

# COE Highlights

## FAUS BECOMES 2018 BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

The naming of [Alexander D. Henderson School](#) (ADHUS) and [Florida Atlantic University High School](#) as a [National Blue Ribbon School](#) by the U.S. Department of Education was celebrated at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. on Nov. 7 - 8, 2018. Sherry Bees, M.Ed., Principal/Director, ADHUS/FAU High accepted the award on behalf of the FAU lab schools. Also attending the ceremony was Frank T. Brogan, M.Ed., U.S. Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education, who toured the school at FAU Boca Raton on Dec. 12, 2018 along with Florida Atlantic University (FAU) officials, including John W. Kelly, Ph.D., FAU President; Anthony Barbar, Chair, FAU Board of



A.D. Henderson University School and Florida Atlantic University High School is recognized at the National Blue Ribbon Ceremony in Washington, D.C. on Nov. 7-8, 2018 as Sherry Bees, M.Ed. (center, right), Principal/Director, accepts the award from the U.S. Department of Education. Gracie Diaz, M.Ed. (left), Associate Director, and Chris Barzey, M.Ed. (right), second grade teacher, look on.

Trustees; Joel D. Herbst, Ed.D., Assistant Dean, PK-12 Schools and Educational Programs, and Superintendent; and Valerie J. Bristor, Ph.D., Dean of the College of Education (COE).

“The recognition is based on a school’s overall academic performance or progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups,” noted Bristor in her Oct. 1, 2018 announcement that ADHUS/FAU High has been recognized as one of 349 recipients across the nation for 2018.

Bees credits ADHUS/FAU High’s innovative student research program that guides student learning through widely-used research skills, and early and frequent Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) engagement with fostering stronger critical thinking, higher self-confidence and

development of future career skills. For example, the research program has yielded 22 student publications, 50 research grants, and more than 159 research presentations.

The timing of this honor coincides with ADHUS’s 50th anniversary. Established in 1968, ADHUS is a public elementary and middle school with a student population that reflects the demographic composition of the population of the state of Florida. FAU High School is a highly selective, public, dual enrollment program, serving students in grades 9 - 12. ... [Read More](#).

## COE SELECTS NEW HOLMES SCHOLARS

Four College of Education (COE) doctoral students have been selected as Holmes Scholars for 2018-2019, Valerie J. Bristor, Ph.D., Dean, COE, announced during an induction meeting held on November 6, 2018. Each of them have been chosen to serve up to a three-year term as members in the [AACTE Holmes Scholars® Program](#). The program provides mentorship, peer support and professional development to COE doctoral students from historically underrepresented backgrounds, especially racial, ethnic and linguistic minorities.

Rangasamy Ramasamy, Ph.D., Professor, Exceptional Student Education (ESE), and Coordinator of the AACTE Holmes Scholars® Program at Florida Atlantic University (FAU) also welcomed the new scholars: Dominique Smart, who is pursuing a Ph.D. in Higher Educational Leadership; Denise Dowdie, who is working on an Ed.D. in ESE; Shanett Dean, who is seeking a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction; and Danna Demezier, who is progressing toward a Ph.D. in Counseling.

The new Scholars joined the current COE doctoral students in the Holmes Scholars® Program at FAU in the fall 2018 semester: Deborah King McEwan, who is pursuing a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction; Kayla Elliott, who is wrapping up a Ph.D. in Higher Educational Leadership; and Brianna Joseph, who earned an Ed.D. in ESE in December 2018. ... [Read more](#).



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### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- [Application for Degree](#) due Jan. 25, 2018 for spring 2019.
- College of Education 2019 [Outstanding Dissertation Award](#) submission deadline is 5 p.m. on Jan. 25, 2018.



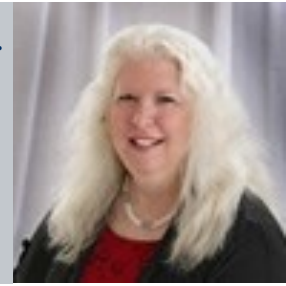
## DEAN'S DISPATCH

I am sure many of you have heard of the “butterfly effect” -- the idea that a butterfly’s wings might create tiny changes in the atmosphere on one side of the world that may ultimately alter the path of a tornado on the other side of the world. While the butterfly does not cause the tornado, the flap of its wings is an essential part of the initial conditions resulting in a tornado. Like the “butterfly effect,” everything we do as educators is significant. This issue describes how the College of Education (COE) faculty and staff have been flapping our butterfly wings in very positive directions: A.D. Henderson University School/ Florida Atlantic University (FAU) High School was named a 2018 Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education; faculty received state and national awards as well as FAU sabbatical awards; and our Office of Appreciative Education is making quite an impression across FAU,

**Valerie J. Bristor, Ph.D.**

Dean and Professor

College of Education



the United States and the world. Finally, I want to give special shout-outs to Carol Meltzer, Ed.D., for her awesome work on the Diversity Showcase which recognizes the amazing amount of quality work our faculty and staff have conducted and to the COE Diversity Committee, headed by John Hardman, Ph.D.

*“Everything we do as educators is significant. Even the smallest gesture. If I can make a positive difference in even one student’s life, it was all worthwhile.”*

— Valerie J. Bristor, Ph.D., Dean and Professor, College of Education

### COE SENDS FOND FAREWELLS

Gina Eyerman, Ed.D., Associate Director and University School Associate Professor at the A.D. Henderson University School of the College of Education at Florida Atlantic University, retired October 5, 2018 after two and a half years of service.

Carol Meltzer, Ed.D., Senior Instructor, College of Education (COE) at Florida Atlantic University, retired Jan. 3, 2019. She served the COE for more than 27 and a half years.

Dianne Wright, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Educational Leadership and Research Methodology, on the Davie Campus retired Dec. 31, 2018. She served Florida Atlantic University’s College of Education for 15 years.

### FACULTY AWARDS

Valerie J. Bristor, Dean, College of Education announced the following awards for fall 2018:

**Susannah Brown, Ph.D.**, Professor, Teaching and Learning, was selected by her peers to receive the National Higher Education Art Educator Award and will receive the award in March 2019 during the National Art Education Associate (NAEA) National Convention in Boston, Ma., recognizing her exemplary contributions to the field of visual arts education at the national level. In March 2018, she was awarded the Southeastern National Art Educator for Higher Education from NAEA. In addition, Brown was selected in October 2018 as a finalist for the 2018 Spirit of Service-Learning Award by the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of South Florida, Inc., the Miami-Dade Teacher of the Year Coalition and the Armando Alejandro Jr. Memorial Foundation.



Susannah Brown, Ph.D.

Professor

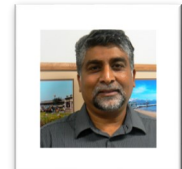
**Victoria Brown, Ed.D.**, Associate Professor, Teaching and Learning, and Assistant Provost, eLearning, along with fellow collaborators received two awards at the Online Learning Consortium Accelerate Conference on Nov. 13, 2018: The Best in Track Presentation for Student Support Services and the Best Effective Practice Award for Student Support Services. The basis of the awards is the research and development of the Online Student Support Scorecard made possible by the collaborative efforts across Florida’s State University System and College System.



Victoria Brown, Ed.D.

Associate Professor

**Yash Bhagwanji, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor, Curriculum, Culture, and Educational Inquiry, received the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE)’s *Outstanding Service to EE at the National Level Award for 2018* in recognition of his work in early childhood environmental education during the October 2018 conference in Spokane, Wash.



Yash Bhagwanji, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

**David Devraj Kumar, Ed.D.**, Professor of Science Education, Teaching and Learning, received the Southeastern Association for Science Teacher Education (SASTE) 2018 Outstanding Faculty Position Paper award on Oct. 13, 2018 at the SASTE annual meeting in Birmingham, Ala. This is the fourth time (2001, 1997, 1996) this refereed award and position paper selected by blind review was bestowed on Kumar. SASTE also conferred on Kumar the Deborah Tippins Mentor Award in 2014 and the John Shrum Award for Excellence in Science Teacher Education in 1998.

## SABBATICAL SIGHTINGS: RESEARCHING STEM EDUCATION POLICY REFORM

One can usually find David Devraj Kumar, Ed.D., Hon. FAIC, Professor of Science Education and Director of STEM Education Laboratory, Teaching and Learning in Florida Atlantic University (FAU)'s College of Education (COE), promoting science, helping his students learn meaningful science, advising students, directing funded research projects, collaborating with colleagues, publishing in refereed journals, presenting conference papers and invited lectures, and engaging in public service. During the fall 2018 semester, however, he was on sabbatical to focus on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education policy reform in the United States as a Visiting Fellow in Governance Studies in the Brown Center on Education Policy at the Brookings Institution, a highly respected policy research institute that impacts the world.

At Brookings, Kumar was conducting an in-depth analysis and evaluation of K-12

STEM education data from Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS), Program for International Student Assessment (PISA), and National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) in the context of STEM teaching and learning in practice in U.S. classrooms.

Kumar presented an invited work in progress titled, "Understanding STEM education reform in the context of practice," to Brookings scholars and staff during a brainstorming seminar. In addition, he co-authored the Brown Center Chalk Board policy paper, "Climate confusion: Content and strategies, not controversy, are the biggest challenges for science teachers." Kumar plans to incorporate his sabbatical experience into his teaching and research at FAU. Previously, Kumar was a Guest Scholar at the Brookings researching education policy development processes in the U.S. education reform.

## SABBATICAL SIGHTINGS: RESEARCHING/ TRAINING REHABILITATION COUNSELORS

Over the past 14 years, Michael Frain, Ph.D., Professor of Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling, Counselor Education (CE) in Florida Atlantic University (FAU)'s College of Education (COE), and Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC), has been a published leader within the field of Rehabilitation Psychology, producing more than 50 peer-reviewed journal articles. The Rehabilitation Program is ranked number 24 in the nation, according to U.S. News & World Report in 2016, the highest-ranking program at FAU. He also submitted and has been awarded grants, as well as taught graduate students in the Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling program. While on a two-semester sabbatical, he is maintaining these activities, with the exception of a break from teaching and advising students.

Throughout the fall 2018 and spring 2019 semesters, Frain continues to serve as the Principal Investigator (PI) on the Rehabilitation Service Administration (RSA) Long-Term Training grant awarded in 2015 for \$1.2 million. This grant helps pay for masters level training of individuals seeking the M.Ed. in CE with a specialization in Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling, and, therefore, requires Frain to recruit students, complete documentation required by the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) and attend the RSA meeting in Washington, D.C.

Frain also continues to work as a consultant on three grants as one of eight members of the research team, The Collectivists, centered at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, a team with over \$15 million currently in Federal Grants. The team, with Frain as PI, this year is applying to secure three more grants to implement their motivational interviewing intervention in Vocational Rehabilitation, and to increase working life for individuals with Multiple Sclerosis. He is also Co-PI with FAU alumna, who earned the M.Ed. in CE with a specialization in Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling, and current University of Iowa Professor Jennifer Sanchez, Ph.D., on a National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) application to work with veteran and opioid use.

In addition, Frain is working with the FLDOE's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) to implement new ways of increasing student enrollment, through programs that can fit the needs of those working in the field. He conducts training for rehabilitation counselors at offices across the state of Florida. This training not only effectively changes outcomes for individuals with disabilities, but also encourages rehabilitation counselors to enroll in the Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling program at FAU and is part of three manuscripts in press from the sabbatical.

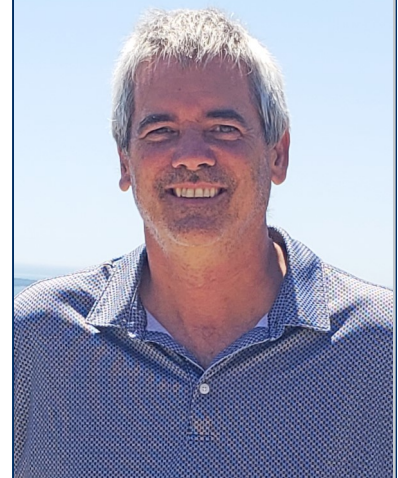
COE PROFESSORS  
AWARDED SABBICALS  
FOR SCHOLARLY PURSUITS

**FAU**  
STEM EDUCATION  
LABORATORY  
College of Education  
Florida Atlantic University

*"Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old he will not depart from it." (Proverbs)*

David Devraj Kumar,  
Ed.D.  
Professor of  
Science Education  
Teaching and Learning  
Fall 2018

*Ever wonder what professors do during their sabbaticals? Here are the stories of two COE faculty members from different departments.*



Michael Frain, Ph.D.  
Professor of Clinical  
Rehabilitation Counseling  
Counselor Education  
Fall 2018/Spring 2019

## FAU HIGH PARTNERS WITH MAX PLANCK TO FORM ACADEMY



FAU officials signed a partnership agreement between [Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience](#) (MPFI), the Germany-based Max Planck Society and Florida Atlantic University (FAU) on Nov. 28, 2018 to form the [FAU Max Planck Academy](#) on the John D. MacArthur Campus in Jupiter. The Academy will open the laboratories of Max Planck to Science Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)-focused juniors and seniors in high school from across the country.

The FAU Max Planck Academy will offer “exceptional high school students an extraordinary opportunity to work alongside renowned scientists,” noted Joel Herbst, Ed.D., Assistant Dean, PK-12 Schools and Education Programs, and Superintendent. “As the only program of its kind in the world, the Academy will serve as the new model for STEM education delivery.” The inaugural class is expected to begin in fall 2020.

## FAUS BECOMES 2018 BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)



A.D. Henderson University School/Florida Atlantic University High School celebrated this achievement at the school on Dec. 12, 2018 with the official unveiling of the Blue Ribbon Seal as FAU and ADHUS leaders look on.

## COE LAUNCHES DIVERSITY SHOWCASE

The College of Education (COE) was the first Florida Atlantic University (FAU) college to initiate a standing [Diversity Committee](#). The committee was formed even before diversity became one of the platforms in the University’s strategic plan. The COE’s continued commitment to diversity is integral to the database for the

from the Office for Academic and Student Services, and students in COE undergraduate and graduate programs. The primary tasks of the COE Diversity Committee are advising the Dean and faculty members on matters pertaining to the building and maintaining effective programming and monitoring recruiting policies to assure an organizational climate hospitable to equity in the context of diversity and inclusion.



In accordance with the College of Education (COE) policy statement, the COE is committed to supporting the value of diversity and inclusivity among students, faculty and staff. This support includes learning experiences, scholarship and community engagement at all levels.

Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), which is tied to student success and maintained by Patricia Heydet-Kirsch, Ed.D., Assistant Dean, Accreditation and Assessment.

The COE Diversity Committee, headed by John Hardman, Ph.D., Senior Instructor, Educational Leadership and Research Methodology (ELRM), acts as an advisory body to the COE Dean and faculty. The Committee includes faculty from each of the COE’s academic departments, staff

Office. It includes faculty and student publications; research; power point presentations; professional development; examples of community engagement (local, national, international); awards and accomplishments; and information on a variety of diversity focused programs offered in the COE. The Showcase will be available online as a link through the Diversity Committee webpage.

Please take the opportunity to browse through the collection both online and housed in the Dean’s Office.

## SLATTERY CHILDREN CELEBRATE DIWALI



Two classes of three-year olds from the Karen Slattery Educational Research Center for Child Development (ERCCD) in Florida Atlantic University (FAU)’s College of Education (COE) celebrated [Diwali](#) on Nov. 5, 2018. Valerie J. Bristor, Ph.D., Dean, COE, participated in the event, which was coordinated by Lydia Bartram, MSW, Director, Karen Slattery ERCCD. Diwali is the Hindu festival of lights, which began as a harvest festival in ancient India. The children wore handmade Dupatta shawls (traditional Indian attire) during their Diwali parade onto FAU Boca Raton, first stopping at the Administration building and then the breezeway where they conducted several flash mob dances to celebrate Diwali and promote diversity and inclusion.

## APPRECIATIVE ADVISING MOVES ACROSS FAU, THE UNITED STATES AND THE WORLD

“It is all about the student,” is the motto of the [Office of Appreciative Education](#), which utilizes Appreciative Inquiry, Appreciative Advising and other positive psychology and change methodologies to help organizations, employees and students realize their full potential. The framework for the theory behind the Appreciative Advising and Appreciative Education movements co-founded by Jennifer Bloom, Ed. D., Associate Professor, were introduced to Florida Atlantic University (FAU) in 2015 when she joined the Department of Educational Leadership and Research Methodology (ELRM) in FAU’s College of Education.

Among the various offices, professional and student areas at FAU that actively employ the Appreciative Advising model are: University Advising Services (UAS), New Student Orientation, Transfer Student Services, Orientation Leaders, Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution, FAU Libraries, Fraternity and Sorority Life, Student Government, Office of Undergraduate Admissions and Career Center. Moreover, faculty and other professionals have implemented this model in universities across the United

### The Six Phases of Appreciative Advising



*“Appreciative Education applies the Appreciative Advising framework to challenge us to become the best version of ourselves and create the best educational organization, as well.”*

*— Amanda Propst Cuevas, Ph.D., Director  
Office of Appreciative Education*

States, the Caribbean, Egypt, Qatar, Hong Kong and Australia, among others. In Canada, the Appreciative Advising framework is the only advising model being used in higher education institutions, according to Amanda Cuevas, Ph.D., Director of the Office of Appreciative Education, ELRM, in FAU’s COE.

“Appreciative Advising is an effective tool to student success and retention,” stated Cuevas. In fact, one focus of FAU’s strategic plan is student success. Through the application of the model in both one-to-one advising, as well as organizationally, strong relationships are fostered between faculty, staff and students, creating a sense of community and belonging, Cuevas explained. So many institutions, including FAU, are not only working on building relationships with students, but also providing faculty and staff the skills to develop strong interpersonal relationships, she noted. The goal “is to help transform institutions into thriving, working, learning places.”

The ninth annual Appreciative Advising Institute will be hosted at FAU Boca Raton this summer July 21 - 24, 2019. Academic advisors and student affairs professionals from institutions across the United States and around the world will participate in the hands-on and active learning. The inaugural Appreciative Administration Institute will also be held in Boca Raton June 7 - 10, 2019. “Through this institute, administrators will be equipped with newly sharpened tools to more effectively transform the workplace through application of the Appreciative framework,” explained Cuevas.

The Office of Appreciative Education also offers two online classes: Appreciative Advising and Appreciative Administration. The Advising class covers the six phases of Appreciate Advising model: disarm, discover, dream, design, deliver and do not settle. Either the online advising class or the Appreciative Advising Institute fulfills the educational component required for obtaining designation as a Certified Appreciative Advisor. The Administration class covers appreciative onboarding, supervision, staff meetings, strategic planning and assessment.

All in all, Appreciative Advising is “a fully student-centered model that intentionally leverages students’ strengths to help them achieve even more than they think is possible and challenges them to become the best versions of themselves along the way,” summed up Cuevas. “And, frankly, it does the same for any professional who employs this model.”



Amanda Propst Cuevas, Ph.D.



Jennifer L. Bloom, Ed.D.

## 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.



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**FAU**  
COLLEGE OF  
EDUCATION  
Florida Atlantic University

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 2 Spring 2019



Writer/Editor: Josephine Elliott

## COE Selects New Holmes Scholars

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At the COE, Holmes Scholars are expected to serve as mentors of incoming Holmes Scholars after the first year, attend monthly meetings, remain in good academic standing, present research and workshops based on Holmes Scholars' experiences and be an excellent ambassador for the FAU College of Education. Other benefits of the program for Scholars are opportunities to be mentored by



Valerie J. Bristol, Ph.D. (center, right), Dean, College of Education, and Rangasamy Ramasamy, Ph.D. (center, left), Professor, Exceptional Student Education, and Coordinator, Holmes Scholars® Program at Florida Atlantic University, welcome (from left) Shanett Dean, Denise Dowdie, Danna Demezier and Dominique Smart during the induction ceremony on Nov. 6,

Current Scholars have made numerous contributions. For example, Deborah King McEwan has presented at local and state conferences and has independently published. Kayla Elliott has co-authored multiple publications and was the inaugural recipient of the AACTE Holmes Scholars Dissertation Funding Competition. Brianna Joseph has co-authored multiple publications and made 15 presentations at international, national and regional conferences.

Holmes Scholars alumni, to present their research at the AACTE Annual Meeting, as well as hone leadership skills and participate in professional development at the national level.

Current Scholars have made numerous contributions. For example, Deborah

*“The Holmes Scholars are underrepresented College of Education doctoral students, who possess outstanding credentials and demonstrate a commitment to equity and diversity within education.”*

*— Rangasamy Ramasamy, Ph.D., Professor, ESE and Coordinator, Holmes Scholars® Program at FAU*

## Q & A: COE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Technology is an integral component of the learning process. *So where can instructors and students turn to for help?*

The College of Education (COE) Technology Services is a mouse click away. Simply [submit a ticket](#) or call the Office of Information Technology (OIT) help desk at (561) 297-3999. For Canvas support, choose the Canvas support option when calling the main help desk number. For assistance with Watermark (LiveText), contact [support@watermarkinsights.com](mailto:support@watermarkinsights.com) or 1 (800) 311-5656.

*What should faculty, staff and students do if they receive a suspicious email?*

Delete the email. Do not click on any links or attachments. Never, under any circumstances, provide your log in information.

*Where can instructors and students access computers, scanners and printers?*

The Computer Lab located in ED-335 on FAU Boca Raton is open to students enrolled in courses offered by COE departments and COE

instructors. Nineteen computers equipped with Windows 10, Microsoft Office 2016 Professional, SPSS, and Adobe Acrobat Reader are available. Three scanners are located in the lab for scanning documents and printers may be used to print documents.

*How can documents be printed on copiers and printers?*

By opening and depositing money into an Owl Card Printing Account through [Florida Atlantic University Printing Services](#), students may access copiers and printers from anywhere from almost any device.

*When is the Computer Lab open and are there any restrictions?*

The Computer Lab is open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. No food or drink is allowed in the Computer Lab.

*How do faculty register for technology training?*

To request training, visit [OIT Training](#).