



FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HEALTH AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Friday, December 8, 2017

11:00 am **approximate start time*

Florida International University
Modesto A. Maidique Campus
Graham Center Ballrooms

Committee Membership:

Jose J. Armas, *Chair*; Justo L. Pozo, *Vice Chair*; Cesar L. Alvarez; Jorge L. Arrizurieta; Leonard Boord;
Michael G. Joseph

AGENDA

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|---|-------------------|
| 1. Call to Order and Chair's Remarks | Jose J. Armas |
| 2. Approval of Minutes | Jose J. Armas |
| 3. Academic Health Center Reports <i>(No Action Required)</i> | |
| 3.1 General Update | John A. Rock |
| 3.2 Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work | Tomas R. Guilarte |
| 4. Reports <i>(For Information Only)</i> | |
| 4.1 School of Integrated Science and Humanity | Walter Van Hamme |
| 4.2 Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine | John A. Rock |
| 4.3 Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work | Tomas R. Guilarte |
| 4.4 Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing and Health Sciences | Ora L. Strickland |
| 5. New Business <i>(If Any)</i> | Jose J. Armas |
| 6. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment | Jose J. Armas |

The next Health Affairs Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 27, 2018

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2. Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes

THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Health Affairs Committee
December 8, 2017

Subject: Approval of Minutes of Meeting held June 2, 2017

Proposed Committee Action:

Approval of Minutes of the Health Affairs Committee meeting held on Friday, June 2, 2017 at the FIU, Modesto A. Maidique Campus, College of Business Complex, Special Events Center, room 233.

Background Information:

Health Affairs Committee members will review and approve the Minutes of the Health Affairs Committee meeting held on Friday, June 2, 2017 at the FIU, Modesto A. Maidique Campus, College of Business Complex, Special Events Center, room 233.

Supporting Documentation:	Minutes: Health Affairs Committee Meeting, June 2, 2017
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Facilitator/Presenter:	Jose J. Armas, <i>Health Affairs Committee Chair</i>
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FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HEALTH AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
MINUTES
JUNE 2, 2017

1. Call to Order and Chair's Remarks

The Florida International University Board of Trustees' Health Affairs Committee meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Jose J. Armas at 10:44 a.m. on Friday, June 2, 2017 at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus, College of Business Complex, Special Events Center, room 233.

The following attendance was recorded:

Present

Jose J. Armas, *Chair*
Cesar L. Alvarez
Jorge L. Arrizurieta
Leonard Boord
Michael G. Joseph

Excused

Justo L. Pozo, *Vice Chair*

Board Chair Claudia Puig, Trustees Dean C. Colson, Natasha Lowell, Krista M. Schmidt, and Kathleen L. Wilson, and University President Mark B. Rosenberg also were in attendance.

Committee Chair Armas welcomed all Trustees and University faculty and staff to the meeting.

2. Approval of Minutes

Committee Chair Armas asked that the Committee approve the Minutes of the meeting held on December 1, 2016. A motion was made and passed to approve the Minutes of the Health Affairs Committee Meeting held on Thursday, December 1, 2016.

3. Academic Health Center Reports *(No Action Required)*

3.1 General Update

Founding Dean and Senior Vice President for Health Affairs John A. Rock noted that in the current legislative session, the Board of Governors submitted a legislative budget request for 64 fulltime equivalents of mental health professionals and support staff for mental health counseling services for five state universities. He noted that FIU requested nine positions, roughly a 44% increase and that the referenced request was not approved for any of the state universities. He mentioned that since then, the FIU HealthCare Network has been in the process of hiring two fulltime psychiatrists.

Sr. VP Rock noted that Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) also is recruiting two additional psychologists. He added that FIU has been proactive in recruiting additional mental health professionals to enhance access to behavioral counseling and promote mental wellness for our students.

Sr. VP Rock explained that the Florida State University System established the Florida Academic HealthCare Patient Safety Organization in 2014 to create a confidential forum to identify and address patient safety issues in clinical practices within the State University System. He stated that the Florida Academic HealthCare Patient Safety Organization utilizes focus work groups that include subject matter experts in a series of confidential convening sessions and that the analysis and recommendations of the workgroups are shared with members to assist them in improving patient care. He noted that the Florida Academic HealthCare Patient Safety Organization identifies areas of need-based challenges that are recognized by reported incidents in national or state trends.

Trustee Kathleen L. Wilson stated that the CAPS staff saw a total of 2,861 students in 2017, which is an increase of 12.7 % over the previous year, while the Victim Empowerment Program saw a total of 396 students, which is up 148% over the previous year. She noted that the International Association of Counseling Services recommends at least one counselor for every 1,000 to 1,500 students, indicating that the University has one counselor for every 2,449 students, which, as she stated, is the highest ratio in the State University System. Trustee Wilson recommended that the University review the issue further in order to ensure that there are an adequate number of professional staff members to meet the clinical needs of the students.

In response to Trustee Wilson's recommendation, Committee Chair Armas explained that this issue is under review by the State University System and a sense of urgency has been created.

3.2 Biomedical Engineering

Interim Dean of the College of Engineering and Computing Dr. Ranu Jung provided an overview of the College of Engineering and Computing and also on the Biomedical Engineering (BME) Program. She noted that out of 358 colleges and universities, FIU's Biomedical Engineering program is ranked number one in BME Bachelor's degrees awarded to Hispanic students, number seven in BME Bachelor's degrees awarded to African-American students, and number 59 in BME Bachelor's degrees awarded overall.

Dr. Jung presented a video and then facilitated a demonstration of the neural-enabled prosthetic hand system (NEPH) technology that she and the Adaptive Neural Systems Laboratory team developed. The NEPH stimulates nerves in the arm to provide sensation as a person is using the prosthetic hand. She reported that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration just approved the first-in-human trial of this investigational system.

Trustee Leonard Boord inquired as to the infrastructure and funding implications of the National Science Foundation (NSF) designation as an engineering research center. Dr. Jung noted that the NSF currently is conducting site visits at the University, evaluating new innovative technologies aimed at improving health and detecting disease: point of care devices that diagnose disease in low

resource settings, specifically Florida, Texas, and California; Bioprinting technology, and Bioelectronic medicine.

Vice President for the Office of Research and Economic Development Andres G. Gil stated that FIU currently has an engineering research center grant. He noted that the grant focuses on diagnostic devices, adding that one big component of the engineering research centers is partnership with industry.

Dr. Jung noted that FIU submitted eight proposals and three are under consideration.

4. Information Items *(No Action Required)*

Committee Chair Armas requested that the reports within the Information Items be accepted as written. There were no objections.

5. New Business

No new business was raised.

6. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

With no other business, Committee Chair Jose J. Armas adjourned the meeting of the Florida International University Board of Trustees Health Affairs Committee on Friday, June 2, 2017 at 11:23 a.m.

KS June 14, 2017

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School of Integrated Science and Humanity Report to the Board of Trustees Health Affairs Committee December 2017

The School of Integrated Science and Humanity (SISH) in the College of Arts, Sciences & Education provides an interdisciplinary home for the study of health-themed sciences such as biochemistry, biophysics, neuroscience, and cognitive and behavioral sciences. The following provides an update of recent SISH health-related activities.

BIOMOLECULAR SCIENCES INSTITUTE (BSI)

Director: Dr. Yuk-Ching Tse-Dinh

One of the major research foci of the Biomolecular Sciences Institute is related to novel molecular approaches for the control of mosquito-borne diseases. Recently, BSI faculty member Jun Li, Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, has just been awarded \$2.5 million in R01 grant funding from the NIH for a new 5-year project entitled "Fungal metabolites block malaria transmission." Li is developing vaccines and small molecule drugs to prevent the spread of mosquito-borne diseases including malaria and Zika. Li's research is currently supported by NSF Career Award "Genetic and Molecular Mechanisms of Parasite Infection in Insects" and an NIH R21 grant "Targeting Mosquito FREP1 Protein for Malaria."

A second BSI Faculty member, Laura Serbus, Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, also received a new 3-year award of \$650K from the National Science Foundation for her project titled "The impact of nutritional signaling on transmission of endosymbiotic Wolbachia bacteria." Serbus's research focuses on Wolbachia-host interaction mechanisms. Wolbachia is a bacterium carried by about half of the insect species, and can potentially prevent mosquitoes from transmitting deadly diseases such as dengue fever, West Nile virus and Zika.

CENTER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (CCF)

Director: Dr. William Pelham

The Center for Children and Families (CCF) is an interdisciplinary team of researchers and service providers committed to improving the lives of children with mental health problems and their families. The CCF is the leading provider of evidence-based services for children with ADHD in Miami, and since its establishment in 2010, it has served approximately 10,000 families across clinical and research programs, with an average of 3,000 to 3,500 families per year over the last several years. The renowned Summer Treatment Programs (STP), currently running, are serving 254 children, and was expanded to include other mental health conditions such as Autism Spectrum Disorder. Our Brave Bunch camp, which focuses on children with Selective Mutism, is serving 44 children who struggle with the condition. The CCF Summer Reading Explorers Program, an intervention designed to improve literacy skills in young children, is on track to serve roughly 1500 children over the 2017 summer months. The CCF continues to offer important training opportunities to our faculty, students, staff, and community professionals. We offered 13 speaker series events this fiscal year, with nationally renowned experts in the field, and hosted the Mental International Child and Adolescent Mental Health Conference in February 2017, attended by more than 400 mental health professionals and students. Throughout the year, we have given about 2400 Continuing Education Units to licensed mental health professionals that have participated in any of our educational opportunities. During the last half of FY 2017, CCF faculty obtained five new awards including: an R56, R21 and R34 from NIH, a Goal 1 IES grant and a new Children's Trust year round program. These five awards amount to a total cost of \$6.8 million. Additionally, a CCF affiliated researcher collaborated with the University of Michigan to obtain an R01 NIH funded grant and she received two innovation awards from the University of Glasgow, Scotland as part of an international consortium. Lastly, a CCF affiliated Post-Doc obtained a supplemental award from National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) of nearly \$100,000 related to her mentor's active R01 grant.

CENTER FOR IMAGING SCIENCE (CIS)

Director: Dr. Angela Laird

The Center for Imaging Science (CIS) is a multidisciplinary research center housed in the FIU Office of Research and Economic Development (ORED). The CIS includes a research-dedicated facility for a 3T Siemens MAGNETOM Prisma magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scanner, installed in August 2016. This Prisma MRI is equipped to run the Human Connectome Protocol which entails state-of-the art multiband data acquisition, advanced motion correction (PROMO), echo planar imaging (EPI), distortion correction (EPIC), with ultra-fast data acquisition facilitating high

angular resolution diffusion weighted imaging (HARDI) - in place of diffusion tensor imaging (DTI) - and high-resolution, sub-second repetition time (RT) EPI acquisition.

The CIS is continuing to acquire data for the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development (ABCD) Study (PIs: Raul Gonzalez and Angela Laird) and the Miami Adult Studies on HIV (MASH, PI Marianna Baum). Congratulations go out to new NIH grant awardees Drs. Paulo Graziano and Anthony Dick (Biosignatures for the Development of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder Study), and Drs. Aaron Mattfeld and Joseph Raiker (A novel examination of the neurobiological deficits underlying increased reaction time variability in children with ADHD); both projects are funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). In addition, Drs. Angela Laird (Director of the CIS) and Matthew Sutherland were recently presented with an award from NIDA (Neuroimaging meta-analytics for addiction: Nodes, networks, and new heuristics).

Four new imaging pilot projects supported by internal seed funds were launched during Spring 2017. The goal is to acquire pilot data that are needed to support upcoming external grant submissions. These include studies from Drs. Anthony Dick and Jonathan Comer (Biological correlates of parenting in mothers of anxious and nonanxious youth), Dr. Fabian Soto (A Study of Neural Mechanisms Underlying Visual Object Recognition), Drs. Jeremy Pettit and Matt Sutherland (Enhancement of Attention Bias Modification Training via Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation (tDCS): A Novel Treatment for Pediatric Anxiety), and Drs. Carlos Parra, Matt Sutherland, and Anthony Dick (My Mind & My Money). The latter pilot study received an additional \$50K from Catalyst Miami, a local nonprofit community-building organization.

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**FIU Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine
Report to the Board of Trustees Health Affairs Committee
December 2017**

Student Achievement

Thomas Weppelman, a second-year medical student at Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine (HWCOM), has been named a 2017 Medical Scholar by the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA), an international medical association representing more than 9,000 physicians, scientists and health care professionals who specialize in infectious diseases in nearly 100 countries around the world. The IDSA's Medical Scholars Program seeks to attract the best and brightest students into the field of infectious diseases by awarding them a \$2,500 scholarship to pursue independent research.

Weppelman's project – titled “Seroepidemiology of *Burkholderia pseudomallei*, etiologic agent of melioidosis, in the West and Southeast Departments of Haiti” – was one of 30 projects selected from medical school students across the country and he is the first FIU student to receive this honor.

Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society

On March 2, a group of 18 HWCOM students, two alumni and three faculty members joined a club so prestigious, members include more than 50 Nobel prize winners. They were inducted into Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA), a national honor society for medical students and medical professionals. AOA membership recognizes scholarship as well other values including honesty, ethics, dedication to serving others, and leadership. The society's motto is “Be Worthy to Serve the Suffering.” AOA is to medicine what Phi Beta Kappa is to letters and the humanities, and what Sigma Xi is to science. Nearly 75 percent of deans of U.S. medical schools, including HWCOM Founding Dean Dr. John A. Rock, are members of AOA.

Grad featured as example of successful medical school applicant

The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) recently launched the [Anatomy of an Applicant website](#) “to help in better understanding how to demonstrate aptitude in the core competencies, which many medical schools have identified as important for

entering medical students.” Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine Class of 2017 graduate Dr. Laura Florez is one of the first six students profiled as an example of a successful medical school applicant.

Other HWCOM Programs

Graduate Certificate in Molecular and Biomedical Sciences, launched in Fall 2016 is designed for students looking to strengthen their biomedical knowledge, professional skills and ancillary qualifications for future application to medical school or other health-related professional degree programs. A total of 42 students in the first cohort were awarded the Graduate Certificate after completing the 9-month program. Of the 30 students who applied to medical school (2017 cycle), 22 were accepted. That’s a 73% medical school matriculation rate. Fifteen of those students are attending HWCOM. The program’s second cohort came on board on August 22. The new class is comprised of 56 students.

Master in Physician Assistant Studies

For the first time since accepting its inaugural class, the MPAS program is running at full capacity. The first class is gearing up to graduate in December and join the workforce, the second class is well into their studies and the program just accepted its third class this fall. The 45 new students donned their white coats for the first time Oct. 7 during their official White Coat Ceremony.

Ph.D. Program in Biomedical Sciences

Two students working in the lab of Distinguished Professor Barry Rosen, Department of Cellular Biology, successfully defended their dissertations in the summer of 2017. Shashank S Pawitwar: *Biochemical Characterization of Arsl: a Novel C-As Lyase for Degradation of Environmental Organoarsenicals* and Jiaojiao Li: *Arsenic Biotransformation in Humans, and Catalytic Properties of Human AS3MT Variants*. The paper based on her dissertation research, "Nonsynonymous Polymorphisms in the Human AS3MT Arsenic Methylation Gene: Implications for Arsenic Toxicity" by Jiaojiao Li, Charles Packianathan, Toby Rossman and Barry P. Rosen was selected for the cover of July 2017 Chemical Research in Toxicology, a rare honor.

Research

Nazira El-Hage, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Immunology, received a \$2 million grant from the Florida Department of Health to study how the Zika virus breaches the blood brain barrier (BBB) in order to invade and kill neurons and other brain cells. The team hopes to discover how the virus gets into the brain, the mechanism by which it enters the cells, and possible means of eradicating it. These include using

FIU patented nano-technology to deliver an experimental drug, Beclin1, through the nearly impermeable BBB and into the brain to try to kill the virus.

Madhavan Nair, PhD, Distinguished Professor, Department of Immunology, received a \$3.2 million grant to study Nanotechnology Based Gene Editing to Eradicate HIV Brain Reservoir in Drug Abusers. The five-year study, funded by the National Institutes for Health, will explore new therapies that can short circuit HIV infection and mitigate the damaging effects that opiate addiction has on the central nervous system. Nair hopes the work will lead to a multipurpose platform for drugs targeting a variety of other difficult to treat diseases such as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and Huntington's diseases.

Rahul Dev Jayant, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Immunology, received a \$25,000 grant from The Campbell Foundation in Ft. Lauderdale to continue his research on sustained-release nanoformulation to deliver antiretroviral (ARV) medication for patients living with HIV/AIDS. Using FIU patented nanotechnology, Jayant, a researcher at HWCOT'S Center for Personalized Nanomedicine, has successfully integrated Tenofovir, an antiretroviral drug used to fight HIV, into a long acting, slow release nanoformulation that can release the medication for up to one week which he hopes to extend to one month.

Faculty Awards/Recognitions

FIU Top Scholars

Three HWCOT outstanding faculty members and administrators were honored as FIU Top Scholars at a reception held at the Ronald W. Reagan Presidential House on April 26:

- 1) Robert Hernandez, Jr., MD, Executive Associate Dean for Student Affairs; Associate Professor, Department of Humanities, Health, and Society.
- 2) Eneida Roldan, MD, MPH, MBA, CEO FIU Health; Associate Dean for International Affairs; Associate Professor, Department of Pathology.
- 3) Alexander Agoulnik, PhD, Professor, Department of Human and Molecular Genetics; Director, Graduate Program.

Pedro "Joe" Greer, Jr., MD, was named Citizen of the Year by The Bob Graham Center for Public Service, a nonpartisan civic engagement center at the University of Florida. Greer Jr., a UM alumn, its 2017 Citizen of the Year. The award recognizes "Florida citizens who have made extraordinary contributions to the state – individuals [who]

have used their personal and professional talents to make Florida a better place for its citizens.”

Pedro Gutierrez, MD, was appointed chair of the American Heart Association’s Emergency Cardiovascular Care Committee for the Southern Region. He will oversee more than 100 training centers in the Alabama/Florida region, coordinate all regional events and activities, and supervise all the regional faculty in Basic Life Support, Advanced Cardiac Life Support, and Pediatric Advanced Life Support, for the next two years.

Robert L. Hernandez, Jr., M.D. has been presented with The AAMC Southern Group on Student Affairs Robert “Bob” Sabalis Award for Exemplary Service. The award is given to a representative who has demonstrated exemplary service to the SGSA.

Eneida O. Roldan, MD, MPH, MBA was given the Outstanding Health Care Professional Award at the 2017 AXA Advisors Businesswomen of the Year Awards. The AXA Advisors Businesswomen of the Year Awards honor outstanding women leaders in our community who have achieved excellence in their profession, serve as role models for women, and are deeply passionate about Miami. Roldan was also named a Master Fellow of the Obesity Medical Association. The Obesity Medical Association is comprised of clinical leaders in Obesity Medicine who work to advance the prevention, treatment, and reversal of the disease of obesity.

Miguel Villalona-Calero, MD was named a Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (CURE) Lifetime Achievement Honoree by The National Cancer Institute’s Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities. He was cited as a leader in the field who has made significant contributions to cancer research and workforce diversity.

Dr. Natan Zundel, clinical professor of surgery and vice-chairman of the Department of Surgery, was honored by the American Society for Metabolic & Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS) with its 2017 Master Educator Award. ASMBS is the largest non-profit medical organization in the world dedicated to metabolic and bariatric surgery, and obesity-related diseases. Zundel is a world-renown expert in minimally invasive and bariatric surgery.

Community Engagement

FIU-FAST (Florida Advanced Surgical Transport) team set up a 10-bed critical care field hospital on Miami Beach for Memorial Day weekend to support the Miami Beach Fire Rescue Department dealing with more than 200,000 visitors attending the National

Salute to America's Heroes Air and Sea Show and Urban Beach Week. Officials were concerned that traffic congestion could delay ground transport of patients in an emergency; and the lack of a suitable helicopter landing zone near the air show could have made air transport difficult. The 24-member team, which included a trauma surgeon, an anesthesiologist, two emergency physicians, two pediatric emergency nurses, family physicians, paramedics, plus communications specialists, was able to diagnose and treat most patients on the scene without requiring transport. In January, eight FIU-FAST members spent two weeks in Puerto Barrios, Guatemala as part of Continuing Promise 17, a civil-military humanitarian mission to provide health services to communities in Latin America and the Caribbean.

GFF NHELP Oral Health Initiative. In collaboration with community organizations, NeighborhoodHELP™ coordinated an oral health fair to: 1) increase awareness of the importance of oral care and 2) provide access to dental services. It was held on Thursday, June 22, 2017 with Caring for Miami, City of South Miami, Concorde Career College, Community Health of South Florida (CHI), Jesse Trice Community Health Center, Nicklaus Children's Pediatric dental mobile unit, Nova Southeastern University, South Miami Hospital, and other organizations. A total of 128 children and 40 adults were seen and treated.

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**Robert Stempel College of Public Health & Social Work
Report to the Board of Trustees Health Affairs Committee
December 2017**

Florida International University's (FIU) Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work sustains research leadership in health disparities and improving health equity, chronic diseases, health economics, healthy aging and the consequences of environmental exposure. The college's reach extends beyond South Florida to embrace global populations as major public health issues continue to affect the world.

RESEARCH

In the third and fourth quarters of the 2016-2017 fiscal year, Stempel College faculty members received \$3.9 million in new grants and are currently administering new research projects totaling \$8.2 million for the period. To augment research capabilities and meet expectations set forth in the *College Research Strategic Plan* and *FIUBeyondPossible2020 Strategic Plan*, the college dramatically increased the number of postdoctoral fellows and research associates. As of July 2017, 22 postdoctoral students and four research associates funded from grant support are supporting the research mission. The college also received several just-in-time notifications and intent to award letters, which are exciting prospects for upcoming fiscal years.

Exceptional Research Projects and Interdisciplinary Endeavors

- Dr. Eric F. Wagner, director of FIU-BRIDGE and professor in the School of Social Work, and a team of 34 faculty were awarded a \$13.1 million grant from NIH/NIMHHD to build Florida's first Health Disparities Research Center at a Minority Institution called the FIU-RCMI at Stempel College. The team will develop and sustain a national clinical and behavioral research program to reduce substance use problems and HIV through partnerships with South Florida communities. (2017-2022; \$13.1 million). This is the largest NIH award in FIU history.
- Dr. Mario De La Rosa, director of CRUSADA and professor in the School of Social Work, in collaboration with an interdisciplinary team of researchers from Stempel College and the University of Miami received a NIH/NIMHD grant of nearly \$6.9 million to launch the Center for Latino Health Research Opportunities (CLaRO).

- Dr. Mariana Baum, professor in Dietetics & Nutrition, was awarded \$1 million (2017-2022) to study “An unbiased OMIC’s approach to identify mechanisms of cocaine regulation of the HIV reservoir.” Dr. Baum has recently kicked off the opening of the new downtown clinic supported by the NIH grant (\$5.8 million) to study HIV/ AIDS and substance abuse in Miami.
- Dr. Miguel Ángel Cano, an assistant professor of epidemiology, was awarded \$541,881 for five years of funding from NIH’s National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA). Using secondary data analyses and community-based participatory research (CBPR), his work will examine routes to understanding and reducing alcohol use disparities among Latino teenagers (2017-2022; \$547,881).
- Dr. Wasim Maziak, chair of Epidemiology, received a NIH grant totaling \$1.3 million for three years to study “Understanding tobacco flavor effects on water pipe smokers; experiences and exposures.” Dr. Maziak also received a R01 award from NIH for continued research in “Translating evidence and building capacity to support water pipe control in the Eastern Mediterranean” (2017-2022; \$1.8 million).
- Dr. Purnima Madhivanan, associate professor in the Department of Epidemiology, directs collaborative studies funded by NIH to investigate “Predictors of HPV vaccination among parents of rural adolescent girls in India.” She resubmitted her proposal (\$439,500) to NIH for “Longitudinal Study of Vaginal Microbiota and Persistent Human Papillomavirus Detection” through the Fogarty Global Health Training Program, requesting funding for two postdoctoral fellows. She also received a D43 award from UC Berkeley/NIH to continue research for the “Global Health Equity Scholars Program” (7/1/2017-2022; Total Award: \$1.1 million).
- Dr. Marcus Cooke, professor/chair of Environmental and Occupational Health secured funds for “Genomic Instability, Susceptibility to Oxidative Stress and Cellular Senescence,” NIEHS (04/01/2017-03/31/2019; Total Award: \$366,250).
- Dr. Nicole Fava of the School of Social Work received an award from The Children’s Trust for research in “Trauma-Informed Screening and Treatment.” (2017-2018; Total Award: \$361,000).

- Dr. Carlos Espinal, director of the Global Health Consortium (GHC) and member of the Department of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, will study “Antimicrobial Stewardship for Latin America and the Caribbean Region” (2017; Total Award: \$242,500) with an award from the FIU Foundation. He will also conduct a global health conference with support from Sanofi (2017-2018; Total Award \$95K).
- In a collaboration with Neuroscience Centers of Florida Foundation, Dr. Tomás R. Guilarte, dean of Stempel College, will work with Dr. Andrew V. Schally, the Nobel Laureate in Medicine/Physiology (1977), on slowing the progression of cognitive deficits/ Alzheimer’s Disease. (07/06/2017- ; Total Award: \$158,466).
- Dr. Diana Sheehan Delgado, postdoctoral associate for Epidemiology, received a Fellowship award from Family Health International (FHI360) to study “Perceived Network Sexual Norms and HIV Sexual Risk Behavior Among Drug Users and Their Risk Partners” (2017-2018; approx. \$69,000).

Various projects were awarded during the third and fourth quarters to various departments totaling around \$50,000. It is worth noting that these awards were granted to junior tenure-earning faculty:

- Dr. Shanna Burke–Award from the Neuroscience Center of Florida Foundation, Inc. for the research project titled, “Development of Battery of Measurement Instruments to Assess Caregiver Wellbeing.”
- Dr. Catherine Coccia–Award from Florida State University Research Foundation for “Helicopter Parenting of College Students: Strengthening Family Well-being with an Interdisciplinary Approach.”
- Dr. Hui Huang–Received a subcontract award from Florida State University for research in “A Pilot Test and Initial Validation of a Quality Rating Scale for Florida’s Residential Group Homes.”
- Dr. Tianyan Hu–Received an award to conduct research in “Health Economics in 3D Printing.”

GRADUATE EDUCATION

- Applications to our Ph.D. programs increased by 40 percent (from 70 percent applications in Fall 2016 to 98 in Fall 2017), which resulted in a 26 percent increase in admissions for AY 17/18. The School of Public Health saw the biggest spike with a 46 percent jump in applications, a 35 percent increase in admissions, and a 114 percent increase in new student enrollment. In Fall 2017, we increased our new doctoral student enrollment by 64 percent in comparison to Fall 2016.
- The Department of Dietetics & Nutrition met a significant milestone this year with a 100 percent passing rate on the Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) exam for students in the MS (Didactic Program) track. The national passing average was 80 percent.

FACULTY AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- As part of an effort to meet ComPASS goals, Stempel College is proud to partake in two patent awards with Dr. Marcus Cooke and Dr. Stan Wnuk, respectively.
- The FIU Faculty Senate Honorary Degree and Awards Committee recognized Dr. Alok Deoraj, graduate program director for the School of Public Health, for his exceptional performance as an instructor and mentor. He will receive the *Faculty Senate Award for Excellence in Teaching* during the Faculty Convocation Award Ceremony in the fall.
- Dr. David Saltman, adjunct lecturer in the School of Social Work, will receive this year's Lifetime Achievement Golden Award from the Latino Center on Aging (LCA). The award recognizes his significant contributions to the Latino/Hispanic community.
- Dr. Hui Huang, assistant professor in the School of Social Work, received the award for Best Empirical Article in March 2017 for "Is Social Work Really Being Recognized? Problems with Social Work Employment Opportunities in Mainland China" as part of the top articles published in *Social Work Education: The International Journal*.

STUDENT AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Current Students

- The Phi Alpha Honor Society chapter at the School of Social Work received its 10th National Service Award (i.e., winner for 10 consecutive years).
- This year, 51 student leaders (BSSW and MSW) from the Student Social Work Association led the largest delegation of Stempel College student advocates to Tallahassee for LEAD (Legislative Education and Advocacy Day) in April 2017.
- Cherrelle Dorleans, a master's student in Public Health, was hired (prior to graduating this summer) to be a Zika Case Manager with the Broward County Department of Health.
- Public Health doctoral student Vanessa Vassall was selected as a member of the inaugural cohort of student ambassadors of the Association of Schools and Programs in Public Health (ASPPH) "This is Public Health" team.

Alumni

- Banyan Health Systems hired Daniel Alvarez and Gabriel Lamas, recent graduates of the masters of social work program, as a duo team for a pilot program the agency is launching in response to the students' capstone presentation.
- Dr. Claudia Serna, a 2014 alumna of the Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Department doctoral program, is the recipient of this year's American Public Health Association (APHA) Anthony Westwater Jong Memorial Community Dental Health Post-Professional Award. She also won third place in the 2017 Leverett Graduate Student Merit Award for Outstanding Achievement in Dental Public Health from the American Association of Public Health Dentistry (AAPHD).
- Dr. Diana Sheehan, a 2016 alumna of the Epidemiology Department doctoral program and a postdoctoral fellow, is a "HIV Prevention Trials Network (HPTN) Scholar." She joins the eighth cohort of the scholars program, which provides the opportunity for conducting research on the relationship between perceived network sexual norms and HIV sexual risk behavior among people who inject drugs and their risk partners.

- Cynthia Wigutow, a 1999 alumna of the master's program in Dietetics and Nutrition, was elected President of the Florida Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Stempel College students represent 15 percent of the entire University's reported internship pool with 532 students participating in internships.

- Public Health has partnerships with more than 85 organizations, including the Florida Department of Health – Miami-Dade & Broward, FIU College of Medicine, Baptist Health of South Florida and Special Olympics.
- Dietetics and Nutrition maintains more than 30 community partners. Some of the most active are with local hospital systems such as Baptist Health, Memorial and Broward Health. Others include Independent Living Systems, Flipany, Special Olympics, Broward County Public Schools and Miami Jewish Home.
- The School of Social Work has approximately 110 partner agencies. The most active relationships include Baptist Health, Banyan Health, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Citrus Health and Camillus House.



Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

NICOLE WERTHEIM COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES
Report to the FIU Board of Trustees Health Affairs Committee
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FIU NWCNHS Online RN to BSN Programs Ranked #3 in 2017

Value Colleges is pleased to report that Florida International University ranked number 3 in the Top 50 Best Value Online RN to BSN Programs of 2017. With the American healthcare system facing a shortage of experienced, educated nurses, colleges and universities across the US are building online BSN degree programs to help working nurses earn the credentials they need for promotion, advancement, and leadership. Value Colleges, an independent, unbiased online guide to the best values in higher education, has ranked the 50 top online RN to BSN degrees on three metrics, which are 1) a return on investments from college scorecard; 2) U.S. News and World Report national rankings; and 3) credit per hour tuition rate. Value Colleges includes only reputable, regionally accredited institutions, which reflects FIU program's dedication to the educational needs of working nurses, and to the future of nursing education.

NWCNHS Faculty member elected as a Director of the Council on Accreditation (COA) of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs

Dr. Juan Gonzalez, CRNA, Vice-Chair of the Department of Nurse Anesthetist Practice in the NWCNHS was selected as one of the Directors of the Council on Accreditation (COA) of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs. The Chief Executive Officer of the COA, there were a lot of high caliber CRNA-educators applying for this position. Dr. Gonzalez has served for several years as an onsite COA reviewer, examining how numerous programs in the U.S. meet (or not meet) the standards of Nurse Anesthesia Education. The COA is composed of 12 directors including five CRNA-Educators, two CRNA-Practitioners, one hospital administrator, one nurse anesthesia student, one university administrator and two public members. The composition of the COA reflects a mix of qualified CRNA-Educators and CRNA-Practitioners that is appropriate for rendering accreditation decisions regarding nurse anesthesia educational offerings at the master's and doctoral degree levels and for the accreditation of Fellowships. This accomplishment is a great recognition of the excellent work Dr. Gonzalez has delivered while serving as an elected on-site reviewer for several years.

NWCNHS Receives \$1.39 Million for Traineeship Funding for Graduate Nursing

Dr. Tami Thomas was awarded a \$1.39 Million for her "Rural Traineeships for Graduate Nursing" project by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The

purpose of this project is to implement an Advanced Nursing Education Workforce (ANEW) Program to prepare and increase the number of qualified APRNs trained in primary care to practice in rural and underserved areas. The ANEW project model will provide graduate nursing students a traineeship award using a process that includes specific recruiting, matching students to serve in rural clinical primary care sites for clinical traineeships, tracking student progress and collecting student enrollee and graduate level data for reporting programmatic requirements. The Rural Traineeships for Graduate Nursing Project commenced on July 1, 2017.

Humana Foundation Awards \$109,000 to FIU NWCNHS to Improve Health of Community

Dr. Monica Scaccianoce and Dr. Ora L. Strickland were awarded \$109,000 from Humana Foundation to launch its project entitled *"Intensive Nurse Directed Evidenced Based Practice Treatment Utilizing Telehealth (INDEPT)." INDEPT* aims to provide extended evidence-based behavioral health care and psych/mental health services to adolescents and their families/guardians, conducted by FIU psych mental health nurse practitioner students and faculty, and Citrus Health Network Center for Adolescent Treatment Services. As the philanthropic arm of Humana Inc. (NYSE: HUM), the Humana Foundation seeks to improve community health and well-being while addressing causes and barriers that keep people from being their healthiest. Broward County is a priority for Humana, as the company is committed to making the community 20 percent healthier by 2020 as part of its "Bold Gold" initiative. FIU was one of eight non-profit organizations that received funding to fulfill the Humana strategic initiative.

FIU Graduate Nursing Partners with U.S. Army South in Belize to Ensure Mission "Beyond the Horizon" 2017 was a Success!

Florida International University sent three credentialed registered nurses from its Masters of Nursing Program and one associate clinical professor to assist U.S. Army South during its sponsored mission entitled "Beyond the Horizon" (BTH). BTH is a partnership exercise between the U.S. military and the government of Belize, which consists of the construction of medical clinics and school buildings; and, provides three medical readiness treatment exercises. This exercise offered dental, vision, general medicine, women's health and other services to over 3,500 patients over a ten-day period. Dr. Lucie Dlugasch and her students' provided medical expertise to meet the demands of BTH 2017, who were fluent in the Spanish. This assistance helped lighten the load for Army providers while conducting patient histories, pre-screens, and triaging patients expeditiously. "These four FIU personnel helped us immensely to obtain detailed as possible patient histories, and they were instrumental in helping us

overcome the language barrier because they all speak Spanish,” said Maj. Aaron Taff, a Laramie, Wyoming native, who serves as a dentist for the Wyoming National Guard’s Medical Detachment.

“One of the reasons that we [the Army] use civilian personnel such as these soon-to-be nurse practitioners from FIU, is because it bridges a gap between the military and the public,” said Lt. Col. Amy Surdam, who serves as a nurse practitioner for the Wyoming Army National Guard’s Medical Detachment. “These exercises build trust not only with our partner nations, but it also helps us build trust with our medical professionals in the states, and by the time the exercise is finished, you have an ally and a working rapport with the civilian sector,” Surdam added.

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