

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

# PERSPECTIVE

WINTER 2020

**Looking Back  
on 90 Years.  
Moving Ahead  
to the Future.**



**SCHOOL OF EDUCATION  
AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**

**PERSPECTIVE  
WINTER 2020**

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# THE WINTER2020 ISSUE

## 1 Dean's Message

*Thoughts from the Dean*

## 3 Introducing Joan

*A new identity for the School of Education and Human Development*

## 4 EPS

*Leadership in a wide range of disciplines*

## 7 KIN

*Launching careers in sports, health and science fields*

## 8 TAL

*Serving teachers, students and communities for 90+ years*

## 10 West Lab

*A teaching and learning partnership since 1954*

## 12 Class Notes

*Celebrating the accomplishments of our alumni*





**Laura Kohn-Wood**

Dean, School of Education and Human Development

## CELEBRATING OUR 90TH ANNIVERSARY

### From the Dean

**W**e have come so far in 90 years. At the beginning of this academic year, starting in August 2019, we began celebrating our past, present and future – and will continue to do so over the next year.

We have developed a slate of thought-provoking and engaging events that are designed to provide our alumni, students, parents, supporters, and community members with exposure to the latest research findings, and to promote access to leading scholars and relevant topics.

Events include everything from hearing about the challenges of teaching “Generation Z” to learning from local and alumni experts about how to address the current opioid epidemic, as well as highlighting the business side of sports at our annual Sports Industry Conference with a special focus on Miami’s hosting of Super Bowl LIV.

Of particular interest to educators will be a documentary film screening followed by a panel on re-envisioning our school’s partnerships for engaging secondary and post-secondary students in science. A major focus of the SEHD is re-thinking STEM education to make it more engaging, more accessible and more relevant to the future workforce who will have careers in fields we cannot conceptualize today. You can visit our school’s website at [www.education.miami.edu](http://www.education.miami.edu) for more information about all of our 90th anniversary events.

But while we look to the future, we must also revel in our past. One of the best parts of working in academia is the incredible students we are privileged to teach, mentor and nurture; in addition to the outstanding faculty who teach

them and the world-class staff who support them.

In this special issue of *Perspective Winter 2020*, we highlight some of the talented and award-winning individuals who continue to make an impact in the transformation of lives and circumstance through education.

Also, with this issue, we debut our first ever “class notes” section, inaugurated with notes from several of our wonderful alumni – updating us on their activities and the ways in which the School of Education and Human Development has influenced their lives.

I invite you to celebrate our 90 years with us, and consider supporting and elevating education @ The U in whichever ways you would like, to help sustain us for 90 more!

All my best,  
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.

#### 1929

School of Education is inaugurated.

#### 1949

Merrick Building is re-dedicated and opens for classes.

#### 2012

Renaming approved for the School of Education and Human Development.

## MILESTONES



# Introducing 'Joan'

## A NEW IDENTITY FOR THE SCHOOL

**M**eet "Joan," the colorful and dynamic representation of the School of Education and Human Development's three integrated departments. "Joan is a bright and exciting component of our school's new visual identity," said Winston Warrior, executive director, strategic communications and marketing. "It's one of the ways we are moving ahead as we celebrate our 90th anniversary year."

To develop a new identity for the school, Warrior worked closely with the University Communications team, including art director Kristian Rodriguez and graphic designer Nicolle Andujar, incorporating ideas and feedback from the school's faculty, students and staff.

"A common thread of well-being unites the school's three departments," said Meredith Camel, executive director, University Communications. "Joan incorporates visual

indicators of the intellectual, emotional and physical aspects of well-being. The network of neurons in the drawing also extend beyond Joan as an individual, to include community well-being."

Camel said the bright colors, geometric shapes and line art are meant to challenge traditional visual preconceptions about a school of education. "We developed Joan as a gender fluid, non-binary persona interested in learning and sharing ideas," she said. "It's a very progressive visual look for the school."

Winston noted that the eye-catching bright orange, blue and candy apple green colors also open the door to conversations about the SEHD's programs and goals. "We built a modular, 'plug-and-play' brochure folder with Joan on the cover that can be used by our school and departments when reaching out to our diverse constituencies," he said. "It's one of the ways we are creating memorable moments through engaging communications graphics, touch points and content." ■

TRANSFORMATION THROUGH ED



# EPS LEADERSHIP IN A WIDE RANGE OF DISCIPLINES

The **Department of Educational and Psychological Studies'** researchers, clinicians and advocates are making leading-edge contributions to their fields.

**W**ith award-winning faculty, engaged students and staff, and a thriving network of collaborative relationships, the Department of Educational and Psychological Studies (EPS) demonstrates leadership across a variety of disciplines.

"Our department is known for research scholarship, teaching, and advocacy on a local, national, and international level," said Soyeon Ahn, EPS chair, professor in the Research, Measurement, and Evaluation (RME) Program, and director of the school's Statistical Supporting Unit (STATS-U). "We're committed to generating knowledge and preparing reflective researchers, methodologists, and practitioners who promote psychological, educational, and community well-being."

EPS was inaugurated in 1968, although courses in counsel-

ing had been offered for many years. In the ensuing decades, undergraduate and graduate offerings expanded to include counseling psychology, mental health counseling, community well-being, RME, higher education administration and leadership, human and social development, and community and social change.

## IMPACTFUL ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

In 2001, the school established the Center for Research, now the Dunspaugh-Dalton Foundation Community and Educational Well-Being (CEW) Research Center, led by Professor Daniel Santisteban. His work led to the development of the evidence-based Culturally Informed and Flexible Family Based Treatment for Adolescents (CIFFTA). Professor Maité

Mena has collaborated with Santisteban on research that addresses health disparities and improves outcomes. In fact, she received an award for Excellence in Partnership from a South Florida community organization.

The CEW also is home to the Melissa Institute for Violence Prevention and Treatment, a nonprofit dedicated to promoting safer communities through education and application of research-based knowledge.

In 2013, the Institute for Individual and Family Counseling (IIFC) moved into the Max Orovitz Building with modern therapy rooms, a children's play therapy area, and advanced technology to



THE EPS FACULTY

**1968**

The Department of Educational Psychology is established.

**1972**

M.Ed. in Community & Counseling is launched.

**2001**

School establishes Center for Research, expanded as the Dunspaugh-Dalton Foundation Community and Educational Well-Being (CEW) Research Center in 2009.

**2013**

The school's Institute for Individual and Family Counseling moves into the Max Orovitz Building.

## MILESTONES

Phekoo, the Higher Education Program has been advancing effective leadership in academic institutions across the U.S. and around the world in such countries as Ecuador, Egypt, Mexico, and China. "Our focus on research-based practical applications and reflective, innovative leadership has been contributing to the professionalism of higher education in many ways," she said.

A recent faculty addition is Joseph Kitchen, who studies how college affects students, and who mentors working professionals. "I support the postsecondary success of diverse students and help fulfill the promise of higher education as a transformational life experience," he said. "As a first-generation, low-income college student, I experienced firsthand the kind of education that enabled me to achieve my goals. It is so rewarding now to be helping others achieve theirs."

The Community and Social Change program is led by Professor Ashmeet Oberoi, who co-founded the UM Multi-faith Engagement Taskforce to promote interfaith communication on campus. Professor Scotney Evans is involved in community initiatives, including a youth homeless summit and the Live Healthy Community Partnership, a collaboration with the UM Office of Civic and Community Engagement that examines issues in Little Havana and Miami Gardens.

support counseling and student training. "We provide direct services to individuals and families with developmental and psychological concerns," said Lisette Perez-Lima, professor and institute director, noting that the program trains bilingual therapists to serve Spanish-speaking clients.

Under the direction of Professor Carol-Anne

The RME program is ranked first in the nation in terms of research scholarship. Last fall, Cengiz Zopluoglu, professor and program director, organized the 8th Annual Conference on Test Security, which brought more than 200 education professionals to Miami. (*See related story.*)

RME Professor Jue Wang has published in top-tier journals related to psychometrics, including *Educational and Psychological Measurement*, *Assessing Writing*, *Measurement: Interdisciplinary Research and Perspectives*, and *Psychological Test and Assessment Modeling*.

## VALUABLE LEADERSHIP

Through research scholarship, training, clinical services, and professional and community leadership, the department's faculty are making lasting high-impact contributions to society.

The many initiatives of Professor Isaac Prilleltensky, former SEHD dean, include the Strengths, Prevention, Empowerment and Community Change (SPEC) Project, which impacted five South Florida community organizations. In 2018, Prilleltensky received the American Psychological Association's Sarason Award for lasting contributions to community psychology.

Dean Laura Kohn-Wood, professor of EPS, served as the department chair for four years before becoming dean in July 2018.

EPS faculty members Ahn, Evans, and Professor Debbiesiu Lee received University of Miami Laboratory for INtegrative Knowledge (U-LINK) awards for innovative interdisciplinary research. Ahn and Lee engaged in research to reduce social, cultural, economic, and structural biases in the use of data.

Professor Lydia P. Buki, director of counseling psychology doctoral training, studies the mental health and cancer disparities in medically underserved Latina/o populations and recently completed a collaborative survey in Uruguay on breast cancer screening behaviors. She is the editor-in-chief of *The Counseling Psychologist* and served on the APA's Committee of Women in Psychology and Board of Professional Affairs.

In addition to directing the Community Well-Being Program, Professor Dina Birman conducts research on the acculturation and adjustment of immigrants and refugees. She is involved with the U.S. refugee resettlement system and serves as editor-in-chief of the *International Journal of Intercultural Relations*.

Haitian-born Professor Guerda Nicolas studies culturally effective mental health intervention for people of color, focusing on immigrant children, adolescents, and families. Nicolas led

*Continued on page 11*

# KIN LAUNCHING CAREERS IN SPORTS, HEALTH, AND SCIENCE FIELDS

While only a handful of top athletes can make it to the professional level, **the Department of Kinesiology and Sport Sciences (KIN)** offers a rewarding array of career-building programs for men and women who love sports, health, and science.

**“W**e capitalize on our location in one of the nation’s leading sports regions, building ties with professional teams, coaches, athletic trainers, sports media, and business leaders,” said Warren Whisenant, KIN professor and chair. “We are also a leader in embracing diversity and inclusion in our faculty, staff, and students.”

The department’s graduate and undergraduate programs include Athletic Training, Sport Administration, Exercise Physiology, Nutrition, Sports Medicine, and Strength and Conditioning with an online learning option in Sport Administration at the graduate level.

Students can also take advantage of the advanced technology of the Laboratory of Clinical & Applied Physiology in the Merrick Building and the 10,000-square-foot laboratory in the Max Orovitz Building, which includes a 3D movement analysis system, a dynamic balance platform, gait analysis equipment, and resistance training machines.

Using the Orovitz Laboratory technology, Professor Joseph Signorile has conducted numerous exercise physiology studies targeting diagnosed needs of individuals, with special emphasis on older persons. He has explored the impact of high-speed training on neuromuscular performance, along with yoga, balance and strength and conditioning regimens. A decade ago, Signorile teamed with

“South Beach Diet” author Arthur Agatston, M.D. to design the interval training program incorporated into “The South Beach Diet Supercharged.”

Kevin Jacobs, professor and associate dean for research, uses the KIN laboratories to study the ways in which exercise intensity, nutritional status, training status, gender, age, menstrual cycle phase, and environment impact obesity, diabetes and other metabolic conditions.

In a novel approach to making fitness more engaging for elementary students, Professor Moataz Eltoukhy has used “Sebastian,” a NAO programmable robot, to demonstrate fitness activities and lead classroom exercises. “Kids love technology devices, so a robot is also the perfect tool for teaching science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) subjects,” he said.

## LEADERSHIP IN SPORTS

As a student, Harry “Scooter” Mallios played football for the Hurricanes from 1949 to 1953, starring on two powerful bowl teams and becoming one of UM’s great running backs. He later returned to his alma mater, earning his doctorate in 1970 and teaching sport law courses in the what was then known as the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation.

In 1981, Professor Arlette Perry became the first woman faculty member when she

joined the department. “I had come down to Miami to compete in a tennis match, and decided to talk to the chair, Thomas Miller,” she said. “We agreed on the needs of the department, and after an hour-long conversation I was hired.”

At that time the Department of Exercise and Sport Sciences had only two programs – in physical education and recreation, including activity classes in dance, gymnastics, volleyball, and administration. “Although I was hired to create UM’s first master and doctoral programs in exercise physiology, I had to teach tap, jazz, and modern dance. To Dr. Miller’s surprise, the exercise physiologist he just hired, was also a former dancer from New York, so there was no problem!”

In 1983, Mallios succeeded Miller as department chair. He transitioned the recreation major into a Sport Administration graduate program, among other accomplishments. Now, the Harry Mallios Award is given every year at the spring graduation ceremony to the outstanding graduate student in that program. When Mallios retired in 2001, Perry became chair and gradually built undergraduate programs in athletic training and exercise physiology.

During the 1990s, Professor Sue Mullane helped organize the first in a series of ethics programs for high school students, undergraduates and teachers. “Our audience changed several times



through the years,” said Mullane, who served as the first chair of Miami-Dade County Public Schools Ethics Advisory Committee. “We still conduct an annual ethics debate as well as seminars for our Sports Administration students to prepare them for ethical challenges in the workplace.

With Perry as chair, the department eventually quadrupled in size and the cognate in Fitness, Nutrition, and Physical Well-Being became the number one cognate at UM. Perry also continued to conduct clinical studies on obesity, women in sports and many other topics, and launched the Translational Health in Nutrition and Kinesiology (THINK) program with support from the Children’s Trust Foundation. The summer program uses exercise and sports to help students learn about how their bodies function and empower them to improve their own lifestyle behaviors.

In 2010, the department was renamed in order to reflect the diversity of its programs. “Kinesiology is a broader term that encompasses the study of human movement,” said Perry. “It includes athletic training, exercise physiology, biomechanics, sports medicine, organizational management, and all our other related fields.”

## MOVING FORWARD

Under the leadership of Whisenant since 2017, the KIN department continues to forge ahead. “Many of our programs have gained national attention, and our online Sport Administration program is one of UM’s largest such offerings,” he said. “We continue to expand our online offerings, and are looking at introducing club management certificates for professional development opportunities.”

Faculty members publish dozens of studies in peer-reviewed journals each year, while gaining national recognition in their fields. For instance, Professor Kysha Harriell, director of the Athletic Training program, was honored with the 2019 National Athletic Trainers’ Association Service Award for her leadership in bringing more ethnic diversity to the profession at UM and through NATA’s outreach and community service programs.

On January 29, 2020, the department hosted the fifth annual University of Miami Sport Industry Conference – a few days before Super Bowl LIV kicked off at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens. Organized by Professor Erin McNary, the conference brought noted athletes, broadcasters, coaches and other business leaders in the sport industry to the campus, while providing networking opportunities for Sports Administration students.

“Our department has great partnerships throughout the sports industry,” said Whisenant. “This year, more than 100 KIN students are serving

volunteers and interns, giving them -practical experience along with their academic training. It’s one of the many ways we strive to develop successful, ethical professionals in all our programs.”



### 1929

School begins offering physical education and recreational classes.

### 1949-1953

Running back Harry “Scooter” Mallios leads the Hurricanes to bowl game victories. He later joins the faculty and serves as department chair.

### 1981

Professor Arlette Perry launches exercise physiology program.

### 1988

Sport Administration program established.

### 2011

New laboratory opens in Max Orovitz Building.

## MILESTONES



THE KIN FACULTY



# TAL SERVING STUDENTS, TEACHERS, AND COMMUNITIES FOR 90+ YEARS

When the University of Miami opened its doors in 1926, one of its original programs focused on training elementary teachers for the fast-growing city. Since then, the **the Department of Teaching and Learning (TAL)** has educated many generations of classroom teachers with a lasting impact on students, families, schools, and communities.

**“W**e prepare teachers, specialists and researchers who will serve as leaders in schools, as faculty members in a variety of settings, and experts in community programs and beyond,” said Luciana C. de Oliveira, TAL professor. “We offer high-quality education to pre-service teachers, and professional learning opportunities for in-service teachers.”

## GROWING PROGRAMS

Through the years, TAL has developed undergraduate and graduate programs to meet the needs of schools in the U.S. and beyond.

TAL’s undergraduate program leads to teacher certification in Elementary Education and Special Education. Master’s programs include Education and Social Change, Special Education, and Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) and Bilingual Education. Students in the Ph.D. program in Teaching and Learning offers specializations in Language & Literacy Learning in Multilingual Settings, Special Education, and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

The department also offers an on-line master’s and doctoral program in Applied Learning Sciences to support professional career development. The

department’s graduate programs attract students from throughout the U.S. and internationally.

“Our undergraduate teacher education program in elementary and special education is the only one in the country with a dual certification plus two endorsements in TESOL and reading,” said de Oliveira. “We also embed field experiences with our courses right from the start. We try to place them in schools with high populations of students with special needs and English-language learners. We have a 100 percent job placement rate. There is a high demand for teachers, and our graduates become leaders in their schools and districts.”

## PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

Known for their professional leadership, TAL faculty members have made national and international contributions to fields like reading, writing, special education, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), and fostering science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) skills. For example, TAL professor Beth Harry is a co-founder of the National Center for Culturally Responsive Educational Systems (NCCRESt) and was a member of the technical workgroup on disproportionality in the National Center on

**1926**

First teacher training courses begin.

**1938**

Merrick Demonstration School opens north of the Gables’ Miracle Mile.

**1954**

Henry S. West Laboratory School opens.

**1962**

Cuban Teacher Retraining Program begins.

**2016**

Walter Secada is appointed to the Science Committee of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Advisory Council.

## MILESTONES

Response to Intervention.

Walter Secada, TAL professor and vice dean, recently completed a two-year term on the Science Committee of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Advisory Council. “NASA’s space exploration and science initiatives have important implications for education, as well as our overall society,” Secada said. “Science teachers play an important role in conveying the latest knowledge to their students, and it was a privilege to participate in that dialogue as



a member of NASA's Science Committee."

Secada was also co-principal investigator of the "Promoting Science among English Language Learners (P-SELL)" initiative, and associate director and co-principal investigator of "Science Made Sensible," a fellowship training program funded by the National Science Foundation, that pairs doctoral students in the STEM fields with middle-school teachers.

Professor Mary Beth Calhoon has led multiple federal and state funded research grants in the area of literacy for adolescents who are at-risk for reading disabilities.

Along with her responsibilities as professor in residence at Sunset Elementary School, de Oliveira was elected to serve as president of the TESOL International Association, and was chosen by the U.S. State Department as an English language specialist for 2018

and again in 2019 for a teacher training program in Brazil.

## A LONG PARTNERSHIP

For many decades the Department of Teaching and Learning has enjoyed a mutually beneficial relationship with Miami-Dade County Public Schools, as well as other South Florida districts and private schools, including professional development programs, after-school enrichment offerings, research studies, and field teaching experiences for UM students.

The school's faculty members have also been leaders in supporting minority teachers and students. For instance, in 1948, the school began hosting an annual conference on reading and language arts for African-American students, as well as a summer workshop for teachers on intercultural education.

In 1962, the department launched a

Cuban Teacher Retraining Program, assisting refugees fleeing Castro's dictatorship with obtaining Florida Teaching Certificates; providing more bilingual teachers for the community.

Later in the 1960s, the school played an important role in desegregating the county's public schools. Former school superintendent Dr. Joe Hall joined the TAL faculty and guided the UM Desegregation Consulting Center. The next year, the school launched a Teacher Aide Program to provide more assistance to students in the county's disadvantaged schools.

In 1984, TAL Professor Eveleen Lorton joined Zelda Glazer, district director of language arts and reading M-DCPS, to launch a summer professional development program to help Miami teachers boost their students' writing skills. Over the past 36 years, thousands of Miami-Dade teachers have participated in

the Zelda Glazer and Eveleen Lorton Writing Institute (GLWI). That training has impacted the writing skills of 388,260 elementary, middle, and high school students.

Another professional development offering is the Summer Holocaust Institute, which focuses on helping teachers understand why Nazi Germany murdered more than 6 million Jews and other "deviants," and the lessons of this genocide for today's society.


Dr. Miriam Klein Kassenoff, who leads the institute, was recently recognized by Florida state legislators as a "Jewish Holocaust Educator."

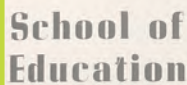
Currently, the TAL and  
*Continued on page 10*





## Continued from page 9

“Many research studies have shown that one of the most important factors in a child’s education is the quality of the teacher,” said de Oliveira, co-principal investigator. Mary A. Avalos, research associate professor, is the principal investigator, and Wendy Cavendish, co-principal investigator, associate professor, and newly appointed TAL department chair, leads the research and evaluation component. 



other schools as well as at educational institutions. He published a full-time position in education this year.


Graduate students were given the opportunity to specialize in pre-school training, and school



As a patient, your race, religion, and culture can influence the treatment you receive and the decisions you make. But what if your doctor isn't asking you the right questions?

“Today, athletic trainers are at the forefront, pushing the health care industry to ask the right questions of every patient,” said Kysha Harriell, M.S. Ed. ’99, M.S. Ed. ’01, Ph.D. ’10, clinical associate professor in the Department of Kinesiology & Sport Sciences.

She is also the executive director of the Office of Academic Enhancement and the chair of the Residential Faculty Program and Senior Residential Faculty in Mahoney Residential College. Before joining the Department of Kinesiology & Sports Sciences, she worked in the University of Miami's Athletic Department from 1997-2005 as an assistant athletic trainer with the University of Miami's football, basketball, track & field, soccer, and tennis teams.

Harriell is involved in numerous research projects related to women's health, cultural competency, complementary medicine, and health and medical conditions that affect ethnically diverse individuals. She is also the National Committee Chair of the Ethnic Diversity Advisory Committee of the National Athletic Trainers' Association. 

## PENDING RESEARCH GRANTS

**Soyeon Ahn (Co-PI Jennifer Kahn)**  
**SECOND-ORDER META-ANALYSIS ON TECHNOLOGY-INTEGRATED STEM INTERVENTIONS EFFECTS USING AN AUTOMATED COMPUTATIONAL TOOL FOR ESTIMATING EFFECTIVENESS (ACTEE)**  
 EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES  
 National Science Foundation

**Batya Elbaum (Nam Ju Kim, Co-PI)**  
**EXPLORING SYSTEMATIC DESIGN PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVE MATH AND SCIENCE INTERVENTIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER: A BAYESIAN ANALYSIS**  
 TEACHING AND LEARNING  
 Spencer Foundation

**Scotney Evans**  
**CONTESTING THE MEANING OF SAFE SCHOOLS: YPAR FOR SUPPORTIVE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTS**  
 EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES  
 Sociological Initiatives Foundation

**Blaine Fowers**  
**CONCEPTUAL AND EMPIRICAL INVESTIGATIONS OF THE VIRTUE OF CURIOSITY**  
 EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES  
 John Templeton Foundation

**Jennifer Kahn (Co-PI)**  
**INTEGRATING REAL-WORLD DATASETS AND R COMPUTING FOR MORE DATA-CENTRIC HIGH SCHOOL STATISTICS COURSE OF SIMPLY, DATA4STATS, 33 SIGMA LEARNING LABS**  
 TEACHING AND LEARNING  
 National Science Foundation

**Joseph Kitchen**  
**RESEARCH STUDY OF THE THOMPSON SCHOLARS LEARNING COMMUNITIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA**  
 EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES  
 The Susan Thompson Buffet Foundation

**Maite Mena (Co-PI Danieal Santisteban)**  
**UM CENTER FOR FAMILY AND ADOLESCENT TRAUMA TREATMENT - CFATT**  
 EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES  
 Department of Health and Human Services

**Maie Guerda Nicolas**  
**CARIBBEAN COHORT SURVEILLANCE STUDY OF DIABETES AND HYPERTENSION: A FOCUS ON HAITI**  
 EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES  
 National Institutes of Health/ Naciona Heart, Lung and Blood Institute

**Ji Shen**  
**INTEGRATING STEM AND DIGITAL LITERACIES FOR ADOLESCENTS TO ENGAGE IN SOCIO-SCIENTIFIC ISSUES**  
 TEACHING AND LEARNING  
 National Science Foundation

**Ji Shen (Co-PI)**  
**CITIZEN SCIENCE: THE IMPACTS OF CONTRIBUTING TO AUTHENTIC RESEARCH FAIR-CHILD TROPICAL BOTANIC GARDEN**  
 TEACHING AND LEARNING  
 National Science Foundation

**Jue Wang (Co-PI)**  
**USING UNFOLDING MODELS TO CONCEPTUALIZE AND ANALYZE LEARNING PROGRESSIONS**  
 EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES  
 Institute of Education Sciences

## ACTIVE RESEARCH GRANTS

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

**Mary Avalos**  
**SUPPORTING EDUCATOR'S ACADEMIC LITERACIES AND ENHANCED DISCOURSE**  
 Teaching and Learning  
 U.S. Department of Education

**Batya Elbaum**  
**ESE PARENT SURVEY 2018-2019 09/19/2018**  
 TEACHING AND LEARNING  
 Florida Department of Education

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

**Elizabeth Harry**  
**OPENING DOORS FOR LEADERS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION**  
 TEACHING AND LEARNING  
 U.S. Department of Education

**Kevin Jacobs**  
**POSTPRANDIAL FAT METABOLISM FOLLOWING AN ACUTE EXERCISE BOUT IN PERSONS WITH SPINAL CORD INJURIES**  
 KINESIOLOGY AND SPORT SCIENCES  
 Craig H Neilsen Foundation

**Maite Mena**  
**BUILDING CAPACITY FOR SIBRT IMPLEMENTATION IN MIAMI GARDENS**  
 EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES  
 Florida Department of Education

**Daniel Santisteban**  
**THE CIFTA ADOLESCENT AND FAMILY INDICATED PREVENTION PROGRAM**  
 EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES  
 Children's Trust

**Walter Secada**  
**FOLLOW UP THE REPLICATING THE CGI EXPERIMENT IN DIVERSE ENVIRONMENT**  
 TEACHING AND LEARNING  
 Florida State University

**Walter Secada**  
**FOUNDATION FOR SUCCESS**  
 TEACHING AND LEARNING  
 Florida State University

**Ji Shen**  
**INTEGRATING STEM AND DIGITAL LITERACIES (STEM PLUS)**  
 TEACHING AND LEARNING  
 National Science Foundation

## EPS LEADERSHIP IN A WIDE RANGE OF DISCIPLINES

*Continued from page 5*

a volunteer mental health assessment and an intervention team to Haiti after the devastating 2010 earthquake. She was recently awarded the International Humanitarian Award by the American Psychological Association.

For 35 years, Professor Blaine Fowers has addressed moral issues in psychology, writing about such topics as altruism and happiness. In spring 2019, he organized the first Moral Science Symposium, bringing about 120 academics to campus. "What has gotten lost in our society is a common vision or purpose," said Fowers. "That is a very dangerous thing for democratic societies. We need to realize there are things we share and can work for, and that science can help us enhance that common ground." ■

## FUTURE COMMITMENT

Ahn said EPS will continue to strive for excellence in teaching, research scholarship, professional training, and community outreach. "We know that the future belongs to the next generation, so inspiring and engaging our students in their fields and communities is of paramount importance," she said. "We look forward to exerting an even greater impact in the society." ■



1954 | Henry S. West Laboratory School opened as an



# West Lab | A Teaching and Learning Partnership Since 1954

Since opening its doors in 1954, the Henry S. West Laboratory School has been closely associated with the University of Miami. Named for the first dean of the School of Education and Human Development, West Lab has provided field-training experiences for thousands of future teachers through the years.

Located within walking distance of UM's Merrick Building behind Mahoney/Pearson Residential Colleges, West Lab has hosted professors in residence, who provide professional development sessions to the faculty. Other faculty and students conduct research designed to improve classroom learning, and provide after-school enrichment programs in the sciences, mathematics, reading, the arts, and physical fitness.

"As a Professional Development

School associated with the SEHD, West Lab provides pre-service teachers the opportunity to observe teachers during actual class time and one-on-one tutoring opportunities to help elementary students develop their reading and math skills," said Professor Mary Beth Calhoun, Department of Teaching and Learning (TAL).

"This is a win-win relationship that creates invaluable opportunities for our students," said Michelle M. Sanchez-Pe-

rez, assistant principal of the K-8 school with 387 students. "In addition, the UM preservice students can observe a variety of teaching styles and strategies at different grade levels. Sometimes this experience helps them decide on a career path, such as one recent student who discovered a passion for teaching fifth graders."

## LEADERSHIP IN STEAM EDUCATION

This year, West Lab teachers and staff

are collaborating with TAL faculty on various projects, including Science, Engineering, Technology, and Mathematics (STEM) +, an elective Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) course under the direction of Professor Ji Shen, where students integrate science, technology, engineering, and mathematics with digital literacies. It evolved from "Project Imagine the Future."

"West Lab has been very supportive in collaborating with us in piloting some of the very cutting-edge ideas in STEAM [STEM + arts] education, which can be very difficult to implement in other settings," added Shen. "This collaboration has advanced our understanding on how to develop high-quality STEAM curriculum materials using advanced technology."

Shen added that the TAL team has been working with sixth-grade students and teachers since West Lab added a middle grades component four years ago. "We use multimodal composition technologies (MCT) in interdisciplinary learning," he said. "The students work together in small teams to create multimedia science fiction content that speaks to issues related to our environment. They also learn how to program a humanoid robot and write stories about robots in the future."

Students benefit from enhanced STEM knowledge and digital literacy, collaboration and communication skills, while developing interest in pursuing STEM-related careers. In addition, the sixth graders take regular field trips to the UM campus, gaining an understanding of the college experience.

### UM STARS PROGRAM

Another collaborative initiative is the UM STARS program, which provides three six-to-eight-week tutoring practicums across two semesters overseen by Professors Calhoon and Matthew Deroo. Undergraduate students from three TAL

classes provide one-to-one afterschool tutoring in reading and mathematics to West Lab students who need extra support. "We work with elementary students who are struggling with these academic skills for a variety of reasons," said Calhoon.

"We want our future teachers to apply strategies learned in their courses to boost reading and math comprehension," said Deroo. "They learn how to draw on students' linguistic abilities, including tutoring both English and Spanish speakers, and develop other communication skills, such as using gestures and facial expressions."

Deroo said the West Lab students

difference to success in school and in life. It's also more than just reading words in print – it's gaining knowledge about families and communities as well."

The UM STARS tutoring program is a natural fit for the preservice teachers' field experiences, according to Calhoon. "Our students love going to West Lab, and it provides them with incredible student-centered learning opportunities, including assessing and monitoring improvements in student academic skills," she said.

Gabriel Horowitz, a TAL junior, said the classroom observations, combined with tutoring, did a great job in preparing her for a career in teaching. "We



bring their own creativity to the tutoring process. "If a young student is having a hard time with sounds or spelling, we can bring in new ideas, like writing in sand together or using a multimedia presentation on a tablet," he said. "We know that play is also important to learning, and one of our students wrote words on a baseball that they tossed back and forth."

Calhoon and Deroo agree on the importance of early mathematics and reading interventions. "We want to help the West Lab students build on the skills they already have," said Deroo. "We know that early childhood literacy makes a big

learn so much by seeing the teachers in the classroom, creating lesson plans, and make instructional decisions," said. "Those kinds of real-world experiences are invaluable for anyone considering becoming a teacher."

Ms. Sanchez-Perez says West Lab students who take part in the program typically show great gains in reading and mathematics. "Our students benefit from the individualized attention, and their parents love it," she said. "It's one of the ways that our school benefits from our special relationship with the SEHD." ■



## Sport Administration Students Hone Presentation Skills

# Debating Ethical Issues

**S**hould colleges and universities spend millions of dollars on sports facilities used by only a handful of their students? The answer is no, according to a team of University of Miami graduate sport administration students who won the 12th annual Sport Ethics Debate on December 3 at the Watsco Center Hurricane 100 Room.

Led by captain Allison Fleisher, with Daniel Kalter, Nora Li and Dejan “DJ” Vasiljevic, Team Orange defeated Team Green, led by captain Annie Thompson, with Tracy Lin, Daniel Salas and Xingxin Peng in the final round of the competition.

“I came to UM because I love playing basketball, not because the athletic facilities,” said Vasiljevic, a starting guard for the Hurricanes, in arguing against the college “arms race.” Debate teammate Kalter added that facility spending is one reason athletic departments are running big deficits. Summing up their team’s argument, Fleisher said the current model needs to change to reduce overall spending and be fairer to all students.

Contest judges were Gary Shaw, president and CEO, Gary Shaw Productions; Scott Levin, executive director, Herbert Wellness Center; and Gina Astorini, associate dean, School of Education and Human Development.

In the earlier rounds, Team White with Jack Lazur (captain), Purui Wang, Carolyn Brown, and Benjamin Gingerich, and Team Black with Cory Sherman (captain), Nicholas Petrucelli and Ryan Mittel, debated the ethics of horseracing, and whether transgender athletes should be barred from competitions.

“Our students did a great job in addressing these ethical issues,” said Susan P. Mullane, director of the Undergraduate Sport Administration Program and professor in the Graduate Sport Administration Program in the Department of Kinesiology and Sport Sciences. “We thank our volunteer judges and generous donors who help make this event possible.”

Emcee Ashley Woods, B.S. ’08, welcomed more than 50 students, faculty and sports professionals to the debate. “We encourage you to think about your own personal views on these topics, as the debaters make their presentations,” she said.



UM athletic director Blake James gave best wishes to the four teams, adding, “it’s great to have this type of forum and hear your thoughts on controversial topics.”

In his keynote talk, Arny Schreer, vice president and general manager of partnership development of Home Team Sports, a division of Fox Sports, ran through a quick list of ethical issues that arose in the sports world in 2019. He decried the “winning at all costs” mentality that can lead to cheating, doping scandals and overspending. “This event helps train students to be ethical,” he added. “Ethics is contagious and you are all doing your part tonight.”

### A Sports Ethics ‘Sit-Down’

A day before the Sport Ethics Debate, UM undergraduate Sport Administration students were treated to a panel discussion at the Athletic Department’s Mann Auditorium. Shirelle Jackson, UM senior associate athletic director moderated the panel, which included Schreer, Shaw and Amy Deem, UM director of track and field and former Olympic coach.

Discussing issues such as drug use, abuse of power by individuals and governing agencies, and professional athletes as role models, the panelists agreed that sports are overemphasized in our culture and greater accountability is needed. Each speaker gave examples from their own fields, and emphasized the importance of trust and credibility throughout the industry.

Although the sit-down discussion focused on ethical issues, the distinguished speakers also offered career advice, such as the importance of mentoring and networking, how students can build their brands, and the pros and cons of social media, a discussion that was particularly lively.

“Approximately 40 students attended this inaugural program and enjoyed pizza and some networking time with the panelists,” said Mullane. “This event was created for undergraduate students, and will hopefully become our second Sport Ethics program.” ■



# School Hosts 8th Annual Conference on Test Security

**W**ith college admission test cheating in recent headlines, education and employment professionals discussed prevention strategies and tactics at the 8th Annual Conference

on Test Security, hosted by the School of Education and Human Development on October 16-18 at the Marriott Biscayne Bay.

"The conference brings together researchers and practitioners on all aspects of test security, including statistical data forensics, deterrence, proctoring, policies of investigation, and legal implications," said Cengiz Zopluoglu, associate professor and program director, Research, Measurement, and Evaluation (RME) Program, who spent more than a year organizing the event. "It had the highest attendance yet."

Dean Laura Kohn-Wood welcomed the 202 professionals to the three-day conference, including attendees from United States, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Australia, Brazil, Israel, Canada, and the United Arab Emirates. "It is a pleasure to bring together the best and brightest minds and researchers in test security," she said. "This is certainly an important issue for employment as well as for education."

Kohn-Wood said she was introduced to test security as a clinical psychology student when she learned how to administer and score the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI). "I learned that you could embed indications of whether or not such a psychological measure was valid and accurate," she said.

"Today, we have an incredible responsibility to ensure the moral and ethical bases of our testing tools are accurate," she added. "We need to be able to stand behind a score and know it is a valid measure of knowledge, competence or skill, as high-profile cases have brought this to the attention of the public."

Kohn-Wood also cited the school's commitment to its Research, Measurement and Evaluation (RME) program. "We understand the importance of ensuring fairness, accuracy and validity in a diverse, multicultural community like South Florida. We know that if you can establish a tool or intervention in this environment, it could work almost anywhere in the country,"

After the dean's talk, Rachel R. Watkins Schoenig, founder and CEO of Cornerstone Strategies, moderated three fast-paced debates on hot topics in the field. "We like to present both sides of an issue, and listen to the wisdom of the crowd," she said.

Kimberly Swygert, director of test materials management at the National Board of Medical Examiners, argued that randomizing options or items to enhance security is a psychometrically sound practice. "Cheaters look for patterns and try to predict

what's coming next," she said. "It's the same thing in assessments. If items are always in the same order, it is easier to memorize the answers and for groups to share signals on the day of the test."

Arguing against randomization, Kim Brunnert, psychometrician at Elsevier, said randomizing items could confuse the test-taker and introduce the possibility of unpredictable errors that could jeopardize the results. "Don't put test security ahead of validity," she said. "Randomizing is not a strong enough security measure to risk the validity of the scores."

Faisal Alam, test security manager at the Law School Admissions Council, and Camille Thompson, executive director at the College Board, debated the second question: "Are miniaturized digital devices a bigger threat to exam security than cell phones today?"

Alam pointed to the use of tiny cameras and recording devices embedded in buttons, eyeglasses and even clothing as a serious threat to steal content from tests. "With cell phones, the damage is limited to a few individuals, but a gang of test takers with tiny cameras can compromise your entire item bank," he said.

However, Thompson noted that more than 95 percent of U.S. adolescents own or have access to cell phones, which she called "the Swiss army knife of cheaters." Using a smart phone to find answers doesn't feel wrong, while using a spy device feels like you're crossing the line, she added.

The conference had 45 sessions, covering topics such as deterrence strategies, online proctoring, data forensics, cloud-based security, and investigating test security concerns in K-12 schools. "We deeply appreciate the work of our presenters and the support of our sponsors," said Zopluoglu, who thanked conference sponsors including Ascend Learning, ACT, Alpine Testing Solutions, Caveon, Cisco, Examity, National Council on Measurement in Education, National Council of State Boards of Nursing, National College Testing Association, PearsonVue, ProctorU, Proctorio Pro, Prometric, PSI, Renaissance Learning, and The College Board. ■







Dean Laura Kohn-Wood hosted a reception for the school's fall semester graduates on December 12, 2019. The new alumni enjoyed the event with their families and friends, as well as the school's faculty and staff.







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# CLASS NOTES

**Georgann Delling, B.Ed. '51**, has six children, six grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and is widowed. She received her master of science from Florida International University in 1981. She lives in the Atlanta area, where she enjoys playing in several duplicate bridge groups, is active in church, continues to drive, and is 90 years young.

**Helen Kalish, B.Ed. '57**, is one of the "Turner Twins" with her sister Joan. Both were Orange Bowl princesses who graduated in 1957 and had successful careers in business and education. Both are married with four children. "Still alive and kicking at Shell Point Retirement Community in Fort Meyers," she said. "Making music with the Shell Point String Group! Fond memories of UM."

**Shirley Klinghoffer, B.Ed. '63**, launched her seminal Santa Fe-based "Love Armor Project" 11 years ago in an effort to demonstrate the power of art to heal and to comfort the country's warriors. This involved knitting a life-size cozy form fitted for a Humvee M1026 with her collaborative partner on this project, Sarah Hewitt. The patterns for this cozy were created and sent out to artists and knitters nationwide. More than 50 participants responded with a generous spirit to knit the patterns that completed the Humvee cozy. The project also included full video documentation of the process, an interactive forum, an educational program, and an original musical composition created especially for the LOVE ARMOR Project. You can learn more at [lovearmorproject.com](http://lovearmorproject.com).

**Sylvan Seidenman, M.Ed. '68**, was employed with Miami-Dade County Public Schools for 42 years, the last 22 as founding counselor at New World School of the Arts. He is now serving on advisory board for Arthur & Polly Mays Conservatory of the Arts (6-12) – the school where he started his career in The National Teacher Corps.

**Nancy Emerson Friedman, B.Ed. '69**, and **Harrabey Friedman, B.Ed. '68, M.Ed. '73**, have retired. Nancy taught pre-school in Temple Zion and Temple Judea for 20 years, while Harrabey was a social studies teacher and school administrator in Miami, retiring in 2005. Their granddaughter, Alexis Lauren Friedman, is a third-year doctoral candidate in SEHD and is teaching undergraduate classes.

**Gary Shaw, B.Ed. '69**, Fifty years after graduating, he is proud to share he has returned to Miami with his wife Judy Shaw, after a successful career as a boxing promoter. His youngest son, a contemporary artist and avid Hurricane fan, has also found permanent residence in Miami with his fiancée Gulsina. This summer he presented Hurricanes football coach Manny Diaz with an exclusive game-winning art piece for his office. He has also been giving back to the "U" as a guest lecturer in the Sport Administration Program and has been a guest judge for the Sport Ethics Debate.

**Marie Reitzes, B.Ed. '71**, recently retired and moved to Jacksonville. The last 21 years of her professional career were spent as the program director of the Bonaventure Town Center Club in Weston.

**Michael Kesselman, B.Ed. '72, M.Ed. '75, Ed.D. '79**, retired in 2007 after 36 years of successful service to Miami-Dade County Public Schools. He has completed the following certifications: Florida Supreme Court Family Mediation; American Council on Exercise (ACE) Personal Trainer; ACE Specialist in Weight Management; American Sports and Fitness Association (ASFA) Golf Fitness Instructor, Sport Specific Instructor, Senior Fitness Instructor; and US Golf Teachers Federation Associate Golf Instructor.

**Neil Eichelbaum, M.Ed. '72**, produced a film in 2012, "Honoring Our Heroes, Holocaust," with survivor Julius Eisenstein and liberator George Katzman, who served in the U.S. Army and later became a professor at FIU. Katzman helped liberate Eisenstein and 32,000 other prisoners at the Dachau Concentration Camp near Munich, Germany. The film was adopted by the U.S. Library of Congress for its Research Division and the State of New Jersey for use in all public secondary schools and state colleges.

**William Jackson, M.Ed. '72**, received his Ed.D degree from Nova Southeastern University.

**Judith Rosenthal, M.Ed. '73**, recently became an adjunct professor at Miami Dade College teaching hospitality and tourism courses, including customer service classes to all new MIA employees. She also teaches the "Miami Begins With Me" customer training classes for the GMCVB at MIA. "It's new career in my 70s," she said. "I love teaching!"

**Nathan Trigoboff, B.Ed. '73**, has published a book, "Pension Envy – A Trip Back To School," with a timely plot. Due to a bureaucratic error an old-fashioned politically incorrect teacher has to return to the teaching job he had left 30 years ago for one month in order to collect his pension. Will his politically incorrect ways get him into trouble in the age of cell phone recordings and social media? The book is available at Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Google books, etc.

**Charles Fonseca, B.Ed. '74**, taught high school for eight years in the U.S. Virgin Islands and Detroit, Michigan. He spent the last 30 years in law enforcement working with the FBI and the United States Marshals Service (USMS), and is currently working in the Background Investigations Unit of the FBI. He is married to attorney Gwendolyn Ward-law-Fonseca and resides in Detroit.

**Johnnie Turner, B.Ed. '78**, is in his 24th year as dean of students at Park Center Senior High in Brooklyn Park, Minnesota.

**Joy Shore, M.Ed. '79**, retired in 2017 after 34 years as an educator, including 29 as a middle school counselor. Over the course of her tenure, she was chosen "Middle School Counselor of the Year" and honored with the "Radiance Award," for excellence in the field of counseling and going above and beyond. She earned various other school and area recognitions and served for many years on a county committee to help make consistent and appropriate decisions for school counselors.

**Ann Helmers B.Ed. '79, M.B.A. '91**, recently retired from the University of Miami after a 38-year career, the past 25 spent as director of career services for the College of Engineering. She was honored during her tenure at Engineering with the May Brunson award, the Toppel Service Award and the College of Engineering Service and Innovation Award. She was also a member and faculty advisor for Iron Arrow, the University of Miami's highest honor. In honor of her service, the College has established the Ann Helmers Student Support Fund, which will provide resources for engineering students to support their career goals."

**Frederick Anthony Roberts, B.Ed. '83**, lives in Saint Petersburg, and recently published a children's book, "Artie and Antonio – No Work, Just Play." The book is about encouraging good work ethics in children, promoting quality completed work versus just getting it done.

**Robyn K. Teplitzky, B.Ed. '86**, created her own consulting firm, RKT Consulting, to support nonprofit organizations in the areas of fundraising, strategic planning, and leadership / board development. She is currently working with several national organizations and universities.

**Leonardo Mourino B.S. '86**, is principal at Morningside K-8 Academy.

**Daniel M. Maxwell, M.Ed. '88**, was honored by the Association of College Unions International (ACUI) with its highest award for leadership and service in March 2019. The Butts-Whiting Award was established in 1968 as the association's pinnacle achievement, recognizing long-term commitment to the union and activities profession as well as service to ACUI. He was most recently honored by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA), the leading association for student affairs professionals in higher education, and the NASPA Foundation named Maxwell as a 2020 Pillar of the Profession. Maxwell will be formally recognized during NASPA's 2020 Conference in Austin.

**Dr. Celeste Sadler, M.Ed. '91**, graduated from Nova Southeastern University in 2016 with a doctorate in education, special education concentration. She retired after 42 years of teaching special education students in low-income schools. During her career, she was named Teacher of the Year 2016 for her school, and she earned National Board Certification for students with exceptionalities. Her dissertation earned the Dr. Charles L. Faires Dissertation of Distinction Award; she was inducted into the Delta Epsilon Iota Honor Society; and she was nominated for the Phi Gamma Sigma 2016 Outstanding Doctoral Graduate Award. She is now working on articles for educational journals so that others can benefit from her study, "Self-Determination: A Case Study of the Needs, Preferences, Goals, and Feelings of Secondary Students With Significant Disabilities in Their Transition to Adulthood."

**Millard Lightburn, Ed.S. '93**, was a science teacher with Miami-Dade County Public Schools from 1987 to 2017. He served as a staff development specialist at the Center for Professional Learning and was district science supervisor, overseeing science education in 200 elementary schools where science scores on standardized tests were significantly improved. In 2003 he received a Ph.D. in science education from Curtin University of Technology (Australia) and was elected Teacher of the Year at Glades Middle School in 1998.

**Mirtha Shideler, A.B. '77, M.Ed. '93**, retired as a teacher in 2007 and has been active in her book club, church activities and enjoying life.

**Marni Lennon, J.D. '95, M.Ed. '99**, was honored with the Law Alumni Achievement Award on October 17, 2019 for her contributions to the campus and community in furtherance of access to justice.

**Mia Laudato B.Sc., '95, M.Ed. '99**, was awarded "Top 5, Teacher of the Year" for Orange County Public Schools in 2016, while serving as a teacher for students with autism. She is currently serving as a technology and learning specialist with FDLRS (Florida Diagnostic Learning and Resource Systems) serving six districts in the Central Florida area. She teaches professional development to teachers, administration, and staff and presents on topics about education at national conferences such as "Future in Educational Technology" and "Assistive Technology Industry Association."

**Steven Gorin, M.Ed. '96, M.B.A. '18**, graduated with a degree in sports medicine and went on to become a physician (D.O.). He is currently a board certified orthopedic surgeon with sub-specialty training in sports medicine.

**Jennifer G. Huffman, B.Ed. '01, M.Ed. '18**, has worked in the School of Law for the past two years. She was recently promoted to manager of events of the Heckerling Institute on Estate Planning.

**Patrick Williams, Ed.S. '01, Ph.D. '09**, received the Legacy Award from *The Miami Herald* as one of South Florida's Top Black Educators.

**Stephanie Acosta Castro, B.Ed. '08**, has been recognized as a Florida High Impact Teacher at M-DCPS. She has been serving as an ESE coach working with Exceptional Student Education and General Education teachers to increase

inclusion rates and state defined learning gains at the school site. She has been able to provide training to all stakeholders and bring school-wide initiatives to the school that benefit all learners. A resident of Miami, she attends all 'Canes football games with her husband and daughter.

**Jemilia S. (Harrison) Davis, B.Ed., '07**, earned her Ph.D. in educational leadership, policy, and human development with a concentration in higher education in May 2019. She was also chosen as a graduation speaker for her North Carolina State University's College of Education commencement. During her last semester, she received the 2019 Outstanding Graduate Student Award presented by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) Region III.

**Veronica Gonzalez Ferrante, B.Ed. '07**, received her M.Ed. in special education with a concentration in autism spectrum disorders from Florida International University in 2016. She is now a child developmental specialist at the UM Early Steps program. She performs developmental evaluations for therapies and provides educational guidance and counseling to families with children with developmental disabilities. She and her husband Michael Ferrante have a son, Angelo, who is six years old.

**Jesse Marks M.Ed. '08**, was named executive director of the Miami Dolphins Foundation.

**Sean Kilpatrick, A.B. '06, M.Ed. '09**, has been named executive director of UM's new one-stop shop: 'Canes Central, which brings the Registrar, Student Accounts, and Financial Aid operations together into one convenient location to streamline the delivery of student services. Through this initiative, UM hopes to develop the future of service excellence.

**Jessica Ensminger née Kearns, B.Ed. '10**, recently earned her masters degree in curriculum and instruction with an emphasis in reading and writing from the University of Colorado-Denver.

**Vicki Burns, Ph.D. '11**, recently received the Top Scholar Award for Globally Engaged and/or Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Faculty Senate Award for Excellence in Teaching from Florida International University. Both awards were in response to fostering an academic

environment where students develop solutions to pressing societal inequities as well as the creation of innovative courses such as Campus Sexual Assault Prevention. She recently finished a term as co-chair of the American Psychological Association Division 35 Violence Against Women Committee.

**Felice Resnik, B.Ed. '12**, earned her Ph.D. in educational psychology from the University of Wisconsin in 2019. She is now a postdoctoral fellow at the Prevention Science Institute at the University of Oregon. She was selected as part of the Institute of Educational Sciences Postdoctoral Research Training Program to prepare education researchers to prevent social and behavioral problems in schools.

**Joseph Zolobczuk, M.Ed. '12**, has published two studies in "Florida Public Health Review," was promoted to executive director of YES Institute in 2019 and

and was chosen as director of development for Bosque School, a 6-12 independent school. He recently celebrated his one-year wedding anniversary with his wife Haley.

**Jesse Kasser, M.Ed. '14**, is a Ph.D. candidate in Sport and Entertainment Management, May 2022 (expected) at the University of South Carolina. In January 2019 he was promoted to director of athletics development at the University of South Carolina Athletics Department.

**Rose Derosa, M.Ed. '16**, was in the first KIN graduating class for Nutrition and has worked closely with the University of Miami Osher Center for Integrative Medicine. She is currently finishing her postgraduate clinical hours in the field of integrative medicine and will soon be a Florida Licensed dietician and a certified nutrition specialist. "Thanks to the mentorship and leadership of Dr. Wesley



received a contract to assist the Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau. He received the MCCJ Student Silver Medallion Award in 2012 at the SEHD graduation, and has served the community for 22 years. A recent article in South Florida Lifestyle Magazine discussed his accomplishments and bullying prevention program.

**Karen Davis, M.Ed. '13**, was recently selected to present at the Florida Council of Independent Schools' annual conference in Orlando on the topic "Journalism: The New Civics."

**Connor Adams, B.Ed. '14**, recently was named to Albuquerque's "40 Under 40" list

Smith," she said. "Love the U!"

**Lindsay Dare Shoop, M.Ed. '18**, is publishing her first book on Olympic Games training and winning in the sport of rowing. She will be presenting "Integrating Treatment and Training" for US Rowing alongside the US Rowing director of athlete wellness on the importance of open communication and having a common language as the foundation for longevity and performance in sport.

**Raul Juarez, M.Ed. '19**, was recently selected to the Harvard Graduate School of Education Alumni Council Board and was admitted into Baylor University's Ed.D.



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# PRESENTATIONS

**Deroo, M.** (2019, December). *Multimodal meaning making and social semiotics at the museum: Supporting preservice teachers' learning through visual thinking strategies*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Literacy Research Association, Tampa, FL.

Diaz, E., & **Deroo, M.** (2019, November). *Representation of Latinxs in U.S. history textbooks: A critical discourse analysis*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the College and Faculty University Assembly, Austin, TX.

**Deroo, M.**, Ponzio, C., & De Costa, P. (2019, September). *Re-envisioning second language teacher education through translanguaging praxis*. Paper presented at the Languaging in Times of Change Conference, Stirling, Scotland, U.K..

**Evans, S.D.**, Christens, B., Faust, V., & Duckett, P. (2019, June). *Up the community psychologist 2.0*. Paper presented at the 17th Biennial Conference of the Society for Community Research and Action, Chicago, IL.

**Kim, N. J.**, & Vicentini, C. R. (2019, October). *Educational use of internet protocol television*. Paper presented at 2019 Annual Meeting of the Association for Educational Communications and Technology, Las Vegas, NV.

Vicentini, C. R., & **Kim, N. J.** (2019, October). *English as a foreign language tutoring online: Analyzing metacognitive skills and instructional scaffolding*. Paper presented at 2019 Annual Meeting of the Association for Educational Communications and Technology, Las Vegas, NV.

**Kim, N. J.**, Walker, A., Belland, B., & Lefler, M. (2019, April). *An informed synthesis of experimental and quasiexperimental computer-based scaffolding research*. Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association 2019 Annual Convention, Toronto, Canada.

**Kim, N. J.** (2019, April). *Improving high school students' information literacy and argumentation skills through scaffolding in problem-based learning*. Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association 2019 Annual Convention, Toronto, Canada.

**McMahon, R.C.**, McMahon, W.K., Abbamonte, J.M., & Devieux, J. (n.d.). *Dimensions of psychiatric severity and HIV risk knowledge and intentions*. Paper presented at the 2019 Convention of the American Psychological Association., Chicago, IL.

**McMahon, R.C.**, McMahon, W.K., & Devieux, J. (n.d.). *HIV risk cluster characteristics of women in psychiatric treatment*. Paper presented the 2019 Convention of the American Psychological Association., Chicago, IL.

Haynes, S., Abbamonte, J.M., Chen, Y., **McMahon, R.C.**, Devieux, J., Rosenberg, R., & Jean-Giles, M. (n.d.). *Psychosocial factors predict safer sex intentions among pregnant and post-partum drug abusing women*. Paper presented at the 2019 Convention of the American Psychological Association., Chicago, IL.

Abbamonte, J.M., **McMahon, R.C.**, Jean-Giles, M., Rosenberg, R., & Devieux, J. (n.d.). *Psychosocial factors predict safer sex intentions among pregnant and post-partum drug abusing women*. Paper presented at Presented at the 2019 Convention of the American Psychological Association., Chicago, IL.

Chen, Y., Abbamonte, J.M., & **McMahon, R.C.** (n.d.). *Adolescent sexual attitudes and sexual risk behaviors among wave I adolescent health survey*. Paper presented at the 2019 Convention of the American Psychological Association., Chicago, IL.

**Signorile, J.F.** (2019, September 24). Power is for everyone: High-Speed strength training for older adults [HUR Informational Webinar].

**Signorile, J.F.** (Presenter). (2019, June 7). *Targeted training for Parkinson's Disease*. Lecture presented at The Second Annual Excellence Experience in Parkinson's Disease, Coral Gables.

**Signorile, J.F.** (Presenter). (2019, November 13). *Resistance training for Parkinson's Disease*. Lecture presented at The University of Castilla-La Mancha, Toledo, Spain.

**Zopluoglu, C.** (2019, October). *Validation of graph theory approach to detect test collusion network using an experimental real dataset*. Paper presented at the annual Conference on Test Security, Miami.

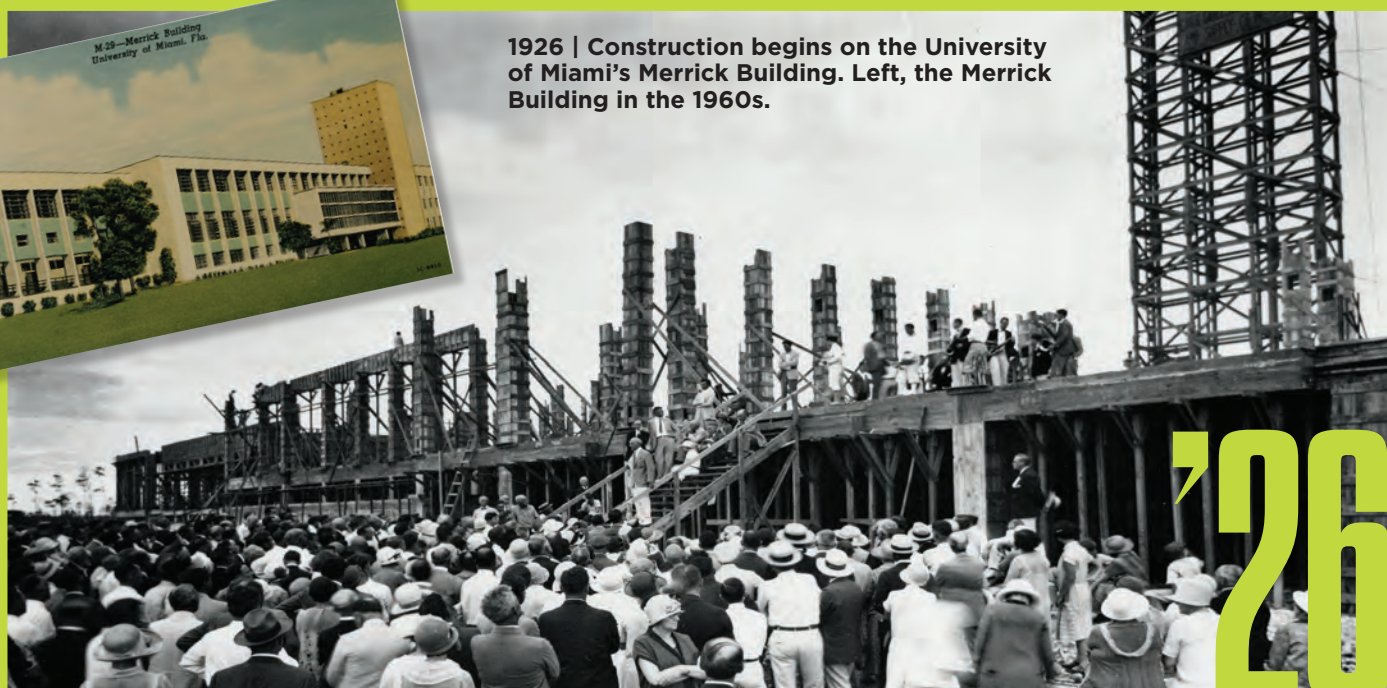
Ferrara, S., Toton, S., Padellaro, F., & **Zopluoglu, C.** (2019, October). *Did you know there is an ITEMS for that?* Paper presented at the annual Conference on Test Security, Miami.

Kasli, M., & **Zopluoglu, C.** (2019, October). *A deterministic gated lognormal response time model to identify examinees with item preknowledge*. Paper presented at the annual Conference on Test Security, Miami.

Man, K., Harring, J.R., **Zopluoglu, C.** (2019, October). *Application of a new method for multiple-group analysis of jointly modeling the item responses, response times, and visual fixation counts*. Paper presented at the annual Conference on Test Security, Miami.



**1926 | Construction begins on the University of Miami's Merrick Building. Left, the Merrick Building in the 1960s.**



'26





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'20