

PSY NEWS

ALUMNI COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVERSITY EDUCATION HEALTH RESEARCH



The UM Clinical Psychology Ph.D. Program ranked #18 doctoral program in Clinical Psychology in the United States by U.S. News and World Reports.

www.psy.miami.edu

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

2021 ALUMNI NEWS



Message from the Chairman

The 2020-21 academic year will go down in the history books as one of the most difficult years in departmental history. Nevertheless, we have persevered and been able to adapt our teaching, research and clinical training/services to meet the challenges of the COVID era. We have used online platforms for much of our teaching and clinical work, and we cautiously returned to campus to resume many of our research activities and to conduct some in-person classes. Despite this disruption, the faculty and students have had a tremendously productive year, publishing 326 journal articles, chapters and books; an increase of 16.5% over the previous year! In addition, departmental extramural research expenditures increased by 18.5% this year to almost \$18 million dollars. This places the Psychology Department 4th in the entire university, behind only Medicine, Pediatrics and Neurology, which are all much larger departments. At the undergraduate level our PSY major has grown, and is now the largest major in the College of Arts and Sciences. We also help to oversee the Undergraduate Neuroscience Program, and combined with the PSY major that means we are responsible for almost 900 majors. We are extremely proud of these accomplishments, and I am grateful to the faculty, students and staff who have worked so diligently under trying circumstances this past year.

Like the rest of the country, this year the Department has also been engaged in discussions dealing with the issues of social/economic inequality, discrimination and racism. It is important to raise awareness of these issues that minority students, faculty and staff can face, and to try to make our community safe, supportive, inclusive and welcoming to all people. On the pages that follow you will read about the efforts of the departmental Diversity and Equity Committee (DEC) to proactively engage the Department in discussion, training, and coursework designed educate us about inequality and racism. It will be through learning, self-examination, and thoughtful behavior that we all can create a more compassionate and inclusive community.

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.

UNIVERSITY
OF MIAMI
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

Phil McCabe, Ph.D.
Professor and Chairman

WELCOME



Dr. Spencer Evans Assistant Professor

Dr. Evans is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology, with the Child Division and the Clinical Program. His research focuses on irritability and aggressive behavior in children and adolescents, including interests in developmental processes, assessment, and intervention. He has authored over 40 peer-reviewed publications and received funding from the National Institute of Mental Health, AIM Youth Mental Health, and the American Psychological Foundation.

Dr. Evans earned his Ph.D. in Clinical Child Psychology at the University of Kansas. He completed his predoctoral internship at the Medical University of South Carolina followed by a postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard University. For several years, he worked as a coordinator, consultant, and principal investigator for the World Health Organization in their development of ICD-11 Mental and Behavioural Disorders, particularly in the area of Disruptive Behaviour and Dissocial Disorders. He currently serves as an Executive Board Member for the Society of Child and Family Policy and Practice (Division 37 of the American Psychological Association).

Give to Psychology

AND SUPPORT **YOUR** DEPARTMENT

WWW.PSY.MIAMI.EDU/GIVETOPSYCHOLOGY

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



FACULTY HONORS



JILL EHRENRICH-MAY, PH.D.

Professor, Assistant Chair for Academic Affairs (PSY), Director, Child and Adolescent Mood and Anxiety Treatment Program (CAMAT) on being President-Elect of Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies (ABCT) (2021-2022)

The Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies is a multidisciplinary organization committed to the enhancement of health and well-being by advancing the scientific understanding, assessment, prevention, and treatment of human problems through the global application of behavioral, cognitive, and biological evidence-based principles.



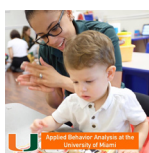
**10 YEARS OF
ESTEEMED RESEARCH**

**2021 Recipient of the
B.F. Skinner Foundation
New Applied Researcher Award**

University of Miami Research Assistant Professor

DR. YANERYS LEON

earns award honoring a decade's worth of scholarship in Applied Behavior Analysis.



www.aba.psy.miami.edu



DR. LUCINA UDDIN

Associate Professor and Director, Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience Division chosen by Clarivate as one of the **2020 Highly Cited Researchers**

The annual list identifies researchers who demonstrate significant influence in their field through the publication of multiple cited papers and studies during the last decade. Their names are drawn from the publications that rank in the top 1 percent by citations for field and publication year in the Web of Science citation index.



The Diversity and Equity Committee (DEC) was established by Chairman McCabe following recommendations from students and faculty. Under the current leadership of Dr. Sannisha Dale, the DEC is made up of faculty, graduate

students, and staff designed to promote and foster a diverse and inclusive environment within the Psychology Department and more broadly, within the field of psychology, with a particular focus on fostering a greater sense of cohesiveness within the department, improving recruitment and retention of diverse faculty and students, and collaborating with academic and local communities.

The DEC has sponsored a number of events within the department with these goals in mind, including: the "Our Stories" panels, where selected faculty, graduate students, and staff share personal life stories around themes of diversity and inclusiveness; the Diversity Potluck, where members of the department share dishes of cultural significance; the Diversity Awards ceremony, which recognize outstanding contributions to diversity and inclusion by faculty, staff, and graduate students; the "I Am Psyched" traveling museum exhibit from the American Psychological Association (APA) highlighting contributions of prominent women psychologists of color; the panel discussion, "Thriving at the Intersection: Women of Color in Psychology," made up of UM faculty sharing their experiences navigating academia as

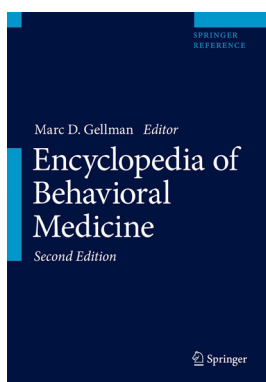
DIVERSITY and EQUITY COMMITTEE

women of color; and a series of talks by Jessica Henderson Daniel, outgoing president of the APA, discussing her experiences navigating mentorship and forming professional relationships as a Black woman in academia.

The DEC also leads a number of other diversity initiatives within the department, including: hosting a drop-in suite during the graduate student interview weekend; organizing a student panel during orientation week for new graduate students; sponsoring trainings for faculty and graduate students on issues of diversity and equity; incorporating issues of diversity and cultural competence into student and faculty interview processes and evaluations; hosting town halls with graduate students focused on DEI issues; participating in the recruitment of faculty from diverse backgrounds and scholars with research focused on the effects of oppression on psychological and health outcomes; and participating in a UM Department of Psychology partnership with FAMU, an HBCU in Tallahassee, FL, that invites several FAMU students to participate in UM's PRIME program, a 10-week paid summer research internship for students interested in pursuing graduate studies in psychology.

www.psy.miami.edu/dec

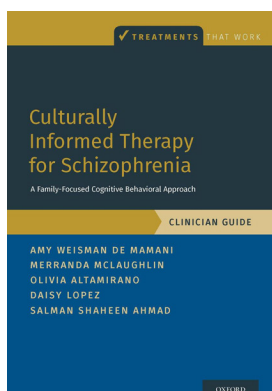
PUBLICATIONS



Dr. Mark Gellman
Research Associate
Professor Associate
Director for
Administration
Behavioral Medicine
Research Center

**3-VOLUME SECOND EDITION OF THE
ENCYCLOPEDIA OF BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE**
by Springer Nature

The 2nd edition of the Encyclopedia of Behavioral Medicine, published in October 2020 by Springer Nature. The 1st edition of the Encyclopedia of Behavioral Medicine was published in 2013. For the 2nd any of the 1200 entries from the first edition have been updated considerably, and over 450 new entries have been added. These updated and new entries discuss new terms that are now part of the behavioral medicine lexicon.



Dr. Amy Weisman de Mamani
Associate Director
of the Adult
Division

**CULTURALLY INFORMED THERAPY FOR
SCHIZOPHRENIA**
by Oxford

Approximately one percent of adults in the United States will be diagnosed with schizophrenia or a related schizophrenia spectrum disorder (SSD). While traditional family therapies have shown increasing efficacy in reducing relapse rates and improving mental health for this population, there is a rising need for improved clinical training to meet the needs of unique and culturally diverse clients in an efficient, skillful, and culturally relevant manner.

The year in review: How Psychology is making news!



THE EVOLUTIONARY ORIGINS OF FRIENDSHIP

Dr. Debra Lieberman

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LANGUAGE, CULTURAL IDENTITY CAN AFFECT PAIN

Dr. Elizabeth Losin & Dr. Maria Llabre

[LEARN MORE](#)



RESILIENCY DURING CHALLENGING TIMES

Dr. Lynne F. Katz

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HEARING TEST MAY DETECT AUTISM IN NEWBORNS

Dr. Elizabeth Simpson

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HIV RESEARCHERS, ADVOCATES TAKE THEIR FIGHT TO THE STREET

Dr. Sannisha Dale

[LEARN MORE](#)



RESEARCHERS TACKLE RACIAL INEQUALITY

Dr. Rebecca Bulotsky Shearer

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RULES ARE DIFFERENT FOR DATING DURING A PANDEMIC

Dr. Brian Doss

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HOW TO HELP KIDS MANAGE BACK-TO-SCHOOL ANXIETY IN THE COVID ERA

Dr. Jill Ehrenreich-May

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3 WAYS TO KEEP CALM DURING STRESSFUL TIMES - DR. AMISHI JHA and GOLDIE HAWN

Dr. Amishi Jha

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RESEARCHER: HOARDING IS A PSYCHIATRIC CONDITION

Dr. Kiara Timpano

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SCIENCE FOR YOUNG MINDS

Dr. Daryl B. Greenfield

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FIND MORE SATISFACTION BY CHANGING DAILY ROUTINES, STUDY SAYS

Dr. Aaron Heller

[LEARN MORE](#)

ALUMNI NEWS



A graduate of the highly selective Applied Behavior Analysis program, **Fajer Almetwally** is changing the landscape for children on the autism spectrum in the Middle East.



Alumna brings autism clinic home to Kuwait

IBS offers several specialized Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy services. Our services incorporate the most up-to-date and effective behavior analytic strategies in order to improve behavioral and social functioning.

www.ibis.psy.miami.edu



Q&A with UM alumna Marie-Hele Whitehurst

— The Annette M. La Greca Distinguished Alumni Award and Colloquium —

Paige A. Green, Ph.D., M.P.H., F.A.B.M.R. '94

Chief of the Basic, Biobehavioral and Psychological Sciences Branch in the Behavioral Research Program, Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences, at the National Cancer Institute (NCI)



Dr. Green received her undergraduate degree in psychology and her doctorate in clinical psychology from UM.

In 2005, she received a Master of Public Health degree from Bloomberg School of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University. After working as an assistant professor of medicine at the Howard University College of Medicine and a research psychologist at HUCC, she joined the Behavioral Research Program as a program director in 2001, and she has been branch chief since 2007.



The Annette M. La Greca Distinguished Alumni Award is intended to invite distinguished Ph.D. alumni from the UM Psychology Department back to campus to discuss their careers and meet with interested students and faculty.



DR. ELICIA NADEMIN

2002 GRADUATE COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES
PSYCHOLOGY, CRIMINOLOGY, AND SPANISH

AVAILABLE AT
amazon

**Don't Be A Stranger:
Creating Connections & Memorable
First Impressions in Everyday Life**

Dr. Nadeamin is a clinical psychologist, board certified in behavioral and cognitive psychology. She is an educator, speaker, author, and entrepreneur who is passionate about empowering people to change how they relate to themselves and others, in effect transforming their lives and relationships.

"My book is on skills for interacting more effectively with strangers and I believe could be invaluable for students, especially as they prepare to transition to graduate interviews, job interviews, etc. I also feel it could be invaluable to anyone pursuing business/marketing to enhance first impressions and potential for profitability through relationship-development. I would love for the book to people build personal and professional connections more successfully."

www.4anewyou2.com

RESEARCH NEWS

Insight Into the Hispanic Paradox: The Language Hypothesis

Hispanics have a lower burden of heart disease than would be predicted from their risk factors. Explanations for this phenomenon, the Hispanic paradox, focus on specific characteristics of the culture that affect stress appraisal and coping by facilitating emotion expression. The hypothesis here proposes that the Spanish language is directly and indirectly (via culture) responsible for mitigating some of the effects of acute stress responses in Hispanics and, therefore, limits stress accumulation and is partly responsible for the Hispanic paradox.



Maria Magdalena Llobera, Ph.D.
PROFESSOR
ASSOCIATE CHAIR, DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
DIRECTOR, BIOBEHAVIORAL STATISTICS
BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE RESEARCH CENTER

SAGE journals



Researchers Identify Autism in Very Young High Risk Children

Your ASD child's siblings are at a high risk of also having ASD. Take note of the early signs of autism and mention any concerns you have to your child's pediatrician.

AUTISM ADVOCATE
PARENTING MAGAZINE



RESEARCH, EDUCATION & MEDICAL NEWS

Loneliness Among Cancer Caregivers is Associated with Biological Markers of Disease Risk



Caring for a loved one with cancer can cut people off from many routine, but important, social interactions outside the home. This experience of isolation, currently compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic, places cancer caregivers at higher risk for adverse health outcomes over time, suggests a new study from researchers at UM and UCLA.



Co-Authors **Drs. Youngmee Kim & Frank J. Penedo**



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UM tied with
Duke University and Emory University