Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services

Nova Southeastern University

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Message from the Provost

Welcome to Nova Southeastern University’s Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services (FGSEHS). The school, serving the needs of children, families, schools, and communities through educational advancement, is one of the most dynamic academic institutions anywhere.

We have worked hard in recent years to analyze existing and emerging needs for education, to organize our tremendous resources to meet those needs, and to move “ahead of the curve” in developing and delivering educational services anywhere in the world, any time they are required.

From speech-language pathology to teacher education, with educational improvement through administrative training and systemic reform, and by forging partnerships with organizations committed to the same principles, FGSEHS has become a national leader in the educational field. We believe that our programs will have a significant impact on the lives of individuals everywhere. We invite you to look inside. Learn how we are taking the traditional approach to education and stretching it beyond the classroom. Join us as we continue to move ahead of the curve.

H. Wells Singleton, Ph.D.
Education Provost and University Dean
Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services
Successes

- In Athens, Greece; Paris, France; Jamaica; the Dominican Republic; and half a dozen other countries, teachers and administrative leaders gather for live lectures by Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services faculty members and other leaders in education, leadership, and technology.

- A principal in New Jersey implements an experimental staff development program in her middle school while working through her plan with a dozen other principals, all fellow doctoral students.

- A social studies teacher in the Midwest watches video of the world’s leading educators demonstrating best classroom management practices, chats online about the lesson with his instructor and fellow classmates, then goes to his classroom the next day to implement what he learned.

- A university faculty member in Caracas studies instructional technology so he can better use distance education to reach his widely dispersed students.

- A child with cerebral palsy uses custom-designed augmentative communication aids to learn how to create pen-pal emails.

Fischler Graduate School Degrees and Specializations Leading to Success

**Associate of Arts (A.A.) in Early Childhood Education**

**Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) with specialization in Adult Education**

**Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) with specialization in Health Care Education**

**Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) with specialization in Higher Education Leadership**

**Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Child and Youth Studies**

**Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Educational Leadership**

**Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Instructional Technology and Distance Education**

**Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Organizational Leadership with specializations in**

- Conflict and Dispute Resolution
- Diversity in the Workplace
- Educational Leadership
- Health Care Leadership
- Human Resource Development
- Leadership for Training and Development
- Leadership in Adult Education
- Leadership in Higher Education
- Leadership in Instructional Technology

**Nonprofit Leadership**

**Public Service Leadership**

**Doctor of Speech-Language Pathology (SLP.D.)**

**Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) with specializations in**

- BrainSmart Teaching
- Computer Science Education
- Curriculum and Teaching
- Curriculum/Instruction Management and Administration
- Early Literacy Education
- Education: Teaching and Learning
- Educational Leadership
- Educational Media
- Elementary Education
- English Education
- Gifted Education
- HighScope Educational Curriculum
- Jewish Education
- Mathematics Education
- Multicultural Early Intervention Education
- National Board Certification
- Prekindergarten–Grade 3 Education
- Reading Education
- Science Education

**Spanish Language**

**Sports Management**

**Teaching and Learning—International**

**Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)**

**Technology Management and Administration**

**Varying Exceptionalities**

**Master of Arts (M.A.T.L.) in Teaching and Learning with specializations in**

- Elementary Reading
- Elementary Mathematics
- Instructional Technology K-12
- Teaching and Learning

**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 Instructional Technology and Distance Education with specialization in Technology in Teaching and Learning**

**Master of Science (M.S.) in Speech-Language Pathology**

**Master of Science (M.S.) in Substance Abuse Counseling and Education**
At the Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services (FGSEHS) success stories are the expected rather than the exception. They’re repeated thousands of times every year, throughout the United States and in a dozen other countries, by the school’s more than 10,000 graduate students. As a pioneer in distance education, we are indeed “ahead of the curve.”

FGSEHS represents new trends in education, the innovative approach, the “Why not?” force in developing and delivering educational content and instruction wherever and whenever it’s needed. Students of all ages and backgrounds study for degrees in nearly 60 specializations. Professional development and training programs are all offered via site-based, field-based, Internet-based, and hybrid programs.

The age-old ivory tower approach to education, “We have the knowledge, and you must come and get it,” has no place at the Fischler Graduate School. We are planted solidly in the future, recognizing that the needs of educators and of society are constantly evolving and emerging, and are dynamic rather than static. Today, anyone with Internet access can find knowledge. Helping people learn to use it effectively in ways that advance their goals—whether it’s teaching inner-city youth to love learning or teaching seniors to use the Internet—is what we’re all about.

FGSEHS is forging innovative programs with public and private partners. We are constantly developing new ways to deliver high-quality, outstanding, and highly individualized educational programs to students of all ages, backgrounds, occupations, and abilities who live all over the world. We also collaborate with corporate and institutional groups to develop programs that meet their specific needs.

Ahead of the curve, not behind it. There is a difference.
The Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services represents the journey of a lifetime, a journey that will take you “ahead of the curve” in education, leadership, and services. It’s a journey where innovative thinking leads to innovative programs that meet real-world needs, worldwide.

Nova Southeastern University and its flagship education division, the Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services, create, customize, and deliver the highest-quality educational degree and professional development programs to students across the globe, keeping them truly “ahead of the curve.”

Although Nova Southeastern University is a young academic institution, we have achieved national prominence and been consistently recognized for our pioneering use of technology to deliver the highest-quality academic programs. And the Fischler Graduate School is one of the largest and most technologically advanced graduate schools of education in the world. We offer graduate degree programs to students through sites and clusters throughout the Americas and in Europe. Through advanced technology, we also offer them to students anywhere in the world.

Our strength is in our creative, personalized programs, which deliver multifaceted, modern content through an innovative combination of Internet, site-based, and field-based systems to educators in ways that are not limited by time or place. Many are customized to meet specific needs in specific cities or countries.

Programs are broadly grouped into five major areas: Teaching and Learning, Graduate Leadership Studies, Human Development and Family Services, Instructional Technology and Distance Education, and Training and Professional Development. This organization enables our faculty and leadership to create and implement degree and professional development programs that are customized to meet the needs of an individual, a group, or an entire institution and do it quickly, efficiently, and with the experience and resources needed to ensure successful outcomes.

As one of the world’s most respected leaders in distance education, we enable you to pursue precisely the type of advanced learning you need, delivered in ways that don’t require you to put your career on hold or move your family. Our programs meet and exceed recognized accreditation standards every step of the way.

Although live classroom instruction is offered at scores of locations throughout the United States and the world, virtually every one of our degree programs is also available entirely online. FGSEHS offers learners unique choices they will not find at other top-quality academic institutions. We’re writing new chapters in the digital future every day.

In addition to graduate degrees, the Fischler Graduate School is continuously developing certificate-level professional development programs for educators and leaders; most of them are also available online.
Actual Courses Taken Online at Fischler Graduate School

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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Case Study

Parents Go Back to School

In August 2001, 65 parents in Clark County, Nevada, were not only getting their children ready to go back to school—they were preparing to go back themselves. The Clark County School District, which currently has 170 elementary schools, was experiencing growth of 14,000 new students and 12-14 new schools each year. The district needed an influx of high-quality, licensed teachers to meet the demands of this rapid expansion. The district tapped into an often-overlooked resource—local nonworking parents of school-aged children—to fill its need.

Through a collaborative effort with the Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services, the parents undergo an intensive year of coursework that leads to a graduate degree in education and state licensure, followed by a three-year induction and mentoring program. Participants are selected by the Clark County School District after a thorough screening and interview process. During regular school hours, classes are held at local elementary schools near the schools of the participants’ children. Graduates who receive teaching contracts from the district are required to complete the "Pathwise" program—the three-year induction and mentoring program that prepares them for the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards certification exam.

Sixty-two of the sixty-five 2001–2002 participants—more than 95 percent—graduated with master’s degrees or higher and 59 of them received Clark County teaching contracts for the 2002–2003 school year. This August, 75 new parents got ready to go back to school along with their children.
“My education at FGSEHS really opened doors professionally for me and helped me to improve my job. At the time I was earning a doctoral degree, I was also working as a director of an alternative certification program for the Houston Independent School District. I applied what I learned in my studies and made it a model teacher preparation program for the country. In fact, the U.S. Department of Education recognized the program as one of the best of its kind in the nation. In my cluster, I met distinguished lecturers and people around the country. That is unique. Students don’t often get these opportunities at other schools.

The doctoral degree that I earned at the Fischler Graduate School helped me to get a promotion. My education has paid for itself financially. It was certainly worthwhile.”

Jacel Morgan
Assistant Superintendent, Multilingual Program
Houston Independent School District
Ed.D., Educational Leadership, 1998
Strategic Alliances

The whole is greater than the sum of its parts.

The concept of forging partnerships to advance one's goals is ancient, yet relatively few providers of educational development have successfully accomplished this. In recent years, The Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services has become one of the most adept academic institutions in the educational field at forging partnerships that ultimately help learners to meet their individual goals.

Few things can enhance a student's educational experience better than the real-world relationships that he or she develops with professional organizations, school systems, and corporate partners. The Fischler Graduate School's many partnerships can significantly expand the world of opportunities for our students.

This brochure presents brief overviews of some of the partnerships and cooperative agreements the Fischler Graduate School has developed in recent years, but there are many more, including the following:

- AIG Valic
- American University of Paris, France
  Offering graduate teacher education to educators in France
- Broward County Public Schools, Florida
  Certifying out-of-field teachers in mathematics
- CAMPUS Arts and Sciences
  Offering graduate teacher education to Greek educators
- Clark County Public Schools, Nevada
  Getting parents into the classroom as certified teachers
- European Council of International Schools
  Bringing online learning opportunities to international schools worldwide
- Florida Family Care Council
- Government of the Dominican Republic
  Developing leaders for an emerging nation
- Hayward Unified School District, California
  Establishing custom doctoral programs for school leaders
- HCI/U.S. Journal Training
Teaching and Learning

The Teaching and Learning area enables FGSEHS's largest component—the Graduate Teacher Education Program—to both gain from and enhance the school's ability to provide the most dynamic, cutting-edge teacher training. At the same time, FGSEHS respects the need of educators to continue learning while working in their classrooms or offices—wherever they are.

The Graduate Teacher Education Program (GTEP) offers the professional educator a challenging and rewarding educational experience. GTEP's array of more than 40 specializations in graduate teacher education provides opportunities for professionals to earn master's and educational specialist degrees. The curriculum also enables teachers to add certification areas and endorsements, renew current certification areas, and increase their levels of expertise within their fields. It enables individuals with bachelor's degrees in other fields to enter teaching.

In all programs, the focus is on growth in professional practice, application of current research and theory to students' professional work, acquisition and enhancement of leadership skills, and the achievement of career objectives. All specializations are available in online format and most are also offered live at NSU's seven permanent sites and in a number of other communities as well.

Programs in special education, educational leadership, family and child care studies, substance abuse counseling and education, speech-language pathology, and numerous other specializations are also available to teachers through other units of the Fischler Graduate School.

Also offered through Teaching and Learning is a unique master of arts degree in teaching and learning (M.A.T.L.), a video- and online-based program created jointly in 1998 by the Fischler Graduate School and SkyLight/Pearson Professional Development to link theory to best practices in the classroom and lead to a master of arts degree in 14 months. Students learn from today's leading educational theorists, while skilled teachers model and reflect on best practice strategies that students can begin to implement and develop as part of their daily classroom repertoire.

The Fischler Graduate School also offers the world's first master of science in education, brain science, and student achievement available via distance education in collaboration with BrainSMART, Inc. The curriculum is grounded in an integration of 50 years of cognitive and student achievement research, breakthroughs in neuroscience, and the real-world teaching experience of 30,000 educators and 5,000 students in all grade levels.
Case Study

Taking the Fear Out of Math: Certifying Out-of-Field Teachers in a Critical Shortage Area

The subject of mathematics is not only frightening to most Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) students, but to their teachers as well, evidenced by the critical shortage of math teachers in the county. It can be even more frightening to economically disadvantaged children since a high incidence of poverty in a school has a direct correlation with low academic student achievement. One answer is to provide supplementary instruction to these students through Title I. However, being a critical shortage area, finding proper staff becomes the challenge.

As the subject is a basic course in primary and secondary school curricula, out-of-field Title I teachers sufficiently versed in mathematics had to step up to fill the need. Broward County Public Schools recognized the importance of training and certifying these teachers with more than 107,000 students and 102 public and charter schools in the county receiving Title I services.

BCPS further recognized the success of the Innovative Teaching in Mathematics program at the Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services (FGSEHS) in facilitating ease of learning and engaging students at all levels through its unique courses, including Fun with Calculus and Geometry through Logical Play.

BCPS partnered with FGSEHS to bring the Innovative Teaching in Mathematics program to its out-of-field, Title I teachers. The program was tailored to meet the specific requirements of state of Florida certification. The participants have the option of completing a one-year program to receive a master of science in education with specialization in innovative teaching in mathematics, plus state certification, or receiving their state certification in 5-9 or 6-12 mathematics within 2 1/2 terms. The Fischler Graduate School worked with BCPS to reduce the financial impact of the program to the participants and the district.

Twelve Broward County Public Schools teachers have begun the program for the 2002-2003 academic year. FGSEHS expects a minimum of 80 percent of the participants to pass the Florida Teacher Certification Exam in the mathematics subject area. BCPS currently has plans to continue the partnership with a new group of teachers for 2003-2004.
"The Fischler Graduate School of
Education and Human Services prepares students to be leaders. It's
important for teachers to know what's going on, not just in their schools, but
in the educational field. They need to be able to address state, national, and
international issues. My education at FGSEHS prepared me to deal with a
broad range of issues and work effectively with leaders when I became
Florida's 2002 Teacher of the Year and a National Teacher of the Year
finalist. I've been to other schools, and I know that this kind of perspective and training is unique.

An unknown author once said, 'leaders are born.' At the Fischler
Graduate School, students are offered the skills and tools that they need to
become effective leaders in any arena."

Henry L. Brown II
Assistant Principal,
Hallandale Adult Community Center, Florida
M.S., Educational Leadership, 2001
Global Reach

The Fischler Graduate School is committed to developing cutting-edge degree and professional development programs that help educators around the world to teach children and adults better anywhere. In the last three years alone, our educational programs in Europe, the Caribbean, Central America, and South America have changed lives. We are actively seeking opportunities to enhance education in Africa, Asia, and the Pacific Rim.

No matter where you are or how you learn, we’ll help you earn your degree and acquire the skills you need. Every program is different, specifically created to help our students stay ahead of the curve in their careers.

Students at the Fischler Graduate School learn and earn their degrees through regular classroom meetings and seminars, at sites throughout the world, via online interactions, or entirely through a distance-education program.

We offer programs in 12 countries and on four continents: an international master of science in education in Greece and France; instructional technology degrees in Venezuela, Mexico, and Jamaica; teacher education in Jamaica; and educational leadership in Canada and the Dominican Republic.

But we don’t stop there. We still use white-boards at many sites, but also are quite fluent in bits and bytes. With our programs in Instructional Technology and Distance Education, the Fischler Graduate School makes the future happen today. Wherever and whatever technology brings us, FGSEHS graduates will have the skills to make it happen.

Technology is only a means to an end, and at Fischler Graduate School, the end is outstanding education. Whether you’re in Paris or Panama City, Miami or Milwaukee, on the Internet or attending a live lecture, if you’re in a Fischler Graduate School program, the three Rs are the same:

- Real tools
- Real challenges
- Real innovation

In classrooms and online throughout the world, we offer programs in educational leadership; educational technology; early childhood education administration; substance abuse counseling; curriculum instruction and technology; health care education; speech-language pathology; primary, secondary, and higher education; and much, much more. From associate’s degrees to doctoral degrees, from classroom to administration, and from a speech-language clinic to serving the community, the Fischler Graduate School is there.

Growth of Organizational Leadership Program

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<tr>
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<td>262</td>
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<td>Fall 2001</td>
<td>320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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From 18/31 to 320 students, FGSEHS has expanded its reach and影响力.
Graduate Leadership Studies

Graduate Leadership Studies at the Fischler Graduate School combines the university’s two flagship field-based doctoral programs in education with its master’s and educational specialist programs in educational leadership and a popular new program in organizational leadership. The combination enables each program to take advantage of a rich base of faculty members, students, and alumni, to lead students to the highest possible level of practice-based leadership and management success.

Through a dynamic, two-year doctoral program of study, assessment, and action, the National Ed.D. Program for Educational Leaders provides practicing education leaders the opportunity to acquire knowledge and develop leadership to foster innovative and effective learning environments—without interrupting their careers or personal lives.

This field-based doctoral program for working school administrators is designed to improve the nation’s schools by strengthening the leadership skills of school and school-system administrators. National faculty members with rich backgrounds of academic achievement and practical experience are drawn from universities and educational systems throughout the United States, and formal instruction is supplemented with independent study and cluster and sub-cluster learning activities. This model also has been introduced to educational leaders in Canada and the Dominican Republic.

The Doctoral Programs for Higher Education Leadership (DH-EL) provides applied doctoral and continuing professional development programs in education to practitioners engaged in education and training. Designed to meet the needs of practitioners working in the fields of adult education, health care education, and higher education, the program capitalizes on the field-based delivery system enmeshed with online interactivity to combine formal instruction, supervised study, and applied research in an integrated program of study.

The Fischler Graduate School’s recently established Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership Program offers educators and others in related careers the opportunity to meet both current and future leadership challenges by building on the capacities of adult learners while linking theory to best practices of leadership. This program is also developing organizational leaders in an emerging nation—the Dominican Republic.

Available in online, site-based, and hybrid formats, the program offers mid-career professionals a strategic opportunity to develop themselves professionally and to provide their organization with knowledge and skills needed for effective leadership and leadership development.

Graduate Leadership Studies also offers educators and school administrators an opportunity to earn master’s and educational specialist degrees with a specialization in educational leadership. Certification in educational leadership is also available for education professionals who want to add to their certification areas and endorsements, renew current certification, and increase their levels of expertise within their fields.
Case Study

Offering Graduate Teacher Education to European Educators

In countries throughout Europe, classroom teachers are becoming more and more aware of the need for, and benefits of, graduate education, but most European universities do not offer educators the equivalent of the U.S. master of science or master of arts degree. Administrators at the Fischler Graduate School began working several years ago with CAMPUS Arts and Sciences, a college in Athens, Greece; The American University of Paris in Paris, France; and the European Council of International Schools (ECIS) to develop collaborative International Master of Science in Education Programs tailored to each institution’s particular needs.

The programs combine the worldwide expertise and cutting-edge content of the Fischler Graduate School’s faculty and curriculum with the convenience and support capabilities of the respective local universities, enabling the affiliate institutions to expand their offerings to educators. Students also gain access to NSU’s world-class electronic library and research support.

In Athens and Paris, all classes are taught on-site at the local universities, in English, by a team of faculty members from both NSU and the local university. The Internet binds the students and faculty members together between class sessions, which are held in the evenings and on weekends for the convenience of working teachers. As more and more students graduate, they are collectively beginning to implement systematic change in their home schools.

Conveniently for ECIS, the NSU program is entirely online, which gives teachers at member institutions around the world the opportunity to complete their master’s degree regardless of where they are living and working.

The ECIS Teacher Leadership Institute—a capstone experience for students—is offered on-site at the ECIS November conference, which is held annually in various cities throughout Europe. The Teacher Leadership Institute provides students with an international networking experience. Students who cannot attend the on-site institute can opt for the online version.
"As superintendent of the Hayward Unified School District, I needed to change the pattern of student achievement in my district and address important educational issues. Student academic performance was diminishing. Many teachers in the district did not understand how to address this challenge.

I met with representatives of the Fischler Graduate School and we came up with a solution. We customized a doctoral program for 13 school administrators—district superintendents, principals, executive directors of different departments—to meet the needs of our school district. It is a rigorous, two-year program, rich in pedagogy and research, that offers the leadership team the very best in professional development.

We are already beginning to see the trend go in the right way. The administrators are asking better questions, modifying what's happening in the classroom, and engaging parents to work effectively with students. It's been an incredible program. I think it is truly a success. The school administrators who are in the class now think, act, and respond differently. When they graduate from the program in 2002, they will be ready to meet the challenge of effecting educational reform."

Joan Kowal
Superintendent
Hayward Unified School District, California
Technology

There are more than a billion people just seconds away by Internet, looking for opportunities to join the global workforce. All they need is the training and outstanding education to make it happen. At the Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services, we recognize that need and are developing the knowledge and technology to reach those individuals who want to become educators and trainers. And we're achieving this with intelligently designed, effective online and hybrid distance-education programs that cover almost every aspect of teaching, training, and leadership.

"The truth is, most people don't have time to sit in a classroom and ruminate on the great thinkers anymore," said H. Wells Singleton, university dean and education provost of FGSEHS. "Recognizing that, we've developed the ability to evolve to meet new demands. With our online and combination online-and-live-instruction education programs, we're expanding our scope and connecting to students all over the world."

"Our expertise is finding that unique combination of how to deliver instruction to students who might not otherwise be able to receive it. The Internet allows the degree to follow you. Wherever you go, you can work on your degree."

The Internet affords unprecedented opportunities and access to high quality education to all people around the world, and the Fischler Graduate School is an integral part of that. NSU has been a leader in computer-based education from the infancy of the technology and continues to innovate by creating and applying state-of-the-art technologies to all its educational programs.

From our initial forays into distance learning in 1972—when we shattered the barriers of traditional education—to our innovative online programs today, FGSEHS has proven itself to be a dynamic leader in worldwide education. In 1983, we began using computer technology to span distances, developing programs that combined online coursework and live meetings—a model that has persisted in even more modern variations.

FGSEHS has continued to stay ahead of the curve by providing technological connections and training to students of all ages—from school-age students to senior citizens—because learning is a lifelong process. The school has found ways to use computer-based education to meet the special needs of accelerated learners in addition to those struggling to learn. Customization makes education possible for everyone.

"We were ahead of the curve 30 years ago when we first started using distance education, and we're still leading the way," said Singleton. "We are creating the future of education."
Instructional Technology and Distance Education

The Fischler Graduate School's innovative master's and doctoral programs in Instructional Technology and Distance Education develop leaders who can plan, organize, manage, and teach effectively using instructional technology in the classroom, on the job, and online through a variety of instructional delivery systems.

The programs are designed for professional educators and trainers who work with learners from prekindergarten through the university level and with adults in all areas of business and industry. Students are expected to apply theory to their work setting. Thus, while enhancing their own skills, they bring improvements to the workplace as they progress through the program.

Since its founding in 1995, the ITDE programs have expanded exponentially, filling a need for training in educational technology evident throughout the world. The programs are also taught in Spanish where appropriate. Doctoral clusters have been established throughout the Americas, and multinational clusters of students flourish through the common language of the Internet.
Case Study

Reaching Out to Give Every Student Equal Opportunity

Imagine: two high school seniors in Redfield, South Dakota, join a live Advanced Calculus class of 15 seniors in Sioux Falls without leaving their home campus. Dream: “smart” classrooms where interactive learning is the standard, not the exception. Now live: South Dakota incorporates technology and distance education into its 176 public school districts.

South Dakota was interested in more than bringing their classrooms into the 21st century. They wanted to provide a 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 nonstudents, emphasizing the concept of lifelong learning. The belief was that superior schools create a better-skilled workforce that will bring business and development opportunities to South Dakota.

Under the direction of Governor William Janklow, 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). Once South Dakota 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, they called on Nova Southeastern University’s Fischer Graduate School of Education and Human Services to step in as advisers.

The state recognized NSU’s expertise in delivering distance education, having created the first graduate program in an online format. NSU brought 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 the Fischer Graduate School further assisted the program by writing a grant that earned the project an additional $3 million in funding. As part of the grant, FGSEHS 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.

In the fall of 2000, South Dakota provided 34 distance education courses over the Dakota Digital Network at different grade levels. Physics and advanced composition were delivered to high schools with less than 150 students. Another program connects high school students with elementary school students to reinforce math and science concepts. In addition, 2,500 of the state’s teachers have participated in the training programs and 172 of the 176 South Dakota school districts have been represented.
"What I really liked about the Fischler Graduate School is that learning there has real-life applications. Students are challenged to take all the knowledge and skills that we learn in the classroom and improve our workplaces. While I was earning my degree, I was working as a principal in an alternative education program. I took an evaluation course in which grant writing was a requirement. I greatly improved my research and writing skills in that course. I wrote a grant to apply for funds to improve the alternative education program I was administering. Our school received a $30,000 grant, which enabled us to hire a transitional specialist for our program. With my doctorate from the Fischler Graduate School, I feel confident that I am a much stronger educator. I am now better equipped to handle my leadership role as a principal."

Ralph Turley
Principal, Calhoun County School Systems, Alabama
Ed.D., Educational Leadership, 2002
Beyond degree and professional programs, the Fischler Graduate School is deeply committed to offering educational and support services to the communities in which we operate. Three examples stand out.

**SeniorNet:** The Fischler Graduate School sponsors two SeniorNet Learning Centers on its campuses, offering senior citizens easy, inexpensive, and fun access to computers and to the training that helps them get the most out of the machines. In the five years since the Fischler Graduate School opened the first SeniorNet facility in South Florida, NSU has helped more than 1,000 seniors get more out of their lives with the Internet.

**Crayons to Computers, a Free Store for Teachers:** Stocked by donations from local businesses, corporations, and the general public, Crayons to Computers stores an array of materials, supplies, equipment, and furniture for use by teachers and students across South Florida.

Although similar stores exist elsewhere across the country, Crayons to Computers is the first—perhaps only—store operated by a university school of education.

**National School Reform Conferences:** Since 1982, the United States Department of Education has celebrated many of America’s most successful schools through its Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence program. The Fischler Graduate School established the Blue Ribbon Schools Institute in 1998 and annually conducts more than half a dozen one-day and three-day National School Reform Conferences throughout the country to drive a coordinated and effective school-improvement movement. This initiative uses practical programs, concepts, and ideas that have been successfully used to improve schools nationwide.
Training and Professional Development

The Fischler Graduate School serves the training and education marketplace including pre-k–12 schools, universities, corporations, government, military, human services, and health care providers.

Partnering with training, education, and human service providers in this wide variety of global education and work settings, we develop effective learning solutions to the problems of educating children and adults. In the Information Age where knowledge is the engine of innovation and competition, we tune the engine by applying best practices and technology to accelerate learning.

We train teachers to teach better, so students learn better. FGSEHS develops training and educational leaders to lead more effectively resulting in better organizational performance and enables educators to use instructional and distance education technologies that result in higher quality learning outcomes and experiences for children and adult learners, while driving down training and education costs.

Human Development and Family Services

The Ed.D. Program in Child and Youth Studies at the Fischler Graduate School strives to improve the lives of children and youth by improving the leadership abilities of the educators and professionals who work with them. By increasing the knowledge base of students and by enhancing their problem-solving capabilities, this field-based program focuses on the relationship of theory to practice. In addition to a common core of knowledge, the program offers students the opportunity for intensive study in one of three areas of professional activity: curriculum development and systemic change, management of programs for children and youth, and special services/exceptional education.

The Fischler Graduate School has responded to the increasing population of individuals with disabilities with a newly reconfigured special education program that will help the community benefit from NSU's considerable education, research, and service resources.

Jewish educators also will find a challenging but incredibly rewarding graduate program of study that is designed to identify and capitalize on their strengths and experience. Classes are customized to the Jewish calendar, and practical examples are created with the Jewish school environment in mind.

The substance abuse counseling and education master's degree program develops the skills and leadership abilities of addiction-prevention and treatment practitioners who desire to create and maintain high-quality programs. The program format enables practicing professionals to complete their degree while continuing their careers.

Students also can study to make important contributions to early childhood, child and youth care, and family services through the master's degree program in life-span care and administration. It's a unique program that offers field-based specializations in child and youth care administration, early childhood education administration, and family support practice.

The master's and doctoral programs in speech-language pathology incorporate scientifically based curriculum with clinical and externship experiences and nurture critical thinking skills. Extensive clinical experience is combined with high-quality academics that reflect the constantly evolving field of speech-language pathology.
Case Study

Special Fun for Special Kids

Camp is every child’s—and parent’s—answer to long, summer days with nowhere to go and nothing to do. Although children with communication disabilities may have difficulties expressing to their parents what they want, they too long for playtime with their friends, special activities planned just for them, and a place where they can have fun. Camp TLC, presented by the Tyler Institute of the Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services, offers all that and more, in a weeklong session designed specifically for children with speech-language and communication disorders.

TLC stands for Therapy-Learning Connection, which is the focus of the activities at the camp. Apraxia, autism and related disorders, cerebral palsy, developmental delays, and other severe language disorders can delay or hinder communication in children. Through creative play, music, computers, and other fun, camp-style games, children with communication difficulties increase their academic, motor, self-help, and communication skills. The professional staff members and graduate student clinicians at FGSEHS’ Clinics for Speech-Language and Communication Disorders work together to provide each child with a personalized therapy experience.

The Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services has embedded its mission around serving children, schools, families, and communities. TLC is a facility where parents can turn for support, resources, state-of-the-art technologies, and the latest research in education and development and is the response to our commitment.
I attribute my professional success in the field of speech pathology to the education I received at the Fischler Graduate School. My classes were very rigorous and gave me the skills and training I needed to tackle every situation I faced in my job. The curriculum was really unique. The school constantly updates coursework with current research and information about professional development. They design educational programs to meet the needs of both students and the community. This broad approach gave me extra training in my field that I wouldn’t have received at a more traditional school.

I received the 2002 Dwyer Award for Excellence in Special Education, which was sponsored by the Educational Foundation of Palm Beach County, Florida. I believe the love and nurturing that I got from my professors at the Fischler Graduate School made this success possible. My instructors were not only highly skillful—they also worked hard to make sure that students reached their highest level of achievement and their goals.

Dione Christy
Lead Interventionist, Early Intervention Program
Liberty Park Elementary School
M.S., Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology
Leadership Team

Executive Administration

H. Wells Singleton
Education Provost and University Dean
B.A., University of Wyoming
M.A., Southern Methodist University
Ph.D., Stanford University

William Alvarez
Executive Dean for Academic Affairs
B.S., Lamar State College of Technology
M.S.E., Stephen F. Austin State University
Ed.D., University of Arkansas

Anthony J. DeNapoli
Executive Dean of External and International Affairs
B.A., Hofstra University
M.A., New York University
P.D., Long Island University
Ed.D., Nova Southeastern University

Kimberly Durham
Executive Dean of Administration
B.S., Nova Southeastern University
M.S., Nova Southeastern University
Psy.D., Nova Southeastern University

Maryellen E. Maher
Executive Dean of Technology and Research
B.A., Jersey City State College
M.Ed., University of Florida
Ph.D., University of Florida

Joseph Barimo
Executive Director of Center Budgets and Planning/Program Professor
M.B.A., Tampa College
M.S., University of South Florida
Ed.D., Nova Southeastern University
Deans

Wayne Driscoll
Dean of Teaching and Learning
B.A., Hiram Scott College
M.Ed., Wright State University
Ed.D., Teachers College, Columbia University

Tom Land
Dean of Training and Professional Development
B.S., Drexel University
M.A., Saint Heights University
Ed.D., University of Northern Colorado

Rochelle Green
Dean of Human Development and Family Services
B.S., Cornell University
M.S., Nova Southeastern University
Ed.D., Nova Southeastern University

Claudia Santin
Dean of Leadership Studies
B.A., College of New Jersey
M.A., College of New Jersey
Ed.D., Nova Southeastern University

Jean Lewis
Dean of Student Services
B.A., Wellesley College
M.A., Northwestern University
Ed.D., Nova Southeastern University
Case Study

Redefining Relationships

Webster’s definition of partnership: a relationship usually involving close cooperation between parties having specified and joint rights and responsibilities. FGSEHS' definition of partnership: a relationship usually involving close cooperation between parties having specified and joint rights and responsibilities for the benefit of children, schools, families, and communities.

The Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services, the largest graduate school of education in the nation, has entered into a partnership with PC Teach It magazine, the premier print and online magazine that integrates technology into the classroom for teachers. The agreement will provide mutual benefits to both through the expansion of the publication to South Florida and the promotion of FGSEHS' curriculum to the readership audience.

The ones who will benefit most, however, will be the teachers that participate in the partnership’s new Teacher Professional Development offerings and master’s program with specialization in curriculum and technology—and the students in their classrooms. The magazine provides, along with education news and features, project-based lesson plans with easy-to-understand introductions to technology, which will be used as one of the content resources for the degree specialization. Furthermore, the Fischler Graduate School and PC Teach It will host both online “boot camps” for teachers and summer technology courses at the university’s campuses in Fort Lauderdale and North Miami Beach.

This partnership gives today’s teachers—and tomorrow’s future teachers—what they want in a program: high-quality curriculum that immerses students in technology through innovation and imagination.
"One of the reasons I choose to study at the Fischler Graduate School was the faculty. They are some of the top professors in the nation in the education field. They wrote the textbooks that other schools use. They come from prestigious schools such as Harvard University, Princeton University, the University of Michigan, and Northwestern University. Most professors at other educational institutions think alike. My professors were a diverse group and represented a broad spectrum of thinking. Students are exposed to a wide range of opinions, which teaches them to think more critically.

The education at FGSEHS is not just theoretical—it is practical. While I was earning my degree, I worked full-time as an instructor and managed the budget for educational programs in the Chicago school system. As a doctoral student, I took a finance class that helped me to understand my job better and perform it more effectively. After I graduated, I went on to teach finance classes as a professor at Concordia University.

I believe that the Fischler Graduate School offers the best doctoral program of its kind in the nation."

Curtis Smith
Associate Dean of Graduate Studies
Concordia University/River Forest
Ed.D., Educational Leadership, 1985
Nova Southeastern University

Founded in 1964, Nova Southeastern University is a young, innovative, forward-thinking not-for-profit institution offering a wide array of opportunities for its student population of more than 21,000. The 300-acre main campus in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, has a number of dynamic educational centers and programs. NSU is home to one of our nation’s leading law schools—recently named the most wired law school in the country for the second time. In addition, NSU offers a variety of medical programs in osteopathic medicine, optometry, dentistry, and more; an Oceanographic Center; a renowned business school; and the training facility of the Miami Dolphins.

The largest independent university in the southeastern United States, NSU holds a number of important accreditations and memberships. In 2001, NSU was ranked as the 12th largest independent university in the United States. It ranks 25th among more than 1,500 universities across the United States in terms of the size of the post-baccalaureate programs. Plus, NSU is one of the top 20 “cyber-universities” according to Forbes magazine, and was ranked as one of the top 100 wired universities by U.S. News & World Report.

For the use of NSU students and residents of Broward County, Florida, the 325,000-square-foot Library, Research, and Information Technology Center recently opened in partnership with the Broward County Board of County Commissioners.

By far, one of NSU’s most appealing assets is its location. Fort Lauderdale, a vibrant and beautiful haven for tourism, is known as the yachting capital of the world. But the city, along with neighboring Miami-Dade County and the Palm Beaches, is also experiencing rapid population growth. This growth increases the demand on the school systems, but also, increases the need for a school of education. NSU’s Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services meets this dire need and brings dynamic and engaging teachers to South Florida schools.

Notices of Accreditation and Nondiscrimination

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 bachelor’s, master’s, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees.

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.