

STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Innovation and Online Committee
August 28, 2019

SUBJECT: Recognition of Exemplary Online Student

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

For information

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

To promote the impact of online education in the State University System and to recognize the accomplishments of individual online students, the Committee will recognize Ms. Kathleen Smith and Ms. Kristina King, both completers of the Master of Public Administration degree through FGCU's online MPA program.

Ms. Kathleen Smith: After completing her Law Degree at the University of Florida, Ms. Smith began her law practice as an assistant Public Defender in 1990, and then in 2008 she was elected Public Defender for the 20th Judicial Circuit. Motivated to be both an outstanding public manager and an innovative leader, she enrolled in FGCU's online Master of Public Administration program and completed her degree in 2013.

Putting her MPA degree to good use, Ms. Smith has championed innovations that have won her office the prestigious Prudential Davis Productivity Award recognizing major government improvement initiatives.

Ms. Smith will attend today's meeting to briefly describe her completion of a Master of Public Administration degree through FGCU's online MPA program, as well as the ways in which her degree has enhanced her innovative management of the 20th Judicial Circuit's Public Defender's Office.

Ms. Kristina King: Having completed an undergraduate degree, Ms. King began her career in the non-profit sector as a Quality Assurance Manager for an early childcare education agency. After becoming Business Manager for Sarasota County's Solid Waste Division, she sought to strengthen her professional prospects even further through graduate work in Public Administration. Precluded by her substantial professional responsibilities from participating in a traditional campus-based program, she did so by

enrolling in FGCU's online Master of Public Administration program. She completed her degree in 2015.

Since receiving her online MPA degree from FGCU, Ms. King has moved on to become Business Manager for North Port's Department of Public Works. She also has been a recipient of the Florida City/County Management Association's "Emerging Leaders Award."

Ms. King will attend today's meeting to briefly describe her completion of a Master of Public Administration degree through FGCU's online MPA program, as well as the ways in which her degree has supported her professional advancement.

Supporting Documentation Included: None

Facilitators/Presenters: Ms. Kathleen Smith
Ms. Kristina King