Award to Outstanding Leader

The Selection Committee for Outstanding Graduating Student Leaders considers the quality and scope of leadership activities, universitywide leadership, experience, special awards, recognition and recommendations of faculty, staff and students.

Hannah Theis
Outstanding Leader

What is your proudest Gator moment?
When I reflected on my time at UF and realized I made the right decision in coming to the University of Florida. I have had so many opportunities as a Gator I couldn’t have gotten somewhere else, and I am so unbelievably proud to be a UF student.

What is something every Gator should know?
The Gator Nation is here to support you. Whether you’re going through a tough time or celebrating the happiest moment of your life, there will always be someone there to support you. Being part of something way bigger than myself, like The Gator Nation, has been one of the most impactful experiences of my life.

What is your favorite Gator icon or tradition?
The old honors apples tradition. It is funny for me to think back on a time when it was possible to just leave a basket of apples out in the plaza for students to take and obey the honor system.

Who are the Gators who inspire you?
The ones standing beside me right now. I have seen my friends and peers accomplish such amazing things at this university and their drive has pushed me to be better.

What was your most fulfilling UF role?
By far, serving as a member of the Florida Cicerones. This organization taught me so much about myself, working with others and about the university I care so dearly for. I have been privileged to see firsthand the impact this university can make on people and how coming to UF can change someone’s life.

How will you pay it forward?
The most valuable thing I have taken from my college experience is the mentorship I received. I hope to one day pass along that wisdom and investment faculty and staff at UF made in me. The impact these relationships have made on me during such a formative time is hard to put into words.

What will your legacy be?
My hope is that everyone I interacted with here at the University of Florida felt included, valued and appreciated. I think that is the best thing I could ever accomplish as a student leader.

How do you bleed Orange and Blue?
By taking the valuable lessons I learned during my time at UF and bringing them into everything I do on a daily basis.

Honorable Mention

The following student has been recognized for her scholarship and leadership at the University of Florida. She deserves congratulations for her contributions to the university.

Holly Pole
Warrington College of Business Administration
Fisher School of Accounting
College of Health and Human Performance