

Commencement

May 4, 2018 RP Funding Center Lakeland, Florida 3:30 p.m.



Message from the President



President Randy K. Avent holds a Ph.D. in biomedical mathematics and engineering from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He has two master's degrees, one in electrical engineering from North Carolina State University and the other in biomedical mathematics and engineering from the University of North Carolina. His bachelor's degree is in zoology from the University of North Carolina. Avent is also a 2005 graduate of the Greater Boston Executive Program at MIT's Sloan School of Management.

On behalf of the faculty, staff and administration of Florida Polytechnic University, congratulations on everything you have accomplished during your time here. Today, we celebrate and honor you as part of the inaugural four-year graduating class at Florida Poly.

There have been many special moments in the short history of our university, and today is undoubtedly one of those. Take pride in the fact that you are now part of Florida Poly's Class of 2018. Earning a college degree is no small feat. It takes an extraordinary level of commitment, dedication and motivation to do what you have done. So much has been asked of you, even before you first stepped on campus and took a leap of faith to attend a university that had not even opened its doors.

For you, today marks the end of one journey and the beginning of another. No matter where your professional career takes you, you will always be a Phoenix. We could not be more proud of you.

Once again, congratulations.

Sincerely,

Dr. Randy K. Avent President

M Wl



Geremony

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES

RECESSIONAL

POMP & CIRCUMSTANCE PROCESSIONAL CHELSEA REEVES '19 NATIONAL ANTHEM DR. TERRY PARKER WELCOME STUDENT ADDRESS CHRIS DOWDY '18 CHANCELLOR'S ADDRESS MARSHALL M. CRISER III PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS DR. RANDY K. AVENT AWARDING OF HONORARY DEGREE DR. RANDY K. AVENT Dr. JEFFREY WADSWORTH COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES DR. RANDY K. AVENT FOR MASTER'S DEGREE FRANK T. MARTIN CONFERRAL OF MASTER'S DEGREES DR. RANDY K. AVENT PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES FRANK T. MARTIN CONFERRAL OF

POMP & CIRCUMSTANCE

University Leadership

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Student Speaker



Chris Dowdy '18 is graduating summa cum laude from Florida Polytechnic University with a bachelor's of science in mechanical engineering. The married father of three has made the most of his time at Florida Poly – both as a student as well as a mentor – all the while holding a full time job in his "spare" time.

Dowdy was chosen by his peers as the lead designer on a LIDAR/SONAR integration project with Michigan Aerospace. He received the Hayes Award from the Florida Academy of Sciences for his work on a research project focused on improving solar cell efficiencies. He has been a member of numerous clubs and was elected as the inaugural chair of the Presidential Ambassador program, which features students selected for their academic standing, leadership skills, citizenship and service activities. During his term, he has played a pivotal role in building the program while serving as a mentor to others. Dowdy was also the student representative on the search committee for the hiring of Florida Poly's new vice president for advancement.

Dowdy took part in two internships during his time at Florida Poly. One was with the Port Tampa Bay, and the other was with Florida Poly's XRD Characterization Lab. His next chapter will be heading to Sacramento, California, where he has accepted a position as a project engineer with the Whiting-Turner Contracting Company.

Dowdy and his wife, Carolyn, have three daughters.

Chancellor's Address



Marshall M. Criser III is chancellor of the State University System of Florida.

He is the former president of AT&T Florida and a longtime education leader in the state. He took office as chancellor in January of 2014, fully dedicating himself to his passion of higher education advocacy.

The Board of Governors of the State University System selected him unanimously for the post. Criser is in his fifth year on the Higher Education Coordinating Council, a role he began as the Florida House Speaker's appointee and business community representative and continues as chancellor.

He is a member of the Scripps Research Institute Board of Trustees in California and the Florida Council of 100, where he is a former chair.

His community service also includes terms as vice chair of the University of Florida's Board of Trustees, chair of the Florida Chamber of Commerce, and chair of Florida TaxWatch.

A Florida native, Criser graduated from the University of Florida with a degree in business administration and completed an Advanced Management Programme at INSEAD in Fountainebleau, France.

He and his wife, Kimberly, have four daughters.

Commencement Speaker



Dr. Jeffrey Wadsworth recently retired as president and CEO of Battelle Memorial Institute, the world's largest nonprofit research and development organization, executing about \$6B of work annually and employing about 22,500 people. Headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, Battelle counts among its successes the Xerox machine, the universal barcode, the compact disc, and numerous innovations in medical technology,

telecommunications, environmental waste treatment, national security and transportation.

Wadsworth formerly oversaw the management or co-management of seven national laboratories of the U.S. Departments of Energy and Homeland Security. He also led the expansion of Battelle's operations into the United Kingdom, China, Japan, Korea and India.Wadsworth was educated at Sheffield University in England, where he studied metallurgy, earning a bachelor's degree in 1972, a Ph.D. in 1975, and a doctor of metallurgy degree in 1990 for his published work. In 2004 he received the highest recognition conferred by the university, an honorary doctor of engineering degree.

Wadsworth came to the United States in 1976 and has worked at Stanford University, Lockheed Missiles and Space Company and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. In 2002, he joined Battelle and served as a member of the White House Transition Planning Office for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. From 2003-07, Wadsworth was the director of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the U.S. Department of Energy's largest multipurpose science laboratory.

Commencement Speaker

Wadsworth has authored or co-authored nearly 300 scientific papers and one book, and he has been granted four U.S. patents. His many honors and awards include six honorary doctorates, two honorary professorships from Chinese universities, and election to the rank of Fellow of three technical societies. He was elected a member of the US National Academy of Engineering in 2005 and the Chinese Academy of Engineering in 2011. He serves on the boards of Carpenter Technologies and 3D Systems and is a trustee and former chair of trustees at The Ohio State University. He has also led several STEM programs in Ohio that have evolved into national education initiatives and has served on key educational boards.



MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ENGINEERING

Henry Chao

Jephte Douyon

Faezeh Haghighat Mesbahi++

Michelle Rae Powell

Joseph Bryant Prine

Master of Science in Innovation & Technology

Mert Aydin

Lawrence Brindese++

Christopher Didier

Daniel Teichman+

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY

Clayton Dean Adkins*

Addison Reed Armstrong++

Haley Lynn Burns**

Paul Edward Cipolla

Jeffrey Robert DuBois***

William R. Francisco

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Jacob Livingston**

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Andrew Joseph Newquist

Makala Morgan Quinn*

Riley Hunter Schill*

Megan Frances Sheeran*

Zhi Qiang Zheng*++

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Jacob Majors Janota

Dylan Cory Kanhai

Robert Edwin Kelly**

Jeffrey Lynn Long**

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Lindsey Jensen Schwemmin

Dalton Bryce Shost**+

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Eric Marcus Uglem



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Dalton Pratte Birner

Yamil Ricardo Calderon

Cory Benjamin Chambers++

Slater Michael Colteryahn

Kyle Cook***

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Dabeluchukwu Umeugwa**

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Justin Paul Florian

Justin Ray Folden*

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Mark Glaser

Enrique Hernandez*

Michelle Yanyn Holzemer***

Sarah Hruska

Camille Jalbert*

Ezequiel Juarez Garcia***

William James Lees IV

Paul Russell Luckey*

Riley McBride*

Alberto Andres Pinero

Damon Plyler**

Tevin Andrew Prendergast

Ethan Christopher Puerto

Kody Quick*+

Wyatt Alan Roach

Sarah Isha Ruiz-Candelario

Michael Sanchez*+

Joshua Christian Strattan**

Muneer Tatum*+

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING (CONT.)

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Eric Preston Vickers***+

Kyle Weeks**++

Jason Timothy Williams

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Ian C. Bishop*+ Brendan Burke

Michelle Anne Culbert

Justin James Cushing-Dyment Javier De Jesus Dominguez*

Lucas Roy Doty

Tanner Jacob Douglas Christopher James Dube Jonathan Robert Ethier

Ben James Gilbert+

Barry Lawton Glass*

Brett Anthony Glendenning++

Elijah Jorge Gonzales*+

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Quentin Andrew Goss++

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Robert Heinbach++

Nathan Edward Holechek*

Rylin Thomas Judge+ Courtney Kasonic Austin Joseph Kempa*

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Inna Kravchunovska***+

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Adam Richard Seevers+

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Michael Thomas Whitfield+

Nigel Jesse Williams+

Cynthia Marie Wooldridge**

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Henrique Ignacio Bolivar

Cody James Denig

William Joseph Engel**

Trevor Keith Hillsgrove***

Gabriel Seth Hutchison***

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Jerried Clifford Ramon**

Robert Carlos Rogers

Chandler Alexander Roper

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Nicholas Suppe

Samuel Uribe*

Derek Scott Williams*++

Broderick Harrison Wolff++

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Jaron Austin Ewell***

Matthew Guy Farr**

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Maria Paula Gomez++

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Veronica Aracely Perez Herrera

Jordan David Ponce

Eric William Rippe

Ashley Rose Rogers

Carl Rogers

Alex Nicholas Ross

Danya Rubio

Isha Esther Ruiz-Candelario++

Shelby Lynn Sims*

Kevin Corey Stephens

Travis Joseph Swann***

Samuel Stewart Trappen

Anthony Glenn Vozza

Joshua David Watkins

Laura Brooks Wemple**

Christopher Thomas Westphalen

Kylee Debra White++

Austin Richard Wrigley***++

