Understanding the Florida Cocktail

Between 1999 and 2007, Governor Jeb Bush implemented "The Florida Cocktail," an innovative mix of accountability, merit pay, school choice, and improved student access to improve student performance and graduation rates.

**Accountability reforms**

- School Grades
- The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test scores are standardized to measure performance of schools and to assign letter grades according to the guidelines told by the No Child Left Behind Act.

**Choice reforms**

- McKay Scholarships
- Tax Credit Scholarships
- Virtual Schools
- Charter Schools

McKay Scholarships are vouchers for students with learning disabilities to attend private or public schools that offer programs that meet their unique needs.

Tax Credit Scholarships are vouchers for low-income families to transfer their children to private or public schools more suitable for their individual needs.

**Analysis**

Two logistic and multi-variate analyses were conducted with the scores of students in schools or measured by school grades and graduation rates. It was determined that median income has a much greater impact on school outcomes that any of the reforms.

**Recommendations**

The importance of Median Income

Median income, such as a greater return on educational outcomes than any of the reforms composing the Cocktail. Thus, Florida’s success in educational outcomes, such as increased graduation rate, may be attributed to the growing state economy. Overall, education researchers and policy makers across the country should consider situational factors such as median income rather than only focusing on reforms.

**Scenarios Matrix**

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**Protein Structure Core Facility**

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**ABSTRACT**

The UNMC Protein Structure Core Facility (PSCF), founded in 1986, provides X-ray crystallography and NMR spectroscopy as its primary analytical services, with specific services being in the area of structure determination of proteins and nucleic acids. The PSFC offers state-of-the-art instrument access, training, and support.

**Simple Western by Size or Charge**

- **Equipment and Reagents**
  - Protein sample
  - SDS-PAGE gel
  - Antibody

- **Protocol**
  - Sample preparation
  - SDS-PAGE
  - Western blotting

**Edman Degradation**

- **Analytical Procedure**
  - Automated sequencer
  - Analysis of sample

**Amino acid Analysis**

- **Equipment**
  - Amino acid analyzer

- **Protocol**
  - Sample preparation
  - Measurement of amino acids

**UPLC/MPLC Analysis**

- **Equipment**
  - Ultra-performance liquid chromatography

- **Protocol**
  - Sample preparation
  - Chromatography

**Acknowledgements**

The UNMC Protein Structure Core Facility receives partial support from the Nebraska Research Initiative.
Cellular Imaging Facilities and Support

**Nikon A1R-Si INVERTED**
- Inverted TE microscope
- Fully motorized stage and piezo Z-focus drive
- Perfect Focus infrared image stabilization
- Lasers: 405 nm, 488, 514, 561, 640
- High Speed Resonance scanned
- Spectral imaging with 32 channel Si detector
- High NA Objectives (+1.5x zoom):
  - Dry: 10x/0.45 na, 20x/0.75 na
  - Multi: 20x/0.75 na
- Oil: 60x/1.4 na, Water: 60x/1.2 na
- Transmitted Light Detector and DIC optics
- Incubation chamber for Live Cell timelapse
- NIS Elements-Advanced Imaging Software

**Zeiss Axioplan 2 Upright**
- Brightfield and Epifluorescent imaging
- Motorized Stage
- Epifluorescence filters: DAPI, FITC Rhodamine, Cy5
- High NA objectives: 2.5X, 10X, 20X, 40X, 100X
- Simple Image Acquisition - $40/hour*
- Zeiss Axiosvision software v8.7
- Stereology (Quantitative cell counting) - $45/hour*
- MicroBrightfield StereoInvestigator software v9.1
- Virtual Slice montagemage image production

**Nikon C1 UPRIGHT**
- Easy to use Nikon E500 upright microscope
- 4 Lasers (fluoreophores) / 3 PMTs = 6 Channels
  - 405 nm (DAPI/Hoechst)
  - 488, 514 nm (AlexaFluor, FITC, GFP)
  - 543 (AF6, Cy5, Texas Red...)
  - 633 (AF6, Cy5, ToPro...)
- Obtain 3D (x,y,z) data with the Z focus control
- High NA objectives:
  - Dry: 10x/0.45 na Plan Apo
  - Oil: 40x/1.3 na Plan Fluor, 60x/1.4 na Plan Apo, 100x/1.4 na Plan Apo
- Epifluorescence filters: DAPI, FITC, TRITC
- $60/hour*

**Our goal is to support cellular imaging needs in the Waisman Center and beyond. We provide experimental design and problem solving guidance, and we train our users so they can use our equipment independently.**

(*training costs $67/hour)

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with any questions!

Waisman Center Investigators receive a subsidy to use CMN equipment and services.
We welcome UW and off-site investigators to use our facility at published costs.

The WC CMN Core is supported by a grant from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (P30 HD03352)