Distance Education: Raising the Bar K-20

Florida Distance Learning Association Florida Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators

9/30/2020
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Acknowledgements

Conference Committee Members:

Hui Fang Huang Angie Su: (Co-chair and President) Nova Southeastern University
Victoria Brown: (Co-chair) Florida Atlantic University
Tina Caladrino: University of Central Florida
JoAnne Glenn: Pasco eSchool
Jamie Manburg: Nova Southeastern University
Brian Marchman: University of Florida
Ruthmae Sears: University of South Florida
Susan Stephan: Nova Southeastern University
Nancy Swenson: University of Central Florida
Jeanne Ziemba: St. Lucie School District

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http://www.fdla.com/?page_id=3330
Submit Article at:
https://bit.ly/2RMns5h
Publication Fall 2020
Deadline for submission: October 30, 2020
President’s Message

Dear Friends of FDLA and FAMTE:

Welcome to Virtual Conference 2020! Once again, the conference committee has put together a great program with ideas and strategies for virtually educating K-20 students during the Covid-19 Pandemic shutdown. Collaborating with the Florida Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (FAMTE), the program is to inform participants of the latest developments in Distance Learning as well as academic content related topics in Florida in hopes to narrow the gap between K-12 and Higher Education. Each year, the committee brainstorm for ideas to further enhance our contributions to distance education; hence we will be presenting the Best Paper Award from conference 2019 published by FDLA journal. The papers that were selected for the FDLA journal publication and the Transformations Journal were carefully reviewed by a team of reviewers for the Best Paper Award. We are also pleased to learn that due to the increase citation to our journals, it has improved our journal ranking tremendously.

I would also like to thank the continued support from Dr. Brian Marchman, Assistant Provost and Director of Distance & Continuing Education (DCE) at the University of Florida as our Diamond sponsor. We also would like to thank Dr. Shoukat Ali of DialedIn of their sponsorship and providing the platform to carry out the virtual conference and ReadSpeak for their support of the conference. Most of all, a BIG “Thank you” goes to our presenters who diligently prepared highly informative presentations with the latest on educational tools, technologies, and services. Your dedication to distance learning, while not surprising, is appreciated. We are also grateful to the conference committee for their time and tireless efforts to help make this conference a success.

On behalf of the entire FDLA/FAMTE team, we urge you to take advantage of everything that this conference has to offer so that you will return to your work setting excited and empowered to lead your school and students to greater learning experiences. We appreciate that faced with many options and limited resources; you have chosen to join us.

Please visit our website at http://www.fdla.com and https://fctm.net/county-affiliates/famte-2/famte/ to learn how you can become an active member of FDLA or FAMTE throughout the year.

Thank you for your continued support and enjoy the conference!

Hui Fang Huang “Angie” Su, Ed.D.

President, FDLA, a state chapter of the United States Distance Learning Association (USDLA)

President, FAMTE, a state chapter of the Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (AMTE) and an affiliate of the Florida Council of Teachers of Mathematics (FCTM)
# FDLA/FAMTE 2020 Virtual Conference

## Distance Education: Raising the Bar K-20

All Times are in Eastern Standard Time

### Wednesday September 30, 2020

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-Comp (8:00 – 8:30 am)</td>
<td><strong>Manatee Room – Moderator: Susan Stephan</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Dolphin Room – Moderator: Charlotte Jones-Roberts</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Heron Room – Moderator: James Pann</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fitness for Stay-At-Home</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Yoga for Stay-At-Home</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Mindfulness Activity</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Presenter:</strong> Nicholas Pascucci&lt;br&gt;<strong>Presenter:</strong> Charlotte Jones-Roberts&lt;br&gt;<strong>Presenter:</strong> James Pann</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td><strong>Grand Palm Room: Marti Snyder</strong></td>
<td><strong>Keynote:</strong> 25 Years of Distance Learning in Florida&lt;br&gt;<strong>Presenter:</strong> John Opper, Jr., Ph.D., Executive Director – Distance Learning &amp; Student Services&lt;br&gt;John Opper has served in a variety of technology policy or distance learning leadership roles. As a result, he has witnessed or been a part of many of the activities or events that have shaped the progress of technology delivered instruction in Florida and elsewhere. This presentation will look back at some of the major events that have shaped distance learning in Florida and look ahead at what might be just around the bend.</td>
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<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td><strong>Dolphin Room – Moderator: Susan Stephan</strong></td>
<td><strong>Concurrent Session 1:</strong> Social Media and Covid-19 WhatsApp and its effect on the Educational Landscape in Jamaica&lt;br&gt;<strong>Presenters:</strong> Janice Watson Huggins &amp; Sandra Trotman&lt;br&gt;Education stakeholders globally are grappling with transitioning to distance learning in this “new normal” because of the Covid-19 pandemic (World Economic Forum, April 2020). This presentation focuses on the challenges of one developing country serving K-9 students in the immediate-term via online learning using WhatsApp. The presentation will share lessons learned about equity and equality in access, support, safety, structures, and a “14 Days Education Plan” policy in response to the COVID-19 school closings.&lt;br&gt;<strong>Concurrent Session 2:</strong> The Role of Effective Assessment Systems to Foster Motivation in the Online Foreign Language Classroom&lt;br&gt;<strong>Presenter:</strong> Mariam Manzur Leiva</td>
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</table>
Assessment constitutes a key element to provide students with the tools to develop their skills. Being able to design a mastery-oriented assessment system is the key to meaningful learning. This presentation will explore how digital technologies can enable the opportunity to build an effective recursive assessment system. It will also expand on the concepts of feed up, feedback and feed-forward as key elements to constitute an effective feedback system in the foreign language classroom.

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Moderator</th>
<th>Session Title</th>
<th>Presenter(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Manatee Room</td>
<td>Amanda Major</td>
<td>Concurrent Session 1: Creative Learning of Mathematics: e-Project Based Service Learning</td>
<td>Michael Zelin</td>
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<td>e-PBSL is a new free educational platform designed to leverage value of student works beyond academic grading. It also enables educators to leverage the value of their work and raise support to educational projects.</td>
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<td>Concurrent Session 2: Lowering Math Anxiety using GeoGebra and Photography to Help Build Confidence in a STEM World</td>
<td>Joseph Furner</td>
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<td>This virtual presentation will share research, ideas, created GeoGebra ggb files, and other resources to teach mathematics to lower and prevent math anxiety using GeoGebra and Photography.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Heron Room</td>
<td>Gabriela Mendez</td>
<td>Snapshot 1: Teaching at the Law School: Students Perspectives on the Educational Use of Twitter</td>
<td>Albert Ruda</td>
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<td>The paper presents a teaching experience out of the classroom in which Twitter was used as a part of a tort law course.</td>
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<td>Snapshot 2: Peer-Video-Blog Assessment: An Innovative Approach to Assessment</td>
<td>Eunice Luyegu &amp; Santanu De</td>
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<td>This presentation details and demonstrates how students produced videos, used a social media tool (blogs) to share the videos, and provided feedback to each other (peer assessment). Students were enrolled in a blended learning course, and the skills students learned and assessed are psychomotor. Best practices for successful peer-video-blog assessment will also be shared. This innovative assessment approach shows the power and value of integrating peer and video assessments and social media (blogs).</td>
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<td>Snapshot 3: Stepping up to the challenges of COVID-19 and Pre-k through 12 education</td>
<td>Wilma Robles-deMelendez &amp; Berta Capo</td>
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<td>COVID – 19 drove schools to close and push all classes to an online format without enough time to plan and design effective online classes. We argue future online classes should use effective digital tools that create productive multimodal communication environments. The prevalence of Mobile Technologies: iPad, tablets, and iPhones are changing how we function and force us to evaluate and incorporate proper digital tools into our classrooms. This presentation will discuss technology tools that can be utilized to enhance multimodal communication environments.</td>
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<td>Snapshot 4: Digital Science Fair</td>
<td>Michael Zelin</td>
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Science Fairs: Mathematics category enables students to showcase their projects. Unfortunately, majority of this work presented during the Fairs in a form of physical posters is discarded. A new digital platform provides unique opportunity to present student projects online. Students can create digital galleries, build teams, find sponsors, and support good-cause projects.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>11:00 AM</th>
<th>Grand Palm Room – Moderator: Jamie Manburg</th>
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<td><strong>Technology Panel Presentation:</strong> Technology Tools to Facilitate Learning</td>
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<td><strong>Panel Chair:</strong> Jamie Manburg</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Panelists:</strong> Meghan Griffin, Southeastern University, Justin Rose, Southeastern University, Luke Williams, Nova Southeastern University, Nathan Green, College Consortium, James Wang, Nebulius Tech, LLC, Julius Su, SKIES, Caltech</td>
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</table>

We now live in a world where virtual learning has made its mark on education like never seen before with the need to integrate all levels of technology for education and professional development to enhance learning. PK-12 school districts and colleges in institutions of higher education are designing or restructuring distance education services to distinguish themselves, remain competitive, and attract students. They understand that effective educators today need to be experts at communicating with technology. Best practices and resources for implementing and facilitating virtual instruction with technology that produces impactful results will be explored from the perspective of the IT space, the for profit sector, and higher education. There is little information regarding the long term strategy of using the right educational and technological tools to best facilitate student learning. If virtual learning and distance education can’t be perfect, how can we evaluate, reduce, and eliminate error rates? The primary objective of this discussion is to understand what key role players are doing to support this topic of virtual learning.

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<tr>
<th>12:00 PM</th>
<th>Grand Palm Room – Moderator: Marti Snyder</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Keynote:</strong> Unpacking the Complexities of Facilitating Secondary Mathematics Clinical Experiences in an Online Setting: Policies, Practices, and Challenges</td>
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<td>Dr. Ruthmae Sears</td>
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<td><em>Associate Professor at University of South Florida</em></td>
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As a result of COVID-19, schools implemented emergency remote instruction. The shift from face-to-face classroom instruction to an online setting was indeed a new terrain for teacher preparation programs' clinical experiences opportunities. Hence, this presentation will describe the policies, practices, and challenges of facilitating clinical experiences online for secondary mathematics.

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<tr>
<th>1:00 PM</th>
<th>Dolphin Room – Moderator: Nancy Swenson</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Concurrent Session 1: Raising the Bar on Instructor Satisfaction: Overcoming Self-Perceived Barriers in Distance Learning</td>
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<td><strong>Presenter:</strong> Nicole Luongo</td>
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This higher education presentation will focus on satisfaction levels and self-perceived barriers of distance learning instructors.

|          | Concurrent Session 2: Best Practices for Incorporating Students with Disabilities in Distance Education |
|          | **Presenter:** Maribel Del Rio-Roberts |
Participants will engage in a discussion of best practices and considerations for online learners with disabilities. Issues and trends that increase optimal performance for students in online learning environments will be discussed. A discussion of emerging practices will be included. Furthermore, considerations and accommodations that can facilitate learning in students with different disabilities will be discussed.  

**1:00 PM**  
**Manatee Room – Moderator: David Hart**  

**Concurrent Session 1:** Come on in, the Content’s Fine with Invitational Design  
Presenters: Karen Tinsley-Kim & Francisca Yonekura  

Much like preparing to invite guests into your home, we, instructional hosts, should prepare our online course content so students feel invited and welcomed to have positive experiences and academic success. Results of Invitational Design can include more effective learning, engagement, retention, and perhaps even enthusiastic course reviews from students.  

**Concurrent Session 2:** Distance Learning: Challenges that Exist for Online Instructors  
Presenters: David Loren Hart & Rebecca Jean Armstrong  

For a multitude of reasons, a need exists for instructors from traditional brick-and-mortar schools to transition to the online, distance learning format. While the two environments possess many similar teaching characteristics, unique components of the distance learning format are presented and many instructors report that they are unprepared to make such an adjustment. Because such information that addresses this need is so limited, a thorough exploration of the challenges experienced by online educators is presented.

**1:00 PM**  
**Heron Room – Moderator: Jennifer Reeves**  

**Concurrent Session 1:** Using Collaborative Tools in Distance Learning  
Presenters: Hui Fang Huang “Angie” Su, Susan Stephan, & Jamie Manburg  

What are collaborative tools for distance learning? You will be surprised to learn that one of the collaborative tools used in the presenter's online classrooms is students! The students collaboratively put together research ideas and carried out the plan using online platforms that work for them.  

**Concurrent Session 2:** Remote PowerPoint Presentations with Real-Time Subtitles: Let’s talk About the Possibilities  
Presenter: Anymir Orellana  

As of January 2020, viewers can to join live PowerPoint presentations on their devices and read live captions or subtitles in their preferred language as the speaker is remotely presenting. The purpose of this presentation is to show features of real-time captions and subtitles and engage the audience in discussing pros and cons of this feature, as well as possible applications for administrators or teachers in K-12 or higher education settings.

**2:00 PM**  
**Dolphin Room – Moderator: Jennifer Reeves**  

**Concurrent Session 1:** Use of Science Mobile Apps among Undergraduate Science Students and Its Impact on Their Interest and Learning  
Presenters: Vanaja Nethi & Santanu De  

The smartphone and mobile apps (mobile applications) have become an integral part of our daily lives. In this session, the presenters share their findings from an exploratory study that examined if and how undergraduate science students at a large university in South Florida use science mobile apps with
real-world relevance. Based on student perceptions, they discuss the extent to which these mobile apps boost student interest and enhance their learning in science courses.

**Concurrent Session 2: Teaching Remotely: Student Engagement in STEM Activities**

**Presenters:** Maria Grethel Mendez & Sandra Trotman

Responding to the new normal delivery of instruction presents a challenge to all educators, this becomes paramount once STEM learning is included. STEM infused curriculum should be accessible to all students. How best can teachers deliver STEM education instruction remotely to engage all students? We propose to incorporate activities using different technological tools to foster student engagement and empowerment. We will provide opportunities for participants to enhance STEM skills while increasing physical movement.

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<th>2:00 PM</th>
<th>Manatee Room – Moderator: Nancy Swenson</th>
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<td><strong>Concurrent Session 1:</strong> Bringing C.A.R.E. to the Online Classroom: Humanizing Online Learning</td>
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**Presenter:** Charlotte Jones-Roberts

Bringing C.A.R.E. to the Online Classroom: Humanizing Online Learning. This topic will be explored through the acronym C.A.R.E which stands for connection, attention, respect and energy. Several hands-on ready-to-use tools and strategy will be presented.

**Concurrent Session 2:** Creating Case-Based Electronic Scenario Widgets to Broaden Student Experiences

**Presenter:** Kathleen Bastedo

Between the time students complete their classes and are sent out into the real world to practice what they learned; they have not often experienced a variety of “real-life” scenarios that they could encounter in the actual world. This session will discuss and demonstrate how simple electronic widgets can be created to provide students with various case-based scenarios designed to provide them with “real-life” experiences before they enter the working world.
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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>Heron Room</strong> –</td>
<td>Steve Terrell</td>
<td><strong>Concurrent Session 1:</strong> Infusing Social Emotional Learning (SEL) into</td>
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<td>Distance Education</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tim Scala</td>
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<td>This presentation will help all educators, but especially K-12 educators, to</td>
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<td>integrate concepts and strategies of Social Emotional Learning (SEL) into</td>
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<td>online distance education environments. Online resources will be provided that</td>
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<td>educators can refer to and utilize in their classes.</td>
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<td><strong>Concurrent Session 2:</strong> Developing an After-School Program to Increase STEM Interest, Awareness and Knowledge of Young Hispanic Females in a Title I High School</td>
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<td>Presenters: Tim Scala</td>
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<td>The under-representation of minority females from low-income families in STEM-related educational programs is well documented. Many educators believe this problem begins at an early age and that disenfranchised students are not afforded the same educational opportunities as students from other demographic backgrounds. The purpose of this presentation is to describe the development and implementation of a series of STEM-focused after-school workshops at an inner-city Title 1 high school.</td>
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<td>3:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>Grand Palm Room</strong> –</td>
<td>Susan Stephan</td>
<td><strong>K-12 Panel:</strong> Student Engagement in the Remote Learning Environment</td>
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<td><strong>Moderator:</strong></td>
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<td>Panel Chair: JoAnne Glenn, Pasco eSchool</td>
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<td>Gina Aleman, Seminole County Virtual School</td>
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<td>Panelists: Jeanne Ziemba, Mosaic Digital Academy</td>
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<td>Jacqueline Mangold, Seminole County Virtual School</td>
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<td>Gina Aleman, Seminole County Virtual School</td>
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<td>Engagement is defined as strong relationships between students, teachers,</td>
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<td>families, and schools, and strong connections between schools and the broader</td>
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<td>community.</td>
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<td>Student engagement is a key element of a positive school climate, with a large</td>
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<td>body of research linking it to academic achievement. The term student</td>
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<td>engagement can provide an overarching framework for many positive individual</td>
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<td>student processes, relationships within the school and a community of</td>
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<td>learners. Panelist will discuss strategies utilized both synchronously and</td>
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<td>asynchronously to engage students in a variety of ways to support learning</td>
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<td>and positively impact achievement.</td>
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<td>Social Activity (4:00 PM) –</td>
<td>Nancy Swenson</td>
<td><strong>Grand Palm Room – Moderator:</strong> Nancy Swenson</td>
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<td><strong>Moderator:</strong></td>
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<td>Join Us for Networking!</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nancy Swenson</td>
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<td>Trivia Game! By Simon Time Trivia Show</td>
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Thursday October 1, 2020

Pre-Conference Activities (8:00 – 8:30 am)

**Manatee Room** – Moderator: Susan Stephan
- Fitness for Stay-At-Home
  - Presenter: Nicholas Pascucci

**Dolphin Room** – Moderator: Charlotte Jones-Roberts
- Yoga for Stay-At-Home
  - Presenter: Charlotte Jones-Roberts

**Heron Room** – Moderator: James Pann
- Mindfulness Activity
  - Presenter: James Pann

9:00 AM

**Grand Palm Room** – Moderator: Jeanne Ziemba

**Keynote:** Covid-19 Response in K12

Dr. Jon Prince
*Deputy Superintendent of St. Lucie Public Schools*

Presentation will focus on how the COVID pandemic has transformed educational delivery with an emphasis on looking at enrollment profile data points. The presenter will share how progress monitoring has been adjusted to account for distance learning and how school districts are using strategic thinking to address distance vs traditional models utilizing Power Bi.

10:00 AM

**Dolphin Room** – Moderator: Jennifer Reeves

**Concurrent Session 1:** Raising the Bar with Professional Development in the Use of Distance Learning Tools

Presenters: Victoria Brown, Jillian Powers, Daria Odian, & Ann Musgrove

Strategic plans to increase online student enrollment and distance learning (DL) enrollment are driven by professional development efforts to facilitate the adoption of distance learning tools and promote confidence in their use. As it takes approximately 3 to 5 years to achieve change in teaching attitudes toward technology (Hall & Hord, 2014), understanding factors that influence faculty adoption of technology, their self-efficacy, and attitudes toward technology becomes indispensable. This presentation reports results of a study that examines these factors through the self-reported data by distance learning professors at a large regional institution.

**Concurrent Session 2:** And Then Suddenly, Last Summer…Faculty Professional Development During (and After) a Pandemic
Presenter: Martha Snyder

The focus of this presentation will be on how a planned face-to-face experiential education professional development series transitioned to an online format. Strategies for leveraging university resources, engaging learners via Zoom, and building individual and organizational capacity for experiential education will be shared. A discussion about how the pandemic might change the face of faculty professional development in the future will be encouraged.

10:00 AM  
Manatee Room – Moderator: Gabriela Mendez  

**Concurrent Session 1: An Analysis of STEM Education at the College Level: Stakeholders’ Perspectives**

Presenters: Georgina Arguello, Santanu De, & Silvia Orta

STEM education prepares students for professional careers. Scientists and engineers create numerous innovations driving our Nation’s global competitiveness. We need to understand and integrate key requirements of STEM education, incited strategies, along with endeavors of governments and private/public institutions. This review presents the state of STEM instruction from perspectives of essential college-level stakeholders (i.e., students, faculty, and organizations). Researching this paradigm captures the challenges in traditional STEM education, possibly demanding better investments in e-learning projects.

Concurrent Session 2: Advocating for Social Justice in an Online Teacher Preparation Program

Presenter: Junfun Gao

This qualitative case study explores how preservice teachers advocate for social justice and equal access via virtual exchange in online intercultural awareness courses, and how they perceive and construct their identities in a teacher preparation program (TPP). This research intends to create culturally sensitive empowerment in TPP in higher education.

10:00 AM  
Heron Room – Vanaja Nethi  

**Sponsor Presentation: Providing Online Students with Course Search / Registration / Transfer Tools (A Discussion & Demo)**

Presenters: Alicia Policinski and Lynn Colgin

In the last 12 months, online learning has exploded, and students have conducted nearly 700,000 searches on Quottly-powered sites - most looking for online courses that will transfer back to their home college. Quottly makes it easy for colleges and universities to reach new cohorts of students and share course inventory with peer institutions. Our presentation will showcase the Quottly platform and demonstrate how institutions across a system or consortium can create a unified course discovery and registration experience with a single click and SIS integration, while increasing degree completions and re-engaging stop-outs or drop-outs. Quottly: “Find Your Course!”

**Concurrent Session 1: The Potential Correlation Between Online Course Design and Usability from the Student Perspective**

Presenters: Nancy Swenson, Anchalee Ngampornchai, & Trudy Trail Constant

Never has online course design and usability been as important as it is right now. With educators and students rapidly moving to online teaching and learning during the spring, due to the global pandemic, there was little time to design with usability, pedagogy, or student preferences in mind.
Before the pandemic, UCF began researching what effective course design is in the eyes of our students and if there is an alignment between student preferences, usability, and recommended pedagogical practices. This presentation will present the findings of an initial study.

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</table>
| 11:00 AM | **Mathematics Panel:** The Mathematics Panel: Implementing Best Practices for Teaching Mathematics Virtually  
*Panel Chair:* Dr. Ruthmae Sears, University of South Florida  
*Panelists:*  
Christine Larson – Florida State University  
Terrie Galanti - University of North Florida  
Robert Connelly - University of South Florida  
The mathematics panel will describe best practices for intertwining mathematics content and pedagogy in an online setting. They will also provide insight into the possibilities and challenges faced while transitioning between face-to-face, hybrid, and remote instruction. |
| 12:00 PM | **Law Panel - A Legal Primer for Educators**  
*Panel Chair:* Susan Stephan  
*Panelists:*  
Jon M. Garon, JD  
Vícenç Feliú, JD, LLM, MLIS  
Tatjana Martinez, JD  
Educational technology tools allow us to engage our students in countless ways. But it is important to step back occasionally to consider the legal landscape related to a technology-driven learning environment, to make sure classes comply with the laws. This panel of attorney-educators will provide an overview of Title IX compliance requirements, course accessibility, privacy considerations, and intellectual property concerns, with a focus on the TEACH Act. The goal is to help faculty understand how to comply with the law while enhancing their courses with technology. |
| 2:00 PM | **Concurrent Session 1:** The Design and Implementation of an Online Advising Portal for Graduate Students  
*Presenters:* Georgina Arguello & Maria Grethel Mendez  
Online learning has evolved as a new normal in providing education. Therefore, quality in online students’ support services, such as academic advising, is vital to engage and retain students. A virtual advising portal takes into consideration the four components of a quality advising model: centralized communication, problem-solving, relationship management, and administrative processes (Simpson, 2018). In this presentation, we will demonstrate the importance of creating, implementing, and maintaining a virtual advising portal to support the students in their academic journey. |
|        | **Concurrent Session 2:** An Examination of the use of Emojis in Online Education Grounded in the Community of Inquiry Framework  
*Presenters:* Jennifer Reeves, Glenda Gunter, Junia Barga, & Marcos Racilan |
In the midst of the current global pandemic, distance learning is becoming the norm rather than the exception. Many students and educators are using mobile devices more than ever, and the need for social presence has never been greater. As a result, a new language is emerging in education. Emojis have the rare capability to transform simple text into a social experience. This presentation will focus on the use of emojis in an 8-week continuing education course focused on the use of mobile devices in language learning contexts using WhatsApp.

2:00 PM

Manatee Room – Vanaja Nethi

**Concurrent Session 1:** Impact of Mindfulness-based Programs and Interventions in Education: Providing Alternative Programs in a Virtual Environment

Presenter: Lisa Carbone

Today, we face new classroom challenges that include a global pandemic (coronavirus), strained race relations, bullying, and school violence resulting in high levels of emotional stress among teenagers and adolescents. The development of adolescents can be adversely affected by stress and anxiety as our educational environment continues to evolve and face new challenges. Increased stress and trauma in our schools have resulted in the need for alternative programming and effective technology-based interventions.

**Sponsor Presentation:** Are They There? Automatically Generated Mini-Quizzes to Check if Online Students are Engaged (or Even There)

Presenter: Shoukat Ali, COE and Founder DialedIn

DialedIn, uses machine learning to serve numerous CAPTCHA-like challenge-response tests to online students to determine if they are engaged.

While increasing student engagement is the focus, a secondary focus is discouraging online truancy where a student might watch Netflix on one device with the learning session left unattended on a different device.

Unlike the typical CAPTCHAs, our tests are constructed from the material on the student screen and appear without warning and for only 30 seconds. Students miss the quiz if they leave the session unattended. This addressed both engagement and online truancy.

In addition to automatically creating these quizzes, DialedIn also automatically grades, accepting synonyms and misspellings. Students get a higher score if they respond sooner. After a session, a detailed picture for every student’s attendance & attention helps a teacher decide who is present, absent, or needs a warning.

2:00 PM

Heron Room – Moderator: Gabriela Mendez

**Sponsor Session 1:** Support Remote and Blended Learning Using ReadSpeaker’s Certified LMS Integrations & Assistive Technology

Presenters:
Paul Stisser, Director, Educational Institutions and LMS Partnerships, ReadSpeaker
Kathy Wood, Education Partner Manager, ReadSpeaker

It is essential to support all learners whether they are remote, blended, or in a brick-and-mortar setting. Using a certified LMS solution that is also providing web-based assistive technology is key in supporting learner accommodations within assessments, print-disabilities, content outside of the
LMS, and even offline. Learn how ReadSpeaker’s suite of tools can aid in accessibility and equal access for your students.

**Concurrent Session 2: Planning a Virtual Conference: Tips from the TOPkit Workshop Team**

Presenters: Amanda E. Major, Joseph Lloyd, Tina Calandrino, James Paradiso, Sue Bauer & Roslyn Miller

Factors that make a virtual conference great require careful planning and a dedicated team. In this interactive session, the TOPkit (Teaching Online Preparation Toolkit) Workshop Team will reveal secrets of their planning process, laying the foundation for planning your own successful virtual event. This session will culminate with an opportunity for you to brainstorm with a small group the key components for your own real or fictitious virtual event.

3:00 PM  
**Dolphin Room – Moderator: Steve Terrell**

**Concurrent Session 1: Focus on the Essentials: A Flexible Model to Prepare Hundreds of Faculty for Online Teaching in Just a Few Weeks**

Presenters: Corrinne Stull, Trudian Trail-Constant, Jaclyn Compton, Kathleen Bastedo, Joseph Lloyd, Charlotte Jones-Roberts, & Sue Bauer

Creation of new faculty development programs can be a lengthy process and may be limited to small faculty enrollment. However, circumstances such as the recent global pandemic may present the need to quickly prepare large amounts of faculty to teach online. This presentation will explore a model used to quickly create a quality faculty development course focused on the essentials of online teaching, which can be scaled based on individual institutional needs.

**Concurrent Session 2: Creating a Culture of Quality: Beyond Quality Reviews**

Presenters: Charlotte Jones-Roberts & Roslyn Miller

So, you’ve implemented a review process for online courses! What’s next? While effective on an individual basis, how can you encourage a “culture of quality” more broadly throughout the institution? Presenters will share project insights and strategies from UCF.

3:00 PM  
**Manatee Room – Moderator: Nancy Swenson**

**Perls of Wisdom/Concurrent Session 1: The Need for Speed… from Unexpected Interruptions**

Presenter: Zachary Stepp

With the unprecedented move to teach online, teachers around the world had to act fast regardless of how prepared, or unprepared, they were in the transition. In my five-minute Pearls of Wisdom session, I will address the issues of speed and efficiency in online instruction, with particular focus on unexpected technical failures, and student input to collaborate.

**Concurrent Session 2: The Fibonnacci Sequence**

Presenter: Tanisha M. Heard

The presentation will show how teachers can increase student ability to reason logically and make appropriate applications to interdisciplinary studies such as Art, Music, Anatomy and Physiology, and Microbiology. Teachers will be presented with tools and strategies that students can use to increase their understanding of the mathematics topics address within the curriculum and use standards or mathematical practices to complete associated tasks.
### Round Table Discussion: Creating Meaningful Social Presence in Online Classes

**Presenter:** Jennifer Reeves

Using Garrison, Anderson and Archer's (2000) Community of Inquiry (CoI) Framework, this roundtable will focus on ways to create meaningful and lasting social presence in your online classes, meetings, and/or virtual conference. According to Garrison et al. social presence is “the ability of participants in a community of inquiry to project themselves socially and emotionally, as ‘real’ people (i.e., their full personality), through the medium of communication being used.” (p. 94). Therefore, this roundtable will discuss various communication mediums and tips for successfully creating social presence that is lasting and meaningful. Ideas such as more personable and exciting introductory posts on discussion boards; affable zoom sessions, including the use of breakout rooms; and personal takeaways will be shared. The moderator will then open it up for additional discussion by roundtable attendees to share their experiences. The moderator will compile all feedback in real time and share with the group for ideas that can be implemented immediately in their own K-20 course, faculty meeting, virtual conference, or any online learning/sharing environment.

### Social Activity (4:00 PM) – Moderator: Jamie Manburg and Nancy Swenson

**Grand Palm Room**

**Social Activity:** Wine Tasting with Shari Gherman

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**FDLA/FAMTE 2020 Virtual Conference**

**Distance Education: Raising the Bar K-20**

All Times are in Eastern Standard Time

**Friday October 2, 2020**

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<th>Pre-Conference Activities (8:00 – 8:30 am)</th>
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<td><strong>Manatee Room – Moderator: Susan Stephan</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fitness for Stay-At-Home</td>
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<td>Presenter: Nicholas Pasucci</td>
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<td><strong>Dolphin Room – Moderator: Charlotte Jones-Roberts</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Yoga for Stay-At-Home</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presenter: Charlotte Jones-Roberts</td>
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<td><strong>Heron Room – Moderator: James Pann</strong></td>
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<td>Mindfulness Activity</td>
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<td>Presenter: James Pann</td>
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<th>9:00 AM</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dolphin Room – Moderator: Marti Snyder</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sponsor Presentation University of Florida: Online Graduate Education and the New Language of Skills: Data-Driven Strategies to Meet the Workforce Needs of Lifelong Learners Van</td>
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<td>Presenters: Brian Marchman and Aaron King, University of Florida</td>
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Online graduate education is largely skills-driven and market-oriented, with the goal of helping lifelong learners build careers and professional success. To keep up in this ever-changing landscape, the University of Florida Office of Distance Learning (ODL) utilizes robust labor market data to better understand the relevant talent ecosystems of UF’s online graduate programs. ODL’s use of skills data translates academic curricula and labor market trends into a common language for identifying pressing gaps and new growth opportunities.

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<th>10:00 AM</th>
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<td><strong>Dolphin Room – Moderator: Tina Calandrino</strong></td>
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**Concurrent Session 1: He/She/We-They/Them/Us: Gender and Age bias Perpetuation in Online Learning**

Presenters: Tina Calandrino & Nancy Keefer

Bias may be the buzz word of the year. How does it extend beyond race and culture? Would it even surprise you that gender and age bias is inherent in higher education? Let’s discuss the source and the solution.

**Concurrent Session 2: Virtual Connections: Engaging Online Students in Virtual Co-curricular Programs to Increase Social Interactivity and Influence Measures of Student Success**

Presenters: Rebekah Wright
This presentation will discuss the development of a virtual community at Indian River State College and outline the ways that technology is used to actively engage online students in virtual activities and events to improve student success at the institution. In addition, this session will provide suggestions for institutional administrators and staff who wish to integrate technology to provide engaging co-curricular activities for online students. Even though there has been tremendous growth experienced in distance education, online learners are experiencing more difficulties completing courses and degrees than their on-campus counterparts. One reason speculated for this is the physical and psychological separation that may be experienced by distance education students. When students are physically separated from their peers and instructors, they may also experience a psychological separation driven by feelings of disconnect and isolation.

10:00 AM
Manatee Room – Moderator: Jennifer Reeves

**Concurrent Session 1:** Reflections on Quality in the Synchronous Ground/Online Classroom

**Presenter:** Steve Kramer

This session will reflect on the author's 2 years of experience in teaching in a synchronous ground and online environment in a graduate business (MBA) program. Specifically, elements of quality will be discussed with current metrics and performance gaps.

**Concurrent Session 2:** Virtual Learning Experiences: Raising the Bar for Educators During a Global Pandemic

**Presenters:** Jennifer Reeves, Anymir Orellana, Vanaja Nethi, Gabriela Mendez, & Michele Tenam-Zemach

The Covid pandemic has forced us to review, re-envision, and implement differently many educational practices that have previously been taken for granted. In this presentation we share experiences of pivoting a major event, the traditionally On-site Summer Institute for doctoral students.

11:00 AM
Dolphin Room – Moderator: Jamie Manburg

**Round Table Discussion Topic:** Best Practices for All Day Synchronous Instruction for Elementary Students

**Presenter:** Julius Su

Last Spring was an emergency; this Fall is a plan. Millions of students will be taught remotely this Fall, yet there remains widespread concern that remote teaching is a poor substitute for in-person classes. One common perception is that younger elementary students do not have the self-regulation or attention span needed to engage in remote instruction for a full school day. We demonstrate that this is a misconception. During Summer 2020, we used Zoom in combination with a popular Learning Management System to do live remote teaching from 8:15 am to 2:30 pm daily with 60 socioeconomically diverse 2nd to 5th grade students. We developed best practices for remote instruction, assessment, intervention, groupwork, and more. Over 6 weeks, we observed strong engagement and dramatic improvements in Algebra and Writing achievement, with >80% of the 4th/5th grade students able to complete middle-school level work by the end. In this 20 minute session, we will present examples of specific practices that will lead your students to success and bring joy and accomplishment into your virtual classroom. This session is intended for practicing 2nd to 5th grade teachers as well as educational administrators.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Room/Presenter</th>
<th>Discussion Topic</th>
<th>Presenters</th>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>Heron Room – Vanaja Nethi</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Round Table Discussion Topic:</strong> TOPR Turns 10! Celebrating 10 Years of Curating UCF’s Teaching Online Pedagogical Repository</td>
<td>Presenters: Aimee deNoyelles, Sue Bauer, &amp; Shelly Wyatt</td>
<td>In 2020, the Teaching Online Pedagogical Repository (TOPR), hosted by the University of Central Florida, celebrates 10 years. Join us as we illuminate the top pedagogical trends of the decade, the use of TOPR in the light of demands of remote teaching as a result of COVID-19, and a preview of what TOPR has in store for users going forward. Session attendees will also participate in a short activity designed to identify online teaching strategies for potential submission to TOPR.</td>
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<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>Manatee Room – Gabriela Mendez</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Round Table Discussion Topic:</strong> Students’ Voices in Online Learning During a Pandemic</td>
<td>Presenters: Gabriela Mendez</td>
<td>The purpose of this presentation is to share the results of a qualitative study on high and middle school students’ perceptions of their online learning experience between March and May of 2020. Based on the results, the presenter will open a discussion regarding students’ cognitive and emotional needs.</td>
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<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>Dolphin Room – Moderator: Amanda Major</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Round Table Discussion Topic:</strong> Looking Through the Lens of Online Faculty in Higher Education</td>
<td>Presenter: Theresa West</td>
<td>This session is relevant to the theme because it adds value as well as provides the necessary tools for online faculty to remain relevant with 21st century technologies. Meaning, this session will provide specific insight that is infused with educational theory and practical applications. Therefore, this session will ensure student success, empower online faculty, redefine online faculty’s changing role, cultivate an educational teaching philosophy, incorporate a structural teaching methodology, and exemplify a multicultural teaching presence.</td>
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<td>3:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>Manatee Room – Moderator: Amanda Major</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Round Table Discussion Topic:</strong> Digital Mindfulness to Reduce Stress for University Students, Faculty and Staff</td>
<td>Presenters: James Pann, Jonathan Banks, Gus Casterllanos, Mark Montalban, and Marcelo Castro, Angela Yehl</td>
<td>The presentation will discuss a multi-disciplinary study to develop and implement a six-week online mindfulness training program. Weekly live sessions via Zoom, practice audio recordings, and daily MMS (Multimedia Messaging Service) messages were used to teach various formal and informal mindfulness practices to the participants, who were university students, faculty and staff. During the session, we will review the program design, the theoretical rationale, and discuss initial findings with 4 cohorts of participants.</td>
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**Social Activity (4:00 pm) – Moderator: Steve Terrell**<br>**Grand Palm Room**<br>**Network!**
Presenters Biographically Information

Georgina Argüello, Nova Southeastern University

Dr. Georgina Argüello is an Assistant Professor for the Abraham S. Fischler College of Education and School of Criminal Justice at Nova Southeastern University. The majority of Georgina’s work experience has been in the higher education setting. She joined Nova Southeastern University in 2003. She has been working in different capacities: Academic Advisor, Assistant Director of Student Recruitment and Enrollment Management, Doctoral Enrollment Counselor, and Assistant Professor. She currently teaches courses in the Organizational Leadership concentration for English and Spanish-speaking students in online and international cohorts. Professor Arguello holds a bachelor’s degree in International Relations from the Technological Autonomous Institute of Mexico, a master’s degree in Business Administration, and a Doctorate degree in Education with a concentration in Organizational Leadership.

Rebecca Armstrong, Grand Canyon University

Rebecca received her undergraduate bachelor’s degree from the University of Idaho, a traditional land-based institution. From there she earned a master’s degree from the University of Phoenix and her Doctorate degree from Capella University, both online educational institutions.

Currently, Rebecca conducts a professional Life Coaching business and is an adjunct instructor for Grand Canyon University Online. Her work allows her many connections with college students and faculty from many universities. She is passionate about the importance of distance learning and works toward helping others get the most out of their online learning experience.

Kathleen Bastedo, University of Central Florida

Kathleen Bastedo is an instructional designer at the University of Central Florida. She earned a master’s degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of South Florida and a Bachelor of Science degree in Occupational Therapy from Utica College of Syracuse University. She has been working as an instructional designer for the Center for Distributed Learning at UCF since 2006. She assists faculty with the design, development, and delivery of online courses. Her area of specialization is about universal design for learning (UDL) and the accessibility of digital course materials. Her online research interests include accessibility to online materials for individuals with disabilities, simulations and training (VR and AR), and the cognitive theory of multimedia learning.
Sue Bauer, University of Central Florida

Sue’s undergraduate degree is in Elementary Education. While teaching, Sue realized she had an interest and skillfulness for technology adoption in the classroom setting. This concentration prompted her to pursue her MA in Instructional Technology and Instructional Systems at UCF. Before completing her MA, she interned with UCF’s Center for Distributed Learning and following her internship was offered a faculty position as an instructional designer. Sue has been an instructional designer with UCF since 2001. Her research interests include quality in online courses, professional development for online teaching, and mobile technologies in education. Sue has been a conference track reviewer for EDUCAUSE, ELI, AASCU and OLC and delivered special topic courses for them as well (Mobile, BlendKit, and online course development). Sue recently ventured out from her focused educational experiences and earned a Technology Ventures Graduate Certificate from UCF’s College of Business in 2017.

Junia Braga, Federal University of Minas Gerais/FAPEMIG

Junia Braga holds a PhD in Applied Linguistics, with emphasis on Language and Technology from the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG), Brazil.

The tenets of her research have been mobile technologies and Web technologies in the context of teacher education under the perspective of ecological perspectives.

Victoria Brown, Florida Atlantic University

Dr. Victoria Brown is currently pursuing her research interest as faculty in the Department of Teaching and Learning at Florida Atlantic University after serving as the Assistant Provost for the Center for eLearning for six years. In her role at the Center for eLearning, she oversaw the development of online degrees, course development, faculty professional development, online student support, and provided an online student experience. Dr. Brown held leadership positions for several state and national organizations. She is a board member for the Florida Distance Learning Association, past chair of the Online Student Support for the 2025 Strategic Plan for Online Education in Florida, past co-chair of Student Support for the Florida Virtual Campus Distance Education and Student Support Members Council, past-Vice President of Information Technology Council for the Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education, and former President of the Missouri Learning Disability for Council of Exceptional Children. For her instructional design work in the non-for-profit sector, she received the Meritorious Service Medal from the Southeast Region Commander of the Civil Air Patrol. She has also received the Distance Educator of the Year for Higher Education by the Florida Distance Learning Association, Effective Practice Award for student support from the Online Learning Consortium, and the Best-in-Track Award for her research work in online student support services from the Online Learning Consortium. Through her research work, she co-developed the Online Student Support Scorecard available through the Online Learning Consortium. Her research interest is evaluation of factors associated with providing high quality online programs through course design and professional development within higher education, application of universal design and media literacy to improve student outcomes for low-socioeconomic status individuals, and the improvement of
online student outcomes with support services. She continues to explore how to use emerging technology to design engaging learner experiences.

**Tina Calandrino, University of Central Florida**

Tina Calandrino has worked as an educator in higher learning for over 25 years. She began her college career as Faculty at Miami-Dade College working with students on a new concept called Macintosh computers. This set the tone for an interest in using computers for more practical educational purposes than just the desktop editing that existed in 1988. Today, her research interests in online learning include Competency-Based Education, Gender/Age/Inclusion Bias, and Faculty Development. Tina is currently the Program Coordinator for UCF’s award winning faculty development program IDL6543. You may run into Tina outside of work hours at Disney, learning defense tactics that will come in handy during the zombie apocalypse, and advocating for local farm to table purveyors.

**Lisa Carbone, Nova Southeastern University**

Lisa Carbone, Ed.D., Assistant Professor and Director of Licensure and Compliance at NSU’s Fischler College of Education and School of Criminal Justice.

Dr. Carbone started her higher education career at Nova Southeastern University’s College of Engineering and Computing in 2001 and started working for the College of Education in 2006. In addition, she taught for the School of Business at Miami Dade College and taught various business management courses for South University. Dr. Carbone is an assistant professor and the Director of Licensure and Compliance for the Fischler College of Education. She holds an EdD and MBA from Nova Southeastern University and has obtained a BS degree in Merchandise Management from the SUNY’s Fashion Institute of Technology. She commits her energy to local community initiatives and academic research aimed at advancing the quality of life for special populations. Dr. Carbone was recently invited to participate in the Yoga Alliance’s Standards Review Project to conduct a comprehensive review of the current teaching standards in the area of “Inclusion” in the field of yoga. She has an exemplary track record of successful fellowships, grants and actively presents at national conferences.

**Marcelo Castro, Nova Southeastern University**

Dr. Marcelo Castro is the Associate Dean and a Professor in the School of Criminal Justice and oversees day-to-day operations of all academic programs in Criminal Justice at Nova Southeastern University. He is also a licensed School Psychologist with expertise in assessment of emotional and behavioral disorders in children. He holds dual master’s in Clinical Psychology and Mental Health Counseling, a master’s degree in Criminal Justice along with a Ph.D. in Special Education. He also completed a postdoctoral fellowship in pediatric education at the Department of Pediatrics, University of Miami, Jackson Memorial Medical Center.

He has taught assessment and measurement, research design and methods, statistics and program evaluation throughout his work as a professor over the past 22 years. In addition, he has been Principal Investigator (PI) or Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI) in several program evaluation and evaluation research projects. He has done collaborative work as research partner with Miami-Dade County Public Schools,
Miami-Dade Schools Police and Miami-Dade Police Department in the evaluation of a gang prevention and suppression initiative and evaluated the impact of educational interventions in children with emotional disabilities and children with emotional difficulties. For the past 3 years he has been CO-PI in a project funded by the Florida Bar Foundation looking at improving court experiences and transition to independent living for youth in foster care. The project uses an innovative restorative practice approach.

**Jaclyn Compton, University of Central Florida**

Jackie has worked for the Center for Distributed Learning since March 2013. Previously a technical support assistant for Webcourses@UCF Support, she now works as a web content specialist for the Instructional Development team. She transcribes video recordings for closed captioning, assists in the creation and support for non-academic web-based courses, and edits online training materials and performance support documents. Concurrent to her employment at CDL, Jackie received her B.A. in Creative Writing from the University of Central Florida. Her studies in English have strengthened her skills in writing and editing, and she employs these skills to create content that is clear, consistent, and grammatically correct. In 2016, she received the Information Technologies and Resources Outstanding Service Award.

**Santanu De, Nova Southeastern University**

Dr. De is an Assistant Professor of Anatomy and Physiology in the Department of Biological Sciences, Halmos College of Arts and Sciences at Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA. He received a B.Sc. in Physiology (Honors) from Presidency College, Kolkata, India, an M.Sc. in Biophysics, Molecular Biology and Genetics from the University of Calcutta, India, and a Ph.D. in Physiology from Kent State University, Ohio, USA. He pursued Postdoctoral Fellowships at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, USA and at Yale-NUS College, Singapore (a collaboration of Yale University with the National University of Singapore). He was a Visiting Faculty in the Department of Biomedical Sciences at Grand Valley State University, Allendale, Michigan, USA. Dr. De has taught multiple courses in Anatomy, Physiology, Cell Biology, Human Biology, and General Biology. His research interests include STEM education, pedagogy, and physiology, in which he has published several peer-reviewed papers. More information can be found in his professional profile: https://www.linkedin.com/in/santanu-de-62809923. At leisure he likes to sketch or play the keyboard synthesizer.

**Aimee deNoyelles, University of Central Florida**

Aimee deNoyelles has been an Instructional Designer in the Center for Distributed Learning at the University of Central Florida for 9 years. Her interests include online discussion strategies, use of innovative technologies, and feminist pedagogy in online environments. She has been a part of the Teaching Online Pedagogical Repository team for 4 years and has served as the Managing Editor for 2 years.

**Vicenç Feliu, Nova Southeastern University**

Vicenç Feliu is Professor of Law and Associate Dean for Library Services at Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad College of Law, teaching Trademarks and Unfair Competition,
Intellectual Property and Copyright Law. Prior to NSU, he was Professor of Law and Associate Dean for Library Services at Villanova University’s Charles Widger School of Law teaching Advanced Intellectual Property/Cyber Law and Copyright Law. He received a B.A. in Linguistics from California State University, Fullerton, both a J.D. and LL.M. in Intellectual Property, Commerce & Technology from the Franklin Pierce Law Center (now UNH) and a M.L.I.S., with a Law Librarianship Certificate, from the University of Washington.

Joseph M. Furner, Florida Atlantic University

Joseph M. Furner, Ph.D., is a Professor of Mathematics Education in the Department of Teaching and Learning at Florida Atlantic University in Jupiter, Florida. He received his Bachelor’s degree in Education from the State University of New York at Oneonta and his Masters and Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction and Mathematics Education from the University of Alabama. His scholarly research relates to math anxiety, the implementation of the national and state standards, English language issues as they relate to math instruction, the use of technology in mathematics instruction, math manipulatives, family math, and children’s literature in the teaching of mathematics. Dr. Furner is the founding editor of Mathitudes Online at: http://www.coe.fau.edu/centersandprograms/mathitudes/ He is the author of more than 80+ peer-reviewed papers. Dr. Furner has worked as an educator in New York, Florida, Mexico, and Colombia. He is concerned with peace on earth and humans doing more to unite, live in Spirit, and to care for our Mother Earth and each other. He is the author of Living Well: Caring Enough to Do What’s Right. Dr. Furner currently lives with his family in Palm Beach, Florida. He enjoys his job, family, civic and church involvement and the beach. Please feel free to write to him at: jfurner@fau.edu.

Terrie Galanti, University of North Florida

Dr. Terrie Galanti is an Assistant Professor of Secondary Mathematics and STEM Integration/Computational Thinking at University of North Florida. She was the first woman in history to graduate at the top of her class from the United States Air Force Academy and earned a master’s degree in electrical engineering from Stanford University. She synthesizes her thirty years of experience as an engineer, parent, and K-12 mathematics educator in her research on conceptual readiness for STEM fields of study. She studies online synchronous learning in mathematics education and connections mathematical sense-making to computational thinking in K-12 curriculum and classrooms.

Jon M. Garon, Nova Southeastern University

Dr. Jon M. Garon is Professor of Law and Director of the Intellectual Property, Cybersecurity, and Technology Law program at Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad College of Law, teaching Constitutional Law, Contracts, Entertainment Law, and many other courses. He is a nationally recognized authority on entertainment law, copyright, information privacy, technology regulation, and free speech. He has published over 50 books, book chapters, and academic articles, and he has presented at more than 200 programs. A Minnesota native, he received his
bachelor’s degree from the University of Minnesota in 1985 and his juris doctor degree from Columbia University School of Law in 1988.

Professor Garon served as dean for NSU’s Shepard Broad College of Law 2014-2020, providing strategic leadership on programming, curriculum, enrollment management, marketing, and finance. Prior to joining Nova Southeastern University in 2014, Garon was the inaugural director of the Northern Kentucky University Salmon P. Chase College of Law, Law + Informatics Institute, serving from 2011-2014. The Law + Informatics Institute works to integrate specialized courses and training on technology and information systems across legal disciplines. He also served as dean and professor of law at Hamline University School of Law in St. Paul, Minnesota and interim dean of the Graduate School of Management from 2005 to 2006. Before Hamline, Dean Garon taught Entertainment Law and Copyright at Franklin Pierce Law Center in Concord, New Hampshire and Western State University College of Law in Orange County, California.


David L. Hart, Jr., Capella University

David received his bachelor’s degree from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville and his Master’s degree from Lindenwood University in St. Charles, Missouri, both schools providing a traditional brick-and-mortar educational program. He earned his doctorate degree from Capella University and is now a proud Capella instructor. David is a Licensed Professional Counselor in the state of Missouri, a state-approved licensure supervisor in Missouri, a Nationally Certified counselor, and has been in private practice for 20 years. David enjoys presenting relevant information at various locations around the country as well as writing journal articles that highlight many important topics of academia today. He believes that distance learning can unquestionably be as beneficial and rewarding as brick-and-mortar educational programs; establishing a “connection” with learners in such an online venue is crucial to their ongoing interest and retention and contributes to ultimate success.

Charlotte Jones-Roberts, University of Central Florida

Charlotte joined the Instructional Design team in August 2017. She holds an MA in Instructional Design and Technology – Instructional Systems and an MA in TESOL from the University of Central Florida, as well as a BA in Psychology from the University of North Florida. Charlotte first began teaching and developing courses in 2011 in rural South Korea as an elementary public school teacher. She worked as a UCF faculty member and curriculum coordinator teaching ESL for the
English Language Institute (ELI) at UCF Global for five years. She gained an interest in instructional design while working to develop courses at the ELI and is thrilled to be part of the team at CDL. Charlotte’s research interests include social presence in online courses, hybrid learning, and synchronous learning environments.

**Nancy Keefer, Central Florida College**

A native of Ohio, Nancy Keefer has worked in adult education, in one form or another, for her entire career. Beginning as an English teacher in a business school, she next worked as a trainer when formalized training departments were just getting started in retail.

After earning her Masters in Adult Education and Distance Learning, she then moved to a formal Instructional Design position. After needing to move to Florida to help her father, she happily went back to her roots in adult education by joining the E-Learning Department at College of Central Florida.

In her off hours, Nancy spends time working on her landscaping most days – yes, even in the Florida heat and humidity! She and her husband love to take long road trips, read, and spend time with their pets and giving their home in Ocala a Craftsman feel. You can reach Nancy at keefern@cf.edu.

**Joseph Lloyd, University of Central Florida**

Joseph Lloyd is an Instructional Designer at the University of Central Florida’s Center for Distributed Learning (CDL). Joseph earned a B.S. degree in Information Technology from the University of Cincinnati in 2003. After completing his B.S. degree, his love of teaching led him to move to Florida in 2006 to begin his career in Education. While teaching, he pursued an M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction with a focus in Middle Childhood Mathematics, which he earned from UC in 2009. Prior to joining the CDL team, Joseph taught in both Volusia and Seminole County Public Schools for twelve years. He spent most of those years as an Educational Technology Facilitator, and he also taught 4th, 5th & 6th Grades Math & Science. His love of the blending of Education and Technology, especially in the STEM disciplines led him to UCF where he joined the team that specializes in Personalized Adaptive Learning software and strategies.

**Nicole Luongo, St. Peter’s University**

Dr. Nicole Luongo is a Professor of Education and Director of Distance Learning at Saint Peter’s University (SPU) in Jersey City, NJ. Currently, she is teaching a blend of online, hybrid, and face-to-face graduate and undergraduate education courses. Previously, Dr. Luongo worked as an elementary teacher in Rockaway, NJ. At Saint Peter’s University, Dr. Luongo is the Director of Distance Learning. She oversees all distance learning courses and the Distance Learning Committee. Additionally, she has designed several online and hybrid graduate and undergraduate education courses for the School of Education. Dr. Luongo has authored several anthologies, including *The New ELA Classroom: Teaching in a Digital World* and *The New World of Assessment: Teaching in a Digital World*. She also serves on the university-wide Institutional
Dr. Luongo has served as a member of the Center of Teaching and Learning (CETL) Committee, where she helped develop the CETL website. She also works with assessment development and serves on the Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Team (SLOAT) Committee. Additionally, she has served as an academic advisor for graduate students as well as a supervisor for student teachers. Additionally, Dr. Luongo has worked as an Educational Consultant for Vantage Learning and the Center for Education Leadership and Technology (CELT). Also, she worked as a Technology Trainer for the Morris County Educational Technology Training Center (ETTC) in Denville, New Jersey. Dr. Luongo received a B.S. in elementary education from Bucknell University and a M.A.E. in administration and supervision from Seton Hall University. Most recently, she graduated from Nova Southeastern University with an Ed.D. in instructional technology and distance education. For over ten years, Dr. Luongo taught a variety of subjects to elementary students. She utilized computers and other forms of technology daily. Dr. Luongo also served as the school’s Webmaster as well as the Technology Lead Teacher. She often assisted the district’s teachers with the integration of technology.

Eunice Luyegu, Nova Southeastern University

Eunice Luyegu is an Instructional Design Specialist and an Assistant Professor at Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences, Nova Southeastern University. She has spent many years teaching and designing courses in higher education. She is a relentless advocate for designing effective and engaging learning environments. Dr. Luyegu considers herself a digital pedagogue; she has a passion for learning, understands what excellent teaching and learning looks like, and loves learning technologies. She earned her Ph.D. in Instructional Design and Technology from the University of South Alabama and a Master of Arts degree in International Affairs from Ohio University. Dr. Luyegu is also a Certified Performance Technologist by the International Society for Performance Improvement (ISPI). Besides teaching and designing courses, she spends her time conducting workshops, streamlining processes, and consulting with faculty on pedagogy and technology. She is also the College Editor for the Distance Learning journal.

Amanda Major, University of Central Florida

Amanda Major, EdD, CPLP, PMP is an organizational development and project management specialist in the field of online learning in higher education. Actively involved in the digital learning field, she has presented at national and international conferences and has peer-reviewed publications about organizational development, operations, and projects. In addition to her credentials, she has earned administration certifications from the Online Learning Consortium and Quality Matters. With experience delivering results in a variety of learner-focused and client-oriented, Dr. Major currently leads and contributes to projects at University of Central Florida.

Jamie Manburg, Nova Southeastern University

Dr. Jamie Manburg currently serves as Associate Dean for External Affairs & Undergraduate Programs for the Abraham S. Fischler College of Education & School of Criminal Justice at Nova Southeastern University. Previously he was the Director for Sanford Inspire at National
University’s Sanford Education Center. Throughout his career, Dr. Manburg has led the local implementation and national rollout of in-service and preservice teacher training and development as well as the dissemination of curriculum, resources, and best practices integrated into teacher preparation programs across the country. He has served in various leadership roles at Nova Southeastern University over the past 20 years, including dean of undergraduate teacher education, associate dean of undergraduate studies, and executive director of student success and retention. In December 2018, Dr. Manburg led NSU’s Fischler College of Education through a successful CAEP site visit to receive its reaffirmation of accreditation. In addition, he has been a featured speaker and panelist at educational conferences across the country and has published in the Contemporary Issues in Technology and Education (CITE) journal. Dr. Manburg received the NSU External Funding award in 2010 and served as the Principal Investigator for two Title V grants totaling 5.6 million dollars (2007-2012). Overall, he has secured over 30 million dollars in incoming gifts and 6.6 million dollars in grant funding throughout this career. He has established hundreds of partnerships impacting over 25 Universities, 20 states, 50 school districts, and thousands of individual schools. He earned his Bachelor of Science in secondary education, his Master of Science in management information systems and his doctor of education in instructional technology and distance education from Nova Southeastern University.

As an advocate for all children, Dr. Manburg is proudest of his commitment to and work with children, young adults, and those who work closely with both groups.

**Tatjana Luisa Martinez, Nova Southeastern University**

Tatjana began as an ESOL teacher with the Miami-Dade County Public Schools where she also taught Bilingual Social Studies, was a counselor, and an assistant principal at the Shenandoah Middle School. Later she moved to central administration as a project manager for federal programs and culminated the first nineteen years as Director of Non-Instructional Staffing with MDCP. She went on to pursue her second love and earned a Juris Doctorate (J.D.) from Widener University School of Law and returned to MDCPS with a J. D. to become one of three labor negotiators and lobbyists. Tallahassee, Florida became her second home when she became General Counsel for the Florida School Board’s Association. Upon her return to Miami, she went into private practice as a consultant, attorney and mediator for emerging public-private school partnerships. Eight years ago, she joined the Abraham S. Fischler College of Education as a professor on special legal assignment. She has taught Advanced School Law and Conflict Resolution in the EdD program in Education/Leadership in English and Spanish; and Social Studies, Sociology and American Government in the MS in Education degree program. She continues to offer legal services to the Dean at FCE, has co-published a book chapter and presented at NAESP, USDLA and state conferences. She is now an Associate Professor working on becoming full professor before she retires. In addition to her J.D., Tatjana earned a BS in History and Political Science, a MS degree in School Counseling, and a MS in Administration and Supervision at the University of Miami. She also is certified in the State of Florida as Social Studies teacher, a K-12 Counselor, and in Administration and Supervision.
Mariam Manzur Leiva, New College of Florida

Mariam Manzur Leiva, former Fulbright Scholar, earned an M.A. in Spanish Language and Literatures, along with graduate certificates in Latin American & Caribbean Studies and Cuban Studies, from USF. More recently, she has obtained certificates in Online Teaching, Online Proctoring, Online and Hybrid Instructional Design and E-Learning Ecologies from USF, QM, UCF and U of I, respectively. She joined her alma mater’s Department of World Languages in 2010, where she taught intermediate and advanced level Spanish courses and supervised the First Year Spanish Online Program for four years.

In 2016, she was awarded the “Excellence in Education” Award at the Viva Tampa Hispanic Heritage Festival. She joined NCF in 2017, where she teaches Elementary, Intermediate, Heritage Speakers and Spanish Oral & Written Communication classes while supervising the Spanish TA Program.

She is a member of the International Network of Researchers in Distance, Online and Open Education (REDIC) and the International Council for Distance education (ICDE). Her primary research interests are the development and implementation of E-Learning technologies and the impact of these technologies on teaching methodologies, course design & delivery and the culture of higher education institutions.

Maria Grethel Méndez, Nova Southeastern University

Dr. María Grethel Méndez, Assistant Professor, of the Fischler College of Education and School of Criminal Justice serves as an Associate Counselor of the College’s Omega Theta Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi. Before her tenure in higher education, she worked for 39 years (31 years as a Guidance Counselor) in Miami-Dade County Public Schools, the 4th largest school district in the nation. She obtained a bachelor’s degree in French, Spanish and English Secondary Education, a master’s degree in Guidance and Counseling, and a Doctor of Education degree. Dr. Mendez has served in various positions at Nova Southeastern University including Doctoral Enrollment Counselor, Director of the International Teacher Education Program (ITEP) and International Undergraduate Teacher Education Program (IUTEP). Under her leadership, the program expanded to three additional regional campuses. Dr. Mendez is involved in numerous community organizations and has held leadership positions. Her research focus includes Curriculum and Instruction, Educational Leadership, and Advising.

Roslyn Miller, University of Central Florida

Roslyn Miller is an instructional designer at University of Central Florida with more than 20 years' experience as an educator in public, private, military, and university settings. She holds a BA in mathematics from Harding University, a master's in secondary education from Mississippi State University, and a PhD in curriculum and instruction from Mississippi State University. Roslyn has also presented at regional and national conferences, published articles in education journals, and
evaluated educational programs. Her research interests include effective instruction, learner motivation, and STEM education.

Vanaja Nethi, Nova Southeastern University

Vanaja Nethi, Ph.D. is an Assistant Professor at the Fischler College of Education and School of Criminal Justice at Nova Southeastern University, USA. She teaches research methods and STEM education courses at the doctoral level and advises doctoral dissertation students. Her research interests include online and blended instruction, STEM education, qualitative research methodology, and transnational higher education, and has several publications, presentations, and research projects in these areas. She is also the assistant editor of the peer-reviewed journal, Quarterly Review of Distance Education, a reviewer and member of the editorial board for the peer-reviewed open-access online journal, The Qualitative Report, and served as a guest editor for the Transnational Social Review.

Anymir Orellana, Nova Southeastern University

Dr. Anymir Orellana is a Professor in the Department of Higher Education Leadership & Instructional Technology (HELIT) at the Abraham S. Fischler College of Education and School of Criminal Justice, Nova Southeastern University. She teaches online graduate courses in the areas of instructional technology, distance education, instructional media, and instructional design. She earned an EdD in Instructional Technology and Distance Education from Nova Southeastern University, a MS in Computer and Information Sciences and Engineering from the University of Florida, and a BS in Informatics Engineering from Universidad Centroccidental “Lisandro Alvarado” in Venezuela. She has more than 20 years of experience in higher education, and more than 15 years teaching online. She is committed to an interdisciplinary approach to service, scholarship, and research-based teaching. She was recently named Professor of the Year in the HELIT department "in recognition of demonstrated and exhibited superior achievement and the ongoing pursuit of excellence by the HELIT faculty." Her research interests are in the field of instructional technology and distance education, specifically quality in online courses and effective integration of technology for learning.

James Pann, Nova Southeastern University

James Pann received his Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from the University of Texas at Austin. He obtained his M.S.Ed. in Mental Health Counseling and Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from the University of Miami. Dr. Pann completed his clinical internship at Nova Southeastern University Community Mental Health Center in neuropsychology, behavioral medicine, and adult and child psychotherapy. Additionally, he did his postdoctoral fellowship in pediatric behavioral medicine at the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, University of Miami/ Jackson Memorial Medical Center. He also completed a Family Therapy Externship at the Center for Family Studies at the University of Miami.

Dr. Pann is an Associate Professor at the Abraham S. Fischler College of Education where he focuses on program evaluation projects, courses, and instruction. Courses taught at NSU include: Quantitative Research Methods, Research Methods II, Program Evaluation and Policy Analysis, Methods of Inquiry,
Survey Research, and Statistical Methods. Dr. Pann is interested in the use of program evaluation approaches to study and improve programs in all types of organizations. He is also interested in the intersection between evaluation and mindfulness. He is a licensed psychologist in Florida and an active member of the American Evaluation Association.

James R. Paradiso, University of Central Florida

James R. Paradiso is an instructional designer and the Program Coordinator of Affordable Instructional Materials (AIM) at the University of Central Florida. His main areas of research and professional specialization are open education and adaptive learning—with a particular focus on devising and implementing strategies to scale open educational practices and engineering data-driven learning solutions across multiple internal and external stakeholder communities.

Nick Pascucci, Nova Southeastern University

Nick Pascucci is a retired Active Duty military that served for over 20 years. He has been an ACE Certified Personal Trainer since 2000. Nick is also a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist (CSCS) through the National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA). He has a background in health and fitness and athletic performance training with over 20 years of certification and experience in the field. His passion for fitness began through his love of sports and developed as a varsity athlete in basketball. His fitness approach emphasizes age-appropriate programming with a specific focus given to cardiovascular and strength training in combination with balance and flexibility training. He establishes long-term client interactions to integrate exercise and optimal wellness into the demands of daily life. Nick’s primary goal is to educate people, to help them achieve a positive behavior change, and create lifelong healthy habits.

Jillian Powers, Florida Atlantic University

Dr. Jillian Powers is an Assistant Professor of Instructional Technology at Florida Atlantic University (FAU) for the College of Education in the Department of Teaching and Learning. She earned her Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction with a specialization in Instructional Technology from FAU in 2014. Prior to this position, Dr. Powers was an Instructional Technology Instructor at FAU. She has also served as an Instructional Designer at Palm Beach State College and has a decade of experience as a computer teacher in PreK-8 schools. At FAU, Dr. Powers teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in instructional technology and design. Her research focuses on ways in which technology shapes the teaching and learning process, teachers’ adoption and integration of technology into classroom practice, and preparing pre-service teachers to integrate technology into their future classrooms. Her research has been published in journals such as the *Journal of Educational Multimedia and Hypermedia* and *College & Undergraduate Libraries*. Dr. Powers has also presented at numerous conferences and currently serves as Co-Chair of the Information Literacy Education Special Interest Group for the Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education. [http://www.fau.edu/education/faculty/jrpowers/](http://www.fau.edu/education/faculty/jrpowers/)
Jennifer Reeves, Nova Southeastern University

Dr Jennifer Reeves is the Director of Dissertation Support Services and an Associate Professor at the Abraham S. Fischler College of Education and School of Criminal Justice (FCE & SCJ) at Nova Southeastern University. Dr Reeves received her PhD in Educational Psychology, with emphasis in Sport Psychology, Counseling Psychology, and Statistics and Measurement, from Florida State University. Dr Reeves specializes in developing strategies to support doctoral students and teaches research and statistics courses. Her research interests include instructional technology, distance education, mobile learning, and attention and performance. She regularly presents at national conferences and recently had two articles accepted for publication, Online professional development embedded with mobile learning: An examination of teachers’ attitudes, engagement, and dispositions in the British Journal of Educational Technology; and Mobile learning in Pre-kindergarten: Using student feedback to inform practice in the Journal of Educational Technology & Society.

Nancy Swenson, University of Central Florida

Nancy has been an instructional designer at the University of Central Florida since 2000. As an instructional designer, she assists faculty with the design and development of online and hybrid courses. Her online teaching and learning research interests include adult learning theory, accessibility of online education, universal design for learning, and quality of online courses. She has presented at local, state, national, and international conferences in addition to being published in a peer reviewed journal.

Timothy Scala, Nova Southeastern University

Tim Scala, Psy.D., is an Associate Professor and Program Director of the Bachelor of Science Degree in Child Development in Nova Southeastern University’s Department of Human Services. He is the chair of curriculum development for his department. He is also a Licensed Clinical Psychologist. He received his Doctoral and master’s degrees in clinical psychology from Nova Southeastern University and a Bachelor of Science Degree in psychology with a minor in education from Florida State University. Dr. Scala is also a member of the American Psychological Association (APA).

Dr. Scala has 13 years of experience teaching online distance education, as well as face to face and blended instruction. He has also supervised doctoral level psychology students, interns, and postdoctoral residents within the College of Psychology in the areas of assessment and intervention. He has had experience providing individual, family, and group therapy, as well as conducting psychological, vocational, and forensic evaluations at a variety of community mental health centers, educational facilities, and through private practice work in the South Florida area. His professional and clinical interests include psychological and psychoeducational assessment, working with the child and adolescent population, developmental disabilities, behavior modification, anxiety/depression, stress management, and family counseling. He has conducted research and was vital in obtaining grant funding in the areas of adolescent issues, parent training, and working with United States Veterans. His previous work with victims/survivors of
torture and presenting nationally on this topic has been helpful in providing supportive and therapeutic services to this population locally and nationwide.

Susan H. Stephan, Nova Southeastern University

Dr. Susan H. Stephan serves as Associate Dean of Graduate and Online Programs and Adjunct Professor at NSU’s Shepard Broad College of Law.

As Associate Dean of Graduate and Online Programs, Stephan is responsible for substantial aspects of the law school’s online and non-JD graduate educational programs, including accreditation and university compliance; program expansion; and supervision of marketing, admissions, student services, career development, and the teaching and learning process.

Prior to focusing on legal education, Stephan practiced law beginning in 1992, with a focus on legal challenges involving intellectual property, e-commerce and the Internet, privacy and data security, employment, workers’ compensation, and general corporate legal matters on behalf of individual and business clients. She has taught as adjunct faculty since 2001 in areas including antitrust, intellectual property, federal privacy, information security, cyberlaw, workers’ compensation, labor and employment, education law, pretrial skills, alternative dispute resolution, and law and economics.

Stephan graduated from Mitchell Hamline School of Law in 1992. She received her Bachelor’s degree from Northwestern University, a Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies from New York University, and a Certificate in Online Distance Education from the University of Minnesota.

Zachary Stepp, University of Florida

Since 2002, Dr. Zachary Stepp has helped hundreds of thousands of students succeed in their academic pursuits. From tutoring companies to teaching at several institutions both live and online, Zach has immersed himself in the educational world. His most recent and notable contribution in mathematics is Algebra Nation, which has helped increase the passing rates for the End of Course exams in Florida and several other states since its inception in 2013. His unique style of teaching and engaging students continues to touch lives and assist students in understanding and enjoying mathematics.

Earning both his bachelors and masters from UF, Zach is now pursuing his PhD in Mathematics Education to become a triple Gator. He plans to become a professor with the goal of sharing his knowledge and experience to the next generation of teachers.

Corrinne Stull, University of Central Florida

Corrinne Stull is an Instructional Designer at the University of Central Florida’s Center for Distributed Learning (CDL). Corrinne holds a B.A. in Digital Media with a focus on Web Design and previously worked in web development. Her interest in combining technology and education to design and create online learning experiences led her to pursue and complete an M.A. in Instructional Design & Technology, focusing on Instructional Systems. In her current role,
Corrinne specializes in personalized adaptive learning software and strategies. Other research interests include online course accessibility, active learning strategies, quality in online courses, and the use of OER materials. Additionally, Corrinne is the coordinator for Faculty Seminars in Online Teaching, stand-alone professional development seminars for best practices in online teaching.

Hui Fang “Angie” Su, Nova Southeastern University

Dr. Su is a Professor of Mathematics Education at Nova Southeastern University. She is the creator of Project MIND - Math Is Not Difficult®, a K-12 mathematics enhancement project currently being implemented in hundreds of classrooms throughout the U.S. Project MIND has received numerous awards, including the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching from the National Science Foundation for its innovation and ability to help students; especially preschoolers, become excited about math and improve their math skills. Angie is one of the authors of the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards for mathematics for the State of Florida. A recipient of the Governor’s Points of Light Award for her innovative work with the homeless, Su was appointed by Governor Bush to serve on the state council for homelessness and during reappointment, served as the Council Chair. In 2007, Dr. Su received the Sun-Sentinel Publisher’s Community Service Shining Star Award for Project MIND. Dr. Su is currently the President of the Florida Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (FAMTE). In 2009, she received the FAMTE’s Mathematics Teacher Educator of the Year Award. In 2013, Su was nominated and elected by the Board of Directors to be the President of FAMTE. Since 2010, Dr. Su has been the President of the Florida Distance Learning Association (FDLA). For her work and services, Su received the 2013 Distance Learning Visionary Award for Distinguished Leadership. On March 13, 2015, students, colleagues, and educators gathered to dedicate and rename "The Somerset Neighborhood School House" to "The Dr. Hui Fang Angie Su Neighborhood School House" in honor of the life work of Founding Board Member, Dr. Hui Fang "Angie" Su.

Julius Su, Founder & CEO, SKIES

Dr. Julius Su graduated from Caltech with degrees in biology (B.S. 1998), physics (B.S. 1999), and chemistry (Ph.D. 2007). As a scientist, he creates methods to compute the dynamics of complex chemical and biological systems. During his Ph.D. studies, he developed a way to model highly excited materials containing millions of electrons (electronforcefield.com), useful for studying the composition of planetary interiors, the nature of plasmas produced by shock waves and etching processes for next generation semiconductors. Currently he is combining adaptive learning algorithms with molecular dynamics to bridge the gap between our understanding of how individual atoms move and interact, and our observation of emergent biological phenomena. Julius is also the Founder & CEO of SKIES, A digital pinboard for planning and delivering lessons. Teachers and students riff off each other in a flexible and dynamic way, by adding text and media-rich cards to each other’s contributions. SKIES blends well with partner, small group, and whole-class discussions.
Karen Tinsley-Kim, University of Central Florida

Karen Tinsley-Kim serves as an Instructional Development Specialist on the Instructional Development, or iDev Team at the Center for Distributed Learning (CDL) at UCF. Her area of focus is coordinating online accessibility support with Student Accessibility Services (SAS), so students who use screen readers and those with deaf/hard of hearing needs can access content in Webcourses@UCF. A little while back, she proposed the idea of UDOIT, or the Universal Design Online content Inspection Tool. Thanks to Jacob Bates and his CDL Techrangers Team, they have made UDOIT a multiple award-winning reality, which now globally serves in Canvas as an LTI.

Trudian Trail-Constant, University of Central Florida

Trudian Trail-Constant is an Associate Instructional Designer at CDL. She holds a M.Ed. in Instructional Design and Development from the University of Georgia and a B.Sc. in Computer Science from Bethune-Cookman University. Her technical background along with her experience in Instructional Design in the business and higher education arenas, have allowed her to have a great balance and understanding of both technology and education. Her research interests include learner motivation and knowledge retention through unique, interactive learning environments and her expertise in the field has allowed her to present at multiple regional, national and international conferences.

Sandra Trotman, Nova Southeastern University

Dr. Sandra Trotman gained degrees in Mathematics education at the University of the West Indies and Waikato University, NZ. She worked in the Caribbean as a mathematics educator and assistant high school principal and co-authored textbooks and teacher guides for the Caribbean Primary Mathematics series. As an associate professor at Nova Southeastern University, FL, Dr. Trotman’s areas of expertise in Curriculum and Instruction include Mathematics Education, STEM learning, Assessment, and Mentoring. She works with students at the undergraduate to doctoral levels. Dr. Trotman currently serves as a lead chapter counselor for Kappa Delta Pi, an international honor society, Lead program reviewer for the national Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), and a reviewer for Kappa Delta Pi Educational Forum, a peer-reviewed journal.

Theresa West, Albany Technical College

Dr. Theresa West, Business Technology IFCC Southern Region Chairperson and member of the BT IFCC Executive Committee within the Technical College System of Georgia, is a native of Southwest GA. She is an international author, researcher, and master presenter. Over the years, she has written numerous book reviews and articles in the Official Publication of the National Business Education Association and the Official Publication of the United States Distance Learning Association.
Professionally, West serves on the (NBEA) National Business Education Association Technology Committee. Additionally, she has been recognized for teaching, leadership excellence, and student advising from (NISOD) National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development, (NBEA) National Business Education Association, (FBLA-PBL) Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda, and Georgia PBL, and was honored for the Rick Perkins Outstanding Instructor in the Field of Business Technology Award. Likewise, for demonstrating high standards of academic excellence, community leadership and positive performance, West has been recognized by Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers.

Academically, West earned her associate of arts degree from ASU (formerly Darton College), bachelor’s degree from Albany State University, double master’s degrees from Valdosta State University and University of Phoenix, educational specialist degree and doctoral degree from Nova Southeastern University. Equally important, she is an active member of the Kappa Delta Pi Omega Theta Chapter 584 International Honor Society in Education.

Therefore, West is well versed in the requirements for Distance Education, which she is actively committed to maximizing the learning potential of each adult learner in the distance education environment as well as bringing education and local businesses together in a positive working relationship.

Janice Watson-Huggins

Dr. Watson-Huggins currently serves as the Instructional Technologist for a private not for profit school located in South Florida and also a substitute teacher with the Broward County School Board. Professionally, Dr. Watson-Huggins is also a licensed real estate agent, registered surety agent/ bail bondsman, notary public and Private Investigator in the State of Florida.

Dr. Watson-Huggins completed her Doctor of Education Degree at Nova Southeastern University in the Abraham Fischler College of Education. Her area of expertise is in Instructional Technology and Distance Education with special emphasis on gamification and learning technology in the classroom. Dr. Watson’s research paper is entitled “An Experimental Study on the Effects of a Gamified Software Intervention in Mathematics Achievement Among Sixth Grade Students.” The study was conducted in a primary school located in the inner-city community of Eastern Kingston which sits at the border of Kingston and St. Andrew.

Dr. Watson-Huggins has tremendous experience in research and online learning systems. Dr. Huggins is a member of several honors societies after acquiring a 4.0 grade point average in her Doctoral program. These include the Phi Kappa Pi Honors Society, Kappa Delta Pi International Honors Society in Education and the Sigma Xi Scientific Research Honors Society.

Dr. Watson-Huggins is the Past President of the Fischler College of Education Student Government Association at Nova Southeastern University and Vice President of the Omega Theta Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi. She was recently appointed to the post of Associate Counsellor of the NSU chapter after graduation. Dr. Watson has also published in several journals and currently serves as a reviewer for the Kappa Delta Pi Record and New Teacher Advocate Journals.
**Rebekah E. Wright**

Dr. Wright is a virtual student engagement specialist for Indian River State College, Fort Pierce, Florida where she has been dedicated to student success for 16 years. She is also a freelance instructional designer, course developer, course consultant, and former online instructor for various organizations including James Madison’s Montpelier Historical Museum in Montpelier, Virginia. She holds a B.S. in Business Administration; an MBA with a specialization in organizational psychology; a M.Ed. in instructional design and technology; an Ed.D. in instructional technology and distance education; and postgraduate coursework in business management, marketing, computer science, and school counseling/guidance services. Wright is a certified online instructor, QM certified, and holds three certificates from the Online Learning Consortium. She has published in the journal, Distance Learning, the FDLA Journal, and has presented on a variety of distance education topics including using LinkedIn for career readiness, using discussion boards to improve student engagement in online courses, tips and tools for online instruction, and faculty use of open educational resources.

Wright is a member of several professional associations and organizations including Epsilon Pi Tau, Kappa Delta Pi, Kappa Phi Kappa, Golden Key, Association of Florida Colleges, Business Professionals of America, Association for Educational Communications and Technology, US Distance Learning Association, and the Florida Distance Learning Association. She lives in Port Saint Lucie, Florida, is interested in cooking and research.

**Shelly Wyatt, University of Central Florida**

Dr. Shelly Wyatt joined the Center for Distributed Learning at UCF as a full-time instructional designer in November 2016. Her research interests include second language acquisition and immersion through technology, and individualized faculty development. She also serves as Communications Editor for the Teaching Online Pedagogical Repository (TOPR).

**Angela Yehl, Nova Southeastern University**

Dr. Yehl is Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs and an Associate Professor for the Fischler College of Education and School of Criminal Justice at NSU. Dr. Yehl’s research interests include qualitative research and program evaluation in the health and human services. She has received grants and presented both locally and nationally on research in wraparound community-based systems of care for returning veterans. Current areas of research include the use of restorative justice in dependency court, veterans’ wellness, and mindfulness meditation.

**Dr. Francisca Yonekura, University of Central Florida**

Francisca Yonekura leads the Learning Systems & Technology group within the Center for Distributed Learning at the University of Central Florida. In her role, she oversees course and web development, integrations of learning applications, and data science engineering. Francisca and
her talented team strive to address the digital learning needs of UCF’s students, faculty, and staff. Many of their web apps and solutions have been nationally recognized with prestigious awards, open sourced, and licensed by fellow institutions. She has facilitated the procurement of trademarks for some of the custom-built instructional web applications and continuation of the Techrangers service mark. As a strong believer of service to the profession, she has served on a variety of peer review, advisory, and special project committees at the state level, nationally, and internationally. Francisca’s interest focuses on enabling emerging technologies for learning and creativity.

Michael Zelin, Sponsor - http://sponsorschoose.org/math

Dr. Zelin has more than 20 years in teaching and development of advanced educational tools. He has a Ph.D. in Physics & Mathematics and has been teaching Math, Physics & Engineering at a college level. He has developed a new Web based platform combining project based learning, service learning, and game-based learning - http://sponsorschoose.org/math.

Berta Capo, Nova Southeastern University

Dr. Capo is an Abraham S. Fischler College of Education (FCE) Associate Professor of Science education at the master’s and Doctoral level. She is a veteran Miami-Dade County Public School (MDCPS) science teacher of 22 years, with two additional years of experience teaching in an alternative education high school for primarily high-risk Hispanic students. Dr. Capo has several published journal articles in the area of Technology Education. The degrees earned by Berta include a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, a Master of Science Education from the University of Miami, and a Doctor of Education in Information Technology and Distance Education from Nova Southeastern University.

Lynn Colgin (SVP, Partnerships)

Lynn has 20+ years’ experience in Higher Education holding executive roles with Pearson, McGraw-Hill, and ProctorU. Throughout his career, his primary efforts have been the development of innovative partnerships and solutions that utilize the latest technologies to upgrade the overall learning experience. In each of his roles, he has led academic teams at the national level and engaged with admin and faculty to ensure non-traditional solutions were implemented to meet their department and institution-wide needs.

Aaron King, University of Florida

Aaron has been with ODL since 2016. He is responsible for assisting faculty and staff in new self-supporting program development, including market research and business viability analysis, and supports core ODL programs and business functions with research and data analysis, reporting, and other special projects. He earned a B.A. in Journalism from Ithaca College in 2009, an M.A. in Political Science from Villanova University in 2012 and is currently working toward completion of
a Ph.D. in Political Science at UF. He loves dogs and other non-dog animals and serves as the head coach for UF’s club boxing team.

**Brian Marchman, University of Florida**

Dr. Marchman serves as Assistant Provost and the Director of the Office of Distance Learning (ODL) at the University of Florida. As the Director of ODL, a unit in the Associate Provost’s Office for Teaching & Technology, Dr. Marchman is responsible for Distance Learning program and student support; UF Flexible Learning; UF online Dual Enrollment; marketing and recruitment support through the Distance Education Service Center (DESC); and business support for online course production. His office also leads UF’s online academic integrity program via online proctoring. Dr. Marchman is a proud four-time graduate of the University of Florida. He earned his undergraduate degree in Political Science, M.Ed. in Social Science Education, Ed.S. and Ph.D. in Educational Leadership, each from UF. He also holds a UF graduate certificate in Managing Distance Education Environments. In addition, Dr. Marchman completed post-doctoral work in a certificate program at Harvard University’s Graduate School. He has served as a keynote speaker and presenter at numerous international, national, and state conferences on the topics of distance education, leadership, and management.

**Dr. Gabriela Mendez, Nova Southeastern University**

Dr. Gabriela Mendez is an Associate Professor with the Abraham S. Fischler College of Education & School of Criminal Justice at Nova Southeastern University, where she develops curriculum and teachers doctoral and master’s level courses on curriculum and educational leadership. She obtained her master’s degree in Curriculum and Instruction and Ph.D. degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the Pennsylvania State University. Her research focuses on curriculum, equity and issues of identity and on online education.

**Alicia Policinski (Co-Founder & CEO, Quottly, Inc)**

Alicia began her career at Ellucian/SCT where she helped develop and later sold Banner Web for Student. Before Quottly, she was CEO at GraphScience, an automated advertising optimization platform which was acquired by Centro in 2015. She has also held several roles in technology investment banking at JPMorgan and Jefferies. She is a graduate of The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and Johns Hopkins SAIS.

**Wilma Robles-Meléndez, Nova Southeastern University**

Dr. Wilma Robles-Meléndez is a Professor of Early Childhood Education and Leadership in the Department of Higher Education, Leadership and Instructional Technology at the Fischler College of Education and School of Criminal Justice of Nova Southeastern University. Dr. Robles-Melendez has over 25 years of experience as an early childhood educator and teacher educator. She is a former school principal, regional, and state early childhood general supervisor. Her research focuses on multicultural and social justice issues, early literacy with a focus on young
English language learners, and family engagement. An advocate for children and families, she has several publications on diversity issues and is an active member of state, national, and international organizations.
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