



EDUCATION CONNECTION

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

VOL. 4, ISSUE 3

A BIMONTHLY eNEWSLETTER

JANUARY/ FEBRUARY 2024

Develop Leadership Skills in 2024



Looking to develop leadership skills? Consider adding a minor in Leadership Studies to your baccalaureate degree. The Department of Educational Leadership and Research Methodology (ELRM) in the College of Education has reshaped the program with a broader perspective encompassing courses offered by ELRM and from other colleges in the University such as the College of Business, College of Engineering and Computer Science, Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts & Letters and Military Science. Courses are available on the Boca and Jupiter campuses and online.

The Leadership Studies minor is a "16-credit interdisciplinary program that deepens students' understanding of leadership while giving them hands-on opportunities for dynamic leader development," explained Cristobal Salinas, Jr., Ph.D., ELRM Associate Professor, who is the Faculty Coordinator for the Leadership Studies minor. "It is broken into three knowledge domains: self-awareness as a leader, leadership and teams, and leading our world."

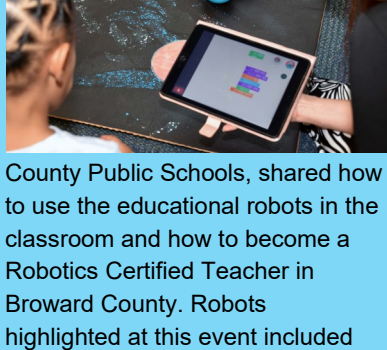
To explore the skills and competencies that may be gained by completing this minor and learning about the requirements, make an appointment for a consultation by contacting leadership@fau.edu. Undergraduate students who have already declared a major and have earned 45 credit hours, may [schedule an appointment](#) with their College advisor if the requirements for the minor can be completed without extending the anticipated graduation date. After meeting with their College advisor, students will need to complete the [Undergraduate Major/Minor Change Form](#) to officially declare the Leadership Studies minor and complete a Minor Checklist to plan when to take courses. ... [Read more](#)

... [Read more](#)



CI and STEM Education Laboratory hosts Robotics Day on Davie Campus

The [Department of Curriculum and Instruction](#) and the [STEM Education Laboratory](#) in FAU College of Education hosted Robotics Day on Nov. 8, 2023 from 2 p.m. - 6 p.m. in Heritage Hall, Student Union on the Davie Campus for pre-service and current teachers within COE programs, students from outside of the College and from Broward College to complement online classes.

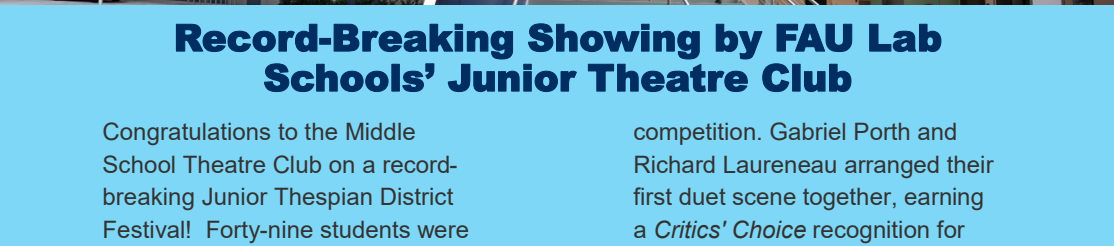


County Public Schools, shared how to use the educational robots in the classroom and how to become a Robotics Certified Teacher in Broward County. Robots highlighted at this event included Mini Sphero (a remote-controlled drone), Little Bits (circuitry that results in a robot), Educational Legos (create, design, and implement a robot), Dash (program to accomplish a challenge), Vex (higher level programming great for middle school and higher students) and various types of drones.

Thirty-three elementary and secondary education majors, graduate students, faculty and staff attended Robotics Day in person, and another 36 joined via live streaming to explore educational robots that use block programming, which provides an easy entry into the robotics field for teachers who have not learned how to code. The on-campus students were able to interact and use the robots to solve challenges or to design their own robots. During the livestream event, volunteers demonstrated the use of robots.

"Robotic Day is a fun way to expose future and current teachers to educational robots they can use in their classroom and encourage interest in learning more about the robots," stated [Victoria Brown, Ed.D.](#), CI Professor, who teaches instructional ... [Read more](#)

Belinda Beckford and Kelly Thomas, both from Broward

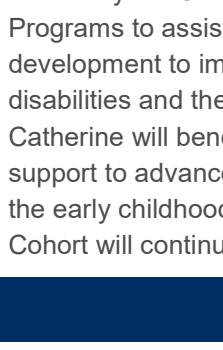


Record-Breaking Showing by FAU Lab Schools' Junior Theatre Club

Congratulations to the Middle School Theatre Club on a record-breaking Junior Thespian District Festival! Forty-nine students were adjudicated at the district competition on Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023. Nine events received a superior rating and 28 received an excellent rating - these are the highest achievements at the

competition. Gabriel Porth and Richard Laureneau arranged their first duet scene together, earning a *Critics' Choice* recognition for [A.D. Henderson University School](#) in FAU College of Education. Overall, students brought back 19 superior medals and 70 excellent medals. ... [Read more](#)

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Catherine Restrepo-Widney, a doctoral student pursuing a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction at FAU College of Education and first-year Holmes Scholar, was accepted into the **Holmes Program Early Childhood Intervention Personnel Center for Equity (ECIPCE) Initiative**, according to an announcement on Dec. 1, 2023 by Rangasamy Ramasamy, Ph.D., SE Professor and Coordinator, Holmes Scholars® Program at FAU. The ECIPCE is a national center at the University of Connecticut Health System and is federally funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs to assist states in building comprehensive systems of personnel development to improve outcomes for infants and young children with disabilities and their families. As a member of the ECIPCE Holmes Cohort, Catherine will benefit from mentorship, monthly seminars, and financial support to advance her scholarship and development as a future leader in the early childhood education field. Her membership in the ECIPCE Holmes Cohort will continue until the fall of 2027.

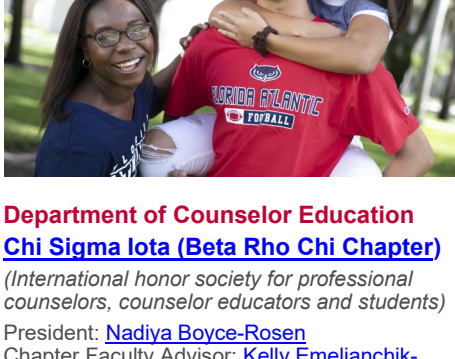
DID YOU KNOW?

FAU College of Education [student organizations](#) play a critical role in helping to create a vibrant and robust campus community, as well as leadership/professional development, research and networking opportunities. So consider actively participating in one of the following student organizations:

College Wide
Kappa Delta Pi (Rho Omega Chapter)
(International honor society in education)
Faculty Counselors: [Susannah Brown, Ph.D.](#) and [Ann Musgrove, Ed.D.](#)

Student Achievement Council (SAC)
(Interdepartmental/interdisciplinary group of College of Education students whose mission is to provide a forum for students to present their scholarly work, meet new people, and learn from each other. Major responsibilities include the organization of an annual college-wide research symposium, and the selection of the COE's Distinguished Teacher of the Year. The 2024 research symposium will be held virtually on April 4 from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. This year the SAC Executive Board has undertaken many additional responsibilities including reviewing and updating the constitution, integration of undergraduate students and the organization of forums to discuss issues of significance to students in the field of education.) The COE SAC has proven to be a wonderful opportunity for students to experience and develop team leadership.
President: [Catherine Restrepo-Widney](#)
Faculty Advisor: [Dilys Schoorman, Ph.D.](#)

Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders
National Student Speech Language Hearing Association
(Encourages the academic, professional and advocacy interests of FAU students in the field of communication sciences and disorders)
Faculty Advisor: [Kelly Steele, M.S., CCC-SLP](#)



Department of Counselor Education
Chi Sigma Iota (Beta Rho Chi Chapter)
(International honor society for professional counselors, counselor educators and students)
President: [Nadiya Boyce-Rosen](#)
Chapter Faculty Advisor: [Kelly Emelianchik, Key, Ph.D.](#) Co-Chapter Faculty Advisor: [Ayse Torres, Ph.D.](#)

Department of Curriculum and Instruction
Florida Future Educators of America (FFEA) (For pre-collegiate and collegiate teacher recruitment)
Faculty Advisors: [Robyn Klein, Ed.D.](#) and [Rina Bousalis, Ph.D.](#)

Department of Special Education
IMPACT Assist
(IMPACT assist FAU's Center for Autism and Related Disabilities to influence the community through advocacy, professional development, volunteerism, and local activities.)
Faculty Advisor: [Elisa Cruz, Ed.D., BCBA-D](#)

Important Dates
Faculty
Jan. 26—Faculty Assembly
Students
Jan. 26—[Application for Degree](#) due for Spring 2024
Jan. 31—Fall 2024 [Student Teaching Application](#) due
Feb. 19—Choose FAU
College of Education Graduate, Specialists and Doctoral Programs —[Application submission deadlines](#)

Awards
Mountford, M. (2023). Elected Program Chair for AERA's Research on the Superintendency Special Interest Group. She will serve a two year term.
Percival, J. (2023). Elected to the National Board of Directors for APSE (Association of People Supporting Employment First), serving 39 state chapters, and over 2000 members.

Publications
Peer-Reviewed Articles
Bendit, A., **Mariani, M.**, **Peluso, P.**, & Calabrese, E. (2023). Supporting early college high school students: The effects of CBT-P on perfectionism, negative affectivity, and social-emotional wellbeing. *The Professional Counselor*, 13(3), 222-237.
DeDonno, M. A. (2023). Data Interpretation; Perils of the p-value. *North American Journal of Psychology*, 25 (3), 493-504.
*Irvine, T. J., **Peluso, P. R.**, Benson, K., Cole, C., Cole, D., Gottman, J. M. & Schwartz-Gottman, J. (2023). A pilot study examining the effectiveness of Gottman Method Couples Therapy over treatment-as-usual approaches for infidelity. *The Family Journal*, 1-14. [doi: 10.1177/10664807231210123](https://doi.org/10.1177/10664807231210123)

McMahon, M. (2023). The impact of fraction manipulatives on 5th grade students' confidence and math skills. *Journal of Teacher Action Research*, 10(2). <https://teacheractionresearch.com/index.php/JTAR/article/view/89>

Pavek, C & Vaughan, M. (2023). Digital reading checks: Supporting independent digital reading. *The Reading Teacher*. <https://journals.flvc.org/jter/article/view/132866>

Vaughan, M., Meredith, T., Timar, A., Mariani, M., & Calabrese, E. (2023). Building the comprehensive educator research program: action research as a vehicle for empowerment, growth, and professionalization in K12 schools. *Educational Action Research*, 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09650792.2023.2209602>

FAU High School students:
Dempsey, C. (2023). A student's solution for infrastructure. *Molecular Frontiers Journal: Emerging Scientists Supplementary Issue 1*. doi.org/10.1142/S2529732523970015

Ghazvini, M., **Pena, C.**, Abraham A., & Kim M. (2023). Dual-Tracer Laser-Induced Fluorescence Thermometry for Understanding Bubble Growth during Nucleate Boiling on Oriented Surfaces. *Bulletin of the American Physical Society*.

Goldenberg, L. (2023). Practicing complexity through natural simplicity. *Molecular Frontiers Journal: Emerging Scientists Supplementary Issue 1*. doi.org/10.1142/S2529732523970040

Sreejithkumar, V., Ghods, K., Bandara, T., Martcheva, M., & Tuncer, N. (2023). Modeling the interplay between albumin-globulin metabolism and HIV infection. *Mathematical Biosciences and Engineering*. doi.org/10.3934/mbe.2023865

Grants
Krill, J. STEM Innovation Award. GoTeach! Classroom Grant Program. \$5,000. 2023-2024. Project: FAUHS Experiential Research Program
Hindle, T. Florida Atlantic University Lab School District. \$58,160. 2023. Project: Aerial Thermal Infrared and Hyperspectral Imaging for Instruction and Undergraduate Research on Remote Sensing of the Environment.

Follow us on social media



Florida Atlantic University
College of Education
777 Glades Road, P.O. Box 3091
Boca Raton, FL US 33431-0991
(561) 297-3564
www.fau.edu/education/