SEEDS strives to...

- Promote diversity
- Orchestrate grass root support
- Address climate issues by conducting a UM-wide survey
- Develop a SEEDS Interactive Theatre
- Increase and Improve recruiting
- Bring in prominent scientists as SEEDS Distinguished Lecturers
- Host career scientists conferences
- Create networking opportunities
- Host career workshops
- Initiate mentor programs & support others by co-sponsoring mentor events
- Increase career & leadership opportunities
- Create visibility throughout UM

What is Speed Mentoring?

What is speed mentoring? Yes, you’re right, it resembles speed dating. Faculty are arrayed in a room; depending on the venue chosen, students, postdocs, or junior faculty go from faculty to faculty and offer some short document such as a CV or one-page specific aims page as a focus for discussion. Each interaction lasts five to eight minutes before a bell signals the end of the event. Mentees get a short break to write down impressions before they move on to the next mentor. At the end of the event, the participants socialize, generally over food, to decompress and assess the event. These events provide intense interactions on a crucial career issue, and also let people judge who may best fit them as a mentor. These events are also great fun!

The next three pages celebrate mentors who have already taken part in SEEDS speed mentoring events.
A tribute to our Speed Mentors at the Miller School of Medicine

Dr. Steven Roper
Professor, Physiology & Biophysics
http://chroma.med.miami.edu/physiol/
Dr. Roper focuses on the cellular and molecular biology of chemosensory transduction in taste buds.

Dr. Bonnie Blomberg
Professor, Microbiology & Immunology
http://chroma.med.miami.edu/micro/
Dr. Blomberg focuses on three major projects within the immune system: 1) determining the molecular & cellular basis for the decline in humoral immune response seen in aged mice; 2) generating immune tolerance to foreign grafts, specifically kidney transplants; and 3) assessing the effect of psychosocial intervention on the immune system in breast cancer patients.

Dr. Ken Muller
Professor, Physiology & Biophysics
http://chroma.med.miami.edu/physiol/
Dr. Muller studies how nerve cells form precise synaptic connections with one another and how these connections normally function.

Dr. John Bixby
Professor, Pharmacology & Neuroscience, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies, Director UM Neuroscience Center
http://chroma.med.miami.edu/pharm/
Dr. Bixby is focused on achieving a molecular understanding of the ways in which specific neural connections are formed and maintained.

Dr. Stephen Weiss
Professor, Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences
http://psychiatry.med.miami.edu
Dr. Weiss works to understand and intervene upon the psychosocial, cultural and behavioral factors that contribute to increased risk of HIV/AIDS in the US and in the developing world.

Dr. Vladlen Slepak
Professor, Molecular & Cellular Pharmacology
http://chroma.med.miami.edu/pharm
Dr. Slepak investigates basic molecular mechanisms of signal transduction, with the focus on heterotrimeric G proteins.

Dr. John Bethea
Associate Professor
Neurological Surgery
www.miamiprojectmiami.edu
Dr. Bethea studies spinal cord injury and diseases of the nervous system such as Multiple Sclerosis to try to understand the cellular and molecular mechanisms that contribute to astrogliosis and secondary neuronal cell death.

“I really enjoyed it and thought it was immensely valuable.”
—SEEDS Mentee
SEEDS
Encouraging diversity & growth, one seed at a time.

A tribute to our Speed Mentors at the Miller School of Medicine

Dr. Sharon Elliot
Research Associate Professor, Nephrology
www.med.miami.edu/medicine/

Dr. Elliot works in the field of receptor biology with research on hormonal regulation of extracellular matrix accumulation in diseases of the eye, kidney and the skin.

Dr. Lora Flemming
Professor, Epidemiology & Public Health
http://chroma.med.miami.edu/epi/

Dr. Fleming’s research & teaching focus on Occupational and Environmental Medicine & Epidemiology. She holds the position of director for several projects in Florida, is a consultant in her field both locally and internationally, and serves on a number of taskforces & committees.

Photos of our speed mentors in action
A tribute to our Speed Mentors at RSMAS

Dr. Falk Amelung
Associate Professor
Active Volcanism & Tectonics
www.rsmas.miami.edu/div/mgg

Dr. Amelung uses geodetic data derived from satellite radar to study the crustal deformation processes. He also studies active volcanoes & active tectonics primarily in the Hawaiian Islands, the Galapagos Islands, and in Central America & Northern South America.

Dr. Bruce Albrecht
Professor, Cloud-Climate interactions
boundary layer structure & processes
http://artemis.rsmas.miami.edu/

Dr. Albrecht’s work includes atmospheric convection, boundary layer structure & clouds, air craft turbulence & microphysics measurements, cloud-climate interactions, tropical meteorology, remote sensing of clouds & precipitation.

Dr. Shuyi Chen
Professor
coupled atmosphere-ocean modeling
www.rsmas.miami.edu/divs/mpo

Dr. Chen’s work includes mesoscale & tropical meteorology, atmospheric convection, air-sea interactions, coupled atmosphere-wave-ocean modeling of tropical cyclones, coastal meteorology, & numerical weather prediction.

Dr. Jackie Dixon
Interim Dean, College of Arts & Sciences

Dr. Dixon has served on the University of Miami faculty since 1992. She was named Interim Dean in May 2009 and is a professor of geological sciences and geophysics. She received an Early Career Development award from the National Science Foundation for excellence in research and education and is internationally recognized for her research on the Earth’s deep carbon dioxide and water budgets.

Dr. Will Drennan
Associate Professor, Applied Marine Physics
http://cesp.miami.edu/

Dr. Drennan’s current research focuses on processes at the air-sea interface and includes aspects of both climate change and hurricanes. He also has interest in development issues.

Dr. Joe Serafy
Professor of Marine Biology & Fisheries
www.rsmas.miami.edu/divs/mbf

Dr. Serafy’s research focuses on two things: 1) examining the role of the seagrass-mangrove-reef complex in the ontogeny of economically–valuable coral reef fish and 2) furthering knowledge of the early life history of pelagic gamefish and their relationship with the environment.

Dr. Rana Fine
Professor, Marine & Atmospheric Chemistry
http://peas.rsmas.miami.edu/divs/mac

Dr. Fine’s research is to understand the role of the oceans in climate change occurring on time scales of up to decades. She studies the physical processes that determine the capacity of the oceans to take up atmospheric constituents, such as carbon dioxide.

Dr. Michael Schmale
Professor of Marine Biology & Fisheries
www.rsmas.miami.edu/divs/mbf

Dr. Schmale’s research lies in the development of marine animal models of disease process, with particular emphasis on cancer. He is investigating the causative agents, distribution and mechanisms of carcinogenesis of naturally occurring, transmissible tumors in one species of fish on South Florida reefs.
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Encouraging diversity & growth, one seed at a time.

Principal Investigator

Dr. Kathryn Tosney
Director of SEEDS
College of Arts & Sciences

Co-Investigators

Dr. Roni Avissar
Dean, RSMAS

Dr. Pascal Goldschmidt
Dean, Miller Medical School

Dr. Jacqueline Dixon
Interim Dean, College of Arts & Sciences

Dr. James Tien
Dean, College of Engineering

Steering Committee

Dr. Rana Fine
RSMAS

Dr. Susan Sponaugle
RSMAS

Dr. Barbara Whitlock
College of Arts & Science

Dr. Shere Keitz
Miller School of Medicine

Dr. Mary Lou King
Miller School of Medicine

Dr. Helena Solo-Gabriele
College of Engineering

Other SEEDS Personnel

Dr. Robert Johnson
Director of Assessment

Jennifer Burke
Interactive Theatre Director

Natasha Jobbagy
SEEDS Program Manager
The SEEDS Office covers all four University of Miami science colleges: the College of Arts and Sciences, Rosentiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences, College of Engineering, and the Miller School of Medicine. SEEDS is funded by an NSF ADVANCE for Women in Science grant, with significant cost-share from Provost Tom LeBlanc. SEEDS orchestrates programs, maintains a website to assure dissemination of SEEDS and other diversity information, works with chairs and search committees to address implicit bias issues and to aid recruitment and retention of women and underrepresented minorities, and forms a UM-wide entity that is visibly focused on science and engineering careers and diversity.

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SEEDS Program Manager: Natasha Jobbagy

We’re on the web:
www.as.miami.edu/seeds/

Calendar Highlights

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER
• Planning for Speed Mentoring Events for all UM Campuses

OCTOBER
What: SEEDS Annual Networking Dinner & Interactive Theatre Debut
Who: SEEDS special invited guest to this event is President Shalala
When: October 19th at 4:30 pm

NOVEMBER
• Dr. Judith Swan hosts a Scientific Writing Workshop
• 1st SEEDS Forum on navigating the NIH system
(1 of 5 forums scheduled)

For descriptions, times and places of scheduled events, view the SEEDS calendar at http://www.as.miami.edu/seeds/calendar. If you’d like to get involved with SEEDS, host an event, have us sponsor a mentor, or have questions, please contact the SEEDS Office at (305) 284-3988 or seeds@miami.edu and we will be happy to assist you.