2020 Fellows Forum

Discovery through Disappointment, Difference & Disagreement

Thursday, March 5: Disappointment
Friday, March 6: Difference & Disagreement

The Graduate School | Florida State University
Schedule of Events

Thursday, March 5

10:15 AM - 10:45 AM
Check-In

10:45 AM - 11:00 AM
Introductions
Dr. Lisa Liseno
Assistant Dean & Director of the Fellows Society, The Graduate School

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Panel of Speakers
Elizabeth Foley
Nutrition and Food Science
Jesse Ford
Higher Education/ELPS
Dr. Kema Gadson
College of Medicine

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM
Lunch

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM
Keynote Address
Dean James Frazier
College of Fine Arts

Friday, March 6

10:15 AM - 10:45 AM
Check-In

10:45 AM - 11:00 AM
Introductions
Dr. Lisa Liseno
Assistant Dean & Director of the Fellows Society, The Graduate School

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Panel of Speakers
Dr. Frances Berry
Public Administration
Dr. Paul Conway
Psychology
Liz Joyner
The Village Square

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM
Lunch

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM
Keynote Address
President John Thrasher
Florida State University

2:30 PM - 3:00 PM
Networking & Conversation
Program Description

As students, teachers, and scholars of the Florida State University, we invest a great deal of time and energy in ensuring we know how to be effective communicators of our ideas and insights. We make every effort to support our thoughts and work with evidence, research, thorough analysis, and thoughtful reflection. Despite the best of intentions, the paths we tread are rarely smooth. When we encounter obstacles and setbacks in our work, it can seem like a failure. And even the product of our best efforts will have its detractors. When faced with such problems, what happens next?

This forum reframes such issues in order to find their constructive potential by asking the question: how can disappointments, differences, and disagreement serve as sources of discovery?

Presentation Synopses

Day One: Discovery Through Disappointment

The first day of the forum will examine the theme of disappointment, in which speakers will address a variety of topics, such as learning from failures, turning obstacles into opportunities, and mechanisms to cope with disappointments in both academia and life.

Day Two: Discovery Through Difference & Disagreement

The second day of the forum will be focused on the interpersonal experience of difference and disagreement, how these experiences are negotiated, and the creative potential that they hold as sites of discovery.
Elizabeth Foley is a fifth-year doctoral student at Florida State University. She graduated with an undergraduate degree in Exercise Physiology from the University of Miami in 2014. She then went on to earn her master’s degree in Exercise Physiology Nutrition for Health and Human Performance in 2015. Elizabeth hopes to use her knowledge to educate the public about proper nutrition, make important research discoveries, and ultimately change the way food is viewed in the United States; she also hopes to teach at the university level. In her spare time, Elizabeth enjoys reading, writing, and training Brazilian jiu-jitsu. Her research interests include the gut microbiome, cognition, athletic performance, obesity, functional foods, and nutraceuticals.
Jesse Ford, M.Ed. is a doctoral candidate at Florida State University in the College of Education concentrating in Higher Education. His scholarship seeks to illuminate how students of color experience higher education. More specifically, his research explores academic and career socialization, and the influence of race, gender, and systematic oppression on postsecondary educational settings. Before his work at FSU, he served as an Assistant Director of Multicultural Student Affairs at the University of Miami, where he provided cultural and social justice programming for the university community. Jesse earned his Bachelor’s degree in History with a minor in Communication at Coastal Carolina University and a Master’s degree in Higher Education and Student Affairs at the University of South Carolina.
Kema Gadson is the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and Diversity at the Florida State University, College of Medicine. She holds an Ed.D. in educational leadership and policy studies and is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Family Medicine and Rural Health. Dr. Gadson’s career has focused on the educational and professional development of undergraduate and medical students with a focus on student well-being, students in transition, and diversity and inclusion. She is collaborating on work that examines medical student success and engagement, with a particular focus on academic performance and retention. Her research centers around the underrepresented minority medical student experience with a particular focus on mental well-being and help-seeking behaviors.
James Frazier, EdD, MFA is Dean of the Florida State University (FSU) College of Fine Arts. He comes most immediately from Virginia Commonwealth University, where he earned tenure and moved through the ranks, over time working in the positions of Chair of Dance and Choreography, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Faculty Affairs, and Interim Dean. He is a former Co-Dean of the celebrated American Dance Festival (ADF) and a former Associate Artistic Director of the Dance Institute of Washington. He now serves on the boards of the ADF and the International Council of Fine Arts Deans, and he is a Visiting Evaluator for the National Association of Schools of Dance. In the past, he held the offices of President and Secretary of the Council of Dance Administrators and was a board member of the American College Dance Association. He earned his doctorate from Temple University and is a two-time alum of FSU.
Our Story
The Fellows Society was established by Dean Marcus in 2007 to create opportunities for interdisciplinary networking and learning among outstanding graduate students who hold competitive fellowships, and the wider FSU community. The Fellows Society continues today to be a premiere university institution with diverse events that are designed to expand members’ intellectual horizons and to facilitate broadened networks across professions and disciplines.

Our Mission
To recognize and advance academic excellence at the graduate level by developing leadership skills. To promote exchange and interactions among fellows from multiple disciplines. To encourage service to the University and Community and to develop an interdisciplinary network of scholars.

The Pin
The pin is a meaningful symbol of Florida State University’s only graduate fellowship society, combining of the three torches -- Vires (strength of all kinds), Artes (knowledge), and Mores (quality of customs, characters, and traditions) -- into one interwoven flames to represent the pursuit of graduate scholars to become a “completed person.”

Membership in the Fellows Society acknowledges the achievement of these ideals of strength, knowledge and character, and our fellows are supported in reaching their utmost potential and obtaining their academic goals.

fellowssociety.fsu.edu
Dr. Frances Berry  
*Professor, Public Administration*  
Florida State University  

Prof. Frances Berry is the Reubin O’D. Askew Eminent Scholar and Professor in the Askew School of Public Administration and Policy. She received her Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Minnesota. She was elected a Fellow in the National Academy of Public Administration in 2005. She teaches public policy theory and process, and strategic management. Since coming to Florida in 1990, Dr. Berry has served as project director or senior consultant on over four dozen projects with FL state and local governments, and nonprofit agencies. She has published over fifty articles on management and policy innovation and diffusion, strategic management, and social enterprises. Dr. Berry has served as President of the Public Management Research Association and in other leadership posts in public policy and administration. On campus, she is an interviewer for student Fulbright applicants, and serves on 24 doctoral dissertation committees.
I study the psychology of morality and justice: How people think about good and bad, right and wrong, and whether to help or harm others. Some of my work examines the surprisingly complex ways that moral self-perceptions influence prosocial behavior.

For my dissertation, I applied a technique called process dissociation to moral dilemma decisions where causing harm maximizes outcomes. Currently, I'm developing a model of individual differences in moral judgment, and examining how morality impacts person perception.

My work primarily focuses on two streams. First, I aim to clarify conceptual confusion regarding the processes underlying moral dilemma judgments where causing harm maximizes outcomes. This work involves techniques such as process dissociation, as well as a new model of individual differences in moral thinking styles. Second, I am increasingly interested in social perceptions of moral judgments—how and why people react to others' moral judgments, and how people adjust moral judgments to present themselves in socially optimal ways.
Liz Joyner

*Founder and CEO*

The Village Square

Liz Joyner is the Founder and CEO of The Village Square, a non-partisan public educational forum centralized right here in Tallahassee. She is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and has been working with The Village Square since 2006. Liz’s work focuses on harnessing the power of dialogue and disagreement by providing opportunities for civic and political debate across the country. These opportunities are provided through different programs run by The Village Square in settings such as local communities and college campuses. Liz works to make sure civil discourse is happening at the local, state, and national levels across different ideological and political beliefs.
John Thrasher, a Florida State University alumnus and former state legislator, is the university’s 15th president.

Thrasher assumed the presidency on Nov. 10, 2014, after a successful career as a state legislator, businessman, lobbyist and lawyer. As president, Thrasher has focused his efforts on elevating FSU’s reputation as a preeminent research institution. He has presided over a $1 billion fundraising campaign, advanced the university’s academic and research mission, championed diversity and inclusion, and welcomed the best and brightest students in the university’s history.
The 2020 Fellows Forum was Organized by the Following Fellows Society Members:

**McKenna Milici**  
*Musicology*  
Coordinator, Fellows Forum Planning Committee

**Elizabeth Foley**  
*Nutrition and Food Science*

**Jamie Fox**  
*Mathematics*

**Cassie Kepple**  
*Higher Education*

**Joshua Matson**  
*Religion*

**Wen-Chi Shie**  
*Public Administration and Policy*

**Marisa Tillery**  
*Biomedical Sciences*

Additional Thanks to Our Staff:

**Dr. Lisa Liseno**  
*Director, The Fellows Society & Assistant Dean, The Graduate School*

**Ms. Katrina Williams**  
*Senior Event Coordinator, The Graduate School*
Each year, under the direction of The Graduate School, members of the Fellows Society organize and participate in an interdisciplinary symposium designed to engage students from a broad range of academic disciplines. Proposals for the 2021 Fellows Forum topic are due October 2020.