

PERSPECTIVE

SUMMER 2020

Bright Spots!

In the midst of extreme challenges, students, faculty, and alumnae are driving change in our communities.



**SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**

**PERSPECTIVE
SUMMER 2020**

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Inspire U Zoom session

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Laura Kohn-Wood

Dean, School of Education and Human Development

From the Dean

My Bright Spots

I confess it is hard to find bright spots to discern as we are still in the midst of a virus pandemic as the world is growing increasingly aware of the pandemic of racism that has plagued our country for 401 years. There is a great deal of change and uncertainty, in addition to conditions that are difficult for humans to tolerate. Within this reality, however, there are indeed some incredible moments of accomplishments and events that can give us great hope for the future.

Early in the COVID-19 fight, through the generosity of one of our devoted alumni, Gary Shaw, the School of Education and Human Development (SEHD) was able to donate hundreds of masks and face shields to UHealth healthcare providers. You can read more about him in this edition. We celebrated the well-deserved promotions to full professor for two of our amazing faculty members, Dr. Wendy Morrison-Cavendish in Teaching and Learning, and Dr. Kysha Harriell in Kinesiology and Sport Sciences.

At the end of the term, despite the postponement of UM Commencement Ceremonies, we held our annual graduation awards ceremony via Zoom on May 8. Our top student graduates, both undergraduate and graduate, were lauded and launched into their futures. These top students are also highlighted in this edition. The previous night, I was impressed and inspired as I heard our intrepid group of honors students present their individual research, completed despite having to pivot to online mid-semester. Our student scholars described their faculty advised research projects that ranged from an investigation of millennial dating behavior via online apps, to a study comparing weight reduction strategies, to an evaluation

of math pedagogy for elementary students. The research of these amazing students, reflects the breadth and depth of the scholarship and expertise in the School, across physical, psychological and educational domains.

Another bright spot for me, was learning about the activities of an amazing teacher in our community, Mr. Kelsey Major. Mr. Major, fortunately for us, chose to get his Master's degree in our Department of Teaching and Learning as part of Drs. Avalos and Morrison-Cavendish's incredible SEALED (Supporting Educators' Academic Literacies and Enhanced Discourse) grant. This grant, in partnership with Miami-Dade County Schools, provided the opportunity for 120 diverse teachers to come to UM to learn and practice culturally responsive instruction for student engagement. Mr. Major's efforts to help his middle school speech and debate class engage in civic advocacy for an issue they cared about deeply, mass shootings at schools and religious institutions, were impressive.

Speaking of civic advocacy, the events of recent weeks that have highlighted persistent and systemic racism that permeates all aspects of our society have emphasized the need for us, as a School, to be part of the transformational change that is long overdue. I invite you to join us as we engage in a digital series of dialogues, "Time for Change" where we will try to elucidate how racism has impacted health, mental health, education and sport – areas where we have considerable expertise – and conclude with our expertise in social transformation to determine specific action steps we as a school can engage in to move toward actual change. Details will be shared with our School's community of students, faculty, staff, community partners, alumni and friends. I know that this is a time of change; difficult, scary and uncertain. We are experiencing change within our School that reflects the fear, anxiety, and trauma in the world. We are not immune. But, I hope that within this time of change, just like here at the SEHD, you are able to find moments of breath, moments of purpose, and bright spots to allow you to hold on to strong hope for a better future.

All my best,

Laura Kohn-Wood

Laura Kohn-Wood



Help the School of Education and Human Development change lives and create opportunities. Make a gift today at: <https://sites.education.miami.edu/give> or call 305-284-5038.

Shining Stars!

Top students making an impact on individuals, families, and communities.



Outstanding Undergraduate Achievement Award


Research and medicine are career priorities for Gabriela Aklepi, who graduated with a bachelor's of science degree in exercise physiology with minors in chemistry, social science, and medicine. "I will be attending the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine this fall," she said. "Exercise physiology provides a great foundation for medicine, and I recommend it to other pre-med students."

A Miami native, Aklepi became interested in health and nutrition at an early age, as she has two sisters with type one diabetes. "My second-grade teacher was Dr. Miriam Lipsky, who suggested medicine would be a great career for me," she said. "It was a real pleasure reconnecting with her as an undergraduate here."

For the past four years, Aklepi has been working in the SEHD Neuro-Cognitive Kinesiology Laboratory under the guidance of Professor Brian Arwari. This spring she conducted research on a possible correlation between screentime usage and cognitive ability using a tracking application.

Aklepi has been active on campus and in the community. She served on the Alpha Epsilon Delta Executive Board and created meaningful programming for students of various faith traditions as a Bronfman Interfaith Entrepreneurship Fellow. With Dr. Lipsky, she developed a program, "Getting to Know You," where students talked about their faiths and cultural backgrounds.

But her greatest passion is supporting Camp Kesem, a free sleep-away camp for children whose parents have or have had cancer. She has served as a counselor and co-director of the Miami Chapter, raising more than \$130,000 as development coordinator.

"We provide year-round support as well as two summer camp sessions," she said. "It's a great opportunity for them to have fun and connect with other children in similar situations." 




Department of Educational & Psychological Studies Award

Julia Siegel credits the diverse experiences and perspectives of her professors and peers with providing an outstanding educational experience. She graduated with a major in human and social development (HSD), and minors in psychology and exercise physiology, and will begin a doctoral program in occupational therapy at Tufts University this summer.

"Throughout my time as an HSD student, I had many memorable moments," she said, citing a listening and helping skills course led by doctoral candidate Samantha Lang. "We had great role plays, where one student was a therapist and the other was a client. This was definitely a stand-out class."

Professor Dina Birman served as her faculty mentor for a research team studying the healthcare experiences of people with disabilities, and helped develop disability-specific training modules for providers.

Siegel says she realized her career goal would be occupational therapy when she worked as a teacher's aide in a special education classroom in high school. As an undergraduate she volunteered as a tutor at Branches South Miami, a non-profit organization that provides after-school academic support for children affected by generational poverty. She also gained neurodevelopmental disability training at the UM Debbie School, an early intervention preschool on the medical school campus.

Siegel also served as president and vice president of the Human and Social Development Student Organization. "At the School of Education and Human Development, I gained leadership skills, and learned to collaborate successfully with individuals of varying work styles," she said. "I know this will serve me well in graduate school and beyond." 

Shining Stars!, cont.



Department of Kinesiology & Sport Sciences Award

Good nutrition and a healthy lifestyle are vital in preventing disease, says Delaney Shaw, who earned a bachelor's of science degree in exercise physiology with minors in chemistry and psychology. She plans to pursue her interest in preventative care in a Master of Science in Human Nutrition program at Columbia University and a future career in medicine.

"I have always been interested in science, but it wasn't until I enrolled in 'Applied Nutrition for Health and Performance' that I discovered my true passion," she said. "The class was rich with scientific content and highly applicable to creating healthy human populations. I soon decided that preventative healthcare is where I belong."

A Florida native, Shaw practices yoga, and shares healthy plant-based recipes on her blog, "Delaney Eats." She has volunteered in a mobile clinic servicing indigenous communities in Tena, Ecuador, shadowed several physicians, and is currently co-authoring a manuscript reviewing the efficacy of 26 nutritional interventions for treatment of Alzheimer's dementia.

Shaw says Professor Wesley Smith played a critical role in her educational journey, outlining the basic tenets of exercise physiology, encouraging her to pursue her interests, and guiding her in the honors research program.

"I believe my understanding of preventative medicine will provide my future patients with the best care possible," Shaw said. "This healthcare is the future of medicine in addressing chronic diseases and quality of life, and I am ecstatic to be on the forefront of this movement." 📧



Department of Teaching & Learning Award

During her undergraduate studies in the Department of Teaching and Learning, Bonnie Stright devoted many hours to working with children. "I believe there is nothing more fulfilling than watching children reach their full potential," said Stright, who graduated with a bachelor of science in elementary and special education and a bachelor of arts in psychology. She now plans to pursue a dual degree master's program in social work and education at the University of Pennsylvania.

Stright grew up in a Philadelphia suburb, and wanted to try something new for college. "I wanted to go somewhere really diverse," she said. "I really love UM because it is next to a big city, with its own beautiful campus."

At first, Stright wasn't sure what to study, but after taking "Teaching 101," she was hooked. "I always wanted to work with children," she said. "It is the most influential thing in the world. Besides their parents and caretakers, teachers are the ones who are most influential since we spend so much time with them. Besides teaching them, we guide them through life."

At UM, Stright participated in Student Government and the Future Educators Association. She also worked as a summer counselor at Camp Kesem, helping children affected by cancer. Ana Menda, assistant professor of professional practice, said Stright was a "dedicated scholar" and student leader.

Stright chose to do her student teaching at Tropical Elementary School, because the student population of the school included many students for whom English was a second language. Many also were eligible for free lunch. "I wanted to be in a diverse environment," she said. "It was tiring, but I had the best time of my life." 📧

Virtual Awards Ceremony

When the School of Education and Human Development recognized its top student scholars on May 8, there was plenty of applause, hugs, and shouts – from a distance. For the first time the School's annual award ceremony was a virtual event, with students, faculty, family members, and friends watching from their homes.

"Today, we are honoring the best and brightest of our graduates," said Dean Laura Kohn-Wood. "In these uncertain times, rituals are important, as they give meaning to our lives."

"We congratulate all our award recipients, as well as our outstanding faculty and staff," said Kohn-Wood. "Our students are all determined to have an impact on our society. Go Canes!"



Alvarez



Attong-Mendes



Black



Cancio



Carbonel



Cassaday



Davenport



Early



Greaney



Grimstad



Huynh

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Outstanding Undergraduate Achievement Award
Gabriela Aklepi

Department of Educational & Psychological Studies Award
Julia Siegel

Department of Kinesiology & Sport Sciences Award
Delaney Shaw

Department of Teaching & Learning Award
Bonnie Stright

Maxine B. Wishart Agent of Change Award
Marissa Steinberg

Research Honors Program

Eloise Davenport
Alyssa Greaney
Grace Migliozi
Cailin Murphy

Dean's Ambassadors, Honorary Association

Eloise Davenport
Alexandra Kaleel
Cole Southworth
Andrew Taggart
Jake Teplitzky
Cameron Vasfalo

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL & PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES

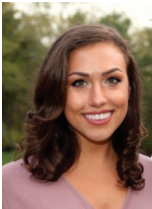
Award for Excellence in Human and Social Development
Sade Prithwie

Carolyn S. Garwood Award for Service
Kiet Huynh

Outstanding Master's Student in Community and Social Change
Raisa Sequeira, Cecily Alvarez



Lang



Migliozi



Murphy



Prithwie



Sacowicz



Seeley



Sequeira



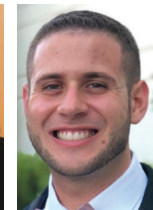
Smith



Steinberg



Torres



Totillo



Walson

Outstanding Master's Student in Higher Education
Yolanda Black

Outstanding Doctoral Student in Counseling Psychology
Samantha Long

DEPARTMENT OF TEACHING & LEARNING

Excellence in Student Teaching Award
Alexandra Gonzalez (ELEDs)
Marissa Steinberg (ELEDs)
Katherine Attong-Mendes (Music)

Outstanding Master's Student in Education and Social Change
Guillermo Cancio

Outstanding Master's Student in Early Childhood and Special Education
Massiel Torres

Outstanding Master's Student in Special Education
Michael Sakowicz

Outstanding Doctoral Student in Teaching and Learning
Dr. Sharon Smith

DEPARTMENT OF KINESIOLOGY & SPORT SCIENCES

Award for Excellence in Athletic Training
Bret Cassaday

Award for Excellence in Exercise Physiology
Francis Walson

Award for Excellence in Sport Administration
Renate Grimstad

Award for Outstanding Master's Student in Exercise Physiology – Clinical Track
Matthew Totillo

Award for Outstanding Master's Student in Exercise Physiology – Nutrition Track
Alexander Carbonel

Award for Outstanding Master's Student in Exercise Physiology – Strength & Conditioning Track
Chi Ho (Aska) Cheung

Outstanding Doctoral Student in Exercise Physiology
Afton Seeley

Dr. Harry Mallios Award for Outstanding Master's Student in Sport Administration
Iva Early

Beth Harry Retires | TAL Professor honored for her many contributions

“Professor Beth Harry brings a unique perspective to special education. Her daughter Melinda had a childhood disability that claimed her life at an early age. She co-founded a school in Trinidad that became a model for special education in the Caribbean, and she has conducted groundbreaking research on cultural and educational attitudes toward disabilities.

“It’s been a very rewarding career at the University of Miami,” said Harry, who is retiring in May after 25 years in the School of Education and Human Development (SEHD), including five years as chair of the Department of Teaching and Learning (TAL).

“Special education is a broad field that includes learning issues and behavioral challenges, as well as physical disabilities,” said Harry. “I tell our students to avoid labels and treat every child as an individual. Look for their strengths, and they can surprise you with their abilities.”

Harry’s daughter Melanie was born in 1975 in Trinidad and Tobago with cerebral palsy. “We had a wonderful six years together,” said Harry, who chronicled that experience in “Melanie, Bird with a Broken Wing: A Mother’s Story.” In 1978, she teamed with other educators and therapists to launch the Immortelle Center for Special Education in Port of Spain, taking the name of a shade tree in Trinidad. The school grew from 12 to more than 70 students and eventually received support from the government as well as from private sources.

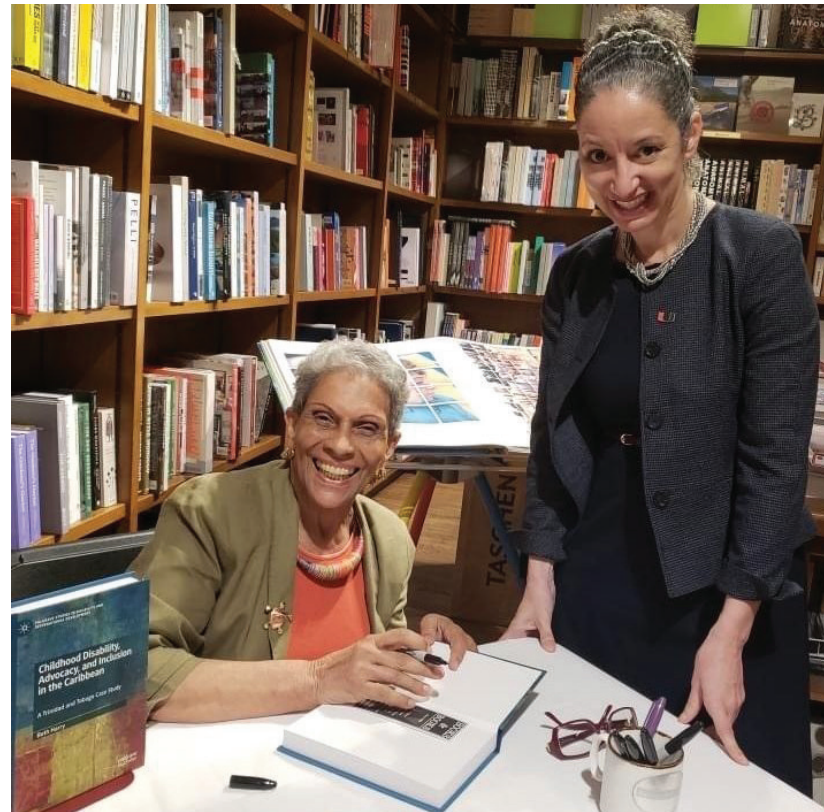
Since joining the SEHD faculty in

1995, Harry’s research has focused on special education for children and families from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds. Her studies have included Puerto Ricans, African-Americans, and other cultural groups.

In 2002, she served as a member of the National Academy of Sciences’ panel to study the disproportionate placement of minority students in special education. A year later, she received a Fulbright award to do research on Moroccan children’s schooling in Spain at the University of Seville.

“My academic research has given me wonderful opportunities to write,” said Harry, who has completed more than 10 books, including a seminal publication on Puerto Rican parents’ cultural views on disability.

In February, Harry introduced her latest book, “Childhood Disability, Advocacy, and Inclusion in the Caribbean: A Trinidad and Tobago Case Study,” at a Books & Books event in Coral Gables. “It’s a combination of an



ethnographic study and memoir,” said Harry. “It incorporates perspectives from students, parents, service providers, and community leaders.” Harry recently finished another book on parent advocacy, written with doctoral student Lidia Ocasio-Stoutenberg, due to be published this spring.

Harry says she plans to stay active in her field as a researcher and advocate for children with special needs. “We still have a long way to go,” she said. “That’s one reason why our TAL program is so important for training our future teachers.” ■

Inspire U Academy Changes Students' Lives



For eight years, Inspire U Academy, housed in the School of Education and Human Development (SEHD), has been changing students' lives. Undergraduate mentors from the University of Miami are paired with students with college aspirations from Booker T. Washington Senior High School, opening the door to academic success in college and beyond.

“About 90 percent of each year's high school seniors go on to college,” said Wendy Cavendish, faculty director of Inspire U Academy, professor in residence at Booker T. Washington Senior High School, and professor and interim chair of the Department of Teaching and Learning. “All are first-generation college students who benefit greatly from the relationships developed in Inspire U.”

“After the shift to online learning in mid-March, mentors continued to stay in close touch with their mentees through texts, social media posts, and phone conversations,” said Cavendish. “Later, we mailed graduation cards and cords to the seniors.”

About 25 high school students and 25 SEHD undergraduates participated in the 2019-2020 program, which was guided by two graduate student coordinators: Lydia Ocasio-Stoutenburg, a 2020 inductee in the University of Miami Chapter, Yale Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society; and Deborah Perez, who received the 2020 Academic Excellence Leadership and Service Award (AELS) from the UM Graduate Student Association.

Cavendish said this spring Inspire U Academy was granted UM student organization status, and Peterson will continue to serve as the first president next year. “Through the years, Inspire U has been a deeply meaningful experiences for our undergraduates, as well as Booker T's high school students,” said Cavendish. “It's a program that lifts all the participants on their academic journeys.”

Inspire U Academy's award-winning 2019-2020 undergraduate mentors included:

Asha Wedemeier-Allen (Class of '20)

2020 Recipient of the University of Miami's Vice President's Award for Service, Butler Center for Service and Leadership.

Herveline Saintil (Class of '20)

Admitted into Memorial Healthcare's Nurse Residency program with a scholarship.

Kimberly De Jesus (Class of '20)

Her thesis was selected as one of the winning works for the Undergraduate Media Management Association Awards.

Dynesha Peterson (Class of '21)

Tapped into Iron Arrow Society, Spring 2020 Class. She has also received a Capitol Hill Day Grant, which supports athletic training students to advocate for diversity in Washington, D.C.

Godard Solomon (Class of '21)

Tapped into Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society for the Fall 2020 and has been chosen as vice-president for the honor society in the 2020-2021 academic year.

Miles Pendleton (Class of '21)

Tapped into Mortar Board and Gamma Sigma Alpha Honor Societies and elected president of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, UM Chapter. He also was nominated as co-chair of the University's Standing Committee on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

Teresa Vazquez (Class of '24)

Earned President's Honor Roll; inducted into Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society; secured a research assistant position in UM's CAMAT Lab, and elected to the 2020-2021 Student Government ECO Agency's Green Committee.



Teaching with Compassion

Ashmeet Oberoi Honored with Excellence in Civic Engagement Award

As she started her Psychosocial Well-Being class online in the middle of the spring semester, Ashmeet Oberoi, assistant professor of professional practice at the School of Education and Human Development, asked all her students how they were doing and whether or not anything had changed since their last class.

One student revealed that she was the caretaker of two relatives who lived with her and that it may be difficult for her to remain throughout the entire class. Oberoi said she understood and thanked the student for feeling comfortable to

share that information.

Compassionate. Transparent. Kind. These words are often used to describe Oberoi. She is the director of the Community and Social Change master's degree program and believes that treating students like they have a full life outside the classroom is crucial and enhances the academic experience.

"Someone once told me that as a teacher one can either be respected or liked," said Oberoi. "That did not sound right to me. I wanted a third option. The third option is leading with care and compassionate understanding."

She opted for the third option and it has paid off. This year she received the University of Miami's Excellence in Civic Engagement Award for her outstanding work in engaging students through academic service-learning courses and community-based research. She was also nominated by her graduate students for the Faculty Mentor of the Year award by the Graduate School.

"Dr. Oberoi's dedication to ensuring her students learning is exemplary," said Laura Kohn Wood, dean of the School of Education and Human Development. "She reflects the best of the values of the field of community psychology. And that is to ensure that research and learning is relevant for addressing real-world problems and training students to develop a tool kit for enhancing individual and community well-being."

Born in New Delhi, India, Oberoi grew up in a middle-class family that valued education. She received both her undergraduate and graduate degrees from Lady Irwin College—Delhi University. But it was her immigration to Chicago, Illinois, with her husband that defined her and set her on the road to issues of social justice. "I thought I was very secure in myself and sure of what I was, but a lot of the experiences challenged me. And I had to redefine who I was," she said.

Several incidents in her new homeland rattled her. Oberoi took classes at Loyola University, where her husband worked, and vividly remembers how one professor would ask her to repeat everything she said, implying that her English was not understandable. When she wore some flashy jewelry with her dresses, she noticed strange glances from other classmates. *cont., on pg. 17*

Dedicated 'Cane Steve Bashore Elected to Oklahoma Legislature

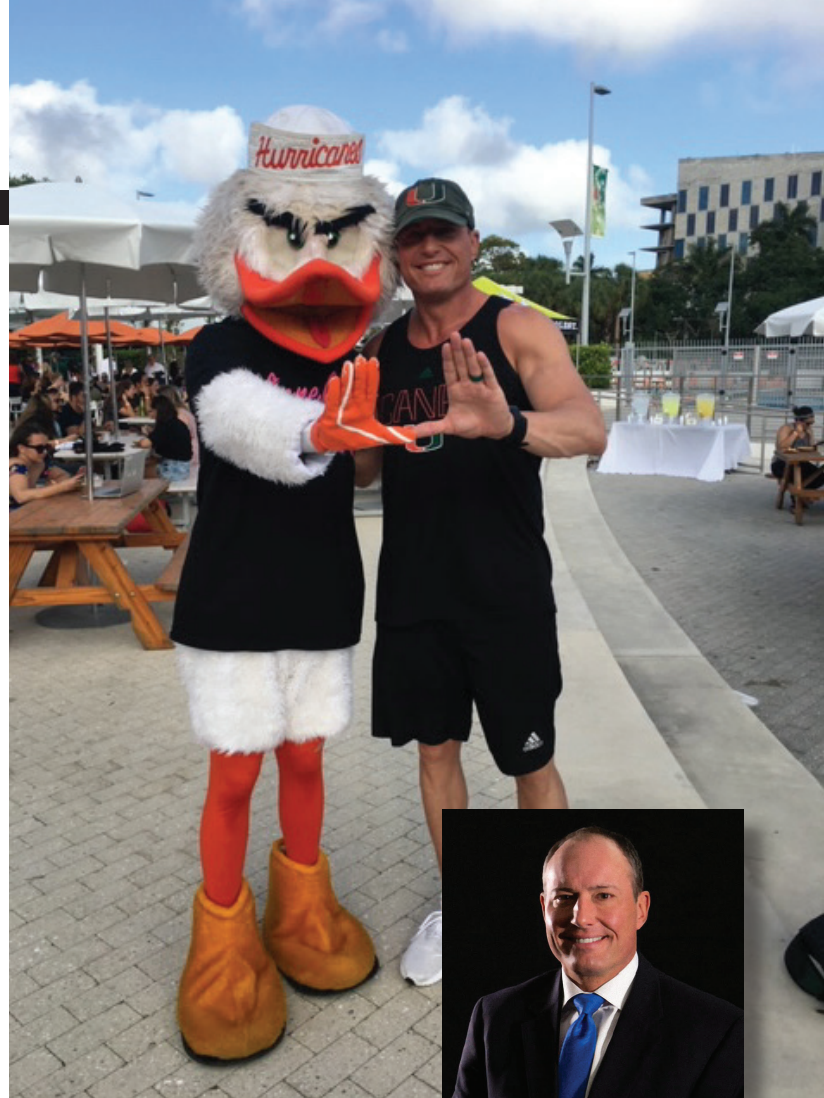
Growing up in Oklahoma, Steve Bashore, M.Ed. '16, became a fan of the Miami Hurricanes at a young age. "I played baseball through high school, and my dad and I always watched the College World Series, where the Hurricanes kept showing up," he said. "Then, I saw coaches like Jimmy Johnson, Larry Coker, Len Hamilton and Dave Wannstedt leave Oklahoma for Miami, and I wanted to go, too."

But after earning his undergraduate degree at Oklahoma State University, Bashore had to put that dream on hold for two decades. He became active in the professional boxing sector, earned a master's degree in 1998 and a year later became director of a newly created state boxing agency. "At the time, Oklahoma was only doing about one pro boxing event a year," he said. "I saw the benefits of the sport, and the opportunities it offered our state, so I began reaching out to promoters and fighters."

In that process, Bashore met Gary Shaw, B.Ed. '69, who was serving as chairman of the New Jersey Athletic Control Board, and the two soon became friends. "After Gary formed Gary Shaw Productions, a promotional company, he brought our first world title fight to Oklahoma with a worldwide TV audience," Bashore said. "Gary is one of the most ethical people I know, and he always wants to do the right thing for everyone in the sport."

After that success, Bashore was hired to run the Buffalo Run Casino & Resort, a tribal entertainment destination located in Miami, Oklahoma. Meanwhile, Bashore never gave up on his dream of becoming a 'Cane. When the Department of Kinesiology and Sport Sciences (KIN) in the School of Education and Human Development launched a new online graduate Sport Administration program in 2014, Bashore was quick to enroll after talking with Associate Professor Sue Mullane, director of the undergraduate Sport Administration program.

"My marketing, management and financial experience as general manager of the casino was great preparation me for the program," Bashore said. "I learned new things from all my classes. It was like getting an MBA with the word 'sports' attached to the program." When Bashore married in 2019 in



Miami, his first professor, Tywan Martin, was best man, and other KIN faculty members attended as well.

In the past five years, Bashore has been an active supporter of the school, serving with Shaw on the executive board of the UM Sport Industry Leadership Council and assisting with the annual student Sports Ethics Debates. "Steve was a model student in our program and continues to be a great fan of our university," Mullane said.

This spring, Bashore added another dimension to his career, as he was elected without opposition to Oklahoma's Legislature from State House District 7. "As state representative, my mission will be to serve the people," Bashore wrote to his new constituents.

Meanwhile, Bashore plans to maintain his close ties to UM, including serving as chair of the Sport Industry Leadership Council. "Being accepted into a rigorous and highly respected academic institution was an honor, and being an alumnus is an even greater honor," he said. "I love wearing those orange, green, and white colors, and am very proud to be a graduate of the University of Miami. Go 'Canes!" 🦆

CLASS NOTES

William Zimmerman, M.Ed. '61, Ed.D. '63, is retired and living in his hometown of Keene, NH. He served 31 years as superintendent of schools (Hanover, NH and Wayland, Mass), was senior associate with the New England School Development Council, and professor and chairman of Educational Administration and later dean of the Graduate School at Northeastern University. He has continued his avocational music performance (trombone and trumpet) ranging from civic symphony orchestras to traditional New Orleans-style jazz bands. He attributes his successful career to outstanding professors at UM's School of Education in the early 1960s.

Roger Shatanof, M.Ed. '64, served 34 years in Miami-Dade County Public Schools as principal of West Dunbar, Auburndale, and lastly at Neva King Cooper, a center for the profoundly mentally handicapped. He has been married to a fellow 'Cane, Bobi, for 60 years, and has written two books, "Memoir of A Big City Principal" and "The Many Joys of Travel or How We Managed to Escape Alive." The Shatanofs have two children and six grandchildren and live in Coral Gables. Go 'Canes!

Randy Ogren, B.Ed. '72, a Walt Disney management artist in the 1970s, worked with three other artists on all the figures, Audio-Animatronics, sets and props for all the attractions at Walt Disney World. He has been a self-employed artist and author since 1980. His paintings hang in museums, businesses and homes worldwide. For Sebastian's 50th anniversary, Ogren painted the ibis in green and orange top hat and tails that now hangs in Sebastian's Cafe in the Newman Alumni Center. With his wife Suzanne, he wrote three books on their careers at Walt Disney World in the early decades. "Together in the Dream," "Remembering the Magic," and "Imagination and Dreams Are Forever" are now in the Bruce and Robbi Toll Library, along with his book "The Design of Fear." In 1980, Ogren created the second-generation Sebastian costume character who rode in the open convertible with Coach Howard Schnellenberger for the 1983 National Championship parade in Coral Gables. For creating this costumed character and starting the UM Alumni club in Orlando, Ogren received the 1981 University of Miami Alumni Outstanding Service Award. His painting "First on the Moon," which he completed while a student at the

university, hangs in the Armstrong Air and Space Museum in Ohio. Ogren continues to create commissioned paintings in his home studio in Aurora, Illinois, and does weekly Facebook acrylic painting podcasts.

Michelle Sinclair, M.Ed. '73, is a retired Miami-Dade County Public Schools guidance counselor and received a master's degree in pastoral ministries from St Thomas University.

Lena Sheffield, A.B. '77, M.Ed. '81, experienced a variety of roles in the mental health field from clinical hospital work leading to 10 years as administrative director for the Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at Miami Children's Hospital (now Nicholas Children's Hospital). She spent more than 10 years traveling around the U.S., teaching and advocating for the eating disorders and substance use disorder fields, along with providing clinical in-home services in Miami. Most recently, she has been in private practice psychotherapy and is an online instructor for Sober College School of Addiction Studies. "I am very appreciative of the education I received in my graduate program and long-term relationships with other UM alums," she said.

Colleen Mattiso, B.Ed. '89, addressed the challenges of virtual learning this spring as an educator in Blount County, Tennessee, "When given days to respond from having students attend school to immediately switching to virtual learning, it was like preparing for a hurricane," she said. "I was privileged to watch our educators alongside district personnel move immediately into continuation of learning and caring for each of our students and their families. Through this difficult year, the district has not wavered from our mission: to care, love and serve.

Galia Pennekamp, M.Ed. '93, became an entrepreneur and a Certified Professional Coach in 2019. Her company, "Something In Common," supports professionals who are yearning for more freedom, more satisfaction, deeper relationships, and support while they make their already good life better!

Carlos Viera, M.Ed. '96, serves as manager for management consulting at Accenture. He also serves the board of directors of the Greater Miami Society for college relations. He was on the board

Human Resource Management as chair of directors of Doctors Charter School as EESAC Chair from 2018 to 2020, and was director, planning, policy analysis and grant program support from 2015 to 2019.

Andrew (Jared) Bucker, Ph.D. '01, and Jennifer Halpern (now Bucker) M.Ed. '98, both attended UM from 1996-2001. Now, Jennifer is a senior-level IT engineer at Next Era Energy and Jared is an associate professor and Institutional Review Board representative at Nova Southeastern University's Fischler College of Education and School of Criminal Justice. Jared's research has produced 55 published, scientific, peer-reviewed papers, including national and International presentations, which primarily involve the use of technology in teaching and learning, particularly related to educational assessment. Both Jennifer and Jared obtained their Microsoft Systems Engineering Certification (M.C.S.E) while at UM. They live in Jupiter, Florida, with their two children. "We loved our time at UM, as it has provided a wonderful life for their family," they wrote. "One day we hope to retire and live in Israel, but in the meanwhile are blessed to run a food bank with our local Chabad Schliach (emissary). Thank you, UM!"

Sean Kilpatrick, A.B. '06, M.Ed. '09, took a new role recently as the executive director of the University of Miami's new one-stop shop, 'Canes Central. "We were originally slated for a May 4 soft launch but were asked to expedite our opening to April 6 to support the institution with COVID-19 operations," he said. "It's always been a great honor to work at my alma mater, and it has been awesome to help during this tough time."

Martin Reid, Ed.S. '10, is principal at Arthur and Polly Mays Conservatory of the Arts. His recognitions include 2016 Magnet Schools of America National Principal of the Year, 2019 Miami-Dade Public Schools South Region Office Principal of the Year and 2019 Miami-Dade Public Schools District Runner-Up-Principal of the Year.

Natalia Vanegas, B.Sc. '10, M.Ed. '16, currently works as district chief of staff at the Office of U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Mucarsel-Powell. She has been working very hard on a daily basis to providing help to the community in Florida's 26th Congressional District.

Karen Davis, M.Ed. '13, is a grade 6-12 educator who has been teaching remotely since March 13. "I have found the boundless creativity from artists, students, and singers all around the world to be inspiring and great to bring into the classroom," she said. "I thank Zoom for creating Breakout Rooms which has served all my students well and has upped the ante on collaboration. As someone who enjoys time in my home office, researching topics, writing, and planning, I've not felt excluded, but included in new groups. I just wish our Cohort 3 was online. It would be great to Zoom with you all! I miss you."

Jesse Kasser, M.Ed. '14, was promoted to director of athletics development at the University of South Carolina Athletics Department.

Joseph Yancey, CEDM '17, has worked for the University of Miami since 2015. He was recently selected to present the topic "Charting a Course to SMS Success: Implementing Mobile Text Messaging for Prospective Students" at Higher Education Summit 2020. In March, he became systems administrator (UMIT) supporting UOnline, University of Miami's fully online education platform.

Angel Soto, B.Ed. '19, works with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Miami as a program specialist. "During the pandemic, I've transitioned to our community operations team serving food to the community and taking care of the students in our program," he said. "Check us out on the local news."

Gary Shaw Gives Back to the U in Time of Need

Gary Shaw, B.Ed. '69, understands the importance of protecting the University of Miami Health System's nurses and doctors on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic. On April 8, Shaw and his wife Judy delivered 150 face shields, which add an extra layer of protection for first responders, to The Lennar Foundation Medical Center. A week later he delivered an additional 50 shields – this time with the U insignia – to Laura Kohn-Wood, dean of the School of Education and Human Development (SEHD).


"Our message to the first responders is clear," Shaw said. "We're here for you, we appreciate you, we love you."

Shaw's contributions to South Florida first-responders didn't stop at the U. He also donated shields to the Miami Police Department, which inspired his grandson to use the money he had saved from his allowance to buy shields for the police in Bridgewater, New Jersey. And to provide a positive experience for residents sheltering at home for weeks, he organized a balcony concert series in his Edgewater community.

A longtime leader in the professional boxing world as founder of Gary Shaw Productions, Shaw is a dedicated supporter of the Sport Administration Program in the Department of Kinesiology and Sport Sciences (KIN). He is a member of the SEHD's Sport Industry Leadership Council and serves as a judge for the annual Sports Ethics Debate program. He has also given volunteer lectures that inspire students in the classroom.

But with COVID-19 still a public health threat, Shaw says it will take time for both college classes and sports competitions to return to normal. "We know that COVID-19 is dangerous, and that wearing a mask can help prevent transmission of the virus," he said. "So, there will be a continued need for online learning, at least to some degree."

Looking ahead, Shaw says many high school students want to enroll at a university with winning sports teams, like the University of Miami. "I hope we can retain sports as part of the college experience," he said. "Plus, you can learn so much about life by living in a dorm room with other students."

Meanwhile, Shaw encourages other SEHD alums to show their support for their alma mater in this time of need. "I am an alumnus trying to do whatever he can to help – both at the U and in the community," Shaw said. "I enjoy giving back more than I enjoy receiving." 





Sport Industry Conference Draws 400+ Attendees

From the Super Bowl to basketball, soccer and esports, the fifth annual University of Miami School of Education and Human Development's (SEHD) Sport Industry Conference offered a variety of learning and networking opportunities to UM students. "Our conference is growing in its influence," said Erin McNary, assistant professor in the Department of Kinesiology and Sport Sciences at the SEHD and organizer of the event. "It gives our Sport Administration students a forum to discuss pressing issues in the field including human trafficking, sustainability and social media."

More than 400 students, alumni and industry professionals attended the information-packed January 28 conference at the UM Shalala Student Center, attracting speakers and visitors who were in Miami for Super Bowl LIV on February 2 at Hard Rock Stadium. "There is value to everything here at the conference," said UM Athletic Director Blake James. "Start building your personal brand, reach out to other attendees, and stay in touch with our university."

AN UPDATE ON ESPORTS In the first conference session, David Higdon, global head of communications for Riot Games' esports division, outlined the rapid growth in the evolving world of video game sports competitions. Riot Games is the developer and publisher of the popular game, "League of Legends."

Esports appeal to fans around the world, but different games attract different audiences and have different business models, Higdon said. "Ours is a five-player team game, and each of the players has certain roles," he said. "Our champions are athletes with exceptional hand-eye coordination."

As for a business model, League of Legends is free to play, with multiple in app purchase options, like costumes, for each player. Riot Games has also built corporate partnerships, with high-profile brands like Mercedes Benz, Gillette, Nike and Luis Vuitton, which designed a costume for the Kiana character as well as real world clothes for players.

THE NFL PLAYERS PERSPECTIVE From salaries to licensing rights to safety issues, the National Football League Players Association (NFLPA) represents the interests of active

and former athletes. During Super Bowl week, the NFLPA coordinated player appearances for the Kansas City Chiefs and San Francisco Forty-Niners, giving fans a chance to meet their heroes in person.

“Our union is dedicated to helping our players while making things better for the next generation,” said NFLPA president Eric Winston, BA ’05, who played 12 years in the NFL after his career with the Hurricanes. “Our collective bargaining contract with the NFL owners expires in 2020, so that is a priority this year.”

Another NFLPA initiative focuses on how players can best transition from football into the next phase of their lives. “That might mean finishing up a college degree program and developing business and financial skills,” said Winston. “We tell retiring players that they have finished their first career and need to think about the rest of their life.”

THE GLOBALIZATION OF BASKETBALL Basketball is one of the fastest growing sports in the Americas and around the world. Today, there are 450 million men and women athletes affiliated with the International Basketball Federation (FIBA), according to Carlos Alves, executive director and CEO of FIBA Americas.

“We are a nonprofit organizing everything from the Olympic Games to youth leagues,” he said. “Our mission is to develop and promote the sport of basketball, and we have 43 federations in the Americas from Canada to Argentina.”

A FIRESIDE CHAT WITH BORIS GARTNER How does a Spanish soccer league crack into the North American market? For La Liga, the answer was finding the right television and digital partner, and working hard to develop a presence in key Hispanic markets.

In a conversation with Adam White, CEO, Front Office Sports, Boris Gartner, CEO, La Liga, North America, outlined the strategy for the Spanish league whose premier clubs include Real Madrid and FC Barcelona.

After opening a US office in 2019 with a domestic partner, the league reached a deal with Sling TV. La Liga also built a content studio producing weekly shows distributed on a digital platform using hyper targeting tactics to reach audiences, including second- and third-generation Hispanics who prefer content in Spanish. La Liga is also taking a hyperlocal approach with events in key markets, such as a deal with a Spanish restaurant in New York City to broadcast matches on the big screen.

TRAFFICKING, SPORTS, AND THE SPIKE A panel of seven women addressed the human trafficking that surrounds

large sporting and entertainment events, such as the Super Bowl, in “Trafficking, Sports, and the Spike.” As co-chair of the Miami Super Bowl Host Committee/Women’s Fund of Miami-Dade Official Stop Sex Trafficking Campaign, McNary thanked the many nonprofit organizations and volunteers who worked to raise awareness of this year-round, worldwide issue.

Tania Andre, CEO, The Mavuno Project, moderated, the discussion with Caroline Diemar, National Hotlines Director, Polaris; Panagiota Caralis, M.D, J.D., professor of medicine, Miller School of Medicine; Shanika Ampah, LPN, UM Thrive Clinic; Amanda Altman, CEO, Kristi House; and Officer Alexandra Martinez, UM Police.

Ampah recounted how she turned her life around, from being a sex worker to becoming a nurse, with support from Kristi House. “We make ourselves available to people like Shanika,” said Altman. “We encourage them to get help, and are there when they are ready to make a change in their lives.”

GREENING THE GAME IN SOUTH FLORIDA With a new LEED-certified practice facility, the University of Miami Athletics Department – like The Miami Heat and a growing number of South Florida schools – is committed to sustainability.

Climate activist Delaney Reynolds, UM student and founder, Sink or Swim Project, kicked off a panel discussion on three South Florida sustainability initiatives. “Our new athletic buildings were LEED certified,” said Teddy Lhoutellier, UM sustainability manager. “We are also reducing waste, such as recycling plastics into something more valuable.” UM also has a fan engagement strategy and created an internship position.

Athletes can use their personal platforms to promote sustainability initiatives, added Lhoutellier. “In a divided society, sports brings us together,” he said. “That’s a real, sustainable power for the sports industry.”

FINDING YOUR VOICE Athletes need to find their own voices on social media and connect with their fans, according to panelists at the conference’s closing session. TJ Adeshola, U.S. Sports Partnerships, Twitter, emphasized the importance of authenticity. “Use your own voice, whether playful, serious, or intellectual. The challenge for athletes is not to use someone else’s template.”

Michael Shaw, vice president, head of experience and innovation, Miami Marlins, said authenticity is also important for sports teams and facilities. “Miami Vice colors work well for our fans, and our retail experience at Marlins Park is very different from New Orleans or New York.” ■■



Ellen Vaughan and Michael Grieco

Counseling psychologists, clinicians, and lawmakers can all play a role in addressing the nation's opioid crisis, according to experts at a multidisciplinary panel hosted by the School of Education and Human Development (SEHD) on February 24 at the Newman Alumni Center.

"We need to help educate, inform, inspire others, and develop public policy that supports individual and community well-being," said Laura Kohn-Wood, dean of the School of Education and Human Development. "It's an issue that spans psychology, medicine, public health, and legislation."

Kohn-Wood welcomed more than 100 attendees to the discussion, "Tackling Opioid Addiction, Implications for Prevention and Treatment," which was organized by Soyeon Ahn, chair of the Department of Educational and Psychological Studies (EPS).

"A huge number of our counseling students' clients have substance abuse disorders, including their friends, neighbors, and other professionals," said panelist Ellen Vaughan, Ph.D. '06, associate professor of counseling psychology at Indiana University. "We need to shift their thinking away from the stigma of drug use, and ask the right questions so we can get them the help they need."

Guillermo "Willy" Prado, dean of the University of Miami Graduate School, moderated the discussion with Vaughan; State Representative Michael Grieco, J.D. '99; Viviana Horigian, M.D. M.H.A., associate professor, Department of Public Health Sciences; Tyler Bartholomew, public health doctoral student; and Hansel Tookes, M.D., M.P.H., assistant professor, Division of Infectious Diseases.

Multidisciplinary Panel Examines Opioid Addiction Interventions

Noting that opioid overdoses claim 130 lives a day, Prado asked the panelists about their approaches to combating the nationwide epidemic. Vaughan said Indiana University committed \$50 million for a variety of projects, including training more addiction counselors to help people with substance abuse disorders. "We are also leading a clinical trial of a brief cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) intervention for adults with moderate disorders," she said.

Grieco said the State of Florida created a 21-member task force that is looking at reforming the criminal justice system. "We want to move from punishment to treatment," he said.

Horigian said clinicians and researchers at the UM Miller School of Medicine are focusing on increasing access to prevention, treatment, and recovery services. "Medications have been proven to save lives, but we need to integrate prescribing into primary care centers and develop a collaborative care model," she said.

Bartholomew has been active with the medical school's IDEA (Infectious Disease Elimination Act) Exchange, a syringe service program launched in 2016 under the guidance of Dr. Tookes. "We keep people alive and engaged, and provide them with treatment when they are ready," he said.

All panel members agreed that physicians, counselors, and other professionals should treat opioid drug users like patients with other chronic conditions. "Stigma is a real issue at all levels," said Tookes. "To overcome that, we need to treat drug users with respect and compassion whenever we see them." ■

Soyeon Ahn, Laura Kohn-Wood, Hansel Tookes, Tyler Bartholomew, and Viviana Horigian



PENDING RESEARCH GRANTS

Soyeon Ahn
U INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH DESIGN & METHODOLOGY: EMPOWERING EDUCATIONAL RESEARCHERS AND PRACTITIONERS THROUGH RESEARCH, DESIGN, AND METHODOLOGY
EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES
National Science Foundation

Mary Avalos
THE EFFECT OF DEFINITIONS, CONTEXTUAL SUPPORT, AND COGNATE STATUS ON 4TH GRADE SPANISH-SPEAKING ENGLISH LEARNERS(ELS) UNDERSTANDING OF UNFAMILIAR WORD IN TEXT(SUPPLEMENT)
TEACHING AND LEARNING
University of South Florida (USF)

Dina Birman
REFUGEE CHILD AND FAMILY WELL-BEING FOCUS EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES
EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES
Florida International University

Mary Beth Calhoun
ADOLESCENT MULTI-COMPONENT PROGRAM-INTENSIVE TRAINING (AMP IT UP) TEACHING AND LEARNING
TEACHING AND LEARNING
Department of Education (U.S.O)

Scotney Evans
ENHANCING COMMUNITY RESILIANE IN MIAMI
EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES
Enterprise Community Partners

Scotney Evans
PROGRAM EVALUATION CONSULTANTS
EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES
Miami-Dade Public Schools

Jennifer Kahn
STORIES FROM LITTLE HAVANA FAMILY MIGRATION PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE IN THE FACE OF SEA LEVEL RISE
TEACHING AND LEARNING
National Geographic Society

Jennifer Kahn
EMPOWERING STUDENTS AND COMMUNITIES THROUGH MULTIDISCIPLINARY INFORMATIONAL STEM COMMUNICATION
TEACHING AND LEARNING
Barry University

Miriam Lipsky
FAITH ZONE TRAINING
TEACHING AND LEARNING
Interfaith Youth Core

Wendy Morrison-Cavendish
BUILDING SOCIAL CAPITAL AND SOCIAL NETWORKS FOR MARGINALIZED YOUTH
TEACHING AND LEARNING
Spencer Foundation

Marie Guerda Nicolas
IMPACT OF CIVIC-MINDED YOUNG-ADULT MENTORS ON CHILDREN AND THE COMMUNITY
EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES
Spencer Foundation

Arlette Perry
CAN EPIGENETIC MARKERS PREDICT RESPONSE TO A LIFESTYLE INTERVENTION IN MINORITY ADOLESCENTS?
KINESIOLOGY AND SPORT SCIENCES
Precision Medicine and Health Disparities Collaborative

Arlette Perry
THINK SUMMER RESIDENCY ACADEMY
KINESIOLOGY AND SPORT SCIENCES
Miami Foundation

Isaac Prilleltensky
BET I CAN
EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES
Michigan State University

Walter Secada
REPLICATING THE CGI EXPERIMENT IN DIVERSE ENVIROMENTS
TEACHING AND LEARNING
Florida State University

ACTIVE RESEARCH GRANTS

Arlette Perry
TRANSLATIONAL HEALTH IN NUTRITION AND KINESIOLOGY
KINESIOLOGY AND SPORT SCIENCES
Precision Medicine and Health Disparities
Children's Trust

Ashmeet Oberoi
ADVANCING INTERFAITH EXCELLENCE: BRIDGING DIVIDES ON US CAMPUSES
EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES
Interfaith Youth Core

Blaine Fowers
GITTNER AWARD
EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES
American Psychological Foundatio

Daniel Santisteban
CLaRO
EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES
National Institute of Health

Scotney Evans
ENHANCING COMMUNITY RESILIANE IN MIAMI
EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES
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Wendy Morrison-Cavendish
BUILDING SOCIAL CAPITAL AND SOCIAL NETWORKS FOR MARGINALIZED YOUTH
TEACHING AND LEARNING
Spencer Foundation

Joseph Kitchen
RESEARCH STUDY OF THE TOMPSON SCHOLARS LEARNING COMMUNITIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA
EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES
Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation

Scotney Evans
LIVE HEALTHY COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP - EPSA EVALUATION TEAM
EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES
Health Foundation of South Florida

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Teaching with Compassion,
cont., from pg. 8

As a member of the Sikh religion, her husband wears a turban. When they were out in public, they would sometimes be openly harassed.

“This was close to the 9/11 attacks and he would be called Osama or told to go back [to his country],” she said. She also had to learn about race differences and the history of racism in the United States. “The concept of race was foreign to me,” she said. “In India we do not have that concept. There are other identity markers such as caste, social class, and religion but not the construct of race.”

All those experiences made social jus-

tice a central theme in her life. It was also a determining factor in her decision to study community psychology for her doctoral work at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She wanted a program that integrated cultural and personal identity as part of its discipline.

Oberoï’s work at the University of Miami reflects her beliefs. She is leading an Intergroup Dialogue course on world-views that engages students in exploring discrimination and social justice associated with religious or non-religious identities and traditions. All her classes integrate service learning and community engagement. Every semester, students work with local community organiza-


tions to complete a project that meets the needs of the group.

Jacki Altman, a graduate student, who has taken three classes with Oberoi, believes that she is an exceptional professor because she goes out of her way to help her students. One example of this is how Oberoi provides a detailed list of the skills learned in each of her classes to the students so they can add them to their résumés.

“I think professor Oberoi is very transparent and makes you feel comfortable,” she said. “She sets your mind at ease and cares about students—not only their professional well-being but their personal well-being.” ■■



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