

COE Highlights

HERBST NAMED SUPERINTENDENT

Valerie J. Bristor, Ph.D., Dean of the College of Education (COE), announced that Joel D. Herbst, Ed.D., Assistant Dean, PK-12 Schools & Educational Programs, has been appointed by Florida Atlantic University (FAU) President John W. Kelly, Ph.D., as Superintendent of FAU Lab Schools (Florida School District 72) effective July 1, 2018. The District comprises the [Alexander D. Henderson School \(ADHUS\)](#), [FAU High School](#), and [Palm Pointe Educational Research School at Tradition](#).



**Joel D. Herbst,
Ed.D.**

Assistant Dean, PK-12
Schools & Educational
Programs, and
Superintendent

“His work as Assistant Dean of PK-12 Schools and Educational programs has been exceptional since he came on board in April 2012,” stated Bristor. “FAUS is extremely fortunate to have him as Superintendent in addition to his role as Assistant Dean, which also includes oversight of the [Pine Jog Environmental Educational Center](#) and [Karen Slattery Educational Research Center for Child Development](#).”

Under Herbst’s leadership, FAU Lab Schools was ranked fourth out of 3,332 Public and Charter Schools in the State of Florida and was the only Title 1 school among the top 10 schools in 2017. The FAU Lab Schools network was named a 2017 Google for Education Reference District, one of only 109 districts in the world. FAU High launched the nation’s first M.D. pipeline program in 2017 that places high school students from FAU High School directly in-line for medical school at FAU. That same year, ADHUS, FAU High and Palm Pointe were named Schools of Excellence by the Florida Department of Education. In June 2018, ADHUS/FAU High won first place in the 10th annual Green Schools Awards bestowed by FAU’s Pine Jog Environmental Education Center.

Previously, Herbst served in the Broward County School Board Office as the South Area Superintendent of Schools. He has held leadership positions during 20 of his 29 years working in Florida’s educational system.

COE WELCOMES NEW FACULTY, STAFF

Four new tenure-earning faculty members, six non-tenure-earning faculty members and six staff joined Florida Atlantic University (FAU)’s College of Education (COE) in 2018. In addition, thirteen new University School Instructors, administrators and staff at Alexander D. Henderson University School (ADHUS)/FAU High School were recognized by Valerie J. Bristor, Ph.D., Dean, COE, during the COE’s Welcome Back reception on August 16, 2018 at the Delray Acura Club in the FAU Stadium. Promoted faculty and staff were also recognized.

The Department of Curriculum, Culture and Educational Inquiry welcomed Hoang Tran, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Multi-Cultural Education; Bianca Nightengale-Lee, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Curriculum & Instruction; and Melanie Acosta, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Curriculum & Instruction. The Department of Counselor Education welcomed Ayse Torres, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Rehabilitation Counseling. [Read more.](#)



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Dean’s Dispatch	2
Faculty Promotions.....	2
Faculty Focus: Daniel Reyes-Guerra, Ph.D.	3
School Leaders Program Partners with District, State.....	3
CCEI Teams up with Broward Schools	4
OASS Welcomes Faculty, Students, Staff.....	5
Meet OASS Staff.....	5
Interns Persevere Despite Tragedy.....	6

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- [Application for Degree](#) due Sept. 7, 2018 for fall 2018.
- [COE scholarships](#) submission deadline for 2018-2019 is Sept. 23, 2018.



DEAN'S DISPATCH

Welcome to another academic year as we introduce the inaugural issue of our college newsletter! It is exciting to showcase college highlights, new faculty and staff, faculty achievements, partnerships with school districts, student news, and student success activities in one issue, so stay tuned for more in future issues! I want to give a special shout out to Josephine Elliott for taking on the writing and editorial duties and to Teresa Crane for her photography and guidance in the production of this newsletter.

Valerie J. Bristor, Ph.D.

Dean and Professor

College of Education



“I am honored to serve as Dean of the College of Education as we continue our forward momentum with awesome accomplishments far into the future.” — Valerie J. Bristor, Ph.D., Dean and Professor, College of Education

COE SENDS FOND FAREWELLS

Rosanna Gatens, Ph.D., Instructor, College of Education, retired effective July 1, 2018. She served the COE for 15 and a half years, 13 and half of them as Director of Florida Atlantic University’s Center for Holocaust and Human Rights Education from 2003 to 2016.

Marsha Lynch, M.S., Assistant Director of Advising, Office for Academic and Student Services on FAU Davie, to retire September 28, 2018. She was recognized as Staff Member of the Year at the 2018 Broward Achievement Awards luncheon, hosted by the Student Affairs and Broward Campus Administration. She served the COE for 18 years.

FACULTY PROMOTIONS

Valerie J. Bristor, Dean, College of Education announced the following tenure and/or promotions for 2018:

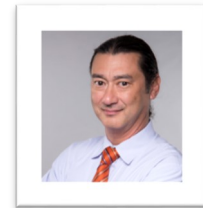
Susannah Brown, Ph.D., Teaching and Learning, promotion to full professor.



Susannah Brown, Ph.D.

Professor

Michael Hall, Ph.D., Exercise Science and Health Promotion, tenure and promotion to Associate Professor.



Michael Hall, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

John Hardman, Ph.D., Educational Leadership and Research Methodology, promotion to Senior Instructor.

Christopher Boerum, M.S., M.B.A., Exercise Science and Health Promotion, promotion to Senior Instructor.

Chayane Daniels, B.B.A., A.D. Henderson University School, promotion to University School Accomplished Instructor.

Tzeitel Chacon-Rosado, M.S., A.D. Henderson University School, promotion to University School Accomplished Instructor.

Ana Vidal Simzer, M.Ed., A.D. Henderson University School, promotion to University School Accomplished Instructor.



John Hardman, Ph.D.



Chris Boerum, M.S., M.B.A.

Senior Instructors



Chayane Daniels, B.B.A.



Tzeitel Chacon-Rosado, M.S.



Ana Vidal Simzer, M.Ed.

University School Accomplished Instructors



Daniel Reyes-Guerra, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Educational Leadership and Research Methodology in Florida Atlantic University's College of Education, coordinates the School Leaders master's, specialist, and doctoral programs.

FACULTY FOCUS: REYES-GUERRA

Daniel Reyes-Guerra, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Educational Leadership and Research Methodology (ELRM), in Florida Atlantic University (FAU)'s College of Education is in the forefront of improving school leadership education programs. In fact, he is in his second year directing professional learning programs in partnership with local school districts thanks to the \$5.6 million Wallace Foundation grant awarded in 2016 (see article at right).

As a result, ELRM completely rewrote its School Leaders Master of Education program by co-constructing it with a committee of representatives from all four partnering districts. "What is important is the emphasis on social justice, social emotional learning and systems thinking," declared Reyes-Guerra. "Through our recruitment and selection process, we really look for people who are looking to make a difference and improve the lives of the students that they teach in the schools they will run."

Reyes-Guerra—as ELRM's School Leaders Program Coordinator—oversees the master's, specialist and doctoral programs in school leadership. In that role, he facilitates program faculty meetings to review curriculum and get faculty consensus on program business. He supervises administration functions, schedules courses and oversees recruitment and selection. In addition to teaching doctoral-level courses such as Executive Leadership, Seminar in Administration and School Improvement, Reyes-Guerra chairs or serves on dissertation committees. His research interests include internship, leadership and social justice, educational leadership policy and university-school district partnership.

Reyes-Guerra joined the University in 2002 as a Principal-in-Residence in ELRM's *Grow Your Own Program*, while earning a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from FAU. He became an Assistant Professor in 2009. Previously, he was a Secondary Principal at the American School of Asuncion in Paraguay for seven years and a High School Principal at the Escuela Americana in El Salvador for three years. Prior to that, he taught English and social studies for a total of seven years at the American School of El Salvador and the American School of Guatemala. He holds a M.S. in Educational Administration from the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, and a B.A. in History and Government from Cornell University.

A past President of the Florida Association of Professors of Educational Leadership, he has been instrumental in shaping policy initiatives in leadership preparation. "We live in a State that is tied to high stakes accountability and that is based on student performance on standardized tests," noted Reyes-Guerra. Educational leaders "are trying to break from that and find other ways to measure success" and produce "democratic, critical thinking citizens."

FAU SCHOOL LEADERS PROGRAM PARTNERS WITH DISTRICTS, STATE

"The Wallace Foundation grant created an opportunity to focus on improving the educational leadership profession in the State of Florida," stated Daniel Reyes-Guerra, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Educational Leadership and Research Methodology (ELRM) and Principal Investigator for the Florida Atlantic University Principal Preparation Initiative (FAUPPI).

Reyes-Guerra, in partnership with the Florida Department of Education, convened State leaders and stakeholders in July 2018 for the second time to create a guiding vision for school leadership learning and development. The statewide task force has been brought together as part of the work of FAUPPI to prepare a report, including recommendations for aligning policy with that vision, for Florida's Commissioner of Education by Nov. 1, 2018.

The \$5.6 million grant the [Wallace Foundation](#) provided to FAU's College of Education also made possible the collaboration with local school districts to improve FAU's School Leaders preparation programs. "Literally the goal of the Wallace Foundation is to foster strong public schools, which they believe are crucial to ensuring equal opportunity for all Americans, an underpinning of our democracy," stated Reyes-Guerra.

Under the leadership of Reyes-Guerra, FAUPPI project has created professional learning programs that lead to state certification for principals and assistant principals. The idea is for these programs to serve as innovative and effective models for other universities and policymakers across the country.

The first step was to rewrite the ELRM School Leaders Masters in Education program with the help of district representatives. Now in the second year of the four-year grant, the second step is for each district-university partnership to implement the same basic curriculum, while making context-based changes so that it would meet each district's specific instructional framework and learning needs, explained Reyes-Guerra.

These university-district partnership programs include Broward County Public Schools' Principal Rapid Orientation and Preparation in Educational Leadership (PROPEL), launched in 2011; the School District of Palm Beach County's Leadership for Excellence and Equity (ExEq); and St. Lucie Public Schools and Martin County School District's Educational Leadership Internship to Excellence (ELITE).

NEW FACULTY, STAFF WELCOMED

Other departments welcomed the following faculty members:

Elisa Cruz-Torres, Ed.D., Visiting Instructor, Exceptional Student Education (ESE);

Elizabeth Jekanowski, Ph.D., Instructor, Educational Leadership and Research Methodology (ELRM);

Kelly Kearney, Ed.D., Visiting Instructor, Exceptional Student Education;

Michelle Papania, M.S., C.P.A., Instructor, Exercise Science and Health Promotion (ESHP);

Ron Persin, Ed.D., Visiting Assistant Professor, Teaching and Learning;

Kelly Steele, M.S., Instructor-Clinical Supervisor, Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD).

ADHUS/FAU High School's new University School Instructors that were recognized at the COE Welcome Back reception are Marc Cortese, B.S.; Patricia Delmonte, M.Ed.; Megan Foster, M.A.; Angela Gass, B.A.; and Alyson Picard, B.A.

Jana Nayman, M.Ed., joined ADHUS as School Counselor, and Agnes Timar, Ed.S., accepted a new position at FAU High as Data Specialist.

FAU High also welcomed Ellen Chance, Ph.D., as High School Counselor; Sara Johnson, M.S., as Student Achievement Coordinator; Naria Menard, M.Ed., High School Student Success Instructor; and Christine Rick, M.Ed., as Assistant Principal. Joining the FAU High staff are Melissa Keogh, M.Ed., High School Academic Advisor; and Arielle Osman, Ed.S., High School Mental Health Counselor.

Staff, who joined the COE this year, include Sunny Gross, B.A., Secretary, and Kimberly McKeag, A.S., Program Assistant, ELRM. In addition, Jorene Jameson, Ph.D., Director of Development assigned to the COE; Kerry Wittel, M.S., and Jacqueline Wood, M.S., both Clinical Support Specialists, ESE; and Nishant Visavadiya, Ph.D., Coordinator, Research Program Services, ESHP, were welcomed. CSD promoted Jeremy Bayne to Program Assistant.

CCEI TEAMS UP WITH BROWARD SCHOOLS

Bill Bigelow, curriculum editor of *Rethinking Schools* and veteran High School Social Studies teacher, will be a guest speaker on Tuesday, Nov. 13, 2018 as part of the Educational Equity Partnership Project (EPPP). "He is probably one of the most prolific curriculum developers of multicultural and social justice curricula," noted Dilys Schoorman, Ph.D., Chair, Curriculum, Culture and Educational Inquiry (CCEI) in Florida Atlantic University (FAU)'s College of Education.



Collaborators in the Educational Equity Partnership Project include (from left) Kalisha Waldon, Ph.D., Adjunct Instructor; Dilys Schoorman, Ph.D., Chair; and Traci Baxley, Ed.D. (third from right), Associate Professor, in the Department of Curriculum, Culture and Educational Inquiry. Angela Brown (third from left), Director, Coaching and Inductions; Christopher Gates (right) and Myrlaine Salter, Ed.D., are from Broward County Public Schools.

Bigelow will be addressing Teacher Leaders in Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) as part of CCEI's second of five modules: Developing Multicultural Curriculum led by Schoorman and Kalisha Waldon, Ph.D., Adjunct Instructor, CCEI, this fall. "Our involvement in this grant is to develop Teacher Leaders, who are able to take a lead in their schools in terms of implementing curriculum and instructional practices," Schoorman explained. This partnership recognizes

the crucial importance of multicultural education in the success of teachers.

CCEI, in conjunction with the Division of Student Affairs, launched the EPPP project in collaboration with BCPS in fall 2017. Funded by a Teaching Incentive Fund (TIF) grant awarded to BCPS, EPPP offers selected Master Teachers in Title I schools professional development modules taught by CCEI faculty. Angela Brown, Director, Coaching and Induction, BCPS, is the Principal Investigator of the

TIF grant. A former Principal of Dillard Elementary, Brown was named 2015 Principal of the Year and was awarded the 2016 Shine Award by Florida Governor Rick Scott.

The goal of the TIF grant is to provide educators with research-

based strategies and resources to serve students of diverse populations better. The goal of the TIF programs is to increase the number of effective educators in high-needs schools in order to improve students' academic achievement. To that end, TIF funds projects that develop performance-based teacher compensation systems. "The EPPP project is intentionally collaborative," stated Schoorman. "We have to listen. We have to adapt and, ultimately, we have to learn from and with the teachers."

NEW FACULTY ATTEND ORIENTATION



Florida Atlantic University (FAU) hosted the 2018 New Faculty Orientation Luncheon on Monday, August 13, 2018 at FAU Stadium's Delray Acura Club. FAU President John W. Kelly, Ph.D., and Provost Bret Danilowicz, Ph.D., welcomed the new Faculty Owls to FAU; College of Education (COE) Dean Valerie J. Bristol, Ph.D., greeted new COE faculty. Among them (from left) are: CCEI's Bianca Nightengale-Lee, Ph.D.; Melanie Acosta, Ph.D.; Hoang Tran, Ph.D.; CE's Ayse Torres, Ph.D.; ESE's Kelly Kearney, Ed.D.; ESHP's Michelle Papania, M.S., C.P.A.; ELRM's Elizabeth Jekanowski, Ph.D.; and TL's Ron Persin, Ed.D. They are all Owl fans now!

OASS WELCOMES FACULTY, STUDENTS, STAFF

Student Success is one focus of Florida Atlantic University (FAU)'s Strategic Plan. Providing a comprehensive system of student, faculty and staff support to enhance student success is the primary mission of the College of Education (COE)'s Office for Academic and Student Services (OASS).

The advising staff have been busy at work preparing for the new academic year. This summer alone, the advisors have participated in more than 50 freshman and transfer orientation sessions where they welcomed over 550 new College of Education students!

The fall semester kicks off with student success as a top priority! OASS would like to invite the faculty to participate in the many upcoming initiatives and events, such as FAU's Fall Expo for high school students, who are interested in applying to FAU, on Oct. 13, 2018 and Choose FAU Days for accepted students, who are considering FAU, on March 22, 2019 and March 29, 2019. OASS welcomes the opportunity to work with and support COE faculty, so if there is anything that the OASS staff can do to assist COE departments, please contact [OASS](#).



“Advising plays a vital role in student success. I am proud to be part of a team that is dedicated to providing the best academic service to students.”

*— Deborah Shepherd, Ed.D., Associate Dean,
Office for Academic and Student Services*

MEET OASS STAFF ACROSS THE CAMPUSES



The Office for Academic and Student Services in the College of Education (COE) has staff located on three campuses: FAU Boca Raton, FAU Davie and FAU Jupiter. Undergraduate advising is provided by Sita Ramnarace (right), Andre Amirato (fourth from right) and Victoria Smith (second from left), all Academic Advisors in the Education Building, ED-47, Suite 230, on the Boca Raton campus. Marsha Lynch (third from right), Assistant Director, and Lisa Ciacci

(second from right), Academic Advisor, offer COE students advising in the Education and Science building, ES, Room 202, on the Davie campus; and Greg Gilbert, Assistant Director, in Education Building, MC-12, Room 202, on the Jupiter campus. Jessica Watts (left), Coordinator, Graduate Advising and College Initiatives, and Joe Waters (third from left), Associate Director, and Traci Catto (left in the picture at right), Director, Clinical Placements, are on the Boca campus.



FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

College of Education

Our Mission

The mission of the College of Education is to use research and scholarship to prepare and support teachers, leaders, counselors, speech language pathologists, and exercise and health professionals to improve the lives of people and communities.

Our Aspiration

As researchers, scholars and educators, we aspire to be a leading resource for research, professional preparation, policy, and public engagement in local, state, national and international communities.



[Follow us](#)

www.fau.edu/education/



Florida Atlantic University
College of Education
777 Glades Road
P.O. Box 3091
Boca Raton, FL 33431-0991

Phone: 561-297-6507
Fax: 561-297-3613

For information about programs, contact the Office for Academic and Student Services:

Boca 561-287-3570
Davie 954-236-1028
Jupiter 561-799-8135

COE Highlights
Volume 1 Issue 1 Fall 2018



Writer/Editor: Josephine Elliott

INTERNS PERSERVERE DESPITE TRAGEDY

When tragedy struck Marjory Stoneman Douglas (MSD) High School on Wednesday, February 14, 2018, three alumni, who graduated on May 3, 2018 from Florida Atlantic University (FAU)'s College of Education (COE), were student teaching at that high school. They emerged stronger and committed to the teaching profession. In fact, two of them are now teaching at MSD High School and the other, at Deerfield Beach Elementary School (DBES). Both schools are in the Broward County Public School District.

A graduate of MSD High School, Elizabeth Smith earned a B.A. degree in Exceptional Student Education with ESOL Endorsement from the COE's Department of Exceptional Student Education (ESE). She holds an ESE teaching position teaching in a second/third-grade classroom at Deerfield Beach Elementary School.

Lauren Rower received a B.A.E. degree in English Education from the COE's Department of Teaching and Learning (TL). She teaches ninth and tenth-grade English at MSD High School. Anthony Melei earned a B.A. in Social Studies Education from the COE's TL. He teaches ninth-grade geography at MSD High School.

Following the tragedy, Lisa Finnegan, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, ESE, recalled that Elizabeth was eager to assist MSD students readjust back to school and support one another because she was not only a student teacher, but was a former student of that high school as well. Robyn Klein, Ed.D., Field Director and Secondary Methods Instructor, TL, noted that both Lauren and Anthony exceeded the expectations of FAU interns and showed their support for the community.

“That experience taught me I am so much stronger than I would have ever thought. It also taught me I am EXACTLY where I belong.”

— Elizabeth Smith, FAU alumna and ESE teacher

Q & A: STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

The start of a new academic year is a good time to explore joining a student organization. So what are the choices?

The College of Education offers a variety of organizations:

COLLEGE WIDE

Kappa Delta Pi (Rho Omega Chapter)
Faculty Advisor: Lydia Bartram, MSW,
lbartram@fau.edu

Student Achievement Council
Faculty Advisor: Lydia Bartram, MSW,
lbartram@fau.edu
President: Sylvia Collazo, M.Ed., scollaz2@my.fau.edu

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION SCIENCES & DISORDERS

National Student Speech Language Hearing Association
Faculty Advisor: Carol Tessel, Ph.D., CCC-SLP,
ctessel@fau.edu

DEPARTMENT OF COUNSELOR EDUCATION

Chi Sigma Iota (Beta Rho Chi Chapter)
Faculty Advisor: Carman Gill, Ph.D., gillc@fau.edu
President: Alison Bourdeau abourdeau@fau.edu

DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM, CULTURE, & EDUCATIONAL INQUIRY

Talon Club (professional networking for graduate students)
Faculty Advisor: Sabrina Sembiante, Ph.D.,
ssembiante@fau.edu
Sister Circle (for African American women doctoral students)
Faculty Advisor: Traci Baxley, Ed.D., baxley@fau.edu
Owls for ELL (English Language Learners)
Faculty Advisor: Sabrina Sembiante, Ph.D.,
ssembiante@fau.edu

DEPARTMENT OF EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION

HOOT Honors
Coordinators: Sharon Darling, Ph.D., Sdarlin4@fau.edu,
Charles Dukes, Ed.D., cdukes@fau.edu, Lisa Finnegan, Ph.D.,
lfinnegan@fau.edu
IMPACT Autism
Faculty Advisor: Elisa Cruz-Torres, Ed.D., ecruz4@fau.edu
Student Council for Exceptional Children (SCEC)
Faculty Advisor: Katie Miller, Ph.D., millerk@fau.edu, Lisa Finnegan, Ph.D., lfinnegan@fau.edu

DEPARTMENT OF EXERCISE SCIENCE & HEALTH PROMOTION

ESHP Club
Faculty Advisor: Michael Zourdos, Ph.D., mzourdos@fau.edu
President: Michael Correa mcorrea2015@fau.edu