

Points of *Pride*

1 EDUCATION:

The Charles E. Schmidt College of Science emphasizes real-world experience that has a positive impact on our undergraduate and graduate science majors. Students and faculty partner with notable research entities, including research powerhouses such as Scripps Florida and Max Planck, on projects that will benefit the global community.

The College is the primary source of science research and education for more than three million people living and working in our service region of Southeast Florida.



The College is organized into 6 academic departments — Biological Sciences, Chemistry and Biochemistry, Geosciences, Mathematical Sciences, Physics and Psychology; and offers 14 Baccalaureate, 13 Masters, 7 Ph.D. and 9 Certificate programs.

Over 5,200 undergraduate science majors and 500 graduate students are currently enrolled. The College awards approximately 700 bachelor's, 70 master's and 40 doctoral degrees annually.

The University recently received a perfect score for reaccreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). SACS was impressed by

the University's Distinction through Discovery initiative which aims to improve student learning by expanding a culture of undergraduate research and inquiry across all disciplines at the University.

2 RESEARCH:

The Charles E. Schmidt College of Science has six research Centers of Excellence: Complex Systems and Brain Sciences, Biological and Materials Physics, Environmental Studies, Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, and Geo-Information Science, Cryptology and Information Security.

The College's scientists are conducting research in the fields of cancer, environmental sciences, aging, quantum optics, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases, brain research, cosmology, cryptology, biomaterials, everglades restoration, developmental systems, biotechnology, drug development, geo-information science, space-time physics, hydrology and much more.

Partnerships with research organizations such as Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute, Scripps Florida, Torrey Pines Institute for Molecular Sciences, Max Planck Florida and the Vaccine and Gene Therapy Institute enable our research faculty and students to work with leaders in their fields.

The University recently launched the Jupiter Life Science Initiative by moving six neuroscience research labs from the Boca Raton campus to a state-of-the-art teaching laboratory on the Jupiter campus. The initiative is focusing first on neuroscience, with emphasis on biotechnology, and will expand to include other areas of the life sciences.

Dr. Warner Miller and a multidisciplinary team of researchers have received more than \$750,000 from the U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory to develop new geometric techniques to understand complicated networks such as the Internet, satellite communication, the spread of influenza or global financial markets.

Dr. Erika Hoff received a \$630,000 grant from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development to

continue on back

support her study on early dual language development in children from Spanish-speaking families.

Dr. Brian Benscoter and Dr. Xavier Comas have been awarded more than \$570,000 by the U.S. Department of Energy to study carbon cycling and climate change in the Greater Everglades.

Dr. Dale Gavlik received a \$460,000 grant from the Florida Department of Transportation to study the features of road corridors that attract or discourage the Endangered Wood Stork from using them as feeding areas. This information will be used to design roads that minimize impacts to wetland wildlife and to refine the calculation of how much habitat must be preserved or restored to offset the building of roads through wetlands.

Dr. Ken Dawson-Scully received a grant of \$353,000 from Eco Neurologics, Inc., to support his efforts to develop novel drugs for the treatment of febrile epilepsy, migraine and brain injury caused by stroke. He's the lead scientific consultant to the company, which is a start-up enterprise based in our Research Park that's working to commercialize intellectual property developed at FAU.

Drs. Evonne Rezler, Andrew Terentis and Jerome Haky in the Department of Chemistry received a \$200,000 grant from NSF which will enable chemistry faculty to integrate Raman spectroscopy experiments and experiences into the undergraduate chemistry curriculum. FAU is one of only four universities in the country to have a Raman spectroscope used specifically for undergraduate instruction.

The Annual Science Olympiad draws teams from 35 area schools for a day-long tournament to explore and compete in hands-on science experiments.



The students from FAU's Middle School Math Days Competition recently placed first amongst all 63 Florida teams in the American Mathematics Competition.

The "Frontiers in Science Public Lecture Series" is a series of lectures that regularly draws hundreds of community members, from retired CEOs and faculty to business owners, teachers and physicians.

Each year, the College hosts the Pumpkin Drop & Physics Carnival to demonstrate common physics principles such as constant acceleration of gravity, terminal velocity and Newton's laws.

The FAU Observatory holds monthly open dome viewings for the community.

Beginning in summer 2014, the College will host a monthly Math Teachers' Circle for Broward & Palm Beach middle school teachers to encourage a culture of problem solving.

3 OUTREACH:

The Charles E. Schmidt College of Science provides outreach to middle and high schools in math and science education through educational programs and research as well as science and math competitions.



CHARLES E. SCHMIDT
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

Florida Atlantic University

www.science.fau.edu

Main office phone: 561-297-3035