



# EDUCATION CONNECTION

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY | COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

VOL.1, ISSUE 4 | A BIMONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER | MARCH/APRIL 2021

## Welcome Doctoral Students

FAU College of Education welcomes all students who were accepted into its graduate and undergraduate programs this past year. Among them are 33 doctoral students in programs offered by four departments:

**CE** (Fall 2020 Students)  
**Ph.D. in Counseling**  
Erin Beattie  
Kadeem Campbell  
Matthew D'Urso  
Rosenyrtle Louis  
Ghari Shirley  
Isabel Springer  
Lauren Steele  
Kimberleigh Stickney

Hector Hernandez  
Deborah Kwon  
Michael Miller  
Feuben Rifin  
Angella Wint

**Ph.D. in Educational Leadership with specialization in School Leaders (K-12)**

Elizabeth Abreu  
Luz Augustin  
Jamie Blosser  
Brian Bush  
Carlton Campbell  
Melissa Gurreonero  
Corey Ferrara  
Linda Lopez  
Kevin Peters

**CCEI** (Fall 2020 Students)  
**Ph.D. in Curriculum & Instruction**

Allyson Berrios de Gacharna  
Marisa Schinirman  
Javaris Hammond  
Stephanie Aldana  
David Bynes

(Spring 2021 Students)  
**Ph. D. in Educational Leadership with specialization in Higher Education Leaders**

Zain Al-Turk  
Vida Masi  
John Smith  
Kimberly Stanley  
Brian Stonebraker

**ELRM** (Fall 2020 Students)  
**Ph.D. in Educational Leadership with specialization in Adult and Community Educational Leaders**

Rita Ashkar  
Sonia Clayton  
Dawn Dubruiel  
Susan Gibney

**ESE** (Fall 2020 Student)  
**Ph. D. in Special Education**

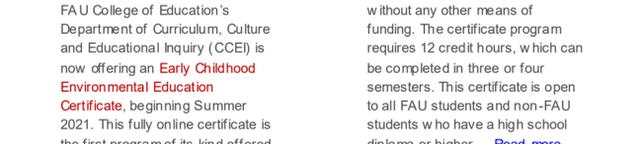
Kaley Robinson

**Ph. D. in Educational Leadership with specialization in Higher Education Leaders**

Heinz Fernandez  
Ashley Haynie

(Spring 2021 Student)  
**Ph. D. in Special Education**

Michelle Giler



## COE Selects New Holmes Scholars

FAU College of Education has selected three doctoral students as Holmes Scholars for 2021-2022. Each of them have been chosen to serve up to a three-year term as members in the [American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education \(AACTE\) Holmes Scholars® Program](#). The program provides mentorship, peer support and professional development to COE doctoral students from historically underrepresented backgrounds. Other benefits include the opportunity to present their research at the AACTE Annual Meeting and hone their leadership skills during WashingtonWeek.

Stephen Silverman, Ed.D., Dean, COE, and Rangasamy Raminasamy, Ph.D., Professor, Exceptional Student Education, and Coordinator, AACTE Holmes Scholars® Program at FAU, will welcome the new scholars during a virtual induction ceremony on March 12, 2021:

**CE**  
**Ghari Shirley**, doctoral student in the Ph.D. in Counseling program

**ELRM**  
**Martlyn Lopez**, doctoral student in the Ph.D. in Educational Leadership with specialization in Higher Education Leaders program

**CCEI**  
**David Bynes**, doctoral student in the Ph.D. in Curriculum & Instruction program

They will be joining the current COE Holmes Scholars at FAU in the spring 2021 semester to learn more about the program. ... [Read more](#)

## PreK – Grade 3 Teachers: CCEI Offers New Certificate

FAU College of Education's Department of Curriculum, Culture and Educational Inquiry (CCEI) is now offering an **Early Childhood Environmental Education Certificate**, beginning Summer 2021. This fully online certificate is the first program of its kind offered by a public university in the United States and the first ever undergraduate certificate in early childhood environmental education (ECEE).

without any other means of funding. The certificate program requires 12 credit hours, which can be completed in three or four semesters. This certificate is open to all FAU students and non-FAU students who have a high school diploma or higher. ... [Read more](#)

This program is being supported by a \$45,000 grant from the Storer Foundation. The grant will pay for the first year (Summer and Fall 2021) courses for the first 20 students who sign up and are

For more information, contact Yash Bhagwanji, Ph.D., CCEI Associate Professor and ECEE Certificate Coordinator, at [ybhagwan@fau.edu](mailto:ybhagwan@fau.edu).



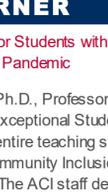
## 'U.S. News & World Report' Online Rankings

The *U.S. News & World Report* Online Rankings released on Jan. 26, 2021 shows FAU

ranked for a specialty program, according to an announcement by Stephen Silverman, Ed.D., Dean, College of Education.

College of Education's administrative program tied for the No. 19 spot nationwide in [Best Online Master's in Education Programs](#). This is the first time the COE has been

ranked for a specialty program, according to an announcement by Stephen Silverman, Ed.D., Dean, College of Education. Overall the College's online programs ranked 72 (tie) out of 296 in [Best Online Master's in Education Programs](#) in 2021. ... [Read more](#)



## FAU High School Student Named Regeneron Science Talent Search Scholar

[Florida Atlantic University High School](#) student Devin Willis was named a scholar in the Regeneron Science Talent Search, the nation's oldest and most prestigious science and math competition.

A total of 300 scholars were selected from 1,760 applications, which were received from 611 high schools in 45 states, two U.S. territories and eligible students living in 10 other countries. ... [Read more](#)

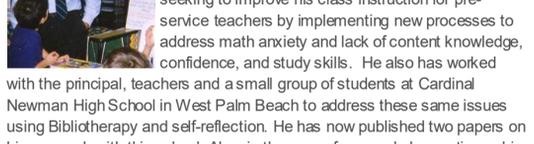
## FAU High School Students Named U.S. Presidential Scholars Program Candidates

[Florida Atlantic University High School](#) students Christopher Cox and Paris Prince have been named candidates in the 2021 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program.

Inclusion in the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program is one of the highest honors bestowed upon graduating high school seniors.

More than 4,500 candidates were selected from nearly 3.6 million students expected to graduate from U.S. high schools in the year 2021.

Scholars are selected on the basis of superior academic and artistic achievements, leadership qualities, strong character and involvement in community and ... [Read more](#)

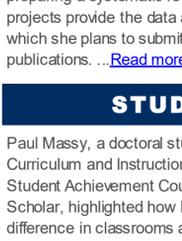


## Pine Jog's K-5 Nature Program Builds Social-Emotional Skills

Florida Atlantic University [Pine Jog Environmental Education Center](#) recently received more than \$33,000 from Prime Time Palm Beach County to implement "Teaching Empathy Through Nature" to public and private elementary schools and organizations that have out-of-school time (OST) programs for children in grades K-5. The program focuses on building social-emotional skills through a connection to nature and consists of five virtual interactive sessions: Self-awareness, Empathy, Respect, Giving to Others and Magic of the Forest. ... [Read more](#)

## CHAIR CORNER

**FAU Program Continues to Develop Tools for Students with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) During the Pandemic**



Michael Brady, Ph.D., Professor and Chair of the Department of Exceptional Student Education, recognized the entire teaching staff of the Academy for Community Instruction for this research effort. The ACI staff designed and implemented more than six intervention studies

testing the feasibility of remote instruction for these students, an extraordinary task that demonstrated the efficacy of this approach for adults who have intellectual and developmental disabilities! ... [Read more](#)



In the Department of Counselor Education (CE), Ayse Torres, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling, joined the research effort of an ACI staff member for one of the intervention studies. In another area of CE, Elizabeth Villares, Ph.D., Professor of School

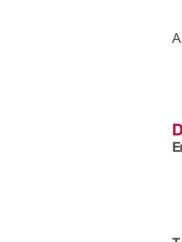
Counseling, and her team have implemented and designed a research project to understand the pandemic's effects on delivering counseling services, and how school counselors continue to address the academic, social-emotional and career development needs of K-12 students. ... [Read more](#)

## SABBATICAL SIGHTINGS

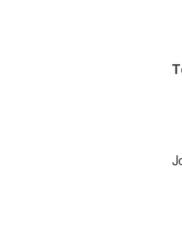
Three faculty members were awarded sabbaticals in 2020-2021:



**Patricia Maslin-Ostrowski, Ed.D.**, Professor, Educational Leadership and Research Methodology, devoted her fall 2020 sabbatical semester to two primary research endeavors: writing a new book, *Leadership Inside Out: When Confronting Challenges and Leading Inside Change* (Corwin Press), and widening the scope of her research to explore how principals faced the challenge of leading during the COVID-19 pandemic. "The overarching focus is research tending to the human side of leadership and change, including the interplay of emotion and meeting challenges in leadership practice from the perspective of leaders," she explained. The book is the culmination of more than 10 years of research and includes a robust sample of school leaders, domestic and international, and their real-life stories. Maslin-Ostrowski also participated in the annual fall meeting of the University Council for Educational Administration (UCEA) as her department's Plenum Representative, providing the opportunity to meet with colleagues regarding her research projects. ... [Read more](#)



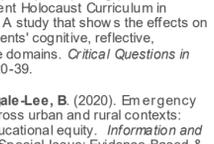
**Joseph Furner, Ph.D.**, Professor, Teaching and Learning, is pursuing his research agenda in his academic discipline of mathematics education during his year-long sabbatical encompassing the fall 2020/ spring 2021 semesters. In the area of teaching, he is seeking to improve his class instruction for pre-service teachers by implementing new processes to address math anxiety and lack of content knowledge, confidence, and study skills. He also has worked with the principal, teachers and a small group of students at Cardinal Newman High School in West Palm Beach to address these same issues using Bibliotherapy and self-reflection. He has now published two papers on his research with this school. Also, in the area of research, he continues his work with *GeoGebra* software/technology creations, emphasizing creativity and imagination in the teaching of geometry, and he is working on completing a book chapter on children's literature centered on young people's math anxiety and the world for a book on gamification with Ugur Bakan, Ph.D. He continues to work with his colleagues, Alyssa Gonzalez-DeHass, Ph.D., Professor, Teaching and Learning, and Maria Vasquez, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Educational Leadership and Research Methodology, on their active IRB research in local schools to address math anxiety as it relates to goal setting. "We have collected an enormous amount of data from local high schools and FAU's Math Department's lower division math students and continue to write and present on our findings from this active research," he said. ... [Read more](#)



**Maria Vasquez, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor, Educational Leadership and Research Methodology, has the opportunity during her spring 2021 semester to increase her depth and knowledge in the area of educational measurement and assessment by collecting qualitative and quantitative data. To that end, she is conducting a research study of Hispanic parent's educational assessment knowledge and educational challenges in South Florida and in her urban and rural areas in Peru. Her work also contributes to the ongoing debate in education regarding the role of assessment literacy and assessment knowledge by preparing a systematic review of existing literature on the topic. Both projects provide the data and information needed to write manuscripts, which she plans to submit for peer-review research conferences and publications. ... [Read more](#)

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Paul Massy, a doctoral student in the Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction, President of the Student Achievement Council and Holmes Scholar, highlighted how his work makes a difference in classrooms across the country in the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE)'s Dec. 11, 2020 Spotlight feature. ... [Read more](#)



## Important Dates

**Faculty**  
April 5 - 9—TPI-US & DOE Site Visit  
April 23—Faculty Assembly

**Faculty and Students**  
April 14—52nd Annual Honors Convocation, livestream

**Research in Action**  
March 18—Dale F. Williams, Ph.D., [The Story of President Joe Biden's Stutter](#)

**Research Symposia & Competitions**  
March 4—[Student Achievement Council \(SAC\) Research Symposium](#), virtual  
April 7—[2021 Student Publication Ceremony and 2021 Writing Enriched Curriculum Recognition Ceremony](#), virtual  
April 9—[12th Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium](#), virtual  
April 12—[FAU Wave Competition Award Ceremony](#), virtual

**Honoring Outstanding Owl Teachers (HOOT) Presentation**  
April 9—Denise Dowdie, M.Ed., [Is It OK to Always have Dessert First? A Call to Choice making for individuals with intellectual disabilities](#).

**Students**  
March 3—Dissertation Defense Deadline  
March 10—Spring Dissertation due in the Dean's Office  
March 29—Spring Dissertation due to University Graduate Dean

## Publications



**Books**  
**Department of Educational Leadership and Research Methodology**  
Floyd, D. L., Salinas, C., Swingle, E., Zeledón-Pérez, M. J., Barhoum, S., & Ramin, G. (Eds.). (2021). *Graduate students' research about community colleges: A guide for publishing*. Routledge.

**Peer-Reviewed Articles**  
**Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders**  
Aazh H., Danesh A. A., & Moore B. C. J. (2020). Internal consistency and convergent validity of the inventory of hyperacusis symptoms. *Ear Hear.* 2020 Nov 30. doi: 10.1097/AUD.0000000000000982. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 33259445.

Aazh H., & Danesh, A. A. (2020). Internet-based Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for tinnitus: Insights from health care professionals. *The Hearing Journal*. First published online Wednesday, December 30, 2020.

**Department of Counselor Education**  
Emelianchik-Key, K., Labarta, A., & Glass, B. (2021). Infusing Dialectical Behavior Therapy skills into supervision to address challenges and enhance performance. *Journal of Creativity in Mental Health*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15401383.2020.1870599>

Torres, A., Juhnke, G., Canfield, B., Gomez-Escudero, A., & Ramirez, A. (2021). Empowering families to address suicide in rural Colombia. *The Family Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1066480720986493>

Torres, A., Kearney, K. B., Brady, M. P., Wood, J., & Katz, J. (2021). Using a literacy-based behavioral intervention to teach job interviewing skills to adults with intellectual disability. *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation*. <https://doi.org/10.3233/JVR-201127>

Joseph, B., Kearney, K., Brady, M., Downey, A., & Torres, A. (2021). Teaching smalltalk: Increasing on-topic conversational exchanges in college students with intellectual and developmental disabilities using remote audio coaching. *Behavior Modification*, 45(2), 251-271.

**Department of Curriculum, Culture and Educational Inquiry**  
Allgood, L., & Shah, R. (2021). Preparing preservice teachers to implement Holocaust Curriculum in elementary grades: A study that shows the effects on undergraduate students' cognitive, reflective, affective, and active domains. *Critical Questions in Education*, 12 (1), 20-39.

Aguilera, D., & Nightengale-Lee, B. (2020). Emergency remote teaching across urban and rural contexts: Perspectives on educational equity. *Information and Learning Sciences Special Issue: Evidence Based & Pragmatic On-line Teaching and Learning Approaches: A Response to Emergency Transitions to Remote On-line Education in K-12 & Higher Education*, 121(5), 471-478.

Ramirez, A., Moyano, E. I., & Martin, J. R. (2021). A language-based theory of learning in the disciplines and for acting in social life. (Applicable Linguistics in Language Education: sfl in Practice, special issue) *Ikala, Revista de Lenguaje y Cultura*, 26(1), 11-17. <https://doi.org/10.17533/udea.ikala.v26n01a12>

Torres, A., Juhnke, G., Canfield, B., Gomez-Escudero, A., & Ramirez, A. (2021). Empowering families to address suicide in rural Colombia. *The Family Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1066480720986493>

Schoorman, D., & Minor, I. (2020). Reskilling teachers and reclaiming our schools: A university-school district partnership for educational equity. *Journal of Educational Human Resources*, 38(4), 469-488. DOI: 10.3138/jehr-2020-0007

**Department of Educational Leadership and Research Methodology**  
Dennett, S.K., (2020). [High touch, high feel in the virtual classroom: Lessons learned from a reflective practitioner in the aftermath of Covid-19](#). *euven studies e-journal of university lifelong learning* 2(4), 17-22.

Fredrick III, R. N., & Silverman, S. (2020). Relationship between urban middle school physical education teachers' attitudes toward fitness testing and student performance on fitness tests. *Research in Physical Education and Exercise Science*, 24(4), 273-281. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1091367X.2020.1815024>

Martinen, R., Landi, D., Novak, D., & Silverman, S. (2020). A systematic analysis of research on teaching in physical education: Two decades of progress. *Journal of Teaching in Physical Education*, 39(4), 545-554. <https://doi.org/10.1123/jtpe.2019-0106>

Martinen, R., Landi, D., Fredrick, R. N., & Silverman, S. (2020). Wearable digital technology in PE: Advantages, barriers, and teachers' ideologies. *Journal of Teaching in Physical Education*, 39(2) 227-235. <https://doi.org/10.1123/jtpe.2018-0240>

**Department of Exceptional Student Education**  
Brady, M. (2021). Are we there yet? an emerging research agenda for college students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. *Behavior Modification*, 45(2), 203-214.

Joseph, B., Kearney, K., Brady, M., Downey, A., & Torres, A. (2021). Teaching smalltalk: Increasing on-topic conversational exchanges in college students with intellectual and developmental disabilities using remote audio coaching. *Behavior Modification*, 45(2), 251-271.

Hall Pistorio, K., Kearney, K., Eshman, S., Thomas, K., & Carey, G. (2021). Using a literacy based behavioral intervention to teach college students with intellectual and developmental disabilities to request a classroom accommodation. *Behavior Modification*, 45(2), 349-369.

Kearney, K. B., Darling, S. M., & Dukes, C. (2020). Disability and dating: Examining the Twittersphere. *Inclusion*, 8(4), 293-302. <https://doi.org/10.1352/2326-6988-8.4.293>

Torres, A., Kearney, K. B., Brady, M. P., Wood, J., & Katz, J. (2021). Using a literacy-based behavioral intervention to teach job interviewing skills to adults with intellectual disability. *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation*. <https://doi.org/10.3233/JVR-201127>

**Department of Teaching and Learning**  
Bousalis, R., Powers, J. R., & Musgrove, A. (2020). Media and historical literacy: Reinterpreting the context of history. *The Journal of Literacy and Technology*, 21(4), 38-57.

Dernikos, B. P. (2020). Tuning into rebellious matter: Affective literacies as more-than-human sonic bodies. *English Teaching: Practice & Critique*, 19(4), 417-432. <https://doi.org/10.1108/ETPC-11-2019-0155>

Furner, J. M., Powers, J., & Brown, S. (2021). Studying Mayan culture in the elementary classroom: Integrating mathematics, visual arts and technology. *International Journal of Whole Schooling*, 17(1), 1-29. [http://www.wholeschooling.net/Journal\\_of\\_Whole\\_Schooling/articles.html](http://www.wholeschooling.net/Journal_of_Whole_Schooling/articles.html)

Higgins, C. M., Furner, J. M., & Gerencser, C. (2021). Addressing math anxiety with incoming high school freshman: An in-depth look at a high school principal constructed action research project. *Mathtudes Online*, 1(1), 1-18.

**FAU High School Student:**  
Lewandowski, C., & Burgamer, J. (Eds.). (2020). *Criminal justice in America: The encyclopedia of crime, law enforcement, courts, and corrections*. Contributing author: Laura Eugene, p. 175, 176, 731.

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