

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA | ORLANDO, FL

# LEAD SCHOLARS ACADEMY

2022-2023 YEAR IN REVIEW



UCF





# WHO WE ARE

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**L**EAD Scholars Academy is more than a leadership program — it is a diverse and inclusive community within the Division of Student Success and Well-Being. Students grasp this opportunity and turn it into reality by getting involved, learning about leadership and becoming change agents in our community.

The LEAD Scholars Academy is celebrating 28 years at UCF and has assisted thousands of students to excel in leadership development. We are excited to announce that in addition to the two year academic program offered for incoming first-year students, third- and fourth-year programs (U-LEAD) in various leadership topics are now available for incoming transfer students and other upperclassmen. It is my hope that ALL UCF students will have the ability to gain leadership development through our multiple engagement opportunities.

As the only academic and co-curricular leadership program in Florida, LEAD Scholars Academy offers many exciting opportunities in academics, leadership opportunities, student organizations, research, and campus life to our students. LEAD Scholars Academy is a springboard to leadership at UCF. Students are given the chance to take advantage of the workshops, events, and opportunities that are provided to make a difference on campus and beyond.

We would like to thank you for your continued support of LEAD Scholars Academy and our outstanding students.

Sincerely,



Stacey Malaret, Ed.D.

*Director, LEAD Scholars Academy*

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To Learn, To **LEAD**, To Serve.

# STUDENT PROFILE

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The fall 2022 LEAD Scholars Academy class showed a high level of diversity, community involvement, and academic achievement.

## LEAD SCHOLARS BY THE NUMBERS

**232**

**TOTAL  
INCOMING  
FRESHMEN**



**50.90%**  
**ETHNIC MINORITY  
ENROLLMENT**

**1298**  
**AVERAGE rSAT**  
(math and verbal)

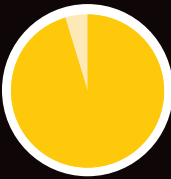
**27.9**  
**AVERAGE ACT**

**4.3** **AVERAGE  
HS GPA**

# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

During the 2022-23 academic year, LEAD Scholars Academy boasted high academic achievement, graduation, and retention rates among scholars.

## STUDENT SUCCESS



**95.5%**  
RETENTION  
RATE  
(91.9% UCF rate)



**67.1%**  
FOUR YEAR  
GRADUATION  
RATE  
(49.8% UCF rate)

AVERAGE  
CUMULATIVE  
GPA

**3.6**

## OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**17**

2023 LEAD SCHOLARS ON  
PRESIDENT'S LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

**8/30**

2023 ORDER OF PEGASUS  
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

**22,436.84** ACADEMIC YEAR  
SERVICE HOURS\*  
\* Includes U-LEAD Program service hours

# LIVING LEARNING COMMUNITY

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The **LEAD Scholars Living Learning Community (LLC)**, located in the Neptune Community, is for first-year students who are a part of the LEAD Scholars Academy. LLC accommodations include: single room housing with a shared bathroom with one other resident and a community room with kitchen on each floor.

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## In the LEAD Scholars Living Learning Community, students:

- Receive resources to assist in **taking full advantage** of the LEAD Scholars Academy and UCF experiences: including LLC sponsored events, socials and benefits.
- Have access to **two resident assistants** from the LEAD Scholars Academy.
- Live with fellow students in a **peer-to-peer supportive environment** who share similar interests and goals.
- Participate in programs providing opportunities to **interact** with fellow LEAD Scholars, **fulfill** LEAD Scholars Academy requirements, and **learn** about personal leadership development.



# CLASS PROJECT TURNED RSO: HOW BOOKS MAKE AN IMPACT ON LEAD SCHOLARS AND OTHERS

Students in the LDR 2001 class are split up into groups based on what they are passionate about; one group formed because of their shared value of education's importance. They went on to create Book Shacks, becoming an RSO in late March in order to create a more sustainable organization for future students.

The mission of Book Shacks is to encourage students to read by making books more attainable and accessible. The RSO put up multiple Book Shacks in high traffic areas of UCF including the Writing Center, the Burnett Honors College, the LEAD Lounge, the Creative School for Children, and the Student Union.

The members of Book Shacks believe that recreational reading is important; by setting up the Book Shacks with free books, it becomes much easier to access recreational reading materials. Each Book Shack can contain 40-60 books of various genres. Alongside the books, bookmarks from Book Shacks are found with a reminder to leave a book when a book is taken from the Book Shack.

Book Shacks holds service days in order to build and maintain the Book Shacks around campus. They also hold social events, like poetry slams and literature Jeopardy, in order to get more people involved in topics such as humanities.

This organization has brought accessibility to books for students and experience in leadership. LEAD Scholar Erin Fuchs says she learned many professional skills because of her participation in Book Shacks, such as planning and hosting events, and improving her writing skills. She also learned soft skills in collaboration with other members of the RSO.

According to Fuchs, "As leaders, it is our responsibility to serve our community."

She and her group saw the impact their idea had on campus.

"In forming the Book Shacks, I think that each of [the members] have grown both as individuals and as leaders," said Fuchs.

The members of Book Shacks plan on expanding the location of the libraries even further in UCF, and possibly to other schools in Florida.



**LEAD SCHOLARS ACADEMY**


P.O. BOX 160126

ORLANDO, FLORIDA 32816-0126

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 [LSA.SDES.UCF.EDU/LEAD](https://lsa.sdes.ucf.edu/lead)

 [LEADSCHOLARSACADEMY@UCF.EDU](mailto:LEADSCHOLARSACADEMY@UCF.EDU)

 407.823.2223