FAU NAMES SILVERMAN AS COE DEAN

Florida Atlantic University (FAU) named Stephen Silverman, Ed.D., as Dean of the College of Education (COE), effective Aug. 1, 2019, following a national search in an announcement by Bret Danilowicz, Ph.D., FAU Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. Most recently Silverman served as Professor of Education and Senior Advisor to the Provost for Research Preparation at Columbia University’s Teachers College. He also served the Teachers College for five years as Chair of the Department of Biobehavioral Sciences.

“He brings a wealth of experience in the areas of enhancing research infrastructure, developing strong graduate programs, working with accreditation bodies, and collaborating with faculty to promote student success,” stated Danilowicz. “I look forward to working with Dean Silverman as we recruit new students, introduce pedagogical and research innovations, and engage our communities to improve educational quality throughout the South Florida region.”

As Dean, Silverman will oversee FAU’s COE, one of the most diverse in Florida’s State University System. The COE prepares educators and educational professionals to serve six public school districts. The College’s six departments offer degree programs at the bachelors, masters, specialist and doctoral levels, a variety of which are offered on three campuses. The COE also includes five University public laboratory schools, as well as offices, centers and initiatives.

Silverman earned his Ed.D. from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, his M.S. from Washington State University and his B.S. from Temple University. He began his career as a health and physical education teacher in the School District of Philadelphia. Other positions he held during his tenure at Teachers College include Grant Coordinator for six years, and Physical Education and Teacher Education Coordinator for 18 years. Prior to joining Teachers College in 1998, he held faculty positions at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, The University of Texas at Austin and Louisiana State University.

Silverman’s research focuses on teaching and learning (motor skill and attitude) in physical education and on the methods for conducting research in field settings. He has made more than 225 presentations to international, national and regional groups and has published more than 150 chapters and papers, including nearly 100 refereed research articles. He is the co-author of 18 books related to teaching and research methods including “Proposals that Work: A Guide to Planning Dissertations and Grant Proposals,” “Student Learning in Physical Education: Applying Research to Enhance Instruction,” “Reading and Understanding Research,” and “Research Methods in Physical Activity.” He has served as editor-in-chief, has been a reviewer and a member of the editorial boards of numerous journals, as well as delivered a number of prestigious lectures.

The recipient of the first Exemplary Research Paper Award presented by the American Educational Research Association (AERA) Special Interest Group on Research on Learning and Instruction in Physical Education, Silverman received the Curriculum and Instruction Academy Honor Award from the National Association of Sport and Physical Education (NASPE) and the Distinguished Service Award from the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AAHPERD) Research Consortium. He also was the recipient of the 2008 NASPE Presidential Award. Silverman has served as past chair, co-chair and national chair of several organizations. He is a Fellow in the AAHPERD Research Consortium and an Active Fellow in the National Academy of Kinesiology and is a past president of both organizations. In 2010 he was named an AERA Fellow.

Expressing his excitement in joining faculty and staff as dean of the FAU COE, Silverman said, “I am thrilled to join Florida Atlantic University and the College of Education to work with faculty to provide first-class undergraduate and graduate education, to expand our knowledge through our scholarship, and influence our fields through our professional service.”
DEAN’S DISPATCH

As I write this I am completing my first month at FAU and we are preparing for Hurricane Dorian. Thank you for the very warm welcome and for all you do to make our college strong. I have begun meeting with departments and faculty and look forward to spending more time getting to know everyone and how you contribute to everything we do.

I look forward to our working together to advance research and scholarship, teaching, and service to the university and our professions. If there is anything I or the dean’s office can do to help you, please let me know. And, please let us know of your successes—published articles, presentations, grants and contracts, awards and honors, and new offices in professional associations so we can appropriately publicize them and let everyone in the FAU family know how much is going on in the College of Education.

Steve

“I am looking forward to working together to continue to provide important and meaningful undergraduate and graduate education, and doing meaningful research and service that influences our respective fields.” — Stephen Silverman, Ed.D., Dean and Professor, College of Education
Len Sperry, M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Mental Health Counseling and Director of Clinical Training, Counselor Education in Florida Atlantic University (FAU)’s College of Education, conducts disciplined scholarly inquiry and science-based research. A prolific author of articles in professional publications and of professional books, Sperry has been honored twice by FAU as the Scholar of the Year at the Professor level.

FACULTY FOCUS: SPERRY

Len Sperry, M.D., Ph.D., Professor, Counselor Education (CE), in Florida Atlantic University (FAU)’s College of Education has been in the forefront in publishing scholarly research. In fact, Florida Atlantic University (FAU) has honored him twice as the Scholar of the Year at the Professor level for scholarly and creative activities in 2019 and 2013 during FAU’s 50th Honors Convocation and 43rd Honors Convocation, respectively. In 2016, the Faulk Center for Counseling bestowed its Community Impact Award for Educational Excellence on Sperry.

One of his mentors was the father of Psychotherapy Outcome Research and it is not surprising that Sperry is an outcomes researcher. Accordingly, he reconfigured the FAU clinical mental health counseling program to be competency-based and evidence-based. He reflected, “Our program graduates stand out from all others because they are not only caring, but also competent, confident, and culturally and ethically sensitive.”

Having taught, practiced, researched and written about mental health for more than 40 years, Sperry is the editor of three major clinical journals and is on the editorial board of 12 others. Among his 1,000 plus professional publications are 95 professional books, including titles such as “Mental Health and Mental Disorders: An Encyclopedia of Conditions, Treatments and Well-Being” and “Psychopathology and Psychotherapy: DSM-5 Diagnosis, Case Conceptualization and Treatment.”

Sperry’s research interests include:

- **Case conceptualization.** He is one of the original developers and researchers of methods of increasing the competency of mental health trainees and clinicians in conceptualizing cases. Case conceptualization is known as the “heart of evidence-based practice” and is considered the most important clinical competency and skill set.
- **Pattern-focused counseling and psychotherapy.** He developed this evidenced-based approach for quickly effecting client change by replacing maladaptive patterns with more adaptive patterns of thinking, feeling, and behaving.
- **Spiritually-oriented psychotherapy.** He is one of the original developers and researchers of therapeutic interventions that are sensitive to the religious and spiritual needs of clients.
- **Integrated primary care.** He is among the first to advocate for training clinical mental health counselors to function as valued members of the health care team in primary care settings.

Sperry was recruited to FAU in 2003 to develop the Ph.D. Program in Counseling and teach master’s and doctoral courses; supervise doctoral dissertation research; and serve as Director of Clinical Training. Previously, he has held faculty positions at the Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee; Barry University, Miami Shores, Fla.; Alliant International University, San Diego; Marquette University, Milwaukee; and St. Mary’s College, Notre Dame University, South Bend., Ind. He has also served as a Grant Reviewer for the Committee on HIV and Religion of the National Institute of Health in Washington, D.C.

The recipient of numerous awards throughout his career, Sperry has served in a number of professional organizations. Sperry is a Life Fellow in all six clinical divisions of the American Psychological Association, a Distinguished Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association, a Clinical Fellow of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy, and a Fellow of the American College of Preventive Medicine. He holds a B.A. from St. Mary’s University of Minnesota, a Ph.D. from Northwestern University, and Postdoctoral Certificate in Psychotherapy from Adler University in Chicago.

GRADUATES OF M.ED. SCHOOL COUNSELING COHORT LAND JOBS

Sixteen students in their final semester pursuing a M.Ed. in Counselor Education with specialization in School Counseling offered by the Department of Counselor Education in Florida Atlantic University (FAU)’s College of Education (COE) landed school counseling positions in the School District of Palm Beach County (SDPBC) this fall. This Bilingual/Bicultural cohort of graduate students, who graduated on Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2019, received the English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) School Counselor Scholarship provided by the Multicultural Education Department, which funded their tuition and guaranteed placement in SDPBC.

Paul Peleo, Ph.D., Chair and Professor, Counselor Education, is the Principal Investigator of the grant. Melissa Mariani, Ph.D., Associate Professor, taught a majority of the courses and served as their academic advisor. “We are proud of the level of dedication and ingenuity that this group has displayed throughout their time in the program,” declared Mariani. “The intense format of their coursework required each to invest both with their minds and their hearts. We know they will do great things in the field.”

The SDPBC Department of Multicultural Education manages the ESOL School Counselor Scholarship program. The scholarship award is for the amount necessary to successfully complete a master’s degree in the Counselor Education program at FAU. The purpose of this program is to meet the district’s need for more ESOL, bilingual and bicultural school counselors who understand the often complicated experiences that children from South America, Central America and the Caribbean encounters. Upon completion of the program, scholarship recipients fulfill their declaration of intent to work for the district for a minimum of three years.

Throughout the program, scholarship recipients must maintain a minimum grade point average (G.P.A.) of 3.0, complete a minimum of 18 credits per year, as well as meet other certification criteria.
COE WELCOMES NEW FACULTY, STAFF

Florida Atlantic University (FAU)’s College of Education (COE) welcomed its new Dean and Professor, Stephen Silverman, Ed.D. (see page one article), during the COE’s Welcome Back/Meet the Dean reception on August 15, 2019 held at the Ely Meyerson Continuing Education Hall at FAU Boca Raton. The COE also welcomed two new Interim Chairs (see page two of summer 2019 issue), four non-tenure-earning faculty members and five staff.

In addition, 14 new University School Instructors, administrators and staff at Alexander D. Henderson University School (ADHUS) and FAU High School and two new staff at Karen Slattery Educational Research Center for Child Development (ERCCD) were recognized. Promoted faculty (see page 2 and article at right) and staff were acknowledged as well.

The new non-tenure earning faculty are:

- Susan Denny, Ph.D., Instructor, Educational Leadership and Research Methodology (ELRM);
- Joyce Krzeminski, Ph.D., Clinical Instructor, ELRM;
- Taka Mays, Ed.D., Clinical Instructor, ELRM;
- Brianna Joseph, Ed.D., Visiting Instructor, Exceptional Student Education (ESE);
- Christopher Childs, M.Ed., as the Instructional Facilitator; Teri Deyo, M.S., as the Instructional Facilitator; Elisa Francani, M.S.E., as the Elementary Music Instructor; Leyna Laslo, M.Ed., as the Middle School English/Reading Instructor; Sara Speegle, B.A.; as the Middle School English/Reading Instructor; and Samantha Sylvestri, B.A., as the Elementary Instructor.

New University School Instructors at ADHUS and FAU High School are: Lauren Adler, M.S., as the Exceptional Student Education Instructor; Claire Bresil, M.S.T., as the Middle School Math Instructor; Teri Deyo, M.S., as the Instructional Facilitator; Elisa Francani, M.S.E., as the Elementary Music Instructor; Leyna Laslo, M.Ed., as the Middle School English/Reading Instructor; Sara Speegle, B.A.; as the Middle School English/Reading Instructor; and Samantha Sylvestri, B.A., as the Elementary Instructor.

ADHUS and FAU High new staff include: Melissa Cipjak, ESE Teacher Support Assistant; Amber Jeanniere, First-Grade Teacher Aide; Rose Lewis, Admissions and Enrollment Manager; Joshua Parrish-Willis, Front Office Assistant; Valerie Rivera, Administrative Assistant; and Patricia Wright, Kindergarten Teacher Aide. They all hold bachelor’s degrees except for Rose Lewis, who has a master’s degree.

The Karen Slattery ERCCD welcomed Cecilia Guinamaes, B.A., Child Care Group Leader, and Megan Morris, B.A., Assistant Teacher.

Staff, who joined the COE during 2019-2020, include Wendy Barron, M.S., Coordinator, Academic Programs, Office for Academic and Student Services (OASIS); Robin Jones, M.Ed., Outreach Specialist, Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD); Caitlin Fielding, M.B., Clinical Support Specialist, CARD; Rachel Bellevue, A.S., Senior Secretary, OASIS; and Suzanne Nichols, B.A., Senior Secretary, Dean’s Office. Jennifer Percival, M.Ed., was promoted to Assistant Director, Educational/Training Programs, CARD.

ADHUS AND FAU HIGH FACULTY PROMOTIONS

Stephen Silverman, Ed.D., Dean, College of Education, announced the following promotions at Alexander D. Henderson University School (ADHUS) and Florida Atlantic University (FAU) High School:

- Regina Sands, M.Ed., Assessment Coordinator/Programs and Service Learning, promoted to University School Associate Professor.
- Agnes Timar, M.Ed., Data Specialist, promoted to University School Associate Professor.
- Christopher Childs, M.Ed., Middle and High School Health and Physical Education, promoted to University School Associate Professor.
- Keith Feit, Ph.D., School Operations Coordinator and Leadership Science, promoted to University School Assistant Professor.
- Rachel Marbach, M.Ed., Third-Grade, promoted to University School Assistant Professor.
- Lauren Robinson, M.Ed., Fifth-Grade, promoted to University School Assistant Professor.
- Kimberly Hallstrom, B.B.A., Instructional Facilitator (6 - 8), promoted to University School Accomplished Instructor.
- Nanette Hert, M.Ed., MS Computers/Yearbook, promoted to University School Accomplished Instructor.
- Cara Pavek, M.Ed., First-Grade, promoted to University School Accomplished Instructor.

FACULTY AWARDS

Susannah Brown, Ph.D., Professor, Teaching and Learning, has been awarded the 2019 G.L. Davis, Jr. Counselor of Distinction Award from Kappa Delta Pi, the International Honor Society in Education. This award, which will be presented at the KDP Convocation on Oct. 24—26, 2019 in Norfolk, Va., is bestowed upon “chapter counselors who demonstrate outstanding leadership of their chapters, mentorship of chapter student leaders, personal scholarship, professional development, and service.”
DEPARTMENT DETAILS: COUNSELOR ED

With school safety and mental health access becoming two of the biggest issues in local school districts, the award-winning faculty members in the Department of Counselor Education (CE) in Florida Atlantic University (FAU)’s College of Education (COE) have garnered national and international recognition as leaders in their fields. “Right now, there is no better time to enter the field of counseling. The need for competently trained clinicians is growing, with an increased focus on mental health issues. If you have a desire to help your fellow human beings, and your community, then I can think of no better career than one in counseling,” said Paul Peluso, Ph.D., Chair and Professor, Counselor Education.

Among the national and state organizations that have bestowed awards on CE faculty in the last four years are the American Counseling Association (ACA), Southern Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (SACES), the American Rehabilitation Counseling Association (ARCA), and the Florida Counseling Association (FCA). CE faculty have also been the recipients of University-wide and College-wide awards.

CE faculty have a strong record of research productivity, excellent teaching evaluations and outstanding University service and national service to the counseling profession. In recent years, the department has contributed approximately 25 percent of the publications in FAU’s COE and has a proven record of procuring external grant funding, placing the program at a competitive level among similar counseling programs across the country.

“Counselors change the world, one life at a time.”
— Paul Peluso, Ph.D., Chair and Professor
Department of Counselor Education

CE’s mission is to educate graduate and doctoral students for professional counseling practice and leadership in local, national and international domains. To that end, the department offers graduate programs, including master’s degree programs in Counselor Education in three distinct areas of specializations:

- M.Ed. in Counselor Education with specialization in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, which leads to eligibility for becoming a Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) in Florida,
- M.Ed. in Counselor Education with specialization in Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling, which leads to eligibility for becoming a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC), as well as a Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) in Florida,
- M.Ed. in Counselor Education with specialization in School Counseling, which leads to eligibility for certification as a K-12 school counselor.

In addition, CE offers an educational specialist (Ed.S.) program, for individuals who already possess a master’s in counseling (or a related field), in the following areas:

- Ed.S. in Counselor Education with specialization in Mental Health Counseling
- Ed.S. in Counselor Education with specialization in School Counseling

Finally, the CE department offers a Ph.D. in Counseling. This CACREP-accredited program trains leaders and researchers in the field of counselor education and prepares students for an academic career training the next generation of counselors.

All master’s and doctoral programs are accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Education Programs (CACREP) and provide students with required practicum and internship experiences.

Graduate and doctoral students in CE programs may join the Beta Rho Chi Chapter of Chi Sigma Iota, the international honor society for professional counselors and counselor educators. The chapter provides active members, which include students, alumni and faculty, the opportunity to promote excellence in the profession of counseling and to get involved in professional development, community engagement and wellness.
DOCTORAL STUDENT ENGAGES COMMUNITY

Having devoted 18 years to early childhood education, Benjamin Occelin, a doctoral student pursuing the Ph.D. Curriculum and Instruction (C & I), engages the community “with a sense of deep humility, kindness, good humor and dedication,” noted Dilys Schoorman, Ph.D., Professor, Curriculum, Culture and Educational Inquiry. He “serves as a role model and an advocate for students and families, particularly of under-served backgrounds, and an authentic and informed advisor to decision makers.”

His efforts in this endeavor garnered Occelin the Dr. Rosanna Gatens Service Award at the graduate level from the College of Education in May 2019 and has fueled an ambitious research agenda that includes a literature review of trends and characteristics of diverse early childhood educators, who are proficient culturally and linguistically. As a member of the Riviera Beach Pre-K Collaborative, Occelin developed and/or delivered training modules to support parents and families in ten targeted Pre-K schools that serve predominantly Black and Hispanic students in the School District of Palm Beach County (SDPBC) to ensure early and sustained academic success. Occelin also developed a webinar, “Parents Connecting through Literacy,” to illustrate how parents can assist their preschool children with literacy development. For example, he demonstrated Interactive Read-aloud strategies. Occelin plans to translate this webinar into Creole and offer it to local churches and the local radio station.

At the My Brother’s Keeper (MBK) Race to Equity Summit last February in West Palm Beach, he served on a subcommittee that conducted a policy review and explored education and employment opportunities to improve life outcomes. He also served on the SDPBC Superintendent’s Advisory Committee for Black Student Excellence and a subgroup that proposed actions to improve literacy for Pre-K-12 students. Occelin holds a BECE and M.Ed. in C & I with specialization in Early Childhood Proficiency culturally and linguistically. As a member of the Riviera Beach Pre-K Collaborative, Occelin developed and/or delivered training modules to support parents and families in ten targeted Pre-K schools that serve predominantly Black and Hispanic students in the School District of Palm Beach County (SDPBC) to ensure early and sustained academic success. Occelin also developed a webinar, “Parents Connecting through Literacy,” to illustrate how parents can assist their preschool children with literacy development. For example, he demonstrated Interactive Read-aloud strategies. Occelin plans to translate this webinar into Creole and offer it to local churches and the local radio station.

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“My doctoral studies at FAU inspired me to look for opportunities to conceptualize social justice pedagogy and critical approaches to create advocated opportunities for culturally and linguistically diverse children and families while working within the community.” — Benjamin Occelin, M.Ed., CCEI doctoral student

Q & A: REGISTRATION

The start of a new academic year is a good time to visit or contact the Office for Academic and Student Services (OASS). In the College of Education, OASS offices are located on three campuses: FAU Boca Raton, ED-230; FAU Davie, ES-202; and FAU Jupiter, EC-202.

Here are some tips for successful registration from the OASS staff:

- Check your FAU email address at least once daily.
- Schedule advising appointments through your My FAU account by clicking on “Success Network.”
- Meet with your advisors on a semester by semester basis to reach a timely graduation.

What is the typical length of a course?
Fall and spring semesters are 16 weeks, whereas the summer term is six or 12 weeks. The length of the course varies. Intercession courses are offered between semesters and are one week in length. Fast track courses are six weeks long. Beginning spring 2020, some course may be offered in half semesters or as five-week tri-semesters.

When does course registration open?
Everyone’s registration opening date is different; click the link below to see when you can register: http://www.fau.edu/registrar/registration/schedule.php

How do I register for courses online?
If you are a current student, review your individual degree audit (DARS) to see which classes are needed for your degree. Then refer to the schedule of classes for course selection. Next, check for registration holds by clicking on My FAU. Then go to “FAU Self-service,” “Student Services,” “Student Records” and “View Holds.” Once the hold is cleared by the issuing office, register online using Self-service.

If you are a new student, first register for orientation online. Next, if you are a freshman, complete your Online Advising Registration selection (OARS); transfer students may skip this step. Finally, register online using Self-service.

What is a Permission of Instructor (Permit Only) Course?
Certain courses require special permission from the instructor or department. Contact OASS.