Florida Association of Professors of Educational Leadership

FAPEL RESEARCH ALLIANCE (FRA)
Fall, 2018

Valerie A. Storey, FAPEL President 2016-2018, University of Central Florida
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FAPEL RESEARCH ALLIANCE

Background

At the FAPEL Spring meeting in January 2018, Dr. Valerie A. Storey (FAPEL President) articulated a need for FAPEL member institutions to coalesce around the development of a contextual empirical evidence data base focused on research completed by doctoral students on complex problems, challenges and issues facing K-12 Florida schools. Members attending the spring meeting expressed enthusiasm for participating in the initiative now known as the FAPEL Research Alliance (FRA). The intent is for FRA to collaborate with policymakers and educators to ensure that those key constituencies are aware of the high-quality and useful research being completed in Florida, while also offering essential independent analysis of outcomes, trends and reform strategies.

Member institutions were invited via email to share with colleagues and FLDOE the abstracts of dissertations completed by doctoral candidates over the previous three years (2015-2018) in order to (1) highlight the excellent research completed by Educational Leadership doctoral graduates, and (2) contribute to Florida's Department of Education's (FLDOE) capacity to address complex problems of practice in the Sunshine state.

Currently, dissertation abstracts have been submitted from Florida Atlantic University, Florida Gulf Coast University, Florida State University, St. Thomas University, University of Central Florida, University of North Florida, and University of South Florida. These abstracts have now been collated. Periodic updates (once per semester) will allow for adding new abstracts, as they are made available.
The FAPEL Research Alliance enables member institutions, FLDOE, colleagues and Educational Leadership doctoral candidates to have a greater awareness of research completed in Florida. New research can be grounded on existing research. Case studies for example can be extended from urban to metropolitan to rural school districts. A metasynthesis of abstracts will raise awareness as to the greatest problems and challenges facing K-12 education in Florida.

Today, the FRA is an important and growing part of FAPEL's civic infrastructure. Educational Leadership doctoral candidates in Florida programs conduct rigorous studies on topics that matter to Florida's education system. The FRA database enhances the association's ability to advance equity and excellence in education by providing credible, nonpartisan evidence about policies and practices that promote student success.

Currently housed at the University of Central Florida, within the College of Community Innovation and Education (FAPEL's current President's home institution), the FAPEL Research Alliance:

- Collates rigorous, applied research in collaboration with Educational Leadership doctoral candidates, policymakers, educators, and other stakeholders;
- Maintains a unique archive of dissertation research on Florida K-12 schools and higher education institutions; and
- Communicates the results of Florida, Educational Leadership doctoral students to multiple audiences.

Note: For most programs, dissertation abstracts are already in the public domain (e.g., submitted with the library entry) and so there are no concerns with publication, embargoes, etc.).
To access a dissertation please contact the following faculty:

**Florida Atlantic University:** Dr. Robert Shockley, Chair & Professor, Department of Educational Leadership and Research Methodology
Email: SHOCKLEY@fau.edu

**Florida Gulf Coast University:** Dr. Cecil Carter, Associate Professor, Educational Leadership; Program Director for Ed.D
Email: ccarte@fgcu.edu

**Florida State University:** Dr. Marytza A. Gawlik, Assistant Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies
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**St. Thomas University:** Dr. Scott Gillig, Professor, Program Coordinator: MS Educational Leadership, School of Arts and Education
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**University of Central Florida:** Dr. Jerry Johnson, Professor, College of Community Innovation & Education
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Email: david.hoppey@unf.edu

**University of South Florida:** Dr. William R. Black, Associate Professor, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies
Email: wrblack@usf.edu


Brundage, I. (2017). *Comparison of factors contributing to the retention of minority students at two different types of institutions: A predominantly white institution (PWI) and Hispanic serving institution (HSI)* (Unpublished doctoral dissertation). Florida Gulf Coast University, Fort Myers, Florida.


contracts (Unpublished doctoral dissertation). Florida Gulf Coast University, Fort Myers, Florida.


Neal, G. (2017). *Teacher and school time: Its use as a resource to be allocated, teacher and administrator perceptions, and perceptions of how it has been influenced by test-based accountability* (Unpublished doctoral dissertation). Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida.


