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. 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 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 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 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 Kosiolek
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

Christine Lisetti
Computer Info Sciences
Continuation
Rutgers State University
Interactive Virtual Training (IVT) for Early Career Teachers in High Poverty Schools

Chunlei Wang
Mechanical and Mat Engineering
Pre-Award
North Carolina State University
Advanced Self-Powered Systems of Integrated Sensor Technologies (ASSIST)

Daniel Gann
Library Operations
Increase
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Monitoring of Tree Island Condition in the Southern Everglades

Dwayne E McDaniel
ARC Applied Research Center
Continuation
Federal Aviation Administration
Effect of Surface Contamination on Composite Bond Integrity and Durability

Edward P Murray
Metropolitan Center
Increase
University of Miami
Miami Dade PHCD Housing Studies

Edward P Murray
Metropolitan Center
Initial
City of Doral
City of Doral Economic Analysis Services 2016-2017

Elisa M Trucco
Psychology
Continuation
Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism
Environment, Genes, and Temperament on the Development of Alcohol Use Disorder

Hoshang Jehangir Unwalla
COM Immunology
Initial
National Institutes of Health
Tracheobronchial mucociliary dysfunction in HIV patients

For updates, corrections, suggestions, and/or general comments, please email Mercedes.rodriguez@fiu.edu
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Funding Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>James Fourquarean</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>National Park Service The South Florida Caribbean Inventory and Monitoring Network Youth</td>
<td>$51,000</td>
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<td>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin MOU between DOC, NOAA, NOS, ONMS &amp; FKNMS</td>
<td>$1,156,948</td>
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<td>Jay Sah</td>
<td>Southeast Env Research Ctr</td>
<td>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Landscape pattern - Marl Prairie/Slough Gradients</td>
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<td>Jay Sah</td>
<td>Southeast Env Research Ctr</td>
<td>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Landscape Pattern- Ridge, Slough, and Tree Island Mosaics</td>
<td>$91,690</td>
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<td>Jay Sah</td>
<td>Southeast Env Research Ctr</td>
<td>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Monitoring of Tree Island Condition in the Southern Everglades</td>
<td>$74,406</td>
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<td>Jay Sah</td>
<td>Southeast Env Research Ctr</td>
<td>National Park Service Vegetation Study within the Current and Adjoining Potential Habitat</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
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<td>Jeannette Cruz</td>
<td>Multicultural Programs BBC</td>
<td>Office of Postsecondary Education Student Support Services 2015-2020</td>
<td>$226,600</td>
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<td>Jennifer Richards</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>National Park Service Lygodium microphyllum regrowth and spread after burning</td>
<td>$44,963</td>
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<td>Jeremy Wayne Chambers</td>
<td>COM Cell Biology and Pharm</td>
<td>Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson Mitochondrial outer membrane signaling as therapeutic targets</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
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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 & 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
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution/Project Details</th>
<th>Funding Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Maria Ilcheva</td>
<td>Metropolitan Center, Miami-Dade County MPO, 5th Edition Citizens' Guide to Transportation</td>
<td>$44,800</td>
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<td>Mario R De La Rosa</td>
<td>School of Social Work, National Institutes of Health, Alcohol Use Trajectories of Latino Immigrants during their First Decade in the US</td>
<td>$326,250</td>
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<td>Mark A Weiss</td>
<td>Computer Info Sciences, National Science Foundation, Collaborative Research: Florida-IT-Pathways to Success (Flit-Path)</td>
<td>$1,944,118</td>
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<td>Mark Padilla</td>
<td>Global and Sociocultural Stu, National Institutes of Health, Migration, Tourism and the HIV-drug use Syndemic in the Dominican Republic</td>
<td>$24,867</td>
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<td>Mark Patrick Traynor</td>
<td>Sch of Hosp and Tourism Mgmt, PureWine Inc, Investigating the Impact of Using Nano-Pore Filters in Cabernet Sauvignon</td>
<td>$5,046</td>
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<td>Michael S Ross</td>
<td>Earth and Environment, South Florida Water Management District, LILA: Phase V: Loxahatchee Impoundment Landscape Assessment</td>
<td>$33,679</td>
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<td>Michael S Ross</td>
<td>Earth and Environment, National Park Service, Ecosystem dynamics in the White Zone: history, drivers, and restoration implications</td>
<td>$132,653</td>
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<td>Mohammed A Hadi</td>
<td>Civil and Environ Engineering, Florida Department of Transportation, Utilization of Connected Vehicle Data to Support Traffic Management Decisions</td>
<td>$7,615</td>
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<td>Naphtali Rishe</td>
<td>Computer Info Sciences, National Science Foundation, I/UCRC Phase II: Center for Advanced Knowledge Enablement</td>
<td>$90,000</td>
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</table>

For updates, corrections, suggestions, and/or general comments, please email Mercedes.rodriguez@fiu.edu
Naphtali Rishe  
Computer Info Sciences  
Increase  
National Science Foundation  
I/UCRC Phase II: Center for Advanced Knowledge Enablement  
$71,750

Norman D Munroe  
Mechanical and Mat Engineering  
Increase  
National Action Council for Minorities  
NACME Initiative at Florida International University  
$27,500

Patricia Barbetta  
Teaching and Learning  
Initial  
Florida Department of Education  
2016-2017 Exceptional Student Education (ESE Tuition Support Program)  
$325,000

Paulo Graziano  
Psychology  
Initial  
National Institute of Mental Health  
Biosignatures of Executive Function and Emotion Regulation  
$713,466

Pedro Pablo Hernandez  
Office of Rsch and Eco Develop  
Supplemental  
University of Central Florida  
FIU I-Corps Teams Funding  
$2,050

Pedro Pablo Hernandez  
Office of Rsch and Eco Develop  
Initial  
University of Central Florida  
FIU I-Corps Teams Funding  
$10,750

Ping Zhu  
Earth and Environment  
Initial  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin  
Improving HWRF's Ability to Predict Rapid Change in Tropical Cyclone  
$169,999

Purnima Madhivanan  
Epidemiology  
Increase  
University of California Berkeley  
Global Health Fellows and Scholars Program  
$530

Purnima Madhivanan  
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  
LILA: 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](http://research.fiu.edu/funding/#current).

**Limited Submissions**
Current limited submission opportunities are available at [http://research.fiu.edu/funding/limited-submissions/](http://research.fiu.edu/funding/limited-submissions/).

**Contact ORED Senior Leadership**

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<tr>
<td>Susan Webster</td>
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