
UF/CJC Leadership Bios

University of Florida Leadership

KENT FUCHS, Interim UF President

Dr. Kent Fuchs began serving as interim president of the University of Florida on Aug. 1, 2024. A professor in the UF Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, he was the University's 12th president from 2015 to 2023. Dr. Fuchs led UF into the ranks of the nation's best public universities during his tenure, with the university's stature increasing more than any other research university in the nation. Among other advancements, UF topped \$1 billion in annual research, surpassed \$4.6 billion in philanthropy, and created and filled more than 600 new faculty positions, establishing national prominence in artificial intelligence and other areas of strategic importance. [Read More.](#)

JOSEPH GLOVER, Interim Provost

Dr. Joseph Glover became interim provost in September 2024, resuming his 15-year career as UF's chief academic officer after a brief period as provost of the University of Arizona.

As provost from 2008 to 2023, Dr. Glover conceptualized and spearheaded UF's embrace of artificial intelligence in education, a university-wide initiative launched in 2020. He led administrators in planning and implementing the UF Preeminence Plan, a multiyear effort to recruit all-star faculty in key fields that helped drive UF's rise into the Top 10 in the U.S. News Best Colleges rankings and subsequent ascent into the Top 5. Under his leadership, UF launched UF Online, the Pathway to Campus Enrollment program and the UF Innovation Academy. [Read More.](#)

College of Journalism and Communications Academic Leadership

HUB BROWN, Dean

Hub Brown has been dean since July 2021, and has established himself as a leading higher-education journalism and communication program administrator. Under his leadership, the College has grown enrollment post-pandemic, and increased donor gifts by 35%, including an [\\$8 million endowment](#), the largest gift in the College's history. Some of the signature programs launched under his leadership include launching the [Atlas Lab](#), a state-of-the-art, AI-driven digital media analysis lab; rebranding and expanding the College's extensive [sports journalism and media program](#); elevating artificial intelligence research; and developing new study away and study abroad programs. [Read More.](#)

SPIRO KIOUSIS, Executive Associate Dean

Dr. Spiro Kiouis has been a Public Relations professor at the College since 2002 and executive associate dean since 2013. He also served as interim dean from January until July 2021. Previously, he served as Public Relations Department chair from 2006-2012 and was director of distance education from 2010-2013. In 2021, Dr. Kiouis received the [Florida Public Relations Association \(FPRA\) Gainesville Chapter John S. Detweiler Award](#), given to an individual who demonstrates the highest standards of ethics, performance and service to the public relations profession. Throughout his academic career, he has produced over 190 refereed journal articles, book chapters, books, and conference papers/presentations. [Read more.](#)

DR. MARCIA DISTASO, Associate Dean for Research, Interim Associate Dean for Graduate Studies

Dr. Marcia DiStaso has been a Public Relations professor at CJC since 2017 and associate dean for research since 2022. She served as Public Relations Department Chair from 2017 – 2022.

In 2021, Dr. DiStaso won the Institute for Public Relations' Pathfinder Award, the organization's lifetime achievement honor recognizing significant and sustained contributions to the body of knowledge of public relations through published research. In 2020, she was selected as one of PRNEWS' Top Women in PR, and in 2019 she won the PRNEWS Educator of the Year Award and was elected to the PR Measurement Hall of Fame. In 2016, she won the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) Educator of the Year Award. With her students, she has won a PRSA Silver Anvil Award of Excellence, a Hermes Creative Award and MarCom Awards.

[Read more.](#)

TED SPIKER, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Affairs

Ted Spiker has been a Journalism professor at the College since 2001 and Journalism Department chair since 2015. In January 2025, he was also named associate dean for undergraduate affairs. He was named the University of Florida Teacher of the Year for 2016-17 and Educator of the Year in the AEJMC Magazine Media Division in 2018. In 2019-2020, he was named a Fellow for the Southeastern Conference Academic Consortium's Academic Leadership Development Program. Since 2016-17, Spiker has co-authored four books, written 22 stories for national print and digital platforms and authored about 20 health humor columns.

[Read more.](#)

DR. KATRICE GRAHAM, Assistant Dean for Student Experiences/Director, Knight Division for Scholarships and Student Inclusion

Dr. Katrice Graham, a 2003 Advertising alumna, joined the College in 2014 as director of the Knight Division and was named assistant dean for student experiences in 2022. As assistant dean for student experiences, she helps facilitate discussions involving strategic direction, collaboration, student guidance, quality assurance and engagement of faculty and staff around professional immersion. As director of the Knight Division, Dr. Graham has led the College's efforts in awarding scholarships, recruiting high school and transfer students, supporting students from underrepresented and marginalized communities, and helping students prepare for their careers. In 2018, she won UF's Excellence in Diversity Staff Award.