## ESE DEPARTMENT AWARDED \$1.2 MILLION GRANT



Cynthia Wilson



Dr. Cynthia L. Wilson, professor in Florida Atlantic University's Department of Exceptional Student Education in the College of Education, received a \$1.2 million federal grant award to be distributed over a five-year period from August 1, 2015 - July 30, 2020. The grant was awarded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Office of Special Education Programs. The funded project, Project <sup>12</sup>: Intensive Intervention for Students with ASD who have Persistent and Severe Needs, provides federal support for a graduate program emphasizing the preparation of teachers who will become skilled in the implementation of research-based teaching methods for students with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Project I<sup>2</sup> will provide tuition support for teachers who will earn a master's degree and teaching endorsement in ASD. The project will help to alleviate the critical shortage of special education teachers prepared to teach children with ASD who have extensive learning and behavioral needs.