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## **LAUNCH INTO IA 2025 TO WELCOME NEW STUDENTS AND RESOURCES TO UF**

GAINESVILLE, Fla. [Nov. 13, 2024] – The University of Florida Innovation Academy (UF IA) is set to welcome over 300 undergraduates to the UF campus along with family, friends and faculty at the 2025 “Launch into IA” event—our signature convocation for new IA students. We are excited to induct the newest cohort of Gator Innovators to the university and gear up for a semester of creativity, innovation and growth.

This event will take place Saturday, Jan. 11, 2025, from 9:30 a.m. to noon in the University Auditorium. Doors will open at 8:30 a.m. Attendance for all first-year IA students is required, and the dress code is business professional. Students can expect college breakout sessions according to their majors while guests attend a family and friends’ reception.

IA is also proud to announce Bradley Gamble, CEO of the Cade Museum of Creativity and Invention, as the keynote speaker. Gamble began his role as CEO this past April after his tenure with The Selling Factory, which he co-founded. The Cade Museum is a longtime partner of IA and is currently participating in the UF IA Fall Local Internship Experience, which provides professional development opportunities to our students during their open semester.

“It is with great joy that I welcome the incoming Class of 2028, over 315 strong, to the beginning of their academic journey at the University of Florida,” said Dr. Jeff City, UF IA director. “This year, we remain committed to fostering student success through infusing artificial intelligence in the curriculum, expanding our co-curricular offerings and enhancing resources in our new office space in the CSE building.”

Other speakers will include Dr. Kent Fuchs, UF interim president; Dr. Heather White, UF vice president for student life; John Brinkman, UF student body president; and Jordan Im, UF IA student, as the sophomore speaker.

For more information about this event, please visit our website:  
<https://innovationacademy.ufl.edu/events/launch-into-ia/>

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The Innovation Academy (UF IA) is one of the nation's most forward-looking undergraduate programs – at one of its most dynamic research universities. UF IA gives motivated students a small-college experience focused on innovation, creativity, entrepreneurship, ethics and leadership on a unique spring-summer schedule. UF IA enrolls and supports academically talented students focused on developing knowledge to grow new business opportunities, services and products through curricular and co-curricular experiences.

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For more information, please visit the UF IA website at <https://innovationacademy.ufl.edu/>