



EDUCATION CONNECTION

FLORIDA ATLANTIC COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

VOL. 4, ISSUE 5

A BIMONTHLY eNEWSLETTER

MAY/JUNE 2024

Congratulations Graduates

FAU College of Education conferred 481 degrees in 2023 for the spring, summer and fall semesters during commencement ceremonies held on May 4, Aug. 8 and Dec. 15, 2023, respectively by Florida Atlantic University. Among the graduates were COE students receiving 30 doctoral, 26 specialist, 210 master's and 215 bachelor's degrees. Warm congratulations are extended to all.

Kudos to those listed below who earned doctoral degrees:

Spring 2023

Ashley Cooper
Melissa Antonelli
Teodora Kamburov
Yoonhee Lee
Iris Rodgers
Agnes Timar
Fahad Algahtani
John Critelli
Paul Houchens
Lauren Berlingo
Angelica Downey
Jacqueline M. Wood

Laura A. Mooney
Elena Steadham

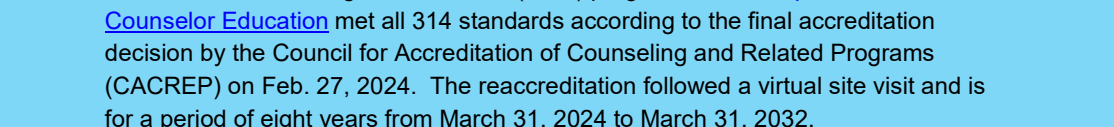
Fall 2023

Erin Beattie
Kadeem Campbell
Matt D'Urso
Paul Massy
Pilar Forero Taylor
Lucas Williams
Adam DeRosa
Mary Killeen
Sara Kosches
Renee Law
Katherine Policastro

Summer 2023

Joshua Katz
Diana Fedderman
Rebecca Goldstein
Aaron Hackman
Juan Izaguirre

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS AND MASTER'S THESIS LISTING



CE and CSD Programs Complete Rigorous Reaccreditation

Programs in two of the College of Education's departments recently received notification of reaccreditation:

Florida Atlantic's College of Education (COE) programs in the [Department of Counselor Education](#) met all 314 standards according to the final accreditation decision by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Programs (CACREP) on Feb. 27, 2024. The reaccreditation followed a virtual site visit and is for a period of eight years from March 31, 2024 to March 31, 2032.

A counselor education program must fulfill certain requirements or standards in order to become accredited. While CACREP addresses issues such as financial viability and resources at the institutional level, most of the application and review focus on the degree-specific program "with regard to institutional settings, program mission and objectives, program content, practicum experiences, student selection and advising, faculty qualifications and workload, program governance, instructional support, and self-evaluation." CACREP accredits more than "929 master's and doctoral degree programs in counseling and its specialties offered by 449 colleges and universities across the United States." ... [Read more](#)

The master's degree program in speech language pathology offered by the [Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders](#) at Florida Atlantic's College of Education successfully completed the accreditation review last fall following a site visit. This program is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA) of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). The accreditation is for a period of eight years from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2031.

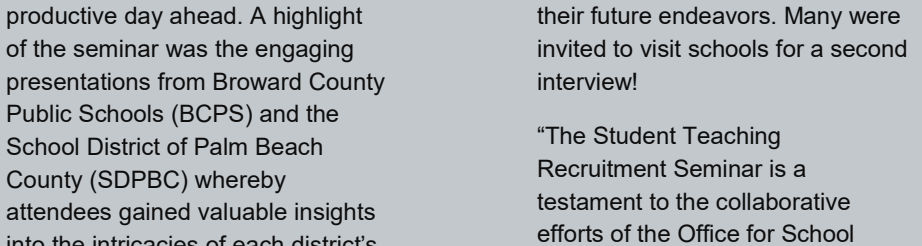
"The CAA assures quality and promotes excellence through accreditation of education programs for entry-level audiologists and speech-language pathologists," according to its mission statement. "It is recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education." CAA accredits 315 speech-language pathology master's programs and 80 audiology clinical doctorate programs. ... [Read more](#)

FAU's COE Moves Up for 3rd Consecutive Year in U.S. News & World Report Rankings

[Florida Atlantic University's College of Education](#) rose 10 places tying at No. 107 in the *U.S. News & World Report 2024-25* "Best Graduate Programs," which merits a "Best Education Schools" designation. This improvement builds on gains of 25 and 21 places in the previous two years—for a total increase of 56 places in three years.

Rankings are based on two types of data: expert assessment data about program excellence and statistical indicators that include input measures, which reflect the quality of students, faculty and other resources, and output measures, which signal an institution's success in managing that process so graduates achieve desired results. ... [Read More](#)

Office for School Engagement's Recruitment Seminar Empowers Future Educators



On April 4, 2024, the Marleen and Harold Forkas Alumni Center on FAU Boca Raton was abuzz with energy as the College of Education's [Office for School Engagement](#) hosted a Student Teaching Recruitment Seminar in collaboration with the Florida Atlantic's Career Center. The event provided Teacher Candidates with essential tools and insights to navigate their journey as they soon graduate and join the teaching profession.

The day began with a workshop on Resume Writing and Interviewing Skills facilitated by the Career Center. Student teachers learned valuable tips to refine their resumes and hone their interviewing techniques, setting the stage for a productive day ahead. A highlight of the seminar was the engaging presentations from Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) and the School District of Palm Beach County (SDPBC) whereby attendees gained valuable insights into the intricacies of each district's employee benefits, salaries, first-year mentor programs, professional development and opportunities.

Following the morning sessions, attendees networked with representatives from educational institutions, including SDPBC, BCPS, American Heritage Schools Palm Beach, Posnack

School, Florida Atlantic's Alumni Association and learned about graduate programs from the COE's Office for Academic and Student Services and Department of Counselor Education. The Career Center provided one-on-one support during a hands-on Resume Lab and a professional photographer to take portraits of each Teacher Candidate.

A unique feature of the afternoon sessions was the opportunity for mock interviews conducted by local district Human Resource Officers, Principals, Assistant Principals, and Teachers. These sessions not only provided students with valuable interview practice but also offered constructive feedback to support their future endeavors. Many were invited to visit schools for a second interview!

"The Student Teaching Recruitment Seminar is a testament to the collaborative efforts of the Office for School Engagement, Career Center, and its partnering schools and districts in nurturing the next generation of Florida Atlantic Alumni Educators," noted Kelli Wilder Moransais, M.Ed., Coordinator of School Engagement. "We extend our gratitude to all participants, organizers, and partners for their contributions. ...[Read more](#)

COE Students Recognized at 3MT® and Participate in COE SAC Research Symposium

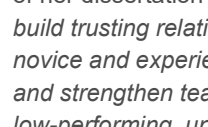
FAU College of Education students competed in the 8th Annual Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) Competition and participated in the 23rd Annual COE Student Achievement Council (SAC) Research Symposium:

[The 8th Annual Three Minute Thesis \(3MT®\) Competition](#)—preliminary round was held in-person at the Boca Raton Campus Student Union on March 18-20, 2024 and the championship on March 21, 2024. The 3MT® Heat 4 Winner and People's Choice Winner went to COE student:

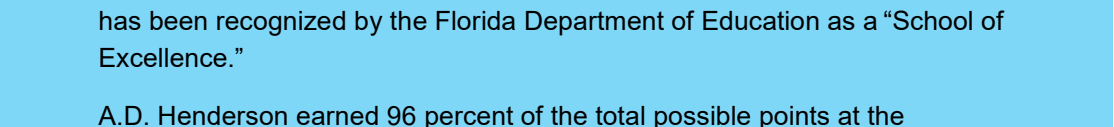


Eloise Findlay (left), who is pursuing a doctoral degree in Curriculum and Instruction, conducted her presentation, *Beyond Survival: A Primer for How to Thrive in Grad School with Mentorship, Essential Resources, and Practical Techniques*. Faculty Advisor: Rina Bousalis, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Social Studies Education, Department of Curriculum and Instruction.

[Student Achievement Council \(SAC\) 23rd Annual College of Education Research Symposium](#)—showcased 25 oral presentations from students in the College of Education during the virtual event on Thursday, April 4, 2024 on topics



related to *Reclaiming the Right to Learn: Student Voice and Joy in Education*. Stephen Silverman, Ed.D., COE Dean, offered the opening remarks. The event featured a panel of three doctoral graduates – Paul Massy, Ph.D., Pilar Forero Taylor, Ph.D. and Sara Kosches, Ph.D. - who reflected on their scholarly journey and lessons learned. The panel was moderated by SAC President Catherine Restrepo-Widney. This was followed by a presentation by Sara Kosches, Ph.D., winner of the 2024 COE Outstanding Dissertation Award. Kosches shared the findings of her dissertation titled, *Principals build trusting relationships with novice and experienced teachers and strengthen teachers' retention in low-performing, underserved urban schools*. The oral presentations by students were offered in three sets of four concurrent break out rooms moderated by SAC members. The event drew 79 attendees.



A.D. Henderson University School Named School of Excellence for 5th Year in Row

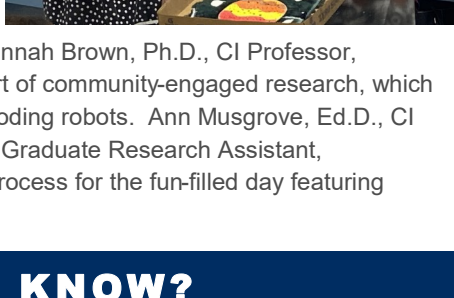
For the fifth consecutive year, [A.D. Henderson University School](#) (ADHUS) has been recognized by the Florida Department of Education as a "School of Excellence."

A.D. Henderson earned 96 percent of the total possible points at the completion of the 2022-23 school year (up from 89 percent in 2022), along with a final percentile rank of 99.6. It has been ranked in the 99th percentile at the end of each of the last three school years taken into account by the State Board of Education. ... [Read more](#)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

CI FACULTY CONDUCT STEAM STUDY AT WPB SCHOOL

Faculty from the [Department of Curriculum and Instruction](#) in FAU College of Education conducted an interdisciplinary Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) unit called Stellar Explorers: Discovering Stars of the Universe with third graders in a collaboration with school faculty at The Foundation School in West Palm Beach. At right, Jillian Powers, Ph.D., CI Associate Professor (left) looks on as Susannah Brown, Ph.D., CI Professor, demonstrates adding salt to painting as part of community-engaged research, which integrated visual art, online research and coding robots. Ann Musgrove, Ed.D., CI Associate Professor, and Robert Bogle, CI Graduate Research Assistant, participated in the planning and research process for the fun-filled day featuring Spike the Alien, robots and art.



DID YOU KNOW?

The Graduate College is holding virtual [information sessions](#) on May 16 and June 20, 2024 from 5 p.m. – 6 p.m. See important dates below. This hour-long session will include information regarding Financial Aid, Testing and Test Preparation and Graduate Admissions. Students seeking information on specific master's, specialist or doctoral degree programs in the College of Education, may contact:

[Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders](#)
Jeremy Bayne, jbayne1@health.fau.edu

[Department of Counselor Education](#)
Mikaela von Kursell, mkursell@fau.edu

[Department of Curriculum and Instruction](#)
Jodi Cantor, jcantor2@fau.edu

[Department of Educational Leadership and Research Methodology](#)
Kathy DuBois, kdubois4@fau.edu

[Department of Special Education](#)
Ellen Ismalon, eismalon@fau.edu

For graduate advising and admissions, contact Jessica Stupec, Assistant Director, Office of Academic and Student Services, jstupec@fau.edu.

Important Dates

- Students**
- May 3—COE Commencement
 - May 16—[Graduate College Information Session](#)
 - May 31—Last day to submit [Application for Degree](#) (use the online form)
 - June 1—Summer [applications and security clearance for field experiences and practicum placements](#) due to the Office for School Engagement
 - June 17—Dissertation Defense Deadline
 - June 20—[Graduate College Information Session](#)
 - June 24—Summer Dissertation due in the Dean's Office

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Akinola, O., **Torres, A.** (2024). Exploring the role of therapeutic alliance and client functioning in vocational rehabilitation engagement among clients with mental disabilities. *Journal of Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Mental Health*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40737-024-00395-2>

Boatwright, D., & **Salinas, C.** (2023 [published 2024]). The Intimacy of Black Philanthropy: A Portraiture Study of Black American Alumni Giving to a Predominantly White Institution Historically Associated with Slavery. *Philanthropy & Education*, 7(1), 1-24. <https://www.muse.jhu.edu/article/917870>

Furner, J. M. (2024). The best pedagogical practices for teaching mathematics revisited: Using math manipulatives, children's literature, and GeoGebra to produce math confident young people for a STEM world. *Pedagogical Research*, 9(2), em0193. <https://doi.org/10.29333/pr/14194>

Schoorman, D., & Gatens, R. (2024). Understanding Florida's HB7: A policy of intimidation by confusion. *Educational Policy*. DOI: [10.1177/08959048241235405](https://doi.org/10.1177/08959048241235405).

Schoorman, D., & Gatens, R. (2024). A critical analysis of curriculum censorship in Florida: Implications for responsible educators. *Sophist's Bane*, 9(1). Special issue- Refusing the return: Mobilizing towards just educational futures.

FAU Lab Schools Research Newsletters:
[February 2024](#) [March 2024](#)

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