Course

Restaurant Management

Work Experience

Event Concierge, Hyatt Regency Orlando

Front Desk Agent, Rosen Centre Hotel

Hostess & Runner, Stern Seafood

Staff Member, AmeriCorps

Campus Involvement

Peer Mentor, Peer Outreach Mentoring Program

Honors

POMP Mentee of the Year Award

Dean's List

Career Aspirations

To be a leader in the hospitality industry

Work Experience

Entrance Operations Intern, Universal Orlando  
Resort

Student Director, Rosen Life

Resident Assistant, Rosen College

Campus Involvement

President, Future Theme Park Leaders Association

Student Director, Rosen Life

Honors

Burnett Honors College

President's Honor Roll

Career Aspirations

To become a leader in the theme park industry.



CONSTANTIN CLAASSEN  
**SENIOR**

Hometown

Stuttgart, Germany

Major

Hospitality Management  
Event Management

Favorite Course

Managing the Employee  
Experience in Theme  
Parks



**BELLA CORTIER**  
**SENIOR**

**Hometown**

New Port Richey, FL

**Major**

Hospitality Management  
Theme Park Track

**Favorite Course**

Operational Issues in  
Theme Parks

**Work Experience**

Attraction Operations Safety & Compliance Intern,  
Universal Orlando Resort

Leadership Development Intern/Rides Group Supervisor,  
HersheyPark

Attractions Attendant, Universal Orlando Resort

Attractions Attendant, SeaWorld Orlando

**Campus Involvement**

Peer Mentor, Peer Outreach Mentoring Program

Member, Future Theme Park Leaders Association

Undergraduate Admissions Campus Ambassador

**Honors**

President's Honor Roll

Dean's List

CFHLA Scholarship

**Career Aspirations**

To be a Senior Manager of Attractions Operations at  
Universal Orlando Resort

**Work Experience**

Entertainment Character Performer, Walt Disney World

Resort Concierge, Walt Disney World Resort

Balloon Handler, Rubio Arts Corporation

Orientation Leader, UCF First Year Experience

Undergraduate Admissions Ambassador, UCF

Character Performer, Dreams That Glow Events

**Campus Involvement**

Member, Future Theme Park Leaders Association

Peer Mentor and Team Lead for the Health and Pompercise

Team, Peer Outreach Mentoring Program

OSSM Peer Mentor, UCF First Year Experience

**Honors**

Dean's List

LEAD Scholars Academy

CFHLA Scholarship Recipient

Harris Rosen Scholarship Recipient

Tourism Orlando Leadership Program Graduation Certificate

**Career Aspirations**

To be a Duty Manager of Hotel Operations within a well-  
known theme park.



**KATHY LI**

**SENIOR**

**Hometown**

East Brunswick, NJ

**Major**

Hospitality Management

**Favorite Course**

Introduction to  
Hospitality & Tourism



ALYSSA MARRESE

**JUNIOR**

Hometown

Littleton, MA

Major

Hospitality Management

Favorite Course

Cruiseline Operations

## Work Experience

Rooms Division Intern, Hyatt Regency Orlando  
Merchandise Hostess, Disney's Art of Animation  
Resort

Front of House Associate & Trainer, Gideon's  
Bakehouse at Disney Springs

## Campus Involvement

Mentor, Peer Outreach Mentoring Program  
Undergraduate Admissions Ambassador, Rosen  
College

Peer Mentor, Strategies for Success Course

## Honors

President's Honor Roll

Dean's List

## Career Aspirations

To be a future leader of the hospitality industry  
specializing in guest experiences and events.

## Work Experience

Seasonal Team Captain- Entrance Operations,

Universal's Volcano Bay

Entrance Operations Intern, Universal's Volcano Bay

Event Staff, Orlando Informer

Event Guide- Event Operations, Universal Studios

Attractions Attendant- Harry Potter and the Escape  
from Gringotts, Universal Studios

Orientation Team Leader, UCF Office of Student  
Involvement

## Campus Involvement

Secretary, Future Theme Park Leaders Association

## Honors

Dean's List

IAAPA Scholarship Recipient

## Career Aspirations

To be a future leader in Theme Park Operations.



MACLANE MAUTZ

**JUNIOR**

Hometown

St. Petersburg, FL

Major

Hospitality Management

Theme Parks &

Attractions Track

Favorite Course

Legal Environment





MIICHAEL MESTRE

**SOPHOMORE**

Hometown

Miami, FL

Major

Hospitality Management  
*Business Administration*

Favorite Course

Introduction to  
Hospitality

## Work Experience

Executive Assistant/Trainer, Ignite Fit Training  
Rowing Coach, Miami International Rowhouse  
Fan Services Supervisor and Food and Beverage  
Commissioner, Special Olympics USA Games 2022

## Campus Involvement

Spirit Splash Director, UCF Homecoming  
Selections Director, LEAD Scholars Academy  
Member, Catholic Campus Ministry

## Honors

Dean's List

LEAD Scholars Academy

## Career Aspirations

To be a general manager of a large resort.

## Work Experience

Golf Coach, First Tee of North Florida  
Relief Supervisor/ Server, Vicars Landing

## Campus Involvement

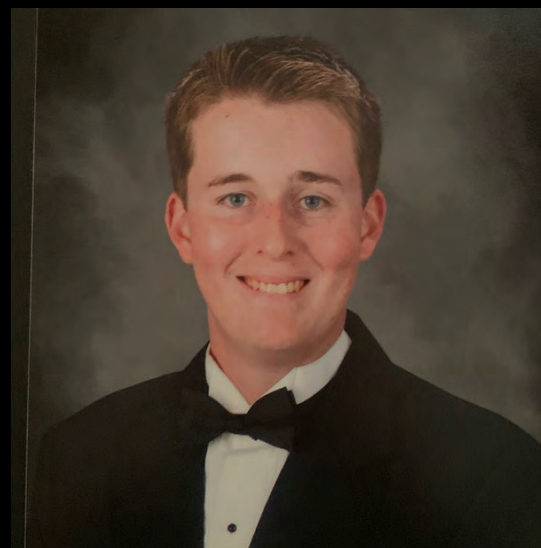
Chapter President, Club Management Association of  
America

## Honors

Eta Sigma Delta Honor Society  
Phi Eta Sigma Delta Honor Society  
LEAD Scholars Academy  
President's Honor Roll  
Dean's Honor Roll

## Career Aspirations

To be a General Manager in the Club Management  
Industry.



DANNY NEDDO

**JUNIOR**

Hometown

Ponte Vedra Beach, FL

Major & Minor

Hospitality Management  
*Certificate in Managing  
Sporting Events*

Favorite Course

Hospitality  
Communications





**AUTUMN OPPENHEIMER**  
**SENIOR**

**Hometown**

Clearwater, FL

**Major**

Hospitality Management  
*Certificate in Beverage Management*

**Favorite Course**

Lodging Operations

**Work Experience**

Guest Experience Expert & Learning Coordinator, The Ritz-Carlton

Intern, JOR Hospitality Solutions

Front Desk Agent, The Winnetu Oceanside Resort

**Campus Involvement**

President, National Society of Minorities in Hospitality

Vice President of Programs & Education, Knights Special Events Society

**Honors**

Dean's List

CFHLA Foundation Hospitality Scholarship

Pinnacle Vodka Scholarship

Top Ten Knight

Florida Bright Futures Academic Scholar

**Career Aspirations**

To be within Operations at a Luxury Hotel/ Resort.

**Work Experience**

Recreation Attendant, Four Seasons Orlando

Front Office Host, Hyatt Regency Orlando

Guest Arrivals, Sea World Orlando

**Campus Involvement**

Vice President, Cultures Around the World

**Honors**

President's Honor Roll

Dean's List

Harris Rosen Scholarship Recipient

Global UCF LAC Scholarship Recipient

CFHLA Scholarship Recipient

**Career Aspirations**

To own and manage a Boutique Hotel in Colombia or either work on Cruise Lines as a Senior Analyst.



**ANA PATINO**

**SENIOR**

**Hometown**

Colombia

**Major & Minor**

Hospitality Management

**Favorite Course**

Legal Environment



OLIVIA ROUDEBUSH

**SENIOR**

Hometown

Brussels, Belgium

Major & Minor

Event Management  
Marketing

Favorite Course

Guest Services  
Management

## Work Experience

Social Media Manager, DGBEK Studios

Wedding Planner Assistant, Taylor Rae Events

Event Sales Assistant, Orlando Wedding and  
Party Rentals

Venue Coordinator, The Balcony

Server, Interlachen Country Club

Barista, The Coffee Factory and Cafe

Food Runner, Loews Sapphire Falls Resort

## Campus Involvement

President, Wedding Event and Design Students  
(WEDS)

## Honors

Dean's List

## Career Aspirations

To work in the wedding industry as a wedding  
planner and designer, or creative wedding  
photographer

## Work Experience

Event Management Intern, OCCC

Game Day Ambassador, UCF

Human Resources Intern, ETP

## Campus Involvement

Assistant Volunteer, 91st Saudi National Day

## Honors

President's Honor Roll

Qiddiya Undergraduate Scholarship

## Career Aspirations

To be a leader in Sporting Events Management.



FAISAL TEARO

**SENIOR**

Hometown

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Major

Event Management

Favorite Course

Entertainment Arts &  
Events



LAUREN TOMA

**SENIOR**  
**Hometown**

Orlando, FL

**Major & Minor**

Hospitality Management  
*Leadership Studies*  
*Certificate in Beverage*  
*Management*

**Favorite Course**

Hospitality Communications

## Work Experience

Sales and Marketing, The Daily Grind Planner  
Entertainment Team Member, Universal Orlando  
Resort

Events Intern, Whitney Carillon Events

Trainer & Baker, Gideon's Bakehouse Disney  
Springs

## Campus Involvement

Member, Wine Club

Member, Honors Congress

Member, Future Theme Park Leaders Association

## Honors

Burnett Honors College

Dean's List

## Career Aspirations

To be a lead event coordinator in either the  
restaurant industry, the theme park industry, or a  
combination of both!

## Work Experience

Event Production Assistant, Experience Epic, LLC.

Youth Activities Attendant, Mizner Country Club

Sales Associate, Yankee Candle Company

## Campus Involvement

Co-Event Lead and Executive Board Member, Peer  
Outreach Mentoring Program

## Honors

President's Honor Roll

Dean's List

## Career Aspirations

To manage or own an event company.



SYDNEY WEISMAN

**SENIOR**

**Hometown**

Las Vegas, Nevada

**Major & Minor**

Hospitality Management  
*Entrepreneurship*

**Favorite Course**

Guest Services  
Management





LINDSAY WIGHTMAN  
*SENIOR / SECOND DEGREE*

Hometown

Safety Harbor, FL

Major & Certificate

Hospitality Management

Favorite Course

Theme Park and Attraction Management

Education

B.A. Visual Arts & Emerging Media Management '19

Work Experience

Merchandise Trainer and Cast Member, Walt Disney World Resort

Disney College Program, Walt Disney World Resort

Entrance Operations Team Member, Universal Orlando Resort

Campus Involvement

Vice President, UCF WEDS (Wedding & Event Design Students)

Peer Mentor, Peer Mentor Outreach Mentoring Program

Member, Future Theme Park Leaders Association

Member, MPI Knights

Honors

President's Honor Roll

LEAD Scholars Academy

Organizational Leadership Certificate

Certified Wedding Planner

Career Aspirations

To work in the event planning industry

VANESSA GONZALEZ, MA

*DIRECTOR, ROSEN COLLEGE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL*

*ACADEMIC ADVISOR III*

*MA, EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP*

Awards & Honors

Dr. Judith Sindlinger Outstanding New Advisor Award

FLACADA Rising Star Award

NACADA Region 4 Excellence in Advising - New Advisor Award

NACADA Global Certificate of Merit, New Advisor category



For any questions or inquiries related to the Rosen College Leadership Council, you may contact Vanessa at [Vanessa.Gonzalez2@ucf.edu](mailto:Vanessa.Gonzalez2@ucf.edu)