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*Assessment@UF: Enhancing Program Excellence through Assessment*

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## Welcome to the 2nd Annual University of Florida Academic Assessment Conference!

On behalf of the Academic Assessment Committee, I welcome you to UF's second conference on academic assessment. Our faculty and college presenters come from across the campus, and will share ways that they use data and information collected through the assessment process to enhance the excellence of their programs.

We are pleased to welcome our guests and UF presenters for today's conference. Our opening plenary is a panel discussion with representatives from three of our peer AAU institutions in the south—Jeffrey Freels from the University of Texas at Austin, Lynn Williford from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Christina Morell from the University of Virginia. Following our plenary you will choose from the excellent presentations offered by our UF colleagues. We will close with lunch and a panel discussion with 10 of our undergraduate, graduate, and professional students who will discuss the assessments they value most at UF.

The Academic Assessment Committee is the joint Senate committee that oversees academic assessment processes at the University of Florida (members listed below). This committee not only reviews and approves Academic Assessment Plans (including Academic Learning Compacts, Student Learning Outcomes and Program Goals), but takes a leading role in developing and improving academic assessment processes at the institutional level.

Thank you for joining us today. Here is what we hope you will take away from this event:

- at least *one good idea* about assessment that you did not have before
- at least *one question* or matter you would like to learn more about
- at least *one next step* that you intend to take
- the contact information for at least *one colleague* with whom you may be able to collaborate about assessment

Enjoy your day with us.

Sincerely,

Timothy S. Brophy, Professor and Director of Institutional Assessment  
Chair, Academic Assessment Committee

### The Academic Assessment Committee

- ◆ *Laura Spears, Co-Chair, George A. Smathers Libraries*
- ◆ *Margaret Fields, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences*
- ◆ *Teresa Mutahi, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences*
- ◆ *Gail Childs, College of Dentistry*
- ◆ *David Miller, College of Education*
- ◆ *Avner Sidi, College of Medicine*
- ◆ *Amarat Simonne, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences*
- ◆ *Catherine Striley, College of Public Health and Health Professions, College of Medicine*
- *Michael Murphy, Student member*

# Conference Program

Time	Event	Location
8:30-9:00am	Breakfast and conversation	Rion Ballroom
9:00-9:15	Welcome and Opening Remarks	Rion Ballroom
9:20-10:20	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Plenary with our Peers</b> <i>Engaging with Assessment in the Research University</i></p> <p>Moderator: Timothy S. Brophy Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Jeffrey Freels, Director of Institutional Assessment, University of Texas at Austin</li> <li>◆ Lynn Williford, Assistant Provost for Institutional Research and Assessment , University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill</li> <li>◆ Christina Morrell, Associate Provost and Director of Institutional Assessment and Studies, University of Virginia</li> </ul>	Rion Ballroom
10:30-11:20	<b>Concurrent Sessions I—10:30am-11:20am</b>	
	<i>Putting Data to Use: Using Institutional Data to Understand the Factors Related to Persistence of Online Undergraduate Students and to Make Recommendations for Next Steps for Advisors, Programs, and Administrators- Jean Starobin, UF Online , introduced by Amy Simonne</i>	Room 2365
	<i>From Broad Vision to Concrete Catalog Language: How the Department of Advertising Applied Assessment Data to Create Substantive Program Change - Tom Kelleher, Huan Chen, and Eunice Kim - College of Journalism and Communications, introduced by Catherine Striley</i>	Room 2355
	<i>Learning Analytics for Continuous College Improvement - Aaron Thomas and Diane Beck, College of Pharmacy, introduced by David Miller</i>	Room 3315
	<i>Assessing Student Learning through ePortfolios - Paloma Rodriguez, UF International Center, Introduced by Cheryl Gater</i>	Rion Ballroom
11:30-12:20	<b>Concurrent Sessions II— 11:30am-12:20pm</b>	
	<i>Self and Peer Review for Course Quality: The Building Blocks for a Quality Online Program- Jennifer K. Smith, Office of Faculty Development and Teaching Excellence, Introduced by Clay Hurdle</i>	Room 2365
	<i>Fitting In: Square Pegs in Round Holes -How to Succeed in Assessment When Your Discipline Doesn't Fit into Typical Assessment Models - Tiza Garland, College of the Arts, introduced by Margaret Fields</i>	Rion Ballroom
	<i>Closing the Educational Continuous Improvement Loop via Assessments - Joseph Fantone and Kathy Green, College of Medicine, introduced by Gail Childs</i>	Room 2355
	<i>Methods for Documenting the Quality of Your Assessments - M. David Miller, College of Education, introduced by David Miller</i>	Room 3315
12:30-2:00	<b>Lunch and Student Panel - Assessments that Students Value</b>	
	Moderator: Timothy S. Brophy. Panelists:	
	◆ Samantha Axelrod, College of Pharmacy	
	◆ Sloane Bochman, Warrington College of Business	
	◆ Ian Green, Warrington College of Business	
	◆ Clay Hurdle, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences	
	◆ Alyssa Lowder, College of Pharmacy	
	◆ Jackie Phillips, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences	
	◆ Heather Ryan, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences	
	◆ Omarley Spence, Warrington College of Business	
◆ Jessica Valdes, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences		
◆ Alana White, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences		

***With gratitude for their support***

Dr. Kent Fuchs, President

Dr. Joseph Glover, Provost

The Academic Assessment Committee

Faculty, College, Student, and Guest Presenters

Ann Greene, Executive Secretary, Office of the Provost

Cheryl Gater, Assistant Provost and Director of the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

Rajeeb Das, Senior Program Evaluator & Assessment Specialist

*Today's sessions are being recorded. The videos  
and presenter materials will be posted on the  
Institutional Assessment Faculty Resources Page  
as soon as they are available.*

*<https://assessment.aa.ufl.edu> > Faculty Resources*

# Guest Panelists

## *Plenary with our Peers: Assessment in the Research University*



### **Jeffrey Freels**

*Director of Institutional Assessment at the University of Texas at Austin*

Jeff Freels is the Director of Institutional Assessment at the University of Texas at Austin, where he oversees academic, administrative, general education, and student support services assessment. He has a Ph.D. in education with a specialization in higher education from George Mason University. Prior to joining UT Austin in 2016, Jeff worked as an adjunct and tenure-track instructor of history for more than ten years. For four of those years, he served as a faculty assessment coach and was part of a team that built and managed an outcomes assessment system that became a model for other institutions.

### **Christina Morell**

*Associate Provost and Director of Institutional Assessment and Studies (IAS) at the University of Virginia*



Christina Morell is Associate Provost and Director of Institutional Assessment and Studies (IAS) at the University of Virginia (UVA). In her current capacity, Christina leads IAS in institutional data efforts that help shape planning, policy formation, and decision-making in support of student success, and ensures that planned academic program strategies align with institutional compliance requirements. Prior to joining IAS in August 2016, she spent 15 years in the Office of the Vice President and Chief Student Affairs Officer at UVA serving most recently as Associate Vice President, where she managed strategic and financial planning, assessment, policy, and human resources for the Division. Before Student Affairs, Christina spent five years in the Office of the Vice President for Management and Budget at UVA as Assistant to the Vice President and Process Simplification Manager, where among her various responsibilities she oversaw business reengineering projects across Grounds in areas such as research administration, study abroad, and faculty hiring. Christina earned her B.A. in Political Science from Haverford College, and her M.Ed. and Ph.D. in Education from UVA.

### **Lynn Williford**

*Assistant Provost for Institutional Research and Assessment, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*



Lynn Williford is Assistant Provost for Institutional Research and Assessment at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, with responsibility for coordinating data analytics, research, and evaluation activities that support student success, strategic planning, and evidence-based decision making. Lynn leads outcomes assessment and continuous improvement processes for academic programs; academic support services; and administrative, research, and public service units. In addition, she manages institutional compliance with accreditation and related accountability requirements. Her previous roles included academic advising, K-12 educational policy research, and social work program evaluation. She has a Ph.D. in Educational Psychology from UNC-Chapel Hill.



# Session Presenters

**Session title: From Broad Vision to Concrete Catalog Language: How the Department of Advertising Applied Assessment Data to Create Substantive Program Change**

*Time and Location: 10:30am-11:20am, Room 2355*



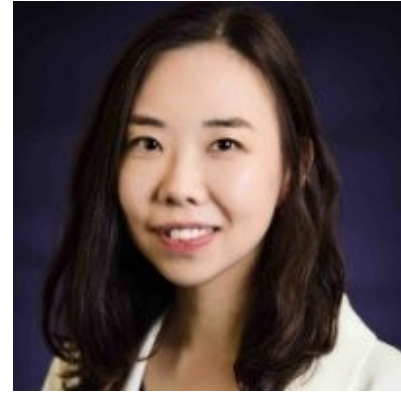
**Tom Kelleher**

*Professor and Chair, Department of Advertising, College of Journalism and Communications*



**Huan Chen**

*Assistant Professor of Advertising, College of Journalism and Communications*



**Eunice Kim**

*Assistant Professor of Advertising, College of Journalism and Communications*

## **Abstract:**

After much self-reflection and strategic planning at the program level, review of external factors and peer programs, and accounting for enrollment trends and instructional resources, faculty in the Department of Advertising developed an inspired vision for their curriculum. Assessment data provided the catalyst to convert that vision into a concrete proposal for course and program changes. Presenters will discuss how the unit applied assessment to not only enhance academic offerings, but also to renew student learning outcomes and the assessment plan itself.

## **Biographies:**

**Tom Kelleher**, Ph.D., is professor and chair of the Department of Advertising in the College of Journalism and Communications at the University of Florida. Kelleher joined the UF faculty in 2014. He had been a member of the faculty at the University of Hawaii for 12 years and served as chair of the School of Communications there from 2010 to 2013. He also served on the faculty at the School of Journalism and Communication at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill from 2004 to 2006. Kelleher was instrumental in redesigning curriculum and developing assessment for the Bachelor of Communication program at the University of Hawaii, and has facilitated re-visioning of the Advertising bachelor's program at UF. [tkell@jou.ufl.edu](mailto:tkell@jou.ufl.edu) (392-4046).

**Huan Chen**, Ph.D., is an assistant professor of advertising in the College of Journalism and Communications at the University of Florida. She received her Ph.D. in communication and information from the University of Tennessee. Before joining the University of Florida, Chen worked as an assistant professor at the Penn State Erie and a visiting assistant professor at the Indiana University Southeast, teaching a variety of courses in advertising and communication. Currently, she is teaching an undergraduate course of Advertising Research and a graduate course of Qualitative Research. [huanchen@jou.ufl.edu](mailto:huanchen@jou.ufl.edu) (392-0447).

**Eunice Kim**, Ph.D., is an assistant professor of advertising in the College of Journalism and Communications at the University of Florida. She received her Ph.D. in Advertising from the University of Texas at Austin. Kim teaches undergraduate courses in Advertising Strategy and Public Relations Research, and a graduate course in Digital Persuasive Communication. Her research focuses on marketing and persuasive communications in digital and social media environments, consumer-brand relationships, consumer psychology, and media psychology. [eunicekim@jou.ufl.edu](mailto:eunicekim@jou.ufl.edu)(392-5059).



**Putting Data to Use: Using Institutional Data to Understand the Factors Related to Persistence of Online Undergraduate Students and to Make Recommendations for Next Steps for Advisors, Programs, and Administrators**

*Time and Location: 10:30am-11:20am, Room 2365*



**Jean Starobin**

*Associate Director of Student Success & Engagement,  
UF Online*

**Abstract:**

While online education is on the rise, attrition of these students has remained a significant issue. This study addresses what factors can predict persistence in online undergraduate programs. The factors that were explored included pre-college academic characteristics, demographic characteristics, academic performance, and learner behavior of online students. This session will provide a discussion on how the results from this study can be used to improve policies, processes, and programs with the ultimate goal of improving student success.

**Biography:**

Jean Starobin is the Associate Director of Student Success & Engagement for UF Online at the University of Florida. As part of the UF Online team, her area supports UF Online students through connection events, a virtual community, as well as the focus of creating and monitoring metrics to understand and ultimately promote student academic success.

She received her B.S. in Biology from McGill University, her M.S. in Botany from the University of Massachusetts, her M.S. in Decision Information Science from the University of Florida, and her Ed.D. from the University of Florida with a focus on student success and retention. Her research interest are student success & engagement, virtual communities and in particular facilitating student success in the online learning environment. Prior to joining UF Online in 2016, she served as the Director of Enrollment Management and Online Programs for the Heavener School of Business at the University of Florida.

## Learning Analytics for Continuous College Improvement

*Time and Location: 10:30am-11:20am, Room 3315*



**Aaron Thomas**

Assessment and Learning Analytics Specialist  
College of Pharmacy



**Diane Beck**

Clinical Professor  
Associate Dean, Curricular Affairs and Accreditation  
College of Pharmacy

### **Abstract:**

Collection of digital data is ubiquitous for evaluation and assessment in modern educational institutions. Learning analytics, however, affords the ability to access and integrate diverse data sources and real-time data so that analysis can be both timely and informative. This session will focus on how learning analytics can be utilized to allocate student support services to struggling students, to develop multidimensional assessment of competencies across the curriculum, and to construct a data-informed narrative to support accreditation and longitudinal analysis. The session will provide attendees a working toolbox of questions, methods, and tools to implement effective and affordable learning analytics. Topics include data integration and transformation, data visualization for assessing accreditation milestones, and how learning analytics can support the closing of the assessment loop.

### **Biographies**

Dr. Aaron Thomas is the Assessment and Learning Analytics Specialist at the University of Florida's College of Pharmacy. His primary role is to provide expertise and support in the design, implementation, and analysis of assessment activities that support accreditation and institutional effectiveness. Dr. Thomas is experienced in both quantitative and qualitative methodologies. As a former postdoctoral researcher at the University of Florida's Online Learning Institute, he is especially interested leveraging and integrating student data to develop a learning analytics that supports faculty and students success. He is a co-inventor of Therapist Assisted Online, a HIPAA compliant intelligent-counseling platform, which is now a University of Florida spinoff company. He earned his Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction with a focus upon educational technology from the University of Florida.

Diane E. Beck, Pharm.D., is currently Associate Dean for Curricular Affairs and Accreditation and Clinical Professor at the University of Florida College of Pharmacy. She oversees the professional curriculum that is delivered across 3 campuses and her responsibilities include curriculum delivery, programmatic assessment, and program accreditation. Dr. Beck is a past-president of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. Her research and scholarship focuses on curricular innovations, assessment, and online learning.

**Assessing Student Learning through ePortfolios**  
*Time and Location: 10:30am-11:20am, Rion Ballroom*



**Paloma Rodríguez**

Associate Director of Undergraduate Academic Programs  
International Center

**Abstract:**

ePortfolios allow students to provide evidence of learning across a variety of disciplines and settings. In this digital space students document their journey, integrating academic and experiential learning and making connections between curricular, co-curricular, and career-related experiences. Through this metacognitive exercise, students also become more aware of their intellectual and personal growth. Thus, eportfolios capture not just the complexity but also the process of student learning over time and space, providing rich, contextualized information for program assessment and improvement. This session will provide a brief overview of current approaches and resources for the assessment of student learning through eportfolios.

**Biography:**

Paloma Rodríguez is the Associate Director of Undergraduate Academic Programs at the UF International Center, where she leads the signature program of the Quality Enhancement Plan: a global distinction program with an eportfolio capstone. In this role, she informs the design, development, and assessment of student eportfolios. She also leads professional development initiatives to help faculty and staff incorporate eportfolios into internationalized courses and study abroad programs. Paloma frequently presents nationally and internationally on eportfolio pedagogy. She has co-authored “ePortfolios and Internationalization: Meeting the Needs of the Emergent Global Learner” for to the 2017 AAC&U publication Field Guide to ePortfolio.

## **Closing the Educational Continuous Improvement Loop via Assessments**

*Time and Location: 11:30am-12:20pm, Room 2355*



**Joseph C. Fantone**

*Professor of Pathology and Senior  
Associate Dean for Educational Affairs,  
College of Medicine*



**Kathy Green**

*Assistant Director, Academic  
Support Services, College of  
Medicine*

### **Abstract:**

Assessments are a driving force for monitoring the outcomes of programs, concentrations, individual courses and learner progress. Measurement of each component of a course or program is vital to understanding the relationships among them as a whole. Therefore, proactively designing objectives/outcomes allows for structured student assessment and course/program evaluation based on data to productively refine, revise, and plan for future changes. Session includes processes, data management, and remediation practices.

### **Biographies:**

**Joseph C. Fantone** is Professor of Pathology and Senior Associate Dean for Educational Affairs in the College of Medicine. After spending 30 years on faculty at the University of Michigan, where he held multiple administrative roles including 12 years as Associate Dean for Medical Education and 8 years as Director of Anatomic Pathology, he moved to his current position at University of Florida in June 2010. Since arriving at UF, he led a comprehensive review and restructuring of the undergraduate medical curriculum, facilitated the expansion of on-line distance learning courses and certificate programs, led an expansion of the MD/PhD program and worked closely with faculty in implementing improvements in the College of Medicine Graduate programs and School of Physician Assistant Studies.

**Kathy Green's** greatest passion is looking for ways to improve educational processes, and to streamline techniques to capture that data. Kathy earned a Masters in Library and Informational Science from North Carolina Central University and an additional Certification in School Administration from Gardner Webb University. Along with her Bachelors of Science from the University of Charleston, her vast educational background has allowed her to teach and mentor others from elementary school to medical school in South Carolina, Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, and has been at the University of Florida College of Medicine since May 2013.

## ***Assessing the Quality of Assessments: Validity, Reliability, and Fairness***

*Time and Location: 11:30am-12:20pm, Room 3315*



**M. David Miller**

*Professor and Director, School of Human Development  
and Organizational Studies in Education  
College of Education*

### **Abstract**

Validity studies provide evidence that supports the interpretations of test scores for proposed uses. Reliability studies provide evidence of the consistency of the assessments. Fairness studies provide evidence of the validity of test scores across different groups. Each are crucial to good assessment practices but can involve complex and varied methods. However, some of the evidence that would inform assessment practices can be simply collected and documented in the context of classroom or program assessment. In this session, we will explore simple methods that can be used for classroom or program assessments to provide evidence of validity, reliability and fairness.

### **Biography**

Dr. M. David Miller is a Professor of Research and Evaluation Methods and the Director of the School of Organizational Studies in Education. He is also the Director of the Collaborative Assessment and Program Evaluation Services (CAPES). His research focuses on the psychometric properties of tests, particularly validity and reliability, as well as the uses of assessment in education from early childhood through higher education. He is broadly published in the area of psychometrics and assessment. His most recent edited book is on the (psychometric) quality of assessments in higher education. Dr. Miller received his PhD from UCLA in Educational Research Methods.

**Self and Peer Review for Course Quality: The Building Blocks for a Quality Online Program**  
*Time and Location: 11:30am-12:20pm, Room 2365*



**Jennifer Smith**

Director, Office of Faculty Development and Teaching Excellence

**Abstract**

Quality courses are the building blocks for a quality program. How can you be certain you are teaching a quality course? The new UF + Quality Matters Standards can be used for self and/or peer review of online courses. This session will describe the new *Florida Quality Matters Fundamentals Course Review* and statewide awards program. Participants will apply the UF + QM rubric to a sample course to identify areas for improvement.

**Biography**

Jennifer Smith is the director of the Office of Faculty Development and Teaching Excellence. She has served as the Associate Director of Course production for UF Online, as well as Manager of Instructional Design Services at UF's Center for Instructional Technology and Training (CITT). Prior to her work at CITT, Ms. Smith was an Associate Professor in the University of Florida Theatre and Dance Department.



**Fitting In: Square Pegs in Round Holes**  
**How to Succeed in Assessment When Your Discipline Doesn't Fit into Typical Assessment Models**  
*Time and Location: 11:30am-12:20pm, Rion Ballroom*



**Tiza Garland**

Associate Director of UF's School of Theatre and Dance  
Associate Professor of Theatre

**Abstract**

Associate Director of the School of Theatre and Dance Tiza Garland will discuss the School's journey from reticent faculty to model assessment reporting. She will address SLOs, creating rubrics, and the School's application of consensus moderation. She will also provide information on how the faculty of the School of Theatre and Dance has moved from reticence and resistance when faced with institutional program assessment to engagement in defining and reporting Program Goals. The key to faculty buy-in and effective assessment reporting is "translation" and breaking down the process into its simple components. She shares her "translation" of assessment jargon and the need to meet faculty on their terms in order to develop and promote participation in assessment reporting.

**Biography**

Tiza Garland is the Associate Director of UF's School of Theatre and Dance and Associate Professor of Theatre. She teaches in the MFA, BFA, and BA programs. Professor Garland is a Certified Movement Analyst (CMA) of Laban Movement Analysis (LMA). Tiza is a Certified Teacher with the National Michael Chekhov Association and she is a Certified Teacher with the Society of American Fight Directors (SAFD), a Certified Teacher with the British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat (BASSC), and a Senior Teacher with Dueling Arts International. She is serving in her third term as President of the Southeastern Theatre Conference (SETC).



# Student Panelists

*Assessments that Students Value—1:00-2:00pm, Rion Ballroom*



**Samantha Axelrod** [samaxelrod@ufl.edu](mailto:samaxelrod@ufl.edu)

Samantha Axelrod is a third-year student at the University of Florida College of Pharmacy. She received a Bachelor of Science in Biology degree at the University of Florida. Her current role as Student Council Class of 2019 Representative focuses on advocating the student experience as well as collaborating with faculty. She has participated in numerous discussions with students and faculty to address concerns and enhance the College's curriculum. Samantha additionally serves as APhA-ASP Vice President of National Patient Care Projects with a mission to optimize pharmacy practice in healthcare and advance pharmacy education.



**Sloane Bochman** [sloane.bochman@ufl.edu](mailto:sloane.bochman@ufl.edu)

Sloane Bochman is from Miami, FL and is currently pursuing a Master's degree in International Business. Her undergraduate degree was in Business Management with a minor in Disabilities in Society. She has held internships with Northrop Grumman in the financial planning, reporting, and analysis department as well as with a small law firm in Miami, FL. Upon graduation, she will pursue her career in consulting/project management with Convergence Consulting Group in Tampa, Florida.



**Ian Green** [iangreen@ufl.edu](mailto:iangreen@ufl.edu)

Ian is a second-generation Gator from Atlanta, Georgia studying Business Management and Economics. He 2018-19 Student Body President, and currently serves as the Senate President where he acts as the head of the Legislative Branch within Student Government. Outside of Senate, Ian can be seen around campus giving prospective students tours as a Florida Cicerone. He has served as an executive board member of the Black Student Union. Additionally, Ian has served on various university committees such as the Technology Fee Advisory Committee, Preeminence Task Force, Local Fee Committee and currently serves on the Capital Improvement Trust Fund Committee.



**Clay Hurdle** [jchurdle@ufl.edu](mailto:jchurdle@ufl.edu)

Clay Hurdle is an M.S. student in the department of Agricultural Education and Communication specializing in Leadership Development. Before graduating from UF with a B.S. in Agricultural Education and Communication and a B.A. in Spanish, a few of Clay's leadership roles included serving as a 2014 Preview Staffer, UF Honors Program Ambassador, Chair of the Student Advisory Council for Undergraduate Affairs, and the Academic Affairs Executive Secretary for Student Government. Clay was inducted to the UF Hall of Fame in 2016. Currently, Clay works as a graduate assistant, is an active member of Florida Blue Key, and served as a student senator in UF Student Government.



**Alyssa Lowder** [alowder711@ufl.edu](mailto:alowder711@ufl.edu)

Alyssa Lowder is currently a third-year student at the University Of Florida College of Pharmacy pursuing a joint PharmD/MBA degree. She earned her bachelor's degree at UF in Business Finance. She currently serves as a College of Pharmacy Ambassador, a Class Representative, a member of the Student Conduct Committee run by the Dean of Student's Office, and a member of the College's Professionalism Committee. As part of her responsibilities, Alyssa has sat in on many discussions and meetings with faculty concerning the College's curriculum, how it is currently performing and ways in which it could be improved upon.



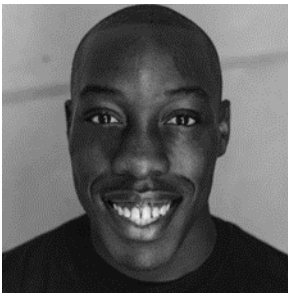
**Jackie Phillips** [jacquelinenphill@ufl.edu](mailto:jacquelinenphill@ufl.edu)

Jackie Phillips is a third-generation Gator from Jacksonville, Florida. She is a Family, Youth, and Community Sciences major, minoring in Agricultural Communication and Educational Studies. She is planning to pursue a career in Student Affairs after graduating this upcoming May. During her time at the University of Florida, Jackie has been an active member of Student Government. She has served as the Senate President and is currently serving as the Action SG Chairwoman. Outside of Student Government, Jackie has served as the Inter-Residence Hall Association President and works for the Department of Housing and Residence Education as a student assistant.



**Heather Ryan** [heatherryan1219@ufl.edu](mailto:heatherryan1219@ufl.edu)

Heather Ryan is a senior from Lakeland, FL studying agricultural education and communication with a focus in leadership development. As a first year student on campus, she immediately felt welcomed into the heart of the Gator Nation and desired to help other students experience the same sense of belonging. Promoting inclusivity on campus has remained a top priority over the past three years in her personal and professional life. By translating Preview orientation materials into dual languages and initiating a business clothing lending service through the Gator Career Closet, she has repeatedly advocated for personalized student care. Heather is infinitely grateful for how the University of Florida has not only enhanced her education but compelled her to share the Gator Good for the rest of her life.



**Omarley Spence** [ospence@ufl.edu](mailto:ospence@ufl.edu)

Omarley Spence is a third year Economics major pursuing a combined Masters of Science Degree in Management from the Hough Graduate School of Business. From there, he looks to pursue a second Master's degree in Education Administration and Policy. He is from Lauderhill, Florida but he and his family are originally from Montego Bay, Jamaica. He currently serves as the Executive Director of the U Matter Ambassadors and the President of the Gators of Tomorrow Leadership Organization here on campus. Additionally, he is involved in the Florida Cicerones, Dance Marathon at the University of Florida, and the Reitz Scholars program.



**Jessica Valdes** [jessicavaldes25@ufl.edu](mailto:jessicavaldes25@ufl.edu)

Jessica Valdes is a B.A. candidate in Political Science, Portuguese, and Latin American Studies at the University of Florida Honors College, where she serves as Associate Coordinator of the Latino Educational Advancement Program under Hispanic-Latino Affairs. She has worked for the last three years as the Program Assistant for the Smithsonian Latino Center's Ambassadors Program in Washington, D.C. Jessica has also served as a Legislative Fellow at the Florida House of Representatives, Senate, and the Executive Office of the Governor. She hopes to pursue a Juris Doctorate to bridge her interests in the law, politics, and education.

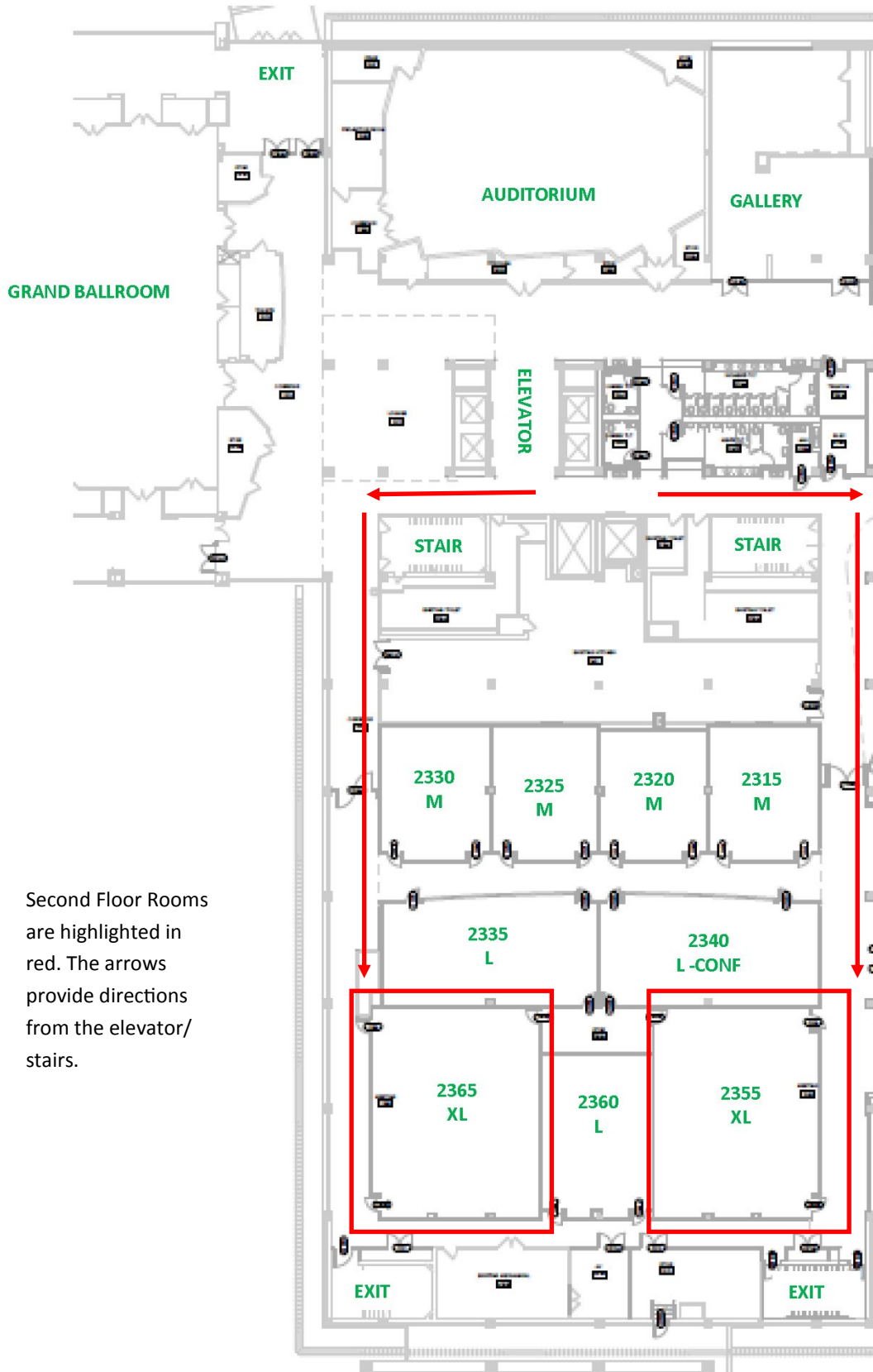


**Alana White** [ana1725@ufl.edu](mailto:ana1725@ufl.edu)

Alana White is a fourth year Psychology major and Dance minor from Tampa Florida. During her time at UF she has been a member of the UF Preview staff, taught three semesters of First Year Florida and is currently the President of a dance organization called Danza. After graduation in May, she hopes to begin her application process into a Ph.D. program in Physical Therapy while continuing to volunteer within the field.

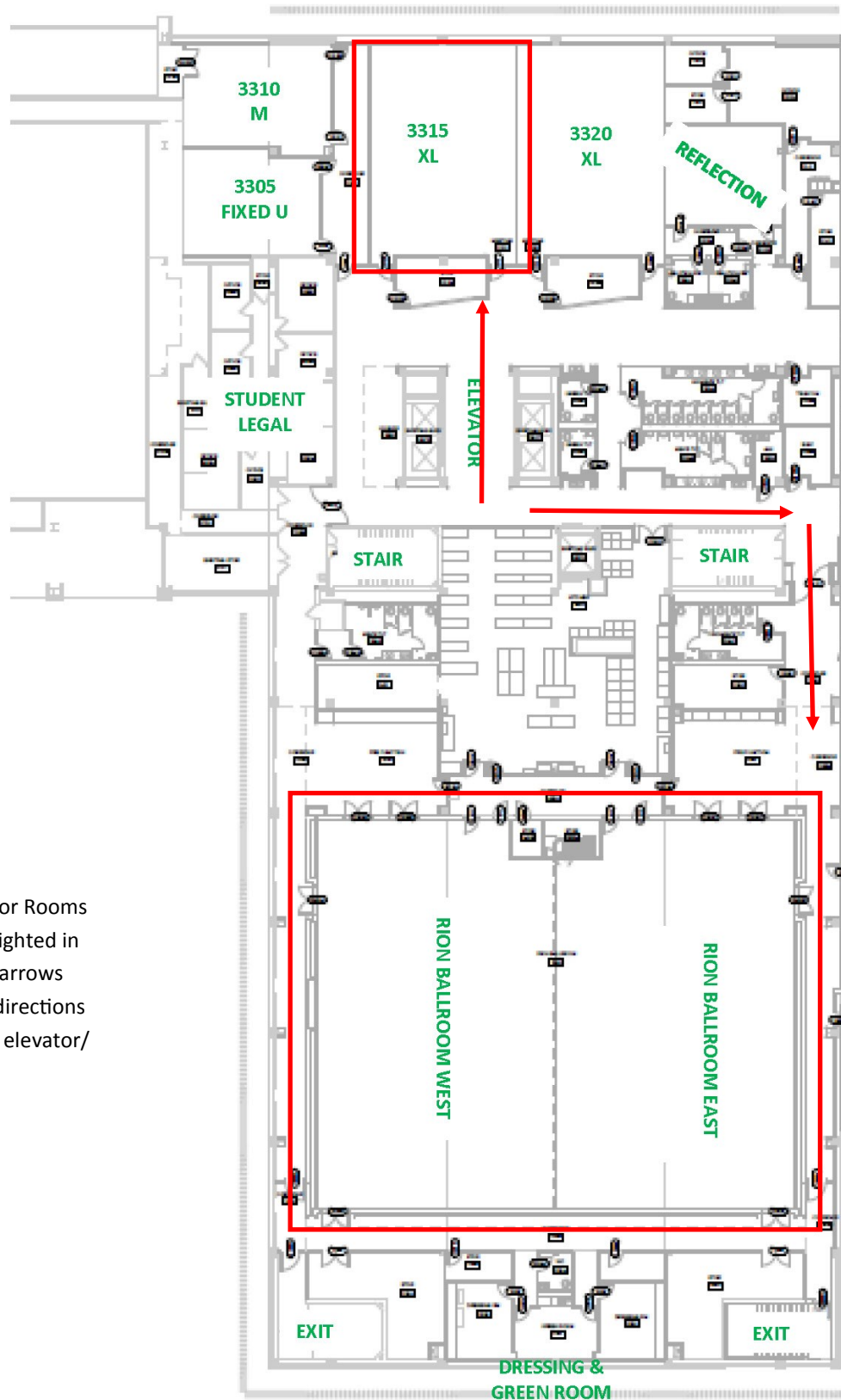
**NOTES:**

# Map of Reitz Union Second Floor



Second Floor Rooms are highlighted in red. The arrows provide directions from the elevator/stairs.

# Map of Reitz Union Third Floor



Third Floor Rooms are highlighted in red. The arrows provide directions from the elevator/stairs.



