



Center of Research Excellence Furthers College of Education R1 Commitment

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The Center of Research Excellence (CoRE), established in the College of Education, represents a significant stride in supporting the University's R1 designation. Situated on the Boca Raton campus, CoRE is dedicated to enhancing knowledge and optimizing decision-making through comprehensive consultation and training in inquiry, research, evaluation, assessment, and analysis. CoRE provides its consulting services across the university, school districts, and non-profit organizations.

Under the leadership of Michael DeDonno, Ph.D., an associate professor and the director of CoRE, the center is set to become a pivotal resource for research excellence. Dr. DeDonno, a recipient of the \$21 million Promise Neighborhoods Grant for Broward UP, envisions broadening the scope of quantitative analyses for Broward UP by providing CoRE's doctoral students with real-world data application opportunities.



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"CoRE allows us to dig deeper into research findings," Dr. DeDonno stated. "For instance, education students can conduct program evaluations and create tangential projects to better understand the challenges children face in learning."

Dean Stephen Silverman, Ed.D., emphasized the importance of research centers in academic settings. "Many universities have centers that provide consulting and instruction in data analysis and research," said Dean Silverman. "Our focus is on extending these services to a broader range of faculty, students, and organizations."

CoRE supports the College's vision to continually advance professional preparation, scholarship, and community service. Continuing to rise in the U.S. News & World Report rankings, the College of Education recently ranked No. 46 for "Best Online Programs" in 2025 for its Master's in Education program.

CoRE offers access to essential data analysis tools through contracts with SPSS and NVIVO statistics software companies. These resources are available to faculty and graduate students, as well as other colleges, school districts, and non-profit organizations, through a tiered pricing structure.

Located on the fourth floor of the Education building in rooms ED-469, 470, and 471, CoRE is poised to become a cornerstone of research excellence at Florida Atlantic.

For more information on the research services CoRE offers, please contact Dr. Michael DeDonno at mddedonno@health.fau.edu.