OTHER NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Educational Leadership Degree Ranked #20 by Teacher.org.
The Department’s Educational Leadership Degree Program was ranked #20 in the nation out of an eligible group of 563 colleges/programs by Teacher.org. Data used to determine this ranking is based on the Integrated Postsecondary Education data System (IPEDS). The IPEDS data was then matched up to the accreditation data provided by the U.S. Department of Education Office of Post-secondary Education (OPE). For more information on Educational Degree rankings, please click on this link: http://www.teacher.org/college-ranking-methodology/

University of Nebraska-Kearney-- Alumni who have made an impact
The University of Nebraska System and Foundation named Dr. Cristobal Salinas one of the 25 University of Nebraska-Kearney (UNK) Alumni who have made an impact. Twenty-five alumni were honored, each alumni represents each year of the 25 years since Kearney State College joined the University of Nebraska system and became UNK. Dr. Salinas was recognized for becoming an Assistant Professor at FAU and his work with the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity.

President's Leadership Award
Dr. Daniel Reyes-Guerra is the recipient of the very prestigious President's Leadership Award. He was selected for the role he played in making FAU a prime mover in furthering excellence in public education, for his dedication to this critically important mission and his effectiveness in taking it from idea to reality.
The award will be presented at the Service Awards Ceremony in the Live Oak Pavilion on Tuesday, April 12, 2016 beginning at 2:00 p.m. followed by a reception at approximately 3:15 p.m. in the Grand Palm Room.

Panelist for the USDA 2016 Hispanic-Serving Institutions Educational Grant Programs
Dr. Cristobal Salinas been invited by the United States Department of Agriculture to serve in a panel for the 2016 Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) Educational Grant Programs. This program was established in 1997 to support projects that promote and strengthen the ability of HSIs to carry out education program that attract, retain, and graduate outstanding students capable of enhancing the Nation’s food and agricultural scientific and professional workforce.

2016 College of Education Distinguished Teacher of the Year
Dr. Meredith Mountford has been selected as the 2016 College of Education Distinguished Teacher of the Year! Faculty are evaluated on the basis of their scholarship, research, and publications; classroom teaching; experience; academic counseling; concern and involvement in student activities; and University and community service.

2016 Excellence in Teaching Award
Dr. Linda Ellington, EDLRM Doctoral Graduate, has been selected as one of the three finalists for the 2016 Excellence in Teaching Award for Lead Faculty for Southern New Hampshire University’s College of Online and Continuing Education.
2015 ASHE CEP Founders’ Service Award

Dr. Frankie Santos Laanan is the recipient of the 2015 ASHE CEP Founders’ Service Award. ASHE is a scholarly society comprised of university faculty, researchers, policymakers, leaders, and graduate students, dedicated to higher education as a field of study. The purpose of the service award is to recognize members of the ASHE community who have served CEP in various capacities over the years. The award was presented during the ASHE-CEP annual business meeting on November 4, 2015 in Denver, Colorado.

Peace, Justice and Human Rights Faculty Fellow

Dr. Cristobal Salinas has been named Peace, Justice and Human Rights Faculty Fellow for 2015-16. The Initiative for Global Peace, Justice, and Human Rights joins together committed faculty, students and community members in efforts to enhance the educational environment of FAU, to provide a home for research that is peace/justice/rights based, and to create relationships with actors in diverse contexts outside the academy.

Project Kaleidoscope (PKAL) Advisory Board

Dr. Frankie Laanan has been appointed to the Project Kaleidoscope (PKAL) Advisory Board, which is a national initiative focused on undergraduate STEM reform – empowering STEM faculty to educate more competitively trained and liberally educated STEM students.

International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame’s (IACEHOF) Inductee

Dr. Valerie Bryan has been selected to be inducted into International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame’s (IACEHOF) Class of 2015 by the Board of Directors of the International Adult and Continuing Education. The induction ceremony will be held in conjunction with the American Association for Adult and Continuing Education’s (AAACE) 64th Annual Conference, November 17-20, 2015 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, USA. The induction ceremony as well as a ceremony to honor her will occur at a black-tie affair on November 18 in Oklahoma.

Best Paper/Workshop Award

Dr. John Pisapia and doctoral student, Keith Feit, received Best Paper/Workshop Award at the ICSB 2015 World Conference in Dubai, UAE in June 2015.

GPSA Research Award


Committee Members: John Pisapia, Committee Chair, Deborah L. Floyd, Patricia Maslin-Ostrowski, J. Dan Morris, John E. Cech, Montana University System.

Giving Back to the Community

Dr. Elizabeth Swann, ELDRM Doctoral Graduate, is the Board President for the Junior League of Indian River. See link below for story on how she has played a pivotal role in shaping the Indian River neighborhoods…

http://www.tcpalm.com/niche/vero-beach-newsweekly/the-junior-league-of-indian-river-has-been-giving-back-for-25-years_84797673

PROPEL Video - Feature Film at UCEA

Dr. Daniel Reyes-Guerra and Dr. Jennifer Freeland wrote, produced, and directed a video entitled “PROPEL”, was accepted as a feature film at the 2014 University Council for Educational Administration (UCEA) Film Festival as part of their annual convention. This highly competitive film festival will be held in Washington, D.C. in November 2014. The theme
American Institute of Higher Education selects Best Paper in Area of Education
Mehmet Kemal Aydin, Nezahat Güçlü, and Dr. John Pisapia’s paper, “The Relationship between School Principals’ Strategic Leadership Actions and Organizational Learning: A Quantitative Study in Turkish Primary Schools,” was submitted to the 9th International Conference of the American Institute of Higher Education and has been selected as the best paper in the area of education. It will be published in the American Journal of Educational Studies.

Keynote Speaker
Dr. John Pisapia will be a keynote speaker at the International School Association Annual Meeting in Valencia, Spain on November 29, 2014. Topic: Building an Entrepreneurial School.

Recognition
Dr. John Pisapia was recently listed in the top 1% of 11 million academics posting their work on Academia.edu

Recognition
Dr. John Pisapia will join the Scientific Board of The Dubrovnik Economic Meeting 2015 (DIEM), University of Dubrovnik, Croatia.

2014 Journal of Geography Award
Dr. Donna Goldstein, EDLRM Doctoral Graduate, won the 2014 Journal of Geography Award for Best Secondary Teaching Article – also based on her dissertation research. This is the fourth award she won related to that research.

Undergraduate Research Team Presents at State Conference
Undergraduate students Kayla Woody and Ella Tepper presented their research findings at the 4th Annual Florida Undergraduate Research Conference held at Florida International University Saturday, February 22. Kayla and Ella, along with the rest of the research team (graduate students Max Memyss, Katie Burke & Dr. Deborah Floyd) have been conducting focus groups with student leaders to gauge the "feasibility of creating an undergraduate leadership studies program at FAU". They’ve received a QEP research grant, will work to get published and are hopeful to present at the FAU Undergraduate Research Symposium.

Interim Dean of Graduate College
Making Waves in Student Leadership

Ella Tepper, an EDLRM undergraduate student, is “Making Waves” as she models the way students can lead and make a difference at their university. Please read her story:

Governor’s Shine Award.
Current PROPEL Master’s student, Luis Espinosa, was awarded the Governor’s Shine Award, which is presented to Floridians who have helped children through education. Governor Rick Scott recognized Mr. Espinosa at the December 10th meeting of the Florida Cabinet. Espinosa has been teaching for 17 years and currently serves a STEM educator and as the chair of the Science department at Apollo Middle School in Hollywood, FL. He also heads the Aeronautics STEM Magnet Program, and is the head of Linking Education and Employment Opportunities (LEEO), Florida’s first middle school industry certification program. In addition to these projects, Espinosa has previously secured a $95,000 grant for the Daniel Torres and Greg Ashley STEM in the Gardens Learning Center, resulting in an indoor botany learning lab. This lab was equipped with computers, microscopes, a butterfly garden which features a solar powered fountain, and a chess area.

Milken Educator Award

Luis Espinosa, a current PROPEL Master’s student, recently received the Milken Educator Award in recognition of his achievements. The Milken Educator Award is given to early-to-mid career educators for their achievements and for the promise of future accomplishments.

Grant Proposal Awards

Karen Fay, current EDLRM doctoral student, has recently authored a grant proposal to the Celia L. and Victor H. Farris Foundation for a grant entitled STEAM, Science Technology Engineering Arts and Math Education for an After-School Program. Proposal has been funded for $185,000, November 2013. Karen also authored and was awarded $1,154,720 in grant proposals since September 2013:
- **Job Smart to Job Start, an After School Employability Development Program for High School Students.** Proposal was awarded for $200,000.
- Florida Department of Education was funded for $695,520. Proposal is called Florida’s 21st Century Community Learning Centers 2013-2014
- Florida Department of Education was awarded for $259,200 for Florida’s 21st Century Community Learning Centers 2013-2014

Outstanding Leadership

Dr. Valerie C. Bryan was selected as a “Woman of Outstanding Leadership” by The International Women’s Leadership Association.

Unsung Hero Award

Dr. Valerie Bryan received the “Unsung Hero Award” at the Northern Campus Achievement Awards in April 2013.
Dr. Valerie Bryan served as one of 18 members of Task Force on Postsecondary Online Education in Florida. Draft report to the State University System of Board of Governors was completed November 6, 2013.

Board Member of the Junior League of Indian River County
Elizabeth Swann, a current EDLRM doctoral student, was selected as the Membership VP for the Junior League of Indian River County Board of Directors. Whole Child, a web-based program designed to give Indian River families better access to community services received a grant for $1,000 from Publix – an additional grant of $10,000 will be announced soon. Please see press release for more info.: [http://www.tcpalm.com/news/2013/oct/15/whole-child-receives-grant-from-publix-super-marke/](http://www.tcpalm.com/news/2013/oct/15/whole-child-receives-grant-from-publix-super-marke/)

Adult Florida Fiction Award
Dr. Ginger Pedersen, EDLRM doctoral graduate, received an award for her book titled "Pioneering Palm Beach: The Deweys and the South Florida Frontier". She was awarded the Gold medal in Adult Florida Fiction from the Florida Authors and Publishers Association September 21, 2013 at their Fall Meeting at Daytona Beach. Congratulations to Dr. Pedersen!

Educational Town Hall Meeting Panelist
Susan Dennett, current doctoral student and Academic Dean at Northwood University, recently served as a panelist as part of WPEC CBS 12’s Educational Town Hall Meeting titled Your Voice, Your Future 2013. She played a valuable role in the televised forum which highlighted issues affecting Florida’s educational future. [http://www.northwood.edu/news/2013/09/florida-dean-leads-educational-forum.aspx](http://www.northwood.edu/news/2013/09/florida-dean-leads-educational-forum.aspx)

Keynote Speaker and Lecturer – Dr. John Pisapia September, 2013
Dr. John Pisapia will be a Keynote Speaker at the Dubrovnik International Economic Meeting in Dubrovnik, Croatia in September. The title of the keynote is: Why Companies Miss or Find the Future: Minds, Mindsets, and Thinking Differently.
He will also give a lecture at the University of Rijeka, Faculty of Economics and Business in Opatija, Croatia. The title is: Learning to Think Strategically.

Conferral of Tenure and Promotion –May, 2013
We are pleased to announce that Dr. Patrick R. Walden, former ELMR doctoral student, has received conferral of tenure and promotion to Associate Professor at St. John’s University in New York.
Dr. Phyllis Bebko, current Associate Vice President and Executive Director of the Broward Campuses (2001-present) and former FAU Research Coordinator (1997-2000) for Florida Atlantic University, was presented with the 2012-13 Outstanding Alumnus Award by the Department of Educational Leadership and Research Methodology. Dr. Bebko will soon be retiring, but her contributions will continue a long time after she has retired. She has been a tireless leader in forming alliances and creating a community of learners in Broward and beyond. She has exhibited community engagement throughout her career.

Dr. Robert Shockley presented Dr. Phyllis Bebko with the 2012-13 Outstanding Alumnus Award

Dr. Bebko had multiple and varied experiences before her work at FAU, including the Juvenile Justice Training Academy, Fort Lauderdale, FL; Special Olympics International, Washington, DC; Skating Centers, North Carolina and Delaware; and Girl Scouts, Boston, MA. It should be noted that Dr. Bebko stays active in her department. At least twice a year she contributes to the ACE in EDL mentor meetings to assist current graduate students in Educational Leadership and Research Methodology. She has also given of her time and energies to support development of programs that enhance the College of Education and various programs in Broward and other locations. In doing so, she brings together potential partners and creates possibilities. She has received numerous awards for her efforts.

2012-2013 FAU Research Enhancement Program Dissertation Year Award
Susan Dennett, ELM Doctoral Student, was selected by FAU’s Research Committee to receive the 2012-2013 Dissertation Year Award in the amount of $1,240.00 for her research project “A Study to Compare the Critical Thinking Skills Between Chinese and American College Students”.

2013 Robert Kottkamp Outstanding Dissertation Award
Dr. Lindsay Jesteadt, a recent doctoral graduate from the Department of Educational Leadership & Research Methodology, will receive the 2013 Robert Kottkamp Outstanding Dissertation Award from the Learning and Teaching in Educational Leadership Special Interest Group (LTEL-SIG) of the American Educational Research Association (AERA). The award will be presented to Dr. Jesteadt at the 2013 AERA Business Meeting in San Francisco in April.

2013 Award of Excellence - Association of Adult Literacy Professional Developers
Dr. Debra Hargrove, Adjunct and Alumnus of the Educational Leadership & Research Methodology Department, will receive the 2013 Award of Excellence from the Association of Adult Literacy Professional Developers (AALPD). The award will be presented at the 2013 National Commission of Adult Basic Education (COABE) Conference in New Orleans in March. The award is given to “an individual who has made an exceptional contribution to professional development in the field of adult basic education and literacy”.

FLDOE Outstanding Leadership Award

On February 11th, 2013, Dr. Denise Barrett-Johnson, a recent doctoral graduate from the Department of Educational Leadership and Research Methodology, received the 2012-2013 Assistant Principal Achievement Award from the FLDOE. Dr. Barrett-Johnson is an Assistant Principal at Lake Stevens Middle School in Dade County. Last year, Denise was selected as the Assistant Principal of the year in Dade County.

Grant - Race To The Top - $350,000

During the past academic year, Dr. Daniel Reyes-Guerra was the recipient of a $350,000 Race to the Top Grant from the Florida Department of Education and the US Department of Education. The grant establishes a formal partnership in the preparation in development of principals in Broward County. This grant was the largest grant received in the University during the 2011-12 academic year.

Grant – Division of Homeland Security - $8,000

Bryan, V. C., Russo, M.R. , & Dennett, S. (2012). Final Report: Early Warning Technology For People With Profound Hearing Loss. Research report for Institution of Fire Engineers: Vision 20/20 Division of Homeland Security Grant. Grant completed December, 2012. Grant award was for $8,000 to FAU out of $160,000 (grant was written to service varied community agencies- Palm Beach County Fire Service, Area Agency on Aging, Delray Deaf Service Center, Delray Medical Sleep Lab)

2012 Owl Award

Dr. Valerie Bryan received a nomination for the 2012 Owl Award as an Outstanding Academic Advisor of the Year by the Florida Atlantic University Graduate and Professional Student Association. Dr. Miller received the overall award and Dr. Bryan was the runner-up.

Grant – Health Aging Research Initiative through FAU - $2,500


ELRM Case Study Competition
We are pleased to announce that the ELRM Case Study Competition Team (Jheanelle Shepherd, Kelli Stockman, David Blank, Elaine Jahnsen) placed 3rd among eight other teams (including UCF, FSU, and FIU) during the NASPA-FL Drive In Conference. This speaks to the quality and value of the Higher Educational Leadership Program at FAU.

Recent Hiring

Dr. Sherry Andre was appointed as college chairperson of the School of Business within the College of Management at Johnson & Wales University. Dr. Andre will be responsible for overseeing business faculty and managing the retention and enrollment strategies for the school.

Dr. Nika Coleman- Ferrell, ELDRM Doctoral graduate, has assumed the position of Campus Academic Dean at Palm Beach State College.

Dr. Karline Prophete, EDLRM Doctoral graduate, has been appointed to full-time faculty at Palm Beach State College.

Dr. Michael Waiksnis, a former EDLRM graduate, was named South Carolina Principal of the Year for 2013. [http://www.wrhi.com/2013/12/sullivan-middle-school-principal-named-best-in-s-c-88466](http://www.wrhi.com/2013/12/sullivan-middle-school-principal-named-best-in-s-c-88466)
Dr. Waiksnis was also named the Administrator of the Year for South Carolina International Reading Association in 2012. [http://www.heraldonline.com/2012/03/14/3820701/rock-hill-principal-winner-of.html](http://www.heraldonline.com/2012/03/14/3820701/rock-hill-principal-winner-of.html)

Joaquin Martinez, a current EDLRM Doctoral student, was recently promoted. He was named Miami Dade College's Associate Provost for Student Achievement Initiatives.

Dr. Jennifer M. Bondy, a former EDLRM Master’s Graduate, has been appointed an assistant professor in the School of Education at Virginia Tech’s College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences. Details can be found on the Virginia Tech News website: [http://www.vtnews.vt.edu/articles/2013/12/120313-clahs-bondy.html](http://www.vtnews.vt.edu/articles/2013/12/120313-clahs-bondy.html)

Tauri Eligon, an EDLRM Master’s graduate from PROPEL, was named Interim Assistant Principal at Challenger Elementary School.

Shanine Barrow, an EDLRM Specialist graduate from PROPEL, at Royal Palm Elementary now serves as an Instructional Facilitator.

Sara Pierce, an EDLRM Specialist graduate from PROPEL, was named an Educational Specialist at Apollo Middle School.

Dana Thomson, an EDLRM Master’s graduate from PROPEL, was named Educational Specialist at Cross Creek School.

Narissa Edun, an EDLRM Specialist graduate from PROPEL, has added the responsibilities of Title I Liaison, Transportation liaison, and Parent Involvement Coordinator to her role at New River Middle School.

John Hoolihan, an EDLRM Specialist graduate from PROPEL, now serves at Dr. Martin Luther King Elementary School in the position of Science Coach.

Jennifer Prievo, an EDLRM Master’s graduate from PROPEL, is now a Math Coach at Dr. M.L. King Elementary.
**Seporia Bolden**, an EDLRM Master’s graduate from PROPEL, was named the STEM/Science Coach at Park Lakes Elementary.

**Jacqueline Pena-Arnaez**, an EDLRM Specialist graduate from PROPEL, has been named a Reading Coach at Silver Palms Elementary.

**Michelle Laurent**, an EDLRM Specialist graduate from PROPEL, from the Quest Center has been serving as AP Designee at Hollywood Central Elementary.

**Marie Hautigan**, an EDLRM graduate from PROPEL, is now an Assistant Principal at Fort Lauderdale High School.

**Jennifer Kinggard**, an EDLRM Master’s graduate from PROPEL, has been named the interim Assistant Principal at Coconut Palm Elementary.

**Barbara Clavijo**, an EDLRM Specialist graduate from PROPEL, is now an ESE Specialist at Watkins Elementary.

**Adrienne Dixson**, an EDLRM graduate from PROPEL, is the school coordinator of the Promise Program at Pine Ridge Education Center.

**Dr. Merideth Dee**, an EDLRM Doctoral graduate, was promoted to Associate Director of Academic Support & Freshman Advising at FAU.

**Dr. Mohammad Ilyas**, a current EDLRM doctoral student, has been named Dean of the College of Engineering at FAU.

**Katie Burke**, a current EDLRM doctoral student, was promoted to Associate Director of FAU Student Involvement and Leadership. Katie is also the Team Captain for the Introduction to Leadership courses.

**Dr. Richard Durr**, an EDLRM Doctoral graduate, serves as the coordinator for Palm Beach Atlantic University’s Wellington Education Center.

**Dr. Abigail Oliver Hiller**, an EDLRM Doctoral graduate, is an eBanking and Multimedia Training Developer and Specialist for FIS Global, leading global provider of technology and services to the financial services industry, serving more than 14,000 clients in over 100 countries.

**Dr. Terry Liddell**, an EDLRM Doctoral graduate, is the State Senior Systems Technical Specialist with ICF International, provides technical assistance to states. Dr. Liddell serves the states in Region X (Alaska, Idaho, Oregon & Washington) and is housed in Seattle, WA. She oversees the Child Care State Systems Specialist Network, A Service of the Office of Child Care.

**Dr. Malika Starr**, an EDLRM Doctoral graduate, is Chief Program Officer at Partners in School Innovation (an education management industry), San Francisco Bay Area.

**Dr. Allen Bottorff**, an EDLRM doctoral graduate, was appointed as the Assistant Vice President of Facilities and Sustainability at Valencia College in Orlando, FL. Please see press release for more information: [http://thegrove.valenciacollege.edu/introducing-allen-bottorff-assistant-vice-president-of-facilities-and-](http://thegrove.valenciacollege.edu/introducing-allen-bottorff-assistant-vice-president-of-facilities-and-)
Dr. Dee Robinson, an EDLRM doctoral graduate, was appointed as the Vice President of The University of Cincinnati’s Foundation. She will lead and manage various UC fundraising staff and programs. Please see press release for more information: 
http://www.uc.edu/foundation/resources/press_releases/dee_robinson.html

Susan Dennett, an EDLRM Doctoral student, was hired by Northwood University as an Academic Dean. Susan appeared in the Palm Beach Post business section (click on link for story).

Dr. Bernise Bain, an EDLRM doctoral graduate, was hired as the Assistant Dean of Online Business Programs at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester, NH.

Kim-Le Avary, EDLRM Doctoral student, was selected as Associate Professor of Student Strategies at Indian River State College (IRSC). She will be directly involved in providing learning assistance strategies to students at several levels.

Courtney Curatolo, EDLRM Doctoral student, was selected as President of The Chautauqua Women's Club in Chautauqua, New York and worked in New York this summer. See http://chautauquawomensclub.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=78&Itemid=73 for information as to the impact of this organization to adult and community education history.

Mary Beth Hartman, EDLRM Doctoral student, is now working as the Conference & Outreach Coordinator, Center for Environmental Studies at Florida Atlantic University in Jupiter.

Keara Sodano, EDLRM Doctoral student, was selected as Associate Professor of Student Strategies at Indian River State College (IRSC). She will be directly involved in providing learning assistance strategies to students at several levels.

Deborah Snowberger, EDLRM Doctoral student, was selected as an Associate Professor at Palm Beach State College in Palm Beach Gardens. She is spending six months in Germany and starts her new position in January, 2013.

Olivia Morris-Ford, EDLRM Specialist student, and Manager of Student Activities at PBSC, is credited with starting the first national college club at Palm Beach State College. ASPIRA of Florida, Inc.’s primary mission is to equip and empower students with the knowledge and tools needed to graduate and become community conscious and committed youth, transforming them into future leaders. ASPIRA’s reach extends throughout middle and high schools, and the organization has taken the opportunity to further impact students at the college level. These student organizations are designed to enhance and develop leadership skills and values through
training opportunities, personal and professional growth experiences and community advocacy projects.

"The ASPIRA Club is critical to the college community because it gives students the space to explore and live up to their potential," said Aida Rodriguez, ASPIRA Club President at Palm Beach State College.

**Scholarships & Fellowships Awarded**

**Ernest O Melby Fellowship** ($8,000) - Wade Berstler

**James Woodruff, Jr. Scholarship** ($1,000) - James Mascarella

**James D. Logsdon Scholarship** ($750.00) - Gesulla Cavanaugh

**Harry Harmes Memorial Scholarship** ($500) - Lisa Byard

**Traica Vangeloff Thomas Endowed Scholarship** ($500) - Kristin Brittain, Edwyigh Franck and Krista Steinke

**Vasil M. Kerensky Scholarship** ($500) - Anelle Alfred and Annie Mick

**Mary Leiper Scholarship** ($750) - Camille Henry and Arias Pitts

**Nora Elizabeth Temple Family Scholarship** ($1,000) - Jaclyn Pagnotta

**Doctoral Graduates’ Dissertations**

**Spring 2016**

**Miguel A. Montañez-Martinez, III**
"Multiple Measures as a Placement Instrument in Mathematics at Florida State Colleges"
Chairs: Dr. Deborah Floyd and Dr. John D. Morris

**Anelle Shanna Jayd Alfred**
"The Impact of Shifting Funding Levels On The Institutional Effectiveness of Historically Black Colleges and Universities"
Chair: Dr. Dianne A. Wright

**Maria E. Osorio**
"An Assessment of Leadership Practice in High Schools: Improving Graduation Rates"
Chairs: Dr. Pat Maslin-Ostrowski and Dr. Ira Bogotch

**Keith G. Feit**
"Improving School Performance: Leader Autonomy and Entrepreneurial Orientation"
Chair: Dr. John Pisapia

**Jamonique K. Harrison**
"Predicting Graduation Rates at Non-Residential Research Universities"
Chairs: Dr. Deborah Floyd and Dr. Frankie S. Laanan

**Fall 2015**

**Adam Miller**
"Florida School Choice Policies and Democracy: Origins and Destinations"
Chair: Dr. Meredith L. Mountford

**David Christopher Atwell**
"Digital Edification: An Analysis of Technology Readiness and Concept of Ability in School District of Palm Beach County K-12 School Leaders"
Chair: Dr. Victor C. X. Wang

**Stephen R. Johnson**
"Concurrent Enrollment and Academic Performance of Community College English Language Learners"
Chairs: Dr. Deborah Floyd and Dr. Ira Bogotch.

**Karen D. Pain**
"The Impact of Voluntary Remediation on Gateway Course Success and Minority and Low-income Students in Florida Colleges"
Committee Members: Dr. Frankie Laanan and Dr. Susan Moosai

**Laura L. Antczak**
"Community College Baccalaureate Transitions in Florida: Student Affairs Perspectives"
Chairs: Dr. Deborah L. Floyd and Dr. Patricia Maslin-Ostrowski

**Mohammad Ilyas**
"Globalization and Higher Education in Florida’s State University System"
Chair: Dr. Ira Bogotch

**Lori Miller**
"The Perceived Impact of Technology-Based Informal Learning on Membership Organizations"
Chair: Valerie Bryan, Ed.D.

**Summer 2015**

**Teeranai Ovathanasin**
"Perceived Job Satisfaction of Resident Assistants in Student Housing at Three Florida Public Universities"
Chairs: Dr. John D. Morris and Dr. Deborah L. Floyd

**Spring 2015**

**Karen Fay**
"An Analysis of the Leadership Competencies of Specialized, Nonprofit Management Degree Programs"
Chairs: Valerie Bryan

**Rivka Aliza Felsher**
"Policy Entrepreneurship in Higher Education: A Descriptive Portrait"
Chair: Dr. John Pisapia
Edwiygh Franck
"The Analysis of Barriers and Motivators of Early Care And Education English as a Second Language Students Enrolled in a State College Customized ECE ESL Course"
Chair: Dr. Valerie C. Bryan, Ed.D.

Faith E. Gordon
"Transformational Learning And Self-Efficacy: An Investigation Into Their Role in Prophylactic Mastectomy"
Chair: Dr. Valerie Bryan

Lauren Adamo
"The Cognitive and Behavioral Skills Of University Student Leaders and Their Relationship to Organizational Commitment"
Chair: Dr. John Pisapia

Carolyn Siniscalchi Bogaski
"A Private School Leadership Perspective On Highly Qualified Middle School Science Teachers"
Advisor: Dr. Patricia Maslin-Ostrowski

Terry C. Mena
"A Few of Us (Algunos De Nosotros): A Multiple Case Study Using Critical Race Theory to Examine Lived Experiences of Latino/A Senior Student Affairs Officers’ at Selected Public and Private Two- And Four-Year Colleges and Universities"
Chair: Dr. Dianne Wright

Barbara June Rodriguez
"An Examination of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges’ Quality Enhancement Plans at two Institutions Through the Lens of Quality Improvement"
Chair: Dr. Deborah L. Floyd and Dr. Patricia Maslin-Ostrowski, Co-chairs

Fall 2014
Bree J. Miron
“School Principal Influence Actions, Climate, Culture, and School Performance”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. John Pisapia

Deloris R. Benjamin
“Deans of Students as Crisis Managers Perceptions of Roles And Leadership Competencies In 12 Public Higher Education Institutions In Florida”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Robert Shockley

Sheri L. Glick- Cuenot
“Predictors of Undergraduate Student Academic Success”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. John Pisapia

Idell McLaughlin-Jones
“Transformational Experiences of African American Women: Their Critical Reflections as Former Migrants Who Evolved From Harvest of Shame to Seeds of Hope”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Valerie Bryan

Heidi Louisy
“An Exploratory Multiple Case Study of Succession Planning for Higher Education Community Engagement Practitioners In selected Higher Education Institutions in the Southeastern Region of the United States”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Valerie Bryan

Spring 2015

Rivka Felsher
“Policy Entrepreneurship: A Descriptive Portrait of Higher Education Leaders”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Deborah Floyd

Edwyiagh Frank
“The Analysis of Barriers and Motivators of Early Care and Education English As a Second Language Students Enrolled In a State College Customized ECE ESL Course”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Valerie Bryan

Faith Gordon
“Transformational Learning and Self-Efficacy an Investigation Into Their Role In Prophylactic Mastectomy”
Transformational Learning and Self-Efficacy an Investigation into Their Role in Prophylactic Mastectomy

Lauren Adamo
“The Influence of University Student Leader's Cognitive and Behavioral Agility on Organizational Member Commitment”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. John Pisapia

Carolyn Bogaski
“A Private School Leadership Perspective on Highly Qualified Middle School Teachers”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Patricia Maslin-Ostrowski

Terry C. Mena
“A Few Of Us (Algunos De Nosotros): A Multiple Case Study Using Critical Race Theory to Examine Lived Experiences Of Latino/A Senior Student Affairs Officers At Selected Public And Private Two-And Four-Year Colleges And Universities”
Dissertation Advisor: Dianne Wright

Barbara J. Rodriguez
“An Examination of The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges Quality Enhancement Plans At two Institutions through the Lens of Quality Improvement”

Summer 2014
Nancy D. McDonald
"In-Country: Identification of Transformational Learning and Leadership In Human Rights Observers"
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Valerie Bryan

Nancy D. McDonald
"In-Country: Identification of Transformational Learning and Leadership In Human Rights Observers"
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Valerie Bryan

Spring 2014
Sherry Andre
“Reliability and Validation Study of the Online Instinctual Variant Questionnaire”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Valerie Bryan

Gesulla Cavanaugh
“An Examination of Biomedical Intellectual Reputation In Relationship To Graduates’ Productivity, Regional Innovation And Absorptive Capacity At Selected Universities Worldwide”
Dissertation Advisor: Dianne A. Wright, Ph.D.

Noemi Coltea
“Social Impact of Entrepreneurial Immigrants on Florida's Gold Coast”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Valerie Bryan

Harry Daniels
“Effects of the Four Pillars on Statewide High School Graduation Rates”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. John Pisapia

Susan Dennett
“A Study to Compare the Critical Thinking Dispositions between Chinese and American College Students”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Valerie Bryan

Johnathan Leff
“Does Leadership Matter? The Relationship of School Leadership to a Safe School Climate, Bullying, and Fighting in Middle School”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Patricia Maslin-Ostrowski

Jessica Miles
“The Impact of Students’ Choice of Time if Day for Class Activity and Their Sleep Quality on Academic Performance in Multidisciplinary Distance Education Courses”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Valerie Bryan

Thomas Nguyen
“Perceptions of Lawyers on Career Transitions, Transferable Skills, and Preparation For Community College Leadership”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Deborah L. Floyd

Elizabeth Swann
“Adult Learning for Healthy Aging: An Investigation of Health Literacy and Technology Use in Older Adults”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Valerie Bryan

Tommy Tucker
“Virtual K-12 Leadership A Postmodern Paradigm”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Ira Bogotch

Tameka L. King
"Resegregation: The Impact on Education”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Robert Shockley

Fall 2013
Mehran Basiratmand
“Transformation of Palm Beach Community College to Palm Beach State College: A Case Study”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Deborah Floyd

Courtney L. Curatolo
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Valerie Bryan

Franklin D. Gaines
“An Exploratory Examination of “Pockets of Success” in Creating Urban High Schools of Opportunity for LSES Students”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Ira Bogotch

Keietta L. Givens
“A New Look At Distributive Leadership in Title I and Non-Title I Schools: Does Distributive Leadership Impact Student Achievement and School Culture?”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Meredith Mountford

Keara L. Sodano
“Early Environmental Adult Education: An Oral History of Citizen Researchers’ Learning in the Appalachian Land Ownership Study”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Valerie Bryan

**Summer 2013**

Paul A. Metcalf
“An Exploratory Analysis of the Dimensionality of the Mechanisms that Drive Private Giving Among Alumni Association Member Donors and Non-Member Donors”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Diane Wright

Jeffrey Peter Nasse
“Perceptions of Professionalism: A Case Study of Community College Baccalaureate Faculty”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Deborah Floyd

Leo Nesmith Jr.
“The Vestiges of Brown: An Analysis of the Placements of African American Principals in Florida Public Schools (2010-2011)”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Ira Bogotch

Monica Anne Nicoll
“The Development of Emotional Intellectualism in At-Risk Female Adolescents”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Robert Shockley

Karline Sabrina Prophete
“How Race, Gender and Pell Status Affect the Persistence and Degree Attainment Rates of Dual Enrollment Students”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Meredith L. Mountford

Francis Serra
“Florida Career and Technology Education: A Comparative Analysis of CTE Program Participants as a Percentage of Total High School Population for the State of Florida”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Robert Shockley

Christopher Lewis Simmons
“Dropout Prevention: A Study of Prevention Programs Used by High Schools to Increase Graduation Rate”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Meredith L. Mountford
**Spring 2013**
Michael Robert Hrabak
“Policy and Practice: An Analysis of 2001 Florida Senate Bill 1162”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Deborah Floyd

Julie Ann Nash
“An Examination of the Role and Career Paths of Chief Research Administrator in Selected Major Research Universities in the United States”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Dianne Wright

Carole Fran Pfeffer-Lachs
“Assessing Goal Intent and Achievement of University Learning Community Students”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Deborah Floyd

Scott Vaughn Smith
“The Concept of Fit: Intersections in Educational Leadership”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Ira Bogotch

**Fall 2012**
Krista Danielle Allison
“Experience and Perceptions as Expressed by Adolescent Females at residential Treatment Center (RTC)”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Valerie Bryan

Joyce Frances Krzemieński
“The Impact of Stress on Elementary School Principals and Their Effective Coping Mechanisms”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Meredith L. Mountford

Courtney Purnell
“Exploring Teacher’s perceptions of Professional Development in Virtual Learning Teams”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Valerie Bryan

Mary Denise Webster
“The Possibilities for School Leadership Discourse Within the Dominant Discourse of Public Education: A Critical Autoethnography”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Ira Bogotch, Dr. Patricia Maslin-Ostrowski

**Summer 2012**
Denise Patricia Barrett
“How Jamaican Administrators in a Large School District in Florida Perceive Ethnicity, Gender and Mentoring have impacted their Career Experiences: A Phenomenological Study”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Robert Shockley

Lindsay Erin Jesteadt
“Principals’ Knowledge of Special Education Policies and Procedures: Does it Matter in Leadership?”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Meredith L. Mountford

Colin Philip Roche
“Canadian Professional Chefs’ Perceived Value of Formal Culinary Education And its Relationship with Industry Success”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Deborah L. Floyd
Spring 2012
Jacqueline Ackerina
“The call of Public Service: Motivation and Professional Commitment in Education”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Patricia Maslin-Ostrowski

Maria Hersey
“The Development of Global-Mindedness: School Leadership Perspective:
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Ira Bogotch

Dildra Martin-Ogburn
“Cultivating Supportive, Professional Relationships Among Black Women
In Educational Leadership: Shattering the Mirror of Self-Destruction”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Meredith L. Mountford

Kevin Gardner Perry
“The Art of Leadership: A Study of Administrative Practices in Florida’s School of the Arts”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Ira Bogotch

Debra Jean Robinson
“A Comparative, Holistic, Multiple-Case Study of the Implementation of the Strategic Thinking
Protocol
And Traditional Strategic planning Processes at a Southeastern University”
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. John Pisapia