



# FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

*Office of the Dean*

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Dean Marcy Driscoll, College of Education

THRU: Associate Dean Amy Guerette, College of Education

FROM: The College of Education Student Leadership Council

DATE: February 17, 2017

SUBJECT: Expanding the College's Research Database (<http://researchinterests.coe.fsu.edu/>)

It has come to the attention of the Student Leadership Council that students, graduate students in particular, are greatly interested in maximizing and diversifying their research activities while matriculating. We recommend modification of the existing College research interests database toward a more intuitive and comprehensive student and faculty experience.

Many productive College activities are evidenced in the student response data from 2015-2016 and in current-year surveys, as well as potential areas for improvement. SLC summarized data show that students desire enhanced exploration and connectivity outside of their immediate major, programs, and department areas. Additionally, in a recent meeting of the SLC, we determined that all members were unaware of the existence and utility of the College's faculty research database.

Given these findings, the Student Leadership Council recommends inclusion of graduate student research interest and activities in the College's Research Database. We also recommend increased marketing of the system. We believe these changes will increase cross-departmental collaborations.

Student Leadership Council and Student Life Committee members are conducting joint meetings in departments over the next few months to determine methods for increased community and collaboration within and across departments. One suggestion is to widen colloquia/research talks beyond department areas to full College marketing and attendance. We hope that an adjacent visibility in the research database can support these types of efforts as well.