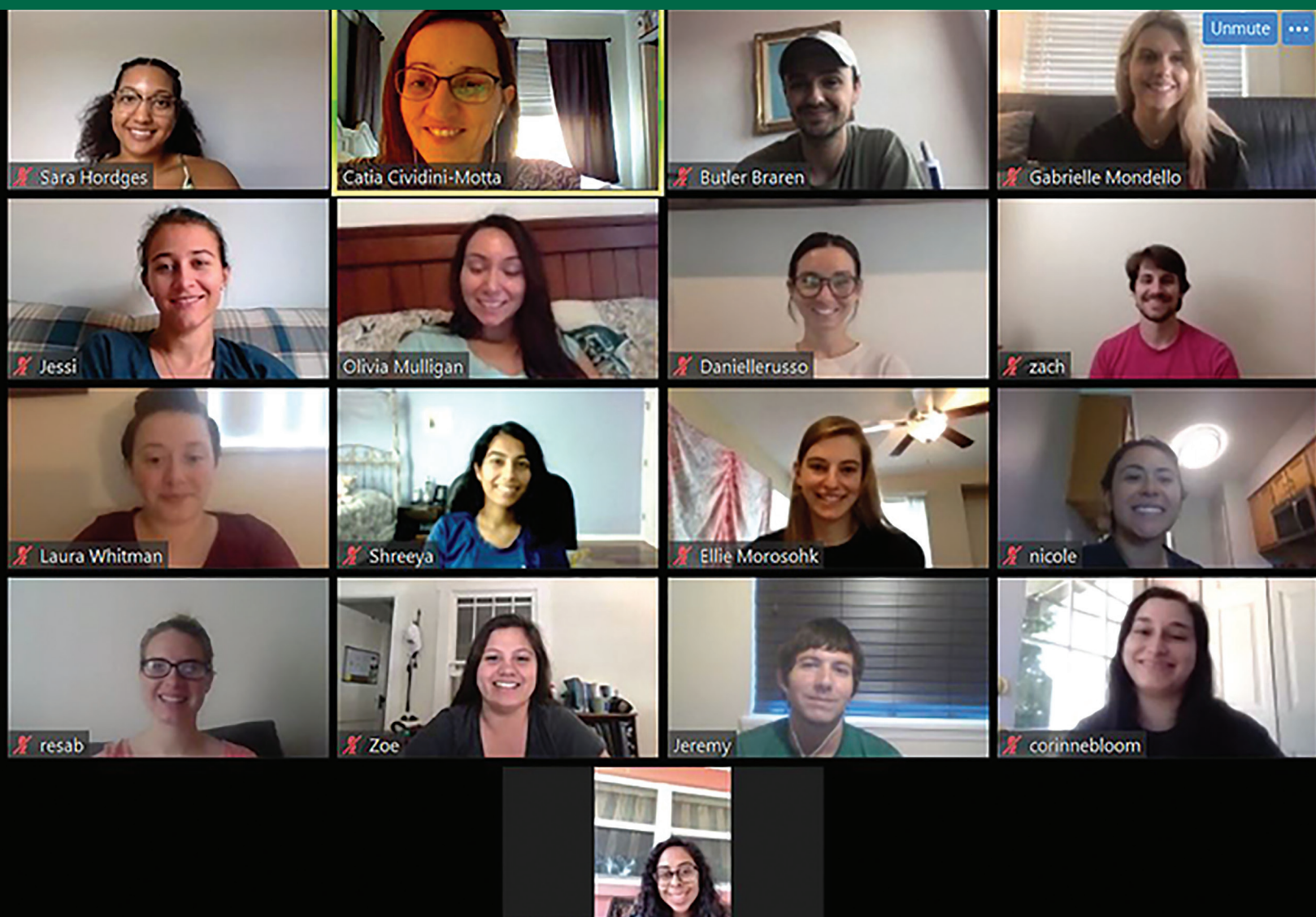


PROMOTING WELL-BEING



Annual Report
2020-2021



UNIVERSITY of
SOUTH FLORIDA

College of Behavioral & Community Sciences



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April 2021



Points of Pride

COLLEGE SUCCESS

Early Childhood Intervention

HIPPY home based early intervention program to increase school readiness

approximately
\$29M
in grant funding annually

11
researchers
in the top **100**
grant awardees
across all of USF

6 AAAS
Faculty Fellows
for outstanding contributions to research

#18
in USN&WR rankings

Criminology jumps 4 spots

New Approved Master's Programs

Marriage & Family Therapy - Fall, 2020
Applied Aging Sciences - online Fall, 2020

NIDA-funded Summer Research Institute at the Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute, hosts 12 research students each year from 10 different universities.

Areas of expertise from 18 faculty on the St. Petersburg and Sarasota/Manatee campuses:

- Adult Communication Disorders
- Aging in Place
- Bilingual Linguistics
- Caregiving
- Crime Mapping
- Crime Prevention
- Cybercrime
- Cybercrime and Stalking
- Digital Forensics
- Environmental Criminology
- Fear of Terrorism
- Health and Crime
- Hearing Healthcare
- Human Trafficking
- Inequality and Crime
- Intersectional Criminology
- Juvenile Delinquency
- Juvenile Justice
- Media Representations of Crime and Justice
- Perceptions of the Police
- Police and Use of Force
- Prisoner Reentry and Recidivism
- Program Evaluation
- Public Opinion on Terrorism
- Radicalization
- Religious Extremism
- Victimization
- Women and Crime
- Women and Terrorism

Points of Pride

STUDENT SUCCESS

95% freshman retention rate

91%

of students graduate without excess hours

73% 4-year graduation rate

Graduate Headcount

1254

highest in college history

Student Credit Hours 103,396

highest in college history

310,000

hours of student community service valued at over

1159 degrees awarded

\$7.7 million per year

93% second year retention rate

First 3 students graduate with PhD in Behavioral & Community Sciences

graduate students have a **higher total pass rate** than the national average on **Social Work license examination**

100% graduate employment rate
100% national certification exam pass rate

MS in Speech-Language Pathology and Doctor of Audiology programs



Student Success

Doctoral Students Record 50 Lectures in One Week for Remote Instruction

As USF prepared to meet the continuing educational needs of students during the COVID 19 Crisis by transitioning to remote instruction for the duration of 2019 spring semester, Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Doctoral Students Marlesha Bell and Anthony Concepcion, who both began the ABA doctoral program in 2017, provided much needed support to the ABA program.



Marlesha Bell



Anthony Concepcion

“We had courses that had never been prepared for an online format,” said Dr. Rocky Haynes, ABA Instructor and Coordinator of the undergraduate minor in Applied Behavior Analysis. Marlesha and Anthony recorded 50 lectures in 7 days and even went above by adding examples. Marlesha also made extra example videos to aid with understanding!”

All six of the courses were developed to be fully online in four weeks.

Aging Studies Graduate Student Recognized by National Science Foundation

Christina Mu, a first-year graduate student in the School of Aging Studies, recently received an Honorable Mention for the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (NSF GRFP). Currently, her research interests are on the relationships between pain, sleep, and cognition in older adults. She is also one of the lab managers of the Sleep, Stress, and Health Lab and works under the direction of Dr. Soomi Lee.



Christina Mu

USF Student Videos Foster Awareness About Communication Differences, Disorders

Students in the Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders program are raising awareness about speech and hearing differences and disorders with a video series tied to the December holiday season. The students - all from the university's Sarasota-Manatee campus and members of the National Student Speech Language and Hearing Association (NSSLHA) - say the project is a play on the annual 25 days of Christmas programming on some cable TV networks. “We just thought this would be a great way to bring awareness to the many types of hearing and speech differences and disorders that affect millions of people,” NSSLHA chapter President Tiffany Marsh said.

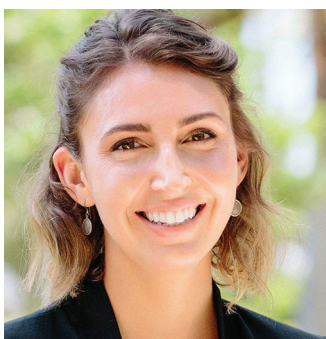
In addition to raising awareness, they hope to advocate for those living with communication differences and disorders, which can affect people across their lifespan, often starting at an early age.

First Graduates of the Doctoral Program in Behavioral & Community Sciences



Dr. Bonnie Brown

Dr. Bonnie Brown successfully defended her dissertation titled “Understanding Campus Support Programs: How Universities Are Assisting Foster Care Alumni in Achieving Success”. She received the first Doctor of Philosophy granted by the program and graduated in the Summer 2020. She was mentored by Dr. Tom Massey.



Dr. Amanda Sharp

Dr. Amanda Sharp successfully defended her dissertation titled “The Role of Non-Secular Involvement Towards a Comprehensive Community Approach for Addressing Opioid Use Disorder”. She graduated in the Fall 2020 and her faculty mentors were Drs. Kathy Moore and Bruce Levin.



Dr. Enya Vroom

Dr. Enya Vroom successfully defended her dissertation titled: Moving Science to Practice: Exploring Implementation Practice Capacity in Community Settings. Her faculty mentors were Drs. Mary Armstrong and Matthew Foster. She graduates in the Spring 2021.

Undergraduate Students Invited to Become Members of Phi Beta Kappa

Caroline Glover (School of Social Work), Dylan Johnson (Criminology), and Zachary Myers (Criminology) have been selected to become members of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, the nation’s oldest and most prestigious academic honor society. A distinguished faculty committee chose them to be initiated into the Eta of Florida Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa on the basis of their outstanding academic achievement as undergraduates at USF and their record of having met high standards of personal conduct and academic integrity.

Social Work Students Participate in Advocacy Days

School of Social Work students actively participated in the National Association of Social Workers LEAD (Legislative Education and Advocacy Days) initiative to learn more about current state legislation and to have discussions with legislators/legislative aides. Twenty Social Work students also participated in CRISP (Congressional Research Institute on Social Work and Policy) Federal Student Advocacy Day on March 11, 2021. Student Advocacy Day is a time when students, faculty, and social work leaders come together from across the country to advocate and engage with their federal government and advocate for important legislation.

Graduate programs among the nation’s best in new rankings by U.S. News & World Report

- Audiology #18
- Criminology #18
- Rehabilitation Counseling #27
- Speech-Language Pathology #55
- Social Work #70



Research Roundup

Christopher Simmons

(School of Social Work)

*Comprehensive Community
Collaboration Demonstration
Model to Strengthen and
Preserve High Risk Families
(CCCDM)*

Sponsor: The Stephen Group, LLC

1/27/2020-9/30/2024

Amount: \$185,000



Howard Goldstein

(Communication Sciences &
Disorders)

Efficacy of Story Friends
vocabulary Curriculum
Targeting Preschoolers At-Risk
for Language and Literacy
Disabilities

Sponsor: US Dept of Education

7/1/2020-6/30/2025

Amount: \$3,300,000



Michelle Arnold

(Communication Sciences &
Disorders)

*Development and Assessment
of a Spanish-Language
Toolkit for Hearing Loss Self-
Management*

Sponsor: National Institutes of
Health

4/1/2020-3/31/2023

Amount: \$450,000



Rose Iovannone

(Child & Family Studies)

*Efficacy Trial of the Modular
Approach for Autism Programs
in Schools (MAAPS)*

Sponsor: Institute of Education
Sciences, National Center for
Special Education Research

07/01/2020 - 06/30/2024

Amount: \$1,013,801



David Eddins

(Communication Sciences &
Disorders)

*NIH NIDCD R01: Pediatric
dysphonia: Multidisciplinary
advances to improve voice
quality outcomes*

Sponsor: National Institute
on Deafness and other
Communication Disorders

6/1/2020-5/31/2025

Amount: \$2,326,580



Soomi Lee

(School of Aging Studies)

*Sleep Health Profiles in Middle-
aged Adults in Relation to
Cardiovascular Health*

Sponsor: National Institutes of
Health

9/30/2020-8/30/2021

Amount: \$412,264



Christina Dillahunt-Aspillaga & Tammy Jorgensen-Smith

(Child & Family Studies)

Rehabilitation Counseling Master's Degree Program - A Solution to Personnel Shortages in the Florida Public Vocational Rehabilitation System

Sponsor: US Department of Education
10/1/2020-9/30/2025
Amount: \$1,000,000



Micah Johnson

(Mental Health Law & Policy)

Examining the Stress Processes Relating Ethnicity and Sex to Substance Misuse and Services Outcomes (ESPRESSO)

Sponsor: National Institute of Drug Abuse
3/15/2021- 4/30/26
Amount: \$882,000



Kyaïen Conner

(Mental Health Law & Policy)

Enhancing the Care Transitions Intervention with Peer Support to Reduce Disparities

Sponsor: PCORI
4/1/2021-4/30/2025
Amount \$2,508,872



Khary Rigg

(Mental Health Law & Policy)

Research Examining Factors Associated with the Opioid Crisis among Underserved African Americans (REFOCUS)

Sponsor: National Institute on Drug Abuse
1/1/2021-7/31/2025
Amount: \$3,200,000



Laura Redwine & Marilyn Stern

(Child & Family Studies)

Social, Ethical, and Behavioral Implications (SEBI) Research on COVID-19 Testing among Rural Latino Migrants in Southwest Florida (MPI: Redwine and Stern). 3R34AT010661-02S1 Response to PA-20135

Sponsor: National Institutes of Health
12/1/2019-11/30/2022
Amount: \$906,807



Laura Redwine



Marilyn Stern

Maria Carlo

(Child & Family Studies)

Effects of Home and Classroom Practices on Language, Cognitive, and Social Development of Young Spanish-Speaking Dual Language Learners

Sponsor: The University of Texas Health Science Center
7/1/2020-6/30/2025
Amount: \$ 3,299,993
(subcontract to USF \$244,843)





Amber Gum

(Mental Health Law & Policy)

*3/3 Lay-delivered Behavioral
Activation in Senior Centers*

Sponsor: National Institute of
Mental Health

12/15/2020-11/30/2025

Amount: \$1,712,366



Lindsay Peterson

(School of Aging Studies)

*Disaster Preparedness for
Caregivers of Persons with
Dementia*

Sponsor: Retirement Research
Foundation

1/1/2021-6/30/2022

Amount: \$137,662.00



Kathy Black

(School of Aging Studies)

*Age-Friendly Florida
Community Consultation*

Sponsor: AARP Florida

5/1/2018-12/31/2021

Amount: \$181,299



**Kwang-Sun Cho Blair, Catia Cividini-Motta, and
Kimberly Crosland**

(Child & Family Studies),

Alison Salloum

(Social Work)

*Project iSED: Advancing Interdisciplinary Services for Students
with Severe Emotional and Behavioral Disorders*

Sponsor: US Department of Education

2020-2025

Amount: \$1,190,000

**Jessica Grosholz, Fawn
Ngo, and Sandra Stone**

(Criminology)

*Evaluating Selah Freedom's
Work with the Tampa Bay
Human Trafficking Task Force*

Sponsors: Selah Freedom, St.
Petersburg Police Department,
Bureau of Justice Assistance

Dates 2020-2025

Amount: \$295,000



Jessica Grosholz



Kwang-Sun Cho Blair



Catia Cividini-Motta



Fawn Ngo



Sandra Stone



Kimberly Crosland



Alison Salloum

Faculty Highlights

Two Faculty Named AAAS Fellows, one of academia's highest honors.

■ **Dr. Howard Goldstein** is a Professor in Communication Sciences and Disorders and Associate Dean for Research. Dr. Goldstein has made foundational advancements over the past several decades in the field of language development in individuals, especially children, with developmental disabilities. His research has produced models of early intervention that serve as a basis for inclusive education practices which have led to greatly improved social outcomes and quality of life for individuals with disabilities.



■ **Dr. Raymond G. Miltenberger** is a Professor and Director of the Applied Behavior Analysis Program in the Department of Child and Family Studies. Dr. Miltenberger developed and validated in situ assessment - a scientific approach to data-based decision making, especially in the analysis of children's responses to safety threats. Over the past 15 years, his in situ training method continues to be the best practice as it ultimately empowers children to make safe choices in life and death situations.



William E. Haley Named Distinguished University Professor

■ **Dr. William Haley**, a Professor in the School of Aging Studies, has been named Distinguished University Professor (DUP) for 2021. Being selected as a DUP involves an intensive internal and external review of the faculty member's credentials that culminates in selection by the DUP Recommending Committee.



Dr. Haley pioneered and shaped the field of family caregiving research over the past 30 years. His work is noted for being methodologically rigorous, innovative, and paradigm-shifting in addressing significant questions with regard to the problems, issues, and coping strategies of caregivers of family members with chronic illness and disability.

Criminology Professor Named 'Most Influential'

■ According to Ioannidis, et al. (2020, PLOS - Biology), **Dr. James Unnever** was listed among the most influential criminologists in the world. These rankings comprise over 150,000 scientist divided into 22 scientific fields and 176 sub-fields, ranked by their standardized citation indicators (e.g., Scopus citations, scientific research output, h-index, etc.). This placed him in the top 1.5 percent (98th percentile) of all scholars across all disciplines worldwide.





Criminologist is Rated Most Influential Scholar

■ **Dr. Lorie Fridell** is ranked the #8 most influential scholar in policing in the last 50 years (1970-2020) by Academic Influence.



Social Work Faculty Receive Best Documentary Award

■ **Dr. Guitele Rahill's** documentary, "Twoub Manta: Healing a Nation" has been awarded the "Best Documentary Award" for the 2020 Bergen County Film Festival.



Dr. Roger Peters appointed to Florida Supreme Court's Steering Committee on Problem-Solving Courts

■ **Dr. Roger Peters**, Professor in the Department of Mental Health Law and Policy, has been appointed to serve another two-year term on the Florida Supreme Court's Steering Committee on Problem-Solving Courts.



Dr. Randy Otto Receives Award for Distinguished Contributions to Psychology and Law

■ **Dr. Randy Otto**, Associate Professor in the Department of Mental Health Law & Policy, received the 2021 American Psychology – Law Society Award for Distinguished Contribution to Psychology and Law.



In Memory

On January 1, 2021 we lost a dear colleague and friend, Dr. Kathy Hyer. Kathy was Professor and Associate Director in the School of Aging Studies, Director of the Florida Policy Exchange Center on Aging, and recent President of the Gerontological Society of America.

Dr. Hyer's work in the USF School of Aging Studies was defined by passion and commitment to bettering the lives of older adults, especially vulnerable older adults. Throughout her career, she showed unwavering commitment to improving long-term care, whether in terms of quality of care, staffing levels, or patient culture; she was one of the most recognized advocates in the world with respect to disaster preparedness in long-term facilities. She worked tirelessly to promote geriatric education across health care disciplines such as medicine, nursing, pharmacy, and physical therapy.

Dr. Hyer was in the middle of working on an NIH funded grant called SAFEHAVEN to study disaster preparedness in long-term care facilities. This work has already uncovered crucial information about how to reduce morbidity and mortality of residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Dr. Hyer's work has established a solid platform on which this research can continue.

Dr. Hyer will be missed greatly. And the School of Aging Studies is committed to carrying on Dr. Hyer's legacy to make the world a better place for older adults.





Community Engagement

School of Social Work

Under the leadership of **Dr. Jerome Galea**, **Dr. Christopher Simmons**, and **Melissa Thompson** and with assistance from Master's of Social Work and doctoral students, the department launched the USF Social Work ACCESS Lab dedicated to scaling up access to mental health services globally. The USF ACCESS Lab is working on four innovative projects, including:

■ **TABATHA Mental Health Chatbot:** A chatbot capable of screening COVID-19 pandemic responders for level of distress and service preferences using simple SMS text messages or similar, existing text messaging systems, and navigate them to existing mental health services matched to their distress level and service preferences.

■ **BRIDGE Stressors:** The impact of COVID-19 related distress among underserved populations in urban, Tampa Florida.

■ **WHO EQUIP:** Ensuring Quality in Psychological Support. A platform for training and supervision of mental health and psychosocial support helpers in Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Peru, Uganda, Zambia and Ethiopia.

■ **Project PASEO:** Transitioning from the Pediatric to the Adult Care Setting. A community-based accompaniment intervention, including mental health support, delivered by community health workers bridging the transition for adolescents from pediatric to adult HIV care in Lima, Peru.



Jerome Galea



Christopher Simmons



Melissa Thompson



Bridge Healthcare Clinic Provides Invaluable Health Services to Underserved Clients

Master of Social Work students and School of Social Work faculty provide medical social work, and mental health services to underserved clients at the BRIDGE Healthcare Clinic in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic. The clinic's staff pride themselves in their mission of service, education, and collaboration for the people and community they serve. Services at the Bridge Clinic include medical, pharmacy, physical therapy, public health, and social work.

Dr. Kristin Kosyluk subject matter expert on the Social Stigma on Mental Health

Dr. Kristin Kosyluk, Assistant Professor of Mental Health Law & Policy, has been asked to serve as an advisory board member and subject matter expert on the Social Stigma on Mental Health workgroup of the Florida Children and Youth Cabinet.



This Is My Brave: Stories from The Black Community

This Is My Brave is a national organization focused on reducing stigma about mental health in the United States. The goal is to use storytelling to save lives, aiding in the recognition that mental illness is a disease just like a physical illness, and that no one should feel ashamed about needing to seek help. Participants share their stories of recovery and hope using creative means.

Dr. Kyaïen Conner, Associate Professor of Mental Health Law & Policy, will be co-producing a special series of *This Is My Brave* to focus on stories from the Black Community.



2020 'Teletherapy Edition' of the Program for Advanced Treatment of Stuttering

Blaise Kreisher, Shiloh Taylor, Taylor Login, and Katie Loret De Mola in Communication Sciences & Disorders successfully facilitated a 6-week, 90-hour, 2020 'teletherapy edition' of the Program for Advanced Treatment of Stuttering (USF-PATS). Amanda Kelly and Lucy Coleman also co-treated for ~20 hours.

Florida Center for Inclusive Communities: A Hidden Gem at USF Provides Much Support to People with Developmental Disabilities and Their Families

Established in 2005, the Florida Center for Inclusive Communities (FCIC)/University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD) within the Department of Child & Family Studies is the only center on disabilities at USF.

Children's Book Debuts #1 New Release on Amazon in the Poverty Category

Dr. Micah Johnson authored a picture book as a way for parents and child services providers to have difficult conversations with children. The book debuted at #1 for New Releases on Amazon in the poverty and homelessness category.

Synopsis

A lonely child who wishes for a friend, loses his home, and is faced with heartbreaking hardships and awful adversities. Finding friendship and happiness seems impossible. As his faith dwindles, he wonders, will I ever find a friend?

Do I deserve love? In his deepest despair, he discovers the phenomenal and immeasurable human capacity for compassion. The book covers several topic areas: Prejudice; homelessness and poverty; growing up and facts of life; difficult discussions; emotions and feelings; and friendship, social skills and school life.



Virtual Bilingual Literacy Event



Dr. Diana Julbe-Delgado, Instructor of Communication Sciences and Disorders and faculty advisor for the Bilingual Language Literacy Investigative Networking Group (BLLING), partnered with Achieve Plant City to offer a Bilingual (Spanish/English) virtual literacy event and celebration of Hispanic/Latinx culture.

CSD Faculty and Students Supporting Malawi College

The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders is partnering with a new Audiology program offered by African Bible College (ABC) in Lilongwe, Malawi and led by USF alumna Dr. Jenna Vallario Montgomery.

Dr. Steven Surrency, Interim Chair of Communication Sciences and Disorders, is teaching a foundational linguistics course in order to support the young program. Dr. Jennifer Lister (Professor of



Communication Sciences and Disorders) is mentoring USF Audiology students, Nat Davis and Kelly Gordie, as they work with ABC Audiology students on two research projects: 1. A Survey of Teachers in Malawi, Africa: Hearing Health Awareness and 2. A Retrospective Study of Estimated Conductive Hearing Loss Prevalence in Malawi.

Malawi is among the world's least developed countries. Its economy depends largely on development support and partnerships such as this one.



Sleep Research Featured in Multiple Media Outlets

Dr. Soomi Lee, Assistant Professor in the School of Aging Studies, has been featured in multiple media outlets, including USA Today, the New York Times, Yahoo! News, and Fox 13. Most notably, her study titled, “Just



Losing 16 Minutes of Sleep” gained national attention for significant findings that illustrate how insufficient or poor sleep quality can lead to daily cognitive interference (i.e., off-task and ruminating thoughts that interfere with concentration on work). In addition, Dr. Lee’s research has found that poor sleep health is associated with various adverse health outcomes, including worse mood, increase stress, impaired immune functioning, increase risk of falls, pain, obesity, cardiovascular disease, and mortality.

Dobbs Named Academic Director for the Center for Hospice, Palliative Care and End-of-Life Studies at USF

Dr. Debra Dobbs, Associate Professor in the School of Aging Studies and affiliate faculty for the Florida Policy Exchange Center on



Aging has been named the new Academic Director for the Center for Hospice, Palliative Care and End-of-Life Studies at USF. The Center for Hospice, Palliative Care and End-of-Life Studies began in 1996 and became formally recognized as a Center at USF in 2006. Dr. Dobbs also holds a leadership position as the Vice Chair for the Social Research Policy and Practice Section of the Gerontological Society of America (GSA). Within GSA she recently was the Convener for the Hospice, Palliative and End-of-Life Interest Group.

COVID Pandemic

CBCS Faculty Receive Funding from the USF COVID-19 Rapid Response Grant Program

- Alternative Processing of Civil and Criminal Justice System Matters for People with Behavioral Health Disorders

Co-PI: **Annette Christy & Randy Otto**

Co-I: **Paul Stiles**



Annette Christy



Randy Otto



Paul Stiles

- Social Closeness Despite Social Distance: A Study of Strategies to Fight Loneliness During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Co-PI: **Brent Small**



Brent Small

- The USF Rapid-Risk Assessment and Intervention for COVID-19

Co-PI: **Ross Andel & Lindsay Peterson**



Ross Andel



Lindsay Peterson

- Isolated and Safe? Analysis of the Mental Health Impacts of COVID19 on Detained Youth

PI: **Joan Reid**



Joan Reid

- Exploring Racial Disparities in the Treatment, Perceptions, and Tracking of COVID-19 Through Automated Stigma Detection and Sentiment Analysis of Social Media Data

Co-PI: **Kristin Kosyluk, MHLP**
(Neal, PI)



Kristin Kosyluk



■ Mental Distress Among COVID-19 Responders

PI: Kristin Kosyluk (MHLP); Jerome Galea (SW)

Co-Is: Kathleen Heide, (Criminology);
Kathleen Moore, (MHLP & FMHI); Alison Salloum, (SW),



Kristin Kosyluk



Jerome Galea



Kathleen Heide



Kathleen Moore



Allison Salloum

■ A Decentralized Digital ID for Pandemics

Co-I: Kyaïen Conner, (MHLP)
(Shivendu, PI)



Kyaïen Conner

USF audiologists address COVID-19 challenges for the hearing impaired with new face masks

USF audiologists and interpreters are utilizing a new type of mask, the Face View Mask, that allows them to more effectively communicate with patients. Instead of it covering everything below the eyes, a clear plastic window replaces fabric around the mouth. Patricia Carr, an audiologist with the USF Hearing Clinic and is hearing impaired herself, has been sewing the new masks in between prepping and teaching online.

“Many people who are hearing challenged are reading lip and mouth movements, often more than we realize. Without the ability to see the mouth and lip movements of a speaker, we cannot “hear” what is being said,” said Tami Stone, who recently received a cochlear implant.

“We rely on a person’s facial expressions when communicating, whether you have normal hearing or hearing loss, to put meaning to what is being said,” Carr said. “When masks are being worn, we miss out on the personality each person brings to the conversation. Just hearing the words is not enough.



Race and Social Justice

- The Rehabilitation & Mental Health Counseling Program in the Department of Child & Family Studies developed a 2021 Speaker Series on Race & Counseling, profiling a topic expert.



- **Social Work Student Forum on Anti-Black Racism** In spring 2021 social work students and faculty participated in the first Student Forum on Anti-Black Racism. This virtual forum provided a space for students and faculty to share experiences, ask questions, and listen to voices of those impacted by racism. The discussion allowed for reflection and gathered student input on determining areas for further focus and action within the department and larger college.



- **Themed Issue in Justice Quarterly on Racial Disparity in the Criminal Justice System**

In the immediate aftermath of the death of George Floyd, **Bryanna Fox**, Associate Professor of Criminology, and Marv Krohn, Co-Editors of Justice Quarterly, decided to act by collating a themed issue dedicated solely to research on the causes and effects of racial disparity in the criminal justice system.

- **Criminology Associate Professor Selected to Assist in Tampa's Efforts to Address Community Concerns with Policing**

Associate Criminology Professor **Bryanna Fox** was selected to make recommendations based on feedback from members of the newly formed Mayor's Community Task Force on Policing.



- **Four CBCS Research Projects Selected for Funding in Anti-Racism Effort**

Storytelling Saves Lives: Challenging the Stigma of Mental Illness through Stories from the Black Community.

PIs: Kyaieen Connor and Kristin Kosyluk
Community Partners: This is My Brave (TIMB), WE-CARE and the Central Florida Behavioral Health Network



Kyaieen Connor



Kristin Kosyluk



■ **A Strengths-Based Approach to Addressing Racial Challenges Impacting Black Students.**

PI: Ruby Joseph
Community Partner: Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa, Inc.

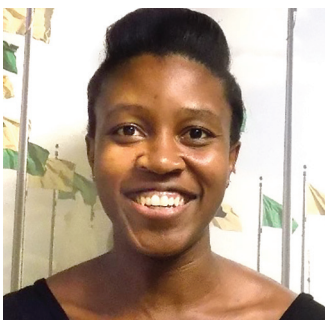


■ **Challenges to Engagement with Parent Education and Early Childhood Programming in a Historically Black Neighborhood.**

PIs: Elizabeth Hordge-Freeman, Anna Abella, **Kyaien Conner**, **Monica Landers**, and Ronee Wilson
Community Partner: Champions for Children



Kyaien Conner



Monica Landers

■ **The Impact of Mentoring on Persistence, Resilience, and Success Outcomes of Black Women Academics.**

PIs: Tanetha Fisher, Deirdre Cobb-Roberts and Kyaien Conner
Community Partner: The Florida Education Fund and The McKnight Foundation

■ **Statement on Institutionalized Racism from the Criminal Justice Faculty at Bethune-Cookman University, and the Criminology Faculty at the University of South Florida**

In the context of recent tragic events, the Faculty of Criminal Justice at Bethune-Cookman University and the Faculty from the Department of Criminology at USF issue a joint statement on Institutionalized Racism. These two departments have previously come together to respond to the under-representation of African Americans in the field of criminology and criminal justice with the establishment of an enhanced access entry program for African American students into USF's criminology graduate program. Bethune-Cookman committed to pay a stipend for one of its African American criminal justice graduates to attend USF's criminology graduate program. In exchange, USF provided a tuition waiver and other expenses, and a scholarship to complete the final year of the Ph.D. program. USF also established a dedicated mentoring program for the selected student. As part of this experience, the student in the program agreed to return to Bethune-Cookman upon graduation to serve as a faculty member there for a period of two years to teach in an historically-Black institution.

To date, the first student in that program has completed an MA degree, and is entering the third year of the Ph.D. program. In the meantime, a second Bethune-Cookman student has also joined the program. While it is too early to speak of the successes of the students or the program, our departments hope that our initial project and experiences can be used to attract outside donor support for this initiative to further enhance access to doctoral education in criminology and criminal justice for African Americans.

Development/Fundraising

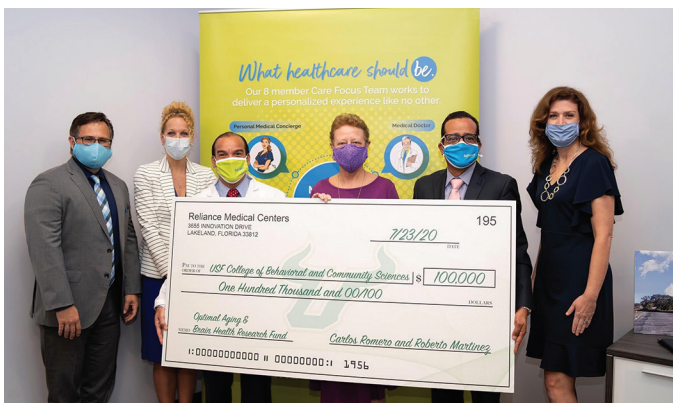
Child & Family Studies - Virtual Fiesta by the Bay for Autism: Fun from Home!

Although the Center for Autism & Related Disabilities at USF (CARD-USF) had to cancel Fiesta by the Bay for Autism due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, they welcomed sponsors, donors, friends and ticket holders for an online gathering via Zoom on Friday, May 8th.



Communication Sciences & Disorders - Reliance Medical Centers Supports USF Optimal Aging and Brain Health Research Fund

Reliance Medical Centers generously supported the USF Optimal Aging and Brain Health Research Fund at the University of South Florida and created the USF-Reliance Optimal Aging Research Laboratory, an in-house research facility at its Lakeland location.



Child & Family Studies - CARD-USF receives \$30,000 through Lightning Community Hero Program

On Saturday, March 20, the Center for Autism and Related Disabilities at the University of South Florida (CARD-USF) Constituency Board member, Rachel Barcellona, was named a 2021 Lightning Community Hero for her continued efforts in community outreach, autism advocacy and disability inclusion.





UNIVERSITY of
SOUTH FLORIDA

**College of Behavioral &
Community Sciences**

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