

2018 Alumni News

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PSY NEWS



Dr. Charles S. Carver

AWARDED AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award



University of Miami Distinguished Professor of Psychology **Charles S. Carver** was recognized by the American Psychological Association (APA) with the ***Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award***, which honors psychologists who have made prominent theoretical or empirical contributions to basic research in psychology.

This award from the APA also honors Professor Michael Scheier at Carnegie Mellon University who has worked with Carver for over 45 years in the areas of research and theory across personality, social, health, and motivational psychology.

"Although Chuck's work addresses a wide range of topics in personality, social psychology, health psychology, and experimental psychopathology, he is best known for his research on self-regulation, optimism versus pessimism, and coping in cancer patients," said Professor and Chair of the Psychology Department Philip McCabe. "Chuck is extremely productive and one of the most highly cited researchers in the entire field of psychology. In addition, he has been an invaluable leader within the department for four decades. He is a superstar in our field and well deserving of this prestigious APA award." Carver was recognized at the American Psychological Association's annual convention in San Francisco, CA, in August 2018.



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"This award is one of the highest scientific honors that one can receive in psychology. It reflects the judgments of a large number of scientific peers that my work, over an extended period, has had a noticeable impact across the field," said Carver.



Message from the Chairman

This has been a year of milestones and achievements for the Psychology Department. The **Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD)** celebrated its 25th anniversary. CARD has grown steadily over the years, now serving nearly 12,000 families in South Florida, and its related programs have become an important site for assessment, treatment, education, and research in autism. This year several of our faculty also received recognition and awards, highlighted by **Chuck Carver's** Award for Distinguished Scientific Contribution from the American Psychological Association.

We are also delighted to welcome **Frank Penedo** back to our faculty! After spending the early part of his career with us he returns as a Sylvester Chair and key member of the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center's cancer survivorship and translational behavioral research core, as well as a Professor of Psychology.

We are proud of our accomplishments, and I hope you enjoy hearing about the department in the pages that follow. Once again, let me thank you for your generous support of the department and its programs over the years, and I look forward to working with you in the future.

Phil McCabe

WHERE ARE NOW?

Frank J. Penedo

CANCER SURVIVORSHIP EXPERT DR. FRANK J. PENEDO RETURNS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

Frank J. Penedo, Ph.D., an internationally recognized expert in cancer survivorship and psychosocial oncology has returned to the University of Miami after six years at Northwestern University where he served as Professor of Medical Social Sciences, Psychiatry and Psychology at the Feinberg School of Medicine.

In his new role at UM, Dr. Penedo is a Professor in the Department of Psychology with a joint appointment in the Department of Medicine, Division of Population Health and Computational Medicine, in the Miller School of Medicine.

"I am delighted to rejoin the team at Sylvester and the Department of Psychology," said Dr. Penedo, who spent the first 12 years of his career at Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center and the University of Miami. "I am very pleased to join an exceptional team of faculty and staff at Sylvester and the Department of Psychology and look forward to working with the many friends and colleagues I have at Miami to reduce the burden of cancer in our patients and the communities we serve."

Dr. Penedo received his Ph.D. in clinical health psychology at the University of Miami. He completed his clinical residency

at the University of Pittsburgh Western Psychiatric Institute, and a fellowship in psychosocial oncology and behavioral medicine at the University of Miami Department of Psychology and Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center. From 2000 until 2012 he held faculty appointments in both Psychology and the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Over his career, Dr. Penedo has led a portfolio of \$14.9M in extramural funding as a Principal Investigator. He is also the author of over 175 articles in cancer survivorship

The Chairman of the Department of Psychology, **Dr. Philip McCabe**, stated, "We are delighted to welcome Dr. Penedo back to Miami, and are enthusiastic about what he will contribute to the Department, the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, and the South Florida community."



"I am delighted to rejoin the team at Sylvester and the Department of Psychology."

UM Psychology Department's Distinguished Alumni Award

FACULTY IN FOCUS

RECOGNITIONS

FACULTY | Awards

Dr. Michael H. Antoni received the *2018 ISBM Distinguished Scientist Award* for his exceptional contributions to the science of behavioral medicine.

The *Samuel M. Turner Early Career Award* for Distinguished Contributions to Diversity in Clinical Psychology was presented to **Dr. Sannisha K. Dale** for exemplary contributions to diversity within the field. Dr. Dale was also awarded the Carolyn Payton Early Career Award in Recognition of Contributions of Achievement for Outstanding Scholarship Advancing the Study of Black Women from the Division 35, Section 1 (The Psychology of Black Women) The Society for the Psychology of Women.

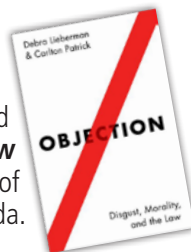


Dr. Lucina Uddin is the first psychology recipient of the *Gabelli Senior Scholar Award* which recognizes a faculty member at the associate professor level for interdisciplinary scholarship, outstanding contributions to the College and University, and exceptional promise of future success. Dr. Uddin was also one of twelve early career researchers named a Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR) Azrieli Global Scholar.

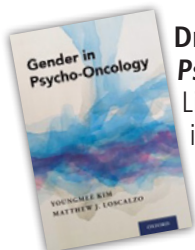
Dr. Amy Weisman de Mamani was honored as the recipient of the *2018 Stanley Sue Award* for Distinguished Contributions to Diversity Issues in Clinical Psychology by APA's Society of Clinical Psychology (Division 12) for her many years of work on multi-cultural issues.

FACULTY | Books

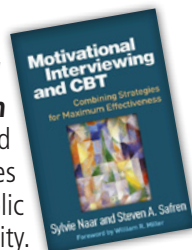
Dr. Debra Lieberman co-authored *Objection: Disgust, Morality, and the Law* with Dr. Carlton Patrick, Assistant Professor of Legal Studies at the University of Central Florida.



Dr. Youngmee Kim co-authored *Gender in Psycho-Oncology* with Dr. Matthew J. Loscalzo, Liliane Elkins Professor in Supportive Care Programs in the Department of Supportive Care Medicine and Professor in Department of Population Sciences.



Dr. Steve Safren co-authored *Motivational Interviewing and CBT: Combining Strategies for Maximum Effectiveness* with Dr. Sylvie Naar Professor and Director of the Division of Behavioral Sciences in the Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences at Wayne State University.



SPOTLIGHT ON

Jill Ehrenreich-May, Ph.D.

Dr. Ehrenreich-May joined our faculty in 2008. Her work focuses on the psychopathology of emotional disorders in children and adolescents, with a particular focus on anxiety disorders, and evidence-based psychotherapy models to treat these conditions. She is best known as the developer of the **Unified Protocols for Transdiagnostic Treatment of Emotional Disorders in Children (UP-C) and Adolescents (UP-A;** Ehrenreich-May et al., 2018) were published by Oxford University Press this past year. The UPs are an innovation in psychotherapy research because they present intervention strategies in a novel, emotion-focused manner appropriate for use across a wide array of emotional disorders in youth, including anxiety, depression and obsessive-compulsive conditions.



Dr. Ehrenreich-May serves as the founder and director of the **Child and Adolescent Mood and Anxiety Treatment (CAMAT)** program at the University of

Miami (www.miami.edu/childanxiety). CAMAT provides over 100 children and adolescents in South Florida with evidence-based therapy services for emotional disorders every year and serves as the main laboratory for research on the Unified Protocols for youth. Dr. Ehrenreich-May's also serves as Principal Investigator, Co-Investigator, Sponsor or Consultant on grants currently funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), the National Institute on Drug Abuse, the Children's Hospital Foundation (Queensland, Australia), The Children's Trust, the Greater Houston Community Partnership, and Rebuild Texas. In her current NIMH-funded trial, along with Co-Principal Investigator, **Dr. Amanda Jensen-Doss**, Dr. Ehrenreich-May is examining the effectiveness of the UP-A as delivered in community mental health centers in Florida and Connecticut, as compared to usual care provided in these settings. In September, Dr. Ehrenreich-May was named a Fellow of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies (ABCT).

PSYCHOLOGY

News & Notes

CHILD | Division

Dr. Jennifer Britton was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure and was awarded a grant from the National Institute of Mental Health to characterize developmental changes in the ability to switch between positive and negative emotions both at the behavioral and neural level.

Dr. Rebecca Bulotsky-Shearer's student, Krystal Bichay was awarded a Child Care Policy Scholars dissertation grant from the Administration on Children and Families, Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation. She is examining threshold effects of measures of Classroom Quality for Toddlers in Early Head Start and Subsidized Child Care Programs. Dr. Bulotsky-Shearer was appointed as an Associate Editor for the *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*.

Dr. Brian Doss completed a nationwide study of web-based relationship interventions for 750 low-income, distressed couples; results show significant improvements in both relationship and individual functioning.

Dr. Daryl Greenfield's student, Elizabeth Frechette, was awarded a Head Start Scholars grant, to examine preschool self-regulation in context as it relates to school readiness for Spanish-speaking children in Head Start.

Dr. Amanda Jensen-Doss was appointed as a standing member of the Mental Health Services review committee at the National Institute of Mental Health.

Dr. Annette LaGreca was elected Chair of the Publications and Communication



Board of the American Psychological Association (APA).

Dr. Lynn Perry, Dr. Rebecca Bulotsky-Shearer, and Dr. Daniel Messinger were awarded a grant from the Institute of Education Sciences to understand how children with autism learn language from peers and teachers in preschool classrooms.

Dr. Elizabeth Simpson received an Association for Psychological Science Grant from the Laura and John Arnold Foundation, to fund a ManyBabies project, a collaborative project for replication and best practices in developmental psychology research. **Drs. Elizabeth Simpson, Daniel Messinger** and Eric Pedersen co-authored the most downloaded article in the journal *Developmental Science*. They re-examined neonatal imitation data and found positive evidence of the phenomenon.

HEALTH | Division

Dr. Michael H. Antoni continued to serve as a Cooper Fellow in the UM College of Arts & Sciences, and was awarded the 2018 UM Provost's Funding Award.

Dr. Sannisha K. Dale was the recipient of a UM Provost Award to develop a brief two-session counseling intervention (MI-PrEP) to promote PrEP uptake among Black women at risk for HIV.

Dr. Marc Gellman continues as Editor-in-Chief of the *Encyclopedia of Behavioral Medicine* and serves as the Miami Field Center PI for the study, *Epidemiology of the Gut Microbiome, Prediabetes and Diabetes*, funded by the National Institute

of Minority Health and Health Disparities. **Dr. Barry Hurwitz's** doctoral student, Karin Garcia, in collaboration with Dr. William Wohlgenuth of the VAMC Sleep Disorders Center, completed her clinical internship, presented her findings on the relationship of shortened sleep and diabetes risk at the American Psychosomatic Society in March, and defended her dissertation on this topic.

Dr. Gail Ironson continues as President of the Health Division of the International Positive Psychology Association. In a study done with graduate student Emily Hylton she found that an Arts Therapy program for the students at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School recovering from the shooting incident helped alleviate the symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder as well as depression, impairment in everyday life, and increased well-being. The story was broadcast nationwide on NPR.

Dr. Amishi Jha's TED Talk, "How to Tame Your Wandering Mind," has been viewed an astonishing 1.9 million times.

Dr. Youngmee Kim became Fellow of the Association of Psychological Science and the American Psychological Association.

Dr. Maria Llabre received a UM Provost Award to study language differences on cardiovascular responses to emotional stress.

Dr. Elizabeth Losin is currently taking time away from the office following the birth of her child. She received an NIH NIDA K01 award studying psychological and brain mechanisms underlying disparities in opioid and non-opioid pain treatment decisions.

Dr. Roger McIntosh received a mentored career development K01 award from

NHLBI to study the neural correlates of cardiovascular and inflammatory immune response to mental stress in persons living with HIV.

Dr. Pat Saab together with former graduate student, Dr. Marissa Alert (Johns Hopkins University) and **Dr. Maria Llabre** recently published a paper in *Health Education & Behavior* showing that self-efficacy is an important correlate of time spent being physically active among Hispanic adolescents.

Dr. Neil Schneiderman continues as Director of the Division of Health Psychology and PI of the *Hispanic Community Health Study/Study of Latinos*. It begun with NIH support in 2006 it is scheduled for renewal in December 2018.

Dr. Steve Safren's was elected as a Fellow of Division 12 in APA.

ADULT | Division

Drs. Sierra Bainter and **Maria Llabre**, the department's main methodological researchers, have introduced to the graduate curriculum a concentration in Quantitative Psychology for students

who are interested in pursuing advanced training in quantitative methods. Dr. Bainter also made presentations to the Association for Psychological Science in San Francisco in May and the International Meeting of the Psychometric Society in New York in July.

Dr. Charles Carver served as an external reviewer for the undergraduate program in Social Sciences at the University of Hong Kong. He was involved in presentations that were made at the meetings of the American Psychosomatic Society (in Sevilla), and the International Psychological Oncology Society (in Berlin). He made an invited presentation at the Panhellenic Conference on Psychological Research (in Thessaloniki, Greece).

Dr. Aaron Heller received a grant from the Templeton Foundation titled "Characterizing Character Growth Following Breast Cancer Diagnosis Using Mobile Health" to study mechanisms of resilience in breast cancer. The project represents a collaboration with **Dr. Charles Carver** and **Dr. Michael Antoni**. He was also invited to present at the Association for Psychological Science Conference (San Francisco, CA) in the Rising Star Clinical Science Forum.

Dr. Debra Lieberman was named Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Evolution and Human Behavior*.

Dr. Michael McCullough gave the keynote address for the Psychology of Religion and Spiritual Preconference at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology in Atlanta, Georgia. He also presented colloquia on his research in Lausanne, Switzerland and Jyväskylä, Finland.

Dr. Kiara Timpano is playing an important behind-the-scenes role for the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies this year, serving as program chair for the 2018 ABCT Convention. The meeting's theme is "Cognitive Behavioral Science, Treatment & Technology." Dr. Timpano was also invited to join the Scientific and Clinical Advisory Board of the International OCD Foundation.

Dr. Amy Weisman de Mamani was awarded a pilot grant from the John Templeton Foundation studying a culturally informed, religiously based, cognitive-behavioral mental health treatment offered in religious institutions and other community settings."



CLINICAL PROGRAM

This past year, the Clinical Program was highly successful in placing 100% of our students in high-quality APA-accredited internships.

Congratulations to these fine students for securing these first-rate internship placements.

ADULT

Travis Evans
VA Boston

Ana Martinez de Andino

Emory University

Jessica Maura

Colorado Mental Health Institute

Kathryn Nowlan

VA Atlanta

HEALTH

Samantha Foti

VA Miami

Brooke Rogers

Brown University

CHILD

Ruth Bernstein

Mount Washington

Pediatric Hospital, Inc.

BreAnne Danzi

UCLA - Semel Institute

Christina Nicolais

Nationwide Children's Hospital

Jamie Sherman

Mailman Center for

Child Development/

University of Miami

Lucia Walsh

Denver Health Medical Center



Are you an alum of the
Department of Psychology
Clinical Program?

Because we are APA Accredited,
we are required to maintain updated
records regarding your post-graduate
employment and licensing.

Please keep an eye out for
emails from us in the near future.

We appreciate your feedback.

PSYCHOLOGY ANNUAL AWARDS



GRADUATE STUDENTS



BERTHA WEBER AWARD

Daniel Forster, Health Division
In appreciation of service to the department.

DEAN'S DISSERTATION AWARD

William McAuliffe, Health Division
Vanessa Ringle, Child Division

DR. CAROL ALSON FINEMAN AWARD

Jamie Sherman, Child Division
In support of research dealing with children who have been abused or who present with emotional disturbances.



OUTSTANDING TEACHING ASSISTANT AWARD

Ruth Bernstein, Child Division
Joseph Billingsley, Adult Division
Caitlin Brown, Health Division



ST CALVIN AWARD

Thomas McCauley, Health Division



DR. KEITH G. SCOTT CARD

GRADUATE AWARD (Developmental)

Amy Ahn, Health Division
For excellence in developmental research in autism spectrum disorder.



DR. PETER MUNDY CARD GRADUATE AWARD (Clinical)

Emily Prince, Child Division
For excellence in clinical research or treatment in autism spectrum disorder.

DEAN'S SUMMER AWARD

Marisa Perera, Health Division
McKenzie Roddy, Adult Division

IRONSON STUDENT COLLOQUIUM AWARD

Dina Dajani, Health Division
BreAnne Danzi, Child Division
Travis Evans, Adult Division
Stipends to graduate student colloquium speakers at the end of each academic year.

KIRK R. DANHOUR MEMORIAL AWARD

Vanessa Ringle, Child Division
McKenzie Roddy, Adult Division
Brook Rogers, Health Division

The Kirk R. Danhour Memorial Award is awarded each spring to one, fourth year graduate student from each of the department's three divisions.

Students are selected by the faculty based on outstanding academic performance, progress and quality of research, leadership, social integration, involvement in departmental activities, and development of clinical skills (if applicable).



UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

National Student Employment Week was in April, and in addition to recognizing all of UM's outstanding student workforce throughout the week, one student in particular (nominated by a supervisor) is chosen to receive the **STUDENT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD**.



This year, the Department of Psychology's very own **Meghana Shownkeen**. Meghana first joined the Undergraduate Academic Services for Psychology (UASP) as a student employee in April 2015. Meghana was not only a Peer Advising Liaison (PAL) but assisted as a Teacher Assistant (TA) in the freshman seminar courses. Meghana has proven to be an integral part of the UASP team and has gained the respect of all her peers and mentors.

Congratulations to our psychology and neuroscience Research and Creativity Innovation Forum (RCIF) winners and to all students who participated in this event!

SOCIAL SCIENCES

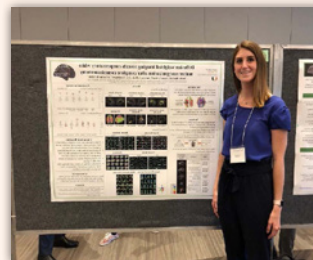
1st Place - **Nicole Rotkivitz**
2nd Place - **Jillian Sasone**
3rd Place - **Sirisha Gaddipati**

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

3rd Place - **Timothy Mitchell**

ENGINEERING

1st Place - **Bryan Ibarra**



GRADUATION AWARDS:

Outstanding Psychology Major - **Joan Rutledge**
Ed Green Outstanding Neuroscience Major - **Allen Liu**
Eber Award - **Lindsay Cohen**
Psi Chi Award - **Emily Aguila**
Nu Rho Psi Award - **Kevin Griffin**



Jossie Retires!

After 20 years as the “heart and soul” of the department, **Jossie Dauval** retired in November. Jossie came to UM in 1972, and during her early years she served as Assistant to the Dean of the Medical School, Assistant to the Dean of Architecture, and as a staff member in the General Counsel’s Office before coming to Psychology in 1998. In her current position as Senior Manager of Business Operations, Jossie has served as the departmental manager (overseeing almost 50 faculty, 140 staff and 90 graduate students), human resources specialist, faculty affairs liaison, assistant to the chair, major events planner, and “informal therapist” to many who have sought her sage advice. She has provided outstanding service over the years, and she has performed these duties with professionalism, class and elegance. We are all indebted to her and will miss her greatly, but we wish her well in the next phase of her life.



Welcome Adam!

As sad as we are to see Jossie go, we are delighted to welcome aboard **Adam Clarke** as our new Senior Manager of Business Operations. Adam is a graduate of the UM School of Business Administration, and has worked at UM for the past six years in the School of Education and Human Development and in the Office of Institutional Culture. Adam will receive a Master’s Degree in Research, Measurement and Evaluation from UM in December, and his skills in data management, visualization and evaluation, as well as statistical modeling, will be a major asset for the department. Who knows, he may even teach some undergraduate statistics for us!



Join us for psychology's
largest fundraiser of the year!
Tropical Nights 2019

BENEFITING
um•nsu•card
University of Miami–Northeastern University
Center for Autism & Related Disabilities

April 27th
aboard the **SEAFAR**
www.miami.edu/tropicalnights

Psychology Community Outreach Programs

Linda Ray Intervention Center (LRIC)



LENA AND UBISENSE: USING TECHNOLOGY TO MEASURE CHILDREN'S LANGUAGE

LRIC continues to pilot a program that measures children's language growth over time. Once a week, our one-year-old students wear a wireless battery-powered digital recording device (LENA) during the school day. The recordings



are then downloaded to a secure university computer. We are excited to implement this technology, which will enable us to examine

classroom language output for our children, such as where and when the children speak the most during the course of the day. This project in collaboration with other faculty and staff in the Department of Psychology has widened to include the UM Debbie School classrooms of children who are hearing impaired or on the autism spectrum. This allows us to compare students' differential responses to language.

SUMMER CHILDREN'S TRUST FUNDING IS PROVIDING CONTINUITY OF SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER

for the target population of children impacted by parental substance abuse and co-occurring maltreatment issues served during the school year allowing them to maintain their skills and social-emotional support system.



LRIC 'PROJECT IMPACT TEAM' WAS CHOSEN TO PARTICIPATE AT HARVARD'S CENTER FOR THE DEVELOPING CHILD INNOVATION IN ACTION WORKSHOP.

As part of a competitive process based on their proposal to examine and pilot early

intervention strategies with babies born opiate-exposed based on their fundamental framework designed and tested with babies born cocaine-exposed over the last twenty years. Strategic planning and next steps were developed and continued collaboration is anticipated.

JUDGES AND THEIR SUPPORT TEAM FROM THE PUERTO RICO JUDICIAL BRANCH VISITED THE MIAMI JUVENILE COURT AND LRIC

as a program model to discuss potential collaborations around early childhood program development in Puerto Rico for high-risk families.



UM-Psychological Services Center (UM-PSC)

The **UM-PSC** (Psychological Services Center), the Department of Psychology's training clinic, continues to provide evidence-based, research-driven clinical training to our graduate students. The UM-PSC had another active and productive year serving children, adolescents, and adults from diverse and multicultural backgrounds in our community. Outpatient individual therapy is provided on a sliding scale fee to individuals experiencing depression, generalized worries, social anxiety, and family conflict. We have recently expanded our services to help those who are struggling to cope with the emotional sequelae of having a chronic illness (e.g., Epilepsy). The clinic also continues to provide assessment services for those needing accommodations for entrance exams (e.g., MCAT/LSAT) and/or having academic challenges, such as reading or math problems and inattention in the classroom or work setting.



Dr. Saneya H. Tawfik, Clinic Director and Director of Assessment Services at the UM-PSC is a Clinical Associate Professor and Licensed Psychologist who has presented nationally and internationally on diversity among training clinics within the United States, as well as education and training of assessment competencies in graduate students. She provides assessment services to clients of culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and supervises and provides training for the department's doctoral students.

Under Dr. Tawfik's direction, the PSC also continues its commitment to providing educational workshops and group treatment programs to children in our community who attend Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS) and are at-risk for emotional problems. This is made possible with the help of the Jane Lawton Fund, through the Program for Emotional Problems in Children (PEP-C).



Advanced graduate students who wish to gain further training in assessment and supervision skills are able to join the Advanced Assessment team at the UM-PSC, under Dr. Tawfik's supervision.

Students receive competency-based training on how to supervise students learning to administer assessments, as well as provide services to the more complex assessment clients referred to the UM-PSC by schools, hospitals, university disability services, and physicians.

Integrating research into clinical practice is imperative at the UM-PSC. Many faculty members representing all of our department's divisions provide supervision to our students. With their research expertise in a number of clinical areas, they continue to assist the UM-PSC in its central mission of helping our students provide state-of-the-art therapy and assessments to UM-PSC clients.



U | AUTISM

The world doesn't know enough about autism spectrum disorder.
At the University of Miami WE ARE CHANGING THAT.



um•nsu•card
University of Miami-Nova Southeastern
Center for Autism & Related Disabilities

UM-NSU CARD (University of Miami-Nova Southeastern University Center for Autism

and Related Disabilities) is a state-funded project dedicated to providing 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. UM-NSU CARD has nearly 12,000 families registered.

The Statewide CARD system celebrated a major milestone in January 2018, marking its 25th Anniversary of consecutive funding by the Florida Department of Education. In addition, UM-NSU CARD hosted our 16th Annual Tropical Nights fundraiser on April 28, 2018 aboard the SeaFair Yacht, where The D'Eri Family, founders of Rising Tide Car Wash (CARD Community Leadership Award), and Nancy Zaretsky, former UM-NSU CARD Constituency Board Chairperson (Cruz-Whitehurst Advocacy Award), were honored for their longstanding support and contributions to UM-NSU CARD and the South Florida Autism community. This signature event was attended by over 500 loyal friends and supporters and helped raise over \$400,000 to support our services and programs.



CARD faculty have also been very successful this year in securing funding for service and research programs. These include funding from The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development for our participation in "Autism Adaptive Community-based Treatment to Improve Outcomes using Navigators (ACTION) Network," a collaboration with Dr. Amy Wetherby from Florida State University (FSU) CARD, and renewal of two projects funded by The Children's Trust, a Literacy-Based Explorers Summer Camp and Autism Spectrum Assessment Clinic Diagnostic Evaluation Services for Autism Spectrum Disorder (CARD/ASAC) Program.

UM-NSU CARD faculty and staff are also participating in two major R01 grants from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH): *Mobilizing Community Systems to Engage Families in Early Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Detection and Services* in collaboration with Dr. Wetherby at FSU CARD and a neuroimaging study examining Cognitive and Neural Flexibility in Autism with **Dr. Lucina Uddin**. Other ongoing grants include an autism genetics grant from the Simons Foundation (SPARK), an autism entrepreneurship training grant, in collaboration with Rising Tide Car Wash, from the Taft Foundation, additional funding from the Taft Foundation to support expansion of services in Broward County, and grants from the Sam Berman Charitable Foundation and Cannon, both of which support our job training initiatives for adults with autism and related disabilities.



ASAC (Autism Spectrum Assessment Clinic) is a specialty clinic that provides a range of psychological evaluation and treatment services

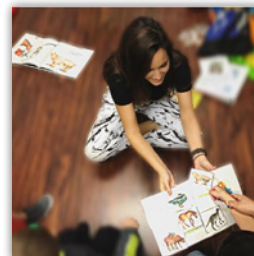
to individuals diagnosed with or suspected of having an autism spectrum disorder (ASD). With grant-funding from The Children's Trust, ASAC offers some assessment and treatment services at no direct cost to the client or family. Specifically, The Children's Trust funds comprehensive diagnostic evaluations for toddlers in Miami-Dade County suspected of having ASD and Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT), a manualized treatment program for children, ages 2-7, exhibiting challenging behavior. ASAC also serves as a clinical training site for graduate-level practicum students and pre-doctoral interns (through the Mailman Center internship program). In addition to core community-based services, ASAC staff provide ongoing clinical support to researchers at UM, by administering specialized assessment tools common in ASD-related research. In the past year, the ASAC team has worked with researchers interested in early identification, genetics, neuroscience, and treatment of autism spectrum disorder. At present, the team is comprised of two full-time faculty, three full-time psychologists, one part-time psychologist, a full-time speech-language pathologist, and administrative support staff.



IBIS Clinic (Intensive Behavioral Intervention Services) is an affiliated clinic that is the practicum site for students completing Behavior Analysis Master's Program at the University of Miami who are working to become Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBA). The IBIS Clinic is a fee-for-service clinic that serves individuals with autism and developmental delays. The IBIS Clinic serves the community by providing services that are not otherwise easily accessible, including intensive early behavioral intervention, picky



eating intervention, desensitization intervention, parent training and functional analysis of problem behavior. In addition to providing a community service through low-cost behavioral intervention, the clinic also supports research and scholarly efforts at UM in the areas of autism and behavior analysis.





SUPPORT YOUR DEPARTMENT AND TOGETHER WE WILL KEEP THE

Momentum Going!

Contribute today by visiting
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For information about making a gift or a multi-year pledge to the Department of Psychology, please contact Dr. Michael Alessandri, malessandri@miami.edu (305) 284-6558



*Thank you to all those
faculty, staff, and students
who contributed to
this edition of
PSY News*



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