

Other Sponsors

Sample Projects Evaluated by PEER

UCF Gulf Scholars Program (\$450,000, 2022–2027)

The UCF Gulf Scholars Program (UCF GSP) is funded thru the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Gulf Research Program (GSP). The driving mission of GSP is to develop a new generation of leaders and change agents to solve large, messy socio-environmental problems in the Gulf of Mexico region.

- Principal Investigator: Dr. Kristy Lewis, UCF College of Sciences

ACCESO: Liberal Arts Colleges→R1 HSIs: Pathways for Latina/o Graduate STEM Success (\$423,090 2022–2024)

This project is sponsored by Alfred P. Sloan Foundation's *Creating Equitable Pathways to STEM Graduate Education* grant program. The goal of ACCESO is to increase the numbers and success rates of Latina/o/x STEM graduate students who join and lead the STEM workforce.

- Principal Investigator: Dr. John Weishampel, Ph.D., UCF College of Graduate Studies

Internationalization Program for STEM-Students through Learning and Research Experiences (\$25,000, 2018)

The mission of this program was to help Peruvian and American undergraduate and graduate students who come from low-income families to participate in an international research and educational exchange program hosted by the University of Central Florida (UCF) in the U.S. and the National University of Engineering (UNI acronym Spanish) in Peru. Students' research had a focus on chemical sensors, renewable energy sources, and environmental science. In turn, enriching cultural ties between U.S. and Peruvian students, while undergraduate and graduate students develop research skills that may encourage them to pursue a Ph.D. degree.

- Principal Investigator: Dr. Karin Chumbimuni-Torres

Lockheed Martin/UCF Academy for Mathematics and Science (2003–present)

The Lockheed Martin/University of Central Florida Academy for Mathematics and Science (LMA) is an education/industry/community partnership aimed at improving mathematics, science and technology education in Central Florida. This unique partnership, launched by Founding Director Dr. Michael Hynes, serves as a model for the educational reforms proposed by both national and state agencies by providing schools in Central Florida with outstanding teacher-leaders who initiate, implement, and sustain mathematics and science reform efforts. PEER evaluates the LMA K–8 and Transition to Mathematics and Science Teaching (T-MAST) graduate-level programs.

- Director: Dr. Lisa Dieker, UCF College of Community Innovation and Education

Urban Teacher Institute Project (\$200,000, 2013–2014)

The Urban Teacher Institute Project was a State appropriation (Florida) funded project at the University of Central Florida (UCF). The Urban Teacher Institute project had five goals, all aimed at improving teaching and learning in urban schools: (a) enhance the education and preparation of UCF undergraduate and graduate students for work within the education profession by providing impactful research evaluating students engaging in course work with authentic service learning opportunities students and their families in urban settings, (b) provide urban teaching professional development for OCPS teachers, (c) expand the role of technology in the process of teaching in urban settings, (d) expand the role of technology in the process of learning for students in urban settings, and (e) provide professional development for local early childhood professionals.

- Principal Investigator: Grant Hayes, UCF College of Community Innovation and Education (CEDHP) at UCF

Health Explorers and Leaders Program (HEAL) (\$25,000, 2014–2015)

Health Explorers and Leaders pipeline program (HEAL), an effort funded by the College of Medicine at the University of Central Florida (UCF), was designed to provide children from underserved communities inspiration and training for future health careers. During the project period, HEAL was realized through Health Explorers, an after-school enrichment club offered at Horizon Middle School in the School District of Osceola County. The Health Explorers model focused on removing challenges for minority students interested in health careers by (a) using sports to enhance STEM knowledge, (b) improving critical thinking and problem solving skills while improving wellness, and (c) providing mentoring and life-skills training. The long-term goal of Health Explorers was to develop effective models to assist students from groups who are underrepresented in health care careers to develop the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed so that they are prepared upon high school graduation to pursue, if they so desire, a health career.

- Principal Investigator: Dr. Lisa Barkley, UCF College of Medicine

Promoting the Use of Simulation Technology in Florida Nurse Education (\$500,000, 2009–2011)

This study provided a situated perspective for using social network analysis and responsive evaluation to study and affect growth in collaboration over time of the collaborative aspects of Promoting the Use of Simulation Technology in Florida, a project funded by the Partners Investing in Nursing's Future (PIN), a national initiative led by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Northwest Health Foundation to address the nursing shortage. The Blue Foundation for a Healthy Florida and the Florida Center for Nursing served as the project leaders. PEER performed an independent evaluation of the projects' collaboration aspects.

- Principal Investigator: Dr. Michael Hutton, Blue Foundation for a Healthy Florida