



SPRING 2023

DEAN'S AMBASSADORS

Supporters of the UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management,

I am delighted to introduce you to the Spring 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

Hospitality Management
*Certificate in Beverage
Management*

Favorite Course

History and Culture of
Wine

Work Experience

Global Communications and Brand Management
Intern, Universal Creative
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 Communications sector
of hospitality.

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

SENIOR

Hometown

Muscat, Oman

Major

Event Management
Marketing

Favorite Course

Event Sales & Event Services

Work Experience

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

Volunteer Director, UCF Homecoming

Campus Involvement

Volunteer Director, UCF Homecoming

Volunteer Coordinator, UCF Homecoming

Honors

President's Honor Roll

Dean's List

Omani Government Scholarship

Career Aspirations

To work in conventions and special sporting
events.

Work Experience

Hostess, The Capital Grille

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

Social Coordinator, President's Leadership Council

Mentee Support Leader & Mentor, 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

Alumni Scholarship

Career Aspirations

Have her own company in social media and event planning



JIDA AWA

SENIOR

Hometown

Damascus, Syria

Major

Hospitality Management
Information Technology

Favorite Course

Communications



IRINA BIGLOVA

SENIOR

Hometown

Chekmagush, Republic of
Bashkortostan, Russia

Major

Hospitality Management
Lodging Track

Favorite Course

Hospitality
Communications

Work Experience

Intern, Boston Marriott Courtyard North Station
Game Day Ambassador, UCF Athletics Association
Inc

Sales Associate, Bayley's Lobster Pound

Campus Involvement

Peer Mentor, Peer Outreach Mentoring Program

Vice President, Knights Special Events Society

Social Media Coordinator, International Student
Association

Member, Translation Society

Honors

President's Honor Roll

Dean's List

Career Aspirations

To become a General Manager at a luxury hotel.

Work Experience

Tried and True Event Management

Attractions, Walt Disney World Magic Kingdom

Orlando Informer

Campus Involvement

Member, Future Theme Park Leaders Association

Honors

Dean's List

Bright Futures Award

Career Aspirations

To work with Disney Imagineering or Universal

Creative to create the future of the parks.



DANIELA BOTERO

JUNIOR

Hometown

West Palm Beach, FL

Major

Hospitality Management
Theme Park Track

Favorite Course

Intro to Hospitality



CONSTANTIN CLAASSEN
SENIOR

Hometown

Stuttgart, Germany

Major

Hospitality Management
Event Management

Favorite Course

Managing the Employee
Experience in Theme
Parks

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.

Work Experience

Music Business & Legal Affairs, Executive Assistant

Internship, Artis Entertainment Group

Senior Assistant Instructor, Kumon North America

Campus Involvement

Member, Pegasus Music Group

Member, Knights Entertainment Student Organization

Honors

President's Honor Roll

Rosen College Scholarship Recipient

Career Aspirations

To work in the legal sector of the entertainment
industry.



WILLIAM FARSON
JUNIOR

Hometown

Saint Johns, FL

Major

Entertainment
Management

Favorite Course

Entertainment Law and
Ethics



SYDNEY GROSS
SOPHOMORE

Hometown
Lake Mary, FL

Major
Entertainment Management
Theme Parks & Attractions
Certificate
Favorite Course

Intro to Entertainment
Management

Work Experience

Undergraduate Admissions Ambassador, Rosen
College

Attractions Hostess, Walt Disney World

Campus Involvement

Undergraduate Admissions Ambassador, Rosen
College

Member, Future Theme Park Leaders Association

Honors

Bright Futures Scholarship Recipient

Disney Dreamer and Doer Award Recipient

Career Aspirations

To be the Creative Director of Live Entertainment at
Walt Disney World.

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

SENIOR

Hometown

Littleton, MA

Major

Hospitality Management

Favorite Course

Cruiseline Operations

Work Experience

VIP Experience Operations Intern, Universal Orlando Resort

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

Honors

President's Honor Roll

Dean's List

Harris Rosen Hospitality Management Scholarship

Dean Pizam G.R.I.T. Award

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

SENIOR

Hometown

St. Petersburg, FL

Major

Hospitality Management
Theme Parks &
Attractions Track

Favorite Course

Managing the Employee Experience



MIICHAEL MESTRE

SOPHOMORE

Hometown

Miami, FL

Major

Hospitality Management
Business Administration
Theme Park & Attraction
Management Cert

Favorite Course

Introduction to
Hospitality

Work Experience

Hospitality Leader Intern, Rosen Hotels

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

Honors

Dean's List

LEAD Scholars Academy

Career Aspirations

To be a General Manager of a large resort.

Work Experience

Golf Pro Apprentice, Marriot Grande Vista

Golf Coach, First Tee of North Florida

Relief Supervisor/ Server, Vicars Landing

Campus Involvement

UCF 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

Hospitality Management
Certificate in Managing
Sporting Events

Favorite Course

Hospitality
Communications



DIGRAY OLCIMA
SENIOR

Hometown

Fort Lauderdale, FL

Major & Minor

Entertainment Management
Leadership Studies

Favorite Course

Entertainment Law

Work Experience

Audio Technician, LMG Technology

Service Advocate, Target

Marketing & Experience Coordinator, Selina Costa Rica

Resident Assistant, UCF

Campus Involvement

Member, National Society of Minorities in Hospitality

Member, Pegasus Music Group

Member, Entertainment Management Association

Honors

Dean's List

Career Aspirations

To work as a Work-for-Hire in film/music; Becoming a Tour Representative, Model, and Music Artist.

Work Experience

Guest Experience Expert & Training Coordinator, The Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes

Intern, JOR Hospitality Solutions

Front Desk Agent, The Winnetu Oceanside Resort

Campus Involvement

Mentee, Alumni Mentorship Program

Member, National Society of Minorities in Hospitality

Member, Knights Special Events Society

Honors

Five Star of the Quarter, The Ritz-Carlton

Dean's List

CFHLA Scholarship Recipient

Career Aspirations

To be within Rooms Division at a Luxury Hotel/Resort.



AUTUMN OPPENHEIMER
SENIOR

Hometown

Clearwater, FL

Major

Hospitality Management
Certificate in Beverage Management

Favorite Course

Lodging Management



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

Work Experience

Activities and Recreation Intern, Sheraton Vistana Resort
Deli Associate, Publix Supermarkets

Campus Involvement

Member, Future Theme Park Leaders Association

Honors

Dean's List
Toni A. Wisne Foundation Scholarship Recipient
High Honors Graduate, Daytona State College

Career Aspirations

To create and manage Sporting Events for fans from all over the world.



EDUIN RODRIGUEZ

JUNIOR

Hometown

San Pedro Sula, Honduras

Major & Minor

Hospitality Management

Favorite Course

Guest Services Management



FAISAL TEARO

SENIOR

Hometown

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Major

Event Management

Favorite Course

Entertainment Arts &
Events

Work Experience

Event Management Intern, OCCC

Game Day Ambassador, UCF

Human Resources Intern, ETP

Campus Involvement

Assistant Volunteer, 91st Saudi National Day

Sports Ambassador, UCF Athletics

Honors

President's Honor Roll

Qiddiya Undergraduate Scholarship

Career Aspirations

To be a leader in Sporting Events Management.

Work Experience

Event Production Assistant, Experience Epic, LLC.

Youth Activities Attendant, Mizner Country Club

Sales Associate, Yankee Candle Company

Campus Involvement

Event Team Lead and Executive Board Chair, Peer

Outreach Mentoring Program

Peer Mentor, POMP

Honors

President's Honor Roll

Dean's List

Career Aspirations

To manage or own an event company.



SYDNEY WEISMAN

SENIOR

Hometown

Boca Raton, FL

Major & Minor

Hospitality Management
Entrepreneurship

Favorite Course

Hospitality
Entrepreneurship



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

President, UCF WEDS

Peer Mentor, Peer Mentor Outreach Mentoring Program

Member, Future Theme Park Leaders Association

Honors

President's Honor Roll

LEAD Scholars Academy

Organizational Leadership Certificate

Certified Wedding Planner

Career Aspirations

To work in the event planning industry.

Work Experience

Management Intern, Avis Budget Group

Front Desk Intern, Rosen plaza

Safety and Security Intern, Marriott Vacations

Recreation Intern, Marriott International

Disney College Program, Grand Floridian

Campus Involvement

Vice President, National Honor Society of Minorities in
Hospitality

Mentor, Knights 2 Knights

Member, Knights of Distinctions

Ambassador, Rosen College Ambassadors

Member, Eta Sigma Delta

Honors

Dean's List

CHFLA Scholarship Recipient

UCF Black and Gold Scholarship Recipient

Phi Eta Sigma Delta Honor Society

YHS 2023 Delegate

Career Aspirations

To be General Manager of a luxury hotel.



CORONNIE YOUNG
SENIOR

Hometown

Miami FL

Major

Hospitality Management

Favorite Course

Event Services

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