

FAU'S COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AWARDED \$4.3 MILLION GRANT



Partners gather around the table to discuss the future of FAU's Center of Excellence for Elementary Teacher Preparation.



Barbara Ridener
principal investigator



Valerie J. Bristor
co-principal investigator

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COLLEGE OF
EDUCATION
Florida Atlantic University

The State of Florida has awarded Florida Atlantic University's College of Education a \$4.3 million grant to establish a Center of Excellence for Elementary Teacher Preparation. FAU is one of four recipients to receive the grant, "Collaborative Transformation: Establishing Excellence in Elementary Preparation," which is an innovative partnership between FAU's College of Education, Charles E. Schmidt College of Science, Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College, as well as Learning Sciences International and the New Teacher Center. Broward County Public Schools and the School District of Palm Beach County, the sixth and the 11th largest school districts in the nation respectively, will be partnering with the College of Education to enhance field experiences for undergraduate elementary education majors and better prepare K-5 teaching candidates for classroom success.

"We are extremely grateful to receive this award from the State of Florida, which will transform our undergraduate program so that we can continue our tradition of ongoing research and teaching excellence," said Barbara Ridener, Ph.D., chair of the Department of Teaching and Learning in FAU's College of Education and principal investigator of the award.

FAU's Center of Excellence for Elementary Teacher Preparation will combine content, teaching and assessment strategies in university coursework with clinical experiences and measurable outcomes. The project will advance pre-service teacher training in core subject areas such as mathematics, science, social studies, and English language arts.

"This collaboration is a tremendous opportunity for us to develop and implement a cutting-edge program that will better prepare how our future teachers learn to teach and positively impact students' learning experience in today's complex global society," said Valerie Bristor, Ph.D., dean of FAU's College of Education and co-principal investigator of the award.

Read more: http://www.fau.edu/explore/homepage-stories/2015_01school.php