



## ***Angela M. Garcia Falconetti, Ed.D., CFRE***

### **Education**

Post-Doctoral Fellowship, The University of Texas at Austin, Department of Educational Administration, Community College Leadership, 2007

Post-Doctoral Fellowship, U.S. Department of Education (per UT Austin), Office of Vocational and Adult and Education, 2008

Ed.D., University of North Florida, Educational Leadership specialization with Postsecondary Administration and Adult Education cognate, 2007

*Dissertation: Articulation, Academic Progress, and Graduation: A Comparison of Community College Transfer and Native Students in Selected Florida Universities*

M.Ed., University of North Florida, Educational and Instructional Leadership, 2001

B.A., New York University, Liberal Arts specialization with Communications and Education cognate, *summa cum laude*, 1998

### **Board and Committee Memberships**

#### **National**

Education Commission of the States (ECS), Gubernatorial Appointment, July 29, 2022-present

- Only public higher education President in Florida appointed to ECS.
- Representative of Governor, Education Commissioners, and the Florida Department of Education.

American Association of Community College's Commission on Institutional Infrastructure and Transformation, 2018-2021

Excelencia in Education and the Excelencia in Action network, Presidents for Latino Student Success, 2018-2026

## **State**

Florida College System Council of Presidents (COP), 2017-2026

- *Immediate Past Chair, 2022-2023*
- *Chair, 2021-2022*
- *Vice Chair, 2020-2021*
- *Chair, Policy and Advocacy Committee, 2020-2021*
- *Steering Committee, 2017-2025*
- *Chair, Media and Public Relations Committee, 2024-present*
- *Co-Chair, Media and Public Relations Committee, 2023-2024*
- *Workforce Development Taskforce, 2017-2026*
- *Accelerate Florida Taskforce, 2021-2024*
- *Association of Florida Colleges-COP Executive Director Search and Evaluation Committee, 2023*

Association of Florida Colleges, 2020-2022

- *Board Member*
- *Legislative Committee*

Florida Association of Colleges and Universities, 2019-2020

Florida Chamber Foundation Board, 2018-2026

Florida College System Foundation Board, 2025-2026

Florida College System Risk Management Consortium Board, Vice Chair and Operations Committee, June 2022-2023

Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, State Advisory Group (Gubernatorial Appointment), 2022-present

- *Executive Committee*
- *Chair, Talent, Leadership, and Culture Subcommittee, 2022-2025*

Florida Department of Transportation Southwest-Central Florida Connector Task Force (Gubernatorial Appointment), 2019-2020

Governor DeSantis' Transition Advisory Committee on Education & Workforce Development (Gubernatorial Appointment), 2018

Virginia Community College System Statewide Strategic Planning Team, 2016

## **Local**

American Heart Association, Polk County, 2019-2021, 2025

- *Heart Walk Immediate Past Chair, 2021*
- *Heart Walk Chair, 2020*
- *Executive Team, 2019*
- *Executive Team, 2025*

CareerSource Polk, 2017-2026

- *Board Member*
- *Workforce Performance Council*

Central Florida Development Council, 2018-2026

- *Immediate Past Chair, 2021-2022*
- *Chair, 2020-2021*
- *Vice Chair, 2019-2020*
- *Secretary/Treasurer Executive Board of Directors, 2018-2019*
- *Board Member, 2017-2022*
- *Investors, 2017-2026*

Hispanic Club of Lakeland, 2017-2022

Lakeland Area Chamber of Commerce, 2018-2021

Lakeland Economic Development Council High-Skill High-Wage Initiative, 2017-2026

Polk Vision, 2017-2026

- *Immediate Past Chair, 2024-2026*
- *Chair, 2022-2024*
- *Chair-Elect, Vice Chair, 2020-2022*
- *Secretary Executive Board of Directors, 2018-2020*
- *Board Member, 2017-2026*

Reopen Lakeland Taskforce, 2020

The United Way of Central Florida, 2019-2021

The Vanguard School Foundation, 2018-2021

Winter Haven Chamber of Commerce, 2017-2025

- *Immediate Past Chair, 2023-2024*
- *Chair, 2022-2023*
- *Chair-Elect, Vice Chair, 2021-2022*
- *First Vice Chair, 2020-2021*
- *Treasurer Executive Board of Directors, 2019-2020*
- *Board Member, 2017-2024*
- *Member, Strategic Planning Committee, 2024-2025*

Winter Haven Economic Development Council, 2017-2026

- *Chair, 2024-2026*
- *Vice Chair and Secretary, 2022-2024*
- *Executive Committee, Member-at-Large, 2018-2026*
- *Board Member, 2018-2026*

Winter Haven Hospital, 2017-2026

- *Board Clinical Excellence Committee*

- *Mid-Florida Medical Services Board*
- *Board Member*

### **Certifications**

CFRE International, Certified Fundraising Executive, 2016-present  
 Florida Department of Education, Educator Certification Specialist, 2001  
 George Washington University (Oviedo, Spain), Spanish Certification, 1993

**Bilingual, Biliterate:** Spanish and English

### **Professional Experience**

#### **Polk State College**

**2017-2026                      President**

**Polk State College**

**999 Avenue H NE**

**Winter Haven, FL 33881**

Polk State College is a multi-campus, comprehensive public college in Polk County, Florida. Polk State serves nearly 13,000 credit and 9,000 non-credit students with Bachelor of Applied Science, Bachelor of Science, Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees, as well as a wide range of certificate and workforce training options. The College also operates three charter high schools, a Corporate College for workforce training, a nationally accredited Institute of Public Safety, and a National Public Safety Innovation Academy. Polk State has approximately 1,200 full- and part-time employees, and an annual budget of approximately \$77 million. The position reports to a seven-member, Governor-appointed Board of Trustees.

Major accomplishments included:

- *Provided collaborative leadership in all aspects of college operations to ensure Polk State College continues to grow as a world-class college and Florida's leader in workforce education.*
- *Provided oversight for all budgetary and financial matters, aligning resources with institutional priorities.*
- *Ensured a high rate of student success in degree and non-degree programs.*
- *Created partnerships with business and industry, government, and colleges and universities to encourage economic growth.*
- *Secured approximately \$106 million from the legislature, beginning with the 2018 legislative session.*
- *Provided oversight and accountability for the completion of all capital projects.*
- *Addressed employee compensation on an annual basis in coordination with the District Board of Trustees, with the Board approving a 10 percent increase, for example, for all employees in 2023.*
- *Promoted the professional development of faculty and staff and established the President's Leadership Institute.*

- *Guided College through the COVID-19 pandemic, developed a risk management plan, coordinated with local health care officials, and ensured the success of students, faculty, and staff. Hosted on campus vaccination drives in collaboration with the Department of Health.*
- *Consistently analyzed the College's outcomes respective to performance-based funding and planned effectively to execute measures that enhance enrollment and retention.*
- *Oversaw the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) transition from Genesis to Banner Ellucian in collaboration with a college-wide leadership team and leaders with Banner Ellucian.*
- *Collaborated to establish the first articulation agreement between Polk State and Florida Polytechnic University.*
- *Oversaw the development and submission of the annual equity reports and initiated improvements, such as increased marketing to diverse national, statewide, and local publications to recruit more diverse qualified candidates.*
- *Ensured effective College-wide communication, marketing, and public relations.*
- *Developed Presidential Facebook and X profiles guided by the feedback of student leaders.*

#### *Strategic Plan, Reaffirmation of Accreditation, and Annual Reports*

- *Guided the strategic planning process through setting goals and priorities that address institutional and community needs, and spearheaded the development of the 2023-2028 strategic plan, "A Bolder Polk State College" with the support of College employees and community and business leaders, including the District Board of Trustees and Foundation Board members.*
- *Instituted and led annual College-wide strategic planning summits to review accomplishments and determine next steps with annual progress reports provided to the District Board of Trustees.*
- *Led College through its decennial reaffirmation of accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges with no findings, placing Polk State College in an approximate 5 percent of higher education institutions across the southern region.*
- *Ensured a systematic review of college rules and procedures with eventual review and consideration by the Polk State College District Board of Trustees.*
- *Initiated the execution and completion of an economic impact study yielding that Polk State adds \$215.5 million in total income to the community as a result of its credit programs, for example.*
- *Oversaw eight annual reports (i.e., reports to community) highlighting College-wide accomplishments.*

#### *Fundraising and Grants*

- *Collaborated with AdventHealth Heart of Florida to benefit from a \$1.7 million donation establishing the College's first endowed AdventHealth Dean of Nursing position allowing for the recruitment of an imminently qualified leader.*
- *Secured a \$3 million donation for the Haines City-Davenport Campus.*
- *Collaborated with Legoland Florida to establish the Building Higher Pre-Paid Scholarship Program providing Legoland employees with the opportunity to attend*

*Polk State at no cost. Legoland donated \$60,000 and students and alumni who are employees of Legoland are identified with a Polk State Lego on their name tags.*

- *Established the “A Night of Legacy” annual gala to generate community support in the form of funds raised for the Haines City-Davenport Campus. Secured the majority of sponsorships for the two consecutive years during which the gala was hosted.*
- *Served a member of the Foundation Board of Directors, overseeing eight years of clean financial audits, and dedicating over \$1 million annually in student scholarships.*
- *Participated in Foundation Board meetings including Executive and Finance Committee meetings, and advanced priorities of alumni in collaboration with the Alumni Association.*
- *Secured local, statewide, and federal grants that expanded student services and to enhanced faculty resources.*
- *Advocated for State and Federal grants with Trustees in Washington D.C.*
- *Secured \$2.8 million in Florida Job Growth grant funds to launch the College’s first welding program and to expand its computer numerical control program.*
- *Established the first teacher apprenticeship program with a pathway to career opportunity grant of more than \$281,000 from the Florida Department of Education.*
- *Established the career pathways for public service initiative in collaboration with the University of Central Florida, Broward College, and Florida State College at Jacksonville per the receipt of a \$6.5 million grant from the Florida Department of Education.*
- *Employed the use of Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HERF) to assist students with financial aid, including the elimination of \$1.2 million in student debt for nearly 1,300 students who were enrolled between March 13, 2020, and June 30, 2021.*

#### *Institutional Legislative Appropriations*

- *Secured approximately \$106 million from the legislature, beginning with the 2018 legislative session. Developed institutional legislative priorities for eight years in collaboration with the District Board of Trustees and College community.*
  - *Preserved the Lake Wales Campus with the support of the local delegation, District Board of Trustees, and community.*
  - *Led the completion of \$16.2 million in renovations to the Winter Haven Fine Arts Building, a project submitted for Public Education Capital Outley (PECO) funding since 2008, with funds allocated in 2021 and construction taking place from 2023 to 2025.*
  - *Broke ground on the College’s eighth location, a \$52 million project, the Polk State Haines City-Davenport Campus, ensured the completion of the architectural and design phase of the future Haines City-Davenport Campus, and currently overseeing the construction process (in progress as a predominately health sciences campus).*
  - *Secured more than \$30 million in appropriations for and guided the renovations of Winter Haven Science Building; and LAC, the first building built on the Lakeland Campus (in progress).*

#### *Statewide Legislative Appropriations*

- *Served as Chair of the Florida College System Council of Presidents and:*

- *Led the acquisition of \$400,000,000 in Public Education Capital Outlay (PECO) funds, the largest allocation in the history of the Florida College System Council of Presidents.*
- *Led the appropriation of \$150,000,000 for the 28 Florida Colleges and Led the creation of Accelerate Florida, a statewide campaign to generate funding for workforce programming for the Florida College System.*
- *Collaborated with the Commissioner of Education, Sr. Chancellor, and Chancellor of the Florida College System to advance the priorities of the Florida College System resulting in a gubernatorial appointment as the only higher education president to serve as a U.S. Commissioner of the Education Commission of the States.*
- *Addressed the Florida Senate alongside a panel of three college presidents to exhibit key workforce programs across the State.*
- *Addressed the Commissioner of Education and the State Board of Education at the majority of State Board meetings regarding the progress of statewide legislative priorities and successes of the 28 colleges.*
- *Advocated for funding with the leadership of the House and Senate to advance the developed priorities of the Council of Presidents. Supported the development of the Linking Industry in Nursing Education (LINE) and PIPELINE grant funding for nursing and health sciences.*
- *Published an editorial in Florida Politics regarding the need for PECO funds for the 28 colleges.*
- *Developed a model to advance nursing education and published the article in Florida Politics with the Vice Chair of the Council of Presidents.*
- *Hosted a legislative reception at the Governor's Club in Tallahassee to express gratitude to legislative members for support and to encourage continued inclusion of funds in the budget.*
- *Represented the 28 colleges comprising the Florida College System at three gubernatorial press conference:*
  - *Gubernatorial bill signing, 2021: Represented as Vice Chair, Council of Presidents; Coordinated the inclusion of members of the Polk State College District Board of Trustees and students in the press conference in collaboration with the Governor's Office.*
  - *Gubernatorial bill signing, 2022: Spoke as Chair of the Council of Presidents.*
  - *Gubernatorial civics Education Grants Announcement, 2022: Spoke as lead President and institution awarded approximately \$6.5 million to develop regional civics networks in collaboration with Florida State College at Jacksonville and Broward College.*
- *Hosted a meeting of the State Board of Education at Polk State College's Lakeland Campus in 2021 and addressed the State Board of Education on behalf of Polk State College.*
- *Served as a member of the gubernatorial appointed State Advisory Group of the Department of Juvenile Justice, its Executive Committee, and guiding the efforts as Chair of the Talent, Leadership, and Culture Subcommittee (ongoing).*

#### *Human Resources*

- *Worked to secure an Executive Leadership Team to include:*
  - *Executive Vice President (first in the history of the College)*

- *Provost for Academic Affairs and Workforce Education (first in the history of the College)*
- *Sr. Vice President, Student Service and Campus Operations (first in the history of the College)*
- *Vice President, Communications and Public Affairs/Chief of Staff (first in the history of the College)*
- *Vice President, Institutional Effectiveness, Accreditation, and Research (first in the history of the College)*
- *Vice President, Institutional Technology/Chief Information Officer (first in the history of the College)*
- *Vice President, Finance*
- *Vice President, Resource Development, Executive Director, Foundation*
- *Established the College's first Dean of Health Sciences position to oversee the College's eight allied-health programs.*
- *Established the first Dean of Nursing with a \$1.7 million endowment from AdventHealth.*

*Academic Affairs, Workforce Education, Collegiate High Schools (3), and Student Services*

- *Expanded the Registered Nursing, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, and the Nursing Transition programs; secured resources to retrofit simulation labs and classrooms on all campuses; and supported the nursing faculty in leading the graduate National Council Licensures Examination for Registered Nursing (NCLEX-RN) to exceed state and national averages.*
- *Collaborated with academic leaders to add an associate in science in Hospitality and Tourism Management, a Crime Scene Investigations concentration within the Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice, and a Human Resource Management concentration within the Bachelor of Applied Science in Supervision and Management.*
- *Collaborated with Polk County's Sheriff and the Polk County Sheriff's Office to establish a National Public Safety Innovation Academy – one of 3 in the nation.*
- *Collaborated with the City of Winter Haven to establish a non-credit public administration program for City employees.*
- *Established the College's first welding program to meet business needs, such as those of SpaceX and NASA.*
- *Supported the addition of 10<sup>th</sup> grade at Polk State Lakeland Collegiate and Polk State Chain of Lakes Collegiate high schools in 2024-2025 and Polk State Gateway in 2025-2026.*
- *Conducted College-wide presentations during Convocation; Faculty Senate; and faculty and staff forums during the fall and spring semesters on the two main campuses.*
- *Collaborated with the President's Staff, including the Faculty Senate President, to ensure effective communication and the advancement of College procedures through participatory governance.*
- *Presented to Faculty Senate during senate meetings and met with faculty one-on-one as needed.*
- *Held meetings with the Faculty Senate Chair and meetings with the newly hired Provost to ensure the advancement of faculty.*

- *Supported the acquisition of the Polk Museum of Art at Florida Southern College and partnered to spotlight faculty and student art professional development at the Museum.*
- *Coordinated with the Concerned Citizens of Polk County to more effectively recruit and support diverse candidates for employment and students.*
- *Advocated for the College among the Hispanic community (i.e., in Spanish) in local Spanish radio, print publication, and on Univision and Telemundo Tampa and Orlando.*

#### *External Involvement and Recognition*

- *Served as member of the Florida Chamber Foundation Board to generate a stronger awareness of Polk State as a quality employer across Florida.*
- *Selected statewide, regional, and local recognitions include:*
  - *Florida 500: Top 500 Most Influential Business Leaders in Florida, Florida Trend, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025*
  - *Movers and Influencers, Florida Trend, 2021, 2022, 2023*
  - *Top 9 Women in Leadership – Taking the Reins, Florida Trend, 2021*
  - *Women in Leadership, Florida Trend, 2022, 2023, 2024*
  - *Polk County People to Know, Florida Trend, 2023*
  - *Above & Beyond: Top 40 Women in Government and Public Service, News Service of Florida, 2023*
  - *Tampa Bay’s Power 100 Influential Executives, Tampa Bay Business Journal, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026*
  - *Top 10 Inspiring People, Polk Forward Magazine, 2023*
- *Recognized in March 2020 by U.S. Congressman Darren Soto as a Distinguished Leader in Central Florida for Women’s History Month with biography read into the U.S. congressional record and entered into the Library of Congress.*
- *First awards as President from the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society nominated by the students — the Paragon Award and the Florida Regional Distinguished Service Award.*
- *Received the 2020 ATHENA Leadership Award from the Lakeland Chamber of Commerce and Junior League of Greater Lakeland.*
- *Honored in 2022 with the Key to the City of Lakeland by Lakeland’s Mayor.*
- *Honored in 2026 with the Key to the City of Winter Haven by Winter Haven’s Mayor and a resolution for service to the City.*
- *Named Honorary Deputy in 2026 by Polk County Sheriff Grady Judd.*
- *Named Honorary Nurse in 2026 by Polk State College’s AdventHealth Dean of Nursing and Faculty.*
- *Recognized by Polk County in 2026 for nine years of dedicated service to advancing economic development and quality higher education via a resolution from the Polk County Commission.*

#### **Virginia Western Community College**

**2012-2017**

**Vice President, Institutional Advancement, Virginia Western Community College; Executive Director, Virginia Western Community College Educational Foundation, Inc.; Roanoke, VA**

Areas of responsibility included: Served as designee for external affairs; legislative affairs; economic development; resource development; strategic planning; and public records

requests. Oversaw the Educational Foundation; Grants; Marketing, Public Information, Graphic Design, and Events. Managed a staff of 12 and served a 30-member Foundation Board.

Major accomplishments include:

- *Served as acting president in the absence of the president.*
- *Led three enrollment marketing campaigns focusing on transfer to four-year institutions and the completion of workforce credentials.*
- *Facilitated the development of two strategic plans, Revision 2015 and Success 2021, focused on student success, completion, and employment.*
- *Advocated for legislation for Virginia's community colleges in Richmond, specifically for Virginia's first workforce credential grant program.*
- *Collaborated with Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University to publish regional economic development research leading to new academic and workforce programs that meet industry needs.*
- *Developed the partnership and curriculum for workforce training for the region's hospitality industry, and expanded internship programs with businesses such as Walt Disney World, Universal Studios, and Legoland Florida.*
- *Led four successful foundation audits; five annual budgets; and fiscal and investment management of funds.*
- *Led the solicitation and acquisition of a \$5 million gift benefiting science, technology, engineering, math, and healthcare students – the largest gift in the history of the Virginia Community College System and one of the largest dedicated to scholarships in the U.S. (moved Foundation from 14<sup>th</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> in assets among Virginia's 23 community colleges and doubled assets in one year).*
- *Secured approximately \$6 million in gifts to support the no-cost tuition Community College Access Program, academic scholarships, and first workforce scholarship.*
- *Accomplished a \$10 million campaign a year prior to and surpassed the goal by approximately \$1 million, including program funds benefiting faculty and staff.*
- *Led a 618% increase in applications for the Community College Access Program through program expansion serving the College's entire service district.*
- *Oversaw securing approximately \$12 million in grant funding from the National Science Foundation expanding the mechatronics program; the U.S. Department of Labor providing career and technical training for unemployed adults; and the U.S. Department of Education supplementing resources for low-income students and students with disabilities.*

### **Daytona State College**

**2009-2012**

**Vice President, Planning, Development, and Institutional Effectiveness**

Areas of responsibility included: Led institutional effectiveness; College governance structure; strategic, annual, and unit planning; reaffirmation efforts, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools; and international affairs. Oversaw Institutional Research; Global Education and Affairs; Faculty and Staff Organizational Development; Grants; the Presidential Ambassador program; and the University Center. Managed a staff of 25.

Major accomplishments included:

- *Led the development of the College's strategic plan focused on quality programs and services for student success; included students, board members, and additional internal and external stakeholders.*
- *Led College-wide annual and unit planning to enhance the quality of programs, services, and facilities.*
- *Led the University Council and developed articulation agreements with over 10 public and private universities ensuring ease of transfer to public and private universities.*
- *Implemented institutional unit planning software, Strategic Planning On-Line.*
- *Developed an institutional effectiveness system focused on student learning outcomes in preparation for reaffirmation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.*
- *Led an institutional faculty and staff leadership institute graduating approximately 210 employees.*
- *Led in-service programming for faculty and staff and three faculty symposiums.*
- *Developed the proposals for the Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology and the associate's degree in music production technology; facilitated approval by the State Board of Education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.*
- *Collaborated to secure \$24 million in grants including support for students with disadvantaged backgrounds; first-generation students; students with disabilities; adults returning to gain workforce skills; and career and technical programs.*
- *Obtained \$1.2 million in operating funds for new initiatives through the College's Planning Council to support enrollment, retention, diversity, and facility services.*
- *Led the College to serving as host for the 2011 annual Community Colleges for International Development meeting.*
- *Secured international grants of over \$3 million leading the College as the first of six to secure a Community College Initiative grant through the U.S. Department of State to build technical skills, enhance leadership capabilities, and strengthen English language proficiency.*
- *Led meetings to support the creation of community colleges in the Dominican Republic and Bahamas.*

**2009                    Interim Vice President, Institutional Advancement; Executive Director,  
Daytona State College Foundation**

Areas of responsibility included: Led community outreach; public relations; fundraising; events; marketing; graphic design; and advertising of Foundation initiatives and senior programs. Management of Raiser's Edge Software. Managed staff of 6 and served a 30-member Board.

Major accomplishments included:

- *Developed and implemented a strategic operating plan in collaboration with the Foundation Board; collaborated to add three committees of the Foundation Board.*
- *Oversaw the successful management of Foundation funds and the annual budget and audit.*

- *Raised \$305,000 through events that included Olympic medalists, such as Ryan Lochte, NASCAR drivers, such as Richard Petty, and political figures, such as Mike Reagan.*
- *Increased academic, workforce, and transfer scholarship funds by 10.2%.*
- *Secured \$52,300 in grant funds for academic scholarships.*
- *Oversaw and financed off-campus housing for student athletes.*
- *Facilitated a partnership with The Arc of Volusia providing institutional support for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.*

## **2008            Dean, Transitional and Institutional Effectiveness Services**

Areas of responsibility included: Documented the transition of Florida's previous community college system to the Florida College System. Created and Chaired a College-wide Institutional Transition Committee. Assisted with College-wide planning, surveys, and economic impact studies.

Major accomplishments included:

- *Developed a campus-wide model supporting the College community with the transition from a community college to a state college.*
- *Conducted and disseminated research in preparation for a baccalaureate in engineering technology.*

## **2008            Education Program Specialist/Special Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Community Colleges, U.S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education, Washington, D.C.**

Areas of responsibility included: Served as a Special Assistant to the first Deputy Assistant for Community Colleges and the Assistant Secretary for national and international community college relations.

Major accomplishments included:

- *Organized an international meeting for former U.S. Secretary Margaret Spellings on the Broader Middle East and North Africa to include over 30 delegates in collaboration with the U.S. Department of State and USAID; evolved into a grant offered by the U.S. Department of Education and Community Colleges for International Development.*
- *Represented the Deputy Assistant for Community Colleges and the Assistant Secretary at national and international meetings such as ACCT's national legislative summit and AACC's global community college summit.*
- *Presented regarding Perkins funding to workforce partners such as the National Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning Association.*
- *Planned a national conference on community college research, policy, and practice to include over 20 accomplished scholars and practitioners.*
- *Reviewed empirical research papers for publication by the U.S. Department of Education.*
- *Developed speeches for the former Deputy Assistant and the Assistant Secretary regarding the impact of the nation's community colleges; edited speeches for former U.S. Secretary Margaret Spellings.*

- *Drafted publications for the assistant secretaries for the Community College Week and Inside Higher Education.*
- *Reviewed national career and technical education grants for the U.S. Department of Education and senior programs for the American Association of Community Colleges.*

**2007                      Research Associate, Community College Survey of Student Engagement/Survey of Entering Student Engagement, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX**

Areas of responsibilities included: Researched the progress of participating community colleges across the country respective to student engagement.

Major accomplishments included:

- *Published and marketed national research reports for community college pilot programs of the Survey of Entering Student Engagement.*

**University of North Florida**

**2005-2007                      Assistant Vice President, Student Affairs, Division of Student Affairs**

Areas of responsibilities included: Led community outreach, public relations, fundraising, marketing, advertising, international recruitment, the Parent and Family Association, international recruitment, the Golden Key International Honour Society, and the Parent and Family association for student affairs. Managed a staff of 3 and a Board of 25.

Major accomplishments included:

- *Developed the Divisional infrastructure and documentation for the reaffirmation visit of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.*
- *Conducted the National Survey for Student Engagement; coordinated to increase the number of students involved in campus life by 19.8%.*
- *Initiated the first Parent and Family Association with first-year membership of 300 and hosted annual parent orientation sessions and programming.*
- *Increased the involvement of the Golden Key International Honour Society members by 53.2%.*
- *Led the fundraising program and developed the first Board for Student Affairs.*
- *Obtained a major gift of \$500,000 from the National Football League to support Athletics.*
- *Raised funds for student clubs, organizations, and housing, initiating the University's first student giving program.*
- *Supported student conduct hearings; student government; student life; and diversity programming for students, faculty, and staff.*

**2004-2005                      Director, Development, Division of Student Affairs**

**2003-2004                      Assistant Director, Development and International Recruitment, Division of Student Affairs**

**2000-2003            Academic Advisor/Recruiter, College of Education and Human Services, Office of Student Services**

### **Faculty/Teaching Experience**

Affiliate Visiting Professor, Florida Atlantic University, Department of Educational Policy and Research Methodology, College of Education, April 15, 2022-present

Adjunct Faculty, Florida Atlantic University, Department of Education Administration, Higher Education Leadership, 2010-2022

Adjunct Faculty, Daytona State College, College of Business, Engineering, and Technology; Leadership, 2010-2011

Adjunct Professor, Florida State College at Jacksonville, Performing and Visual Arts; Dance Department, 1999-2000

Guest Lecturer, Guest lectures for graduate and doctoral students, Florida Atlantic University, Department of Educational Policy and Research Methodology, College of Education, 2018-present

Guest Lecturer, 14 guest lectures for undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral students at three community colleges and two universities in Florida, 2000-2011

Doctoral Committee, Florida Atlantic University, Department of Educational Policy and Research Methodology, College of Education, Higher Education Leadership Doctoral Program, *Resilient Stretching in Community College Leaders: Institutional Fiscal Decision-Making during the COVID-19 Pandemic*, 2023

Doctoral Committee, Florida Atlantic University, Department of Education Administration, Higher Education Leadership Doctoral Program, *A Prediction Model for Institutional Effectiveness of Community Colleges in Florida Using Persistence Rates as the Performance Indicator*, 2010

### **Referred Publications**

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M., & Bottorff, A. (2021).** The 21<sup>st</sup> Century's Pandemic - One Florida College's Response and Actions to Finding a Safe Path Through the Initial Impact. *Community College Journal of Research and Practice*.

Floyd, D. L., **Falconetti Garcia, A. M., & Camacho, Jr., L. (2020).** *Postsecondary higher education pathways to workforce credential attainment in the USA*. A chapter in *Equity, High Skills, and Productivity through Higher Level Vocational Education*. McGraw Hill House, Berkshire.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M. (October 2019 online; 2020 print).** Academic advising in the community college. *Community College Journal of Research and Practice*, 44(1), 80-82.

- Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2019, March/April). Expanding offerings to expand an Opportunity. *Community College Journal*.
- Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2019, April). Polk State College: Innovative Partnership Fills Local Need for Teachers. *League for Innovation in the Community College*.
- Falconetti Garcia, A. M.** (2016). Major giving fuels community colleges as economic engines: A journey in major gift programming. *Journal of Education Advancement and Marketing*, London: Henry Stuart Publications.
- Floyd, D. L., & **Falconetti, A. M.** (2013). The applied and workforce baccalaureate. *New Directions for Community Colleges*.
- Floyd, D. L., & **Falconetti, A. M.** (2013). Editors Notes. *New Directions for Community Colleges*.
- Floyd, D. L., & **Falconetti, A. M.** (2013). The applied and workforce baccalaureate: Revolutionary or Evolutionary? *New Directions for Community Colleges*.
- Floyd, D. L., & **Falconetti, A. M.** (2013). What does the “state” in State Colleges really mean? *Community College Baccalaureate Association*.
- Falconetti Garcia, A. M.** (2009). The perceived effects of state governance decentralization on baccalaureate articulation. *Community College Journal of Research and Practice*, 33(2), 177-194.
- Falconetti Garcia, A. M.** (2009). 2+2 Statewide articulation policy, student persistence, and success in Florida universities. *Community College Journal of Research and Practice*, 33, 238-255.
- Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, & Jones, J. T. (2009). The community college transfer student and articulation services in selected public universities: Myths and realities. *The Journal of College Orientation and Transition*, 16(1), 5-24.
- Floyd, D. L., **Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, & Hrabak, M. (2009, February). Baccalaureate community colleges: The new Florida College System. *Community College Journal of Research and Practice*, 33(2), 195-202.
- Floyd, D. L., Hrabak, M., & **Falconetti Garcia, A. M.** (2009, February). Introduction to the special issue on the community college baccalaureate. *Community College Journal of Research and Practice*, 33(2), 85-89.

### **Publications (selected)**

- Falconetti Garcia, A. M.** (2025, December 28). Why Polk State? Hear the voices of student leaders. *The Ledger*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.** (2025, November 23). From gratitude comes growth: Thanksgiving from Polk State College. *The Ledger*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.** (2025, February 23). Polk State's Fine Arts building marks a milestone in the college's 60 years. *The Ledger*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.** (2024, September 29). Polk State Haines City-Davenport celebrates growth of Polk County. *The Ledger*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.** (2024, April 7). 60 years and 60,000 graduates: Polk State is the community's college. *The Ledger*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M., & Smith, N.** (2023, November 26). A gift of education is the gift that keeps on giving. *The Ledger*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.** (2022, November 28). Polk State Adds \$215.5 million to county economy. *The Ledger*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.** (2022, January 31). Expanding Health Sciences Education is Critical for Polk County. *The Ledger*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M., & Williams, T.** (2022, January 24). Tonjua Williams, Angela Falconetti. Now is the time to expand nursing education programs. *Florida Politics*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.** (2021, September 20). Angela Garcia Falconetti: The Florida College System Fueling Florida's Future, The Need for Updated Facilities has Never Been Greater. *Florida Politics*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.** (2021, April 12). Polk State reflects on year of pandemic, looks forward to county's future. *The Ledger*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.** (2021, February 24). Polk State thanks Polk County delegation for support ahead of 2021 Legislative Session. *The Ledger*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.** (2020, December 31). Polk State looks forward to year full of success for Polk County. *The Ledger*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.** (2020, September 28) Polk State education and community partners help Polk recover from pandemic. *The Ledger*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.** (2020, August 15). PSC Starts Fall 2020 Semester strong. *The Ledger*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.** (2020, June 14). Polk State College grads are community heroes. *The Ledger*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.,** (2020, April 27). Commentary: Polk State celebrates resiliency of

spring 2020 graduates. *The Ledger*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2020, April 29). Polk State College President: Celebrating the resiliency of spring 2020 graduates. *Winter Haven Sun*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2020, January 12). Letter: In 2020, Polk State seeks to build on 2019 success. *The Ledger*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2019, November 29). Polk Perspective: This holiday, Polk State is thankful for Polk Delegations' legislative support. *The Ledger*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2019, June 3). Polk State thanks community for successful 2019 Legislative Session. *Winter Haven Sun*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2019, May 15). Help Protect Polk State's Lake Wales Campus. *DailyRidge*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2019, May 10). Letter: Alexander Center needs the governor's support. *The Ledger*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2019, April 24). Polk Perspective: Local lawmakers' support cause for thanks, optimism. *The Ledger*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2018, December). A Polk Perspective: Polk State thrives because of broad community support. *The Ledger*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2018, August). A Polk Perspective: Polk State's students, programs celebrate successful year. *The Ledger*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2018, February). A Polk Perspective: Polk State baccalaureate degrees: Quality close to home. *The Ledger*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2017, November). Letter: Giving thanks for giving donors. *The Ledger*.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2017, October). Letter: The local gem in higher education. *The Ledger*.

### **Awards/Honors**

Named Honorary Nurse by Polk State College's AdventHealth Dean of Nursing and Faculty, 2026

Named Honorary Deputy by Polk County Sheriff Grady Judd, 2026

Key to the City of Winter Haven and Resolution of nine years of service, 2026

Recognized by Polk County for nine years of dedicated service to advancing economic development and quality higher education via a resolution from the Polk County Commission, 2026

Florida 500: Top 500 Most Influential Business Leaders in Florida, *Florida Trend*, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025

Movers and Influencers, *Florida Trend*, 2021, 2022, 2023  
Top 9 Women in Leadership – Taking the Reins, *Florida Trend*, 2021  
Women in Leadership, *Florida Trend*, 2022, 2023, 2024  
Polk County People to Know, *Florida Trend*, 2023  
Above & Beyond: Top 40 Women in Government and Public Service, *News Service of Florida*, 2023  
Tampa Bay’s Power 100 Influential Executives, *Tampa Bay Business Journal*, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026  
Top 10 Inspiring People, *Polk Forward Magazine*, 2023  
CareerSource Polk Larry Miller Award for exemplary leadership, vision and integrity, exemplified to the workforce community, 2022-2023  
Key to the City of Lakeland, 2022  
Congressional Recognition, Women’s History Month, U.S. Congressman Darren Soto, 2020  
Lakeland Chamber of Commerce and Junior League of Greater Lakeland, Athena Award for Leadership in Business, 2020  
Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, Paragon President Award, 2019  
Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, Florida Regional Distinguished Service Award, 2019  
Florida College System’s Chancellor’s Best Practice Award, First Year Experience and Pathways  
Florida College System’s Chancellor’s Best Practice Awards, Establishing Leaders in Teacher Education (ELITE Program), 2018  
John and Suanne Roueche Endowed Scholarship Recipient, Community College Leadership Program, The University of Texas at Austin, 2007-2008  
Edmund Gleazer Endowed Scholarship Recipient, Community College Leadership Program, The University of Texas at Austin, 2008  
New American Scholar, The University of Texas at Austin, Community College Leadership Program, 2008  
Outstanding Research Award, National Orientation Directors Association, 2007  
The University of North Florida’s Thomas Mulkeen Award for Doctoral Research, 2007  
Graduate Student Grant Recipient, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, 2006  
Graduate Students’ Representative Outstanding Service Award, Southwest Educational Research Association, 2004  
Outstanding Academic Advisor, University of North Florida, 2000

### **Leadership Programs**

Advancing to the Presidency, American Council on Education, 2016  
Executive Leadership Institute, League for Innovation in the Community Colleges, 2015  
Chancellor’s Leadership Seminar, Florida Division of Colleges, 2010  
Chancellor’s Leadership Seminar, Florida’s Division of Community Colleges, 2007

### **Selected Professional Activities**

Association of Florida Colleges, 2017-2026  
Florida College System Council of Presidents, 2017-2026  
Florida Association of Colleges and Universities, 2017-2020  
Florida Chamber Foundation, 2018-2026  
Excelencia in Education and the Excelencia in Action network, Presidents for Latino Student Success, 2018-2026

American Educational Research Association, 2003-2008  
Awards Chair, Experiential and Service Learning Special Interest Group, 2003  
Treasurer and Secretary, Mentorship Special Interest Group, 2003-2005  
Association for the Study of Higher Education, 2007-2012, 2023-present  
Association of Fundraising Professionals, 2003-2007, 2009, 2012-2016  
Community College Baccalaureate Association, 2007-2012, 2017-2026  
Council for Advancement and Support of Education, 2003-2007, 2009, 2017-2026  
Council of Resource Development, 2011-2016  
Council for the Study of Community Colleges, 2007-2012, 2022-2026  
Education Policy Institute, 2007-2012  
Mid-South Educational Research Association, 2003-2008  
National Academic Advising Association, 1999-2007  
National Association of Student Personnel Administrators, 2001-2007  
National Orientation Directors Association, 2007-2012  
Society for College and University Planners, 2008-2017  
Southern Regional Council on Educational Administration, 2001-2005

#### *Editorial Boards*

Community College Journal of Research and Practice, 2008-2013, 2022-present  
Associate Editor, Journal for College Orientation and Transition, 2009-2013

#### **Selected Workshop/Conference Presentations**

**Falconetti, Garcia, A.M.,** Acala, J. Gaba, B., Watkins, L. (2026, February). The Development of the Board Book, Effective Board Reports, Presentation of Financial Information, New Trustee Academy (panel), National Legislative Summit, Association of Community College Trustees in Washington D.C.

**Falconetti, Garcia, A.M.,** (2025, October). Level Up: Driving Success Through Innovation & Resilience, Central Florida Business Expo in Lakeland.

**Falconetti, Garcia, A.M.** (2025, September). Advancing Polk State College, Northeast Chamber in Davenport, FL.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.,** (2024, March). Keynote Speaker for the Polk County Board of County Commission Succession Management Development Program Graduation in Lakeland.

**Falconetti, Garcia, A.M.,** (2024, January). Introduction of Florida Congressman as Florida College System Presidential Representative during the Association of Community College Trustees Community College Forum on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.,** (2023, October). Keynote Speaker for the American Council on Education Women's Network Florida, Coffee and Conversations.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.,** (2023, June). Coffee and Conversations, Polk State College, for the Winter Haven Chamber of Commerce in Winter Haven.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2023, March). A presidential panel during the Black, Brown & College Bound 2019 Summit in Tampa.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2022, March). A presidential panel during the Black, Brown & College Bound 2019 Summit in Tampa.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2021). Keynote Speaker: Women in Leadership during a statewide women's virtual conference hosted by Pasco-Hernando State College.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2021). A presentation to the Lakeland Rotary: The Impact of Polk State College in Lakeland.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2019, March). A presidential panel during the Black, Brown & College Bound 2019 Summit in Tampa.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2019, February). *Contemporary Issues and Challenges: Sharing Stories About Baccalaureate Degree Programs*. A researcher, policy leader, and practitioner panel during the Community College Baccalaureate Association 19<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference in New York City.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2018, December). *The Cost of Higher Education*. Presidential panel during the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on College's 2018 annual meeting in New Orleans.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2018, July). A Latino Roundtable discussion with Florida Governor Rick Scott, hosted by the Puerto Rican Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Polk County in Lakeland.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2018, June). *What New Presidents Wished They Had Known: Key Leadership Lessons*. A presidential panel during the American Association of Community College's Future President's Institute in Washington, D.C.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2018, May). *Gaining a President's Perspective*. A presidential panel during the Florida College System's Chancellor's Leadership Seminar in Orlando.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, (2018, April). *A Conversation with State College Female Presidents*. A presidential panel during the Association of Florida College's International Conference on College Teaching and Learning President's Panel in Orlando.

Rainone, J., Sopcich, J., **Falconetti, A.M.**, Almquist, J. (2016) *The CEO-CDO Relationship*. A presentation during the annual meeting of the American Association of Community Colleges in Chicago.

**Falconetti, A. M.**, & Herbert-Ashton, M. (2015, October). *Funding the Opportunity and Achievement Gap: Bridging the Financial Divide for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Students*. Presentation to the Council for Resource Development in Washington, D.C.

**Falconetti, A. M.** (2014, August). *Virginia's Institutional Advancement 2021 Strategic Plan*. A presentation to the Institutional Advancement professionals of Virginia's Community Colleges in Glen Allen, Virginia.

Sandel, R. H., & **Falconetti, A. M.** (2013, May). *The institution in Institutional Advancement: Advancing Virginia Western's image through marketing, grants, and fundraising*. A presentation to the Foundation Board of John Tyler Community College in Richmond, Virginia.

Brazier, E., & **Falconetti Garcia, A. M.** (2009, March). *Community college baccalaureate models, the Texas two-step and 2+2 articulation in Florida*. A paper presented at the annual conference of the Community College Baccalaureate Association in Reno, Nevada.

Floyd, D. L., Walker, K. P., **Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, & Hrabak, M. (2009, March). *Florida Senate Bill No. 1716: An overview of the Florida College System and state colleges*. A paper presented at the annual conference of the Community College Baccalaureate Association in Reno, Nevada.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.**, & Jones, J. T. (2008, November). *Creating a seamless pathway for community college transfer students: Maintaining system-wide compliance in a decentralized state university system*. A paper presented at the annual conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education in Jacksonville, Florida.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.** (2008, May). *The myths and realities of community college transfer student success in an articulated 2+2 environment*. A paper presented at annual conference of the Educational Policy Institute in San Diego, California.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.** (2008, April). *The effects of decentralization on articulation pathways to the baccalaureate: A study of community college transfer and first-time-in-college students in selected Florida universities*. A paper presented at the annual conference of the Council for the Study of Community Colleges in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.** (2008, March). *The impact of 2+2 statewide articulation policy on student persistence and success in selected Florida universities*. A paper presented at the annual conference of the American Educational Research in New York, New York.

**Falconetti Garcia, A. M.** (2007, November). *Articulation, academic progress, and graduation: A comparison of community college transfer and native students in selected Florida universities*. A paper presented at the annual conference of the Mid-South Research Association in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

### **Former Selected College Activities**

Executive Team, Virginia Western Community College, 2021-2017

Co-Chair, Strategic Planning Steering Committee, Virginia Western Community College, 2012-2017

Chair, Vice President, Workforce Development Search Committee, Virginia Western Community College, 2014

Chair, Planning Council, Daytona State College, 2008-2012

Chair, Planning Council Co-Chairs Committee, Daytona State College, 2008-2012

Advisor, Planning Council, Faculty and Staff Development Committee, Daytona State College, 2008-2012

Institutional Review Board, Daytona State College, 2008-2011

Chair, SACSCOC Editorial Committee, Daytona State College, 2011

Chair, SACSCOC Task Force, Daytona State College, 2009-2011

### **Former Selected Community Organizations**

Go Virginia Roanoke, Blacksburg, Lynchburg, Regional Council, 2017

Shenandoah Club Board of Directors, Roanoke, VA, 2016-2017

Roanoke Opera Board, Roanoke, VA, 2013-2017

Roanoke Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau, Roanoke, VA, 2014-2017

Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce Business Council (President's delegate), Roanoke VA, 2013-2017

Food for Thought, Advisory Board member, Roanoke, VA, 2012-2014

Let Us Play!, Jacksonville, FL, 2003-2005

Food Pantry, Jacksonville Beach, FL, 2001-2007

United Way, Jacksonville, FL, 2000-2001