



Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences

Clinical Doctoral Hooding Ceremony

Summer Candidates of 2026

Athletic Training | Graduate Nursing | Physical Therapy

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President Jeanette M. Nuñez

Florida International University

Mrs. Jeanette M. Nuñez is the President of Florida International University. The FIU Board of Trustees voted unanimously to name Mrs. Nuñez as the university's seventh president. Her presidency was confirmed by the Florida Board of Governors on June 18, 2025.

Prior to her appointment, Mrs. Nuñez served as Florida's Lieutenant Governor. She was first elected in 2018 and subsequently re-elected in 2022. Mrs. Nuñez oversaw the Florida Department of Health and served as Chair of Space Florida, Florida's Cybersecurity Advisory Council, and the Health Care Innovation Council. She was reappointed as Chair of the Space Florida Board of Directors on February 17, 2025.

Before her tenure as Lieutenant Governor, Mrs. Nuñez served as a State Representative of the Florida House of Representatives from 2010 to 2018. She held several positions such as Speaker Pro Tempore and Vice Chair of the Appropriations Committee, as well as Chair of the Select Committee on Hurricane Response and Preparedness following Hurricane Irma. In addition, she served as Chair of the Health Quality Subcommittee, Government Operations and Technology Appropriations Subcommittee, and Higher Education and Workforce Subcommittee.

Over the years, Mrs. Nuñez has served on a number of professional boards and as a member of various organizations. She has been involved with the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, Leadership Miami, and various other local, state and national organizations.

In addition to her extensive experience in public service, Mrs. Nuñez has contributed to the academic community as an adjunct professor and guest lecturer at Florida International University.

Mrs. Nuñez is a proud FIU alumna. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and Political Science and her Master of Public Administration from Florida International University.



Dean Jorge A. Valdés

*Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing
& Health Sciences*

Dr. Jorge A. Valdés serves as Dean and Professor of the Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing and Health Sciences at Florida International University (FIU). As a distinguished leader and author, with a prolific career as a clinical nurse anesthetist spanning over twenty years, he has been instrumental in fostering academic excellence, driving research innovation, and strengthening community and industry partnerships.

Prior to his appointment, Dr. Valdés served as Chair of the Department of Nurse Anesthesiology, where he made significant contributions to the field through the expansion of high-quality nurse education, scholarship, and by solidifying a dedicated workforce of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs). Under his leadership, the college has launched new academic programs, expanded experiential learning opportunities, and cultivated a strong sense of community, all contributing to the university's enhanced reputation as a leader in healthcare education.

As a researcher, he has authored various book chapters and numerous publications. Most recently, from 2022-2023, he was Principal Investigator of the Nurse Anesthetist Traineeship (NAT) Grant funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) aimed at increasing scholarship and evidence-based training of CRNAs to practice safe anesthesia and pain management services in underserved communities.

His work has translated into transformational leadership in health education and legislative action. He is an esteemed Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and Fellow of the American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology. Additionally, he is a distinguished member of the Miami-Dade College Alumni Hall of Fame and recipient of the FIU President's Council Real Triumphs Faculty Award, in recognition of his numerous contributions to the South Florida community.

Dr. Valdés holds a Doctor of Nursing Practice from the University of Miami and a Masters in Nurse Anesthesia from the Mayo School of Health Sciences Nurse Anesthesia Program. He has also served as president of the Florida Association of Nurse Anesthesiology and held leadership roles on various professional boards at the state and national level.

Dr. Valdés remains dedicated to community service, mentoring, and advancing healthcare policy, continually working to shape the next generation of healthcare leaders and ensure the continued growth and success of the Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

Order of Ceremony
Friday, July 31, 2026, 2:30 P.M.

WELCOME & PRESIDING..... Dr. Jorge A. Valdés, Dean
Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences

NATIONAL ANTHEM & ALMA MATER Amalia Rosales
The Herbert and Nicole Wertheim School of Music & Performing Arts

UNIVERSITY REMARKS..... Dr. Heather Russell
Vice Provost, Faculty Leadership and Success

PRESENTATION OF STUDENT AWARDS.....Department of Athletic Training
Department of Graduate Nursing
Department of Physical Therapy

HOODING OF CANDIDATES..... Dr. Michelle Odai
Department of Athletic Training

Dr. Michael Sanchez
Department of Graduate Nursing

Dr. Teresa Munecas
Department of Physical Therapy

CLOSING REMARKS Dr. Jorge A. Valdés, Dean
Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences

FACULTY

Athletic Training Department

DR. JEFFREY KONIN

Clinical Professor, Athletic Training Department

DR. MATTHEW KUTZ

Clinical Professor, Athletic Training Department

DR. RODRIGO MARTINEZ

Clinical Assistant Professor, Athletic Training Department

DR. MICHELLE ODAI

Department Chair and Clinical Associate Professor, Athletic Training Department

DR. AJAYA SPARROCK (WILLIAMS)

Clinical Assistant Professor, Athletic Training Department

Graduate Nursing Department

DR. MARITZA ALENCAR

Clinical Assistant Professor, Graduate Nursing Department

DR. FRANCISCO BRENES

Clinical Assistant Professor, Graduate Nursing Department

DR. ELLEN BROWN

Tenured Professor, Graduate Nursing Department

DR. CHARLIE P. BUSCEMI

Clinical Professor, Graduate Nursing Department

DR. LUCIE DLUGASCH

Assistant Chair and Clinical Professor, Graduate Nursing Department

DR. CARMEN VICTORIA FRAMIL

Clinical Associate Professor, Graduate Nursing Department

DR. DEANA GOLDIN

Clinical Professor, Graduate Nursing Department

DR. VANESSA GORDON

Graduate Nursing Director of Clinical Education, Clinical Assistant Professor, Graduate Nursing Department

DR. ANTONELLA GRANA

Clinical Assistant Professor, Graduate Nursing Department

DR. CHRISTINA MAROONE

Visiting Professor, Graduate Nursing Department

DR. NATALIE MERINO

Clinical Assistant Professor, Graduate Nursing Department

DR. ROSA ROCHE

Clinical Associate Professor, Graduate Nursing Department

DR. MICHAEL SANCHEZ

Department Chair, Director of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program, and Clinical Associate Professor, Graduate Nursing Department

DR. DANA SHERMAN

Clinical Assistant Professor, Graduate Nursing Department

DR. DEBORAH SHERMAN

Tenured Professor, Graduate Nursing Department

Physical Therapy Department

DR. ERASMO ALVAREZ

Clinical Assistant Professor, Physical Therapy Department

DR. LAUREN BUTLER

Clinical Assistant Professor, Physical Therapy Department

DR. DAVID CAPOTE

Clinical Assistant Professor, Physical Therapy Department

DR. INAE GADOTTI

Tenured Associate Professor, Physical Therapy Department

DR. TERESA MUÑECAS

Assistant Chair and Associate Clinical Professor, Physical Therapy Department

DR. ANNABEL NUÑEZ-GAUNAURD

Tenure-Earning Assistant Professor, Physical Therapy Department

DR. LISA ROBERTS

Clinical Assistant Professor, Physical Therapy Department

DR. MARK ROSSI

Department Chair and Tenured Associate Professor, Physical Therapy Department

DR. AMANDA THOMAS

Clinical Assistant Professor, Physical Therapy Department

DR. EDGAR VIEIRA

Associate Dean of Research, Tenured Associate Professor, Physical Therapy Department

DR. MARITZA VILLEGAS

Director of Clinical Education and Clinical Assistant Professor, Physical Therapy Department

DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETIC TRAINING STUDENT PROJECTS

STUDENT NAME: Rebecca Buchholz

DAT Project: *Understanding Barriers to Athletic Trainer Employment in the Rural Midwest*

Faculty: Dr. Kutz

STUDENT NAME: Evan Ligon-Cofield

DAT Project: *Empowering Minority Women in Athletic Training Through Entrepreneurship Education*

Faculty: Dr. Konin

STUDENT NAME: Jessica Masrin

DAT Project: *Emergency preparedness in international secondary schools*

Faculty: Faculty: Dr. Kutz

STUDENT NAME: Morgan Mennell

DAT Project: *Preparing The Next Generation: Developing a Structured High School Student Athletic Training Aide Program*

Faculty: Dr. Konin

STUDENT NAME: Anthony Nguyen

DAT Project: *Esports Medicine: Bridging Healthcare and Competitive Gaming*

Faculty: Dr. Kutz

STUDENT NAME: Beverli Owens

DAT Project: *Cognitive Bias in Athletic Training*

Faculty: Dr. Kutz

STUDENT NAME: Yolimar Toro Morales

DAT Project: *A Bilingual, Prevention-Focused Athletic Training Model for Holistic Athlete Care*

Faculty: Dr. Konin

DEPARTMENT OF GRADUATE NURSING STUDENT PROJECTS

STUDENT NAME: Sergio Brenes

DNP Project: *Improving Sexual Health Screening and Documentation through a Structured Framework in Primary Care: A Quality Improvement Project*

Faculty: Dr. Michael Sanchez

STUDENT NAME: Melanie Cabrera

DNP Project: *Implementing Structured Nurse Training and an Evidence-based Patient Education Tool to Enhance Radiation Oncology Nurse Knowledge and Education Confidence: A Quality Improvement Project.*

Faculty: Dr. Rosa Roche

STUDENT NAME: Rodica Charles

DNP Project: *Patient-Preferred Music as a Complementary Pain Management Strategy in the Adult Surgical ICU: DNP Project Implementation Plan*

Faculty: Dr. Dana Sherman

STUDENT NAME: Alicia Ciliezar

DNP Project: *Enhancing Clinician Knowledge and Practice Utilizing Motivational Interviewing to Improve Treatment Adherence Among Psychiatric Clients in the Community Mental Health Setting: A Quality Improvement Project*

Faculty: Dr. Rosa Roche

STUDENT NAME: Reynier Cruz-Arroyo

DNP Project: *Bridging the Gap in ADHD Diagnosis: Evaluating the Impact of Pre-Intake Standardized ADHD Screening Tools on Clinical Decision-Making and Provider's Confidence and Knowledge: A Quality Improvement Project*

Faculty: Dr. Rosa Roche

STUDENT NAME: Ana Diaz Martin

DNP Project: *Improving Pediatric Neurosurgery Provider's knowledge and Confidence on Transition of Care for Patients with Shunted Hydrocephalus: A Quality Improvement Project*

Faculty: Dr. Rosa Roche

STUDENT NAME: Mark Fonseca

DNP Project: *Strengthening Nurse Practitioner Clinical Placements Through Preceptor Incentives and Policy Development*

Faculty: Dr. Michael Sanchez

STUDENT NAME: Josselyn Gil

DNP Project: *Integrating Climate-Related Risk Education into Preconception Counseling at Conceptions Florida: DNP Project Implementation Plan*

Faculty: Dr. Dana Sherman

STUDENT NAME: Annette Maldonado

DNP Project: *Culturally Tailored Counseling to Improve Medication Adherence and Confidence Among Hispanic Women (40–50) With Dyslipidemia*

Faculty: Dr. Rosa Roche

STUDENT NAME: Paul Matos-Gonzales

DNP Project: *Improving End-of-Life Care: The Effect of ICU Staff Re-Education on Hospice Eligibility, Recognition, and Referral*

Faculty: Dr. Dana Sherman

STUDENT NAME: Carolina Miranda

DNP Project: *Knowledge, Confidence, Safety: Educating Providers on Cannabis Medication Interactions — A Quality Improvement Project*

Faculty: Dr. Dana Sherman

STUDENT NAME: Zurama Rodriguez

DNP Project: *Evaluating the Effect of Eating Disorder Examination Questionnaire (EDE-Q) Interpretation Training on Nurse Self-Efficacy in Adolescent Residential Eating Disorder Care: A Quality Improvement Project*

Faculty: Dr. Michael Sanchez

STUDENT NAME: Evelyn Silva

DNP Project: *Improving Nursing Knowledge and Confidence in the Postoperative Management of Pediatric Spine Surgery; A Quality Improvement Project*

Faculty: Dr. Rosa Roche

STUDENT NAME: Barbara Torres

DNP Project: *Improving Adherence to Pre-Meal Blood Glucose Monitoring Using Technology-Based Reminders in Adults with Diabetes Mellitus on Insulin Therapy*

Faculty: Dr. Dana Sherman

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY STUDENT PROJECTS

STUDENT NAME: Eric Ancajima

DPT Project: *Cervical Kinesthetic sense and neck disability in athletes of high impact sports.*

Faculty: Dr. Inae Gadotti

STUDENT NAME: Ashley Barros

DPT Project: *Improving Surface Anatomy Education: A Video-Based Upper Extremity Palpation Library for Physical Therapy Students.*

Faculty: Dr. Amanda Thomas and Dr. Lauren Butler

STUDENT NAME: Brandon Borberg

DPT Project: *The Role of Athletic Identity and Resistance Training Participation Among Young Athletes.*

Faculty: Dr. Lauren Butler and Dr. Amanda Thomas

STUDENT NAME: Morgan Bowers

DPT Project: *Exploring the Role of Skill Competency and Self-Efficacy in Resistance Training Participation Among Young Athletes.*

Faculty: Dr. Lauren Butler and Dr. Erasmo Alvarez

STUDENT NAME: Haley Bushman

DPT Project: *Lifting through the Decades: Generational Trends in Weightlifting.*

Faculty: Dr. Lauren Butler and Dr. David Capote

STUDENT NAME: Kevin Cabrera

DPT Project: *Targeted Upper Extremity Therapeutic Exercise for Individuals with Parkinson's Disease Utilizing Volumetric Capture.*

Faculty: Dr. Mark Rossi

STUDENT NAME: Zara Cano Molina

DPT Project: *The Role of Athletic Identity and Resistance Training Participation Among Young Athletes.*

Faculty: Dr. Lauren Butler and Dr. Amanda Thomas

STUDENT NAME: Kevin Carrion

DPT Project: *Cervical Kinesthetic sense and neck disability in athletes of high impact sports.*

Faculty: Dr. Inae Gadotti

STUDENT NAME: Ciarra Cayo

DPT Project: *Lifting through the Decades: Generational Trends in Weightlifting.*

Faculty: Dr. Lauren Butler and Dr. David Capote

STUDENT NAME: Laura Coy

DPT Project: *Improving Surface Anatomy Education: A Video-Based Upper Extremity Palpation Library for Physical Therapy Students.*

Faculty: Dr. Amanda Thomas and Dr. Lauren Butler

STUDENT NAME: Jacob Dattilio

DPT Project: *Exploring the Role of Skill Competency and Self-Efficacy in Resistance Training Participation Among Young Athletes.*

Faculty: Dr. Lauren Butler and Dr. Erasmo Alvarez

STUDENT NAME: Camila De Armas

DPT Project: *Improving Surface Anatomy Education: A Video-Based Lower Extremity Palpation Library for Physical Therapy Students.*

Faculty: Dr. Amanda Thomas and Dr. Lauren Butler

STUDENT NAME: Christopher Diaz

DPT Project: *Self-Efficacy in Doctor of Physical Therapy Students.*

Faculty: Dr. Erasmo Alvarez

STUDENT NAME: Sonia Diyaljee

DPT Project: *Exploring the Role of Skill Competency and Self-Efficacy in Resistance Training Participation Among Young Athletes.*

Faculty: Dr. Lauren Butler and Dr. Erasmo Alvarez

STUDENT NAME: Marina Dovenberg

DPT Project: *Enhancing Pediatric mobility through 3D Printing: A focus on orthotics for Dandy-Walker Syndrome.*

Faculty: Dr. Lauren Butler and Dr. Amanda Thomas

STUDENT NAME: Galit Farhy

DPT Project: *Enhancing Pediatric mobility through 3D Printing: A focus on orthotics for Dandy-Walker Syndrome.*

Faculty: Dr. Lauren Butler and Dr. Amanda Thomas

STUDENT NAME: Sergio Gomez Fernandez

DPT Project:

Faculty: Dr. Lauren Butler

STUDENT NAME: Gisselle Gonzalez

DPT Project: *Lifting through the Decades: Generational Trends in Weightlifting.*

Faculty: Dr. Lauren Butler and Dr. David Capote

STUDENT NAME: Shahad Hasboun

DPT Project: *The Role of Athletic Identity and Resistance Training Participation Among Young Athletes.*

Faculty: Dr. Lauren Butler and Dr. Amanda Thomas

STUDENT NAME: Andrew Hendrix

DPT Project: *Motor and Functional Performance Profiles in Autistic Adults: Findings from a Remote National Sample.*

Faculty: Dr. Annabel Nuñez-Gaunaud

STUDENT NAME: Christine Hitselberger

DPT Project: *Improving Surface Anatomy Education: A Video-Based Lower Extremity Palpation Library for Physical Therapy Students.*

Faculty: Dr. Amanda Thomas and Dr. Lauren Butler

STUDENT NAME: Devin Hutchinson

DPT Project:

Faculty: Dr. Edgar Vieira

STUDENT NAME: Joshua Itty

DPT Project: *Improving Physical Therapy Examination: A Video-Based Orthopedic Special Tests Library for Physical Therapy Students.*

Faculty: Dr. David Capote

STUDENT NAME: Isabela Jimenez

DPT Project: *Improving Surface Anatomy Education: A Video-Based Upper Extremity Palpation Library for Physical Therapy Students.*

Faculty: Dr. Amanda Thomas and Dr. Lauren Butler

STUDENT NAME: Alani Lacaci

DPT Project: *The Role of Athletic Identity and Resistance Training Participation Among Young Athletes.*

Faculty: Dr. Lauren Butler and Dr. Amanda Thomas

STUDENT NAME: Christopher Loggia

DPT Project: *Self-Efficacy in Doctor of Physical Therapy Students.*

Faculty: Dr. Erasmo Alvarez

STUDENT NAME: Karla Machado

DPT Project: *Cervical Kinesthetic sense and pressure pain threshold in a non-patient population.*

Faculty: Dr. Inae Gadotti

STUDENT NAME: Danny Macias Juiz

DPT Project: *Technology Assisted Lower Extremity Movement-Based Exercise Interventions for Parkinson's Disease.*

Faculty: Dr. Mark Rossi

STUDENT NAME: Jeffrey Marin

DPT Project: *Enhancing Pediatric mobility through 3D Printing: A focus on orthotics for Dandy-Walker Syndrome.*

Faculty: Dr. Lauren Butler and Dr. Amanda Thomas

STUDENT NAME: Sophia Martinez

DPT Project: *Cervical Kinesthetic sense and pressure pain threshold in a non-patient population.*

Faculty: Dr. Inae Gadotti

STUDENT NAME: Kevin Montero

DPT Project: *Cervical Kinesthetic sense and neck disability in athletes of high impact sports.*

Faculty: Dr. Inae Gadotti

STUDENT NAME: Denise Morales

DPT Project: *Improving Surface Anatomy Education: A Video-Based Upper Extremity Palpation Library for Physical Therapy Students.*

Faculty: Dr. Amanda Thomas and Dr. Lauren Butler

STUDENT NAME: Emma Moran

DPT Project: *Targeted Upper Extremity Therapeutic Exercise for Individuals with Parkinson's Disease Utilizing Volumetric Capture*

Faculty: Dr. Mark Rossi

STUDENT NAME: Genesis Mota

DPT Project: *Improving Surface Anatomy Education: A Video-Based Upper Extremity Palpation Library for Physical Therapy Students.*

Faculty: Dr. Amanda Thomas and Dr. Lauren Butler

STUDENT NAME: Andres Navarro

DPT Project: *Technology Assisted Lower Extremity Movement-Based Exercise Interventions for Parkinson's Disease.*

Faculty: Dr. Mark Rossi

STUDENT NAME: Nhung Nguyen

DPT Project: *Improving Surface Anatomy Education: A Video-Based Lower Extremity Palpation Library for Physical Therapy Students.*

Faculty: Dr. Amanda Thomas and Dr. Lauren Butler

STUDENT NAME: Pharas Normil

DPT Project: *Cervical Kinesthetic sense and pressure pain threshold in a non-patient population.*

Faculty: Dr. Inae Gadotti

STUDENT NAME: Ashton Panter

DPT Project: *Students' Perceived Competence in Physical Therapy Examination, Evaluation, and Interventions after participating in a Simulated Clinic Activity.*

Faculty: Dr. David Capote and Dr. Teresa Muñecas

STUDENT NAME: Enmanuel Rodriguez

DPT Project: *Exploring the Role of Skill Competency and Self-Efficacy in Resistance Training Participation Among Young Athletes.*

Faculty: Dr. Lauren Butler and Dr. Erasmo Alvarez

STUDENT NAME: Giovanni Rodriguez

DPT Project: *Cervical Kinesthetic sense and pressure pain threshold in a non-patient population.*

Faculty: Dr. Inae Gadotti

STUDENT NAME: Britney Rubio

DPT Project: *Targeted Upper Extremity Therapeutic Exercise for Individuals with Parkinson's Disease Utilizing Volumetric Capture*

Faculty: Dr. Mark Rossi

STUDENT NAME: Alvaro Ruiz

DPT Project: *Cervical Kinesthetic sense and neck disability in athletes of high impact sports.*

Faculty: Dr. Inae Gadotti

STUDENT NAME: Savannah Sanabria

DPT Project: *The Role of Athletic Identity and Resistance Training Participation Among Young Athletes.*

Faculty: Dr. Lauren Butler and Dr. Amanda Thomas

STUDENT NAME: Lianna Schaefer

DPT Project: *Enhancing Pediatric mobility through 3D Printing: A focus on orthotics for Dandy-Walker Syndrome.*

Faculty: Dr. Lauren Butler and Dr. Amanda Thomas

STUDENT NAME: Larissa Silva

DPT Project: *Motor and Functional Performance Profiles in Autistic Adults: Findings from a Remote National Sample.*

Faculty: Dr. Annabel Nuñez-Gaunaurd

STUDENT NAME: Victor Soto

DPT Project: *Motor and Functional Performance Profiles in Autistic Adults: Findings from a Remote National Sample.*

Faculty: Dr. Annabel Nuñez-Gaunaurd

STUDENT NAME: Fedline Sylvestre

DPT Project: *Lifting through the Decades: Generational Trends in Weightlifting.*

Faculty: Dr. Lauren Butler and Dr. David Capote

STUDENT NAME: Michael Tapanes

DPT Project: *Students' Perceived Competence in Physical Therapy Examination, Evaluation, and Interventions after participating in a Simulated Clinic Activity.*

Faculty: Dr. David Capote and Dr. Teresa Muñecas

STUDENT NAME: Ethan Terliamis

DPT Project: *Assessing Cannabis Literacy of Florida Physical Therapists.*

Faculty: Dr. Jeffrey Konin

STUDENT NAME: Matthew Tyson

DPT Project: *Improving Physical Therapy Examination: A Video-Based Orthopedic Special Tests Library for Physical Therapy Students.*

Faculty: Dr. David Capote

STUDENT NAME: Nadesly Vargas

DPT Project: *Enhancing Pediatric mobility through 3D Printing: A focus on orthotics for Dandy-Walker Syndrome.*

Faculty: Dr. Lauren Butler and Dr. Amanda Thomas

STUDENT NAME: Sebastian Vidarte

DPT Project: *Cervical Kinesthetic sense and neck disability in athletes of high impact sports.*

Faculty: Dr. Inae Gadotti

STUDENT NAME: Giselle Villalonga

DPT Project: *Technology Assisted Lower Extremity Movement-Based Exercise Interventions for Parkinson's Disease.*

Faculty: Dr. Mark Rossi

STUDENT NAME: Michael Vives

DPT Project: *Motor and Functional Performance Profiles in Autistic Adults: Findings from a Remote National Sample.*

Faculty: Dr. Annabel Nuñez-Gaunard

STUDENT NAME: Muhammad Washah

DPT Project: *Exploring the Role of Skill Competency and Self-Efficacy in Resistance Training Participation Among Young Athletes.*

Faculty: Dr. Lauren Butler and Dr. Erasmo Alvarez

STUDENT NAME: Lauren White

DPT Project: *Improving Surface Anatomy Education: A Video-Based Lower Extremity Palpation Library for Physical Therapy Students.*

Faculty: Dr. Amanda Thomas and Dr. Lauren Butler

STATE OF FLORIDA

The Honorable Ron DeSantis, Governor
The Honorable Jay Collins, Lieutenant Governor
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The Honorable Blaise Ingoglia, Chief Financial Officer
The Honorable Wilton Simpson, Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services

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Scott Carr, Director, Athletics Director

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SIGNIFICANCE OF THE HOODING CEREMONY



The Hooding Ceremony is an event whereby recognition is given for those graduating with doctoral degrees. Candidates for the hooding ceremony will be full recipients of their doctorates at the graduation ceremonies. The Hooding Ceremony is symbolic of passing the guard from one generation to the next generation. During the ceremony, a candidate presents themselves to their faculty advisor or other authorized member of the faculty with their hood placed over their left arm. The candidate hands the hood to the adviser, turns away from the adviser (often to face the crowd for photos) while the adviser places the hood over the head of the graduate, signifying his or her success in completing the graduate program. The ceremony is similar to a graduation in that faculty and students are dressed in academic regalia.

ACADEMIC REGALIA

The tradition of wearing distinctive academic attire at commencement ceremonies originated in Europe in the 12th century. However, gowns and capes had been worn by clerics and ecclesiastics even before that date. A heavy black or brown gown was apparently worn at all times. Hoods and capes were also a necessity during the long, cold European winters because the buildings in which scholars lived, studied, and taught were cold and drafty. When not being used to provide warmth, hoods and baggy sleeves served the same purpose as do today's pockets. The academic costume at English universities (from which many of our American commencement traditions originate) can be traced as far back as the middle of the 14th century, to the time when scholars were rebuked that a decent habit was to be worn (Statutes of Peterhouse, 1344). The faculties of American universities have worn academic garb for commencement ceremonies since the beginning of the system.

For almost 250 years, each university chose its own costume until it was realized that in 1896 an event unique in history would be taking place. This was the simultaneous celebration of the 250th anniversary of Harvard University and the 500th anniversary of Heidelberg University. Because of this unique circumstance, the Intercollegiate Bureau of Academic Costume was opened in 1895 to record the distinctive colors of institutions, their arrangement, the particulars of gowns, hoods and caps, as well as information pertaining to academic ceremonies. At that time, an American code of academic dress was agreed upon to which we adhere today with few modifications. Since Spring 2011, FIU has selected to use earth-friendly academic regalia for undergraduate and graduate students. This initiative underlines FIU's commitment to sustainability.

Make Their Moment Matter! Give Today!



NWCNHS Clinical Doctoral Hooding Ceremony

Text to Give: Text CNHSHooding to 41444

URL: <https://go.fiu.edu/CNHSHooding>