



UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA
CENTER FOR SUCCESS OF WOMEN FACULTY

Congratulations to the 2014 CSWF Women of Distinction Awardees

The UCF Center for Success of Women Faculty is pleased to announce the winners of the UCF Women of Distinction Award. Three awards were given this year for “Excellence in Social Justice & Sustainability,”

Dr. Lisa Barkley, Assistant Dean for Diversity and Inclusion & Assistant Professor of Medicine, Department of Clinical Sciences, College of Medicine

Dr. Lisa Barkley is helping prepare tomorrow’s doctors to be culturally competent, compassionate leaders who will improve healthcare for all. Her efforts have impacted UCF the entire Central Florida community. In 2010, she created the Health Leaders Pipeline program for students at Orlando’s Jones High School. Today, that program has expanded to high schools in Osceola County and two middle schools and exposes students from underserved communities to career options in healthcare. The first cohort of 12 Jones students graduated in June. All are entering college, some on full scholarships. All plan to major in health fields. Dr. Barkley has also organized programs that build diversity and inclusion into the fabric of the medical school, including Lunch and Learns to help faculty, staff and students better understand, communicate and engage in an ever-changing world.

Dr. Gabriela Ríos, Assistant Professor, Department of Writing & Rhetoric, College of Arts & Humanities

Before coming to UCF, Dr. Gabriela Raquel Ríos was an instructor for the Ford Foundations’ Difficult Dialogues initiative at Texas A&M, College Station, where she began to hone her interest in social justice and sustainability. A central concern for her work is developing sustainable coalitions or partnerships among diverse groups of people. Since beginning her position as an Assistant Professor for the Writing and Rhetoric Department, she has facilitated partnerships between UCF students and Orlando’s Youth and Young Adult Network of the National Farm Worker Ministry (YAYA) in order to help change the living and working conditions of farm workers.

Dr. Martha S. Lue Stewart, Professor, Department of Child, Family, and Community Sciences, College of Education & Human Performance

In my 30+ years in the Central Florida community, I’ve worked to be of service in the areas of exceptional student, urban, and multicultural education. My collective efforts have included:

- First African-American Women to achieve the rank of Professor at UCF
- G. Pritchey Smith Multicultural Education Educator of the Year Award, National Association for Multicultural Education

- Created and directed the first fully online graduate certificate program in Urban Education in the State of Florida
- Co-Convener of the Urban initiatives Special Interest Group (SIG) at UCF
- Instituted state recognized community-based initiative, Reading Post, in underserved communities in Greater Orlando
- Annually, leads the Spring Break/Black History College Tour
- Assisted in the establishment of mentor services to 20+ African American and Haitian American middle school and high school males