Wednesday  
September 30  
12:00 – 1:15 pm  
G152 Stone Building  

Faculty Research Poster Session  

A Study of Principal Practice- Dr. Marytza Gawlik  
The rationale for a study of principal practice begins with the notion that effective principals are critical for school success. Principal leadership has been shown to influence both school environment and classroom teaching practices. Charter schools are under tremendous pressure to demonstrate higher levels of student achievement than traditional public schools in order to garner legitimacy, compete for students, and satisfy accountability requirements The purpose of this exploratory qualitative case study is to identify which leadership styles and practices are most associated with improved student outcomes within charter schools and compare those styles and practices with less effective peers.  

A Longitudinal Study of the FSU Undergraduate Critical Thinking Initiative- Dr. Linda Schrader  
This presentation will focus on the development of a mixed method research design to measure the acquisition of critical thinking skills among a sample of rising juniors participating in the Think FSU: Improving Critical Thinking in the Disciplines quality enhancement program. Using the American Association of Colleges & Universities (AAC&U) Critical Thinking Rubric, faculty design and implement discipline-specific critical thinking projects and curricular interventions with the goal of impacting students’ ability to apply critical thinking constructs as measured by the Tennessee Tech Critical Thinking Assessment Test. The strategies and challenges in the implementation of a longitudinal study for a newly developed project (initiated in January 2015) will also be discussed.  

Center for Postsecondary Success- Dr. Toby Park  
The Center for Postsecondary Success (CPS) is a research center dedicated to identifying and evaluating institutional, state, and federal policies and programs that may serve to improve student success. One way we do this is by providing support for, and fostering collaboration among, those who are interested in conducting research on student success in postsecondary education. Currently, the CPS is involved in a systematic evaluation of recent developmental education policy in Florida. This presentation will review how research is conducted in a collaborative center using our main project as an example.