

# FLC Partners in Municipal Research

Through the Partners in Municipal Research program, the Center for Municipal Research serves as a link between Florida's public policy researchers and municipal governments, bridging the gap between academics and public policy makers and administrators.

The researchers and research institutes listed below are participants in the Partners in Municipal Research Program. More information on their research can be obtained by clicking on links provided or by contacting [CMRI staff](#).

## **Division of Research**

### **Florida Atlantic University**

Contact: Rhys L. Williams, JD MBA

901 NW 35th Street, Boca Raton, FL 33431

[fau.edu/research/](http://fau.edu/research/)

Research Focus: university-based business incubators, accelerators and co-working facilities; university-municipal-corporate research collaborations; university-affiliated research parks; industry/sector clusters and zones

## **I-SENSE (Institute for Sensing & Embedded Network Systems Engineering)**

### **Florida Atlantic University**

Contacts: Jason Hallstrom, Director; Andrea Gonzalez; Jiannan Zhai, MaryJo Jackson  
777 Glades Road, EE-96 #324, Boca Raton, FL 33431

[isense.fau.edu](http://isense.fau.edu)

**Research Focus:** smart cities; e-government; Internet of Things; secure autonomy; municipal applications of sensing, smart systems and data analysis

## **School of Public Administration**

### **Florida Atlantic University**

Contact: Clifford McCue, PhD

777 Glades Road, SO 202C, Boca Raton, FL 33431

[fau.edu/spa](http://fau.edu/spa)

Research Focus: budgeting, finance, key focal area in purchasing

## **Department of Public Affairs**

### **Florida Gulf Coast University**

Contact: Robert (Bob) E. Lee, DPA, ICMA-CM

10501 FGCU Blvd. S., Fort Myers, FL 33965

[fgcu.edu/](http://fgcu.edu/)

Research Focus: local government management and services

**Metropolitan Center  
Florida International University**

Contact: Maria Ilcheva, PhD  
1101 Brickell Avenue, Suite S-206, Miami, FL 33131

[metropolitan.fiu.edu](http://metropolitan.fiu.edu)

Research Focus: economic development, citizen participation, public opinion, human capital development and capacity building

**Public Administration Department  
Florida International University**

Contact: Hai (David) Guo, PhD  
11120 SW 8th Street, Miami, FL 33199

Research Focus: state and local government public budgeting and financial management

**Florida Resources & Environmental Analysis Center (FREAC)  
Florida State University**

Contact: Georgianna Strode; Stephen Hodge  
UCC 6140, FSU, Tallahassee, FL 32306

[www.freac.fsu.edu](http://www.freac.fsu.edu)

Research Focus: Geographic Information System (GIS); census data/population mapping/cadastral data; grid-based mapping/modeling

**Jerry Collins Local Governance Research Laboratory, Askew School of Public Administration**

**Florida State University**

Contact: Dr. Richard Feiock  
647 Bellamy Building, 113 Collegiate Loop, Tallahassee, FL 32306

<http://localgov.fsu.edu>

Research Focus: energy efficiency and conservation, sustainability and climate planning, regional partnerships and interlocal agreements, form of government and charter reform, economic development and land-use incorporation, annexation and consolidation

**LeRoy Collins Institute  
Florida State University**

Contact: Carol Weissert, PhD  
506 W Pensacola Street, Tallahassee, FL 32306

[collinsinstitute.fsu.edu](http://collinsinstitute.fsu.edu)

Research Focus: state and local governmental relationships, in-depth analysis of Florida tax and spending policy

### **Florida TaxWatch**

**Contact: Morgan McCord**

106 N Bronough Street, Tallahassee, FL 32301

[floridataxwatch.org](http://floridataxwatch.org)

Research Focus: pension reform, government efficiency and bonding

### **Institute for Public and Nonprofit Studies**

**Georgia Southern University**

Contact: Dr. P. Cary Christian; Dr. Trenton Davis

1360 Southern Drive, Carroll Building, Room 1068, Statesboro, GA 30460

<http://class.georgiasouthern.edu/ipns/>

Research Focus: innovation in local government finance and budgeting; impact of Great Recession on Florida and Georgia municipalities; local taxation issues; effectiveness of MPA programs in preparing students for work in local government

### **Keiser University**

**Contacts: Buzz Barak, PhD; Jennifer P. Peluso, PhD**

2600 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach, FL 33409

<https://flagship.keiser-education.com/>

Research Focus: environmental and natural resource economics; evaluation of environmental services, taxes, health and maximization of public utility; coastal management; economics of regulation; climate change economics; renewable energy economics

### **Center for Public and Nonprofit Management, School of Public Administration University of Central Florida**

Contact: Naim Kapucu, PhD

4364 Scorpius Street, Orlando, FL 32816

[cohpa.ucf.edu/cpnm/](http://cohpa.ucf.edu/cpnm/)

Research Focus: emergency management, network analysis, network governance, collaborative public management and method

### **Center for Public and Nonprofit Management, School of Public Administration University of Central Florida**

Contact: Staci M. Zavattaro, PhD

4364 Scorpius Street, Room 314, Orlando, FL 32816

[cohpa.ucf.edu/cpnm/](http://cohpa.ucf.edu/cpnm/)

Research Focus: place branding and marketing, social media, organizational communication

**Doctoral Program, Public Affairs, College of Health and Public Affairs  
University of Central Florida**

Contact: Richard Levey, AICP  
611 Avalon Boulevard, Orlando, FL 32806  
[cohpa.ucf.edu/publicaffairs/](http://cohpa.ucf.edu/publicaffairs/)

Research Focus: fiscal resiliency of local governments, local government policy and governance

**John Scott Dailey Florida Institute of Government  
University of Central Florida**

Contact: Marilyn Crotty  
12443 Research Parkway, Suite 402, Orlando, FL 32826  
[iog.ucf.edu](http://iog.ucf.edu)

Research Focus: training and technical assistance to local governments, state agencies and nonprofit organizations

**National Center for Integrated Coastal Research  
University of Central Florida**

Contact: Graham Worthy  
4110 Libra Drive, Building 20, Room 302A, Orlando, FL 32816-2368  
[www.ucf.edu/research/coastal-center/](http://www.ucf.edu/research/coastal-center/)

Research Focus: integrates science with societal needs to find solutions; evidence-based, whole-community approach to increase the resiliency and sustainability of coastal communities by bringing together biologists, engineers, emergency managers, policy people, biomedical researchers, economists and urban planners

**Florida Resilient Communities Initiative  
University of Florida**

Contact: Jerry Murphy, JD, AICP, CFM  
Dean's Office, College of Design, Construction & Planning  
331 Architecture Building, PO Box 115701, Gainesville, FL 32611-5701  
<http://frci.dcp.ufl.edu>

Research Focus: community resiliency (economic, environmental and social); resource efficiency; 21st century comprehensive plans, land development regulations and form-base codes; urban design; governmental responsibility; local government finance and accountability; planning commissioner training; effective citizen advocacy; community engagement and outreach; consensus building; community planning; community and neighborhood plans; traditional neighborhood planning; alternative transportation planning and research; transit-oriented planning; economic innovation; impact fees and infrastructure finance; community health and healthy community planning; antiquated subdivisions and platted lands issues; agricultural and rural lands; geographic information systems (GIS) assistance; aerial

imaging, photography and videography; interlocal agreements for current, long-range and ongoing planning assistance; regional planning coordination

### **Shimberg Center for Housing Studies**

#### **University of Florida**

Contacts: Anne Ray, Bill O'Dell, Sherry Ahrentzen  
PO Box 115703, 203 Rinker Hall, Gainesville, FL 32611

[shimberg.ufl.edu](http://shimberg.ufl.edu) and [flhousingdata.shimberg.ufl.edu](http://flhousingdata.shimberg.ufl.edu)

Research Focus: housing with a focus on affordability in Florida, community development, housing/land use/transportation connections, GIS modeling, healthy homes and environmental quality, housing for seniors and persons with disabilities, local and county affordable housing data, and sustainable development

### **Political Science Department**

#### **University of Miami**

Contact: Jennifer M. Connolly, PhD  
1300 Campo Sano Avenue, Coral Gables, FL 33124

Research Focus: principal-agent relationship between council and manager, city manager careers/turnover, technology in local government and contract management

### **Political Science Department**

#### **University of Miami**

Contact: Dr. Michael Touchton  
1300 Campo Sano Avenue, Coral Gables, FL 33146

<https://politicalscience.as.miami.edu/>

Research Focus: how communities around the country redevelop closed military bases; emphasizing governance throughout the redevelopment process to leverage existing inputs and local opportunities to improve outcomes

Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR)

University of South Florida

Contact: Dennis Hinebaugh and Dr. Steve Polzin  
4202 E. Fowler Avenue, CUT100, Tampa, FL 33620-5375

[www.cutr.usf.edu](http://www.cutr.usf.edu)

Research Focus: transportation research center created under Florida Statute; Tier 1 USDOT University Transportation Center (National Center for Transit Research - NCTR); focus/topic areas include public transportation, freight, Intelligent Transportation Systems - ITS, vehicle automation, separate safety programs in traffic/pedestrian/bicycle/motorcycle/transit, Transportation Demand Management (TDM), corridor management

**Department of Government & International Affairs  
University of South Florida**

Contact: Dr. Susan A. MacManus and Angela Crist, Executive Director, IOG at USF  
4202 E. Fowler Avenue, SOC 107, Tampa, FL 33620

[fiog.usf.edu](http://fiog.usf.edu) and [sunshinestatesurvey.org](http://sunshinestatesurvey.org)

Research Focus: intergovernmental relations, public opinion, voting issues and patterns, public policy trends

**School of Public Affairs  
University of South Florida**

Contact: Stephen R. Neely  
4202 E. Fowler Avenue, SOC 107, Tampa, FL 33620  
[spa.usf.edu/](http://spa.usf.edu/)

Research Focus: social media use in local government, public records compliance, and public affairs education; general interest in organizational theory and management

**Water Institute  
University of South Florida**

Contact: Shawn Landry, Ph.D.  
4202 E. Fowler Avenue, NES107, Tampa, FL 33620  
[WaterInstitute.usf.edu](http://WaterInstitute.usf.edu)

Research Focus: Water resource management; GIS/GPS mapping and remote sensing; rapid bathymetric mapping (sonar); online decision support systems for TMDL, NPDES, stormwater management and environmental education (i.e., [wateratlas.org](http://wateratlas.org) and [water-cat.org](http://water-cat.org)); compliance with FDEP Impaired Waters Rule data management and STORET

**University of Tampa  
Contact: Robert Kerstein**

400 4th Avenue South, #706, St. Petersburg, FL 33701  
[ut.edu](http://ut.edu)

Research Focus: economic development, tourism and affordable housing

**Public Administration Program  
University of West Florida**

Contact: Dr. Haris Alibašić  
11000 University Parkway, Building 85, Office 159, Pensacola, FL 32514  
[uwf.edu/ceps/departments/legal-studies-public-admin-and-sport-mgmt/graduate-programs/msa-in-public-administration/](http://uwf.edu/ceps/departments/legal-studies-public-admin-and-sport-mgmt/graduate-programs/msa-in-public-administration/)

Research Focus: Sustainability and resilience; community resilience; climate preparedness; climate adaptation and mitigation; sustainability planning,

measuring, tracking and reporting; public service ethics; economic development; performance measurement; sustainable energy, energy efficiency, renewable energy and energy management.