Dr. Sharon M. Darling has been named the inaugural Office of Undergraduate Research & Inquiry (OURI) College Faculty Liaison for the College of Education. Dr. Darling is an Associate Professor in the Department of Exceptional Student Education, College of Education. Her specialization is early childhood/early childhood special education. Her work to prepare teachers and personnel as well as her line of inquiry into teacher conceptual change and inclusive practices provides the foundation for improving the lives of young children (with and without disabilities) and their families.

With this liaison program, OURI hopes to further integrate research and inquiry into the undergraduate curriculum at Florida Atlantic University (FAU). OURI College Faculty Liaisons are charged with invigorating their college’s faculty to infuse research and inquiry into the college’s curriculum. There are several ways to meet this goal, for starters, Dr. Darling is available to provide support to faculty who wish to get involved with OURI’s existing initiatives (e.g. DTD Curriculum Grants Program), provide professional development to faculty (individual technical assistance and/or group colloquia), and to introduce initiatives(s) aimed at propelling the college to this goal.

OURI College Faculty Liaisons are responsible for accomplishing the following:

1. Providing support for faculty submitting DTD Curriculum Grants Program (CGP);
2. Create College plans for infusing undergraduate research and inquiry into its curriculum;
3. Offer professional development workshops for the college.

Overall, Dr. Darling is eager to work with the faculty in the College of Education to enact and infuse curriculum (change) to promote undergraduate research and inquiry.

~Dr. Darling may be reached at sdarlin4@fau.edu~