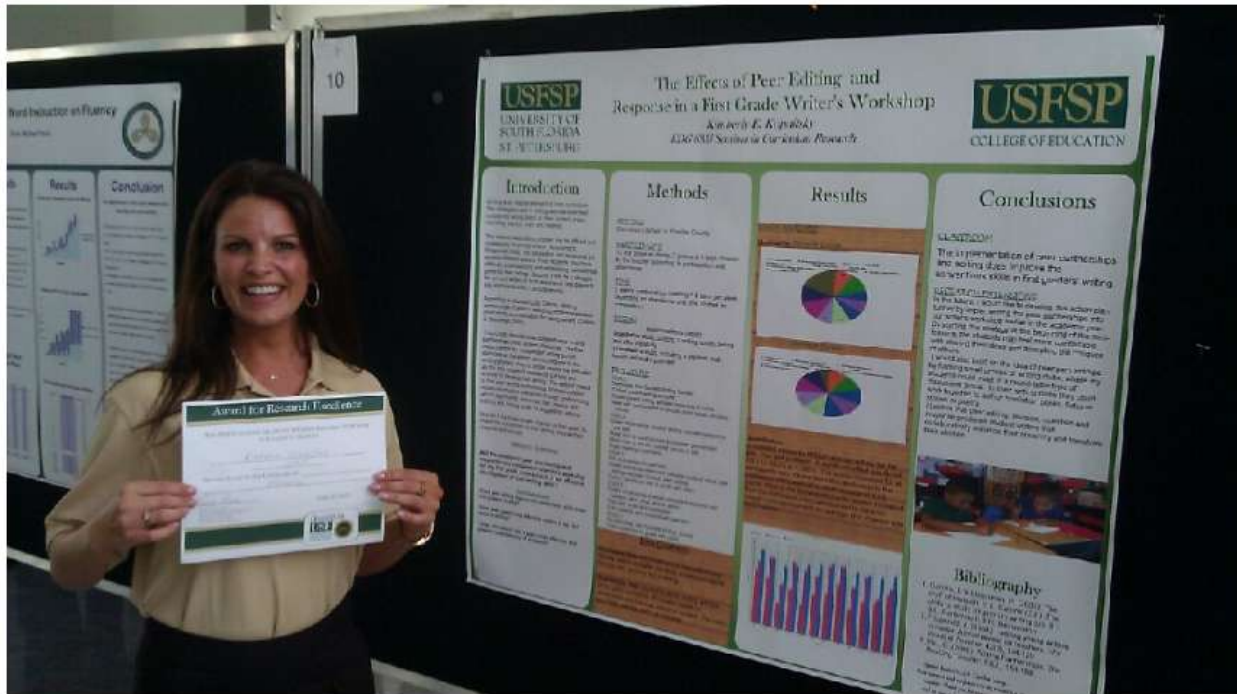


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# Nine students participate in first Statewide Graduate Research Symposium

Posted May 1, 2013 at 2:46 pm by [Tom Scherberger](#)



**Kimberly Kopnitsky placed second in the education category.**

Nine USF St. Petersburg students participated recently in the first Statewide Graduate Student Research Symposium that brought together graduate students from across Florida to showcase their work.

USFSP Masters of Reading Education student Kimberly Kopnitsky placed second in the education category for her research project, "The Effects of Peer Editing and Response in a First Grade Writer's Workshop."

Eight of Florida's 12 public universities participated in this first-ever event hosted by USF Tampa.

While the primary purpose of the symposium was to showcase the impressive research by graduate students at Florida universities, it also gave the participating students and faculty members a rare chance to network and to discuss possible research collaborations.

“We are extremely proud of our USFSP team,” said Norine Noonan, regional vice chancellor for academic affairs, who served as a judge at the symposium.

Other judges from USFSP were Anna Lewis, Ph.D., visiting associate professor of science education in the [College of Education](#); and Alison Watkins, Ph.D., associate dean for graduate and certificate programs in the College of Business.

The other USFSP students participating were:

- Masters of Environmental Science Student Rita Beckhorn.
- Masters of Business Administration student Christopher Brown
- Masters of Liberal Arts student Veronica Carroll
- Masters of Environmental Science and Policy student Lauren Drakopoulos
- Masters of Arts in Reading Education fall 2012 graduate Brian Flores
- Masters of Liberal Arts fall 2012 graduate Jennifer Probst
- Masters of Environmental Science student Lindsey Schmidt
- Masters of Arts in Reading Education student Allison Wickman

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