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Direct from the DCT

Greetings to alumni, friends, and colleagues! We have had another great year in the USF Clinical Psychology Program. Besides the many academic, clinical, and scholarly accomplishments of our students and faculty, I have been reflecting on the amount of community engagement, social justice and social service initiatives spearheaded by members of our program. These projects are not often highlighted in such letters by the DCT, but I wanted to bring attention to just a few of these.

First, the USF Psychology Student Diversity Committee had another successful year of promoting multicultural knowledge and engaging in diversity outreach. In 2015, the committee, under the leadership of clinical psychology graduate students (Danni Ung, Brittany Jordan-Arthur, Julie Cessna, Bryan Benitez, Melanie Bozzay, Renee Hangartner, Monica Wu, to name but a few of the students involved) were awarded an APA Grant for Ethnic Minority Recruitment, Retention, & Training to create a training event to which they invited over 50 undergraduate students all over Florida coming from immigrant backgrounds. The event took place in June, 2016, and required the involvement of many persons across the department. It was a great success, involving round table discussions of obstacles and strengths experienced by diverse students, mentor matching, presentations by several Psychology professionals working in various settings, and workshops for developing resumes, research statements, and graduate school applications. We are so proud of the work they did!

Second, Renee Hangartner (5th year clinical graduate student) received a grant from APA Division 35 (Society for Psychology of Women) to screen the documentary "It Happened Here" on November 18, 2016, a film about sexual assault on college campuses and the story of the survivors of these attacks. Renee is passionate about eradicating sexual harassment and violence of women. After having won \$500 from APA, she raised an additional \$600 to cover the costs of bringing in the movie's producer and one of the survivors featured in the film. There were advocates at the screening and a post-show discussion, moderated by Crystal Coombes of the Title IX office at USF. Congratulations Renee!

--Continued



Direct from the DCT, Continued

Finally, several of our faculty promote community outreach, including modeling and teaching our students how to use our clinical science skills for public service. As one example, Dr. Vicky Phares has been teaching a Community Mental Health course for undergraduate students in Psychology, where they obtain internships with community partners assisting clients with various concerns, including youth in foster homes, underserved communities, sexual assault survivors, and individuals with mental health problems. In my own work, I have mentored clinical graduate students to provide program evaluation services to non-profit organizations working with underserved youth, who would like to establish evidence-based services and disseminate their interventions to the larger public. The picture to the right is of first year graduate student, Sean McKinley, and myself after presenting results of our evaluation of G3 Life Applications' Be More program, a non-profit mentoring program for undeserved youth involving educational, social and physical health development, with a big focus on athletics.

The commitment to serving our communities and to pass along these values to our students is what makes our clinical program unique in many ways. I would love to hear from all of you about what you are doing and how you are likewise manifesting these humanitarian values in your own work! --Edelyn



Dr. Edelyn Verona and Sean McKinley, M.A.



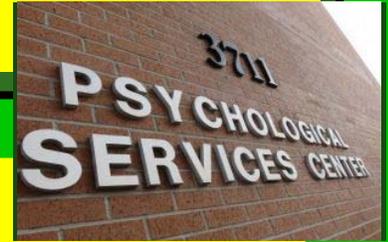
Save the Date—Free CEUs and Free Food
USF Department of Psychology Annual Colloquium Talk

Cultural Neuroscience: Why We Need It
—Dr. Shinobu Kitayama
(Director of the Culture and Cognition Program at the University of Michigan)

Friday, February 3, 2017
Talk: 1:15 to 2:45 in PCD 1134
Reception: 3:00 to 4:00 in PCD 3000

Updates From the Clinic

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



So, the Holidays are here again! Didn't I just write one of these?

As usual, this year there has never been a dull moment in the USF Psychological Services Center. Of course what makes it easier is the fact that we are fortunate to have an outstanding Clinic staff; two great Assistant Directors this year – Leah Boepple and Renee Hangartner-- and Ms. Tatyana Truax. As everyone knows, the PSC could not run as efficiently as it does without the dedicated work of our Clinic staff. We have also recently welcomed our new group of therapists into the clinic. Glad to have all of you here! Your work is much appreciated.

The changes keep happening in response to our clinical training plan; meeting the needs of the Clinical Program, our students, and clients. We are also busy doing our part in preparation for the upcoming APA Accreditation site visit. Our ongoing relationship with the USF Athletics Department is going well, as is our contract for psychoeducational assessments with Pasco-Hernando State College. They have become a major referral source for us.

We have also recently reinitiated an old tradition - the Clinic Tea. These meetings will give us an opportunity to respond to the needs of our clinicians when it comes to specialty topics. We had our first meeting December 9th, where we discussed what kind of topics our clinicians would like to hear more about and announced the roll out of our new clinic research database. As of the beginning of Spring 2017 term, clinicians will be entering intake assessment data and termination data into a database, along with measures of therapy process and involvement, so that we can expand our research and evaluate our work. So the PSC research program continues. Lindsey Steding, John Correa, Robin Tan and I are currently revising a manuscript we submitted describing factors that predict status at termination in our clinic. Even more exciting, after a long time of working on the idea, we are initiating an ongoing data collection in the clinic.

As all of this attests, the clinic remains a busy place as we work to create as many interesting and challenging training opportunities as we can. We remain involved in Veteran's services and issues on campus. Our waiting lists for assessment services to children and adults keep us busy. Our therapy services for general adult issues, as well as eating disorder/body image-related, trauma-related and substance-related specialty services are still going strong. A new addition to our services in the past year is our Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) group, supervised by Dr. Edelyn Verona, which provides both group and individual DBT.

As always, our success is a team effort, with students, staff, faculty and alumni all working together to make the clinic successful. For those of you who have the opportunity, we always enjoy having company, so if you are ever in the neighborhood, please feel free to let us know. We'd love to show you around and catch up.

Scenes From Around the Clinic



Clockwise from Upper Left:
Clinic Tea with Ashley Nelson
Students working in the Bullpen
Vicky's supervision group
Hall of Fame in Bullpen (Cohort Photos)
James' supervision group

Research Groups and Scenes From Around PCD



Clockwise from Upper Left:

Dr. Jon Rottenberg's Lab, Dr. Paul Jacobsen's Lab, Dr. Tom Brandon's Lab Debates E-Cigarettes in October (in character...but what character?), Winter Holiday Party, Spring 2016 First Year Poster Session, and Dr. Kevin Thompson's Lab



Introducing the Baby Bulls (Entry Year of 2016)



Hola! I'm **Patricia Calixte-Civil** and I don't miss the snow in NJ, but I do miss the subs. After graduating from Rutgers-New Brunswick, I loved being a research assistant working with smokers with schizophrenia at Rutgers, Addiction Psychiatry, and with women with alcohol use disorders at the Center of Alcohol Studies. Currently, I'm working under the guidance of Dr. Tom Brandon pursuing my interests in tobacco-related health disparities among minorities in the U.S. When the opportunity arises, I'm usually embarking on a road trip, attending a comic convention, or catching up on the latest news in the Marvel or DC universe.

Hi! My name is **Dan Faraci** and I am originally from Southern California. I earned my BA in Psychology and Social Behavior from the University of California, Irvine and completed an honors thesis on how positive emotion affects moral decision-making. While working on my thesis I volunteered with a substance abuse recovery program and developed an interest in alcohol research. Here at USF, I am working with Dr. Mark Goldman to better understand how expectancies affect alcohol-drinking behaviors. Outside of school, I spend as much time as I can with my wife, Jessie, and daughter, Avery, while we wait for the next member of our family to arrive—it's a girl!



My name is **Haya Fatimah** I am a first year doctoral student in the Clinical Psychology program. I am an international student from Pakistan, and also a Fulbright alum. I did my undergraduate at Forman Christian College, Lahore, and my Masters at New York University. At USF, I work with Dr. Marina Bornovalova on personality pathology and its influence on impulsive and risky behaviors. I am also interested in the genetic and environmental precursors of Borderline personality disorder and its developmental trajectory.

Hello, my name is **Becky Gius** and I will be working under the mentorship of Dr. Robert Schlauch. I was born in New Mexico and raised on green chile. I earned my BA at the University of New Mexico where I was involved in research at the Center on Alcoholism, Substance Abuse, and Addictions. I worked at the university inpatient psychiatric hospital as a mental health tech and crisis team captain, and later as a psychometrician administering neuropsychological assessments at an outpatient clinic. I am interested in treatment outcome research for individuals with substance dependence and psychiatric comorbidity. I enjoy watching competition reality shows and spoiling my cats. I couldn't be happier in my lab, and am grateful to be in the program here at USF.





Hi! My name is **Julia McDonald**, and I am a first year clinical student working with Dr. Edelyn Verona. I am originally from Houston, Texas and I just finished my undergraduate degree at Texas A&M University (Whoop)! I am broadly interested in the interplay between cognition and emotion in disinhibited and dysregulated forms of psychopathology. I am also interested in exploring how gender is manifested in psychopathy, externalizing disorders and other comorbid syndromes. My free time includes reading, binge watching Netflix and FaceTiming my dog!

My name is **Sean McKinley** and I am originally from Warrington, Pennsylvania (suburb of Philadelphia). I completed my BA in psychology and criminal justice at George Washington University in 2014 and my MA in forensic psychology at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in 2016. At John Jay, I wrote my master's thesis with Dr. Diana Falkenbach (a USF alumna!) on the relationship between psychopathic traits and aggression in a police officer population. Here at USF, I work with Dr. Edelyn Verona, and my research interests include psychopathy, aggression, police psychology, and successful/adaptive psychopathy in prosocial occupations. In my free time, I'm an amateur singer/actor and avid TV watcher!



My name is **Amanda Peterson** and I am from Minnesota, where I received my B.S. at the University of Minnesota. I am working with Dr. Marc Karver and am interested in studying prevention efforts for suicidal behaviors, particularly in the LGBT community. My favorite sport is golf and I played competitively when I was younger and throughout high school. I have now settled for playing competitively against my husband and occasionally letting him win. I also enjoy jogging with my Norwegian elkhound and then undoing my efforts at one of Tampa Bay's many great restaurants!

My name is **Christina Verzijl** and I'm excited to be working with Dr. Diana Rancourt. I've lived in San Antonio, Texas since elementary school and try my best to live up to my southern hospitality roots. Since earning my B.A. from Trinity University in 2014, I have been implementing an eating disorder prevention program with collegiate and high school students. My research interests include disordered eating, the role of craving, and prevention interventions. In my spare time, I love listening to live music and cuddling with my 4 year old puppy, Tucker.



Interested in Free CEUs and Free Knowledge?

Come join us on Fridays from noon-1:00 in PCD 1134 for our clinical brown bag series. Not only are there free CEUs, but there is also free food! You can find the schedule of events at <http://psychology.usf.edu/events.aspx>



**First Year Welcoming Party
(Hosted by Second Years)**



Welcome
First –Years
(aka “Baby
Bulls)!!!



Updates From the Classroom

By Marc S. Karver, Ph.D.

For the past 15 years, I have been teaching a Clinical Intervention course to our graduate students [photo circa 2010]. While the course emphasized the research aspects of clinical intervention, it still was on one side of a divide between classroom/research and our training clinic. Two years ago, Dr. Edelyn Verona suggested that the divide could be crossed by having the students in the required Clinical Intervention class utilize what they learn in the class and then apply it to designing potential research projects that could be carried out in our training clinic.



Impressively, there have now been two cohorts of clinical students who have designed some pretty impressive studies that could potentially be carried out in the clinic. These studies utilize some data already collected in the clinic and propose some additional measures and/or interventions that really could be potentially feasible in our training clinic. Stay tuned as over the next couple of years we may be able to report on some of these studies actually being implemented!!!! Of course, if you want to help encourage clinic research, donations to help pay for measures or student research time are always welcome!!!

Giving Tree: Warm Welcome Winter Clothing Drive for Refugee Youth

For the 15th year in a row, the USF Department of Psychology held a Giving Tree donation project. This year, the Giving Tree reached out to other campus partners (including the USF Honors College, Department of Anthropology, and the College of Public Health–Department of Global Health) in conjunction with the Florida Department of Children and Families–Refugee Services Program, and created the Warm Welcome Winter Clothing Drive for Refugee Youth.

We received 135 coats, jackets, hoodies (and one adorable Hello Kitty hat) and \$400 for gift cards so that adolescents could select their own warm attire. Hopefully, the refugee youth in the Tampa Bay area will feel a bit more of a warm welcome at this time of year.



Thank you to all who have participated in the Giving Tree over all of these years!

Recent Awards and Kudos

Current Graduate Students

Melanie Bozzay, M.A. (4th year clinical student) received a \$1000 Travel Award to attend the Military Suicide Research Consortium (MSRC) Pre-Conference Research Training Day.

Patty Calixte-Civil (1st year clinical student) received a \$120,000 Health Policy Research Scholar award from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and was awarded the Professor Charles D. and Carol Spielberger Endowed Fund Award.

Emily Choquette (3rd year clinical student) received the USF 2016 Clinical Alumni Award for Citizenship.

Julie Cessna, M.A., M.P.H. (On internship) received the Clinical Psychology Graduate Student Fellowship.

Erica Coates, M.A. (On internship) received the Clinical Psychology Graduate Student Fellowship and she also received the Eve Levine Graduate Teaching Award.

Alex De Nadai, M.A. (On internship) received the Richard LaBarba Memorial Scholarship Award and also recently accepted a tenure-track faculty position as an Assistant Professor at Texas State University.

Renee Brown Hangartner, M.A. (6th year clinical student) received a grant from APA Division 35 to screen a film about sexual assault on campus titled, "It Happened Here." Photo: Renee also won the Stefanie and Adele Gilbert Award for Research on Women.

Brittany Jordan-Arthur, M.A. (6th year clinical student) received the Eve Levine Graduate Teaching Award.

Robin Tan, A.B.I. (On internship) received the 2016 USF Clinical Alumni Award for Citizenship.

Troy Webber, A.B.I. (5th year clinical student) received an Outstanding Student Poster Travel Award from the Society for Psychopathology Research and also recently published his thesis data in Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology.



Continued...

Recent Awards and Kudos, Continued

Clinical Alumni and Faculty

Dr. Natasha Burke (Entry Year of 2009) received an Academy for Eating Disorders Early Career Scholarship and a Society of Multivariate Experimental Psychology Travel Scholarship.

Dr. Nicole Caporino (Entry Year of 2003) received the inaugural ABCT Anne Marie Albano Early Career Award for Excellence in the Integration of Science and Practice.

Dr. Joe Ditre (Entry Year of 2004) received an NIH/NIAAA R01AA024844 (MPI: Ditre, Maisto) funded from 07/2016 – 06/2021 and titled, "The Alcohol-Pain Connection: Mechanisms and Genetic/Psychological Correlates." He has also received numerous awards, including the Distinguished Scientific Early Career Contributions Award from the American Psychological Association, Division 50, Society of Addiction Psychology (2016) and the Mitchell Max Award for Research Excellence from the NIH Pain Consortium (2016).

Dr. Meredith Elzy (Entry Year of 2006) received the Southeastern Psychological Association Early Career Award.

Dr. Paul Jacobsen (Faculty) accepted a position as Associate Director of the Healthcare Delivery Research Program in the Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences at the National Cancer Institute (NCI). Dr. Jacobsen will continue to mentor his remaining graduate students at USF.

Dr. Christa Labouliere (Entry Year of 2006) is the Co-Investigator and Project Director of a new NIMH Zero Suicide R01 grant (PI: Barbara Stanley, PhD) that focuses on implementing and evaluating the effectiveness of suicide-safer care best practices.

Dr. Morgan Lee (Entry Year of 2011 and Recent Graduate) received the Eve Levine Graduate Teaching Award before she graduated.

Dr. Vani Simmons (Entry Year of 1998) and Dr. Tom Brandon (Faculty) received (as MPIs) a new R01 from NCI, titled, "Expanding the Reach of a Validated Smoking-Cessation Intervention: A Spanish-Language Randomized Clinical Trial."

Dr. Edelyn Verona (Faculty) was asked to present an Invited Address at the 2017 Annual Convention of APS. She also received a two-year \$275,000 grant from National Institute of Mental Health for her project titled, "Transdiagnostic Processes in Emotional Aggression: Interplay of Negative Valence and Cognitive Systems."

Congratulations Everyone!

**Students and Alumni Connect
at Research Conferences**



Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies



International Conference on Eating Disorders



Obesity Prevention Week in New Orleans



Dr. Joe Ditre Visits USF and the TRIP Lab

Making a Difference: Dr. Bob Smith and Mrs. Cathy Smith

If you are a practicing clinician or researcher who uses evidence-based assessment measures, then you surely know about Psychological Assessment Resources, Inc. But did you know that Dr. Bob Smith and Mrs. Cathy Smith have sponsored the Psychological Assessment Resources, Inc. (PAR) Scholarship for Excellence in Psychology at USF since 1992? They have left quite a legacy of superb undergraduate psychology students who have gone on to change the world.



Most of the undergraduate student winners go on to superb careers, many of them in clinical psychology. In fact, our own alumna, Dr. Ariz Rojas, won the PAR Scholarship for Excellence in Psychology in 2003. She says:

"It was such an honor to receive the PAR award during my junior year at USF. Not only was the award competitive and prestigious, but it provided a significant sum that helped defray the costs of applying to graduate school during my senior year. Many students fail to consider the cost of applying to graduate school (the application fees, transcripts, flights, hotels, and missed time from work). In addition to being a full-time student, I worked in multiple labs in order to gain the vital research experience for graduate school, which only allowed me part-time employment to support myself. The financial support from the PAR scholarship allowed me to allocate funds to apply for graduate school and alleviated that significant stressor. Personally, the award congratulated me for being an aspiring leader in psychology and reminded me that I chose the correct career path! "

On behalf of the recipients of the PAR Scholarship for Excellence in Psychology as well as the entire USF Department of Psychology—Thank you Dr. And Mrs. Smith for supporting excellence in psychology over these many years. Thank you for changing the world, one student at a time.



Congratulations 2016/2017 Interns!



2016/2017 Internship Placements:

Lauren Adams -- VA Puget Sound Health Care System, American Lake Division; Tacoma, WA

Idan Ariel -- State University of New York at Albany University Counseling Center

Julie Cessna -- James A. Haley Veterans Hospital; Tampa, FL

Erica Coates -- VA Maryland HCS/Univ Maryland School of Medicine Consortium

Alex De Nadai -- University of Mississippi Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior

Danielle Hergert -- Southwest Consortium/NMVAHCS; Albuquerque, NM

Patricia Johnson -- VA Palo Alto Health Care System

Nicole Menzie -- James A. Haley Veterans Hospital; Tampa, FL

Liz Rojas -- University of California, San Diego-Consortium/VA

Lauren Schaefer -- University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Center of Excellence for Eating Disorders

Robin Tan -- University of California, San Diego-Consortium/VA

Monica Wu -- University of California, Los Angeles - Semel Institute

USF Interns Out and About With Their Cohorts



Danielle in Albuquerque



Pattie at Stanford



Erica in Baltimore



Liz and Robin in San Diego



Julie and Nicole at the Tampa VA



Monica with UCLA Past & Present





On August 6, 2016 the clinical area celebrated our brand-new alumni:

**Jason Chen, Ph.D.
Betsy Hunt, Ph.D.
Michelle Kovacs, Ph.D.
Megan McMurray, Ph.D.
Robert Selles, Ph.D.
Linsey Steding, Ph.D.
Vanessa Panaite, Ph.D.
Danni Ung, Ph.D.**



L to R:
Dr. Megan McMurray,
Dr. Mark Goldman, and
Dr. Michelle Kovacs



L to R: Dr. Danni Ung,
Dr. Robert Selles, Dr. Eric Storch,
and Dr. Vicky Phares

L to R: Dr. Jon Rottenberg
and Dr. Vanessa Panaite



L to R: Dr. Jason Chen,
Dr. Marc Karver, and
Dr. Lindsey Steding



Congratulations Graduates!!

Congratulations 2016/2017 Post-Docs!

2016/2017 Post-Doc and Job Placements:

Jason Chen, Ph.D.: Health Services Research and Development Fellow at the VA Portland Health Care System's HSR&D Center to Improve Veteran Involvement in Care

Betsy Hunt, Ph.D.: University of Massachusetts Medical School Post-doctoral Residency in Forensic Psychology

Michelle Kovacs, Ph.D.: Brown University Post-doc, working in VA Primary Care Behavioral Health

Morgan Lee, Ph.D.: Tenure-track Assistant Professor at the University of Colorado - Colorado Springs in the Department of Health Sciences

Megan McMurray, Ph.D.: Clinical Assistant Professor at UAB Medicine in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

Vanessa Panaite, Ph.D.: Research Training Postdoctoral Fellowship in Health Services Research & Development at Tampa Center of Innovation on Disability and Rehabilitation Research

Robert Selles, Ph.D.: University of British Columbia/BC Children's Hospital Post-Doc in the OCD program

Lindsey Steding, Ph.D.: Postdoctoral fellow in Behavioral Management Clinic at the Kennedy Krieger Institute/Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

Danni Ung, Ph.D.: Trueman Fellowship at Nationwide Children's Hospital Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders

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

Connect with
us on LinkedIn:
USF
Department of
Psychology

Alumni Updates

Entry Class of...

1973

Gregory Firestone, Ph.D.

firestoneg@aol.com

I retired from USF in May 2016 and started *My Florida Mediator* (www.myfloridamediatrix.com) which offers Florida Supreme Court approved Mediation Certification Training in Tampa; operates a Residential Mortgage Mediation Program in partnership with the American Arbitration Association in Sarasota, Manatee and DeSoto Counties; and provides other mediation services. In addition, I've been performing comedy improv for the past few years and playing more tennis.

1976

Gerard A. Jacobs, Ph.D.

Gerard.Jacobs@usd.edu

My wife, Gera, died of cancer in June. I will be retiring in May after 29 years at the University of South Dakota, and 24 years as Director of the Disaster Mental Health Institute. [Editor's Note: Please see Gera's last article, written on her deathbed and published in *Young Children*, which has been made public because of the high demand for the article: <http://www.naeyc.org/yc/gera-jacobs>]

Beth Reading, Ph.D.

ereadingphd@verizon.net

I am 3 months out from a total knee replacement and I'm doing very well. Back to walking and an active life. Practicing 3 days a week at 508 South Habana Avenue, Suite 390 in Tampa (33609) and my contact number is (813) 404-8939. Life is full with friends and family. Love my two sets of grandkids! My almost 3 year old goldendoodle Rosie was a big help recovering from surgery. Hello to all. Be well and peace over the holidays and beyond.

1977

Joseph Sclafani, Ph.D.

JSCLAFANI@UT.EDU

I was appointed as the Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning in the University's newly instituted Center for Teaching and Learning. I supervise all first-year programming and our Educational Technology unit as well as our faculty professional development programming.

1978

Tom Clark, Ph.D.

thomas.lyon.clark@gmail.com

Thank you classmates, from a handful of admission classes, for enriching the graduate school experience. You complemented our formal instruction so well! Here's one pearl among many that classmates shared. Can anyone guess who?

"As parents, we try hard not to make the mistakes our parents made. Not us! No, we'll make our own, brand new mistakes."

Looking forward to crossing paths at a reunion.

1984

Sheryl A. Kingsberg, Ph.D.

Sheryl.Kingsberg@Uhhospitals.org

I am not sure I have updated my professional life for the newsletter before so I will try to make the past 31 years as succinct as possible. Here is the super short version: I have been the Chief of the Division of Behavioral Medicine in the Department of OB/GYN at University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center for the past 13 years and Professor in the Departments of Reproductive Biology and Psychiatry at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine.

I don't use facebook nor Instagram or snapchat but I do use twitter and can be found at @SherylKingsberg and e-mail works fine for me Sheryl.Kingsberg@Uhhospitals.org



Dr. Sheryl Kingsberg



Ren Massey, Ph.D.

drrenmassey@comcast.net
Like a number of USF alum, I have found a tremendous community of colleagues in the Georgia Psychological Association (GPA) for years. Most recently, I have enjoyed serving on the Ethics Committee of GPA for the last 2 years, and I am honored to be President-Elect of GPA in 2016-17.



Dr. Ren Massey

1986**Madeline Altabe, Ph.D.**

madelinealtabe@mac.com
I became an empty nester this August and then left the nest behind to move to Atlanta with my practice, husband, cat and turtle. We are doing well despite the fact that there is no veterinary dose for Prozac for turtles.

1988**Buffy T. Wooten, Ph.D.**

Bwooten@pppassociates.com
I can be found on facebook at Buffy T WootenPhD.

1991**Nadia Ali, Ph.D.**

Nadia.Ali@emory.edu
I'm still here on faculty at Emory's School of Medicine (Dept of Human Genetics) in Atlanta, GA. Since my last update, I've been promoted in both sides of my position – the clinical research side and the teaching side. I am now Director of Psychological Resources for the Genetic Clinical Trials Center (on the clinical research side), coordinating psychological and psychometric needs for clinical drug trials for new medications for patients with Down Syndrome, Fragile X, Autism, Phenylketonia, and more coming soon. I also do my own grant-funded studies into psychological and neurocognitive aspects of genetic conditions such Fabry disease, Morquio syndrome, Tyrosinemia, newborn screening for Lysosomal Storage diseases, and others. On the teaching side, I'm now Co-Assistant Director for the Genetic Counseling Master's Program, which means I still teach counseling skills to our genetic counseling masters students (while everyone else teaches them genetics), but also now serve as a student advisor, work behind the scenes with our other program directors, and last but not least, create our own program newsletter (the very first one will go out in Dec and I'm heavily leaning on Vicky's excellent example!!!). In my personal life, the kids are now 22, 14, 7 and 2, so I'm exhausted but having fun, being a soccer coach and room parent and all that jazz. If the oldest gets his way (he's planning to propose any minute now), I predict I'll also be a grandmother in the next 5 years, which I've heard is great fun!

How wonderful it is
that nobody need
wait a single
moment before
starting to improve
the world.

--Anne Frank

Jim Morris, Ph.D.

jmorrisphd@gmail.com

1992**Brent Kolitz, Ph.D.**

brent@rk-lc.com

Karen Nicholson, Ph.D.

Karen.Nicholson@va.gov
I am still at the James A Haley VA Hospital. It's hard to believe that I am nearing retirement age. But the birth of a granddaughter almost 5 years ago and another one on the way in February tells me I'm not the teenager I used to be. That, and the mirror!
Anyway, life is good. I am happy that I have been able to stay in the Tampa area all these years, enjoying the boating and sunshine, and working in our wonderful, challenging field of psychology, in which the day is never boring and I'm always learning something new (especially from the interns and graduate students we continue to train here).

Susan Stormer, Ph.D.

SusanStormer@yahoo.com

After a successful 14 year career in the trail building industry in Texas creating infrastructure to improve people's health, I decided to return to my psychology training roots to build a third career in direct clinical service provision. I moved to Portland Oregon for personal reasons in August of this year, and have just secured a position as a Therapist in the Outpatient Behavioral Health Eating Disorders Program at Providence Health & Services hospital. I look forward to hearing from colleagues, and if anybody wants to come visit Portlandia in person, there's a tiny house hotel across the street from my place. For real. I'd be happy to show you around. :)



Dr. Susan Stormer

Staci Martin, Ph.D.

martins@mail.nih.gov

Professionally, I am the Clinical and Training Director of the Health Psychology and Neurobehavioral Research Group at the National Cancer Institute, NIH. I am currently conducting research investigating Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) for adolescents and young adults with chronic pain. I also do ACT trainings for mental health professionals, and am the President of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the ACT organization, ACBS. On a personal note, my two kids, Jack (9) and Ella (6) are healthy and happy and keep me and my husband Lee plenty busy. I am on Linked In and Facebook, but still don't really understand how to tweet.

Marc Steinberg, Ph.D.

marc.steinberg@rutgers.edu

Twitter: @MLSteinberg

I am an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Jersey. I recently also joined the graduate faculty of the clinical psychology Ph.D. program at Rutgers, so although my primary appointment is in the Department of Psychiatry, I'll be mentoring graduate students now. The majority of my professional time is spent doing research on tobacco use and dependence, but I also see patients as part of our Faculty practice, Rutgers University Medical Group, and provide trainings on motivational interviewing. Most importantly, Laura and I have three great kids (and two dogs) who keep us on our toes!

1995**Dr Ray 8225**

raysantalucia@gmail.com

Joined the Pinellas County chapter of the Florida Psychological Association. We are a pretty lively group and looking for more members- if you have a PhD, PsyD, or you're a student or you just like brains in general you should consider joining by contacting me or finding out all about it on the interwebs.

1996**Heather Belanger, Ph.D.**

Heather.Belanger@va.gov

I will be the Training Director at the Tampa VA, starting January 1, and ask that you send us your best and brightest for internship and postdoctoral training. We have APA accredited postdoctoral programs in rehabilitation psychology and clinical neuropsychology and are currently seeking accreditation for our clinical psychology program (with emphasis areas in health, trauma, and pain). I split my time between Tampa and St Pete and frequently run by BEH/SOC/Cooper and hear the echoes of ANOVA past....



Tampa VA

1994**Marla (Green) Bartoi, Ph.D.**

Marla.bartoi@gmail.com

I am currently the associate director of the training clinic and an assistant professor (clinical) at Wayne State University. I also have a private practice in Grosse Pointe, MI. Our son Luca is in 4th grade and our twins, Olivia and Zachary are in 1st grade.

1999**Monica Webb Hooper, Ph.D.**

Monica.hooper@case.edu

This past summer, we moved to Cleveland, OH. I accepted a position as Director of the Office of Cancer Disparities Research, in the Case Comprehensive Cancer Center at Case Western Reserve University (what a mouthful!). We have three beautiful, smart, and hilarious children (ages 5, 3, and 1), who make life such a delight.

Hemal Shroff, Ph.D.

hemal.shroff@gmail.com

Aside from the usual work and home stuff, I decided to take up a challenge towards the end of this year. I'm going to walk 55 kms.. in one day. This is in support of an NGO called "Ummeed" which is based in Bombay. They do amazing work with children with developmental disabilities, including offering low-cost services, doing research and advocacy and creating awareness about disabilities. Please consider donating to this NGO. It's tax deductible in the US. Please email me if you are making a donation hemal.shroff@gmail.com). <https://www.helpyourngo.com/ummeed.php>
Thanks in advance and wish me luck!

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

2003**Idia (Binitie) Thurston, Ph.D.**

bthrstn@memphis.edu

Life is great in Memphis. I just finished my mid-tenure review at my assistant professor position at the University of Memphis and it went very well. With the arrival of baby number two last November, we are now a family of four – one son (4 years old) and one daughter (1 year old). We are now officially ready to travel the world ☺

2004**Joe Ditre, Ph.D.**

jwditre@syr.edu

I just received tenure and promotion to Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology at Syracuse University.

2005**Erika (Litvin) Bloom, Ph.D.**

erika_bloom@brown.edu

I'm in my fourth year on the faculty at the Alpert Medical School of Brown University and enjoying life in Providence with my husband, daughter (born last year!), and dog.

Beth Morris, Ph.D.

Bethany.Morris@va.gov

I am a psychologist in the Center for Traumatic Stress at the Salem VA Medical Center. I live near Roanoke, Virginia with my husband and three sons.

Ariz Rojas, Ph.D.

riz.rojas@mssm.edu

I continue to co-direct the Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders Program at Mount Sinai. I'm very proud of my collaboration with Unstuck: An OCD Kids Movie. Check it out!
www.ocdkidsmovie.com.
Life in NYC remains amazing as always!

2006**Yasmin Asvat, Ph.D.**

yasvat@gmail.com, also on

LinkedIn and Facebook

Since March 2015, I have been a clinical psychologist and coordinator of clinical training at the Siteman Counseling Service, Siteman Cancer Center in St. Louis, and my faculty appointment is through Washington University-St. Louis School of Medicine. I'm very fortunate to work with a wonderfully supportive team of psychologists, which I've grown to learn is a priceless advantage to work-life balance. I've been pleasantly surprised by the variety of activities St. Louis has to offer, and have made some wonderful friends in this city. If you're ever in town, don't hesitate to drop me a line! At the very least I promise to share good dining recommendations ☺

Christa Labouliere, Ph.D.

labouli@nyspi.columbia.edu

I'm excited to say that I've been appointed as Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology (in Psychiatry) at the New State Psychiatric Institute, Dept. of Psychiatry at Columbia University. I still remain with the Suicide Prevention - Training, Implementation, and Evaluation program at NYSPI, providing training, implementation assistance, and program evaluation for evidence-based suicide prevention efforts across New York State. To this end, our team was just awarded an NIMH Zero Suicide R01 grant (PI: Barbara Stanley, PhD), in which we will implement and evaluate the effectiveness of suicide-safer care best practices in ~190 clinics across the state; I am a Co-Investigator and Project Director. I also started a small private practice here in Manhattan (Empire Psychological Services, PLLC), providing CBT for youth and young adults with anxiety, depression, or self-harm behaviors. It's been an exciting year, and I'm so grateful for the excellent research and clinical training I was given at USF that made it all possible. ☺

Research is formalized
curiosity. It is poking and
prying with a purpose.
--Zora Neale Hurston

2009**Natasha Burke, Ph.D.**

Natasha.Burke.ctr@usuhs.edu

I am still enjoying life in the DC area, and post-doc is going well. I recently got to "crash" the New York USF reunion, and it was great to see everyone. Let me know if you are ever in the DC/Bethesda area!

Michelle Kovacs, Ph.D.

michelle_kovacs@brown.edu

I completed my internship in the Behavioral Medicine track at the Brown University Clinical Psychology Training Consortium in July 2016. Subsequently, I have recently begun a 1-year Postdoctoral Fellowship in Primary Care Behavioral Health at the Providence VA Medical Center as part of the Alpert Medical School of Brown University Clinical Psychology Training Consortium.

Vanessa Panaite, Ph.D.

Vanessa.Panaite2@va.gov

I am thankful to have graduated this August. I am very excited to be in my first year of a research training postdoctoral fellowship in Health Services Research & Development at Tampa Center of Innovation on Disability and Rehabilitation Research at the Tampa VA. The exciting part is that I am working on developing a line of research that will be bridging my background in basic science in emotion dysregulation in depression with mental health services research.

I am very thankful for the continued support from USF, especially Dr. Jon Rottenberg and the Mood and Emotion Lab who continue to provide substantive support in my professional endeavors.

2010**Jason Chen**

jichen@mail.usf.edu

I'm currently a postdoctoral research fellow at the Portland VA's Center to Improve Veteran Involvement in Care. I am excited to get some new collaborations off the ground, as I prepare to gain more skills related to interventions research. When I'm not at work, I'm enjoying our awesome assortment of food carts and the beautiful forests of Oregon!

2011**Morgan Lee, Ph.D.**

mlee@uccs.edu.

I am currently in my first year as a tenure-track assistant professor in the Department of Health Sciences at the University of Colorado - Colorado Springs. My furry kiddo Sydney and I are having a great time exploring the endless hiking trails in our area and are looking forward to playing in the snow this winter!



Dr. Morgan Lee

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Clinical Alumni Award for Citizenship

Congratulations to Robin Tan and Emily Choquette for winning the 2016 USF Clinical Alumni Award for Citizenship. Woo Hoo!

As you may recall, the USF Clinical Alumni Award for Citizenship was established in 2004 to honor current graduate students who have shown superior "citizenship" behaviors in graduate school during the previous year. The term "citizenship" is borrowed from the I-O literature and it refers to someone who goes above and beyond the call of duty to help benefit others in the area/department.

Nominations are solicited from clinical students, faculty, staff, and supervisors, then the clinical faculty select the winners. Recipients receive a \$50 honorarium and our undying gratitude. Robin and Emily join the list of awesome clinical students and alumni who have gone above and beyond the call of duty and who have earned the USF Clinical Alumni Award for Citizenship in previous years:

- 2005: Demy Kamboukos and Elena Lopez
- 2006: Qutayba "Q" Abdullatif
- 2007: Susan Himes
- 2008: London Butterfield, Ty Brumback, and John Ray
- 2009: Lindsay Brauer
- 2010: Christa Labouliere and Ariz Rojas
- 2011: Jason Chen
- 2012: Yasmin Asvat and Kristi White
- 2013: John Correa
- 2014: Renee Brown, Natasha Burke, Brittany Speisman Kugler, and Danni Ung
- 2015: Brittany Jordan Arthur, Megan McMurray, and Michelle Kovacs
- 2016: Robin Tan and Emily Choquette



Thank you to everyone who makes the program (and the world!) a better place. We appreciate you!



**Third Annual USF Psychology Expo
Student Poster Session (2016)**

Save the Date

Fourth Annual USF Psychology Expo
Friday, March 31, 2017
Noon to 3:00
PCD Building

Free CEU's
Free Food
Free Collegiality
Free Knowledge

USF Clinical Alumni Reunions Around the Country



Do you want to help coordinate a USF Clinical Alumni Reunion in Tampa in 2017/2018? If so, please contact Vicky: phares@usf.edu

Clockwise From Upper Left:

New York City, San Diego, San Diego, Tampa VA, Research Triangle—NC, Chicago, and New York City (middle).

Go Bulls!!!



Making a Difference: Dr. Sylvia Carra Hahn

Since 2014, Dr. Sylvia Carra Hahn has provided funding for the Clinical Psychology Graduate Student Fellowship, which is awarded to two clinical students each year. We are humbled and so very thankful for your generosity and dedication to the USF Clinical Psychology Program Sylvia!! Here are a few more words of thanks.

I am so grateful for the continual support of our USF Clinical Psychology Alumni, especially Dr. Sylvia Carra Hahn for developing the Clinical Psychology Graduate Student Fellowship. The fellowship provided funding so that I could continue working on clinic projects and seeing clients in the PSC over the summer prior to beginning my internship at the Tampa VA. Your generosity is sincerely appreciated!--Julie Cessna, M.A.

I am grateful that alumni like Dr. Carra Hahn provide us with opportunities which help to fund our own research and look great on the CV!--Lex Cowden Hindash, M.A.

I was really grateful to be awarded this fellowship – it provided the first opportunity to focus on my own research during crunch time as I was approaching the end of graduate school.--Vanessa Panaite, Ph.D.

Thank you Dr. Carra Hahn!!



L to R: Dr. Vanessa Panaite, Dr. Sylvia Carra Hahn, Lex Cowden Hindash, M.A.



The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically... Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education.

--Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Clinically Significant

News From the Newsletter Editor

By Vicky Phares, Ph.D.

With all of the negative national discourse in recent months, I am pleased to see that clinical students, alumni, and faculty continue to do good work in order to improve the well-being of individuals and communities around the globe. I am so very proud of our clinical students and alumni. You make my heart happy.



Man-child, Carson (16 years old), and his friend Jordan at the Speak Up 5K to decrease stigma against adolescent depression



Glorious granddaughters (L to R): Callie (7), Brooke (4), and Charlie Kate (4)



Heading-to-Internship party for students of Dr. Vicky Phares, Dr. Eric Storch, and Dr. Marc Karver

...We lived through times when hate and fear seemed stronger;
We rise and fall and light from dying embers, remembrances that hope and love last longer
And love is love cannot be killed or swept aside...
--Lin-Manuel Miranda

Giving Back

When you think back to your graduate training—what was meaningful to you? Was there a particular professor or supervisor who had a positive impact on your life? Did you appreciate funding for conference travel? Did you enjoy using new versions of standardized measures in the clinic and in your research lab? Did you live off of candy in the Clinic Bullpen? Or conversely, did you wish that there were more scholarships for graduate students?

Please consider giving back to honor what was meaningful to you in graduate school. If you give on-line, you can target your donation to the appropriate fund by mentioning your wishes via the “In Honor Of” section. If you give by check, you can list your wishes on the memo line. We will do our very best to honor your wishes to help support what was meaningful to you in graduate school.

You can make a tax-deductible donation at the following link:

<https://usfdn.usf.edu/apps/?fund=421210&a=DEPT>

Of if you'd like to go old school, please send a check made out to the **USF Foundation**, 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 in advance for helping to support the future of our field through helping our students. We are grateful for our clinical and community alumni. Best wishes with your important work and as always, I wish you peace. Vicky

Current students are grateful for our clinical alumni!

