

Dr. Irma Becerra-Fernandez is the Vice President for Engagement and Professor of Management Information Systems at Florida International University. She's the prior Vice-Provost for Academic Affairs and the Founder and Program Co-Chair of the 2010 and 2011 Americas Venture Capital Conference. She's also a Fellow and former Director of the Pino Global Entrepreneurship Center. She was the MIT Sloan Visiting Scholar with the Center for Information Systems Research in the spring of 2009. Also, she's the 2007 Kauffman Entrepreneurship Professor.

As Vice President for Engagement, she is currently leading a portfolio of partnerships that serve to grow student talent, develop the community, and foster innovation. These activities include overseeing internships across the university and supporting Service Learning; managing the ACCESS collaboration with the Miami-Dade County Public School System and The Education Effect at Miami Northwestern and Booker T Washington senior high schools, funded through the JP Morgan and Lennar foundations. Finally Dr. Becerra-Fernandez also supports the leadership of the Life Sciences South Florida and Academic Leaders Council collaborations on behalf of FIU President Mark B. Rosenberg.

Her research focuses on knowledge management (KM), KM systems, business intelligence, enterprise systems, disaster management, and IT entrepreneurship. She has studied and advised organizations, in particular NASA, about KM practices. She founded the FIU Knowledge Management Lab and has led multi-million dollar projects as principal investigator from the National Science Foundation, NASA (Headquarters, Kennedy, Ames, and Goddard Space Flight Center), and the Air Force Research Lab to develop organizational KM strategies and innovative KM systems.

She has published extensively in leading journals including the Journal of MIS, Decision Sciences, Communications of the ACM, European Journal of Operational Research, IEEE Transactions on Engineering Management, ACM Transactions on Internet Technology, Knowledge Based Systems, International Journal of Expert Systems Research & Applications, and others. She is an author of the books Business Intelligence: Practices, Technologies, & Management (Wiley, 2010), Knowledge Management: Systems and Processes (M.E. Sharpe, 2010), Knowledge Management: Challenges, Solutions, and Technologies (Prentice Hall, 2004) and co-editor of the monograph Knowledge Management: An Evolutionary View of the Field (M.E. Sharpe, 2008). She has delivered many invited presentations and keynote speeches at many NASA Centers, the NAVY Research Lab, universities around the world, and many international conferences with both an academic and a practitioner focus. She was a prior faculty director for the Masters in MIS and the MIS Ph.D. programs, and serves on the editorial board of the International Journal of Knowledge Management, International Journal of Knowledge and Learning, and the International Journal of Mobile Learning and Organisation among others.

Dr. Becerra-Fernandez was the recipient of the 2014 Miami Today Bronze Medal Award for outstanding contributions to Greater Miami, the 2013 Educator of the Year by Great Minds in STEM, the 2012 In the Company of Women Award for Education and Research by the Mayor of Miami-Dade County, the 2011 Engineer of the Year Award by the Association of Cuban Engineers, the 2004 Outstanding Faculty Torch Award, presented by the FIU Alumni Association, the 2006 FIU Faculty Teaching Award and the 2001 FIU Faculty Research Award. She served as the Americas Region representative to the Association for Information Systems Executive Council. She has served as the faculty director for the Masters in MIS and the director of the MIS Ph.D. Program. Finally, Dr. Becerra-Fernandez was the first female to receive a PhD from FIU's Engineering Program. She earned her Ph.D in 1994 in electrical engineering and her Masters and Bachelors, also in electrical engineering, from the University of Miami.