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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**University of Florida Clinical Assistant Professor Selected as Emerging Leader**

ARLINGTON, Va.— Crystal Timmons, a clinical assistant professor in the School of Teaching and Learning at the University of Florida, has been recognized as an Emerging Leader by PDK International, a global association of education professionals.

The PDK Emerging Leader program recognizes top educators under age 40 from around the world for their leadership. A committee made up of PDK's past Emerging Leaders selected the 22 honorees from a competitive field of applicants, based on their outstanding professional accomplishments.

In addition to being honored at an event in Washington, D.C., honorees also have the opportunity to be published by PDK, apply for grants, and participate in PDK initiatives.

"Honoring these young leaders is one of PDK's most important initiatives," said William J. Bushaw, PDK International's executive director. "We know the future of education is in good hands with leaders like these making a difference in the lives of our students."

Timmons serves as a professor in residence with the UF Lastinger Center for Learning in Jacksonville, Fla., where she teaches and advises practicing educators in the Teacher Leadership for School Improvement Program. In addition, she provides staff development on school culture, coaching, and equity. Timmons has previously served as a clinical instructor, Title I consultant, and a 4th- and 5th-grade teacher.

"My primary goal has always been to to increase the knowledge and efficacy of teachers, which increases the academic performance of all students," she said.

Timmons is a member of PDK International, Florida Association of Teacher Educators, and National Association of Multicultural Education.

For more information on PDK's 2012-2013 Class of Emerging Leaders, go to [www.pdkemergingleaders.org](http://www.pdkemergingleaders.org).

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**About PDK International**

Founded in 1906, PDK International is a global association for professional educators. The organization's mission is to support education, particularly public education, as the cornerstone of democracy. More information is online at [www.pdkintl.org](http://www.pdkintl.org).

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