

## UF Geomatics @ Fort Lauderdale Newsletter

## December 2021

### Program News

Thank you to our students, stakeholders, and staff who have contributed so much time and energy into making 2021 another productive year for the [University of Florida Geomatics Program @ Fort Lauderdale REC!](#)

In March, the academic departmental home of the Geomatics program was [renamed to the School of Forest, Fisheries, and Geomatics Sciences](#). This is an exciting change envisioned by our program founder, [Dr. David Gibson](#), that has come to fruition.



In November, the UF Geomatics program received a 6-year [National Science Foundation \(NSF\) award](#) to increase STEM degree completion amongst low-income, high-achieving undergraduate students with demonstrated financial need. We are excited to start offering these scholarships to deserving transfer students from our partner colleges across Florida.

Hybrid is the most accurate way to describe our involvement in outreach and research events as we navigated the ever-changing dynamics of the pandemic. The Geomatics program participated in numerous events that were entirely virtual (e.g., [ASPRS](#), [Career Construction Days](#), [NEARC](#)). Meanwhile, we attended in-person regional events when opportunities arose including [hosting FSMS meetings](#), presenting to [county agencies](#), and participating in annual regional events (e.g., [South Florida GIS Expo](#), [FSMS conference](#)). We are hopeful that in-person opportunities for reconnecting with our geospatial community will only increase in 2022.



UF Geomatics @ Fort Lauderdale research group at the South Florida GIS Expo in August

Congratulations are in store for all of our newest graduates, especially: Michael Blaize (BS), Ryan Bradley (BS), Eli Brossell (MS), Michael Klassen (MS), Sam Robinson (MS), Jerome Small (MS), and [Angela Schirck-Matthews \(PhD\)](#)!

Lastly, we [welcomed Jiping Cao](#) to our group in August as a PhD Graduate Assistant. Jiping will be focusing his research efforts on spatial analysis of VGI.

We look forward to connecting with you again in 2022! Happy Holidays!

Registration for [Spring 2022 courses](#) is now available.  
[Contact us today](#) for an advising appointment!

### Important 2022 Dates

- *Jan. 5:* Spring classes begin
- *Feb. 1:* Undergrad. admission app. [deadline \(Sum. C\)](#)
- *Apr. 15:* Undergrad. admission app. [deadline \(Fall\)](#)
- *Apr. 29-30:* Spring commencement
- *May 9:* Sum. A/C classes begin
- *Aug 24:* Fall classes begin

### Selected Geomatics Publications

- Benjamin et al.: [Monitoring the Efficacy of Crested Floatingheart \(\*Nymphoides cristata\*\) Management with Object-Based Image Analysis of UAS Imagery](#)
- Brazeal et al.: [Investigating Practical Impacts of Using Single-Antenna and Dual-Antenna GNSS/INS Sensors in UAS-Lidar Applications](#)
- Mandourah & Hochmair: [Comparison of spatiotemporal contribution patterns among three crowd-sourcing drone platforms](#)
- Schirck-Matthews & Hochmair: [Comparison of cycling path characteristics in South Florida and North Holland among three GPS fitness tracker apps](#)

### Recent Awards

- Innocensia Owuor received the [Paul Wolf Memorial Scholarship from ASPRS](#) and the [Jack A. Falk III Scholarship for Everglades Conservation, Restoration and Sustainability](#). She also received a [scholarship from the Austrian Marshall Plan Foundation](#) to conduct her dissertation research in Austria in spring 2022.
- Adam Benjamin received the [2021 Young Professional Surveyor and Mapper of the Year award](#) from FSMS.

*This newsletter couldn't possibly cover it all, so we encourage everyone to visit:*

<https://flrec.ifas.ufl.edu/geomatics/>

## Transitions: Farewell Adam and Welcome Youssef

With a new year comes new beginnings. Adam Benjamin is departing for the northeast US as part of a family-oriented relocation. On behalf of the entire Geomatics program, we thank him for his efforts in building the [Geomatics Program @ Fort Lauderdale](#) over the past decade. With this change, we are excited to have [Youssef Kaddoura join our group](#) as the new Geomatics Specialist in January 2022. Welcome, Youssef!



## A Message to Prospective Undergrad Students

The University of Florida's Fort Lauderdale Research & Education Center (FLREC) offers a 4-year, [ABET accredited degree](#), the [Bachelor of Science in Geomatics](#), which fully prepares graduates for professional licensure in the state of Florida and beyond. We are located 1 mile off Interstate 595 in the NW corner of the South Florida Education Center ([Directions](#)).

Our program is designed for both full-time and working students. Students registered at our campus can participate in on-site field work and join live or recorded lectures from the home/office via video conferencing technology. Our lab courses, which typically occur in the evenings or on Saturdays, are flexible to accommodate student work schedules.

We recommend that students:

1. Obtain an Associate of Arts degree (AA) from a Florida college to complete all UF general education requirements
2. Satisfy their AA with the [prerequisite courses required for admission](#) to the Geomatics Program (listed on the right.) By taking these courses while earning their AA, students can be admitted faster into the Geomatics Program.

Geomatics courses can be taken as either a [certificate](#) or non-degree seeking student prior to degree admittance but some limitations apply. Please contact us to find out if the certificate or non-degree seeking route will work for you.

Each semester students can apply for various college scholarships and internships. We encourage all students to apply for [our local scholarships](#) as well as those at the regional and national levels (e.g., FSMS, ASPRS, & NSPS scholarships). So, what are you waiting for? Contact us today to see how we can change your future!

## Contact:

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## UF GEM @ FLREC Benefits

- UF degree (BS, MS, PhD) without going to Gainesville
- Numerous scholarships & internships
- Modern equipment & software
- Flexible scheduling
- Reduced fees
- Ability to take distance education courses from the comfort of home
- Well-connected to local industry

## Undergrad Geomatics

### Admission Prerequisites

1. SPC2608 – Public Speaking
2. PHY2053/PHY2053L – Gen. Physics 1 + Lab (or PHY2048/PHY2048L)
3. PHY2054/PHY2054L – Gen. Physics 2 + Lab (or PHY2049/PHY2049L)
4. STA2023 – Statistics
5. MAC 2311 – Calculus I (or MAC1114 + MAC2233 – Trigonometry + Business Calculus)
6. ECO2013 – Macroeconomics (or ECO2023 – Microeconomics)
7. COP#### – Advisor Approved Programming Course (Python, C++, Visual Basic, Java, etc.)

## Areas of Study

- Professional Surveying
- Geospatial Analysis
- Photogrammetry & LIDAR
- Unmanned Aerial Systems
- GIS & Remote Sensing
- Cartography
- Cadastral Science
- Spatial Analysis
- Land Development
- Geospatial Intelligence