

## Direct from the DCT

**Issue Highlights:**

*Letter from the Editor* 2  
*Updates from the clinic* 4  
*Meet the Baby Bulls* 5  
*Newest Faculty* 7  
*Awards and Kudos* 8  
*Alumni Updates* 13  
*Spirit Events* 20

Greetings from Tampa and USF. Go Bulls!

For those of you who do not know me, I am the new Director of Clinical Training, a psychopathology researcher, and a clinical supervisor. To give you some background, after completing my Clinical Psychology Ph.D. at the Florida State University (Go Noles!), I completed a clinical internship at Western Psychiatric at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. I went straight into a faculty position at Kent State University and then moved soon after to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where I resided for 10 years. I was then DONE with the cold, and having been raised in Miami, with parents and siblings still living in South Florida, I was excited about the opportunity to return to Florida. Having other institutions as a point of comparison, I am incredibly impressed with the students and alum of our program at USF. I am gratified to see the high quality of training in applied and research work the students receive here. After reviewing CVs from the many students applying for internship this year, I cannot believe all they accomplished. As a clinical scientist, I know that USF is a good fit for me!



**Dr. Edelyn Verona**

I want to take an opportunity to thank our wonderful faculty and supervisors who support the students in ways I have not experienced in other places. In particular, I want to thank Vicky Phares, our former DCT, for the incredible guardianship of the program and nurturance of student strengths in the last 13 years! Thank you Vicky for all those things, and for your support in my transition to this role (and for agreeing to continue to run the newsletter).

Related to faculty news, we welcomed two new faculty besides myself to our program this year, both of whom are outstanding clinical scientists who bring much to our program: Dr. Diana Rancourt and Dr. Robert Schlauch (UNC and FSU PhDs, respectively—Go Noles!). They are both very active in research and the supervision of students in the clinic, amazing models for clinical science integration. You will read all about them in this installment of the newsletter. We will also hopefully update you on the many ways our faculty and students continue to be acknowledged nationally for their accomplishments and promise.

I am excited to talk to all of you about some of my own work in research and clinical training, but I will leave that for a future newsletter. For now, please feel free to come and visit if you are local, or to shoot me an email to say hi (or send me suggestions/comments) if you are far away. Would love to hear from you and learn from your experiences!

Finally, only because Vicky set the precedent, I am including a picture of my biggest accomplishment, Hector, my sweet but wild 2.8 year old! He is pictured here “helping” us with gardening and yard work (note the boots) ☺ – Edelyn



**Mr. Hector gardening, in rain boots of course**



## News From the Newsletter Editor

By Vicky Phares, Ph.D.

Greetings alumni and friends of the program! I am thrilled to continue editing this newsletter even after stepping down from serving as the Director of Clinical Training. Now I have that much more time to connect with clinical alumni, arrange Continuing Education Unit workshops, brainstorm about a clinical alumni reunion, and maybe even get some research done. Oh yea, plus I also have lots more time for my man-child (14 year old, Carson) and granddaughters (5 year old Callie and twin 2-year olds, Charlie Kate and Brooke).

This newsletter is a team effort, so we should all give a huge “thank you” to our previous newsletter formatting geniuses (graduate students, Robin Tan and Michelle Kovacs) and welcome our new formatting genius (graduate student, Pattie Johnson). I have reviewed a lot of alumni newsletters over the years and I continue to be blown away by our students’ awesome design skills, which make this newsletter look way more professional than I have a right to ask. Thank you Robin and Michelle for your excellent service in the past and thank you Pattie for carrying on the tradition. You all are amazing.

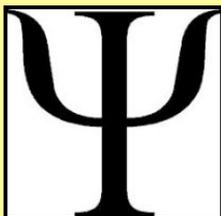
As for the future, based on suggestions by a current graduate student (thanks Vanessa Panaite), we will begin providing more in-depth profiles on selected faculty and staff in future newsletters. **So, let us know who you want to hear about!**

Maybe even suggest a profile of someone from back in the “Classroom Building” days or from when the clinic was in the basement of Social Sciences, or even from our days in the belovedly wacky BEH Building. Please send me your ideas of who we should profile and we’ll do our best to give you some updates in the next newsletter (phares@usf.edu).

But for now, sit back and enjoy the ride. Lots of terrific students and faculty have contributed to this newsletter, but of course, the alumni updates are always the biggest hit (take that–Facebook!). Thanks to everyone who participated in the newsletter and Go Bulls! Vicky



Some of our wonderful grad students at the First Year party



Dr. Vicky Phares and granddaughters, Brooke (left) and Charlie Kate (right)

## ***Breaking News***

### **Female Psychopathy: Recent Neuroimaging Findings**

By Bethany Edwards (First Year Clinical Student)

Psychopathy is a serious personality disorder defined by an assortment of interpersonal and behavioral traits (Hare, 1991, 2003). The disorder has been linked to emotional processing deficits, including impairments in emotion recognition and regulation and an absence of “moral emotion”, leading to empathic deficiencies and difficulties in social functioning (Ermer et al., 2012). While there has been considerable research examining the construct in males, female psychopathy has only recently become a topic of research interest.

Male psychopathy has been associated with various emotional impairments, including an inability to distinguish affective and neutral words (Kiehl, et al., 1999), impaired fear conditioning (Birbaumer et al., 2005), diminished ability to recall emotional material (Cahill et al., 1995), impaired recognition for facial and vocal affective expressions (Dawel et al., 2012), and deficient startle reflex potentiation to negative stimuli (Patrick et al., 2003). Furthermore, neuroimaging studies have demonstrated that males with psychopathy show reduced activation in various brain regions linked to emotional processing, including the amygdala, anterior cingulate (ACC), and ventromedial prefrontal cortex (vmPFC) when viewing emotional words, conditioned fear stimuli, immoral situations, and during engagement of emotional perspective taking (Decety et al., 2013).

Few investigations of emotional processing have been conducted in female psychopathy. Similar to males, females with psychopathy have shown impaired recognition to emotional facial expressions (Eisenbarth et al., 2008) and reduced startle responses to unpleasant stimuli (Verona et al., 2013). However, in contrast to males, females with and without psychopathy have responded similarly to emotional words in a lexical decision task (Vitale et al., 2011). While these recent neuroimaging reports suggest that females with psychopathy may demonstrate reduced limbic activation during emotional tasks, these studies have focused on self-report psychopathy measures in community samples (Carre et al., 2013).

Within the last month, the first neuroimaging investigation of female psychopathy in an incarcerated population was published (Harenski et al., 2014). Harenski and colleagues (2014) conducted an fMRI study including 164 incarcerated females and 46 non-incarcerated females. Incarcerated females were assessed using the Psychopathy Checklist-Revised ( $M = 19.3$ ;  $SD = 6.86$ ) (Hare, 2003). Participants completed a task in which they viewed and rated unpleasant pictures, half depicting moral transgressions, and neutral pictures. Females with psychopathy demonstrated reduced activation in the right amygdala and rostral ACC in response to unpleasant pictures. In contrast to male findings, females with psychopathy also demonstrated reduced activation in the right temporo-parietal junction (TPJ) to unpleasant pictures depicting moral transgressions (Harenski et al., 2010). Still “hot off the press”, this study presents new evidence of neurobiological impairment in females with psychopathy, supporting limbic and paralimbic dysfunction in psychopathy.



## Updates from the Clinic

By Jack Darkes, Ph.D., Clinic Director;  
USF Psychological Services Center and USF Alum

As the new academic year is in high gear, the PSC has continued to grow and address the needs of both our students and the surrounding community:

\* Our focus on working with veterans and their families continues. We are becoming more involved in various efforts around campus to support those who have served, including ongoing collaboration with Dr. Marc Karver's group on the on-going Campus Suicide Prevention Project that is targeting a number of at-risk groups on campus.

\* The Psychology Department has now contracted with Eckerd Community Alternatives so the PSC is officially working with Dr. Carla Stover from the Department of Mental Health Law and Policy at FMHI to offer the "Fathers for Change" program for treating Intimate Partner Violence. Obviously this program not only provides a great training opportunity, but also serves an important need in the community.

\* The PSC has formalized a relationship with the USF Athletics Department to provide psychoeducational assessments to USF student-athletes. We hope this can be a continuing and expanding association and offer a wide range of possible experiences in the future.

\* The PSC is happy to welcome our new clinical faculty members into our supervision corps. Dr. Diana Rancourt has taken over supervision of the WELLNESS group and is supervising our clinical students in both individual and group interventions. Dr. Rob Schlauch is now supervising one of our Individual Adult Therapy groups and will soon also be running his research project on Brief Motivational Interviewing out of the PSC. We are glad that they have joined us as they bring new ideas and energy to the PSC.

\* As a follow up on our research program in the PSC, see the article later in this newsletter about the poster that Lindsey Steding presented at a conference, which was authored by Lindsey, John Correa, Robin Tan, and Jack based on clinic data. In addition, John Correa is working on making requested revisions to a case study report on the psychological treatment of anxiety, depression, and problematic eating in Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome which he submitted to the Archives of Women's Health with Steffanie Sperry (an alumnus) and Jack.

\* Our new therapists (second-year students) are about ready to take on their first clients in the PSC. We welcome them on-board and are glad to have them in the PSC.

\* By the time you are reading this article, we will have had our first annual "PSC Summit". It is a chance for our clinical faculty and PSC supervisors to get to sit down and welcome our new faculty as well as talk about who we are and where we are going into the future.

As can be seen, activity in the PSC continues at a hectic pace. Exciting times! Of course, we appreciate the support of all of our current students, staff and faculty, as well as those of us who have been part of our history. It is important for our alums to realize that they collected the data we are now using to evaluate and improve our services. I imagine that, for many of my fellow alumni, the PSC is a source of fond, albeit distant memories. I can say that, as one who is still here, whether it is the pictures on the wall of the incoming classes over the last two decades or looking through our archives, I am constantly reminded of our history and how many people have played a part in it.



**Students working in our beloved Clinic "Bullpen"**



## Introducing the Baby Bulls (Entry Year 2014)



Hello, I'm **Bryan Benitez**. I was born and raised in Miami, FL ("the 305"), but I spent the last 4 years doing my undergrad right outside of Chicago at Northwestern University. Needless to say, it feels good to be back in my natural habitat of Florida. At USF, I'll be working on substance use research with Dr. Mark Goldman; I'm currently figuring out the details as to which specific sub-areas within this field I should focus on. Generally, I am most interested in the cognitive and behavioral approaches to understanding substance use, as well as considering how cultural and religious factors interact with these approaches. During my time at USF, I hope to be diligent and work hard in my studies, while still having a great time and enjoying life.

Hi my name is **Emily Choquette**. I grew up in Maryland and am coming to USF from Wake Forest University. At Wake, I had two main projects comparing the adjustment to college in athletes and non-athletes and the social stress-avoidance relationship. I will be studying body image and self-objectification in athletes under Dr. Kevin Thompson. When I'm not studying, I enjoy crafting culinary creations, outdoor activities, and cheering on the Redskins.



My name is **Bethany Edwards** and I will be working with Dr. Edelyn Verona. I earned my Bachelor's degree from Purdue University in 2007. Following graduation, I worked in research positions at both Washington University in St. Louis and the Mind Research Network in Albuquerque, New Mexico. My research interests include examining gender differences in psychopathy. I am intrigued by the many similarities in traits between psychopathy and Borderline Personality Disorder and hope to explore this overlap across genders. I am also interested in the relationship between male and female psychopathy and engagement in sex work. In my free time, I love to travel and explore new places!

Hi! My name is **Claire Gorey**, and I am originally from Chicago. I completed my BA at the University of Kansas, where I was most recently working in a lab examining the effects of neurostimulation on individuals with high levels of anxiety. Here at USF, I will be under the supervision of Dr. Bornovalova. My research interests include examining distress tolerance, with particular emphasis on elucidating the mechanisms behind the individuals at the upper-end (i.e., overtolerant individuals). I am also interested in the intersection of emotion and alcohol use, specifically how affective states lead to differential pathways to drinking. I enjoy playing sports, kickboxing, taking my dogs to the beach, and cheez-it crackers.





Hello! My name is **Amy Hoffmann**, and I am excited to be here at USF working with Dr. Edelyn Verona. I am originally from Pittsburgh PA and did my undergrad at Brandeis University in Waltham MA, where I worked in Dr. Ray Knight's Psychopathy and Sexual Aggression Lab. Following graduation, I spent four years at Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic working on various projects within the Pittsburgh Girls Study. My primary research interests are gender, sexual violence, and psychopathy. I am also interested in the intersection of psychopathology and internet use. In my free time I enjoy campy horror movies, experimental music, vinyasa yoga, hiking and camping.

My name is **Aisha Howard**, and I recently transferred to the clinical program at USF with Dr. Edelyn Verona from Champaign, IL. My research interests include examining emotional and empathic deficits among individuals, as well as elicitation and motivation toward prosocial behavior. I am also interested in psychophysiological methodology, including EEG, neuroendocrine, and genetic techniques. In my spare time, I enjoy reading, cooking and making stained glass.



Hi! My name is **Maureen Monahan** and I am from New Jersey. I received my B.A. in psychology from George Washington University and my M.A. from Catholic University in Washington, D.C. Here at USF, I will be working with Marc Karver, studying suicide prevention and therapeutic processes. In my free time, I enjoy practicing yoga, running, and exploring Tampa :)

Hi! My name is **Amanda Palmer**, and I am a first year clinical doctoral student under the supervision of Dr. Thomas Brandon. Before moving to Florida, I received my undergraduate degree in psychology in New York and went on to work in a tobacco and alcohol research lab in Connecticut. My research interests include substance use in medical populations, specifically tobacco use. In my free time, I enjoy going to the beach, baking, crafting, and playing with my cat.



## Introducing Our Newest Faculty Members

By Leah Boepple (Third Year Student, working with Dr. Kevin Thompson)



Dr. Diana Rancourt with husband, TJ, and Tundra before they came to USF.

### Dr. Diana Rancourt

Diana is originally from Santa Rosa, CA. After leaving California, she completed her undergraduate work at Amherst College, where she double-majored in French and Psychology. She earned her Ph.D. at the University of North Carolina, completed her internship at the University of California, San Diego and received her postdoctoral training at the Alpert Medical School of Brown University. Diana is primarily interested in studying the intersection of peers and adolescents' weight-related attitudes and behaviors. She looks forward to integrating eating disorder and obesity research by examining correlates of a range of weight-related behaviors. Her chief clinical interests are adolescent eating disorders and obesity.

Diana ran on her undergrad cross-country and track teams. While there, she observed many of her teammates making unhealthy choices, and she became curious about why smart people make poor decisions. This interest led her to volunteer in a lab examining norms related to eating disorders and weight, which ultimately sparked her passion in clinical psychology. Diana was attracted to the opening at USF due to the program's strong graduate program. She was also drawn to USF's commitment to both research and clinical work, its overall atmosphere and culture, and its interest in continuing to evolve as a program. Diana and her husband enjoy being outdoors (hiking and camping) with their dog, Tundra. Her advice for graduate students is that it's okay to change your long-term goals over the course of your training. She advises students not to be afraid to change course, even if they are currently committed to a different path. Thinking ahead towards the future of clinical psychology, Diana's most excited about opportunities for multidisciplinary collaborations. She's confident that new research findings will lead to better, more integrated mental healthcare.



### Dr. Rob Schlauch

Rob grew up in Long Island, NY. He majored in psychology at Stony Brook University, conducted his graduate work at Florida State University and completed his internship at the Yale School of Medicine. Following internship, he obtained his post-doctoral training at the Research Institute on Addictions, University at Buffalo. Rob's primarily interested in studying individual differences in etiology and treatment of substance use disorders. More specifically, he's interested in examining the mechanisms by which people change problematic drinking, including the role of craving during treatment. His clinical interests include substance use disorders and motivational interviewing, as well as diagnostic differentials.

Rob was drawn to the field of clinical psychology due to a long-standing interest in understanding why people knowingly and continually engage in harmful behaviors. The program at USF appealed to him due to its strong addiction program (although he notes that the weather didn't hurt either). Rob enjoys hockey and golf, is a self-taught guitar player, and boasts a large collection of music and DVDs/Blu-rays. He hopes that graduate students find enjoyment in both their pursuits in academia and outside interests, and strongly advocates that students find balance in work and life. Rob is most energized by clinical psychology's current push to integrate science into practice. He is excited to see how research translates into applied treatment, and is very enthusiastic about clinical psychology's greater acceptance as a science in our society.



## Recent Awards and Kudos

Bryan Benitez (1<sup>st</sup> year student) has been awarded the Professor Charles D. and Carol Spielberger Endowed Fund Award for the Summer of 2015.

Jason Chen, M.A. (5<sup>th</sup> year student) received a Student Travel Award from APA to attend the 2014 APA Annual Convention in Washington, D.C. this past August.

Dr. Cindy Cimino (along with CNS faculty Dr. Geoff Potts, Dr. Manny Donchin, and Dr. Chad Dube), received an NSF Major Research Instrumentation Award for the project entitled "Acquisition of a Dual Acquisition Station Dense Sensor Array EEG/ERP System."

Erica Coates, M.A. (5<sup>th</sup> year student) received the American Psychological Foundation/Council of Graduate Departments of Psychology (APF/COGDOP) 2014 William and Dorothy Bevan Scholarship and the 2014 USF Clinical Psychology Graduate Student Fellowship.

Dr. Mark Goldman was recently named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

Dr. Bryan Heckman (recent alum) was named the first recipient of the *Center for Drug Abuse Programs (CDAP) Clinical Trainee Impact Award* during his MUSC internship.

Aisha Howard (1<sup>st</sup> year student) won a Society for Psychophysiological Research (SPR) poster award for her study "Psychopathy and Probe P300 Responses in the Context of Emotional Processing and Visual Complexity."

Dr. Marc Karver recently received a 5-year \$3.68 million award from the Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration for his suicide prevention work entitled "Florida Linking Individuals Needing Care (Florida LINC) Project."

Andrew Kiselica, M.A. (3<sup>rd</sup> year student) received a Student Travel Award from APA to attend the 2014 APA Annual Convention in Washington, D.C. this past August. Andrew is also the recipient of the 2014 Richard LaBarba Memorial Scholarship Award.

Michelle A Kovacs, M.A. (6<sup>th</sup> year student) is the recipient of the 2014 Stefanie and Adele Gilbert Award for Research on Women.

Joe McGuire, M.A. (5<sup>th</sup> year student on internship at UCLA) was named this year's recipient of the 2014 Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies (ABCT) Elsie Ramos Memorial Student Research Award.

Dr. Lynn Oelke (recent alum) received the Laird Cermak Award at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society 2014 for the best research presented in the area of memory or memory disorders. Her presentation entitled, "Source Memory and Generation Effects in Parkinson's Disease" was based, in part, on her dissertation.

Vanessa Panaite, M.A. (6<sup>th</sup> year student) has received a number of awards this year, including an APS Travel Grant, the Psi Chi Graduate Assistantship Grant, the Professor Charles D. and Carol Spielberger Endowed Fund Award, and the 2014 USF Clinical Psychology Graduate Student Fellowship.

**Continued on page 9**

### Recent Awards and Kudos (*continued*)

Lindsey Steding, M.S. and Renee Brown (both 4<sup>th</sup> year students) received a pilot grant award from the American Association of Suicidology for their project "Equipping Schools to Heal after a Suicide."

Dr. Eric Storch was awarded an NICHD R01 to examine personalized cognitive behavioral therapy relative to standard care CBT in youth with autism spectrum disorder and comorbid anxiety. In addition, Dr. Storch was awarded a Fullbright Scholar Flex Award, which will enable him to implement evidence-based treatments for anxious children in El Salvador.

Danni Ung, M.A. (4<sup>th</sup> year) was awarded a Graduate Research Grant from the Organization for Autism Research to support her dissertation research entitled, "Peer Victimization in Youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder."



***A toast to all of the winners!  
Congratulations everyone!!  
You do us proud!***

### PCSAS Accreditation Update

In addition to our accreditation by the American Psychological Association (APA), we were thrilled to become the eighth program accredited by the prestigious Psychological Clinical Science Accreditation System (PCSAS) in 2011. Since that time, 16 other programs have joined our ranks as PCSAS accredited programs and there are an additional 6 programs that have been deemed eligible to apply based on their initial letter of intent. We are proud to be in the company of such esteemed doctoral programs that are producing our next generation of clinical scientists.

11-12-2009	University of Illinois--Urbana/Champaign
05-26-2010	University of Arizona
05-26-2010	Washington University in St. Louis
12-04-2010	McGill University
12-04-2010	Stony Brook University
12-04-2010	University of Kentucky
12-04-2010	University of Southern California
05-25-2011	<b>University of South Florida</b>
05-25-2011	Northwestern University
05-25-2011	University of Missouri
12-10-2011	Arizona State University
12-10-2011	University of Delaware
12-10-2011	University of Iowa
05-23-2012	Harvard University
12-15-2012	University of Pennsylvania
12-15-2012	University of California, Los Angeles
05-21-2013	University of California, Berkeley
05-21-2013	University of Minnesota
05-21-2013	University of Oregon
05-21-2013	University of Pittsburgh
05-21-2013	University of Virginia
05-20-2014	University of Wisconsin--Madison
05-20-2014	Duke University
05-20-2014	Emory University



## New Help, New Hope in Tampa Bay

By Vicky Phares, Ph.D.

On October 16, 2014, a number of USF Clinical Psychology faculty and alumni attended the Grand Opening of Rogers Behavioral Health–Tampa Bay. With over 150 people in attendance, including clinicians, administrators, politicians, and mental health advocates, the event was like a "who's who" in the mental health system of Tampa Bay.

Rogers Behavioral Health–Tampa Bay offers intensive outpatient services and partial hospitalization programs for children, adolescents, and adults who are diagnosed with obsessive-compulsive disorder and other anxiety disorders. Treatment is evidence-based and multidisciplinary, being driven through an exposure-based cognitive-behavioral therapy model.



Alumni Dr. Rick Weinberg, Dr. Kristi Weiner, and Dr. Heather Smith-Schrandt at the Grand Opening of Rogers Behavioral Health–Tampa Bay

Dr. Eric Storch is the Clinical Director of Rogers Behavioral Health-Tampa Bay, which is affiliated with USF. In our discussions, Dr. Storch noted that Rogers addresses a pressing need in the state of Florida and Southeastern U.S. by providing a higher level of care for those with significant anxiety. If you wish to refer clients to this superb new facility, here is the contact information:



Dr. Eric Storch (center) at the Grand Opening of Rogers Behavioral Health–Tampa Bay

### Rogers Behavioral Health - Tampa Bay

2002 Lois Ave.  
Tampa, FL 33607

844-220-4411  
813-498-6400

<https://rogershospital.org/rogers-behavioral-health-tampa-bay>

## PSYJOBS

Are you looking for a post-doctoral position or a new job? If so, consider signing up for PSYJOBS. The listserv distributes job announcements to interested USF Psychology faculty, graduate students, and graduate alumni.

To subscribe: <http://listserv.admin.usf.edu/archives/psyjobs.html>

To post job listings: [PSYJobs@listserv.admin.usf.edu](mailto:PSYJobs@listserv.admin.usf.edu)

## Lifelong Learning: Clinical Brown Bags and CEUs

If you're ever looking for free CEUs and a free lunch, consider joining us at a Clinical Brown Bag meeting. Beginning in January, 2015—we will be holding brown bag talks every Friday of the academic year from noon-1:00 in PCD 1134. The schedule is posted in the Psychology Events Calendar section of the USF Department of Psychology website:

<http://psychology.usf.edu/events.aspx>

Note that awesome alum, Dr. Amy (Smith) Duhig will be doing a career-related talk on Friday, February 20, 2015 from noon-1:00 in PCD 1134.



Dr. Vicky Phares with Dr. Amy Duhig (Right) during a visit to

Also, please consider the following fun CEU events:

**Book Club:** We are holding our first ever Clinical Book Club on Monday, Dec 15 from 9:00-10:30a.m. in the clinic (you can use the front sliding door entrance to the clinic, which is located in the breeze way between the Psychology Department and the Communications Sciences and Disorders Departments).



The book is *The Perversion of Virtue: Understanding Murder-Suicide* by Dr. Thomas Joiner. Per APA CEU guidelines, reading the book will earn you 6 CEUs, and attending the discussion will earn you another 1.5 CEUs. If you're not able to make it to the discussion (because you are too busy or because you live in Atlanta), you can just confirm that you've read the book by providing a brief review via e-mail and then you can earn the 6 CEUs for reading the book. But please make sure to check with your licensing board to see if CEUs from the state of Florida will "count" in your state. Happy reading everyone!

**CEU Training Workshops:** We are trying to develop a series of fee-based CEU Training Workshops (with money going to help fund clinical student conference travel). Keep your eyes open for the announcement of an upcoming workshop on Motivational Interviewing in the Spring of 2015. We are also in the beginning stages of developing a workshop on Dialectical Behavior Therapy for the Fall of 2015. If you have suggestions for topics for these skill-based workshops (or if you want to volunteer to present at a workshop!), please contact Vicky: [phares@usf.edu](mailto:phares@usf.edu)

We hope to see you at one or even all of these events. Happy learning everyone!

## Forgotten Films

By Vicky Phares, Ph.D.



When you're not out saving the world or finishing your latest grant proposal, consider taking a look at some of my favorite "forgotten films." Enjoy the popcorn!

*To Kill a Mockingbird* (1962) - Okay, anyone who has a kid in high school hasn't forgotten "To Kill a Mockingbird" (mostly because kids try to watch the movie rather than read the required book). Both the book and the movie are extraordinary and as an added bonus, read *The Mockingbird Next Door: Life with Harper Lee* by journalist Marja Mills (2014) who interviews and befriends author Harper "Nelle" Lee. Fascinating.

*Julia* (1977) - Superbly written and acted film about life-long friendships, honor, and integrity in the face of Nazi horrors, with break-out performances by Jane Fonda (as playwright, Lillian Hellman), Jason Robards (as writer, Dashiell Hammett), and Vanessa Redgrave (as "Julia").

*Raggedy Man* (1981) - Single mom, Sissy Spacek, moves into a small town and befriends a mysterious younger man and sparks fly.

*She's Gotta Have It* (1986) - One of Spike Lee's earliest (and I think best) films, focusing on a single woman living in Brooklyn and trying to handle multiple lovers and friends. Think candlelight.

*Cinema Paradiso* (1988) - Coming of age and falling in love with films and other wonders of the world.

*The Fabulous Baker Boys* (1989) - Extraordinarily well crafted film featuring Jeff and Beau Bridges as struggling lounge pianists who hire singer Michelle Pfeiffer to spice up their act. Let's just say that once you've seen Ms. Pfeiffer on the piano in that red dress-you'll never forget.

*Longtime Companion* (1989) - This was one of the first mainstream films to deal with HIV/AIDS. I dare you not to sob as Bruce Davison encourages his partner to die.

*Corrina, Corrina* (1994) - Whoopie Goldberg tries to help a young girl after the girl's mom dies. Funny, sad, and sweet all at once.

*Iris* (2001) and *Away From Her* (2006) - Perfect double feature if you're interested in the personal and marital casualties related to dementia. Superb performances by Judi Dench and Julie Christie, respectively.

*Dan In Real Life* (2007) - Adorable family comedy with Steve Carrell playing a widower and single dad who is falling in love again. You will never hear Pete Townshend's song, "Let My Love Open the Door," the same way again.

*Everything Must Go* (2010) - Somber film about a very serious Will Ferrell struggling with alcohol abuse, and the loss of his wife, job, and house.

*Men, Women, and Children* (2014) - This film might still be in theatres in your local market. It is a superb and haunting cautionary tale about families and social media.

## Alumni Updates

### Entry Class of....

#### 1971

**Jerry L. White, Ph.D.**  
[jlwhitesc@comcast.net](mailto:jlwhitesc@comcast.net)

#### 1972

**Anthony Stone, Ph.D., MPH, ABPP**

[AStone@stonemcelroy.com](mailto:AStone@stonemcelroy.com)

It looks like I will be relocating to Sarasota in the near future, as my wife, Sandra, has been named the Regional Chancellor of USF-Sarasota as of November 1. I will maintain my practice in Atlanta and commute for the time being but will hope to establish a "field office" for Stone, McElroy & Associates' police and media psychology - risk management psychology practice in the Sarasota area.

#### 1973

**Stevan E. Hobfoll, Ph.D.**  
[stevan\\_hobfoll@rush.edu](mailto:stevan_hobfoll@rush.edu)

I received a Lifetime Achievement Award from Division 56-Trauma Psychology. In November, I will receive the Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (ISTSS). I was touched by the following line in the APA award, *"his impact may be most felt in regions of the world where psychiatry and psychological care is nowhere to be found and people are suffering from disaster, war, and famine."*

#### 1975

**Richard L. Westberry, Ph.D.**  
[summ15@bellsouth.net](mailto:summ15@bellsouth.net)

Office: 954-575-8775

Upon graduating in '83, I moved to the Ft. Lauderdale area, where I entered private practice and enrolled in what was then Nova University's Post-Doctoral Institute of Psychoanalysis. Two years later I became the psychological consultant to the Vocational Adjustment Training Programs at Goodwill Industries of Broward County, A position I held for almost two decades. One of my initial duties there was to help revamp their behavioral intervention techniques. A few years later the program was recognized as the most successful of its' kind in the country and the director, Mr. Steve Fleish, was invited to the White House to receive an award from the Vice President George Bush, Sr. I like to believe I played at least some small role in this achievement. In this regard, I as the recipient of Goodwill's Humanitarian Award in '87. During this period I was involved in the establishment of our local chapter of Div. 39 (Psychoanalysis; what else?) And served on the Board of Directors for several years. Having received a Certificate in Psychoanalysis upon completion of Nova's four-year program, I subsequently became a Faculty Member and Supervising/ Training Analyst for the Southeast Florida Institute for Psychoanalytic Psychology. I've since retired from the positions just mentioned, but continue to maintain a full-time practice in psychoanalysis and psychoanalytic psychotherapy (is there a difference?), specializing in the treatment of adult survivors of childhood attachment/ relational trauma. Well, enough (way too much) about me. My wife, Melissa, a professional engineer, is now retired and from her position as an area manager for AT&T. My daughter, Erica, is preparing to begin training to become an EMT. In conclusion, I'd like to extend the warmest of wishes to all the wonderful people I had the privilege of befriending during my time at USF!

#### 1976

**Joe Denicola, Ph.D.**  
[denicolajoe@yahoo.com](mailto:denicolajoe@yahoo.com)

#### 1977

**Rick Weinberg, Ph.D.**  
[weinberg@usf.edu](mailto:weinberg@usf.edu)

I learned last week that I earned a 2013-14 USF Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award. And also learned that I will get to teach the course, Intimate Relationships again Summer 2015 in Florence, Italy for the USF World program.

#### 1978

**Tom Clark, Ph.D.**  
[thomas.lyon.clark@gmail.com](mailto:thomas.lyon.clark@gmail.com)

I was co-founder of an intentional community in the Midtown area of Tallahassee (Daystar Community), which has been successful (22 years now) in many ways we did not anticipate. Since the gulf oil spill, I have been regularly walking 4 miles to work and taking the bus home. Working on two citizen committees to improve transit options in Tallahassee and optimistic about the innovative efforts of our local planners and metro system. I enjoyed visiting the psych department this year and look forward to returning for continuing education and infusions of optimism from the remarkable work of the current grad students.

## Alumni Updates

### 1980

#### **Richard Schulman, Ph.D.**

[dr.richardschulman@yahoo.com](mailto:dr.richardschulman@yahoo.com)

or on Facebook

I'm in private practice in Sarasota. My older son Jonathan is now a Licensed Mental Health Counselor in the Boston area. Who knew he was going to go into the 'family business?' My younger son, Daniel, has entered his senior year at Suncoast Polytechnic High School here in Sarasota. He is studying Video Production. I'm still making music and doing yoga.

### 1983

#### **Alice Gleghorn, Ph.D.**

[alice.gleghorn@sfdph.org](mailto:alice.gleghorn@sfdph.org)

After nearly 20 years with San Francisco, I am leaving to oversee Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services for Santa Barbara county. The move will bring me closer to my parents in Southern California who have had health issues, but it is also a great opportunity to work towards integrated care in a new county.

<http://www.independent.com/news/2014/oct/08/new-admhs-leader-named/>

[http://www.noozhawk.com/noozhawk/print/santa\\_barbara\\_county\\_selects\\_admhs\\_director](http://www.noozhawk.com/noozhawk/print/santa_barbara_county_selects_admhs_director)

### 1985

#### **Lynda Scalf-McIver, Ph.D.**

I am a clinician in independent practice in South Tampa. I became deeply interested in doing psychoanalytic psychotherapy about 12 years ago, when I began reading research about it's efficacy, especially in long-term follow-up studies. As a result, I began a program of study to deepen my understanding of this kind of work, earning a 2-year certificate in psychoanalytic psychotherapy in 2007. This year, I completed a rigorous 4-year training program to become a psychoanalyst. In my full-time private practice, I see clients for psychoanalysis and psychotherapy, as well as doing teaching and supervision of clinicians. It has been an extremely rewarding career, and I'm grateful for the foundation USF provided me. I laugh to myself, though, when I think how we scoffed at psychoanalytic approaches during our grad school training. To us, it was just a bunch of "Freudian bunk". Well, perhaps many still believe that, but the meta-analyses seem to say otherwise, and the positive outcomes I see in my own clients never cease to amaze me. I look forward to going to work every day and feel lucky to be both a psychologist and a psychoanalyst.

### 1991

#### **Greg Aarons, Ph.D.**

[gaarons@ucsd.edu](mailto:gaarons@ucsd.edu)

I am Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at UCSD and Director of the Child and Adolescent Services Research Center. I now have a granddaughter (Cora) and my son and his family reside in Vancouver, BC. I enjoy living in San Diego with my wife Ellen and our Ibizan Hound "Cricket." I enjoy training for and racing in marathons and triathlons, and have recently taken up rowing at Glorietta Bay in Coronado.

#### **Jim Morris, Ph.D.**

Email:

[jmorrisphd@gmail.com](mailto:jmorrisphd@gmail.com)

Website:

[www.jmorrisphd.com](http://www.jmorrisphd.com)

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/jim.morris.39750>

We're on  
Facebook! Join  
our group now:  
USF Grad  
Psych

## Alumni Updates

### 1992

#### **Karen Nicholson, Ph.D.**

[Karen.nicholson@va.gov](mailto:karen.nicholson@va.gov) or  
[karenjnicholson@gmail.com](mailto:karenjnicholson@gmail.com)

I am pleased to be living in Florida still, where Nick and I enjoy boating and soaking up the sun. We are also enjoying our 2½ year-old granddaughter —a lot! Our children, Eric and Evan, are now ages 34 and 27. They are well and live in Bradenton, where we can keep a close eye on them. (Are they ever all grown so we stop worrying???) Regarding my psychology career, I continue to work at the VA in Tampa; teach courses in my “free” time with Dr. Martha Brown, a psychiatrist in addiction medicine at UF in Gainesville; and train interested others in Motivational Interviewing. Life is good! My e-mail addresses are [listed above]. I apologize to any alumni if they wrote to me last year and I didn’t answer—there were patches of time when I was out for eye surgery and got behind in my message reading, and some just got lost forever. I hope all of you who are reading the newsletter are healthy and enjoying your lives, personal and professional.

### 1994

#### **Marla Bartoi, Ph.D.**

[marla.bartoi@gmail.com](mailto:marla.bartoi@gmail.com)

Chris and I are still in Detroit, and I am working at Wayne State University. Our twins just turned 5 and Luca will be 7 soon. We miss Tampa. Last winter was the worst Detroit winter in 130 years and this winter is supposed to be even worse.

#### **Kim Renk, Ph.D.**

[Kimberly.Renk@ucf.edu](mailto:Kimberly.Renk@ucf.edu)

I am now Director of the Clinical Psychology Ph.D. Program here at UCF. Although I am always grateful to serve the graduate students in our program, I have been happiest with all my community outreach efforts, partly done in collaboration with a colleague from Nemours Children's Hospital. As part of this work, I've been serving low income young children, substance-involved mothers of infants, and teen mothers with applied research endeavors examining attachment-based parenting and trauma-informed child interventions. So fun! Our boys are now in the Sixth and First Grades, reminding me how quickly time has flown since graduate school... Hope everyone is well!

#### **Marc Steinberg, Ph.D.**

[marc.steinberg@rutgers.edu](mailto:marc.steinberg@rutgers.edu)

I'm currently Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Associate Director of the Division of Addiction Psychiatry at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (I didn't change jobs, Rutgers just took over University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey). So far, the major benefit of this takeover is that when I go to conferences I can now say I'm from “Rutgers” and people know what that means as opposed to having to explain “UMDNJ!” Outside of work, Laura and I stay busy with our 3 kids and 2 dogs!

### 1996

#### **Robyn (Williams) Birkeland, Ph.D.**

[Robynbirkeland@yahoo.com](mailto:Robynbirkeland@yahoo.com)

I am still working part time at the University of Minnesota on a Women's Health study. Scott (I/O alum) and I are having fun raising our three kids, Rylie (10), Chase (8), and Brynn (5).

#### **Dee Dee Falkenbach, Ph.D.**

[dfalkenb@gmail.com](mailto:dfalkenb@gmail.com)

I got married this past August in a lovely beach ceremony in Montauk, NY. I am living in NYC but my husband took a position in Washington D.C. so we are temporarily splitting our weekends in both cities. I am working as an Associate Professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I am on the faculty of our doctoral program in Clinical Psychology and the Director of the MA program in Forensic Psychology. I also serve as the Clinical Director of a program we run with NYPD, in which we train all New York police officers on managing people suffering from mental illness.

#### **Monica Watkins-Clay, Ph.D.**

[monicawatkinsclay@gmail.com](mailto:monicawatkinsclay@gmail.com)

Facebook: Monica Clay

### 1997

#### **Kathy (Seelig) Blake, Ph.D.**

[kjblake1@gmail.com](mailto:kjblake1@gmail.com)

After spending the last 13 years working for and commuting to Kennedy Krieger Institute, in July I joined a private practice in Rockville, MD much closer to home. The rest of my time is spent keeping up with Ryan (age 9), Audrey (age 7) and Ethan (age 2), with whom there is never a dull moment.

#### **Elizabeth Soety, Ph.D.**

[esoety@yahoo.com](mailto:esoety@yahoo.com)

Update, professional first. My close friend (also a psychologist) and I bought a small house so our office will not be moving again. Yeah! We each have practicum students from Mercer's medical psychology doctoral program. Additionally, I am teaching two classes this semester at Mercer including neuropsychological assessment. In my free time, my farm now includes 3 dogs, 8 chickens, 18 alpacas, and a llama. I have started selling alpaca related items at art and craft shows in the area. Whew. P.S. I'm in big trouble if caffeine ever becomes illegal.

**Lora M.A. Thompson, PhD**  
[lora.thompson@Moffitt.org](mailto:lora.thompson@Moffitt.org)

**Jenny Irvin Vidrine, Ph.D.**  
[JIrvinVidrine@mdanderson.org](mailto:JIrvinVidrine@mdanderson.org)

I am a tenured Associate Professor and Deputy Chair in the Department of Health Disparities Research at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. My research program focuses on tobacco cessation in underserved populations. I am married to Damon Vidrine, a tenured Associate Professor in the Department of Behavioral Science at MD Anderson. We just celebrated our 10 year wedding anniversary, and we are amazed at how quickly the time has gone by. We have an amazing four-year-old son, Beckett, who is tremendously fun and keeps us very busy. We also have a very sweet labradoodle named Sophie.

**Andrea H. Weinberger, Ph.D.**  
[andrea.h.weinberger@gmail.com](mailto:andrea.h.weinberger@gmail.com)

I'm on Facebook (Andrea Weinberger) and, occasionally, Twitter (Andrea Weinberger, @WeinbergerAH). This past summer I moved to Long Island, NY and joined the faculty in the Clinical Psychology Health Emphasis Ph.D. program at Yeshiva University's Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology. I have a small and enthusiastic lab, am teaching, and am working with new collaborators to set up research projects. I've also continued my work as Deputy Editor at Nicotine and Tobacco Research, as the Tobacco Section Editor at Current Addiction Reports, and on the Treatment Network at the Society for Research. It's been a busy time but I'm enjoying my new home and my new job!

**1998**

**Demy Kamboukos, Ph.D.**

[demouko@yahoo.com](mailto:demouko@yahoo.com) (you can also find me on Facebook).

I am still living in New York and it has been 10 years since I left USF. Time flies! I am an Assistant Professor in the Departments of Population Health and Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at the NYU School of Medicine, and doing research in early family and school-based preventive interventions. I am also fortunate that I get to teach a class at NYU, which is great fun! Work keeps me busy -- but I go out and try to enjoy NY, love going to concerts every chance I get, have been spending summer weekends in Montauk, and try to back home to Greece and South Africa when I can. I am the very proud aunt of the cutest 4.5 year old (Alexandros), who is my favorite person at the moment. I would love to stay in touch.

**2000**

**Michelle Ryng, Ph.D.**

[Michelle.Ryng.etc@gmail.com](mailto:Michelle.Ryng.etc@gmail.com)

My husband Neil and I moved this past January to Oahu, Hawaii where we have started our own business and are playing LOTS of tennis. I LOVE it here but will be back in Florida this January for the birth of my first grandchild. Warmest regards to all!!

**2001**

**Kristi Wells, Ph.D.**

[kwells@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:kwells@mail.sdsu.edu)

twitter: @DrKristenWells

I am doing well living in beautiful San Diego, California. I am enjoying life as a faculty member at San Diego State University.

**2003**

**Idia Thurston, Ph.D.**

[idia.thurston@memphis.edu](mailto:idia.thurston@memphis.edu)

I'm in my second year of a tenure-track assistant professor position in the Clinical Psychology Department at the University of Memphis. I am also an attending psychologist in the Pediatric Obesity Program at LeBonheur's Children's Hospital/University of Tennessee Health Science Center. My husband, 2-year-old son, and I are loving the BBQ & Blues in Memphis.

**2004**

**April Taylor-Clift, Ph.D.**

[aprilclift@gmail.com](mailto:aprilclift@gmail.com)

After two cold--plus one really cold--winters in Chicago, Damian and I have migrated back to the St. Petersburg area. Currently, I'm proud to be working with active duty men and women as a full time mental health provider and consultant. I'm looking forward to a Florida winter this year.

**2005**

**Erika Litvin Bloom, Ph.D.**

[erika\\_bloom@brown.edu](mailto:erika_bloom@brown.edu)

I am in my second year as faculty in the Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior at the Alpert Medicine School of Brown University. I have a K23 grant focusing on women's smoking cessation. I'm enjoying life in Providence with my husband and our dog.

## Alumni Updates

### Lauren Bylsma, Ph.D.

[BylsmaL@pitt.edu](mailto:BylsmaL@pitt.edu)

<http://www.psychiatry.pitt.edu/node/9230>

I received a K01 in August and I have transitioned to faculty here at the University of Pittsburgh. In my K01, I'll be working with Cecile Ladouceur and Jennifer Silk to examine neural (using event related potentials, ERPs) and daily life correlates of emotional deficits and psychological flexibility in high risk youth and how these brain-behavior relationships predict symptom course. In July, I attended an NIMH funded training workshop on techniques using ERPs at UC Davis.

### Beth Morris, Ph.D.

[Bethany-H-Morris@ouhsc.edu](mailto:Bethany-H-Morris@ouhsc.edu)

I am currently a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, specializing in combat stress at the Oklahoma City VA Medical Center. I provide outpatient mental health care to veterans of all eras in the Trauma and Deployment Recovery Services Clinic. I love my job and am proud to be a citizen of the Sooner state! Boomer Sooner!

### Kristi White, Ph.D.

[kristiwhite03@gmail.com](mailto:kristiwhite03@gmail.com) and

LinkedIn

I just began the second year of my postdoctoral fellowship in primary care at the University of Minnesota. I am happy to report that I will soon be a licensed clinical psychologist in the state of Minnesota and have started my preliminary job search. We are continuing to love the Twin Cities and everything they have to offer, polar vortex and all. We will be settling here permanently, so feel free to get in touch if you're in town!

## 2006

### Yasmin Asvat, Ph.D.

[yasvat@gmail.com](mailto:yasvat@gmail.com) and also on LinkedIn

I am completing a 2 year post-doctoral fellowship in Psychosocial Oncology at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, where I'm doing a little bit of everything: clinical work, research, and teaching. I'm happy to be part of a growing group of USF Psychology alums in Chicago! I am hoping to organize a "USF Psych Alums in Chicago" reunion soon, so please feel free to reach out if you're in the area

### Heather Smith-Schrandt, Ph.D.

[Hsmithsc@health.usf.edu](mailto:Hsmithsc@health.usf.edu)

After graduating this past summer, I am now working as a postdoctoral fellow at the Rothman Center. We moved to Clearwater and are enjoying exploring Pinellas. Braden is doing great in his sophomore year at the University of Missouri studying journalism and politics. Harper and Etta miss him desperately, but not as much as mom does. They are getting ready to turn 2 and 4 and most days are filled with chaotic joy.

## 2007

### Bryan Heckman, Ph.D.

[bryanheckman@gmail.com](mailto:bryanheckman@gmail.com)

I am in my first year of postdoctoral fellowship at the Medical University of South Carolina, and working towards submitting a K award that aims to develop adaptive ecological momentary interventions for smoking cessation. My girlfriend Casy and I love living in Charleston, and have been sure to take advantage of the easy access to beaches, mountains, and waterfalls.

## Good Dining

Do you like eating out (well who doesn't!)? Do you like giving back to the USF Clinical Psychology program (ditto!)? Please consider registering for Good Dining, where a certain percentage of your tab at participating restaurants will be donated back to the clinical program for enhancements in the clinic and to help support students' conference travel.

Check out their website at [www.gooddining.com](http://www.gooddining.com) and please consider selecting "USF Clinical Psychology" as the charity of your choice.

*Bon appétit!*

*Do not go  
where the path  
may lead, go  
instead where  
there is no path  
and leave a trail*

— Ralph Waldo  
Emerson

## Mentoring Faculty Updates

**Marina Bornovalova, Ph.D.**  
[bornovalova@usf.edu](mailto:bornovalova@usf.edu)

I continue to explore the etiology and maintenance of externalizing psychopathology and behaviors (e.g., sexual risk-taking), substance use disorders, and Borderline Personality Disorder. My lab is active and flourishing. On the personal side, I just bought a condo on Bayshore Boulevard and I continue to dance.

**Tom Brandon, Ph.D.**  
[Thomas.Brandon@moffitt.org](mailto:Thomas.Brandon@moffitt.org)

I have expanded my work on tobacco smoking to include e-cigarettes—a topic that has sharply divided the tobacco research and control field. My own view is one of cautious optimism about the potential of e-cigarettes to dramatically reduce the harm caused by traditional tobacco use. On the home front, daughter Clara has entered UF, which requires me to expand my in-state sports allegiances. It also reminds me of my duration at USF, since Clara was only 1 month old when I interviewed for the USF job.

### Sneak Peak

*Coming Soon:* In-depth profiles of faculty members and staff members

Let us know who you want to hear about!

Please send suggestions to Vicky: [phares@usf.edu](mailto:phares@usf.edu)

**Cindy Cimino, Ph.D.**  
[cimino@usf.edu](mailto:cimino@usf.edu)

I am continuing to research emotion, attention, and memory in degenerative disorders such as Huntington's Disease and Parkinson's Disease. We recently landed a grant for collaborative work within the Huntington's Disease Center and are also now collaborating on a grant with the James Haley VA. On the personal side, Pat and I are enjoying having Anthony back in town while he works on his finance and accounting degree at the University of Tampa.

**Jack Darkes, Ph.D.**  
[darkes@usf.edu](mailto:darkes@usf.edu)  
 Please see "Clinic Update" article.

**David Drobos, Ph.D.**  
[David.Drobos@moffitt.org](mailto:David.Drobos@moffitt.org)  
 I continue to derive much professional satisfaction conducting research on tobacco addiction, in close collaboration with amazing colleagues and students. On the home front, Barbara and I have been adjusting to life with one kid off to college (go 'Noles!), with another keeping us from empty nest syndrome for three more years. You can often find us at local live music events, and twice a year camping upstate on the beautiful Suwannee River with 10,000 of our closest friends.

**Mark Goldman, Ph.D.**  
[mgoldman@usf.edu](mailto:mgoldman@usf.edu)  
 I continue to explore alcohol expectancies in relation to alcohol use and abuse. Earlier in 2014, I was honored to have been appointed as a Fellow to the American Association for the Advancement of Science. All of the kids and grandkids are doing great.

**Paul Jacobsen, Ph.D.**  
[Paul.Jacobsen@moffitt.org](mailto:Paul.Jacobsen@moffitt.org)

I was recently elected Vice President (President-elect) of the International Psycho-Oncology Society and will be co-chairing the society's next annual meeting in Washington, DC in July 2015.

**Marc Karver, Ph.D.**  
[mkarver@usf.edu](mailto:mkarver@usf.edu)  
 I'm still working on suicide prevention (2 current funded grants) and treatment process research and I'm waiting to find out if I managed to convince the federal government to fund a 5 year project (fingers crossed...Editor's Note: He got it!! Woo Hoo!!). As for non-Psychology life, Kirin (age 9) and I (and our 7 cats) survived one year with my wife, Jen, working as a postdoc at the University of Miami and now happily we have her back as she is now an Assistant Professor in Public Health at USF. Kirin continues to have his life revolve around sports. He is currently playing travel soccer and basketball and taking a break from running. He did have a fairly successful track season (besides developing Achilles Tendonitis) as he won the Florida state title in the 1500 meters for the third year in a row and he came in 9<sup>th</sup> at US Nationals (he won Nationals two years ago). I have found that having a kid who runs is also good for the fitness of adults in the family and thus I'm still managing to play Australian Rules football and soccer with athletes half my age.

**Vicky Phares, Ph.D.**[phares@usf.edu](mailto:phares@usf.edu)

I am excited about my "developmental leave" this year (i.e., time off for good behavior, with no teaching duties for the year, but with a regular salary....sweet!). Along with catching up with some research activities, I have gotten more involved in outreach to our undergraduate alumni (all 11,000 of them!) while also keeping in touch with our terrific clinical grad alumni (hi everyone!). On the personal side, Carson just started as a freshman at Brooks DeBartolo Collegiate High School, which is an awesome public charter school here in Tampa. He is on the golf team and working on the yearbook, but his true love remains paintball (he plays paintball every Saturday and then serves as a photographer/videographer for local paintball teams every Sunday). Just what a hippie momma dreams of. ;-) Being "V-ma" to my granddaughters continues to be amazing, with 5-year-old Callie already mastering Kindergarten and 2-year-old twins, Charlie Kate and Brooke, already mastering the English language in so many creative ways. Life is good.

**Diana Rancourt, Ph.D.**[drancourt@usf.edu](mailto:drancourt@usf.edu)

Please see update in the "Introducing Dr. Diana Rancourt" article.

**Jon Rottenberg, Ph.D.**[rottenberg@usf.edu](mailto:rottenberg@usf.edu)

My book, *The Depths*, has been well-received and I even got to participate in the Tampa Bay Times Festival of Reading recently. The "Come Out of the Dark" campaign continues to gain momentum, with nearly 60 students in the formal student organization and more Facebook followers than the USF College of Arts and Sciences! Personally, Laura and I are still learning how to feather our "empty nest" since my only daughter Sophie just started at FSU. My body has made understandable murmurs of protest at restarting marathon training, but so far I'm on course to race again at the end of December in Jacksonville. Wish me luck.

**Rob Schlauch, Ph.D.**[rschlauch@usf.edu](mailto:rschlauch@usf.edu)

Please see update in the "Introducing Dr. Rob Schlauch" article.

**Eric Storch, Ph.D.**[estorch@health.usf.edu](mailto:estorch@health.usf.edu)

I recently became the founding clinical director of the recently opened Rogers Behavioral Health - Tampa Bay program that is in affiliation with USF. This program provides partial hospitalization and intensive outpatient services for adults and children with obsessive-compulsive disorder and other anxiety disorders. I continue to co-mentor students and I love seeing their successes! On the home front, Maya (6 years old) and Noah (3 years old) are happily expecting a new little brother or sister in the Spring.

**Kevin Thompson, Ph.D.**[jkthompson@usf.edu](mailto:jkthompson@usf.edu)

Greetings to all of the alumni! I am still working on research related to body image, eating disorders, and obesity. I've also created a few new courses over the past couple of years (Health Psychology, Clinical Research Methods, Sports Psychology). On the home front, Carly turned 16 on November 1 (yikes) and Jared is in the engineering program at the University of Illinois. I will be 60 on 11/14, but I'm not telling anyone. I'm working on a fiction book about a guy who turns 60, and then tries to erase any evidence of this fact from personal, job, financial and public documents. He moves to Denver and adopts a new identify and changes his name to FiffyTee.

**Edelyn Verona, Ph.D.**[everona@usf.edu](mailto:everona@usf.edu)

Please see update in the "Direct From the DCT" section.

**Other Faculty and Supervisors: Near and Far, Past and Present**

If you'd like to reach out to any of our other faculty members and supervisors from over the years, here you go...

**Margaret Booth-Jones, Ph.D.**[Margaret.Booth-Jones@moffitt.org](mailto:Margaret.Booth-Jones@moffitt.org)**Ellis Gesten, Ph.D. (Emeritus)**[gesten@usf.edu](mailto:gesten@usf.edu)**Bill Kinder, Ph.D. (Emeritus)**[bkinder@usf.edu](mailto:bkinder@usf.edu)**Holly Steele, Ph.D.**[hvsteele43@aol.com](mailto:hvsteele43@aol.com)**Karen Brandon, Ph.D.**[kbrandon@usf.edu](mailto:kbrandon@usf.edu)**Maria dePerczel Goodwin, Ph.D.**[mgood1@verizon.net](mailto:mgood1@verizon.net)**Brook McClintic, Ph.D.**[brook@judishouse.org](mailto:brook@judishouse.org)**Trevor Stokes, Ph.D.**[Stokestf@jmu.edu](mailto:Stokestf@jmu.edu)**James Epps, Ph.D.**[jepps@usf.edu](mailto:jepps@usf.edu)**Evelyn Hernandez, Ph.D.**[drevey@aol.com](mailto:drevey@aol.com)**Bill Sacco, Ph.D. (Emeritus)**[sacco@usf.edu](mailto:sacco@usf.edu)**Lora (Azzarello) Thompson, Ph.D.**[Lora.Thompson@moffitt.org](mailto:Lora.Thompson@moffitt.org)**Monica Esptein, Ph.D.**[mepstein@usf.edu](mailto:mepstein@usf.edu)**Katurah Jenkins-Hall, Ph.D.**[jenkins@fmhi.usf.edu](mailto:jenkins@fmhi.usf.edu)**Steffanie Sperry, Ph.D.**[slwilso5@mail.usf.edu](mailto:slwilso5@mail.usf.edu)

## Two Spirit Events for USF Clinical Psychology

### **Wednesday, December 3, 2014: Spirit Event in Tampa!**

- ❖ CDB's Italian Restaurant (yes, old-timers, this is the CDB's that's been around forever!)
- ❖ If you tell your wait-staff that you're with "USF Clinical Psychology," then they will donate 15% of the order back to the USF Clinical Psychology Association, for help with clinical students' conference travel. So please enjoy CDB's and enjoy helping our clinical students!
- ❖ The offer runs all day (from 11am to 11pm) on Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> – including both dine-in and take-out

In addition to the all-day offerings, we will have a big table reserved for USF Clinical Psychology students, alumni, and faculty from **5:00-7:00pm** – so please come join us and make it an impromptu reunion! We hope to see you there!

#### Specifics:

CDB's Italian Restaurant  
[www.cdbpizzatampabay.com](http://www.cdbpizzatampabay.com)  
 5104 E Fowler Avenue; Tampa, FL  
 33617  
 813-985-1336



### **Sunday, December 7, 2014: Spirit Night in San Diego!**

- ❖ If you're part of our USF-West Campus in Southern California, then please consider joining us for a Spirit Night in San Diego! Vicky will be in San Diego visiting her Phares Family and she will also be happily visiting her USF Phares Family!
- ❖ From **5:00-8:00pm** on Sunday, December 7 – we'll be having a spirit night alumni reunion at Giovanni's Restaurant on Clairemont Mesa Boulevard in the Clubhouse. Please RSVP to Vicky so we can prep the Clubhouse accordingly: [phares@usf.edu](mailto:phares@usf.edu)

Giovanni's will be kicking back 20% of the order to the USF Clinical Psychology Association, for help with clinical students' conference travel. So please come enjoy some good food and even better friendship at Giovanni's Restaurant in San Diego and help our clinical students while you're having fun discussing all-things USF! Yay for our USF-West Campus contingent!

#### Specifics:

**Giovanni's Restaurant**  
 9353 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard; San Diego, CA 92123  
 (between I-163 & I-15, near Ruffin Road)  
 858-279-6700  
[www.MyGiovannis.com](http://www.MyGiovannis.com)  
[www.Facebook.com/GiovannisSanDiego](http://www.Facebook.com/GiovannisSanDiego)

#### **Want to create your own Alumni Event?**

If anyone wants to hold city-specific alumni reunions (whether or not for "spirit night" kick-backs), please feel free to announce your event to everyone. We love seeing alumni reaching out to each other! For example, see Yasmin Asvat's alumni entry (2006) for all of you alumni in Chicago. What a great idea (but make sure to find someplace with a really nice roaring fireplace in that chilly Windy City). Enjoy and yay for USF Clinical Psychology Alumni!

On August 9, 2014, the clinical area celebrated five brand-new alumni:

- Bryan Heckman, Ph.D.
- Heather McGinty, Ph.D.
- Beth Morris, Ph.D.
- Jennifer Park, Ph.D.
- Heather Smith-Schrandt, Ph.D.

**Congratulations graduates!**



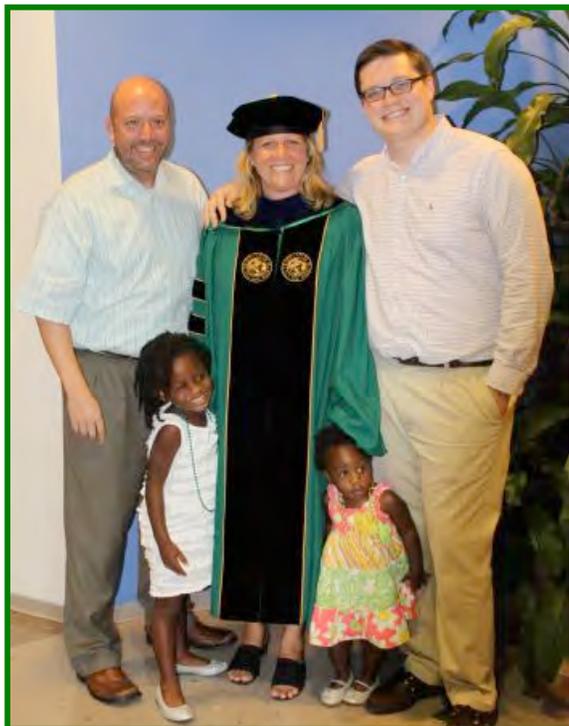
New alumni (L to R): Dr. Heather Smith-Schrandt, Dr. Beth Morris, Dr. Jennifer Park, and Dr. Heather McGinty (not pictured, Dr. Bryan Heckman)



Graduation celebration with (L to R) Robin Tan, Megan McMurray, Vicky Phares, Jack Darkes, Jennifer Park, and Heather McGinty



Earn a Ph.D. – Get a cake!!



Dr. Heather Smith-Schrandt and her awesome family

**Family Focus**  
 Congratulations to all of our recent graduates—especially those who earned a Ph.D. while raising the next generation!



Dr. Jon Rottenberg's lab celebrates Dr. Beth Morris

## Your Dollars At Work! Research in the Clinic

By Vicky Phares, Ph.D.

When you donate your hard-earned cash to the clinic, not only do you get our undying gratitude, but you also *get results!* One such tangible example is a research poster that was presented at the American College Counseling Association Conference in San Antonio, Texas this October. This research was based on archival data from the clinic and the work was funded partially by alumni donations to the clinic. **Thank you!**

The study was conducted by three clinical psychology graduate students (Lindsey Steding, M.S., John Correa, and Robin Tan, M.A.) along with clinic director, Dr. Jack Darkes, and it was entitled, "Client and Process Factors as Predictors of Termination in a University Psychology." The study investigated whether client factors, diagnostic status, and treatment process variables predicted the circumstances of treatment termination.

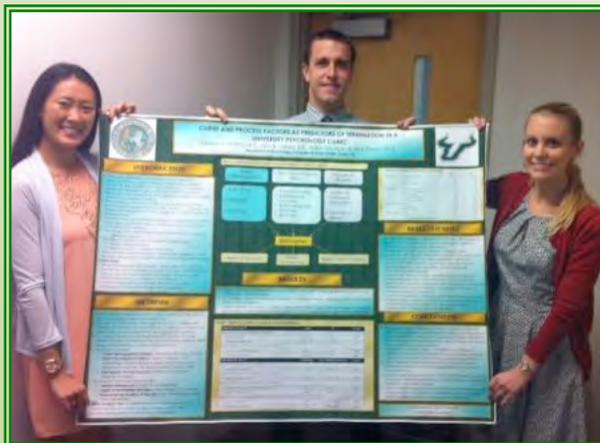
As any clinician knows, early termination from treatment is widespread and potentially harmful to clients. It is estimated that between 20% and 48% of adult clients discontinue treatment prior to achieving significant therapeutic gains. This study was designed to identify factors that predict early termination, with an eye toward improving therapeutic retention and therapeutic gains.

Based on archival data from 2007 to 2013 (maybe your clients were in the study!), a total of 114 adult clients who had started treatment at the USF Psychological Services Center were included in the study. Participants had an average age of 32, and they were mostly female (71%), mostly Caucasian (65%), with some college (48%), and the majority were single (61%). At the time of intake, clients presented with moderate symptoms of anxiety and depression, based on the Beck Anxiety Inventory and Beck Depression Inventory-II, respectively. Clients scheduled an average of 16.5 sessions and they attended an average of 76% of the sessions.

When predicting session attendance, agent of termination, and reasons for termination, the following patterns of results were found:

- ❖ Homework completion and tardiness to sessions were associated with agent of termination. Specifically, clients who were more compliant with homework were more likely to terminate mutually with their therapist, whereas those who were late to treatment sessions were more likely to have treatment terminated by their therapist.
- ❖ Clients with previous therapy experience were less likely to terminate therapy due to dissatisfaction with services, and clients with more psychiatric diagnoses were more likely to terminate treatment due to partial remission of symptoms rather than due to complete remission of symptoms.
- ❖ Quality of homework completion predicted whether presenting problems were resolved, such that less homework compliance was more strongly associated with only partial symptom remission than complete symptom remission.

**Graduate student  
co-authors (L to R):  
Robin Tan, John  
Correa, and Lindsey  
Steding**



**Continued on page 23**

***Your Dollars At Work! Research in the Clinic (continued)***

Overall, Dr. Jack Darkes stated, “We found that client engagement was critical to resolving problems prior to termination, suggesting the importance of monitoring these factors so as to assess clients’ engagement.” Thus, the results of this study suggest that clinicians would be wise to monitor clients’ completion of homework, tardiness, and other signs of client engagement in order to prevent early termination of treatment. In addition, training programs like ours should not only focus on evidence-based treatment practices but should also focus on evidence-based therapeutic alliance and engagement practices.

**So thank you, generous alumni, for providing support to conduct this type of cutting-edge research that helps us figure out how to better help our clients. We are grateful for your support.**

Article adapted from:

Steding, L.H., Correa, J.B., Tan, R., & Darkes, J. (2014, October). *Client and therapy factors as predictors of termination in a university psychology clinic*. Poster presented at the American College Counseling Association Conference, San Antonio, TX, which can be read in its entirety in the “Presentations” section at the following link:

<http://psychology.usf.edu/faculty/jdarkes/>



**Thank you alumni!**

**Giving Back**

A big “thank you” to all of the alumni who have helped support our program in the past and thank you to those who plan to support us into the future. Please consider giving back to any part of the program that you especially appreciated while you were here:

- ★ Top-notch clinical training
- ★ Student conference travel
- ★ Cutting-edge research
- ★ Parties and receptions ☺

If you wish to make a tax-deductible donation with a credit card to the Clinical Psychology Program Fund, here is the link: <https://usffdn.usf.edu/apps/?fund=421210&a=DEPT>

If you would prefer to go old-school, please make your check out to: USF FOUNDATION, make a note in the memo line about how you would like the money to be used, and please send it to:

Vicky Phares, Ph.D.  
University of South Florida  
Department of Psychology  
4202 E. Fowler Avenue, PCD 4118G  
Tampa, FL 33620

Thank you everyone. We so appreciate you! Thanks for being part of the legacy of this program and thanks for all that you do to make the world a better place. As always, USF Clinical Rocks! And also as always, I wish you peace. Vicky



**Thank you from all of us!!**