



# ASSESSMENT DAY PROGRAM

Friday, November 6, 2020

Hosted by:

Florida A&M University

Office of University Assessment



A Title III Sponsored Activity

# Schedule At-A-Glance

8:30 AM

## Opening Session

Larry Robinson  
*President, Florida A&M University*  
Xavier McClinton,  
*Student Body President & University Trustee*  
Melanie Wicinski  
*Director, Office of University Assessment*

9:30 AM

## General Plenary

Natasha Jankowski  
*Executive Director, National Institute of Learning Outcomes Assessment*

10:30 AM

**Thread A:** Neil James, *Each One Different Yet All Seek the Same*  
**Thread B:** Jennifer Collins, *Developing a First Year Program Assessment Plan*  
**Thread C:** Patricia Green-Powell, *FAMU Medical Marijuana Education and Research Initiative: What You Should Know*

11 AM

**Thread A:** Sundra Kincey, *The Power of Two*  
**Thread B:** Asitava Jana, *Assessing Post-graduation Outcomes of our Bachelor Degree Recipients*  
**Thread C:** Tonya Martin, *Enhancing Assessment Effectiveness through Implementation of a Decision Support Platform*

11:30 AM

**Thread A:** Merlin Langley, *Interdisciplinary Studies: Curriculum, Performance Outcomes and Institutional Challenges*  
**Thread B:** DeAnna Burney, *ILAC/Assessment Update*  
**Thread C:** Sabrina Edwards, *Implementing Organizational Change by Improving Assessment Planning through Faculty, Staff and Administrative Collaboration*

Noon

Lunch

# Schedule At-A-Glance

1:30 PM

**Thread A:** Michael LaBossiere, *Assessing GENED*

**Thread B:** Brandi Newkirk, *Enhancing Your Strategic Planning Process*

2 PM

**Thread A:** Kiwanis Burr, *A Qualitative Analysis of Student Experience Data from the FAMU Graduate Exit Survey*

**Thread B:** Joseph Maleszewski, *Internal Controls*

**Thread C:** Tonya Walker, *Peer Review (PeerR) Exercises to Improve Writing*

2:30 PM

**Thread A:** Nashandra Howard, *Is Your Service Helping Students Succeed Academically?*

**Thread B:** Michelle Roddenberry, *Best Practices for Reporting Assessment Data to Multiple Stakeholders*

**Thread C:** Clement Yedjou, *Technology Enhanced Student Learning, Improved Engagement, and Performance in A&P Courses*

3 PM

**Thread A:** Bobby Granville, *Faculty Course Assessment Report*

**Thread B:** Keith McCluney, *Academics, Compliance & the FAMU Brand*

**Thread C:** Kendra Mitchell, *Shifting the Developmental Writing Narrative Towards the Agentic*

3:30 PM

## Closing Session

Maurice Edington

Provost, Florida A&M University

Beverly Barrington

Vice President, Strategic Planning, Analysis, and Institutional Effectiveness

# Assessment

## Contents

Schedule at-a-glance	p. 2-3
Message from the OUA	p.5
Conference Schedule	p. 6-13
Presenter Biographies	p. 14-24
OUA Accolades	p. 25



# Message from the Office of University Assessment

Thank you for joining us for FAMU's Second Annual Assessment Day!

We are pleased to have grown this forum from our 2019 inaugural meeting. First, we are delighted to welcome a nationally-recognized keynote speaker, Dr. Natasha Jankowski. Dr. Jankowski is the Executive Director of the National Institute of Learning Outcomes Assessment (NILOA), an organization who celebrates assessment in higher education and one of the organizations that awards the Excellence in Assessment Designation.

We are also proud that we have been able to grow our program -- from 8 break-out sessions last year to 20 this year. The individuals who are presenting today submitted proposals to the Office of University Assessment earlier in the year -- we thank them for their choice in sharing the best practices being utilized in their offices/programs at FAMU. Our participation has also grown dramatically.

In 2019, we welcomed over 75 individuals within FAMU to share and discuss assessment at FAMU's Inaugural Assessment Day. This year we have over doubled the participation, including faculty, staff and administrative representation from all colleges/schools and divisions; students; as well as several visitors from other institutions across the State of Florida. We welcome all of you to this forum!

Finally, we thank all of you for your dedication to assessment at FAMU. Your investment in continuous improvement of student learning and the student experience has culminated in FAMU being named a 2020 Excellence in Assessment Designee. FAMU joins only 38 other institutions, and is only the second HBCU, to achieve this accomplishment since 2016. We hope that today will serve as an opportunity to form relationships, build a network, and engage in discussions surrounding conducting meaningful assessment that will further strengthen our culture of assessment at FAMU.

Thank you again for your participation today!

Warm Regards,

Your Assessment Team: Melanie, Kiwanis, George, Angela and Robin



# Conference Schedule

## 8:30 AM Opening Session

Larry Robinson  
*President, Florida A&M University*

Xavier McClinton  
*Student Body President & University Trustee, Florida A&M University*

Melanie Wicinski  
*Director, Office of University Assessment, Florida A&M University*

Click [here](#) to join

## 9:30 AM General Plenary

Natasha A. Jankowski  
*Executive Director, National Institute of Learning Outcomes Assessment  
Associate Professor, Educational Policy, Organization and Leadership  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

Click [here](#) to join

## 10:30 AM Concurrent Sessions

**Title:**  
Each One Different Yet All Seek the Same

**Presenter(s):**  
Neil James

**Intended Audience:**  
Instructional Programs

**Description:**  
The College of Agriculture and Food Sciences has the most diverse collection of degree programs in the University with disciplines ranging from the Social Sciences through the Sciences to Engineering, and it includes two externally accredited programs. It is also the home of one of the two FAMU ROTC programs. Nevertheless, the College recently implemented an assessment process that has ensured that the efforts in the classrooms are better reflected in its assessment reports which has resulted in the general improvement of its assessment ratings.

Click [here](#) to join

**Title:**  
Developing a First Year Program Assessment Plan

**Presenter(s):**  
Jennifer Collins, Lawrence Brown, Lewis Johnson

**Intended Audience:**  
Administrative and Educational Support Units

**Description:**  
This presentation will walk through the development of the Freshmen Studies program student and program learning outcomes. The goal of the process is to align the role of Freshmen Studies program components to the University's Strategic Plan as well as Performance-based Funding metrics.

Click [here](#) to join

# Conference Schedule

## 10:30 AM Concurrent Sessions

*Title:*

FAMU Medical Marijuana Education and Research Initiative: What You Should Know

*Presenter(s):*

Patricia Green-Powell, GP Mendie, Angela Harriman, Bagnama Virginia King, Brian Howard

*Intended Audience:*

Instructional Programs

*Description:*

Chapter 2017-232, Laws of Florida, charged Florida A&M University to “educate minorities about marijuana for medical use and the impact of the unlawful use of marijuana on minority communities.” FAMU’s response was the establishment of the Medical Marijuana Education and Research Initiative(MMERI).

This presentation will provide information on the development and update of FAMU MMERI and share the framework on how the interrelatedness of MMERI’s Key Components, Education, Evidence-based studies and research, Community Engagement and Communications - facilitates the advancement of education and knowledge, resolves complex questions and issues, and empowers Florida’s minority communities to learn more about marijuana for medical use and the impact of the unlawful use of marijuana.

Click [here](#) to join

## 11:00 AM Concurrent Sessions

*Title:*

The Power of Two: Integrating Accreditation Standards and Student Learning Outcomes for Program Success

*Presenter(s):*

Sundra Kincey, Leah Hunter

*Intended Audience:*

Instructional Programs

*Description:*

Student learning experiences are the foundation of higher education. Assessment provides a method of accountability for academic programs to ensure that students completing a degree leave with core knowledge needed for success in their careers. This presentation presents two programs and their journey through the development of an assessment strategy, the integration and implementation of the core principles and values of their specialized accrediting body as student-learning outcomes, and the investment of faculty in the development of targeted benchmarks and course-level assessment that resulted in successful re-accreditation.

Click [here](#) to join

# Conference Schedule

## 11:00 AM Concurrent Sessions

*Title:*

Assessing Post-graduation Outcomes of our Bachelor Degree Recipients – What do the Published Federal and State Governments Data Indicate?

*Presenter(s):*

Asitava 'AJ' Jana

*Intended Audience:*

Administrative and Educational Support Units

*Description:*

Employment prospects in the labor market significantly influence the decisions of high school students to pursue baccalaureate degree programs. This research will assess the post-baccalaureate outcomes of FAMU's graduates and provide employment information that will facilitate data-based decision-making among our current students. The analysis of administrative data published by federal and state governments within this research provides official perspectives that are not available through the use of survey data, which may be disputed on the grounds of low response rate or self-reporting bias.

Click [here](#) to join

*Title:*

Enhancing Assessment Effectiveness through Implementation of a Decision Support Platform

*Presenter(s):*

Tonya Martin, Jason Mobley

*Intended Audience:*

Deans, Instructional Programs

*Description:*

This session will highlight the College of Pharmacy's coordinated use of educational support platforms to enhance course-level and programmatic assessment effectiveness. The College employs ExamSoft, a useful electronic platform to facilitate the administration and capture of course-level assessment data. Recently, an additional multi-functional platform, Enflux, has been implemented. Enflux provides a link between desired learning outcomes and student performance on course-level assessments, which enables an early identification system. Furthermore, Enflux offers dashboards that demonstrate curricular effectiveness and compare learners' performance on various national assessments to designated benchmarks. These educational support platforms have utility in an array of academic disciplines.

Click [here](#) to join



# Conference Schedule

## 11:30 AM Concurrent Sessions

*Title:*

Interdisciplinary Studies: Curriculum, Performance Outcomes and Institutional Challenges

*Presenter(s):*

Merlin Langley, Monica Rivers

*Intended Audience:*

Administrative and Educational Support Units, Deans, Instructional Programs

*Description:*

The presentation will provide information related to factors that influence the mission of the Division of Interdisciplinary Studies (IDS) at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. Specifically, the presentation will review the curriculum, performance outcomes (operational and learning), and institutional challenges and opportunities at the University for IDS.

Click [here](#) to join

*Title:*

ILAC Update

*Presenter(s):*

DeAnna Burney

*Intended Audience:*

Administrative and Educational Support Units, Deans, Instructional Programs

*Description:*

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*Title:*

Implementing Organizational Change by Improving Assessment Planning through Faculty, Staff and Administrative Collaboration

*Presenter(s):*

Sabrina Edwards, Bobby Lolley, Charlene Howard

*Intended Audience:*

Administrative and Educational Support Units, Deans, Instructional Programs

*Description:*

Organizational change plays a critical role in analyzing the effectiveness of current practices and processes in today's ever changing society. Higher Education Administration must demonstrate the importance of institutional effectiveness and the impact on how academic advising must be assessed regarding student learning outcomes, student engagement and the need to develop improved advising programs at Florida A&M University. This presentation will outline action steps regarding improving the advising process, clearly defining the philosophy of academic advising, changing the mindset of campus-wide academic advising, and providing a detailed plan to motivate and engage academic advisors in the assessment planning process utilizing Nuventive and Qualtrics software. The Center for Academic Advising will utilize the approach presented to aid departments re-develop their assessment approach and inclusivity of Staff, Faculty and Administrators within their respective areas.

Click [here](#) to join

## 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM Lunch

# Conference Schedule

## 1:30 PM Concurrent Sessions

*Title:*  
Assessing GENED

*Presenter(s):*  
Michael LaBossiere

*Intended Audience:*  
Instructional Programs

*Description:*  
General education (GENED) is an essential part of the learning process and plays a critical role in a student's progress towards graduation. Assessing the GENED enables us to ensure excellence and plays a core role in accreditation and performance-based funding. This concise presentation provides an overview of the General Education Assessment Committee's (GEAC) role in the process as well as a discussion of how GEAC can assist faculty and students. The presentation would, of course, not be complete without a look at how you can help GEAC in its mission.

Click [here](#) to join

*Title:*  
Enhancing Your Strategic Planning Process

*Presenter(s):*  
Brandi Newkirk

*Intended Audience:*  
Administrative and Educational Support Units, Deans, Instructional Programs

*Description:*  
The strategic planning process is about getting from Point A to Point B more effectively, efficiently, and enjoying the journey and learning from it. Your strategic plan, and the process in which you carry out that plan, can play an instrumental role in meeting/exceeding your goals. During this session, participants will discuss how their processes impact decision making and process enhancements on the road to meeting set goals.

Click [here](#) to join

## 2:00 PM Concurrent Sessions

*Title:*  
A Qualitative Analysis of Student Experience Data from the FAMU Graduate Exit Survey

*Presenter(s):*  
Kiwanis Burr, Asitava 'AJ' Jana

*Intended Audience:*  
Administrative and Educational Support Units, Deans, Instructional Programs

*Description:*  
In this session we will explore the issues graduating seniors identify associated with their undergraduate experience at FAMU. Specifically, within this study we address students' perceptions through their open-ended responses on the FAMU Graduate Exit Survey. We will examine the following overarching research question: How do graduating seniors experience FAMU's academic programs and campus services as reflected within the Graduate Exit Survey?

Click [here](#) to join

# Conference Schedule

## 2:00 PM Concurrent Sessions

*Title:*  
Internal Controls

*Presenter(s):*  
Joseph Maleszewski

*Intended Audience:*  
Administrative and Educational Support Units, Deans, Instructional Programs

*Description:*  
This session will address the Committee on Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission's (COSO) Internal Controls: An Integrated Framework. This framework has been adopted by the FAMU BOT and the University to strengthen the effectiveness and efficiency of operations; reliability of financial reporting; and compliance with applicable laws/regulations. The session will include the 5 components of controls and how they work with the principles and focus points to assist all areas within the university in developing, implementing, and maintaining an effective system of internal controls.

Click [here](#) to join

*Title:*  
Peer Review (PeerR) Exercises to Improve Writing

*Presenter(s):*  
Tonya Walker, Priscilla Harris, Cynthia Ramkellawan

*Intended Audience:*  
Instructional Programs

*Description:*  
Peer Review (PeerR) Exercises are used in the College of Law's Legal Research and Writing (LRW) courses and its Academic Success Program to improve first-year law students' writing and analytical skills. This session will cover the primary benefits to students from these ungraded, formative exercises.

Click [here](#) to join

## 2:30 PM Concurrent Sessions

*Title:*  
Is Your Service Helping Students Succeed Academically?

*Presenter(s):*  
NaShandra Howard

*Intended Audience:*  
Administrative and Educational Support Units, Instructional Programs

*Description:*  
Whether trying to determine if a new initiative is working, which advertising method students are responding to, or whether or not supplemental academic service is ACTUALLY helping students at all, program data analysts know one thing: data can be difficult. There are numerous factors that play into determining how to assess your services and initiatives, and there are dozens of data points to sift through. Where do we begin!? Data analysts need to keep several factors in mind to be sure their results are accurate and reliable: data collection processes, data indicators, alterations in programmatic structure, trends, and data representation.

Click [here](#) to join

# Conference Schedule

## 2:30 PM Concurrent Sessions

*Title:*  
Best Practices for Reporting Assessment Data to Multiple Stakeholders

*Presenter(s):*  
Michelle Roddenberry, Subashini Iyer

*Intended Audience:*  
Administrative and Educational Support Units, Deans, Instructional Programs

*Description:*  
The College of Engineering serves two institutions, FAMU and FSU, which have unique missions. The College is tasked with providing annual assessments to both institutions, as well as participate in other cyclical assessments for institutional reviews and SACS accreditation. ABET program accreditation drives the assessment and accreditation efforts for the engineering programs, in six-year cycles. This presentation will highlight the processes and best practices used by one program, which has been used as a national model for ABET program-level accreditation, and efficiently collects and analyzes data for continuous improvement.

Click [here](#) to join

*Title:*  
Technology Enhanced Student Learning, Improved Engagement, and Performance in A&P Courses

*Presenter(s):*  
Clement Yedjou, Lekan Latinwo, Richard Alo

*Intended Audience:*  
Administrative and Educational Support Units, Deans, Instructional Programs

*Description:*  
The use of Canvas media and its technologies at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University allows faculty to create innovative group discussions and interactive computerized learning materials including video analysis, animation, simulation, interactive cross puzzle, labeling exercises, chat room, computerized homework, self-assessment, self-study, and study partner with the aim to promote student academic success. This model of instruction has been especially successful among online instructors who report an increase in independent thinking, improved integration of information, and an increase in students' ability to answer their own questions.

Click [here](#) to join

## 3:00 PM Concurrent Sessions

*Title:*  
Faculty Course Assessment Report

*Presenter(s):*  
Bobby Granville

*Intended Audience:*  
Instructional Programs

*Description:*  
This session will address the Faculty Course Assessment Report. Faculty record their required course assessment results on the FCAR Template. Within this session, the contents of the FCAR and the comparable fields of FAMU's Nuventive Report will be described.

Click [here](#) to join

# Conference Schedule

## 3:00 PM Concurrent Sessions

*Title:*

Academics, Compliance & the FAMU Brand

*Presenter(s):*

Keith McCluney, Michelle Harper, Kentrell Kearney, Karai Lockley, Ron Reeves

*Intended Audience:*

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*Description:*

A lot has changed in Athletics since the new administration took over in December. The department has implemented a strategy to move FAMU forward and in line with what peer institutions are doing in 2020. The goal is to graduate student-athletes and to operate the department in a compliant, fiscally responsible manner while growing the FAMU brand. Join the roundtable chat to learn how these goals will be accomplished.

Click [here](#) to join

*Title:*

Shifting the Developmental Writing Narrative Towards the Agentic: Reframing Online Instruction through Social Media Strategies

*Presenter(s):*

Kendra Mitchell, Monique Thomas, Charyl Montgomery, Treasure Glover

*Intended Audience:*

Administrative and Educational Support Units, Deans, Instructional Programs

*Description:*

This panel will consider how framing the writing center and writing pedagogical redesign for developmental writers in terms of rhetorical strategies commonly used to communicate via social media has the potential to promote writer motivation and increase learning gains that support the University's initiatives and academic support units.

Click [here](#) to join

## 3:30 PM Closing Session

Maurice Edington

*Provost, Florida A&M University*

Beverly Barrington

*Vice President, Strategic Planning, Analysis, and Institutional Effectiveness, Florida A&M University*

Click [here](#) to join

# Presenter Biographies

## Richard A. Aló

Richard A. Aló is Dean of the College of Science and Technology and Professor of Computer and Information Sciences at Florida A&M University. Prior, he was Executive Director for Big Data, Intelligence, Innovation, and Entrepreneur Ecosystem at Jackson State University [Jackson, MS] and former Dean of its College of Science, Engineering and Technology [10-1-2012 to 12-31-2017], and held the DOE (NNSA) Samuel P. Massie Chair of Excellence in Cybersecurity [2013-present]. At JSU he initiated/implemented six new degree programs including PhD in Big Data Science/Engineering [the first at an MSI]. His primary research and educational interests are in visual analytics, big data science and engineering, computational science applications, artificial intelligence [utilization of machine and deep learning], cyber infrastructure tools, automated reasoning and decision-making. He most recently supervised doctoral students [3] in Big Data in areas of genetic epidemiology, synthetic drug development and text [behavior] data analysis. He is currently leading a team [faculty, graduate, and undergraduate students] engaged in Covid 19 studies [with collaboration of the Bio Complexity Institute at the University of Indiana at Bloomington]. He has published over 200 research papers. Recent collaboration with colleagues and doctoral students has brought recognition to co-author a chapter on 'Racial Disparity in Breast Cancer' for a new Springer Verlag volume on: 'Breast Cancer Metastasis and Drug Resistance'.

## DeAnna M. Burney

Dr. DeAnna M. Burney is a Professor of Psychology and Licensed Psychologist. Dr. Burney has practiced as a psychologist for over 20 years, assisting in assessing and providing prevention and intervention for students who experience mental health crises due to poor coping and distressed lifestyle factors. She is an experienced crisis counselor, and has published articles and books which include research in the areas of mental health problems among youth and young adults who experience unresolved stress and trauma. Recent books maintain chapters that address conditions of stress on psychological and physical health. She has received grants to research human factors impacted by natural and created disasters, and the effects of post-traumatic stress disorder precipitated by poverty among natural disaster victims, hazing on college campuses, and assessment and intervention. Dr. Burney's research is supported by a R20 grant funded by Department of Health and Human Services, as well as a recently awarded grant from the FAMU Medical Marijuana Research Initiative.

She serves as an advisor and mentor to students completing research and thesis projects at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Supporting courses that she teaches include Psychobiology, Behavior Medicine, Research Design and Methodology. Furthermore, Dr. Burney is accomplished in the area of assessment by training and experience. Since 2003, she has been instrumental at FAMU in assisting programs and colleges successfully obtain and maintain accreditation status with respective accreditation agencies, including SACSCOC, NCATE, FDOE and CAEP. Dr. Burney currently serves as the Coordinator of Assessment for the Department of Psychology and Chair of the Institutional Level Assessment Committee (ILAC) for FAMU. Overall, she strives to expand the culture of assessment as a method of accountability and success, while collaborating with other professionals to develop interdisciplinary approaches to improving mental health practices and assessment practices across the university and other organizations.

# Presenter Biographies

## Kiwanis Burr

Kiwanis Burr is the Assistant Director of the Office of University Assessment (OUA) at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. Kiwanis graduated from FAMU in Spring 2005 and attended the University of Florida to pursue a PhD in Higher Education Administration with a concentration in Research Methodology. Ms. Burr provides assistance to the FAMU community regarding assessment, in addition to collaborating with the Director of University Assessment to strategically enhance the culture of assessment at FAMU.

## Jennifer M. Collins

Dr. Jennifer Collins is the Assistant Provost for Freshmen Studies at Florida A&M University. Previously, she served as the Dean of Accreditation and Assessment in the School of Business and Industry at Florida A&M University. Also, Dr. Collins previously served as the Quality Enhancement Plan Director for the University. She holds a Ph.D. in Management from Florida Atlantic University as well as a Master of Business Administration and Bachelor of Science in Finance from Florida State University. She is a Professor in the School of Business and Industry. Prior to joining the faculty at Florida A&M University, Dr. Collins taught at Florida State University. She also worked for the State of Florida for 12 years in various capacities, including: serving as a Tax Auditor with the State of Florida Department of Revenue and the Quality Assurance Administrator for the Florida Commission for Transportation Disadvantages.

## Sabrina F. Edwards

Dr. Sabrina F. Edwards has 13 years of experience in Secondary and Higher Education. Dr. Edwards also completed her post-doctoral certificate from Harvard University in Leadership. Previously, she served as a Business/Technology Education Teacher with Charleston County School District, at her Alma Mater Burke High School (Charleston, SC). Dr. Edwards has worked as a Mental Health Transitional Counselor with Charleston County Disability Board, Adult Education Teacher/Community School and Career Counselor at the University of North Florida. Sabrina's primary emphasis is placed on teaching adult learners and assisting first year college student support programs. Dr. Edwards served as the Director for Student Support Services/TRIO and was responsible for the implementation, development and management of the federally funded program at Edward Waters College, ensuring academic support services for at-risk and/or disadvantaged students, including low income and first-generation students. Dr. Edwards earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Pre-Law/Political Science from Saint Augustine's University, a Master of Arts in Human Resources/Training Development from Webster University and a Doctor of Education in Organizational Management with a specialization in Higher Education from Nova Southeastern University. Dr. Edwards currently serves as the Director of Academic Advising at the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University.

# Presenter Biographies

## Treasure Glover

Treasure Glover is a native of Tallahassee, FL, a sister to 3 siblings, and a mother to three precious plants, who has earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Relations and a Master of Applied Social Sciences in History at Florida A&M University. As a tutor in the Writing Resource Center, she helps FAMU students determine their writing related goals and improve their writing skills. She enjoys researching about African Americans' use of rhetoric and journalism to resist systematic racism throughout American history. Her experiences as a writing consultant have been expressed in her articles "Setting the Stage for Students to Shine" and "Rightfully Writing with Spice" that were published by the Dangling Modifier. She aims to combine her knowledge of writing and history to teach at the collegiate level and eventually influence curriculum policies for public schools.

## Bobby C. Granville

Bobby C. Granville is an Associate Professor in the Department of Computer and Information Sciences (CIS) at Florida A&M University. He received his Master of Science in Computer Information Systems from Georgia Institute of Technology (1975) and Ph.D. in Computer Science from Florida State University (1998). His research areas are Fuzzy Relational Systems Soft Artificial Intelligence, Software Engineering/Systems Development, Object-Oriented Design/Object-Oriented Programming, and Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes. Dr. Granville has served as the CIS department's Assessment Coordinator for almost two decades. In this role, he leads the department in maintaining an ABET-Accredited Program in Computer Science. He developed a uniform smart assessment tool to automate the collection of course assessment data by extracting the template document contents to be saved into the associated fields of the Faculty Course Assessment Database automatically, once a template document is uploaded.

## Angela Hardiman

Ms. Angela Hardiman, Public Affairs Liaison, plays a key leadership role in the communications and community engagement components of Florida A&M University's Medical Marijuana Education and Research Initiative (MMERI). Among her outreach duties, Ms. Hardiman hosts MMERI Videocasts and MMERI Forum Radio broadcasts, and moderates MMERI Community Forums.

## Priscilla Norwood Harris

Priscilla Norwood Harris, FAMU College of Law Priscilla Norwood Harris has taught law for over fifteen years. As a 2016-2017 U.S. Core Fulbright Scholar, she taught undergraduate and graduate students at Vilnius University and worked with Lithuanian courts. She has also taught undergraduate students in China. In addition, she has taught graduate students at several American law schools, including LL.M. students at Vanderbilt Law School. She has conducted public health field research in Appalachia funded by a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation program. Currently, she is pursuing a Master's in Public Health. Her research interests include public health law, environmental law, and legal research and writing. Currently, she teaches Legal Research and Writing and FAMU College of Law. She received her J.D. from University of Pennsylvania Law School and her B.A. from Florida State University. Before teaching, she practiced law for over ten years in Florida, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Washington, D.C. She is still an active member of the Florida bar.



# Presenter Biographies

## Brian Howard

Brian Howard, FAMU Assistant Director of Communications and MMERI Communications Liaison, handles media relations for MMERI, which includes responding to media inquiries, drafting press releases, and coordinating story placements about the program. He also makes sure the public relations and mass communications activities for MMERI support the University's strategic initiatives.

## Charlene Howard

Ms. Charlene Howard began her higher education career at Florida State University as a Financial Aid Advisor and later became a Sr. Financial Aid Counselor before joining Florida A&M as an Academic Counselor. Charlene was influential with the development of Florida A&M University's First Year Experience Program; which is a program established to aid first-time in college students in their transition from high school to college that serves over 1500 students. Ms. Howard was also involved in the implementation of the Access Summer Bridge Peer Mentor Program in 2014, which serves up to 250 students each summer. Ms. Howard is a key faculty administrator and she serves as an academic advisor, providing educational guidance, academic planning, and assisting faculty and staff with policies and procedures to enhance student success within the Department of Psychology.

## NaShandra Howard

NaShandra Howard is currently the Lead Learning Center Coordinator for the Undergraduate Student Success Center (USSC) at Florida A&M University (FAMU). She is passionate about supplying students with the tools they need to build valuable skills, achieve academic goals, and be life-time learners. NaShandra was born in Ocala, FL but moved to Tallahassee in 2011 to begin her matriculation at FAMU. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in Political Science in 2015 and was employed as a writing tutor for USSC soon after. There, she discovered her passion for supplemental education and sought opportunities to advance within the program. Her goal is to be a dedicated advocate for tutors, supply them with a plethora of professional development opportunities, and provide forward-thinking leadership. In addition to being the Lead Learning Center Coordinator, she is a student in Florida State University's MPA program where she anticipates receiving her master's in public administration in the Fall 2020 semester.

## Subashini Iyer

Dr. Subashini Iyer directs accreditation and assessment efforts for the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering. This includes coordinating with departments and deans' offices on annual assessment plans and reports for both FAMU and FSU, for all undergraduate and graduate engineering programs. She also provides college-level coordination of efforts related to ABET accreditation at the program level for all undergraduate engineering programs at the college. Dr. Iyer organizes the College Curriculum Committee and the college's grievance and grade appeal process, among other responsibilities. Her variety of responsibilities gives her a great understanding of the value of assessment and the role it plays in student success.

# Presenter Biographies

## Neil James

Neil James, Ph.D. serves as the Associate Dean for Academic Programs in the College of Agriculture and Food Sciences. In this role, he oversees the graduate and undergraduate academic programs offered by the College including the implementation of their assessment procedures. Neil James received a Ph.D. in Food Science from the University of Leeds in the United Kingdom and prior to his current position served as Professor and Program Leader of the Food Science program in the College and implemented the new BS degree in Food Science.

## Asitava "AJ" Jana

Dr. Asitava "AJ" Jana serves as a research coordinator within SPAIE-OIRA, assisting in the thrust for data driven planning and decision making. He studied science and accounting and worked as an accountant and auditor in India. He later pursued American educational opportunity and completed a master's degree in Accounting at Southern University (Baton Rouge), a leading HBCU in the Deep South. Later, he completed M.S. degrees in Agricultural Economics and Economics, and worked as an instructor and research/teaching assistant at LSU. Before joining FAMU, he worked at the Florida Department of Education and Board of Governors for two decades, gaining experience in K-12 data reporting and performance-based funding. During his tenure there, he completed an M.S. degree in Management Information System at FSU, acquired certifications in IT and Public Management, and received a Ph.D. in Education Policy at FSU. Since coming to FAMU, he has gained campus volunteering experience through the Efferson Student Union. In the past, he volunteered at a Title I elementary school, the city soccer league at Levy Park, and the adult learning center at Dr. B.L. Perry, Jr. Branch Library (Southside).

## Natasha Jankowski

Dr. Natasha Jankowski serves as Executive Director of the National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment (NILOA) and Research Associate Professor in the department of Education Policy, Organization and Leadership at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. She is co-author with her NILOA colleagues of the book *Using Evidence of Student Learning to Improve Higher Education*, as well as co-author of *Degrees that Matter: Moving Higher Education to a Learning Systems Paradigm*. She works in partnership with her NILOA colleagues and others in the field on assignment design, transparency, evidence-based storytelling, equity, mapping and alignment of learning, and all things assessment. NILOA is the proud recipient of the ACPA Contribution to Higher Education award. Natasha is the recipient of the Academic Professional Excellence Award from the University of Illinois, Kent State University's Alumni Award, and the Young Alumni Award from the College of Education at UIUC. She holds a PhD in Higher Education from the University of Illinois, an M.A. in Higher Education Administration from Kent State University, and a B.A. in philosophy from Illinois State University.

# Presenter Biographies

## Sundra D. Kinsey

Sundra D. Kinsey, Ph.D., is Assistant Vice President of Program Quality within the Division of Academic Affairs at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU). Her primary role is to provide leadership in the development of new degree offerings, oversight of the university program review process, and provide assistance to academic programs with specialized accreditation. Dr. Kinsey's professional career includes a wealth of experience in higher education that spans over a course of twenty years with combined experiences at the university and statewide system level. Dr. Kinsey is a member of the inaugural class of FAMU's Leadership Academy and has research interests in retention, persistence, and academic success of minority students. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with family, reading, and bowling.

## Bagnama Virginia King

Ms. Bagnama Virginia King, Program Administrator, provides administrative and executive support to the Medical Marijuana Education and Research Initiative (MMERI). She oversees organizational activities, manages relationships with key operations vendors, and communicates with the Office of Procurement Services, legal counsel and safety department to ensure all processes remain compliant.

## Michael LaBossiere

Originally from Maine, Dr. Michael LaBossiere received his PhD in Philosophy from the Ohio State University in 1993. He began teaching at Florida A&M University in the fall of 1993. Thanks to Dr. Valencia Matthews, he has been a perpetual member of the General Education Assessment Committee since its inception. When not philosophizing or assessing, he is most often running or gaming.

## Merlin R. Langley

Merlin R. Langley, Ph.D. is a clinical psychologist, Associate Professor & Director of the Division of Interdisciplinary Studies at Florida A&M University (FAMU). Dr. Langley served as chairperson of the Department of Social Work from 2008-2011 at FAMU. His research interests are in the areas of leadership in higher education, professional identity development of African Americans and women, and the examination of cultural and personality factors that contribute to mental health and health outcome disparities among diverse ethnic groups. Dr. Langley has conducted research and published and presented scholarly papers in these areas. He received his Ph.D. and M.S. degrees in clinical psychology with a minor in social work from Florida State University, a post graduate certificate in counseling psychology from Northeastern University, Ed.M. in Counseling and Guidance from Boston University, and a B.A. degree in psychology from the City University of New York - The City College. Dr. Langley also completed two post-doctoral psychology fellowships at Harvard. He is also an alumnus of Leadership Tallahassee, (Class XX), Florida State University Institute for Academic Leadership and the Management Development Program at Harvard Graduate School of Education.

# Presenter Biographies

## Lekan M. Latinwo

Dr. Lekan M. Latinwo is a Professor and the Chairman of the Department of Biological Sciences at Florida A&M University. He provides academic and scientific enrichment experiences that promote curiosity and capability in underrepresented minority students who have promising interests in pursuing careers in the biomedical sciences. His research interests are in understanding the molecular basis for heavy metal toxicity and identifying plausible approaches for ameliorating the toxicity. Dr. Latinwo recently joined the group of Dr. Musa studying the therapeutic effect(s) of novel synthetic anticancer, anti-microbial and anti-malarial activities. Dr. Latinwo will direct the biological aspect of the investigation. Dr. Latinwo has a standard laboratory space equipped with state-of-the-art research instrumentation. Since he joined the cadre of FAMU faculty, he has participated as either PI or Co-PI in research and/or training grants totaling about \$14 million. He has a record of productive research projects in an area of high relevance, and his expertise and experience in teaching, mentoring and providing laboratory research training to students and junior faculty are outstanding. Dr. Latinwo has published nearly 45 articles in peer-reviewed journals. He is an on-line certified teaching faculty at FAMU.

## Bobby Lolley

Bobby Lolley has over seven years of experience in teaching and student support services. Mr. Lolley served as a writing teacher at both Florida State University and Tallahassee Community College, as well as serving as a program director for the School of Arts and Sciences. Mr. Lolley is a new academic advisor to the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University and is quickly making a name for himself in his new department due to his presentation savvy, dedication to student service, and concise bio lines.

## Joseph K. (Joe) Maleszewski, MBA, CISA, CIA, CIG, CIGI, CIGA, CGAP, CCEP

Joe received his Master's in Business Administration (MBA) from the Florida State University School of Business where he also has degrees in Finance and Marketing. He currently serves as the Vice President for Audit at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (an Inspector General equivalent post). He previously served as City Auditor for the City of Tallahassee and Inspector General and Director of Compliance for the State University System of Florida Board of Governors. Joe has over 28 years of service in State of Florida government, serving primarily in Offices of Inspector General and serving as Inspector General for four state agencies. Joe is a Certified Internal Auditor (CIA), Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA), Certified Inspector General (CIG), Certified Inspector General Investigator (CIGI), Certified Inspector General Auditor (CIGA), Certified Government Auditing Professional (CGAP), and Certified Compliance and Ethics Professional (CCEP). Joe is an active member of several professional organizations including the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA), ISACA, Association of Government Accountants (AGA), Association of Inspectors General (AIG), and Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE).

# Presenter Biographies

## Tonya S. Martin

Dr. Tonya S. Martin is presently the Assistant Dean for Curriculum and Instructional Development, Florida A&M University College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Institute of Public Health and Associate Professor at the North Florida Pharmacy Practice Center, maintaining a General Medicine practice site. She earned her Doctor of Pharmacy from FAMU in 2000. Dr. Martin is a Board-Certified Geriatric Pharmacist and holds a Master's Degree in Adult Education with an emphasis in Curriculum and Instruction. She is an active member of the National Diamondback Pharmacy Alumni Council and the American Association of Colleges Pharmacy. Throughout her career, Dr. Martin has held a variety of clinical and leadership positions starting as an active duty officer in the United States Navy. She has served as Department Head, Division Officer, Academic Department Chair and Committee Chair. She has taught a diverse range of courses including cardiovascular diseases, infectious diseases, geriatrics and communications. She has been recognized as Teacher of the Year in 2010 and 2017 and with the Dean's Appreciation Award in 2013 and 2014.

## Xavier McClinton

Xavier McClinton is a 4th Year Economics Student from Brunswick, GA and current Student Body President and University Trustee at Florida A&M University. Xavier is a true servant-leader with a real desire to speak up for what's right, give back to the community, and pursue innovative solutions to many of the problems he and many of his peers face on a daily basis. Xavier has worked to fulfill this passion by serving the student body in different capacities within SGA. Outside of Student Government, he is a member of the Collegiate 100 of Florida A&M University, the Chief Financiers Organization, and the FAMU chapter of College Democrats, and the Metz Culinary Ambassador Program. He is also a proud member of the Beta Nu chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Although he is very involved on campus, Xavier continues to excel academically and professionally having completed internships with Sea Island Beach Resort as a Seasonal Services Intern, Fifth Third Bank, the State Board of Administration of Florida, & Wells Fargo Securities LLC. His favorite quote is by Reginald F. Lewis and it states, "Never let them see you sweat, only excel with seeming ease."

## Keith McCluney

Keith McCluney became the Deputy Director of Athletics/Chief of Staff at Florida A&M University in January 2020. A native of Shelby, N.C., McCluney comes to Florida A&M after serving as the Executive Senior Associate AD/External and Interim Director of Athletics at the University of Arkansas at Pine-Bluff, Associate Athletic Director for Development at Florida Atlantic University, the Blue Raider Athletic Association at Middle Tennessee State University, Wake Forest University where he served as the Director of Regional Development for the Deacon Club, Assistant Director of Development at the University of Tennessee and the Assistant Director of Annual Giving at the University of Miami in Coral Gables. McCluney began his athletics administration career as the Assistant AD for Marketing and Promotions at North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro, N.C.

McCluney is a former football student-athlete and graduate of Fayetteville State University, where he earned a B.S. in Business Administration and Marketing. McCluney is also a graduate of the Sports Management Institute (SMI), Collegiate Athletics Leadership Symposium (CALs), and the North Carolina A&T State University Leadership Academy. McCluney is a proud member of the National Association of Athletic Directors of Development (NAADD), National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

# Presenter Biographies

## GP Mendie

Mr. GP Mendie serves as Budget and Program Manager under the direction of MMERI's Interim Executive Director, and the University's Vice President for Research, the Provost and Leadership. In this leadership role, Mr. Mendie collaborates with relevant stakeholders to oversee the program's budget and finance, operations, audit, contracts, strategic planning, and overall compliance with applicable statutes and regulations.

## Kendra L. Mitchell

Kendra L. Mitchell, PhD is an assistant professor in the Department of English and Modern Languages where she teaches first-year composition, technical writing, developmental writing, and History of the English Language. Her research interests include studying how the verbal and written language habits of Black students at HBCUs influence their writing. Her passion for neurodiverse students stems from her personal and professional experiences tutoring autistic and ADHD learners. Dr. Mitchell has worked in and/or researched the Writing Resource Center for over 15 years. Her latest publication focusing on her teaching experiences during COVID-19, My Beloved Community, will appear in the Journal for Historical Rhetoric Spring 2021.

## Brandi Newkirk

Brandi Newkirk received her Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and M.B.A. with a concentration in finance from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU). Ms. Newkirk began her professional career as the Coordinator of Academic Support Services in the Office of University Assessment at FAMU in 2007. During that time, she was able to develop a full working knowledge of what it takes for an institution to be in continuous improvement mode; articulate statements of expected outcomes and objectives, in addition to student competencies; and, identify robust measures that promote program development and growth. Later, she transitioned to the Assistant Director position. In that capacity, she brought a mix of knowledge in conducting evaluation/research designed to support assessment and decision-making needs; including planning, data gathering, data analysis, and report dissemination. Currently, she serves as the Director of Accreditation and Planning. In this role, she continues to utilize her knowledge and skills to increase institutional accountability efforts by evaluating the progress of academic and administrative units in meeting performance objectives and addressing strategic priorities.

## Patricia Green-Powell

Dr. Patricia Green-Powell serves as Executive Director and is responsible for the oversight of Florida A&M's Medical Marijuana Education and Research Initiative (MMERI) as specified in Section 381.986, F.S., as adopted via Chapter 2017-232, Laws of Florida: "to educate minorities about marijuana for medical use and the impact of the unlawful use of marijuana on minority communities." In this role, Dr. Green-Powell serves as the liaison between the FAMU Division of Research, the Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Office of Communications, the University President, FAMU Board of Trustees, and the Florida Department of Health.

# Presenter Biographies

## Michelle Rambo-Roddenberry

Dr. Michelle Rambo-Roddenberry is Associate Dean for Student Services and Undergraduate Affairs and a professor in the civil and environmental engineering department. She is responsible for overseeing curriculum and academic matters for the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering. She is involved nationally on engineering accreditation and licensure matters, serving organizations including the accrediting body ABET on their Boards of Delegates, National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES), and Florida Board of Professional Engineers (FPBE).

## Monica Rivers

Monica Rivers is the Lead Advisor in the Division of Interdisciplinary Studies, where her primary functions are streamlining performance and operational outcomes in the division through assessment, student satisfaction, and performance management. She has a Master of Public Administration degree in Human Resources Management from Albany State University. Recently, she became a certified human resources professional through the Society of Human Resources Management (SHRM). Monica is a native of Atlanta, Georgia.

## Monique Thomas

Monique Thomas is a graduate of Florida A&M University. She is currently the coordinator of the Writing Resource Center, where she enjoys working with and encouraging students. She believes that each student has something valuable to share with the world.

## Tonya H. Walker

Walker has been teaching first-year law students Legal Research & Writing for nine years at the College of Law. She began her career in academia as an Assistant Professor of Lawyering Process at Florida Coastal School of Law in Jacksonville, Florida, where she taught first-year law students Legal Research and Writing. In addition, she taught upper level law students skills courses including: Pretrial Litigation Drafting and Client Interviewing and Counseling. Prior to her career in academia, Professor Walker practiced construction and complex commercial litigation. She represented contractors, sub-contractors, engineers, and design professionals in bid disputes, bond and lien claims, Miller Act claims, construction and design defect cases, and insurance coverage disputes. She also represented clients in business dissolution cases, foreclosure disputes, and doctors and nurses in Administrative Hearings before the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation. She also practiced appellate law where she represented clients before the Florida state appellate courts on a variety of appellate issues. Professor Walker received her Juris Doctorate degree from Florida State University College of Law, cum laude. Professor Walker received her undergraduate degree with a major in Criminal Justice from the University of North Florida. She is actively involved in community activities and organizing Team Fox fundraising events for the Michael J. Fox Foundation.

# Presenter Biographies

## Clement G. Yedjou

Dr. Clement G. Yedjou is an Associate Professor and Certified Faculty for Teaching Online in the Department of Biological Sciences at FAMU. Between 2014 and 2016, he received two curriculum grants awards funded by NIH to develop an online Biology Master's Degree Program which attracted and allowed a large number of diverse students to pursue their educational careers and obtain their graduate degree online. Dr. Yedjou has secured NSF, NIH, and institutional competitive grants as PI, Co-PI, Project Collaborator, and Faculty Mentor and he has published 60 peer-reviewed articles in prestigious journals. He authored eight book chapters and he is a Lead Guest Editor for Breast Cancer, Basic and Clinical Research, an editorial board member of the Environmental Toxicology, Drug and Therapy Studies, and a reviewer of many international journals including the Environmental Research and Public Health, Indian Pharmacology Journal and McGraw Hill of High Education textbooks. He has presented several short courses and more than 120 keynote and invited talks in the United States, Canada, and Europe. Dr. Yedjou's current teaching strategies involve interactive media, innovative group discussions, innovative technologies, and hands-on activities that help increase students' learning and provide them with skills such as time management, self-discipline, independence, and developing a serious attitude toward learning.



# OUA Accolades



The Excellence in Assessment (EIA) designation, the first national initiative of its kind, recognizes institutions that successfully integrate assessment practices throughout the institution, provide evidence of student learning outcomes, and use assessment results to guide institutional decision-making and improve student performance.

FAMU is the second HBCU to receive this honored designation, and is among one of the first institutions in Florida to receive the award!

Reaching this milestone would not have been possible without the commitment and dedication of the FAMU community and our assessment stakeholders. Through your efforts to implement and document continuous improvement in your department/division, you provided evidence of FAMU's dynamic and transformative assessment processes!



The Office of University Assessment (OUA) is proud to announce their contribution to a special HBCU-focused issue of the *Assessment Update*!

In the article, the OUA team discussed a brief history of the office and its responsibilities. Additionally, the team detailed the impact of the revised rubric on continuous improvement at the University and how it guides our work! The article, *Assessing Assessment: Using a Rubric to Improve Quality and Enhance Communication*, is available through the Florida A&M University Library or can be read [here](#).



The OUA Team has been on the (virtual!) go with conference participation and presentation despite the impact of COVID-19.

From a scheduled presentation at the 2020 UF Assessment Conference to a successful discussion of FAMU's assessment processes at the 2020 Assessment Institute, the assessment office continues to answer the call to engage fellow practitioners in robust discussions regarding continuous improvement and meaningful assessment.

Be sure to attend the OUA's presentation at the 2020 SACSCOC Annual Meeting in December!

