



FAMU HOLMES SCHOLARS® PROGRAM

**A Model of Support for Minority Doctoral Student Success: Bridging Mentoring,
Professional Development, Scholarship, and Community Service**



History



The Holmes Partnership established the Holmes Scholars® program in 1991 to provide support and mentoring for underrepresented students in leadership positions in institutions of higher education and professional development schools located in public school districts.

History

- The primary goal was to establish equity, diversity and cultural competence in programs of higher education and PK-12 schools
- The program was originally designed to enrich the scholarly experience and professional training of talented graduate-level students from underrepresented minority backgrounds or students with disabilities pursuing careers in education
- As of June 2010, AACTE assumed the management and coordination of the Holmes Scholars® Program for the Holmes Partnership
- June 2011, HBCUs were invited to become members of the Holmes Scholars ® organization



History



- In 2013, Florida A&M University became the first HBCU to have doctoral students inducted as Holmes Scholars®
- One FAMU Educational Leadership doctoral student was elected as a Holmes Scholars® Council as Research Coordinator
- Since its inception, more than 600 students have benefited from the program, and more than 200 are now in tenure-track and leadership positions



Implications for Action



The Florida A&M University Holmes Scholars® model encompass a strategic foundation of professional development, scholarship, and advocacy/community service. Themes of mentorship, peer support, and building learning communities will be essential components of the model, which will continue to increase the development of FAMU College of Education doctoral students.



FAMU Holmes Scholars® Model





Professional Development in Action



- Scholars develop professionally through involvement in professional development activities such as:
- Dissertation Retreat
 - Mock interview sessions
 - Lunch and Learn series
 - Leadership Skills Professional Development
 - Development of research and publication skills
 - Participation in local, regional and national conferences



Mentoring in Action



Mentoring plays a prominent role in Holmes Scholars® programs through a mentoring system that is faculty and student driven.

Faculty Commitment

- Deliberate in establishing a relationship of trust and respect
- Pre-Post doctoral mentoring in scholarly research
- Demonstrate a strong confidence in Scholars
- Encourage doctoral candidates to apply for fellowships and to submit conference proposals
- Minimum faculty commitment time of ten hours per month



Scholarship in Action



FAMU Holmes Scholars® are expected to be exemplars in all scholastic activities since this facilitates preparation and readiness for the professoriate and leadership positions in higher education.

- Provides a strong foundation for subsequent academic and/or research careers by stimulating student research and scholarly productivity
- Scholars will disseminate their research findings at peer-reviewed conferences and in scholarly publications
- Scholars can serve as reviewers and assistant editors for peer-review journals



Community Service and Advocacy in Action

FAMU Holmes Scholars® are well poised to initiate discussion about policy creation, community service and renewal as a result of their research efforts and their professional development activities.

- Collaboration with other academicians and professionals allows Holmes Scholars® to continue building their knowledge base and contribute to the development of innovative educational practices.
- An exemplary Holmes Scholars® program has a membership that is diverse in terms of gender, ethnicity, research interests and specializations.



Benefits to the University and College of Education



- The establishment of a Florida A&M University AACTE Holmes Scholars® program will contribute to the successful matriculation of the doctoral candidate.
- In addition, the program addresses the following goals as it pertains to the university's *2020 Vision with Courage* Strategic Plan 2010-2020:
 - Strategic Initiative 1: Create a 21st century living and learning collegiate community
 - Goal 1.1: Enhance access to the university
 - Goal 1.2: Continuous enhancement and assessment of the student experience
 - Goal 1.3: Improve academic progression, performance, and graduation rates



Benefits to FAMU Doctoral Students



- Membership in a national network of peers with access to dedicated online social networks.
- Mentoring opportunities by Holmes Scholar Alumni currently in academia and other leadership positions.
- Leadership and professional development opportunities at the national and local level, such as participation in conference presentations, review panels, policy/advocacy training, and sponsored publications.