



EDUCATION CONNECTION

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY | COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

VOL.3, ISSUE 2

A BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER/ DECEMBER 2022

Thankful for Faculty and Staff

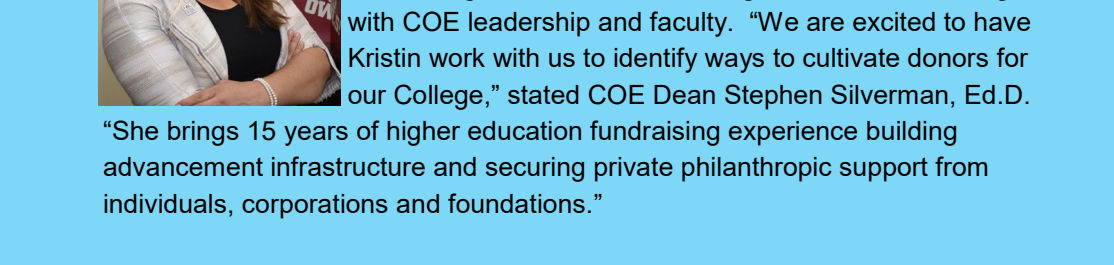
FAU College of Education appreciates the preparation, earnestness and dedication of faculty and staff as students returned to campuses this fall for robust learning experiences and research opportunities.

In recognition of this effort, the College thanks everyone and recognizes an unsung employee, who has made outstanding contributions:

CE

Mikaela Kursell, M.F.A., Coordinator, Academic Programs, creates management systems that improve existing program functioning and productivity, as well as enhance the efficiency of how the Department of Counselor Education (CE)'s accreditation standards are implemented and measured. She provides faculty, as well as prospective and current students with excellent customer service and is a diligent and steadfast presence in the CE suite.

Mikaela also serves an integral role in obtaining and maintaining two \$1 million + grants in CE. "Her work has allowed students and administrators to fully use the funds allotted in the grant," noted Carman Gill, Ph.D., Chair, CE. "Her ideas, commitment to students and ability to anticipate issues saves the program time, money and resources. We are beyond grateful for all of Mikaela's efforts, her efficiency, warmth and kindness."



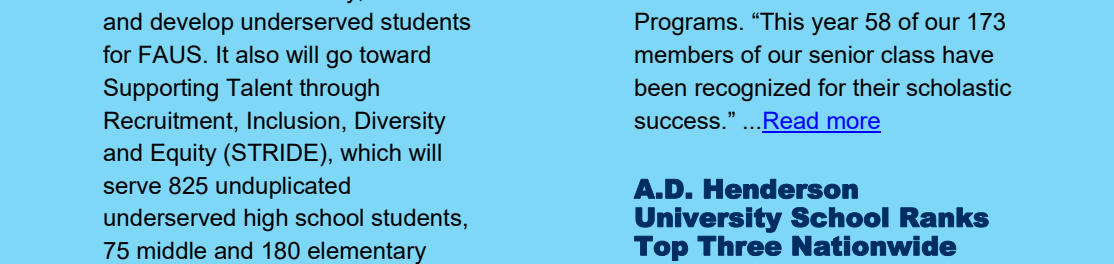
COE Names New Development Officer



Kristin Bird, CFRE, joined Florida Atlantic University on Oct. 3, 2022 as Director of Development for the College of Education (COE). She will be responsible for working with the Dean to plan strategy for development and fundraising based on information gathered from meetings with COE leadership and faculty. "We are excited to have Kristin work with us to identify ways to cultivate donors for our College," stated COE Dean Stephen Silverman, Ed.D.

"She brings 15 years of higher education fundraising experience building advancement infrastructure and securing private philanthropic support from individuals, corporations and foundations."

Previously, Kristin led the development efforts for the Division of Undergraduate Education at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis in Indianapolis. Prior to that, she served as a director of development for Florida International University in Miami and in donor relations and stewardship roles in the Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine at the University of Miami in Miami and the University of Florida (UF) Foundation in Gainesville, Fla. Kristin graduated from UF with a bachelor's degree in tourism and hospitality and is a Certified Fundraising Executive. ...[Read more](#)



FAU Schools Awarded \$3.1 Million Grant; Ranked Top Three School in Nation

Florida Atlantic University Schools (FAUS) recently was awarded the Javits Gifted and Talented Students Education Program Grant to increase the number of students from underserved groups, including students with disabilities, who apply for and are accepted to FAUS.

have been named semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship Competition. These students will join 16,000 students whose scores placed them in the 99th percentile nationally.

The grant, awarded through the U.S. Department of Education, is worth \$3.1 million over five years and will serve to identify, recruit and develop underserved students for FAUS. It also will go toward Supporting Talent through Recruitment, Inclusion, Diversity and Equity (STRIDE), which will serve 825 unduplicated underserved high school students, 75 middle and 180 elementary students, as well as 145 teachers over the five-year grant period.

"I am excited for FAU High School students recently recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program," said Joel Herbst, Ed.D., superintendent, FAU PK-12 Schools and Educational Programs. "This year 58 of our 173 members of our senior class have been recognized for their scholastic success." ...[Read more](#)

"While A.D. Henderson and FAU High School continues to redefine public education in the United States, we are excited for the opportunity to further evolve our early college model." ... [Read more](#)

A.D. Henderson University School Ranks Top Three Nationwide

Florida Atlantic University's [A.D. Henderson University School](#) has been ranked the No. 2 Best Public Elementary School, No. 2 Best Public Middle School and No. 2 Best High School in Florida by Niche, the largest website for researching public and private K-12 schools.

FAU High School Seniors Named National Merit Semifinalists

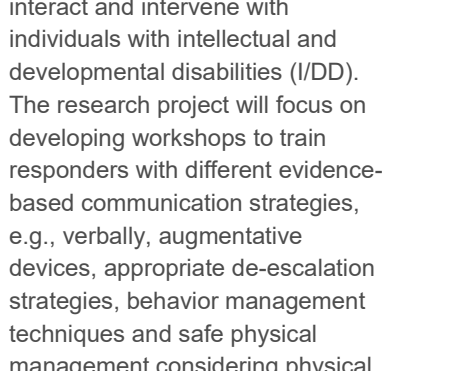
Henderson is also ranked the No. 3 Best Public Elementary School in America in the publication's 2023 rankings. ...[Read more](#)

A total of 22 [Florida Atlantic University High School](#) students

GRANT FEATURES

ELRM AWARDED GRANT TO ASSIST ENGLISH LEARNERS

Florida Atlantic University's [College of Education School Leaders Program](#) has been awarded a five-year, \$1,788,835.00 grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of English Language Acquisition (OELA) to develop, implement



From left are Sabrina Sembiante, Ph.D., Daniel Reyes-Guerra, Ph.D., and Maysaa Barakat, Ph.D.

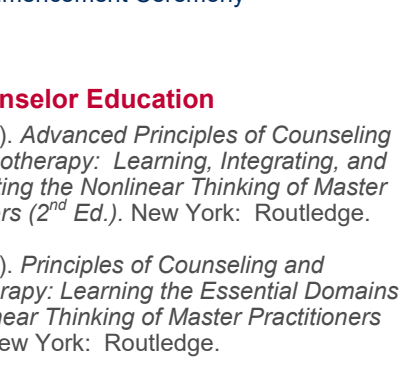
and evaluate a year-long professional development (PD) program that will improve the quality of instruction for English Language Learners (EL) and enhance educators' ability to support preschool ELs' readiness for kindergarten in the School District of Osceola County (SDOC).

FAU's new National Professional Development (NPD) grant from OELA, titled Preparing for Readiness and Academic Improvement for Pre-K ELs (PRAISE) "seeks to engage 24 teams of educators across 24 elementary schools to focus on improving instruction for EL students in Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) programs," explained Daniel Reyes-Guerra, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Educational Leadership and Research Methodology (ELRM), and PRAISE Principal Investigator. Florida Atlantic University and SDOC professionals with expertise in pre-K language learning and school leadership will implement the PD program, which is designed to enhance the knowledge, skills, and dispositions of the schools' instructional leaders and improve preschool educators' language and literacy instructional practices. According to Reyes-Guerra, the PD program is projected "to directly benefit, over a five-year period, 1,223 pre-school students, of which over 60 percent are projected to be receiving ELL services when they enter kindergarten."

The evaluation of the PRAISE PD program will examine the impact improvement of quality of EL instruction (direct effect) will have on improvements to school readiness outcomes (indirect effect) that are desired for kindergarten, noted Reyes-Guerra. Essential to the success of this program will be Sabrina Sembiante, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Curriculum and Instruction, and Maysaa Barakat, Ph.D., Associate Professor, ELRM, who are the grant's Co-Principal Investigators. PRAISE was one of 44 out of 144 applications recommended for support by peer review panels based on the evaluation criteria published for the program as part of the 2022 NPD Competition.

FAU CARD AWARDED GRANT TO TRAIN FIRST RESPONDERS

Florida Atlantic University [Center for Autism and Related Disabilities](#) (FAU CARD) received a grant from the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council which will provide FAU CARD to develop and allow training to law enforcement



personnel and first responders, i.e., emergency medical personnel, firefighters, and other co-trained responders, who will encounter, interact and intervene with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). The research project will focus on developing workshops to train responders with different evidence-based communication strategies, e.g., verbally, augmentative devices, appropriate de-escalation strategies, behavior management techniques and safe physical management considering physical limitations.

supervisor, will lead the project. Supportive collaborations include Jacqueline Woods, FAU CARD, Dennis Debbaudt, National Law Enforcement and ASD Training Specialist, Stacey Hoaglund, Autism Society of Florida, Palm Beach Sheriff Department, FAU Academy for Community Inclusion and others.

Jack Scott, Ph.D., FAU CARD Executive Director and primary investigator, and Torica Exume, Ph.D., FAU CARD program

"Training first responders on how to communicate with I/DD individuals effectively will help to understand not only the disorder characteristics, but also how to interact with them and how to best manage risk in high-stress situations with the individual. For example, ...[Read more](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

The College of Education's [Florida Institute for the Advancement of Teaching \(FIAT\)](#) offers two innovative ways for students to gain experience in the teaching field:

- [First Introduction to Teaching \(GoodFIT\)](#) provides freshmen and sophomores the opportunity to explore teaching as a career, prior to entering a teacher preparation program.
- [Accelerated Induction into Teaching \(AIT\)](#), FIAT's capstone program, for final semester seniors.

Important Dates

- Students**
- Nov. 7—Fall Thesis due in the COE Dean's Office
 - Nov. 14—Fall Dissertation due to University Graduate Dean
 - Nov. 18—[12th Annual Broward Student Research Symposium](#), University/College Library, Davie
 - Nov. 19—Explore FAU
 - Nov. 21—Fall Thesis due to University Graduate Dean
 - Dec. 8—Final Exams begin
 - Dec. 16—COE Commencement Ceremony

Publications



- Books**
- Department Counselor Education**
- Peluso, P.R. (2023).** *Advanced Principles of Counseling and Psychotherapy: Learning, Integrating, and Consolidating the Nonlinear Thinking of Master Practitioners (2nd Ed.)*. New York: Routledge.
- Peluso, P.R. (2023).** *Principles of Counseling and Psychotherapy: Learning the Essential Domains and Nonlinear Thinking of Master Practitioners (3rd Ed.)* New York: Routledge.
- Department of Educational Leadership and Research Methodology**
- Mountford, M., & Wallace, L. E., (Eds.) (2022).** *Research on the superintendency series: Reclaiming local control through superintendents, school boards, and community activism*. Information Age Press.
- Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders**
- Porcaro, C.K. (2022).** *Improving speech intelligibility in adults: Clinical application of evidence-based strategies*. Plural Publishing, Inc.

Online Encyclopedia

Department of Educational Leadership and Research Methodology

Barakat, M. (2022). *Leading Diverse Schools*. Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781138609877-REE68-1>

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Department of Counselor Education

Limberg, D., Villares, E., Gonzales, S., Starrett, A. & Rosen, N. (2022). Exploring the Induced Disparities of Implementing School Counseling Services During COVID-19. *Professional School Counseling*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2156759X221105797>

Brady, M. P., Kearney, K. B., Downey, A., Torres, A., & McDougall, D. (2022). Using mnemonics, remote coaching, and the range-bound changing criterion design to teach college students with IDD to make employment decisions. *Education and Training in Autism and Developmental Disabilities*, 57(3), 303-319.

Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Kumar, D. D., & Moffitt, S. (2022). Understanding the STEM teacher pipeline: Early findings from a review of selected NSF Noyce program evaluations. *Voices for Educational Equity*, 18(2), 50-57.

Department of Educational Leadership and Research Methodology

Kumar, D. D., & Moffitt, S. (2022). Understanding the STEM teacher pipeline: Early findings from a review of selected NSF Noyce program evaluations. *Voices for Educational Equity*, 18(2), 50-57.

Department of Special Education

Kearney, K. B., Carey, G. C., Downey, A., & Kearney, K. B. (2022). Perspectives of university faculty regarding the inclusion of students with intellectual disability. *Inclusion*, 10(3), 201-212.

Brady, M. P., Kearney, K. B., Downey, A., Torres, A., & McDougall, D. (2022). Using mnemonics, remote coaching, and the range-bound changing criterion design to teach college students with IDD to make employment decisions. *Education and Training in Autism and Developmental Disabilities*, 57(3), 303-319.

Prestigious Lectures

Invited

Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Ramirez, A. (2022, October 13-14). *Towards a Fourth Generation Genre-Based Pedagogy* [Plenary session]. 7th International Conference on Applicable Linguistics, Martin Centre for Applicable Linguistics, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China.

International

Department of Educational Leadership and Research Methodology

Bryan, V.C., & Greene, J. (2022). *Phenomenological Study: Poverty Simulation Effects on Employees Working with Individuals Living in Poverty*. Milwaukee, WI: AAACE International Conference's CPAE: Research & Theory.

Keynote

Department of Educational Leadership and Research Methodology

Salinas, C. (2022, September). *The power of educator*. Faculty Senate Teaching and Research Conference: University of Central Missouri. [Keynote]

Grants

Department of Educational Leadership and Research Methodology

Reyes-Guerra, D., Sembiante, S. & Barakat, M. (2022). *PRAISE: Preparing for Readiness and Academic Improvement for pre-School ELs*. United States Department of Education, Office of English Language Acquisition. Principal Investigator Reyes-Guerra. Co-Principal Investigators Sembiante & Barakat. 5 years, \$1.8 million.

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