



NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services
1750 NE 167th Street
North Miami Beach, Florida 33162-3017
800-986-3223
www.fgse.nova.edu

Fischler Graduate School of
Education and Human Services



01-080/04 SAT

A N N U A L R E P O R T 2 0 0 3



*Small opportunities are often the
beginning of great enterprises.*

—Demosthenes

Message from the President



At Nova Southeastern University, “Excellence is Our Standard.” We uphold this standard by not only educating and preparing our students for the dynamic, technology-intensive and tremendously competitive workplace of the future, but by instilling the qualities of compassion, dedication to service, and commitment to community in them.

The Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services has successfully achieved this goal with each and every student it graduates. It has pursued every avenue to create and provide education and educational solutions wherever they are required. FGSEHS has moved beyond a school of education and become a resource center dedicated to advancing applied research, promoting best practices, and providing practical solutions in education, technology, human services, and leadership.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ray Ferrero, Jr." The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "R" and "F".

Ray Ferrero, Jr.

President, Nova Southeastern University

Welcome from the Provost

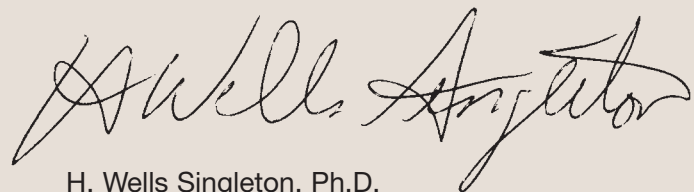


Welcome to the Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services. Here our goal is simple—to bridge education and the world.

Our world is in constant motion. Its needs are continually changing. Real solutions are difficult to find. We at the Fischler Graduate School realize that we can no longer rely on necessity to drive invention. We believe that we must have foresight in determining emerging needs to keep innovation a step ahead of the curve.

Our story is not long, but powerful. It is a revolution in the world of education. I invite you to be marveled by it. These pages will reveal the deep history on which our foundation was built; the ever-growing breadth of our abilities; and the future on which we have set our sights.

Welcome to the Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services—I promise, it is like no other place you have ever known.



H. Wells Singleton, Ph.D.

Education Provost and Dean

Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services

T H E F G S E H S S T O R Y

History

In 1967, what was then Nova University held its first classes with 17 Ph.D. students, 17 faculty members, and 38 staff members. By 1995, when it had become Nova Southeastern University, it was the largest independent university in the state of Florida.

Distance education was most definitely at the heart of this expansion and the Fischler Graduate School was its driving force, having offered the university's first distance education programs—doctorates of education degrees in educational leadership and higher education—in 1972.

Eight years ago, the Fischler Graduate School embarked on a new journey, having realized that while people and places were changing, education had remained the same. Building on the university's rich history and the vision of the school's founders—to offer education not bound by time or place—the school focused on creating new concepts beyond the realm of traditional educational offerings. This vision evolved from a one-story office building minutes from NSU's main campus, where the Fischler Graduate School (known

then as the Fischler Center for the Advancement of Education) was located and we began building a bridge between education and the world.

Today, the Fischler Graduate School is located on a modern, 18-acre, 250,000 square-foot campus in North Miami Beach, Florida. It employs more than 300 full-time administrative and professional staff members, more than 60 full-time faculty members with earned doctorates, and approximately 900 adjunct faculty members. FGSEHS offers 16 degree programs in more than 60 specializations, ranging from associate's and master's, to educational specialist and doctorates, in addition to numerous certificate and professional development programs. These programs are all delivered using high-quality distance education methods through site-based, cluster-based, and online curriculum delivery. The Fischler Graduate School served more than 12,000 students last year in 55 U.S. cities in 29 states and in 11 countries around the world, and has graduated more than 30,000 professionals in education, human services, and related fields.

Mission

At the Fischler Graduate School, our mission requires us to stay ahead of the curve—in education, in leadership, and in service. We are dedicated to the enhancement and continuing support of all who desire, provide, or facilitate education and/or educational options throughout the world. The school fulfills this commitment to the advancement of education by serving as a resource for practitioners and supporting them in their professional self-development.

Our commitment to the working professional is the basis for our alternative delivery systems that take education to the learner and adapt it to meet the career needs of the practitioner. Our programs anticipate and reflect the needs of practitioners to become more effective in their current positions, to fill emerging roles where education is needed, and to be prepared to accept changing responsibilities within their own organizations.

Vision

The Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services will become:

- an internationally recognized leader that is synonymous with providing excellent education when and where it is needed
- a school of, and resource for, best applied research practices in education, human services, and related fields
- a partner of leaders and institutions dedicated to improving education and educational systems
- a source for innovative, practical solutions to the world's educational needs
- an institution promoting lifelong learning through its offerings and services

1997

6 Distinct Programs Collected Under FCAE

Conversation Group
Cross-Program Communication
One Entity

Marketing Centralized

Hispanic Advisory Board Formed

First Site Administrators' Meeting

Renaissance Institute for Charter Schools

Move to North Miami Beach

Executive Team Assembled

First Partnerships
SeniorNet, NASSP, i-Mind,
SkyLight, M-DCPS

1998—One Entity

International Development Begins

1st International Conference on Early Childhood Development, Buenos Aires

First Cervantes Awards

Institutional Development

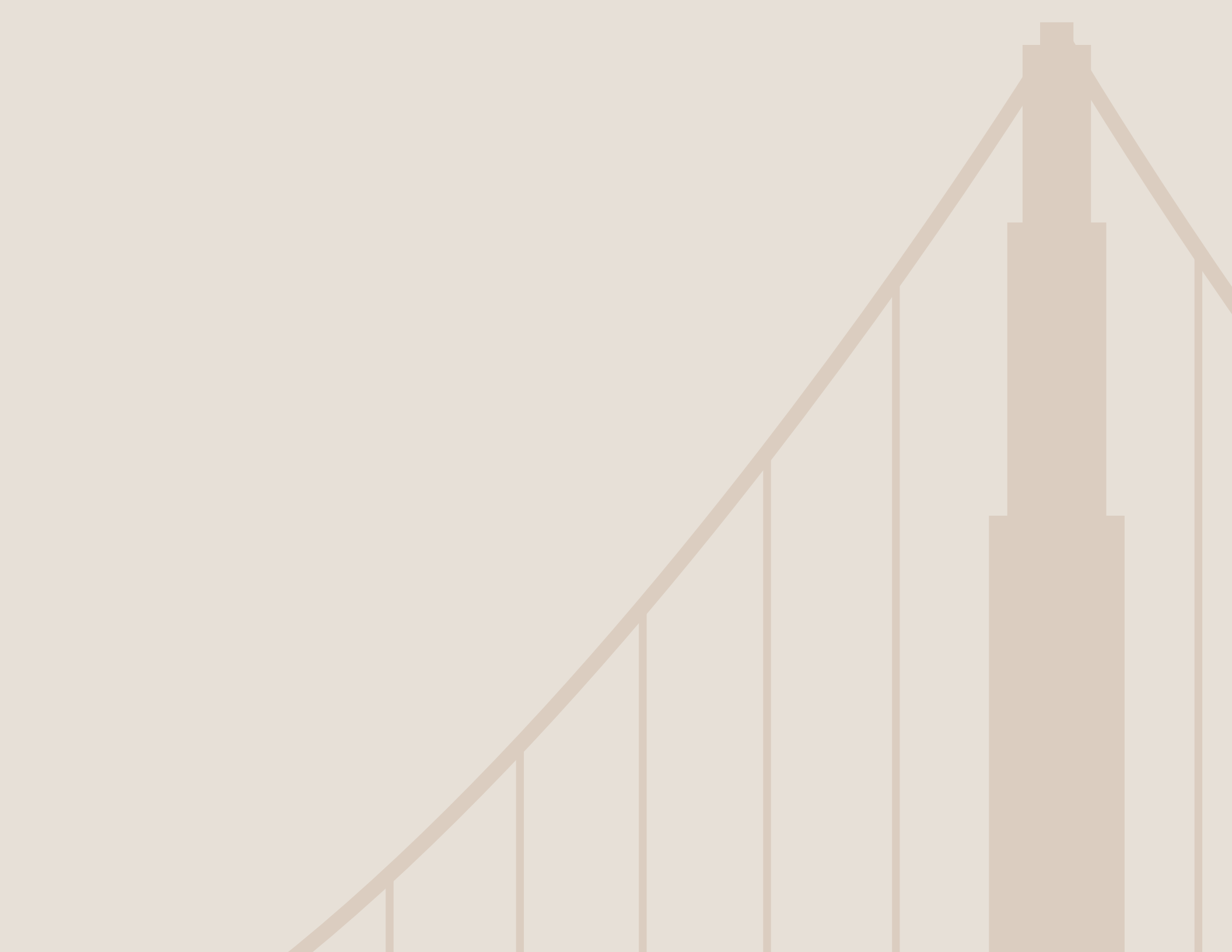
NSU Trustees Visit NMB



People, Ideas, Potential

We have built our excellence on the people who work and learn with us; on the ideas that have expanded our thinking beyond the boundaries skeptics would impose; and on the unlimited potential offered by a changing world. By nurturing our most precious resources—people, ideas, and potential—the Fischler Graduate School will continue to grow and excel and thereby influence and change for the better the people, organizations, and systems whose paths we cross.

Our people, our ideas, and our potential—they are where we came from, make us who we are, and will lead us into the future. The Fischler Graduate School is more than a traditional university and much more than the leader in distance education. We are every single alumnus and student working to improve themselves and the lives of those they touch. We are problem solvers. We are at once realists and dreamers. And we are building that bridge one step at a time.



*All successful people, men and women, are big dreamers.
They imagine what their future could be, ideal in every
respect, and then they work every day toward
their distant vision, that goal or purpose.*

—Brian Tracy

PEOPLE

As the largest graduate school of education in the country, we have had the distinct pleasure of working with, teaching, and learning from thousands and thousands of unique individuals throughout the world. They are the people of the Fischler Graduate School—our faculty and staff members, our students, our alumni, and our partners. These are the links of our bridge.

Faculty and staff

The Fischler Graduate School employs more than 60 full-time faculty members, 900 adjunct professors, and 300 staff members. Diversity at FGSEHS is inevitable, from ethnicity and age to expertise and personal accomplishments. Each has a story and a point of view. Each has something to contribute to the organization. Yet we all share one vision and one goal.

A faculty composed of creative thinkers, designers, and experts in their fields both inside and outside of the classroom is what sets the stage for a cutting-edge education at the Fischler Graduate School.

Michael Gaffley, Ed.D.

Michael Gaffley, Ed.D., program professor of Diversity and Multicultural Studies, Leadership I and II, and Political Processes and Social Issues, has become a grassroots leader in his field with a mission to inspire educators to look beyond the classroom and make an impact politically on the education system. His experience dates back to his native country of South Africa, where he spent 11 years working with civil rights leader Bishop Desmond Tutu, creating awareness on HIV/AIDS, the strife of children caught in political violence, and emotionally and physically abused children and youth. He is currently working with charter schools in the area to build leadership capacity and the Department of Juvenile Justice in Kentucky to raise awareness on diversity issues.

Wilma Robles de Melendez, Ed.D.

Nearly 56 percent of Latino children are not reading at their grade level, according to recent statistics. In October 2003, Wilma Robles de Melendez, program professor of early childhood education, reached out to help tackle the staggering illiteracy rates in the U.S. Latin American population by participating in Lees y Serás (Read and You Will Be), a pilot program based in San Francisco, California. In collaboration with the Scholastic Corporation, a mobile classroom has made its way to early education teaching sites and communities in the local area, focusing its training efforts on how to enhance reading skills for children ages 3–5, while at the same time keeping intact the values important to people of Hispanic decent. Melendez, who cowrote the curriculum for the program, will evaluate the results of her efforts in summer 2004.

Angie Su, Ed.D

Imagine learning algebra, geometry, or probabilities through something as simple as folding a paper plate. If it seems impossible, just ask Angie Su, professor of mathematics and developer of the Innovative Teaching in Mathematics program. Su's ingenuity in creating tangible and visual teaching methods to help integrate theory with the practical application of mathematics has captured the attention of more than 130 schools on the east coast. She has helped shed new light on ways for educators to teach math principles, which has allowed them to become inventors and develop their own strategies to bring back to their classrooms.

Terminal Degree List for FGS Full-time Faculty

- | | |
|--|--|
| Arizona State University | Temple University |
| Boston University | Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain |
| Catholic University of America | University of Akron |
| Florida Atlantic University | University of Alabama |
| Florida State University | University of Arkansas |
| Fordham University | University of Central Florida |
| Indiana University | University of Florida |
| Iowa State University | University of Georgia |
| Kent State University | University of Iowa |
| Long Island University | University of Kansas |
| Miami Institute of Psychology | University of Massachusetts |
| Michigan State University | University of Miami |
| Nova Southeastern University | University of Nebraska—Lincoln |
| Purdue University | University of New Mexico |
| Rutgers The State University of New Jersey | University of Northern Colorado |
| Stanford University | University of Pittsburgh |
| Stetson University | University of Rhode Island |
| Syracuse University | University of Southern Mississippi |
| Teachers College, Columbia University | Western Michigan University |

Our faculty and staff members live all over the world. Combined, they have studied a myriad of disciplines in a variety of learning institutions and worked in hundreds of professions. Their interests are as assorted as their faces and their accomplishments are endless.

FGSEHS full-time faculty members are committed to creating programs and curriculum that enhance learning and the learning process. They not only stimulate minds and provide a platform for an exchange of ideas, but also offer opportunities for practical application. Trial and error, or trial and fruition, as in many cases at the Fischler Graduate School, are integral parts of learning. Students apply what they learn in their courses to the professions. This practical application is part of our customization process at FGSEHS. And our faculty members learn from their students’ triumphs and failures, then use these practical applications to enrich future classes. It is a continuous cycle of improvement.

These faculty members are often called upon by distinguished organizations, colleagues, and associations to share their knowledge, research, and best practices. They bring a fresh outlook—mixing traditional academia with current applied research learned in their classes and from other FGSEHS faculty and adjuncts. They have presented at hundreds of conferences, such as the American-Speech-Language-Hearing Association and the National Association for Education of Young Children; published in dozens of professional journals and scholarly publications, including *Quarterly Review of Distance Education*, *International Council on Distance Education*, and *Encyclopedia of Education*; and won numerous local, national, and international awards and honors.

In order to effectively take education to our more than 12,000 students annually, FGSEHS relies on a network of adjunct professors. These professors are either distinguished full-time faculty members at other universities or professional practitioners in the fields they teach. They bring three important aspects to our curriculum: current real-world experience, current knowledge of local issues, and an unparalleled range of thinking represented at their individual universities and organizations. They allow us to customize the degree programs and personalize distance education.

Each year, members of the Fischler Graduate School participate in more than 70 professional local, national, and international conferences, including:

- American Association of Community Colleges
- American Association of School Administrators
- American Society for Training and Development
- American-Speech-Language-Hearing Association
- Arizona Education Association
- Canadian Community Colleges Association for Career and Technical Education
- Council for Adult and Experiential Learning
- Council for Exceptional Children
- Florida Association for Media in Education
- Florida Association of School Administrators
- Florida Educational Technology Conference
- Georgia Educational Technology Conference
- International Child & Youth Care Conference
- International Reading Association
- Magnet Schools of America
- Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents
- National Academic Advising Association
- National Association for Education of Young Children
- National Association of Elementary School Principals
- National Association of School Psychologists
- National Association of Secondary School Principals
- National Education Computing Conference
- National Head Start Association
- National Middle School Association
- Nevada Association of School Administrators
- New Jersey Educational Association
- Ohio School Boards Association
- The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards
- The National Education Association

1998—One Entity

Fischler Center for the Advancement of Education (FCAE) Becomes Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services (FGSEHS)

International Conference on Distance Education (ITDE)

ITDE Clusters in Venezuela

First FGSEHS online degrees NGTE Online (GTEP)

1999—One Entity

First Blue Ribbon Schools Conference

“Crayons to Computers” Teachers’ Store

M.S. Clusters in Athens, Paris

Off-Campus NSU Sites Upgraded

“First Floor” development Consolidation of Student Services

Family Care Council Partnership

There are many different reasons more students are choosing FGSEHS to pursue their goal of higher learning.

Shanika Taylor, a student in the doctoral program for organizational leadership, came to the Fischler Graduate School looking for a program to accommodate her schedule as a working mother. "I needed the convenience," she said. Taylor also said another aspect she has enjoyed at FGSEHS was the quick turnaround process from theory to application. "I can take an abstract theory and actually apply it to a problem in an organization and bring that concept to life immediately," she said.

Anymir Orellana, a student in the instructional technology and distance education doctoral program, said she enjoys the distance education delivery methods and is hoping to bring the concept back to Venezuela. "I like the model of distance education because I can make my own schedule," she said.

Will J. Oler, a student specializing in adult education, who also took advantage of the flexible schedules at FGSEHS, said he didn't realize the breadth of his field when he came to the school. "I didn't know about all of the theory involved with adult education," he said.

Students

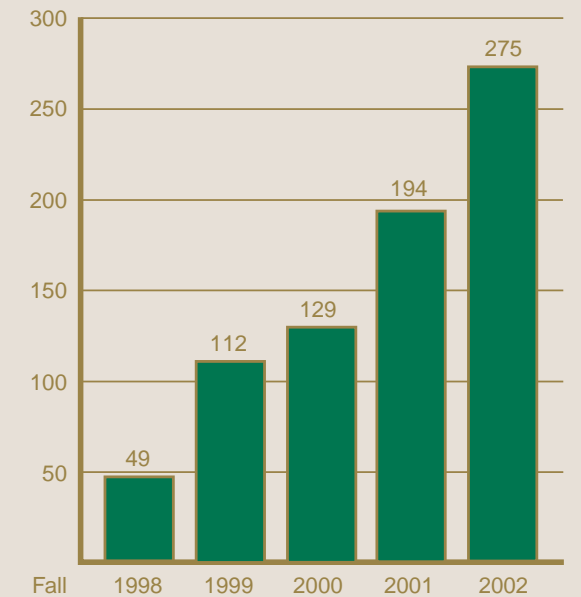
Unlike traditional universities that extend a standard education only to those students who can accommodate their single location and inflexible schedules, the Fischler Graduate School takes education to its students, and then customizes that education for them. Our courses are offered at more than 60 local sites around the world, online, and via blended distance education delivery methods.

Currently, more than 12,000 students have chosen the Fischler Graduate School to earn a master's, educational specialist, or doctoral degree. Like our faculty members, our student population come from different ethnic backgrounds, live all over the world, work in various professions, and have diverse interests and needs.

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS	
GENDER	
Male	1,947
Female	6,674
Did not answer	6
ETHNICITY	
African American	3,132
Asian	109
Hispanic	870
Native American	24
Other	119
Pacific Islander	17
Unknown	95
White (non-Hispanic)	4,261

These students work as educators, school administrators, higher education faculty, social service providers, corporate leaders, speech-language pathologists, government officials, and countless other professions from the military to the clergy. Their individual goals are specific and they go beyond earning an advanced degree. They choose FGSEHS for what we can do for their professional lives—provide opportunities to effectively improve their current positions, give them the skills to become lifelong learners, then provide them the resources for continuous improvement even long after they've graduated.

Our philosophy of providing customized, personalized, localized education allows us to design programs fit for one individual or for a specific group. FGSEHS offers 16 degrees in more than 60 specializations. But that's not all. We help students tackle local issues and become problem solvers in their workplace and community. In each and every course, they are learning by doing. That is the reason why our students are so highly satisfied with their Fischler Graduate School education. They see results immediately.



Growth of International Students

1999—One Entity

Schoolwide FGSEHS Events For Faculty and Staff Begin
Thanksgiving lunches, Picnics, Employee Appreciation Breakfasts

2000—One Entity

First Unified FGSEHS Catalog

Consolidated Budget Process Implemented

Doctoral Programs Meet on NMB Campus

2000—One Entity

Call Center Begins Operation

California Program Launched

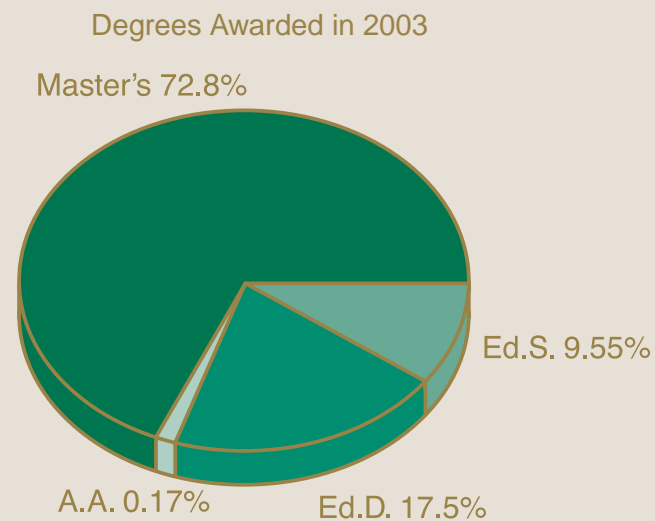
Doctoral Program in Organizational Leadership Launched

Doctoral Summer Institutes Held On NMB Campus

Alumni

More than 30,000 students have graduated from the Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services. Our alumni bring great distinction to the school. Many have been named teachers or principals of the year or have been promoted or awarded grants for their applied research dissertations conducted as FGSEHS students. Others have been appointed to leadership positions in federal, state, and local governments and foreign education ministries. All have inspired at least one life.

FGSEHS alumni represent more than past students. They are a reflection of us. They are our friends. They are a network for each other. For this reason, we strive to maintain a positive relationship with them. Our Office of Alumni Affairs is constantly working to create special events, programs, and professional development opportunities designed specifically



for our alumni, including the Phi Sigma Gamma honor society, the Child Legacy Campaign, the Alumni Forum, and the annual alumni cruise.

Each year, thousands more join this alumni network. They take with them the skills and tools learned at FGSEHS to each of the corners of the world from which they come—expanding the reach of our bridge beyond our greatest expectations. They also take with them the understanding that learning is a lifelong process and access to a resource where education is always available—any time, any place.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Over the past six years, three FGSEHS graduates have been named Florida Teachers of the Year:

2002Henry Brown III
2001Joseph Balchunas
1998Grace Williams

Alumni Comments

Transforming the FGSEHS experience into a catalyst for change and new avenues of thought are some of the many benefits of attending the Fischler Graduate School.

John Williams, a 2001 graduate of the doctoral educational leadership program said, "It was first the time I met a variety of professors with such expertise." As an educator for more than 42 years in Maryland and Delaware, he was able to begin looking at avenues to offer a new infrastructure for education and propose new solutions for education reform. In April 2003, he published a book titled *We Guarantee Academic Success and Reflections* (now available at Barnes & Noble).

Victoria David, a 2001 graduate of the master's program in child youth care administration and education at FGSEHS, is now helping people help themselves. She has used her experience to give back to her community by changing lives as a social worker at the Missouri Department of Social Services by helping victims of domestic, sexual, and medical abuse. "If I hadn't gone to Fischler I don't know if I would be where I am right now. They opened my mind to different career paths."

2001—One Entity

Reorganization Into Four Academic Units Division Deans Recruited

Jamaica M.S. Clusters

U.S. Journal Training/HCI Partnership Initiated

Child Legacy Campaign

Cross-Program Offerings For FGSEHS Students

Charter School Opens

Education Building Renovations Completed

USDLA Partnership Boston Site

Maricopa County Partnership

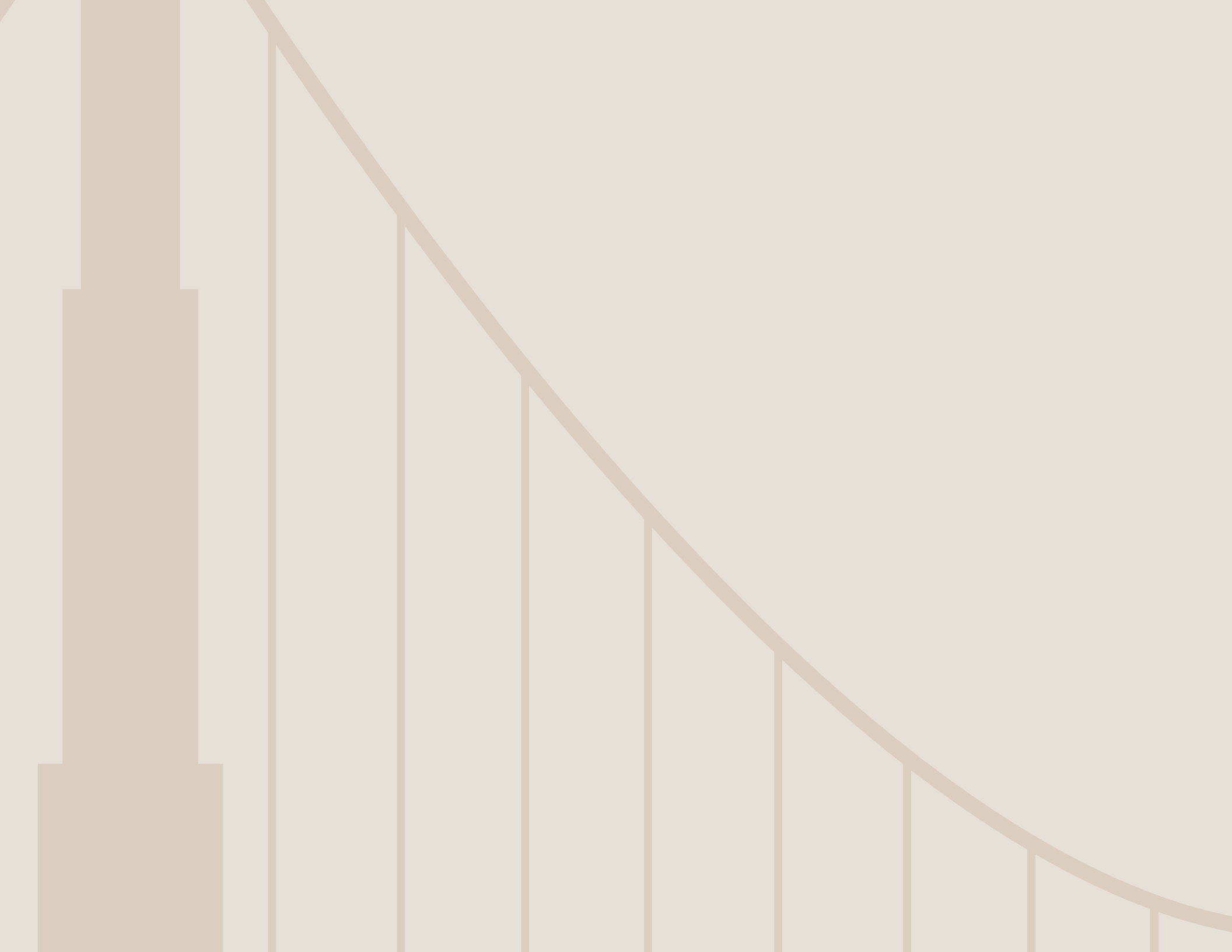
NSU Early Childhood Consortium

Dominican Republic Doctoral Programs

Third and Fourth Floor Renovations Completed

FGSEHS tops 10,000 students

NAESP Partnership | PC Teach-It Partnership



Discovery consists of looking at the same thing as everyone else does and thinking something different.

—Albert Szent-Gyorgyi



I D E A S

For many years, traditionalists in higher education believed distance education methods were not a suitable way of delivering quality education. Those behind our first distance education program had a different idea—quality education did not depend so much on the delivery method, as on the validity of the thinking behind it and the expertise of those delivering it. And the Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services was created, an institution of higher education ahead of its time. We paved the road of top-quality distance education and now hundreds follow in our footsteps. But the ideas did not stop there.

Case Study: Removing Barriers to Professional Development

The Hayward Unified School District's (HUSD) superintendent motivated district and school level administrators to pursue professional and personal development by removing barriers and partnering with Nova Southeastern University to customize its National Ed.D. Program for Educational Leaders to meet the needs of the district.

Hayward Unified School District's Need

An educational effectiveness audit initiated by the superintendent revealed the need for professional development for the district's leadership team in order to most effectively address educational issues through research, study of district data, implementation, and evaluation. Many district- and school-level administrators indicated that they had not pursued higher education degree studies due to barriers of time, access, job application, and the critical need for the superintendent to be both a coach and a supporter of this pursuit.

Nova Southeastern University's Solution

Nova Southeastern University's Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services' Hayward cluster represents a unique forward step and customized approach to establishing an intense, rigorous Ed.D. program to train the district's leadership team. This program has provided both professional development and an opportunity for individuals to pursue a doctoral degree, designed to be completed in two years, and has also been powerful in its ability to impact HUSD culture, academic outcomes, and the five-year strategic plan. The customized approach allows cluster members to critically examine what must be done to establish strong leadership in many areas, such as accountability and student academic achievement.

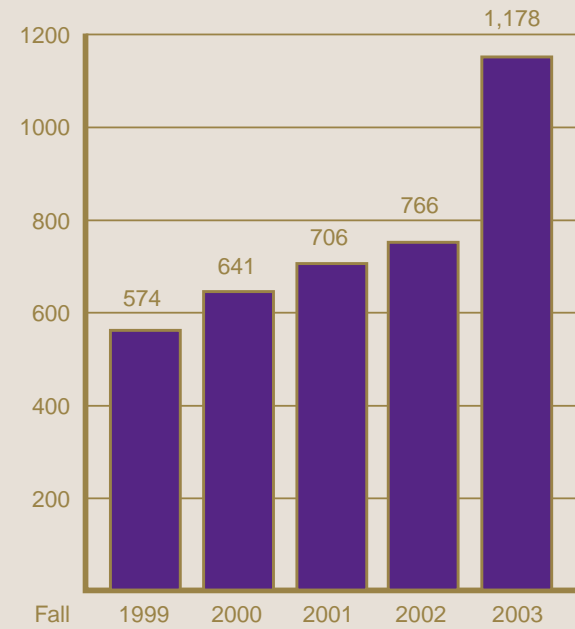
Outcomes

- HUSD's support for professional development and of NSU's National Ed.D. program provided the opportunity for 13 members of the district's leadership team to pursue their doctoral degree.
- These 13 original members completed the Ed.D. program in October 2003.
- Active, scholarly evaluation of the district's strategic plan has been an area of study by the individuals involved in implementing the plan.
- Notable change has been recognized in the leadership's team questioning, reasoning, implementation, and evaluation strategies.

www.fgse.nova.edu

Degrees

No other graduate education school offers 16 degrees in more than 60 specializations. With more than 12,000 students, we currently offer 1,178 courses a year. The number, however, is not what is impressive, but the possibility it presents to personalize and customize a degree to an individual. Let us pose this example. At the Fischler Graduate School, a student in the Master's of Science in Education with a specialization in Urban Studies program not only



Growth of Course Offerings

learns how to teach reading, writing, and mathematics, but learns the specific skills necessary to teach those subject to, and relate to, urban students. We then take that concept one step further and work with that student to solve an actual problem in their urban school. We call this problem-based, job-embedded curriculum.

Textbooks are vital in the educational process, but we also know the real world doesn't live in a textbook. We live in actual communities, with actual problems, that need actual solutions.

Enter the Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services. We are not only able to customize programs to help accomplish individual goals, but we design programs to meet the needs of schools, school systems, higher education institutions, and organizations. These programs are based on learning communities. Groups work together through our customized program, learning from each other and solving their problems together.

TOP 10 AREAS OF STUDY

- Teaching and Learning
- Educational Leadership
- Organizational Leadership
- Special Student
- Elementary Education
- Child and Youth Studies
- Management and Administrative Education Program
- Varying Exceptionalities
- Speech-Language Pathology
- Instructional Technology and Distance Education

2003—One Entity

NMB Campus Beautification Plan Approved

PLATO Learning Partnership develops

Doctoral degrees merged

FGSEHS tops 12,000 students

CREAD moves executive offices of FGSEHS

FGSEHS Office of Internal Communication established

Phoenix, Arizona, site re-established

Master's degrees merged

Ed.D. in CYS curriculum revised and moved online

Partnership with Daegu Cyber University, South Korea

FGSEHS Office of Diversity and Community Affairs created

The Fischler Graduate School offers an associate's degree in early childhood education; master's degrees in education, instructional technology and distance education, child and youth studies, early childhood education administration, family studies, and speech-language pathology; educational specialist degrees in 23 specializations; and doctoral degrees in higher education leadership, educational leadership, child, youth, and human services, instructional technology and distance education, organizational leadership, and speech-language pathology.

FISCHLER GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES DEGREE LISTING—January 15, 2004

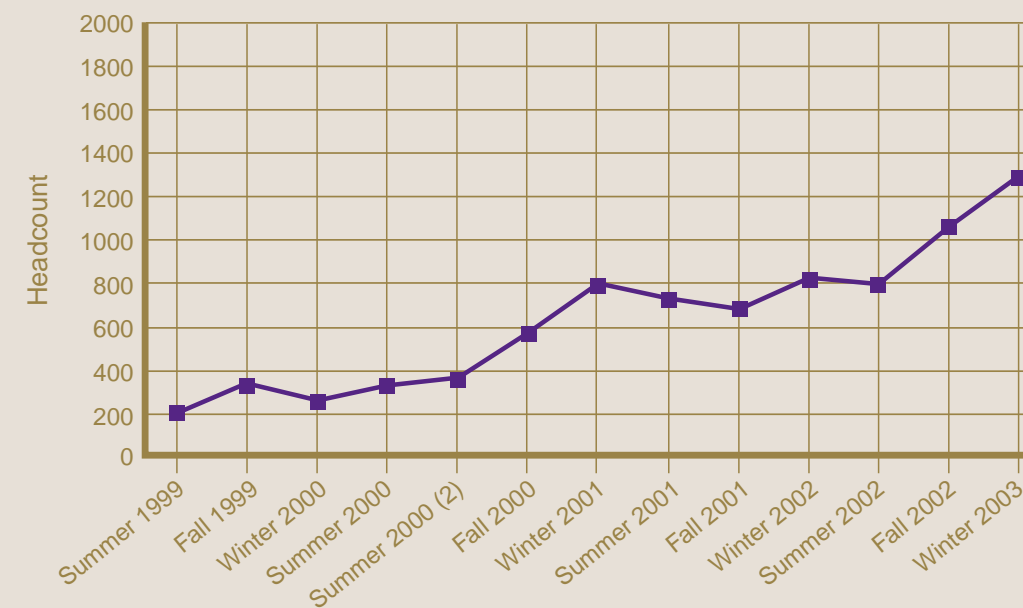
- Associate of Arts (A.A.) in Early Childhood Education
- Master of Arts (M.A.T.L.) in Teaching and Learning with 4 specializations
- Master of Science (M.S.) in Child and Youth Care Administration
- Master of Science (M.S.) in Early Childhood Education Administration
- Master of Science (M.S.) in Education with 37 specializations
- Master of Science (M.S.) in Family Support Studies
- Master of Science (M.S.) in Instructional Technology and Distance Education
- Master of Science (M.S.) in Speech-Language Pathology
- Master of Science (M.S.) in Substance Abuse Counseling and Education
- Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) with 23 specializations
- Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Child, Youth, and Human Services with 8 specializations
- Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Educational Leadership
- Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Higher Education Leadership with 4 specializations
- Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Instructional Technology and Distance Education
- Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Organizational Leadership with 12 specializations
- Doctor of Speech-Language Pathology (SLP.D.)

Distance Learning

A recognized leader in distance education, the Fischler Graduate School has achieved success by combining the best in education with the best distance delivery methods. At FGSEHS, distance education is only a means to a greater end—providing excellent education when and where it is needed.

FGSEHS uses distance education delivery methods that allow us to offer courses online, on-site, and worldwide. Most of our graduate degrees are offered online. Others use site-based cohorts. All incorporate electronic textbooks, CD-ROMs and DVDs, videos, electronic mail, and threaded bulletin board discussions, among many others.

Growth of Online Courses



Case Study in Statewide Technology and Distance Education Implementation

South Dakota incorporates technology and distance education into its 176 public school districts. Under the direction of the governor, a three-step program was developed to create this interconnectivity and explore new techniques and tools in distance education. Step one: Wiring the Schools (WTS); Step two: Connecting the Schools (CTS); and Step three: Summer Academies—Technology for Teaching and Learning (TTL) and Distance Teaching and Learning (DTL). Nova Southeastern University partnered with South Dakota to provide training and research and assisted in securing a \$3 million Star Schools grant.

South Dakota's Need

South Dakota was interested in more than bringing their classrooms into the 21st century. They wanted provide quality curriculum to students in even the most remote areas of the state and also prepare students to work and live in a global economy. The state also wanted to provide employment skills to community members who are non-students, emphasizing the idea of lifelong learning. The governor's belief was that superior schools create a better-skilled workforce that will bring business and development opportunities to South Dakota.

Nova Southeastern University's Solution

South Dakota completed step one: (WTS) and built an electronic highway, known as the Digital Dakota Network (DDN), by wiring all its schools using minimum-security prisoners as laborers, saving approximately \$90 million. NSU joined the project during step two: (CTS) as advisers. The state recognized NSU's expertise in delivering distance education, having created the first graduate program in online format. NSU brought together 12 leading experts on distance education from around the country to South Dakota to develop ideas that will maximize the use of the DDN. The faculty at NSU's Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services further assisted the program by writing a grant that earned the project an additional \$3 million in funding. As part of the grant, NSU will provide the state with distance education training for faculty in South Dakota's three public universities; six instructional videotapes to be used as training for teachers, administrators, and others interested in distance education application; and research, evaluation, and supervision of action research conducted by educators practicing distance education in their classrooms.

Outcomes

- 2,500 teachers have participated in the training programs and 172 of 176 of South Dakota's school districts have been represented.
- In the fall of 2000, South Dakota provided 34 distance education courses over the Dakota Digital Network at different grade levels.

Case Study: Principals as Leaders

In collaboration, the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) and Nova Southeastern University have developed a National Mentoring Program. The program, built around the principles of NAESP's Leading Learning Communities, was designed to prepare current and retired principals as mentors skilled in helping and furthering the development of other principals.

NAESP's Need

The National Association of Elementary School Principals identified the growing shortage of qualified candidates for principal positions, along with the increasing federal and state mandates that place greater burdens of accountability on school principals and direct the introduction and use of mentors for principals. NAESP further recognized that retired principals possess the knowledge, skills, and experience necessary to become mentors to new principal candidates.

Nova Southeastern University's Solution

Nova Southeastern University's Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services and NAESP developed, as a component of the Principals Advisory Leadership Service (PALS) Corps, the National Mentoring Program to train retired or distinguished principals as mentors. Participants become National Certified Master Mentors, provide service to their profession, and gain lifelong learning opportunities. Those who complete the program can transfer credits toward a graduate degree in education. Together with NAESP, the Fischler Graduate School is also offering four full National Fellows Scholarships to NAESP National Distinguished Principals, who are recognized for their leadership and commitment to excellence in education, toward a doctorate degree in educational leadership or organizational leadership.

Outcomes

It is expected that by providing mentoring assistance:

- success for young, inexperienced principals will be enhanced
- success for principals transitioning to schools with a different culture will be enhanced
- success for attracting outstanding educators to the principalship will be enhanced
- success of our youth in schools will be enhanced

www.fgse.nova.edu

Our program cohorts are located in 55 cities in 29 states, and 11 countries around the world. These sites each have their own administrator who lives in the area. The site administrators provide students with personalized services, work with the cohort to customize the program, and act as a liaison between the students and the school.

The Fischler Graduate School's reputation for problem-based, job-embedded, customized education that addresses local issues has extended our reach to international territories. Whether training distance educators from Venezuela in Spanish, or solving problems alongside the ministry of education in the Dominican Republic, or offering American educators a different view of the world with teacher education programs in London, Paris, and Greece, the Fischler Graduate School is able to meet the challenge posed by each.

Partnerships

A bridge connects two divided territories. Through the partnerships and strategic alliances we have developed, the Fischler Graduate School provides this link between education and the resources needed for success. These relationships give our faculty members, students, alumni, and partners additional avenues to reach their goals.

■ National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP)—Principals Advisory Leadership Service (PALS)

Invites outstanding principals designated by NAESP to study how to become and serve as certified mentors for other school leaders, especially those new to their positions.

■ NAESP/FGSEHS Fellows

Identifies and sponsors a select group of NAESP-designated outstanding principals as NAESP Fellows, awarding them full scholarships to FGSEHS doctoral programs.

■ Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators (OAESA)

Helping school leaders develop their general leadership skills, while also developing the instructional leadership skills at which modern administrators are expected to excel.

■ Scholastic RED

Developing appropriate coursework that will provide individual teachers and curriculum supervisors graduate credit as they complete the Scholastic RED training program.

■ Skylight Professional Development (Pearson)

Offering a Masters of Arts in Teaching and Learning based on Best Practices with specializations in math and reading.

■ Higher Education Agreements

Offering doctoral degrees in programs for higher education to faculty at: Miami-Dade College, DeVry Institute, University of Phoenix, Strayer University, Valencia Community College, Florida Community College, Flagler College, National-Louis University, Fox Valley Technical Consortium of Colleges, and for the state of Washington.

■ Chancellor Beacon Academies, Inc.

Chancellor Beacon Academies, Inc. is the nation's second largest provider of both public charter and private day schools. FGSEHS will offer graduate credits for the professional development modules teachers complete through CBA.

■ PLATO Learning System

FGS will also be PLATO's national provider for individual offering of PLATO courses offered to teachers and paraprofessionals beginning in January 2004.

■ Miami-Dade County, Florida, Public Schools

Responding to the rapid increase of Spanish-speaking immigrants in Miami-Dade County Public Schools, the Fischler Graduate School worked with the district to help retrain Spanish-language teachers who are heritage speakers but required formal training.

■ School Leadership Training

Customized doctoral programs in educational leadership for key staff and school-based personnel to ensure a steady flow of qualified, doctoral-level leaders into the school system

■ Clark County, Nevada, Public Schools

A unique program to bring non-working parents of school-aged children into the schools as fully trained and qualified teachers that leads to a graduate degree in education (M.S.) and state licensure, followed by a three-year induction and mentoring program that prepares them for National Board Certification.

■ Daegu University, South Korea

Partnering with one of Korea's cyber universities to offer the FGSEHS doctoral program in Instructional Technology and Distance Education.

■ Educational Impact

Providing the full Educational Impact Online Academy as an electronic textbook to enhance existing courses.

■ Palm Beach County Public Schools

Offering ESOL training leading to an M.S. in ESOL or ESOL endorsement. Also offering master's degrees in reading, special education, math, or elementary education—all currently critical shortage areas.

■ High/Scope

Early childhood workers can earn A.A. credit for High/Scope courses completed.

■ State of Arkansas

Offering Alternative Education certification in the state of Arkansas at the University of Arkansas—Monticello and Henderson State University.

■ State of South Dakota

FGSEHS partnered with the South Dakota Department of Education over a three-year period to evaluate their initiative in distance education to

provide new and expanded educational opportunities in the state.

■ BrainSMART Inc.

Offer a Master of Science in BrainSMART, as well as an Educational Specialist degree and developing a specialization in BrainSMART for the Doctor of Education on Organizational Leadership program.

■ Master of Science in Education in Health Professions

Offer a cross-disciplinary Master of Science in Education in Health Professions available to medical faculty members.

■ VisionBroward

Developing an economic development plan for the next 15 years involving more than 60 trade associations and 600 task force members.

■ Magnet Schools of America

National business office and headquarters for the executive director of MSA with 1,600 individual members with 46 school district-wide memberships, managed conferences and institutes, solicited and facilitated membership, published CD-ROM and research materials distribution list and Web site coordination, as well as managed all finances of the organization

■ Florida Association of Charter Schools

Advisory board members and assisting with organizational office and membership, facilitating incorporation and tax exempt status

■ Florida Public School Consortium

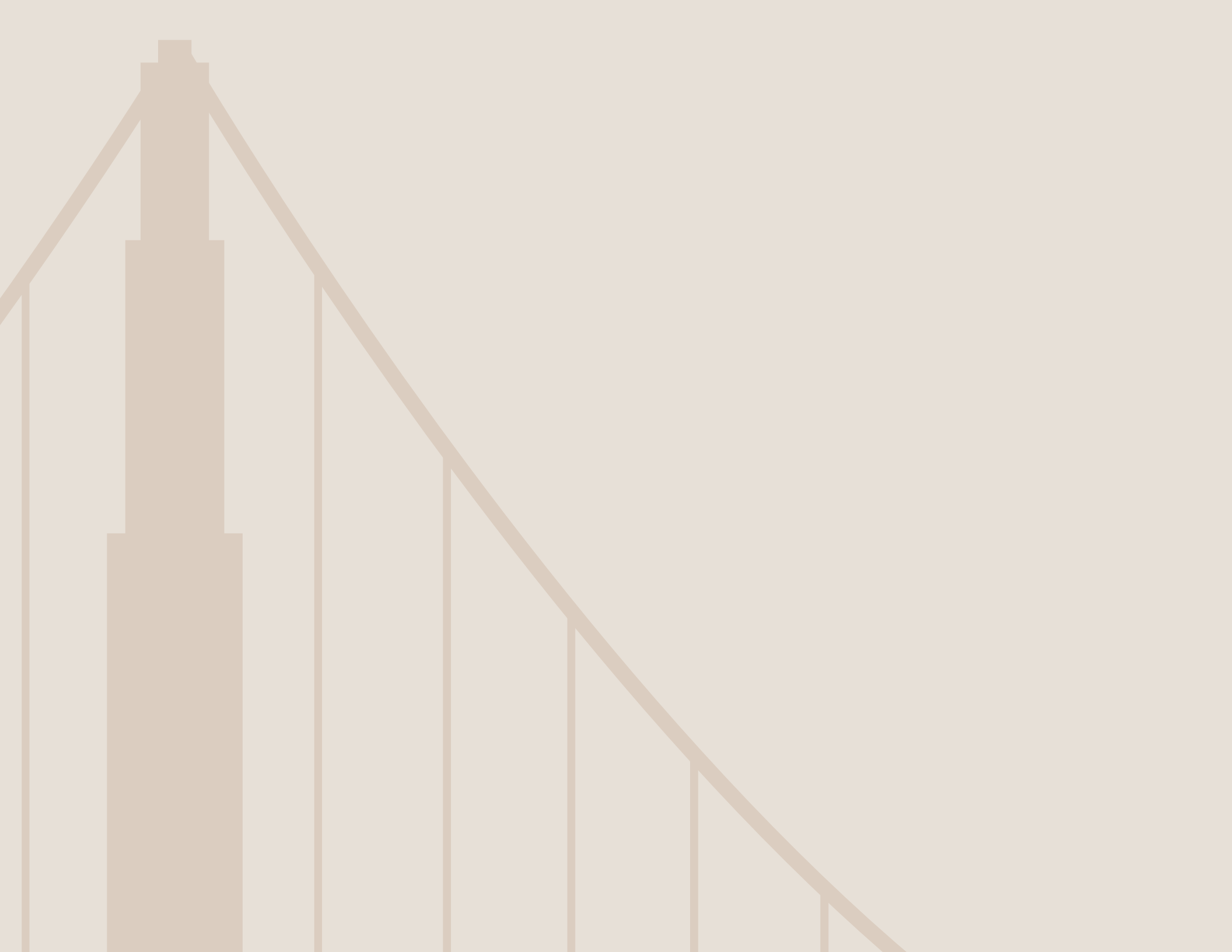
Incorporated the organization in Florida, developed the membership, and the managed the distribution list for research and communication, and scheduled all consortium meetings at magnet and public choice forums

■ CREAD (Spanish acronym for the Inter-American Distance Education Consortium)

Housed at the Fischler Graduate School, CREAD's mission is to provide universal access to lifelong education in the Americas.

■ European Council of International Schools

Bringing online learning opportunities to international schools worldwide



***Our imagination is the only limit to what we
can hope to have in the future.***

—Charles F. Kettering

P O T E N T I A L

On January 3, 2004, an American space probe appropriately named Spirit landed on Mars. To the Fischler Graduate School, this signifies a commitment on behalf of the world to explore the unknown. We, too, are making that commitment—to explore new opportunities, to reach beyond the horizon, to keep the spirit of adventure alive.

FGSEHS is constantly delving into new initiatives that truly deserve to be called innovative. Using what we call the expansive thinking process, we take a broad look at the events occurring in our community, the nation, and the world. We then identify specific emerging needs and find real, practical solutions for them. The following pages describe just some of the innovation that is occurring here, but the potential is unlimited.

On July 1, 2004, the Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services will merge with NSU's Undergraduate Teacher Education Program and begin offering the full spectrum of programs—associate's, bachelor's, master's, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees. The merger will add new faculty members, administrators, and more than 800 students to the FGSEHS family.

Annual Conference for Global Leading, Learning, and Research

Although distance education is a large component of the curriculum at FGSEHS, we also understand the value of bringing students, faculty members, and alumni together. The 2004 Annual Conference for Global Leading, Learning, and Research will provide a platform for the people of FGSEHS to share ideas and best practices, learn effective leadership skills, develop and present applied research projects, and network.

The Annual Conference will be a weeklong event at Disney's Contemporary Resort beginning July 25. Sessions from the conference's three strands—Summer Instruction, the Research Institute, and the Global Leading and Learning Institute—will run concurrently, creating an environment dedicated not only to the pursuit of knowledge but to putting this knowledge into practice. More than 1,200 students, faculty members, and alumni are expected to attend.

Emerging workforce

“We Are...We Can...We Will...”

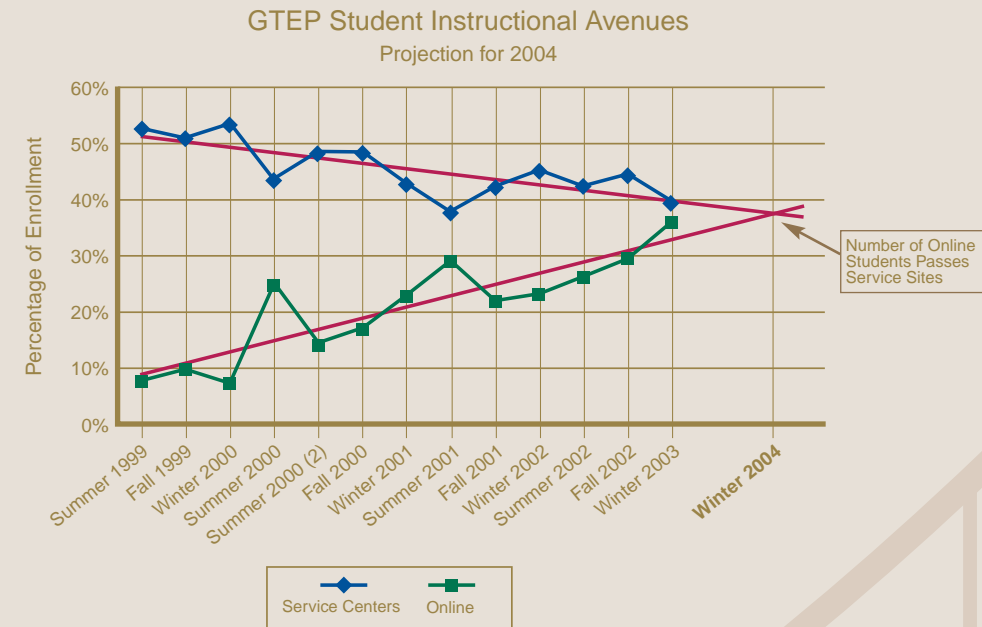
This theme for the first Emerging Workforce Conference reflects the core mission of the Fischler Graduate School. This national conference, being held February 8–12, 2004, draws attention to an untapped labor pool of people with disabilities that is 54 million strong. It provides a unique opportunity for people with disabilities, families, federal policy makers, and service providers to work with business around enhancing employment outcomes for people with disabilities.

The Fischler Graduate School is committed to the success and growth of this venture. Furthermore, FGSEHS will continue to develop and enhance distance education delivery methods and curriculum to accommodate the training and professional development of those with disabilities and those organizations that employ them.

No child left behind

When the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001 was enacted, the Fischler Graduate School immediately modified all its graduate teacher education programs to meet the new national standards for highly qualified teachers. Few schools of education have yet taken NCLB into account.

In 2004, FGSEHS will begin addressing more than our own programs to reflect NCLB standards. In partnership with Progress Education Corporation, assessments of individual classrooms will be conducted to link student performance with appropriate professional development. These assessments will identify the problem and FGSEHS will provide the solution to the school by customizing graduate credits and programs based on that data.



Innovation

Successful problem solvers must do two things properly: identify the problem and create the solution. At the Fischler Graduate School, this thinking has spawned our newest initiative: Health, Assessment, Research, Vocational, Education, Support and Advocacy, and Training (HARVEST).

HARVEST is a comprehensive, client/patient/family-centered delivery system that uses and directs university resources to provide identified needs for specific populations. Solutions are developed with specified populations as partners utilizing strength based problem solving.

As the acronym implies, any or all aspects including health, assessment, research, vocational, education, support and advocacy, and training may be involved in order to maximize human potential.

Currently, the Fischler Graduate School offers more than 60 specializations within its graduate degree programs. These specializations were developed in response to needs in the workplace. Our master's degree in innovative mathematics takes the fear out of both teaching and learning the subject by introducing fun, interactive, and useful applications. Our doctoral degree in organizational leadership is based on the conviction that leaders must learn to lead change as the population becomes increasingly diverse in a changing economy and as the technologies of the new century continue to develop rapidly.

The Fischler Graduate School is persistent in its efforts to developing groundbreaking degree programs that provide solutions to existing needs in classrooms, organizations, and communities. Furthermore, we are constantly examining the world around us in search of emerging needs to steer innovative curriculum, training, and resources to where they are needed most.

National Institute for Homeland Security and Anti-Terrorism Preparedness

Keeping our nation secure has become a primary mission on a local, regional, national and international level. It has also surfaced as a critical issue in America's schools and communities.

The new National Institute for Homeland Security and Anti-Terrorism Preparedness (NIHSAP), located at the Fischler Graduate School, is dedicated to assisting America's schools and communities prevent and prepare for potential terrorist threats, including biological, chemical, and nuclear attacks.

Through the institute, educators and community leaders will be able to grasp a greater understanding of how to develop contingency plans for their school or school district in response to crisis situations. They will look at measures necessary to sustain a secure learning environment and develop proactive steps to take in order to prevent a crisis situation. The institute has designed an 18-hour certificate and specialist program, a 36-hour master's in education program, ongoing research on all related issues, and case studies from the field and quarterly regional conferences. In continuing with NSU's commitment to serve the needs of our students worldwide, the NIHSAP will offer both distance-learning and classroom capabilities

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

Located on a beautiful 300-acre campus in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Nova Southeastern University has more than 23,000 students and is the largest independent institution of higher education in Florida. NSU is the 10th largest independent university in the United States and the largest in the Southeast. NSU awards associate's, bachelor's, master's, educational specialist, doctoral, and first-professional degrees in a wide range of fields. It has an undergraduate college and graduate schools of medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, allied health and nursing, optometry, law, computer and information sciences, psychology, education, business, oceanography, and humanities and social sciences. The institution also enjoys an excellent reputation for its programs for families offered through the Jim & Jan Moran Family Center Village and University School, including innovative parenting, and preschool, primary, and secondary education programs.

FISCHLER GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES

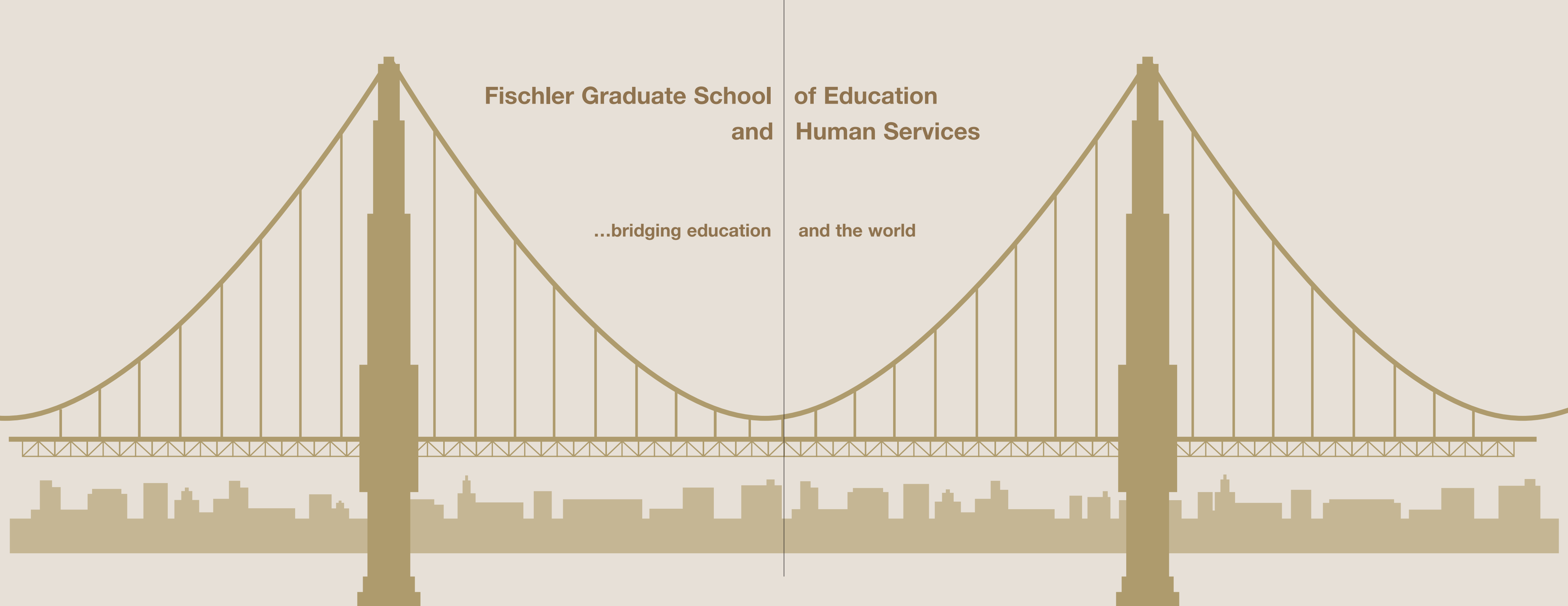
NSU's Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services is the largest graduate school of education at an accredited university (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools) in the United States, with more than 12,000 students in some 55 cities and 29 states in the United States, plus nearly a dozen other countries. FGSEHS is located on a modern 18-acre campus in North Miami Beach, Florida.

FGSEHS offers dozens of programs of postgraduate study in the fields of education and related human services. With more than 30 years experience in distance education, FGSEHS offers almost all programs via site-based, cluster-based, and online curriculum delivery in a manner that adapts to students' work schedules and locations.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Nova Southeastern University admits students of any race, color, sex, age, nondisqualifying disability, religion or creed, or national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school, and does not discriminate in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

Nova Southeastern University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, Telephone number: 404-679-4501) to award associate's, bachelor's, master's, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees.



**Fischler Graduate School
and
of Education
Human Services**

**...bridging education
and the world**