

Amanda Propst Cuevas, PhD is the Director of the Office of Appreciative Education in the Department of Educational Leadership & Research Methodology (ELRM) in the College of Education at Florida Atlantic University (FAU) in Boca Raton, FL. She works directly with Dr. Jennifer Bloom, co-founder of Appreciative Advising, to support and expand Appreciative Education initiatives globally. With over 20 years of experience in higher education, Amanda has a passion for promoting and encouraging both college student and organizational thriving. She is an engaging presenter on the topic of Appreciative Advising and values the opportunity to train faculty, professional advisors, student affairs administrators, and other educators worldwide on how to incorporate this theory-to-practice framework into their work. Additionally, Amanda is a published author, and is Editor-in-Chief for the *Journal of Appreciative Education*. She has also incorporated the Appreciative College Instruction (ACI) framework into courses that she has (co-)developed and (co-)taught at both the community college and university levels.

Amanda also brings practical administration leadership experience to training workshops as she has served in the following positions:

- Assessment & Research Specialist for the Division of Student Affairs at Florida Atlantic University where she designed and implemented a robust Appreciative Assessment framework
- Founding Director of the Frederik Meijer Office of Fellowships at Grand Valley State University (GVSU) where she appreciatively advised students and alumni who aspired to compete for nationally prestigious scholarships and fellowships, and other related opportunities, and was awarded the GVSU Outstanding Academic Advising and Student Services Award for her efforts
- Senior Pre-Professional Advisor in the GVSU College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Academic Advising Center
- Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and the Medical Scholars Program, one of the nation's largest MD/PhD Programs at the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Urbana-Champaign
- Coordinator of the Student Leadership Program at the University of Texas-Pan American

Amanda received a BA in Communication Studies (Organizational) with Honors from the University of Texas-Pan American, an MA in Communication Studies (Training & Development) with a minor in Student Affairs from Texas State University, and a PhD in Higher Education with an emphasis in College Student Success from Azusa Pacific University.