

Strengthening Campus Connections: How Living Learning Communities Increase Student Success

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Welcome!



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Today's Presenters



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Questions & Conversation

- Submit your questions in the box
- Share on social media

Twitter: @FLCollegeAccess
#FCAN
#TalentStrongFL

*This webinar is being recorded; all materials
will be available within a week of recording*



Our mission:

We lead the collaborative movement to ensure every Floridian achieves an education beyond high school and a rewarding career.

Our vision:

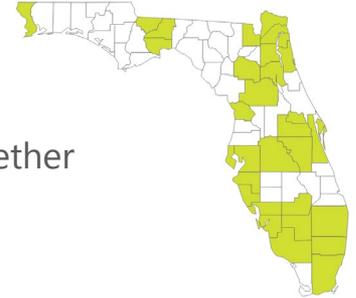
A Florida working together, where education is the pathway to economic mobility for all.

FCAN's Work



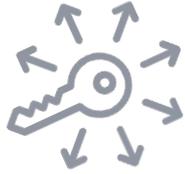
Research and Data FCAN publishes research and data on evidence-based practices and policy opportunities to strengthen Florida's talent pool.

Local college access networks (LCANs) LCANs support 82% of the state's population. These organizations are made up of community leaders who come together to create solutions and partnerships to support local talent development.



Statewide Initiatives FCAN coordinates 4 College Ready Florida initiatives that provides schools and community organizations resources to help students continue their education after high school.

Seven Conditions That Make Florida Talent Strong



Opportunity for
Everyone



Clear Information
and Guidance



Affordability



Multiple
Pathways



Lifelong
Learning



Data-informed
Decision-making



Community
Collaboration

Introduction to Living Learning Communities (LLCs)



What are Living Learning Communities?

At both two- and four-year colleges across the nation, LLCs are a group of students who live on the same floor of a residential hall and share an interest in a common theme or major. Often, LLCs offer students access to events and resources, connect students with faculty, and bring students together inside and outside of the classroom.



Research background

- LLCs were identified as one of ten “high impact best practices” by the National Survey of Student Engagement, positively associated with learning, retention, and degree completion.
- Only about 15% of first-year students participate
- LLCs have been shown to:
 - increase student retention rates and academic performance
 - increase overall satisfaction with college
 - increase class attendance and participation

Ultimately, LLCs increase student engagement, which positively affects student outcomes

Why does this matter?

- **1 in 3 students do not complete a bachelor's degree in six years.**
- Regardless of credential level, first-generation students are more likely to stop out after their first year than their continuing-generation peers. They are also less likely to participate in extracurricular activities, conduct research with faculty, or hold a leadership role.

Source: [National Student Clearinghouse Research Center](#), 2018; RTI International, [First-generation College Graduates' Participation in Extracurricular and Co-curricular Activities as Undergraduate Students](#). Washington, DC: NASPA. 2021.



Dr. Brenda Spencer

Director, Living-Learning Community
Program, Florida A&M University



Florida A&M University (FAMU)
Living-Learning Community (LLC) Program



FAMU Living-Learning Community Program

- Started in Fall 2015
- Part of FAMU's student success initiatives
- Partnership between Academic Affairs and Student Affairs
- 13 major-specific LLCs; over 300 students annually
- First-year students apply via the University's Housing Application Portal and are accepted based upon specific academic criteria per LLC
- Designated Faculty/Staff Liaison per LLC
- Designated Resident Assistant per LLC
- LLCs located in one residence hall

FAMU Living-Learning Community Program

- Accepted students live together on same floor of the residence hall according to major area
- LLC roommate
- Students must sign an LLC Student Agreement Form
- Students remain in the program for one academic year

Provost's Leadership LLC



FAMU Engineering LLC



College of Agriculture and Food Sciences LLC



School of Allied Health Sciences LLC



School of Architecture and Engineering Technology LLC



School of Business and Industry LLC



College of Education LLC



School of the Environment LLC

SCHOLARS-IN-RESIDENCE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE



School of Journalism and Graphic Communication LLC



School of Nursing LLC



College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences LLC



College of Science and Technology LLC



College of Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities LLC



FAMU Living-Learning Community Program Activities

- Faculty Engagement
- Shared Classes
- Study Groups
- Group Activities/Projects
- Service Learning
- Career/Experiential Learning
- Leadership Development
- Global Education
- Field Trips
- Cultural and Social Events

Benefits of LLCs

- Higher First-Year GPAs
- Higher Faculty and Student Engagement
- Higher Retention Rates
- Higher College Satisfaction Rates
- Higher Graduation Rates



Neudy Nuñez

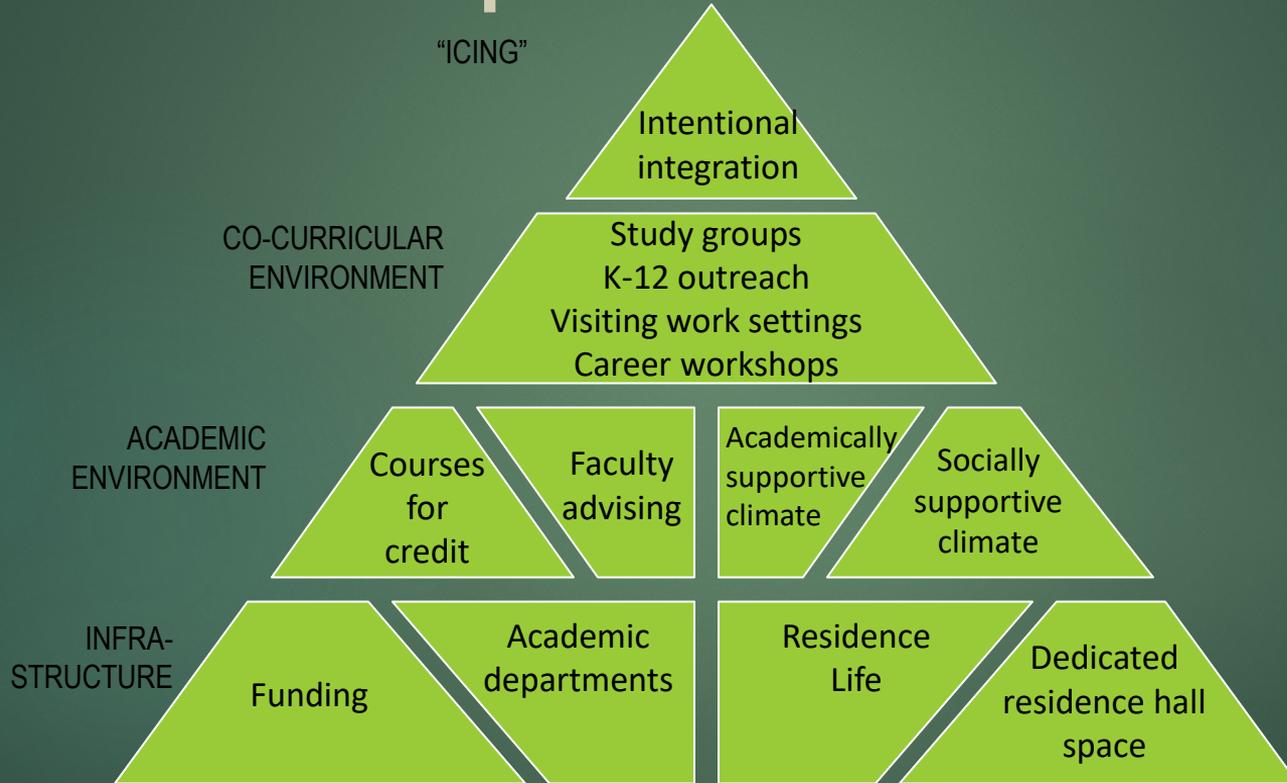
Assistant Dean of Students and
Director for the Office of Multicultural
Affairs, University of South Florida



**FCAN Webinar:
LLCs:
A Bridge to Student Success**

Neudy Carolina Nuñez,
Assistant Dean of Students
10/20/21

LLC Best Practice Model Implemented at USF



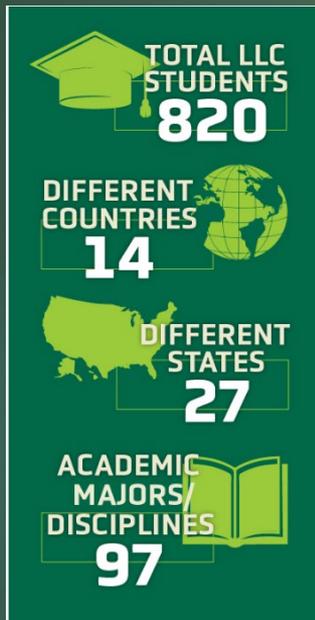
Living Learning Communities at USF

“Living Learning Communities at USF are residential communities designed to provide students a cohort experience with peers that share similar academic, career, and co-curricular interests.”



[The best way to really learn something, is to live it!](#)

LLC Program Data Highlights



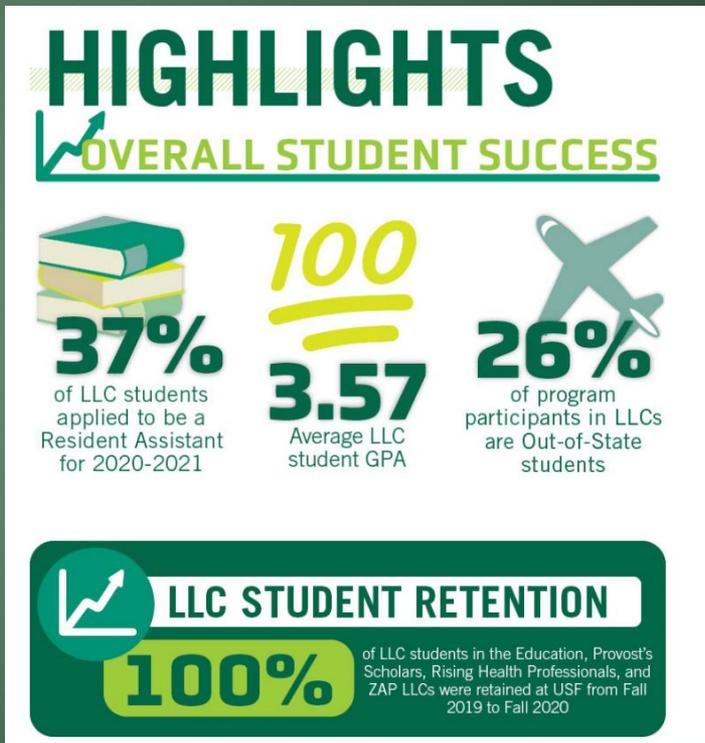
229 Co-curricular student centered events were held among all LLCs during the academic year

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING
10 Stonewall Suites LLC residents visited a local LGBTQ+ clinic and resource center in the Tampa Bay area to connect their career aspirations with personal lived experiences

CAREER READINESS
77 Touch points for LLC students to engage with faculty, staff, and members of the Tampa Bay community around topics that support career readiness

IN-HALL ADVISING & TUTORING
636 LLC students engaged with Academic Advisors and/or tutoring services within the halls through their respective LLC

SERVICE LEARNING
Education LLC students volunteered with Junior Achievement of Tampa Bay, Inc. to teach hands-on programs in Hillsborough County schools that help K-12 students discover and apply a variety of concepts and skills



Thank you!

Panel Discussion



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Q&A

Learn More:

Consider registering to participate in the College Ready Florida initiatives!

[Floridacollegeaccess.org/initiatives/](https://floridacollegeaccess.org/initiatives/)

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FloridaCollegeAccess.org/subscribe