This year’s “Psychology News” comes to you with a new look and maybe even via a new medium if you are reading this on your computer instead of on paper. For over a decade Dr. Victoria Noriega served as Editor of the News helping grow it from a few black and white pages to full color coverage of the year’s accomplishments and events. This year she has “passed the baton” to Dr. Michael Alessandri, our Director of Community Outreach and Engagement who is helping take it to the next level of wider distribution via the internet. What remains the same is the incredible energy of our faculty, students and staff in making the Department of Psychology the vital research, teaching and service organization that it has become. Within this issue of the News you can read about the cutting edge research being conducted by our faculty in the Adult, Child and Health Divisions. You can learn more about our students and graduates along with their successes. And you can gain an appreciation for the impact our outreach services are having on the community.

Of course much of this is only possible because of the generosity of the individual, family and corporate donors who are listed in our “Honor Roll.” While we depend heavily upon the University, federal and state government and foundations to support our core missions, it is the extra boost from our donors that makes what we do special. I hope you enjoy reading about our academic family and thank you for your continued support.

Rod Wellens, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
Health Track

Neil Schneiderman, Ph.D., Director and Marc Gellman, Ph.D., Associate Director

The Division continued to be active in research during the past year with 11 Division faculty members serving as principal investigators on one or more extramural federal grants. Dr. Frank Penedo, one of our foremost faculty members, has left the Department to accept an endowed chair (Roswell Park Professor) at Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine. Frank now heads the Cancer Control and Survivorship Program at Northwestern’s Comprehensive Cancer Center. He was previously an undergraduate, graduate student and post-doctoral fellow in our Department before moving up the faculty ranks. In recognition of our own Departmental needs, in part due to Frank’s leaving, the Department is now recruiting new Faculty members in Clinical Health Psychology and Behavioral and Cognitive Neuroscience.

Michael Antoni, Ph.D., Professor
Dr. Antoni’s research investigates the effects of stress response processes and stress management interventions in persons dealing with chronic medical conditions. He leads the Biobehavioral Oncology research program at the Sylvester Cancer Center. During the past year he conducted an NCI trial “Coping and Recovery” comparing abbreviated forms of stress management to better understand their mechanisms of action. A second NCI trial called “Project CARE” tests the effects of CBSM in African American women with breast cancer who receive the intervention in community centers. Mike also leads two NINDS R01s employing telehealth home-based approaches to delivering CBSM to patients with chronic fatigue syndrome. During the past year Mike presented the results of his research at the meetings of the European Health Psychology Society, the British Psychological Society, the Society of Integrative Oncology, and the NCI Translational Research Conference. Mike continues to serve as Associate Editor of two international journals, Psychology and Health, and the International Journal of Behavioral Medicine. Dr. Antoni’s graduate students, Emily Lattice, Julia Seay, Jamie Stagl, Lisa Gudenkauf and Corina Lopez all presented this year at national meetings.

Marc Gellman, Ph.D., Research Associate Professor
Dr. Marc Gellman was recognized during the International Congress of Behavioral Medicine for the publication of the Encyclopedia of Behavioral Medicine (EBM). Marc is Editor-in-Chief of the EBM, published by Springer. This four-volume work is a collaborative effort among the editors, 29 distinguished editorial and advisory board members, and approximately 700 contributing authors from 26 countries. Of the 700 contributing authors, over 50 of those contributors are from the University of Miami, representing the College of Arts & Sciences’ Department of Psychology, the School of Nursing and Health Sciences, and the Miller School of Medicine. The EBM features over 1200 brief synopses and full-length essays on topics that cross the multiple disciplines contributing to the field of behavioral medicine. Marc continues to serve as the Associate Director of the Division of Health Psychology and manages operations for the Behavioral Medicine Research Center located on the campus of the School of Medicine. He continues as Project Manager of the Miami Field Center of the NIH multi-site Hispanic Community Health Study, and project manager of the NIH funded cardiovascular program project.

Monica Webb Hooper, Ph.D., Associate Professor
In 2012, Dr. Hooper was tenured and promoted to Associate Professor. She continues to direct the Tobacco, Obesity, and Oncology Laboratory (TOOL), which is focused on health behavior change of cancer risk behaviors. Monica is the principal investigator on grants from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Florida Department of Health (FDOH), and the American Cancer Society (ACS). Another grants is a large trial funded by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) to develop and test a culturally specific smoking cessation intervention among African Americans. The FDOH study is the first to examine genetic influences on smoking cessation among people in treatment. During the past year, Monica also presented the results of her research at the annual conferences of the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco and the Society of Behavioral Medicine. Other significant accomplishments were invitations to serve on an NIH federal advisory committee and the advisory committee for the health disparities network of the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco. Monica’s graduate students, Denise Rodriguez de Ybarra, Elizabeth Baker, and Marcia McNutt were all actively attending and presenting research at national meetings.

Barry Hurwitz, Ph.D. Professor
Professor Barry Hurwitz’s research has focused on early biobehavioral factors leading to the development of atherosclerotic coronary heart disease (CHD). The role of emotionally stressful situations in CHD pathogenesis has been a primary focus in Behavioral Medicine for decades and includes stressful overeating. The linkage of obesity and consequent risk of type 2 diabetes mellitus and CHD has been attributed to aspects of modern lifestyle. Virginia Coryell in her doctoral dissertation teamed up with Drs. Hurwitz, Maria Llabre (Psychology), William Wohlgemuth (Neurology), Alan Delamater (Pediatrics) and Jennifer Marks (Endocrinology) to examine the linkage of psychological distress and stress-associated eating style with obesity and early indicators of CHD cardiometabolic risk. Barry has also been an active investigator in the Hispanic Community Health Study. He along with Drs. Carlos Rodriguez, (Wake Forest), Matt Allison (UCSD), Daniel Spivak and Robert Kaplan (Montefiore/Einstein) and Sanjir Shah (Northwestern) have recently received NIH-funding to untangle the relative importance of both the traditional and psychosocial/socioeconomic determinants of cardiac structure and function.

Gail Ironson, Ph.D., M.D., Professor
In 2012, Professor Ironson completed an NIH funded project comparing three methods of treating acute trauma in an inner city population (the “Back on Track” study), and received new funding from NIMH (in collaboration with former graduate student Conall O’Cleirigh) for an HIV related prevention trial to work with men who have a history of childhood sexual
Amishi Jha, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Dr. Amishi Jha’s lab investigates the neural bases of attention and working memory, as well as the impact of training methods involving mindfulness-based techniques on brain and behavioral correlates of attention. One of her projects, funded by the Dept. of Defense, aims to investigate novel delivery methods for mindfulness-based resilience training. Another, funded by the 1440 Foundation, aims to determine if mindfulness training can protect against degradation in attention in high stress cohorts, in particular the spouses of active duty soldiers. The lab is also actively disseminating papers from 2 multi-year projects awarded last year to determine the amount of mindfulness training sufficient to produce tractable brain changes in regions supporting attention and working memory. Amishi recently completed guest editing a special issue of Frontiers in Human Neuroscience on the mechanisms of action of mindfulness. At UM, she continues working on the university-wide Mindfulness Research and Practice Initiative (MRPI) in collaboration with Scott Rogers at the School of Law.

Youngmee Kim, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Dr. Kim’s research investigates the impact of cancer on the quality of life of patients/survivors and their family caregivers, and the bio-behavioral pathways of such links. Youngmee’s lab received a 4-year Research Scholar Grant from the American Cancer Society to study colorectal cancer patients and their caregivers with emphasis on ethnic minorities. The lab also disseminated findings from several studies, including the National Quality of Life Survey for Caregivers, the Study of Cancer Care, the NuPA, and the Hope Lodge Study. Youngmee presented the results at several meetings, such as the International Psychosocial Oncology Society, the American Psychological Oncology Society, the Society of Behavioral Medicine, and the Gerontological Society of America. She was also an invited speaker at the Borchard Foundation Conference. In addition, Youngmee has been reappointed as Associate Editor of an international journal, the Quality of Life Research. During the past year, Dr. Kim’s graduate students, Daniel Hall and Kelly Shaffer presented at national conferences.

Maria Llabre, Ph.D., Professor
In addition to a full teaching load during spring semester (PSY 633 and PSY 698), Dr. Llabre has been involved in two funded research projects: the Hispanic Community Health Study/Study of Latinos (HCHS/SOL) and the Cardiovascular Program Project. With the completion of data collection for HCHS/SOL (n = 16415), Maria’s lab is in high analysis gear. Maria presented results from analysis of metabolic syndrome and type 2 diabetes mellitus. Neil is ended on two of the three projects in the NIH Program Project that Neil is leading. In July Maria was a faculty member at the NHLBI Clinical Trials Institute in Airlie, VA. Maria is looking forward to teaching introduction to SEM in the fall and presenting at the International Congress of Behavioral Medicine in Budapest, Hungary at the end of August.

Philip McCabe, Ph.D., Professor & Associate Chair
Professor and Associate Chair Phil McCabe continues to serve as the Director of the undergraduate Neuroscience Program, which now has over 260 majors. He is also involved in the planning for the new Neuroscience Building, which will be completed in the spring of 2013, and will house laboratories for departmental Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience faculty. Phil’s research deals with the role of social environment and emotional behavior in the progression of atherosclerosis and heart disease. This year Phil and his research collaborators have been looking at how neural connections to blood vessels are rewired as a function of social-emotional behavior, which could influence the course of disease. Phil’s collaborators are Dr. Armando Mendez at the Diabetes Research Institute on the Medical Campus, and Drs. Angela Szeto, Maria Llabre and Neil Schneiderman in the Psychology Department. He currently has two graduate students, Crystal Noller and Agu Rossetti, who recently published research papers.

Patrice Saab, Ph.D., Professor
Professor Saab together with her collaborators at the Miami Science Museum were recently awarded a 5 year NIH funded Science Education Partnership Award titled Get in the GROOVE (Girls Realizing Options Through OpenSim Virtual Experiences). The project targets middle school girls and explores the use of virtual world technology to promote a healthy lifestyle and understanding of how a healthy diet and physical activity can impact personal wellbeing throughout life. GROOVE continues Pat’s programmatic work in the area of cardiovascular health and builds upon work with Dr. Judith McCalla on the successful Heart Smart exhibition at the Miami Science Museum.

For more information regarding the Health Division please visit us on the web at www.psy.miami.edu/graduate/health
Child Track

Alexandra Quittner, Ph.D., Director
Kristin Lindahl, Ph.D. and Heather Henderson, Ph.D. Associate Directors

This has been an incredible year for faculty in the Child Division! Several of our faculty won prestigious awards:

- **Dr. Michael Alessandri**: David Lawrence Champion for Children (Children’s Trust)
- **Dr. Alexandra L. Quittner**: Provost Research Scholar for 2011-2012, University of Miami
- **Dr. Rebecca Shearer**: Outstanding Mentor Award, Cross-University Collaborative Mentoring Conference

We are also pleased to announce that **Dr. Brian Doss** received tenure and was promoted to Associate Professor! Dr. Jensen-Doss’s graduate student, Leticia Osterberg, won the American Psychological Association, Division 53 Student Achievement Award.

We have a new structure for our growing Division: In addition to **Dr. Alexandra L. Quittner** serving as the Director of the Child Division, **Dr. Kristin Lindahl** has been appointed as Associate Director of the Child Clinical program and **Dr. Heather Henderson** has been appointed Associate Director of the Developmental Program.

Other news: **Dr. Daryl B. Greenfield** and **Dr. Rebecca Shearer** won “Article of the Year” for their paper in Journal of School Psychology, and **Dr. Michael Alessandri** was chosen as the Ray of Hope Gala Honoree for the South Florida Autism Chapter.

Many New Grants: Even in this difficult fiscal environment, our faculty are receiving grant support. New grants were awarded to: **Dr. Greenfield**, **Dr. Henderson**, **Dr. La Greca**, **Dr. Messinger**, **Dr. Quittner**, and **Dr. Shearer**.

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Brian Doss, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Dr. Brian Doss completed the 3rd year of a 5-year NIH project to develop www.OurRelationship.com, an online, empirically-based program for couples and individuals who want to improve their relationship. Recruitment for the large-scale trial has begun, randomizing couples to a waitlist control group, the intervention alone, or intervention with the assistance of a “coach”. His two graduate students (Larisa Cicila and Emily Georgia), research assistant (Judith Biesen), PRIME students (Elyse Mowle and Kim Stanton), and the 367/368 undergraduates have been integral in this — and other — projects in the lab. When not in the Psychology building, Dr. Doss is busy herding his 2 year-old son and 5 year-old daughter at the beach, park, pool, zoo, or anywhere else they can burn off some energy.

Daryl B. Greenfield, Ph.D., Professor
Professor Daryl Greenfield’s School Readiness Research Team has had a highly productive year. Our group completed the 3rd year of our partnership with the Miami United Way Center for Excellence in Early Education. We assessed over 800 preschool children for our IES funded “Lens on Science” project to create a touch screen, computer adaptive preschool science assessment. We also assessed 900 preschool children and teaching teams in 90 classrooms served by our Miami Dade County Head Start Partner in a funded RCT evaluating the Miami Museum of Science Early Childhood Hands-On Science program (ECHOS). All three of these projects will continue into this upcoming year while exciting new projects are also underway. Graduate students Lizzy Bell and Irena Nayfield received dissertation grants. Graduate student Andres Bustamante will begin data collection on his Master’s thesis this fall and we are also looking forward to graduate student Lisa White from Rutgers joining the team this fall. An article first-authored by recent graduate Ximena Dominguez, Ph.D., “The Role Of Context In Preschool Learning: A Multilevel Examination Of The Contribution Of Context-Specific Problem Behaviors And Classroom Process Quality To Low-Income Children's Approaches To Learning” won the Journal of School Psychology Article of The Year Award for 2011.

Heather Henderson, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Associate Director of the Developmental Program
Associate Professor Heather Henderson and her research group (graduate students Kimie Ono, Lauren Usher and Casey Burrows) are studying individual differences in children’s social behavior and emotional functioning in typically developing children and children with autism. Using detailed behavioral observation measures and psychophysiological techniques (EEG/ERP), they are studying attention systems, social cognitive factors and relationship processes that help children regulate their behaviors and emotions across many contexts.

It has been a busy year for the members of Dr. Henderson’s Social Development Lab Group. Graduate student Elizabeth Penela defended her dissertation and begins her clinical internship at the UNC– Chapel Hill this Fall. In addition, several undergraduate students (Charissa DiNobile, Kaela Glenn, Melanie Feldman, Mark Daigle) completed independent research projects in the lab. Dr. Henderson is currently the Associate Director (Developmental) of the Child Division and continues to serve on several editorial boards (International Journal of Behavioral Development, Emotion, Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology) and federal grant review committees.

Amanda Jensen-Doss, Ph.D., Assistant Professor
Dr. Jensen-Doss has enjoyed her third year as a member of the clinical program in the Child Division. Her work focuses on identifying evidence-based mental health treatment and assessment practices for children and teenagers and testing ways to implement those practices in community mental health clinics. She recently completed a grant funded by the National Institute of Mental Health to study one statewide effort to implement evidence-based treatments in a public mental health system. Dr. Jensen-Doss was excited to welcome Ashley Smith, a graduate student in the Child Clinical Program to her lab this year.
Kristin Lindahl, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Associate Director of the Clinical Child Division
Dr. Lindahl and her research lab are continuing their work on understanding links among family and parent-child subsystem relationships and youth outcomes, with the current project focused on LGB youth and their parents. Data collection on the longitudinal study came to an end this past summer and now the team is hard at work writing up the data. The graduate students in the lab, Hallie Bregman, Matthew Page, and Hoa Lam recently returned from a successful trip to Orlando where they organized and presented a symposium of their very own at the meeting of the American Psychological Association. Dr. Lindahl’s lab shrinks from three to two as graduate Hallie departs in August 2012 to move to Boston, where she will start her internship program at Boston Children’s Hospital.

Annette La Greca, Ph.D., Professor, Director Clinical Program
Dr. La Greca enjoyed a sabbatical leave this past Spring Semester, which facilitated her collaborative work on child trauma and on adolescent peer victimization with colleagues in Australia (University of Queensland and Adelaide) and Finland (Turku University, Tampere University). It also provided an opportunity to catch up on multiple writing projects. In July, she received funding for a 3-year grant from NIMH to develop a preventive intervention for adolescents who are interpersonally victimized by peers and evidence elevated symptoms of social anxiety and/or depression. She looks forward to her collaboration with Drs. Jill Ehrenreich-May (UM) and Laura Mufson (Columbia University) and others from her lab on this project.

Kristin Marciel, Ph.D., Research Assistant Professor
Dr. Kristen Marciel is a Research Assistant Professor in the Child Division. Dr. Marciel works in Dr. Alexandra L. Quittner’s laboratory on studies related to health-related quality of life (HRQOL) and adherence in patients with chronic respiratory diseases. She has been developing a HRQOL measure for adults with nontuberculous mycobacteria with colleagues in the Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine. Dr. Marciel also provides consultation for adults patients with respiratory disease during their medical clinic visits. In addition, she has a small grant to evaluate a behavioral intervention to improve adherence to oral medications in young children with cystic fibrosis.

Jill Ehrenreich May, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Associate Professor Jill Ehrenreich-May is Director of the Child and Adolescent Mood and Anxiety Treatment Program (CAMAT), which offers treatment for youth anxiety and depression through both clinical research trials and fee-based services. Along with her graduate students, Alexander Queen, Emily Bilek, Cara Remmes, and Sarah Kennedy, Dr. Ehrenreich-May is finishing a 5-year, NIMH-funded randomized controlled trial for adolescents (12-17) with any anxiety or depressive disorder. Preliminary results suggest that the treatment used in this trial, the Unified Protocol for the Treatment of Emotional Disorders in Youth (UP-Y), which uses cognitive-behavioral principles to target a wide domain of maladaptive emotion regulation processes, is an efficacious treatment for adolescents presenting with any anxiety or depressive disorder.

Daniel S. Messinger, Ph.D., Professor
Dr. Messinger and his research team, which includes graduate students Whitney Matson and Devon Gangi, continue their work examining the social, emotional, cognitive, and neurophysiological development of infants who have an older sibling diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). This project aims to better understand the development of autism and to detect early vulnerabilities and resilience in infants at-risk for ASD. His team is also investigating genetic links to ASD. They are also collaborating on the development of an integrated robotic system to simulate a key set of sensory-motor and communicative skills typical of one year old infants, which aims to better understand the complexities of human infants. In another project, Dr. Messinger’s team models mother-infant interactions in order to better understand the development of attachment in typically developing infants. Information about Dr. Messinger’s research can be found at umkids.psy.miami.edu.

Alexandra Quittner, Ph.D., Professor, Director Child Division
Professor Alexandra L. Quittner received the Provost Research Scholar Award for 2012. In addition, her research team achieved a significant milestone in their TIDES Study (The International Epidemiological Depression Study). Nine countries are now involved in screening symptoms of depression and anxiety in children, adolescents and adults with cystic fibrosis and parent caregivers. Across these countries (US, Germany, Italy, Spain, UK, Turkey, Sweden, Netherlands, Belgium), research teams screened and when necessary, provided referrals or treatment, to over 6,200 patients and 4,500 parents. The next step is a US and European Consensus Meeting to establish multi-national guidelines on annual screening of these symptoms. Dr. Quittner’s NIH-funded study of the effects of cochlear implant surgery for deaf infants and toddlers is yielding important results. Results indicate that Maternal Sensitivity has significant, positive effects on the growth of oral language 4 years post-implantation. This paper has been accepted into the Journal of Pediatrics.

Rebecca Shearer, Ph.D., Assistant Professor
Assistant Professor Rebecca Bulotsky Shearer continues to work collaboratively with the Miami-Dade Head Start Human Services/Community Action Agency on research projects related to the social emotional development of low-income preschool children. She is conducting her research with graduate students, Veronica Fernandez, Tracy Carter, Elizabeth Bell, and Sandy Romero. Currently, Dr. Shearer’s is entering her third year as Principal Investigator of a four-year federal grant from the Institute for Education Sciences (IES) to develop and translate into Spanish a contextually sensitive measure of preschool problem behavior within classroom learning, peer, and teacher interactions. She is collaborating on this project with colleagues at the UM’s School of Education, UPenn, and the National Center for Latino Child & Family Research. She was also recently funded by IES to develop a classroom-based intervention in collaboration with Head Start and the Center for Advanced Teaching and Learning at the University of Virginia. This three-year project will develop, refine, and pilot a teacher professional development intervention addressing children with challenging behavior in Head Start classrooms.

For more information regarding the Child Division please visit us on the web at www.psy.miami.edu/graduate/child

www.psy.miami.edu
The Adult Division continues to be active and productive, in various ways. Dr. McCullough had a manuscript accepted as a target article in Behavioral and Brain Science, which is a very outstanding feat. In January Dr. Carver received the Jack Block Award for career contributions to personality psychology. Two of our faculty members are serving as Associate Editors of prominent APA journals (Dr. Carver at Psychological Review and Dr. Joormann at the Journal of Abnormal Psychology). Although the increasingly difficult funding situation continues to plague most of us, Dr. McCullough was successful in obtaining a grant from the Department of Defense (Dr. McCullough had a very good year last year). The rest of us are peering into our tea leaves for hints about how to emulate that success.

Due in large part to local reverberations from the nationwide financial crunch, the Adult Division remains short-handed by one clinical psychologist, and it remains unclear when we will be able to recruit for this position. This puts some strain on graduate teaching resources, in particular, but we have been able to adapt to those strains so far. On the research side, the Adult faculty continue to develop collaborations wherever possible. Dr. Timpano, our most recent addition, has been particularly adept at bridging from her areas of interest to those of other Adult faculty, including Drs. Lieberman, Joormann, and Carver.

Projections for the future: The coming year in particular shapes up to be one in which the writing of grant applications will play a significant role.

Charles S. Carver, Ph.D., Professor
Dr. Carver continues his collaborations with a number of other people. With Drs. Sheri Johnson (who left UM for Berkeley 3 years ago) and Jutta Joormann, he is pursuing research on the involvement of certain genes in cognitive and emotional processes, with manifestations in both personality and psychopathology. The genetic interest has extended to a collaboration with Dr. Monica Webb-Hooper of the Health track on the genetics of smoking vulnerability. He also collaborates with Dr. Kim of the Health track on her studies of family caregivers of persons with cancer, and with Dr. Antoni of the Health track on his studies of psychological and physical adaptation to cancer treatment.

Jutta Joormann, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Associate Director
Dr. Joormann is the Director of the Miami Depression and Anxiety Disorders Lab and works closely with her graduate students Kimberly Arditte, Meghan Quinn and Michael Vanderlind and a large group of outstanding undergraduate research assistants. The main research focus of the lab is the identification of risk factors for the onset, maintenance, and recurrence of depression. Current work examines attention and memory processes and how these are linked to difficulties in regulating negative emotions. Her research integrates a multitude of measures, including cognitive tasks, psychophysiological measures of stress reactivity and regulation, neuroendocrine assessments, genotyping, and brain imaging in collaboration with Stanford University. Dr. Joormann is currently an Associate Editor of the Journal of Abnormal Psychology.

Debra Lieberman, Ph.D., Assistant Professor
Dr. Lieberman’s research focuses on emotions, in particular disgust and gratitude. With respect to disgust, Dr. Lieberman has found that there are three different types of disgust: disgust toward disease causing organisms, disgust toward potential sexual partners, and disgust toward moral violations. She is currently developing a computational model of how disgust functions in each area. Together with graduate student Adam Smith, Dr. Lieberman has been investigating how the different types of disgust relate to the stigmatization of various groups. In collaboration with graduate student Alison Aylward, Dr. Lieberman has been exploring whether impairments to disease avoidance disgust, which is observed in Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, is accompanied with specific cognitive deficits. With respect to gratitude, Dr. Lieberman was awarded a two-year grant from the Greater Good Science Center to investigate the contexts in which gratitude functions. Working with Co-PI Dr. Michael McCullough, and graduate students Eric Pederson and Adam Smith, she will be developing an evolutionary-computational model of gratitude aimed at uncovering how this emotion facilitates the development and maintenance of friendships.

Michael McCullough, Ph.D., Professor
Dr. McCullough received a grant from the Air Force Office of Scientific Research to support his laboratory’s research on the computational bases of third-party punishment. He also continued his research on the effects of religion on self-control. In addition, Mike was named a Cooper Fellow by the College of Arts and Sciences. In June, Mike’s students Evan Carter, Liana Hone, and Eric Pedersen presented the lab’s research at the Human Behavior and Evolution Society (HBES) meeting in Albuquerque, NM. Mike and Deb Lieberman will be hosting the 25th Annual HBES meeting in Miami Beach in July 2013, so they have been busily preparing for that as well.

Matthias Siemer, Ph.D., Assistant Professor
In the past year Dr. Siemer and his two graduate students continued research on several projects exploring the role of executive control processes in emotion regulation and psychological resilience. The main goal of this research is to uncover cognitive mechanisms that explain individual differences in the ability to efficiently down-regulate negative emotions and in the ability to savor positive emotions and in the ability to savor positive emotions and...
emotions. Dr. Siemer’s lab addresses these questions with a wide variety of research methods, including the cognitive experimental paradigms, diary studies, and psychophysiological measures. Selected results from recent studies conducted by Dr. Siemer and his students will be published in two articles in the APA journal Emotion.

Kiara Timpano, Ph.D., Assistant Professor
Dr. Timpano directs the Program for Anxiety, Stress and OCD (PASO). Since joining the Adult Division two years ago, she has continued her work investigating integrative risk models that may explain the etiology, comorbidity, and maintenance of anxiety and obsessive-compulsive spectrum disorders. Currently she is submitting a grant focused on decision making processes in Hoarding Disorder, as well as developing a treatment program aimed at preventing postpartum OCD. In addition to her research activities, Dr. Timpano is actively involved in developing a departmental colloquium series, and will also serve as a stream leader for the 2013 World Congress of Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies. Dr. Timpano is excited to be working with her graduate students Ashley Shaw, Demet Cek, and Julia Yang, along with a group of outstanding undergraduate research assistants.

Clinical Program
Annette M. La Greca, Ph.D., Director

The Clinical Program is thriving. We are ranked 25th nationally (2012 US News and World Report) among nearly 200 PhD programs in clinical psychology. Our Internship Match rates (100% for the past two years) are well above the national average of 75%, and a 2010 report by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards revealed that 100% of our graduates who applied for licensure over a recent 5-year period passed the national licensing exam. We currently have 55 students enrolled in the program, plus 12 who are on internship and another 10 post-internship students who graduated this summer or are currently finishing up. In addition, we are delighted to announce that Dr. Saneya Tawfik has been named Director of the Psychological Services Center (PSC), and that Dr. Judy McCalla has joined the PSC staff in a full-time position.

This year’s challenge is conducting our Self Study for APA re-accreditation, which will be underway by the time you read this newsletter. We need your help! We must contact all alumni who graduated in the past 7 years (2006 – 2012) to obtain information on your current employment, post-graduate accomplishments (publications, presentations, grants, awards, board certification), licensure status, and ratings of our training program. You will be (or may have already been) sent a link for the online survey. Your timely completion of the survey is essential to our quest for re-accreditation. We will publish the results of this survey in next year’s newsletter.

Finally, if you haven’t done so already, please join the Facebook Page for our Department of Psychology Graduate Alumni. Due to recent changes in the organization of Facebook group pages, alumni who previously joined may no longer be a member. Even if you previously requested membership to this group, please re-join by clicking on the Facebook link.

Go to: http://www.facebook.com/groups/umclinicalpsych

If you graduated in 2006 or later, please go to the following link if you have not already completed the Alumni Survey.
www.psy.miami.edu/graduate/clinical_training

2012 INTERNS

Alison Aylward - University of Miami Counseling Center, Coral Gables, FL
Catherine Benedict - Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL
Laura Blackwell - Kennedy Krieger / Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
Hallie Bregman - Harvard Medical School / Children's Hospital of Boston, Boston, MA
Katie Chipungu - Henry Ford Health Sciences Center, Detroit, MI
Drew Coman - Massachusetts General Hospital / Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA

Amy Weisman de Mamani, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Dr. Weisman de Mamani primarily studies factors related to the course of schizophrenia. She has a dedicated research team largely coordinated and run by her current graduate students (Giulia Suro and Kayla Gurak) and one of her research volunteers (Jessica Maura). Dr. Weisman de Mamani’s Schizophrenia Research Project targets the illness from diverse angles. In 2012, her team published five empirical papers. Some representative titles include: “Nonreligious coping and religious coping as predictors of expressed emotion in relatives of patients with schizophrenia” (Mental Health, Religion and Culture) and “Neurocognition and cognitive biases in patients with schizophrenia” (Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease). Dr. Weisman de Mamani is beginning a project that will extend some of her current research interests (religion, free will) into the areas of aging and caregiving for people with dementia.

For more information regarding the Adult Division please visit us on the web at www.psy.miami.edu/graduate/adult

www.psy.miami.edu

Catherine D’Avanzato - Alpert Medical School of Brown University, Providence, RI
Caroline Grantz - Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL
Corina Lopez - Long Beach Healthcare System / VA, Long Beach, CA
Nicole McDonald - New York University / Bellevue Hospital Center, New York, NY
Elizabeth Penela - University of North Carolina School of Medicine – Chapel Hill, NC
Denise Rodriguez Ybarra - Southwest Consortium / NMVAHC, Albuquerque, NM
Commitment to the Dr. Alessandri.

Dr. Michael Alessandri feels very fortunate that he has spent the last sixteen years of his career at the University of Miami. He is proud of the work that he has accomplished in his department of Psychology as the Executive Director for the Center for Autism and Related Disabilities as well as the Director of the Division of Community Outreach and Engagement. “I’m proud to support UM and to leave a legacy to the programs we have built and continue to build, particularly those that extend beyond our campus boundaries,” says Dr. Alessandri.

“Planned giving is a way to protect those priorities that are important to you within an institution that you love, long after you are gone. I feel honored to be able to do that for UM.”

- Dr. Michael Alessandri

Executive Director for the Center for Autism & Related Disabilities
Director of the Division of Community Outreach and Engagement

PSYCHOLOGY
TEACHING
FACULTY

The Department of Psychology counts among its most valuable faculty a cadre of individuals who have dedicated their careers to teaching, especially at the undergraduate level. These individuals, along with tenured and tenure-track faculty, graduate students, and part-time faculty carry the bulk of the teaching load here in the Department. The presence of these individuals not only enhances our teaching expertise but also frees tenure-track faculty to devote more time to their research and to mentoring both graduate and undergraduate students.

Rod Gillis, Ph.D. has been a full time member of our teaching faculty since 1993. He has taught many classes including introductory psychology, social psychology, child and adolescent development, introduction to biobehavioral statistics, intermediate statistics, and the experimental social and personality laboratory. Dr. Gillis shares his expertise in the classroom by conducting workshops for our first time graduate student instructors and has extended his range to teaching the introductory graduate statistics class as well.

Victoria Noriega, Ph.D. has been with the department since 1996 and has taught many different courses. As Director of Undergraduate Studies she focused her attention on freshmen (developing the Fact/Forum sequence) and helping seniors prepare their Honors Thesis for submission. She is now taking a semester leave.

Rick Steutzle, Ph.D. has been with the department since 1999. He primarily spends his time teaching statistics and research methods, as well as tests and measurements and other courses as needed. In addition, he collaborates with Dr. Gail Ironson in her Positive Survivors lab, examining psychosocial predictors of disease progression in HIV-positive patients. He has served on several thesis and dissertation committees, and as part of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee he is working to modify and improve the curriculum and experience for Psychology majors.

Frank Foote, Ph.D. has taught courses including abnormal psychology, human sexuality, industrial psychology, introductory psychology and introduction to biobehavioral statistics. Dr. Foote joined our full-time non tenure track faculty in 2004.

Marilyn Rodriguez, Ph.D. joined the psychology department in 2004 after working for several years on a joint grant in the Center on Aging/Center for Family Studies. She has taught introductory courses in psychology and social psychology, research methods in social and personality psychology, and psychology of aging. She is currently teaching critical undergraduate courses, including PSY 204 (Statistics) and PSY 316 (Experimental Psychology). In the summers she usually teaches a course on persuasion and attitude change. In addition to her teaching, she conducts research in the private sector – primarily in the area of consumer behavior.

We also have a dedicated group of individuals who devote time to teaching including Lourdes Casares, Michael DiTomasso, Hillary Hoffman, Christine Hughes-Pontier, Elyse Hurtado, Jill Kaplan, Navin Maswood, Rafael Rivas-Vazquez and Amy Schaffer.

www.psy.miami.edu
On May 1 Professor Michael McCullough was awarded a Cooper Fellowship by the College of Arts & Sciences in recognition of his scholarly productivity and achievements.

Psychology welcomes new faculty Jennifer Britton, Ph.D.

We are pleased to announce that Jennifer Britton, Ph.D., has joined the faculty as an Assistant Professor of Psychology. Jennifer Britton, Ph.D., comes to us from her position as a Research Fellow at NIMH, in the Section on Development and Affective Neuroscience. In 2005, she received her Ph.D. in Neuroscience from the University of Michigan (her bachelor’s degree is from Vanderbilt in Biomedical and Electrical Engineering). This was followed by research and teaching positions at Massachusetts General Hospital and McLean Psychiatric Hospital, and then a 2-year postdoctoral fellowship in the NIMH intramural program. Dr. Britton’s research deals with behavioral and neural correlates of anxiety in pediatric populations, and more specifically she examines threat/safety discrimination using fear learning and extinction paradigms, and threat biases across development in healthy and anxious individuals.

Dr. Debra Lieberman was presented with the 2012 MUSE Award to recognize her contributions and dedication to the undergraduate program.

Dr. Michael Alessandri has been selected by The Children’s Trust as the 2012 David Lawrence Champion for Children for his lifetime of achievement and dedication to children.

Dr. Heather Henderson was voted Teacher of the Year (for faculty teaching graduate courses) by graduate students.

Dr. Alexandra Quittner is among this year’s recipients of the Provost’s Award for Scholarly Activity. This award is given to a select few each year from across all schools and colleges at the university.

The International Society of Behavioral Medicine (ISBM) awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award to Dr. Neil Schneiderman. Dr. Schneiderman is one of the founders of the field of Behavioral Medicine and a founding member of the ISBM.

Dr. Neil Schneiderman was awarded the ISBM Lifetime Achievement Award.

Dr. Debra Lieberman was presented with the 2012 MUSE Award to recognize her contributions and dedication to the undergraduate program.

Dr. Alexandra Quittner is among this year’s recipients of the Provost’s Award for Scholarly Activity. This award is given to a select few each year from across all schools and colleges at the university.

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GRADUATE STUDENT ANNUAL AWARDS

THE KIRK R. DANHOUR MEMORIAL AWARD

- Catherine D'Avanzato (Adult Program)
- Elizabeth Bell (Child Program)
- Katie Chipungu (Health Program)

OUTSTANDING TEACHING ASSISTANTS AWARD

- Kayla Gurak
- Adam Smith
- Veronica Fernandez

S.T. CALVIN AWARD

- DR. PETER MUNDY CARD, CLINICAL RESEARCH IN AUTISM AWARD
- DR. KEITH G. SCOTT CARD, DEVELOPMENTAL RESEARCH IN AUTISM AWARD

THE KIRK R. DANHOUR MEMORIAL AWARD

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- DR. KEITH G. SCOTT CARD, DEVELOPMENTAL RESEARCH IN AUTISM AWARD

2011-2012 GRADUATE STUDENT FLIPSE AWARDS

Flipse Master’s and Dissertation Research Funding

- Kimberly Arditte
  "Impact Bias in Self and Others: Understanding Affective Forecasting in Individuals with Social Anxiety."
- Demet Cek
  "Attention Biases in Social Anxiety: An Eye-Tracking Study."
- Nicole McDonald
  "Genetic and Environmental Predictors of Empathy in Children At Risk for an Autism Spectrum Disorder."
- Katie McLean
  "Provider Satisfaction with a Translational, Behavioral Intervention to Improve Adherence."
- Kim Ono
  "Autism Symptom and Comorbid Internalizing and Externalizing Change in Adolescents Diagnosed with Higher Functioning Autism."
- Sandy Romero
  "The Impact of an Online Social Networking Community for Adolescents with Cystic Fibrosis"

Flipse Public Service Funding

- Kelly Shaffer
  "Risk and Manifestation of Cardiovascular Disease among Cancer Caregivers: Effects of Stress, Depression and Gender."
- Ashley Shaw
  "Experimental Investigation of the Relationship between Hoarding and Stress."
- Lauren Usher
  "Influence of Social Metaperceptions and Friendship Quality on Peer Interactions."
- Lindsay Bira
  "Healing Through Words: A Mindful Poetry Class."
- Hallie Bregman
  "Parental Support of Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Youth Following Disclosure: A Longitudinal, Cohort-Sequential Study."
- Cathy D’Avanzato
  "Emotion Regulation in Depression: Investigating Mechanisms Underlying Reappraisal."

Flipse Summer Dissertation Research Funding

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Hallie Bregman a Ph.D. student in the Department of Psychology’s Child Division working in Dr. Kristin Lindahl’s lab, was elected as the national representative for Clinical Science for the American Psychological Association’s Science Student Council (2010-2012) and was then elected to serve as the Chair of the SSC for a one-year term, 2011-2012. Hallie and the SSC participated in a day of advocacy on Capitol Hill, where each SSC representative met with staff members of their local Senators and Representatives to lobby for National Institute of Health (NIH) funding. Additionally, Hallie chaired two of the six symposia offered by the SSC at the 2011 APA Convention, including a program on nontraditional career options for science-oriented students and a program on the role of advocacy in the dissemination of research findings. Hallie attends two SSC meetings each year in Washington, D.C. to discuss ideas and implement plans.

Eric J. Pedersen, a Ph.D. student in the Department of Psychology’s Evolution and Behavior emphasis and a researcher in Professor Michael McCullough’s Evolution and Human Behavior Laboratory, was awarded a highly competitive Graduate Research Fellowship (GRF) from the National Science Foundation. Pedersen’s selection was based on his outstanding abilities and accomplishments, as well as his potential to contribute to strengthening the vitality of the US science and engineering enterprise.

Leticia Osterberg was awarded APAs Division 53 Student Achievement Award. This award recognizes graduate and undergraduate students who have made a significant contribution to the field of clinical child and adolescent psychology primarily through work on a recent youth-focused research project but also through teaching and performing clinical work in the community.

Graduate Student Publications


wwwpsy.miami.edu
Academics

During the 2011-2012 school year, the Department of Psychology carried one of the heaviest teaching loads in the University. Our instructors taught 9,111 credit hours in the fall, which is 10.95% of the total hours taught in the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), 5.95% of the hours in the University, and the third most in the University behind English and Mathematics. This trend continued in the spring when our instructors taught 8,135 hours or 10.55% of those in the CAS, 5.40% of those in the University, and the third most behind English and Mathematics.

Graduates

The Department recently bid farewell to 269 psychology first, second, and third majors, as well as 60 neuroscience majors who graduated during the 2011-2012 academic year. Several of these students were presented with special awards prior to the spring commencement ceremony.

Outstanding Psychology Major
Gayle Rotmil

Ed Green Outstanding Neuroscience Major
Emily Packard

Eber Award
Kristina Samour

Psi Chi Award
Gilly Bortman

TUNS Award
Dale Brown

Outstanding Service to UASP
Psychology
Jaclyn Schroder

Outstanding Service to UASP
Neuroscience
Andrew Bromley

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Transfer to a new institution is a difficult process. To ease the stress during this big adjustment, 52 new transfer students were enrolled in TUMS (Transfer to the University of Miami). This one semester course is similar to FACT FORUM but is tailored to the unique needs of the transfer students.
**Research**

Roughly 42% of the 2011-2012 psychology graduates participated in research for credit during their tenure at the University of Miami. Even with recent changes in the graduation requirements for Latin honors, the number of Senior Honors Theses completed by psychology majors continued to rise. Last year, our faculty mentored 23 psychology majors through this rigorous process, resulting in our largest class of thesis participants. An additional 17 neuroscience majors also completed Senior Honors Theses.

For the fifteenth consecutive year, the Department, with support from the Fred C. and Helen Donn Flipse Endowment, hosted the summer PRIME (Psychology Research Initiatives Mentorship Experience) program. During a 10 week period, 24 PRIME students dedicated at least 20 hours a week to a their faculty member’s research. We would like to wish a special thanks to Drs. Alessandri, Doss, Henderson, Ironson, Joormann, Kim, LaGreca, Lieberman, May, McCullough, Messinger, Shearer, Timpano, and Weisman de Mamani for serving as PRIME mentors. For a full listing of 2012 PRIME Fellows, please refer to the box at the bottom right of this page.

Students present their thesis and PRIME research annually at the Research, Creativity, and Innovation Forum to a group of faculty, graduate students, administrators and peers. This year, our students accounted for all of the awards in the Social Sciences category! Congratulations to Charissa DiNobile, Brittany Friedman, and Gilly Bortman who placed first, second, and third, respectively. And congratulations to Medji Najjar and Emily Packard who placed second and third, respectively, in the Biological Sciences category.

**Other News**

**Becky Espinosa Selected as White House Agente de Cambio**

Psychology senior Becky Espinosa was selected as a White House Agente de Cambio (Agent of Change) to participate in a roundtable discussion with senior Obama Administration officials this past fall. Said Ms. Espinosa, “Each Agente de Cambio has his or her own story and interests, but we are all working together toward one goal--educating and preparing students for a better and brighter future.”

**2012 UM Student Employee of the Year**

Every year, UASP nominates one outstanding PAL to represent the office in the UM Student Employee of the Year competition. This year, Michael Ullo was awarded the Student Employee of the Year Honorable Mention for his strong leadership, dedication to staff development, and initiative to improve office functionality and develop new programs. Congratulations, Michael, and thank you for all of your hard work!

**UM Psi Chi**

The UM chapter of Psi Chi, the National Honor Society in Psychology, had another productive year. Under the leadership of the chapter president, Gilly Bortman, Psi Chi increased its visibility in the Department and on campus by sponsoring several events (e.g., SPSS workshops) and participating in several others (e.g., Tunnel of Oppression). The new Psi Chi leadership is excited to continue this momentum in the fall.

The Undergraduate Neuroscience Society (TUNS) was also involved in many exciting activities during the 2011-2012 academic year. President Dale Brown and faculty advisor Dr. Phil McCabe worked with the e-board to host several guest speakers, produce an exhibit for the annual Miami Brain Fair, and spread the word about neuroscience on campus.

**2012 Lois Pope Neuroscience Summer Research Fellows**

The following Neuroscience students participated in an intensive research experience with a UM faculty member. Student researchers spent 40 hours per week for 10 weeks conducting neuroscience research. Congratulations to this year’s Lois Pope Fellows and their mentors!

- **Blake Hampton**  
  Jeffrey Goldberg, M.D., Ph.D.
- **Joachim Jimenez**  
  Vance Lemmon, Ph.D.
- **Ryan Kowalsky**  
  Vance Lemmon, Ph.D.
- **Allison Lapins**  
  Jeffrey Goldberg, M.D., Ph.D.
- **Keun Lee**  
  Isaac Skromne, Ph.D.
- **Sarah Marmol**  
  Akira Chiba, Ph.D.
- **Daniel Valenzuela**  
  Jeffrey Goldberg, M.D., Ph.D.

**2012 PRIME Summer Research Fellows**

- **Jessica Atick**  
  Lilly Kofer
- **Madeleine Bezold**  
  Brittany Mathes
- **Ornella Bricoune**  
  William McAuliffe
- **Riana Brown**  
  Elyse Mowle
- **Daniella Carucci**  
  Victoria Novinger
- **Mark Daigle**  
  Olivia O’Brien
- **Samantha Druckman**  
  Xeniariarla Rodriguez
- **Melanie Feldman**  
  Rosemary Ros
- **Dashawna Fussell-Ware**  
  Carly Schwartzman
- **Kaela Glenn**  
  Suzanne Snyder
- **William Hurwitz**  
  Kimberly Stanton
- **Katherine Kennedy**  
  Carolina Tauler

**Psychology and Neuroscience Phi Beta Kappa**

- **Vandita Acharya**  
  Olivia O’Brien
- **Michael Acosta**  
  Christina Robinson
- **Samantha Bapty**  
  Lindsay Rosen
- **Tara Brah**  
  Christopher Sterwald
- **Sara Bressler**  
  Carolina Tauler
- **Daniela Delgado**  
  Daniel Valenzuela
- **Lindsey Eikenburg**  
  Julia White
- **Jessica Gelman**  
  Alexandra Wick
- **Alejandro Gomez**  
  Marissa Wong
- **Allison Lapins**  
  Michelle Zeidan
- **Dayaris Morffi**  
  Betty O’Brien
According to Executive Director Dr. Michael Alessandri, UM-NSU CARD continued to provide high-quality free support and outreach services to people with autism spectrum disorders, dual sensory impairments, and related disabilities across Miami-Dade, Broward and Monroe Counties. The Statewide CARD system will be celebrating a major milestone in January 2013, marking its 20th Anniversary of consecutive funding by the Florida Department of Education. Currently, UM-NSU CARD serves over 6,500 families, registering nearly 600 new clients this past year alone.

UM-NSU CARD also recently celebrated an additional milestone by hosting our 10th Annual Tropical Nights fundraiser. The event, held at the Intercontinental Hotel, was by far our biggest and most successful event to date; 600 of our loyal friends and supporters gathered to raise approximately $300,000 to support our services and programs. Honorees included Dr. Diane Adreon and Patricia and Robert Cambo.

CARD again joined forces with the Dan Marino Foundation for the 2nd annual WalkAbout Autism, a family fun day raising funds for local autism services and programs. This event far surpassed expectations with almost 17,000 participants and over $500,000 raised to support the autism community in South Florida. Save the date for the 2013 WalkAbout Autism on January 26, 2013 at Sun Life Stadium, home of the Miami Dolphins, where we hope to break records for attendance and funds raised.

Our successful fundraising efforts, as well as our extensive and effective community partnerships, have allowed us to thrive in our efforts to develop innovative programming to meet the needs of our clients. This past year, we have expanded both our Adult and Education Divisions with 4 new full-time positions. We also launched a new training initiative called the Virtual Interactive Network for Education (VINE), which offers live and archived online training modules for families and professionals in an effort to improve access to information to those unable to attend workshops in person.

For more information about UM-NSU CARD, please visit www.umcard.org or call us at 1-800-9-AUTISM x1.

ASAC is a specialty clinic within the Department of Psychology, dedicated to providing diagnostic and psychoeducational evaluations and therapy to individuals with autism and other social-communicative difficulties. Under the supervision of Dr. Jennifer Durocher, ASAC serves as an evidence-based training clinic for a number of graduate-level practicum students and interns in best-practice assessment and treatment approaches for ASD. This year, ASAC has begun to offer a new program, KIT Club-Kids Improving Together, a social skills therapy group for school age children. This 9 week manualized program has separate child and parent components, which are modeled after the PEERS curriculum developed by UCLA.

We are also pleased to announce that ASAC had another successful match for our rotation for the Mailman Center’s Internship Program in Clinical Child and Pediatric Psychology for the 2012-2013 academic year. Paige Wenger has joined ASAC as a psychology intern in the fall; she comes to us from the Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology (Health Emphasis) at Yeshiva University. In addition, ASAC’s former intern, Meaghan Venezia Parladé is remaining with us at ASAC as a postdoctoral fellow. We are especially happy to have such talented young professionals working with us. For more information visit www.umasac.org.

FDLRS/UM provides school systems with needed research, training, and service capabilities related to identification, evaluation, and appropriate educational programming for exceptional students and other children with complex learning problems. According to the project’s principal investigator, Dr. Lynne Katz, the program has expanded to meet the needs of children prenatally exposed to drugs and abuse and neglect, including those who are part of the child welfare system, and to address the problems of evaluating children from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds. Most recently activities have also been expanded to work with teen parents enrolled in the Miami-Dade County Public Schools TAP Program and their young children. Projects conducted by the FDLRS/UM Center are designed to assist the Florida Department of Education in understanding and identifying risk conditions that contribute to the need for special education services and in developing effective intervention programs. Information from this project aids in the evaluation of service programs designed to meet the needs of children with disabilities and contributes to improving instruction for such children throughout the State of Florida.

For more information about UM-NSU CARD, please visit www.umcard.org or call us at 1-800-9-AUTISM x1.
COMMUNITY OUTREACH DIVISION

Linda Ray Intervention Center

Founded in 1993, the LRIC provides intervention in motor, language, social, cognitive and behavioral domains for children eligible for exceptional student education with documented developmental delays and who are at-risk due to prenatal exposure to cocaine or other environmental risk factors (e.g., low SES, child welfare status, and substance abuse issues). The main objective has been to evaluate the short- and long-term effects of this intervention on school readiness, behavioral and socio-emotional outcomes and pre literacy skills development. According to its director, Dr. Lynne Katz, the LRIC receives primary funding from the Miami-Dade County Public Schools' Pre-Kindergarten Program for Children with Disabilities as part of the network of Birth-Two programs serving children up to three years old and from FDLRS for the screening, assessment, early intervention and family services components.

The mission of the Center is to support and facilitate positive developmental outcomes, thereby improving young children's chances for optimal school readiness. The LRIC has been closely working with the Miami-Dade Juvenile Court for over 10 years to improve the outcomes of babies and toddlers with verified maltreatment in the foster care system. The intervention and service integration model, the Miami Child Well-being CourtTM model is being disseminated at additional replication sites with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/National Center for Injury Prevention and Control.

For more information regarding the Linda Ray Intervention Center please visit us on the web at www.lindaraycenter.miami.edu or call us at 305-325-1818.

The Children's Registry and Information System (CHRIS) project has been continuously funded by the Florida Department of Education since 1991. The CHRIS project is responsible for the development and maintenance of a statewide registry of children who have disabilities that may affect their future school performance and children who may be at-risk of developing such disabilities. The CHRIS database is used at all Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS) centers to register children for whom special services may be needed. The primary target population consists of children referred for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C (birth to 3 years of age) and Part B (3 to 5 years of age).

As required by IDEA, the CHRIS database provides the Florida Department of Education with a means of documenting Child Find efforts to locate, evaluate, and provide necessary services to at-risk children. CHRIS is also used to create reports for state agencies and to provide information to service providers.

The CHRIS Project is directed by Dr. Christine Delgado whose research focuses on the relations between early risk factors and developmental outcomes. She has published papers in Maternal and Child Health Journal and the Infant Behavior and Development Journal. Additional information on the CHRIS project can be obtained from our website at www.chris.miami.edu.

The Psychological Services Center (PSC) continues to provide both therapy and assessment services to our community. This past year we served 436 clients of all ages. We have also seen a marked increase in the number of graduate students and post-doctoral students receiving research-driven intervention and assessment training in the Clinic.

The Clinic has undergone a number of changes during this past year. Dr. Saneya H. Tawfik was named Clinic Director. In addition, we were fortunate to recruit Dr. Judy McCalla in July 2012. A graduate of the Clinical Psychology program at the University of Miami, she completed her Pre-doctoral Internship at James A. Haley Veteran’s Hospital in Tampa, Florida. Dr. McCalla received further training at the Beck Institute in cognitive therapy. She is an experienced psychologist and clinical supervisor, who had been employed in our department’s Health Division for the past 15 years. Her commitment to community outreach, use of evidence-based treatments, and her expertise in a number of areas, particularly lifestyle management, is welcomed at the PSC.

As our commitment continues to focus on integrating research into clinical practice, many specialty clinics continue to provide services to our community. Dr. Amy Weisman de Mamani’s Schizophrenia Family Lab is currently conducting a pilot study for a schizophrenia treatment. Dr. Jill Ehrenreich-May’s Child and Adolescent Mood and Anxiety Treatment (CAMAT) program is providing state-of-the art clinical services to children and adolescents with mood and anxiety disorders. Dr. Jutta Joorman provides related services to adults and is investigating the relationship between anxiety and depression. Drs. Gail Ironson and Blanche Freund continue their Trauma Treatment Program for people who have experienced traumatic life events.

In its effort to expand our community outreach, the Program for Emotional Problems in Children (PEP-C), formed in 2010 with the assistance of the Jane Lawton Trust and directed by Dr. Tawfik, continues to serve students from Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS). This year PEP-C provided low-cost, in-school, group treatment services to students identified as being at-risk for developing significant emotional problems. In Fall 2012, preventive community mental health will be our focus and PEP-C will provide educational workshops for MDCPS parents, as well as staff, in order to help them to better understand childhood emotional disorders. Additionally, we will continue to provide group treatment programs in school, as well as individual/family therapy services at the PSC.
Jessica Alvarez
A 2011 graduate, Jessica reports that she is currently in her 2nd year in the Clinical Psychology Doctoral Program (Psy.D.) at Nova Southeastern University. She expects to graduate in 2016.

Susan Amat
Susan, co-founder and executive director of UM’s The Launch Pad, was honored by the White House on March 7th as a Champion of Change for her outstanding leadership in entrepreneurial mentoring, counseling and training.

Radha Carlson
Dr. Carlson (2011 Ph.D. Graduate) reports that she is currently a Clinical Assistant Professor at UNC-Chapel Hill and also a psychologist at Central Regional Hospital.

Giselle L. Eras (Harrison)
Giselle, a 1982 graduate, reports that she earned her law degree from St. John’s University and lives on Long Island with her husband and colleague, Ira, and their two teenaged children. After 20 years with one of the world’s largest insurance carriers, she began her solo practice in 2005. She is currently an attorney with an “of counsel” general practice in New York.

Amanda Feldman
Amanda, class of 2008, graduated with a law degree from a dual degree program (law/psychology) from Golden Gate University in 2012. She is now entering her 4th year at Palo Alto University in the Clinical Psychology doctoral program. She reports that her dissertation focus will be on the practical application of legal competency (Dusky standard) for juveniles in the delinquency system.

Edith Fiore
Dr. Fiore received her Ph.D. in 1969 and practiced as a clinical psychologist until her retirement in 1997. She received considerable recognition in the US and abroad as a hypnotherapist due in part to her three books on her work. Her primary interest now is finishing her novel on an ancient Egyptian queen which she describes as a “labor of love.” She sends her best wishes to all the current and former students of this “excellent university.”

Aaron Fischer
Aaron recently received his M.A. in School Psychology from Louisiana State University. He hopes to complete his Ph.D. in School Psychology in 2014. He has begun work on his dissertation which will evaluate the efficacy and acceptability of videoconferencing in school-based behavior consultation. Also, Aaron reports that he is engaged to Nina, and they will be married in New Orleans in March 2013.

Shatel M. Francis
Shatel, a 2008 graduate, obtained her Master’s degree in Mental Health Counseling from Nova Southeastern University in 2010. She has relocated to St. Thomas, Virgin Islands where she works as a Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency Service Coordinator with the Virgin Islands Housing Authority.

Rina Goodman
Rima reports that she worked for over 30 years as a psychologist and registered art therapist in Los Angeles, but that he sustaining career has been as an artist, painter and sculptor. Her work has been exhibited widely and is featured in a documentary entitled “Rima Goodman: A Life in Art” by Ishtar Films. More information can be found visiting www.rimagoodman.com.

Jamie Lewis Smith
A 2007 Ph.D. graduate, Dr. Lewis Smith works as an Organization Development Consultant at the VHA National Center for Organizational Development in Ohio. She coordinates and provides trainings for the national culture change initiative, Civility, Respect, and Engagement in the Workplace (CREW), as well as providing expert consultation in the areas of team building, leadership development, and change management. She lives in Cincinnati with her husband, Curtis, and their two dogs.

Ashley Makulowich
Ashley reports that she has just begun a Ph.D. program in Clinical Psychology at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science, following a year of volunteering at the National Institutes of Health and the Behavior Therapy Center of greater Washington. Ashley plans to focus her graduate studies on obsessive-compulsive disorder, and thanks the UM faculty for preparing her well to reach this goal.

Chloe Markowitz
A 2007 graduate, Chloe is now a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist working in Jewish Community Services, after earning her Master’s from Nova Southeastern University. Chloe also reports that she is now married to a music composer. She enjoyed working in Dr. Michael McCullough’s research lab while at UM.

Catherine Marshall
Following her graduation from UM in 2005, Catherine served with the Peace Corps in Kyrgyzstan. She also lived in Istanbul, Turkey for several years and was a travel writer for Fodor’s Travel. She now is working on her doctorate in Physical Therapy at the University of Vermont.

RITA GOLDSTEIN WINS
PSYCHOLOGY ALUMNA OF THE YEAR
Rita Goldstein was recognized as the Psychology Ph.D. Alumna of the Year. She is a Scientist at the Brookhaven National Laboratory and Affiliate, Psychology and Biomedical Engineering, SUNY at Stonybrook. Her primary research interest lies in studying the interplay between the cognitive-emotional-behavioral and neurobiological changes that accompany cocaine addiction with the goal of understanding the mechanisms that underlie the recurring nature of addiction to drugs.
Howard Matson
A member of the class of 1973, Howard lives in Westport, Connecticut and will celebrate his 30th year as a financial advisor in 2013. He is currently Senior Vice President with Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC and a member of the Board of Directors of the Circumnavigators Club Foundation. UM’s College of Arts and Sciences participates in the Club’s Foundation Scholar program. Howard also reports that his daughter, Lesley, has just started her freshman year at UM, following in her Dad and Grandfather’s (Francis P. Matson, class of 1949) footsteps.

David B. Miller
Dr. Miller reports that he is the recipient of the Animal Behavior Society Distinguished Teacher Award for 2012. He is also Professor, Associate Department Head, and Coordinator of Undergraduate Studies in the University of Connecticut’s Department of Psychology.

Elicia Nademin
Dr. Nademin works full-time for the Phoenix VA as a Psychologist for the Home-Based Primary Care program. She also has a part-time private practice specializing in the treatment of adolescents and adults with mood and anxiety disorders. Dr. Nademin also offers behavioral weight management services for weight loss.

Sarah Onnen
Sarah has been a marine mammal trainer at the Miami Seaquarium for the past 11 years where she works with seals, sea lions, dolphins and “our beloved killer whale.” She graduated from UM in 2000 with degrees in Psychology and Criminology and a minor in Biology. When Seaquarium guests ask her how to become a trainer, she tells them “to go to college and major in psychology” because “animal trainers around the world use the fundamentals of psychology in their work every minute of every day.”

Ibis Pena Garcia
Dr. Pena Garcia earned a BA in 1978. She went on to complete her doctoral studies at Nova Southeastern University, earning a Psy.D. in 1984. Dr. Pena Garcia obtained her Florida Psychology license in 1987 and has been in private practice in the Doral area since 1991. Dr. Pena Garcia sends warm wishes to the Psychology Department and her fellow Canes, and reports that she has “very fond memories of my time at UM” and often reflects back “on how much my experience as an undergraduate student at UM helped shape the professional that I am today.”

Mitch Prinstein
Dr. Mitch Prinstein is a Bowman and Gordon Gray Distinguished Term Professor of Psychology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he also is Director of Clinical Psychology. Recognizing the “amazing mentorship” he received from his graduate mentor, Dr. Annette LaGreca, Dr. Prinstein reports that he received the ABCT Mentor Award this year.

James Richardson
James reports that he has been selected for the 2013 edition of Who’s Who in America.

Michael Schatz
After graduating from UM in 1968, Michael earned his MA in psychology in 1970 and his CSW in 1980. Michael was certified by the Manhattan Institute of Psychoanalysis where he studied from 1982-1986. He has been in private practice in NYC since 1980.

Éva Szeli
Dr. Éva Szeli reports that she has now entered her 6th year as a faculty member in the Department of Psychology at Arizona State University where she was recently promoted to Senior Lecturer. She is also in her 7th year as an Adjunct Professor of Law at New York Law School. She continues to provide consultation and training to various mental disability rights organizations in the US and abroad, with ongoing projects in Hungary, Serbia, and Ukraine, and recently completed her third summer teaching a two-week course in Mental Disability Law to lawyers and advocates at Central European University in Budapest, Hungary. But among all the hats she wears, her favorite role is still as mom to Katie, the coolest and smartest 6-year old in the world.

Kevin Sharpley
A film and psychology double major, Kevin entered his short film, The Beach Chronicles, into the 29th Annual Miami International Film Festival, where it was shown on March 8, 2012. Kevin is currently the President and CEO of Kijik Multimedia, Inc. and Executive Director of a non-profit organization supporting independent media and film. Kevin reports that his UM education allowed him to “excel in my career” and that having his film “in the festival in this competition brings it around full circle.”

Jessica Smolarz
Jessica accepted a position at Kennedy Krieger’s Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD) following her 2009 graduation from UM. At CARD, Jessica participates in clinical research activities related to autism. She has spent the past two years in a Master’s program at Loyola University Maryland; she is finishing her final course and will soon receive her M.S. in Clinical Psychology.

Cessi Sutter
Cessi earned her BA in Psychology in 2005 and her M.S.Ed. in Marriage and Family Therapy in 2008. In 2012, she opened a psychotherapy practice in Houston, TX.

Ashley Tirado
Ashley reports that she has just started a Clinical Psy.D. program at Argosy University (Tampa campus) where she will focus her studies on child psychology.

Dinah Trevil
Dinah is pursuing her Master’s in Public Health at UM and anticipates graduating in 2013. Since earning her degree in psychology, Dinah has been working in the Miller School of Medicine for six years, five years in Pediatrics as a Clinical Program Coordinator and currently in the Sylvester Cancer Center as a Research Associate.

Angel Velasco
A 2009 Psychology and Criminology graduate, Angel is currently completing a M.S. degree in Criminal Justice at FIU while also applying to be an officer with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agency.

Kelly Walker (O’Riordan)
Kelly, a 1999 psychology graduate, went on to also receive her M.S.Ed. in Special Education from UM in 2007. She reports that she is married with two children and is currently Professor of Exceptional Education in the Teacher Education Program at Broward College.

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