

## *From the Dean's Desk*

What a year it's been! As we enter the season of giving, support and appreciation, I want to share with you the generous outpouring of support that UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management has received in the past 10 months from our industry partners.

Philanthropy, and the scholarships that it supports, is extremely important to our students who would not be able to afford college without a financial boost. Just last month, on October 19, we presented more than \$200,000 in scholarships to over 100 exceptional students. These scholarships are supported by generous donations, and more hospitality industry partners are establishing their own scholarships through the UCF Foundation to make a positive impact on the lives of our students. If you missed the scholarship ceremony in-person, you may view it on the Rosen College [YouTube Channel](#). We would like to encourage everyone during this season of thanks and giving to consider making a gift to UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management to support our scholarships. Visit <https://foundation.ucf.edu/givetorosen> or <https://hospitality.ucf.edu/donate/> to make a gift today. The gifts that provide scholarships are vital to our students achieving their goals of completing a college education



Our industry partners also stepped up to support our twice a year career fair. For the very first time, the fall career fair held over two days, Wednesday, October 26, 2022, in-person, and Thursday, October 7, 2022, virtually, had four sponsors. Our thanks to Freeman and Marriott Vacations Worldwide, who sponsored on the Pegasus level, and CFHLA and Universal Orlando Resort, who sponsored on the Gold Level. A corporate partnership is a powerful way to support the college's mission of developing future generations of global hospitality and tourism leaders, representing all industry segments. To learn more about how you, or your company can create a custom and strategic partnership with the college, please contact Marcela DeFaria at [marcela.defaria@ucf.edu](mailto:marcela.defaria@ucf.edu). The fall career fair attracted over 100 employers; almost 800 students registered to seek positions. The industry continues to partner with the college on workforce recruitment as our students are their choice for preferred employees.

We recently opened the Career Closet in a dedicated space on the first floor of the campus to provide professional attire to the students who attend the career fair, go on job interviews, and frequent networking events. All our students are required to intern and some of them have full-time employment, therefore business attire is essential. We accept gently used, clean clothing, or new pieces for men and women. Accessories like belts, shoes and ties are also appreciated. To contribute to the Rosen College Career Closet, please contact Lori Safford at [Lori.Safford@ucf.edu](mailto:Lori.Safford@ucf.edu). Faculty and staff have stepped up to donate to the Career Closet. We hope our industry partners will as well. With the rising costs of food and other items, our Knights Helping Knights Pineapple Pantry has also benefitted from the generosity of donations from our alumni, faculty and staff. The pantry helps in the fight against food insecurity. The pantry accepts donations of non-perishable food and personal hygiene items. Please contact Sheryl Goins at [Sheryl.Goins@ucf.edu](mailto:Sheryl.Goins@ucf.edu) to donate to the pantry. Monetary donations to replenish the pantry are also accepted through the UCF Foundation at <https://foundation.ucf.edu/givetorosen>.

There have been many other milestones achieved at the college in the past 10 months, thanks to the dedication and support of multiple stakeholders. You can learn more in the State of the College Address, which was held on October 13, 2022, and can be found on the Rosen College [YouTube Channel](#).

In the weeks ahead as we gather to give thanks let us all remember that we are a collaborative partnership uplifting each other. As the UCF new strategic plan states, we are unleashing the potential within every individual, enriching the human experience through inclusion, discovery and innovation, and propelling broad-based prosperity for the many communities we serve. Thank you to all our stakeholders, industry partners and alumni who have supported us with their time, talent, and treasures through this year. We are the #1 hospitality program in the nation because of your continued support. Charge On!

*Youcheng Wang*

[Youcheng Wang, Ph.D., Dean](#)

UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management

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Rosen College of Hospitality Management  
9907 Universal Blvd.  
Orlando, FL 32819

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Rosen College of Hospitality Management | 9907 Universal Boulevard, Orlando, FL 32819-8701

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