

# IMPACT

## Transforming Education



### COE Welcomes Development Officer

Valerie J. Bristor, Ph.D., Dean, College of Education announced that Jorene Jameson, Ph.D. has joined FAU as Director of Development assigned to the College of Education. Dr. Jameson has a long career in fundraising and nonprofit management. She recently completed her Ph.D. in public administration at FAU. Dr. Jameson held prior fundraising and executive positions with the Broward Education Foundation, YMCA, Girls Scouts and public broadcasting.



Jorene Jameson, Ph.D.

### COE Advisory Board Chair Serves to Impact Education

Thomas F. Coyle, Jr., Esq., is not only a practicing attorney in South Florida, but actively serves the community in which he lives and works. As Chair of Florida Atlantic University's College of Education (COE) Advisory Board, Mr. Coyle strategizes with the COE Dean, Valerie J. Bristor, Ph.D.; the Director of Development assigned to the COE, Jorene Jameson, Ph.D.; and ... [Read more](#)



### ACI Helps 1st Graduate Realize Potential

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### Holmes Scholar's Path Leads to Award

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Recently, Ali Danesh, Ph.D., Professor, Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD), received a \$25,000 gift from the Walter and Lucille Rubin Foundation to support his research and academic activities. An American Board of Audiology certified audiologist, Dr. Danesh oversees the Audiology Clinic, whereby Florida Atlantic University (FAU) students, staff and faculty, as well as ... [Read more](#)



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Florida Atlantic University

You may contact us at [coedevelopment@fau.edu](mailto:coedevelopment@fau.edu).

# COE Advisory Board Chair Serves to Impact Education

Thomas F. Coyle, Jr., Esq., Partner, Greenspoon Marder, chairs the College of Education Advisory Board.



By Josephine Elliott | APRIL 30, 2018

Thomas F. Coyle, Jr., Esq. is not only a practicing attorney in South Florida, but actively serves the community in which he lives and works. As Chair of Florida Atlantic University's College of Education (COE) Advisory Board, Mr. Coyle strategizes with the COE Dean, Valerie J. Bristor, Ph.D.; the Director of Development assigned to the COE, Jorene Jameson, Ph.D.; and COE Advisory Board members to advocate for the incredible programs at Florida Atlantic University's College of Education and to inform young professionals of the broad range of careers in education. Most importantly, the COE Advisory Board impacts education by raising awareness of the need for funding education, research and community programs offered by the COE that are not budgeted for by the University.

Among the community and certificate programs made possible by the generosity of donors are the Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD), the Communications Disorders Clinic, the Pine Jog Environmental Center and the Academy for Community Inclusion (ACI). For example, CARD provides expert consulting, training and support, at no charge, for people with autism and related disabilities, their families and the professionals serving them. Such programs help transform the lives of the entire community.

*"A career in education is the most undervalued and most important career."*

*-Thomas F. Coyle, Jr., Esq.  
Partner, Greenspoon Marder,  
and Chair, COE Advisory Board*

Donors also give generously to fund scholarships. The COE's 44 undergraduate and graduate degree programs are not limited to preparing students for excellence in teaching elementary and secondary schools. Through degrees offered by the COE's seven departments, students may pursue careers in such diverse fields as speech-language pathology/audiology, mental health, rehabilitation counseling, school counseling, curriculum and instruction, school leaders, higher education leadership, adult and community education, research methodology, early childcare and education, exceptional student education, environmental education, reading education, educational psychology, instructional technology, and exercise science and health promotion. The COE also offers Honors in the Majors programs through Honors Elementary, Secondary and Exceptional Student Education.

In addition to Mr. Coyle, the COE Advisory Board includes Alene Brewer, University Club; Vaughan Dugan, PF Hospitality Group; John Edelson, Time4Learning, VocabularySpellingCity; Joanne Sassone, Berkshire Hathaway Home Services; Jonathan Schwartz, Bullseye Strategy; Gay Voss, Ed.D., COE Alumna; Valerie Wanza, Ph.D., Broward County Public Schools; Eddie Welch, Welch Law; and Monica Wesolowski, Sun-Sentinel.

Mr. Coyle is a partner at [Greenspoon Marder](#), focusing his practice on real estate, commercial acquisition and financing closings. He earned a B.A. from Stetson University and a J.D. from Nova Southeastern University Law School. This is Mr. Coyle's fifth year on the COE Advisory Board and his second as chair. He is active in many civic and charitable organizations.

For more information on degree programs offered by the COE, contact an advisor at the [Office for Academic and Student Services](#). To explore ways to give, contact Jorene Jameson, Ph.D., Director of Development, College of Education, at [jameson2013@fau.edu](mailto:jameson2013@fau.edu).

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# ACI Helps First Graduate Realize Potential



Tyler Sattler (third from left), ACI Alumnus, receives congratulatory wishes (from left) Gwendolyn Carey, Curriculum and Training Specialist, ACI; Eliah Watlington, Ph.D., Associate Provost, Northern Campuses, and OLLI Executive Director; Mary Lou Duffy, Ph.D., Professor, Exceptional Student Education, and ACI Program Coordinator; and Valerie J. Bristol, Ph.D., Dean, FAU's College of Education.

By Josephine Elliott | APRIL 30, 2018

Ordering lunch and completing homework are daily tasks for most students, but for students with developmental disabilities carrying out such tasks independently can lead to a life-changing milestone. That was the case during the first semester at Florida Atlantic University (FAU)'s Academy for Community Inclusion (ACI) for Tyler Sattler. According to Gwendolyn Carey, M.Ed., Curriculum and Training Specialist, ACI helped Tyler and his "wonderful, supportive family" realize that he was capable of doing his homework on his own.

ACI is a comprehensive transition program (CTP) that helps high school graduates with intellectual and developmental disabilities gain independence, employment and self-determination. Students may earn certificates in any or all of these three tracks. One of more than 60 programs in university settings in the US and one of three CTPs approved by the United States Department of Education in the State of Florida, ACI is based at FAU Jupiter and made possible by a multi-year commitment from The Taft Foundation. Tyler was among the first group of students when ACI opened in January 2016.

*"The ACI program has helped Tyler in multiple ways outside the school environment. He has flourished in skills such as getting his job, asking for help if needed, adapting to his environment, wanting to be more independent, even wanting to have his own apartment."*

— Jeff Sattler, Tyler's father

Tyler and his family decided to pursue the employment track to help Tyler identify realistic career goals, according to Angelica Downey, M.Ed., Curriculum and Training specialist. While Tyler fancied taking photographs for the Newspaper Club, he realized that it would be more of a hobby than a career. Tyler was a joy to be around, had a sense of humor and loved music. With the help of the job coach from the program, Tyler discovered he was good at cleaning and enjoyed the work.

Downey noted, "Tyler had a clear mind set." To earn the certificate, Tyler successfully completed 10 uniquely designed courses and two electives in an inclusive environment, as well as three internships: at a dining hall, at a golf course and at a restaurant. He developed a good working relationship with the manager at the restaurant and with his peer mentor, a degree-seeking FAU student. Tyler was accurate in his work and took the time to do the job right.

Tyler demonstrated continued progress throughout the program to the point he was able to go to McDonald's, order a meal and pay for it on his own, Carey recalled. He enjoyed going out into the community. Having graduated from the certificate program in December 2017, Tyler is now competitively employed at the restaurant where he did his last internship.

Presently, ACI is looking to expand its program and add a second location at FAU Boca Raton. Please consider donating to help ACI achieve another milestone of its own.

For more information, contact Mary Lou Duffy, Ph.D., Professor, Exceptional Student Education, and ACI Program Coordinator at [mduffy@fau.edu](mailto:mduffy@fau.edu). To explore ways to give contact, Jorene Jameson, Ph.D., Director of Development, College of Education, at [jameson2013@fau.edu](mailto:jameson2013@fau.edu).

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# Holmes Scholar's Path Leads to Awards



Brianna Joseph (right), a doctoral student in Florida Atlantic University (FAU)'s Exceptional Student Education, credits the Holmes Scholar® Program with providing opportunities to develop leadership and professional skills. Current Holmes Scholars at FAU also include (from left) Kayla Elliott, Deborah King McEwan and Kalynn Hall. Rangasamy Ramasamy, Ph.D. (second from right), Professor, Exceptional Student Education, is the Holmes Scholar Coordinator.

By Josephine Elliott | APRIL 30, 2018

*"Life is not a matter of holding good cards, but of playing a poor hand well."*

—Robert Louis Stevenson

One of the Holmes Scholars and doctoral student at Florida Atlantic University (FAU) has not only played a poor hand well, but has drawn on her experiences caring for an older brother (the fifth of six siblings) with cognitive and physical disabilities as the impetus to pursue a career in Exceptional Student Education (ESE). The youngest of six children raised by her mother who has a physical disability, Brianna Joseph, M.Ed., was the first in her family to graduate from high school. She went on to earn her bachelor's and master's degrees in ESE at FAU and, in October 2017, to be inducted into the Parliament of OWLS (Older, Wiser Leaders), an honorary leadership society for alumni who were student leaders while at FAU.

Brianna was awarded the Outstanding Professional Educator Alumni Award in 2013 for her work as a mentor to undergraduate education majors. She has served as a mentor for Broward County Public Schools, where she taught in a special education classroom for four years, one of which she served as the Response-to-Intervention (Rti) liaison for general classroom teachers. This required her to make decisions on implementing strategies and interventions based on students' needs.

*"The Holmes Scholar® Program has helped me increase my advocacy outreach for teacher preparation programs and students with disabilities"*

For the 2016-2017 academic year, Brianna was awarded a Presidential Fellowship Scholarship and selected for the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE) Holmes Scholar® Program, a three-year program dedicated to diversifying the field of education since 1991. She presently serves as Project I Squared Grant Supervisor, assisting Cynthia Wilson, Ph.D., Professor, ESE, who is the Principal Investigator (PI), the Holmes Scholar Social Media Coordinator, helping with two workshops for College of Education (COE) doctoral students, conducting professional development workshops in public and charter schools in Broward County, and is the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Children and Youth Action Network (CAN) representative.

—Brianna Joseph, M.Ed.  
Holmes Scholar and  
doctoral student

Brianna's leadership and professional skills continue to flourish. She took the initiative to run a peer supported writing group, using Google docs, where Holmes Scholars from around the U.S. can provide feedback on scholarly writing. She meets monthly with other Holmes Scholars at FAU under the mentorship of Rangasamy Ramasamy, Ph.D., Professor, ESE, and Holmes Scholar Coordinator, and attends yearly the AACTE conference. The latter provides the opportunity to attend professional development workshops and network with current and retired Holmes Scholars throughout the U.S. Please extend your generosity to fund expenses for Holmes Scholars at FAU to attend the AACTE conference.

For more information, contact Rangasamy Ramasamy, Ph.D., Professor, Exceptional Student Education, and Holmes Scholar Coordinator at [rramasam@fau.edu](mailto:rramasam@fau.edu). To explore ways to give contact, Jorene Jameson, Ph.D., Director of Development, College of Education, at [jjameson2013@fau.edu](mailto:jjameson2013@fau.edu).

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# Gift Supports CSD Professor's Academic Activities



Ali Danesh (sitting, right), Ph.D., Professor, Communication Sciences and Disorders, explains the parts of the inner ear to graduate students, pursuing the M.S. in Speech Pathology and Audiology (from left) Mandy Suhandron, Allison Forrester, Amanda Marks and Stephanie Howery.

By Josephine Elliott | APRIL 30, 2018

Recently, Ali Danesh, Ph.D., Professor, Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD), received a \$25,000 gift from the Walter and Lucille Rubin Foundation to support his research and academic activities. An American Board of Audiology certified audiologist, Dr. Danesh oversees the Audiology Clinic, whereby Florida Atlantic University (FAU) students, staff and faculty, as well as individuals in the FAU Boca Raton surrounding communities are evaluated for conditions, such as hearing loss, tinnitus and sound tolerance disorders. “The emphasis of our audiology clinic,” Dr. Danesh explained, “is to provide a suitable learning environment for our graduate students to feel comfortable working with patients with hearing loss when they start their own practice or clinical work.”

“It’s one thing to take notes and learn things in a classroom,” observed Stephanie Howery. “It’s another thing to apply what we learned. So we practiced on each other in the audiology laboratory; today, with real patients.” Allison Forrester noted that “speech pathology goes hand in hand with audiology. It helps us learn how to screen clients for hearing loss or damage.” In fact, “hearing is a big part of learning a language,” Mandy Suhandron declared. “If a patient shows a deficit in hearing it can interfere with learning,” Amanda Marks clarified. For example, directions given orally may not be followed properly by a student, who has a hearing impairment, resulting in poor academic performance.

*“Patients come to you for what you know, not what you do.*

*Knowledge is power.”*

*-Ali Danesh, Ph.D.*

*Professor and Director of Audiology Clinic*

Stephanie, Allison, Amanda and Mandy are graduate students in FAU’s CSD program for the M.S. in Speech Pathology and Audiology. The ability to properly diagnose disorders is imperative in order to implement the appropriate treatment services. The earlier the diagnosis, the sooner the intervention and the better likelihood of academic success. As part of their training, “students are exposed to a variety of hearing disorders: tinnitus, hyperacusis, misophonia and various types of hearing and balance impairments,” Dr. Danesh affirmed.

Auditory evoked potentials, auditory processing disorders, auditory responses in both normal and pathological populations, vestibular assessment, tinnitus management and diagnostic/rehabilitative audiology are the particular focus of Dr. Danesh’s research. He has published articles in numerous professional and scientific journals and presented in many scientific conventions. Dr. Danesh has a secondary appointment as Professor of Clinical Biomedical Sciences in FAU’s Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine. Additionally, he has affiliate faculty positions at the Department of Psychology and the Neurology Residency Program at FAU. He is a member of FAU’s Brain Institute and of the Institute for Healthy Aging and Lifespan Studies (I-HeAL).

For more information, contact Ali Danesh, Ph.D. Professor and Director of Audiology Clinic, Communication Sciences and Disorders, at [danesh@fau.edu](mailto:danesh@fau.edu). To explore ways to give, contact Jorene Jameson, Ph.D., Director of Development, College of Education, at [jjameson2013@fau.edu](mailto:jjameson2013@fau.edu).

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