

## FIU launches “Florida IT Pathways to Success (Flit-Path)”

November 2016

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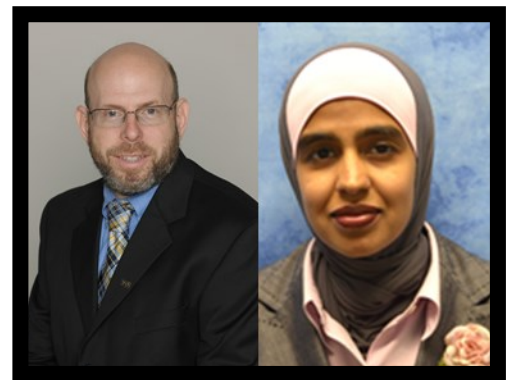


Faculty from FIU’s School of Computing and Information Sciences (SCIS) and its STEM Transformation Institute recently launched Florida IT Pathways to Success (Flit-Path), an exciting collaboration with colleagues at the University of Central Florida (UCF) and the University of South Florida (USF). With a five-year, \$5 million award through the National Science Foundation’s (NSF) highly competitive and prestigious Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Program (S-STEM), the university partners will complete a longitudinal study of the impact of implementation of evidence-based practices on recruitment, retention, and graduation in three IT-related disciplines: Computer Science, Information Technology, and Computer Engineering. Grant funds will support student scholarships and research activities.

Across the three participating universities, Flit-Path plans to recruit more than 450 academically talented students in need of financial assistance who are interested in careers in computer science, information technology, or computer engineering. The cohorts of participating students will match the diverse demographic profiles of students at FIU, UCF, and USF. To boost retention and maximize student success, existing evidence-based practices will be expanded to include activities such as tutoring in foundation courses, more robust academic advising, faculty/peer mentoring, and career pathway support. Flit-Path will also focus on enhancing student engagement by promoting community building, helping students develop senses of shared competence and identities in their IT-related fields. As a result, retention and graduation rates for Flit-Path participants are expected to increase considerably. Moreover, results will enhance the knowledge base as to the cumulative and relative effects of Flit-Path experiences on outcomes such as computing identity and job placement.

The multi-university project team is led by Principal Investigator Mark A. Weiss, PhD,

Eminent Scholar Chaired Professor and Associate Director in the SCIS, and Co-PI, Zahra Hazari, PhD, Associate Professor, STEM Transformation Institute. Dr. Weiss’ contributions to the field of computer science education have earned international recognition, including the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Distinguished Educator Award (2011) and its SIGCSE Award for Outstanding Contribution to Computer Science Education (2015), which has been awarded annually to a single individual world-wide since 1981. In 2012, Dr. Weiss was named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).



Dr. Weiss and Dr. Hazari

Dr. Hazari, an associate professor in the Department of Teaching and Learning and the STEM Transformation Institute and an affiliate faculty member in the Department of Physics, will lead Flit-Path’s research activities. Highly regarded as an expert in STEM education research, Dr. Hazari’s research is funded by multiple federal grants, including a NSF CAREER award. Her research findings have been reported in top-tier journals, cited in national publications, and featured in Science Magazine, Scientific American, LiveScience, Science for the People, and APS News.

## Upcoming Events

### November 2016

- **November 2, 3 to 4:30 pm, AHC4 #402, IACUC Ethics** (fulfills RCR Continuing Education hours), kindly contact Elvia (Eva) Molina at [molinae@fiu.edu](mailto:molinae@fiu.edu) to [register](#)
- **November 4, 10 am to 12 noon, AHC4 #402, Informed Consent** (fulfills RCR Continuing Education hours), kindly contact Elvia (Eva) Molina at [molinae@fiu.edu](mailto:molinae@fiu.edu) to [register](#)
- **November 4, 2 to 3 pm, ECS 241, *SmartGeo: Toward the Development of Intelligent Geosystems***, presented by [Tracy Camp](#)
- **November 8, 12 to 1 pm, AHC 3 #101, Bayesian Big Data Analytics in Biomedical Research: Understanding Gene-Gene and Gene-Environment Interactions in Brain Tumor**, presented by [Changwon Yoo](#), please [RSVP](#) by 11/7
- **November 9, 3 to 4:30 pm, AHC4 #402, Biosafety Protection and Research with rDNA/SNA (IBC)**—fulfills RCR Continuing Education hours—kindly contact Elvia (Eva) Molina at [molinae@fiu.edu](mailto:molinae@fiu.edu) to [register](#)
- **November 12, 2 to 3 pm, ECS 349, Calculating Bounds on Information Leakage using Two-Bit Patterns**, presented by [Ziyuan Meng](#)

## Awards Received—September 2016

FIU researchers were awarded \$17,638,444 in September 2016. Below is a listing of awards received.

### Alastair Harborne

Biology

Initial

Nature Conservancy

Caribbean OU-Mapping Ocean Wealth

\$25,000

### Amaury A Caballero

Elec and Computer Eng

Initial

Miami-Dade County Public Schools

Electrical Wiring Program for SED Students

\$77,000

### Amy R Paul Ward

Nursing PhD Program

Increase

U.S. Department of Education

Preparing Occupational Therapists to Practice in Schools (POPS)

\$71

### Andres Tremante

Mechanical and Mat Engineering

Initial

City of Sweetwater

University City Sweetwater Cost share

\$55,000

### Anna H Wachnicka Kosiorek

Southeast Env Research Ctr

Supplemental

U.S. Geological Survey

Effects of Sea Level Rise, Climate Variability and Humans on Coastal

\$40,994

**Anna H Wachnicka Kosiorek**

Southeast Env Research Ctr

Initial

National Park Service

Natural Resource Condition Assessment for Three Parks within the U.S.V.I.

\$212,299

**Arif Islam Sarwat**

Elec and Computer Eng

Initial

Florida Power and Light

Smart Grid Technology Evaluation and Reliability

\$70,000

**Arvind Agarwal**

Engineering Deans Office

Agreement

Magic Leap Inc

Change Order No. 1 to Statement of Work #1: Increase by \$12500 KAI

\$12,500

**Arvind Agarwal**

Engineering Deans Office

Initial

Northeastern University

Engineered Materials and Materials Design of Engineered Materials

\$100,000

**Assefa Melesse**

Earth and Environment

Initial

University of California Davis

Response of River Discharge to the Eco-environmental Vulnerability of Guna

\$19,993

**Benjamin Boesl**

Mechanical and Mat Engineering

Continuation

Federal Aviation Administration

Effect of Surface Contamination on Composite Bond Integrity and Durability

\$47,383

**Bethany Catherine Sutherland**

Psychology

Continuation

Child Health and Human Development

Effects of Social Cues on Learning and Memory during Early Infancy

\$71,775

**Brian Fonseca**

J Gordon Ins Pub Pol and Citi

Continuation

Defense Intelligence Agency

Program in National Security Studies

\$118,513

**Bruce Mc Cord**

Chemistry

Continuation

National Institute of Justice

DNA methylation analysis using High Resolution Melt for body fluid

\$50,000

**Casey Steadman**

The Wolfsonian

Increase

FIU Foundation

Knight Museum of Ideas Fund

\$68,062

**Christine Lisetti**

Computer Info Sciences

Continuation

Rutgers State University

Interactive Virtual Training (IVT) for Early Career Teachers in High Poverty Schools

\$137,262

**Chunlei Wang**

Mechanical and Mat Engineering

Pre-Award

North Carolina State University

Advanced Self-Powered Systems of Integrated Sensor Technologies (ASSIST)

\$15,000

**Daniel Gann**

Library Operations

Increase

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Monitoring of Tree Island Condition in the Southern Everglades

\$18,261

**Dwayne E Mcdaniel**

ARC Applied Research Center

Continuation

Federal Aviation Administration

Effect of Surface Contamination on Composite Bond Integrity and Durability

\$27,617

**Edward P Murray**

Metropolitan Center

Increase

University of Miami

Miami Dade PHCD Housing Studies

\$35,000

**Edward P Murray**

Metropolitan Center

Initial

City of Doral

City of Doral Economic Analysis Services 2016-2017

\$20,000

**Elisa M Trucco**

Psychology

Continuation

Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

Environment, Genes, and Temperament on the Development of Alcohol Use Disorder

\$167,549

**Hoshang Jehangir Unwalla**

COM Immunology

Initial

National Institutes of Health

Tracheobronchial mucociliary dysfunction in HIV patients

\$226,705

**James Fourquarean**

Biology

Initial

National Park Service

The South Florida Caribbean Inventory and Monitoring Network Youth \$51,000

**James Fourquarean**

Biology

Increase

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin

MOU between DOC, NOAA, NOS, ONMS &amp; FKNMS \$1,156,948

**Jay Sah**

Southeast Env Research Ctr

Increase

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Landscape pattern - Marl Prairie/Slough Gradients \$96,280

**Jay Sah**

Southeast Env Research Ctr

Supplemental

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Landscape Pattern- Ridge, Slough, and Tree Island Mosaics \$91,690

**Jay Sah**

Southeast Env Research Ctr

Increase

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Monitoring of Tree Island Condition in the Southern Everglades \$74,406

**Jay Sah**

Southeast Env Research Ctr

Initial

National Park Service

Vegetation Study within the Current and Adjoining Potential Habitat \$100,000

**Jeannette Cruz**

Multicultural Programs BBC

Continuation

Office of Postsecondary Education

Student Support Services 2015-2020 \$226,600

**Jennifer Richards**

Biology

Initial

National Park Service

Lygodium microphyllum regrowth and spread after burning \$44,963

**Jeremy Wayne Chambers**

COM Cell Biology and Pharm

Initial

Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson

Mitochondrial outer membrane signaling as therapeutic targets \$200,000

**Jessy Devieux**

Health Promo and Disease Prev

Initial

University of Florida

Effects of experimentally-induced reductions in alcohol consumption

\$52,922

**Joel Trexler**

Biology

Initial

National Park Service

Analyzing the Impact of Changing Hydrologic Conditions

\$198,309

**Juan Pablo Sarmiento**

Extreme Events Research Center

Initial

US Agency for International Development

The Disaster Resilience and Climate in the Americas Program (DRCAP)

\$1,059,615

**Julio E Ibarra**

CIARA

Continuation

Assoc of Univs for Rsrch in Astronomy

Large Synoptic Survey Telescope (LSST)

\$2,421,000

**Kim Tieu**

Envir and Occupational Health

Increase

Environmental Health Sciences

Toxicant-induced synaptic dysfunction and neurotoxicity in Parkinson disease

\$262,524

**Laird H Kramer**

Physics

Increase

Howard Hughes Medical Institute

Collaborative for Institutionalizing Scientific Learning at FIU

\$300,000

**Leonel Lagos**

ARC Applied Research Center

Continuation

Office of Environmental Management

Florida International University's Research Support to the DOE OEM

\$349,999

**Mahadev Bhat**

Earth and Environment

Initial

National Institute of Food &amp; Agriculture

Innovative Curriculum for Agriculture Training and Career for Hispanics (iCATCH)

\$500,000

**Marcus Stanley Cooke**

Envir and Occupational Health

Initial

Kytaro Inc

Analysis of DNA damage in extra-corporally treated blood

\$2,465

<b>Maria Ilcheva</b> Metropolitan Center Initial Miami-Dade County MPO 5th Edition Citizens' Guide to Transportation	\$44,800
<b>Mario R De La Rosa</b> School of Social Work Initial National Institutes of Health Alcohol Use Trajectories of Latino Immigrants during their First Decade in the US	\$326,250
<b>Mark A Weiss</b> Computer Info Sciences Initial National Science Foundation Collaborative Research: Florida-IT-Pathways to Success (Flit-Path)	\$1,944,118
<b>Mark Padilla</b> Global and Sociocultural Stu Increase National Institutes of Health Migration, Tourism and the HIV-drug use Syndemic in the Dominican Republic	\$24,867
<b>Mark Patrick Traynor</b> Sch of Hosp and Tourism Mgmt Initial PureWine Inc Investigating the Impact of Using Nano-Pore Filters in Cabernet Sauvignon	\$5,046
<b>Michael S Ross</b> Earth and Environment Supplemental South Florida Water Management District LILA: Phase V: Loxahatchee Impoundment Landscape Assessment	\$33,679
<b>Michael S Ross</b> Earth and Environment Initial National Park Service Ecosystem dynamics in the White Zone: history, drivers, and restoration implications	\$132,653
<b>Mohammed A Hadi</b> Civil and Environ Engineering Supplemental Florida Department of Transportation Utilization of Connected Vehicle Data to Support Traffic Management Decisions	\$7,615
<b>Naphtali Rishe</b> Computer Info Sciences Increase National Science Foundation I/UCRC Phase II: Center for Advanced Knowledge Enablement	\$90,000

<b>Naphtali Rishe</b> Computer Info Sciences Increase National Science Foundation I/UCRC Phase II: Center for Advanced Knowledge Enablement	\$71,750
<b>Norman D Munroe</b> Mechanical and Mat Engineering Increase National Action Council for Minorities NACME Initiative at Florida International University	\$27,500
<b>Patricia Barbetta</b> Teaching and Learning Initial Florida Department of Education 2016-2017 Exceptional Student Education (ESE Tuition Support Program)	\$325,000
<b>Paulo Graziano</b> Psychology Initial National Institute of Mental Health Biosignatures of Executive Function and Emotion Regulation	\$713,466
<b>Pedro Pablo Hernandez</b> Office of Rsch and Eco Develop Supplemental University of Central Florida FIU I-Corps Teams Funding	\$2,050
<b>Pedro Pablo Hernandez</b> Office of Rsch and Eco Develop Initial University of Central Florida FIU I-Corps Teams Funding	\$10,750
<b>Ping Zhu</b> Earth and Environment Initial National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin Improving HWRF's Ability to Predict Rapid Change in Tropical Cyclone	\$169,999
<b>Purnima Madhivanan</b> Epidemiology Increase University of California Berkeley Global Health Fellows and Scholars Program	\$530
<b>Purnima Madhivanan</b> Epidemiology Pre-Award University of California Berkeley Global Health Fellows and Scholars Program	\$52,622



**Raju Rangaswami**

Computer Info Sciences

Continuation

National Science Foundation

CSR: Medium: Collaborative Research: NVM-enabled Host-side Caches

\$127,869

**Rene Price**

Earth and Environment

Supplemental

South Florida Water Management District

LLA: Phase V: Loxahatchee Impoundment Landscape Assessment

\$24,923

**Robert Lickliter**

Psychology

Initial

National Institutes of Health

Florida International University MBRS RISE Program (Option III)

\$968,599

**Shahid Hamid**

COB Finance

Supplemental

Florida Office of Insurance Regulation

FPHL Model Operation and Maintenance, and Model Upgrades

\$525,729

**Shahid Hamid**

COB Finance

Supplemental

Florida Office of Insurance Regulation

Florida Public Hurricane Loss Model Project Model Enhancements

\$770,060

**Shekhar Bhansali**

Elec and Computer Eng

Pre-Award

North Carolina State University

Advanced Self-Powered Systems of Integrated Sensor Technologies (ASSIST)

\$34,000

**Shekhar Bhansali**

Elec and Computer Eng

Increase

Florida Agricultural and Mechanical Univ

Bridge to doctorate 2015 Cohort

\$486,000

**Shekhar Bhansali**

Elec and Computer Eng

Initial

University of Missouri Kansas City

A pilot study of salivary cortisol levels in subjects with/without signs

\$6,400

**Shekhar Bhansali**

Elec and Computer Eng

Initial

National Science Foundation

Collaborative Research: NSF INCLUDES: An Integrated Approach to Retain

\$58,253

**Shu-Ching Chen**

Computer Info Sciences

Supplemental

Florida Office of Insurance Regulation

Florida Public Hurricane Loss Model Project Model Enhancements

\$79,940

**Sonja S Montas-Hunter**

Student Access and Success

Continuation

U.S. Department of Education

McNair 2012-2017

\$237,926

**Sonja S Montas-Hunter**

Student Access and Success

Continuation

U.S. Department of Education

Florida International University TRIO Upward Bound

\$349,111

**Sonja S Montas-Hunter**

Student Access and Success

Continuation

U.S. Department of Education

Upward Bound Math-Science 12-17

\$257,462

**Tiffany Troxler**

Southeast Env Research Ctr

Initial

Restore America's Estuaries

Blue Carbon Baseline Assessment

\$15,000

**Tiffany Troxler**

Southeast Env Research Ctr

Initial

National Park Service

Ecological Assessment of Florida Bay and adjacent Mangrove Wetlands

\$148,000

**Todd Crowl**

Southeast Env Research Ctr

Initial

National Park Service

Stabilize and Protect South Florida Archeological Sites with Integrated

\$35,000

**Todd Crowl**

Southeast Env Research Ctr

Initial

National Park Service

Provide Specialized Support Services to the Office of Everglades Restoration Initiatives

\$636,847

**Yi Xiao**

Chemistry

Continuation

National Institute of Justice

Electrochemical and Colorimetric Aptamer-Based Sensors for Rapid

\$50,000

**Yifu Zhu**

Physics

Increase

National Science Foundation

Atomic Coherence and Interference in a Coupled Atom-Cavity System

\$39,925

## *Funding Opportunities*

ORED has a new, improved and interactive webpage for funding opportunities. Please visit

<http://research.fiu.edu/funding/#current>.

## *Limited Submissions*

Current limited submission opportunities are available at <http://research.fiu.edu/funding/limited-submissions/>.

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