

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

# PERSPECTIVE

WINTER 2021



**SCHOOL OF EDUCATION  
AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**

**PERSPECTIVE  
WINTER 2021**

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**COVID-19**

The latest information on the University's response to COVID-19

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

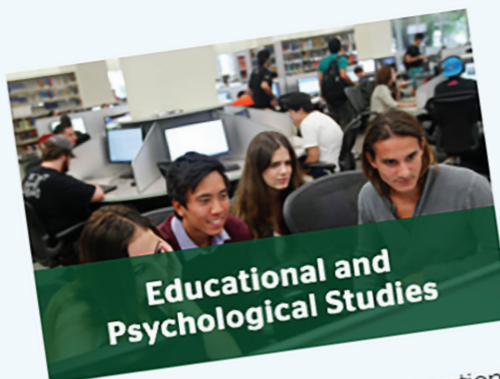
**SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**

MIAMI

About Us Degrees Admission People

## Education should be a tool for transformation. For individuals & communities

That is the core of Dean Laura Kohn-Wood's mission. Building on the well-laid foundation of integrating educational, psychological, and physical wellbeing into formal education, established by former Dean Isaac Prilleltensky, Kohn-Wood intends to harness the immense talent, research skills & know-how of her faculty, staff & students to solve real-life problems.



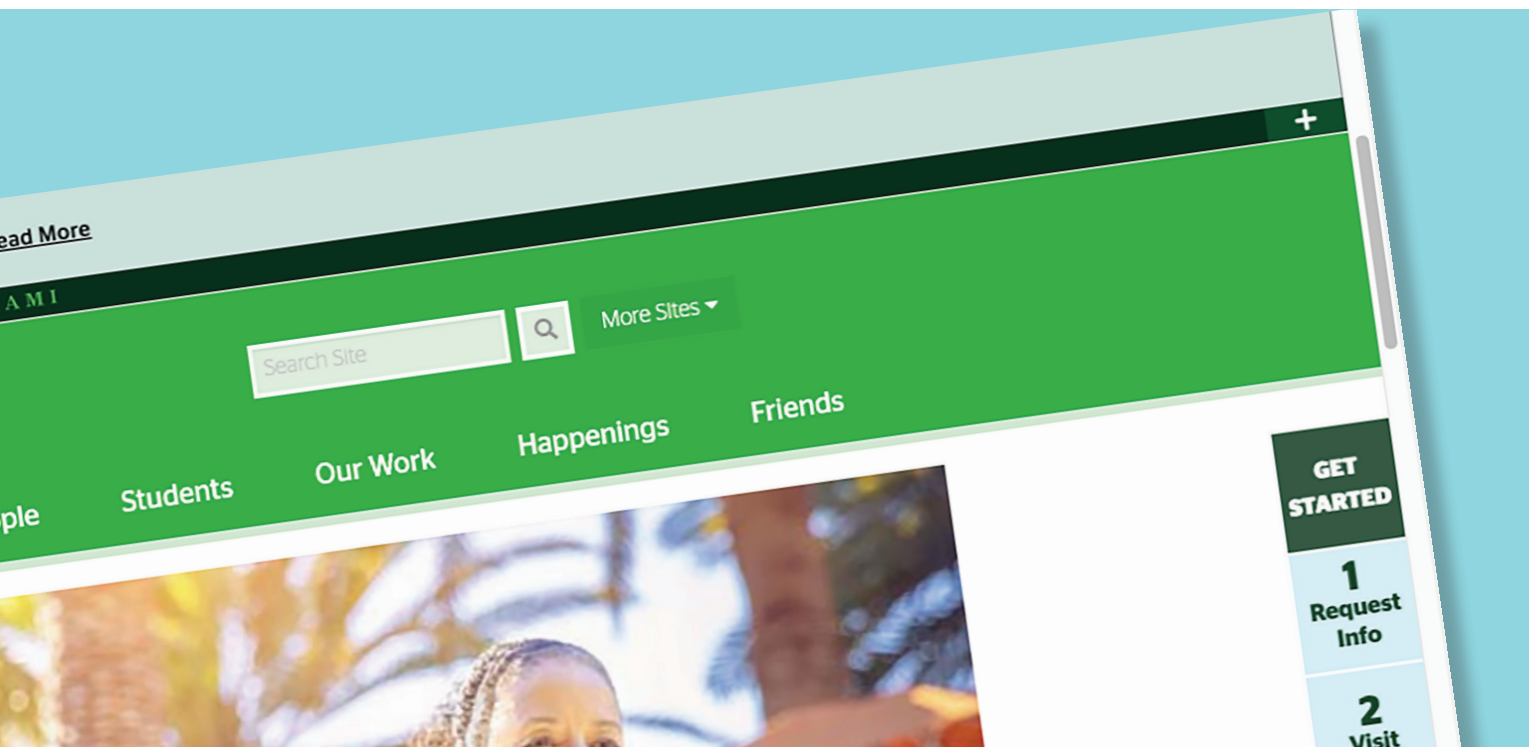
### Educational and Psychological Studies

Intellectual stimulation and cooperation



### Kinesiology and Sport Sciences

Students in our programs receive an



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Introducing Our New Website: [edu.miami.edu](http://edu.miami.edu)





## From the Dean

Laura Kohn-Wood Dean, School of Education and Human Development

It was tempting to shout “BYE 2020” as loud as I possibly could (and I did), and welcome the new year with all the hope and possibility that a new year can bring. But, doing so has obscured the reality; 2020, as hard as it was, also brought some unexpected gifts and some significant clarity. In terms of gifts, quite literally, the School of Education and Human Development (SEHD) received several wonderful gifts from alumni, friends and parents – who recognized that the pandemic elucidated a critical need to invest in educational innovation, equitable access, and broadened opportunity.

Our faculty responded to educational exigency as well – by submitting applications for external support of significant educational research. Recent project proposals include: 1) the development of an Artificial Intelligence-enhanced ‘scaffolding’ system to help early high school students develop scientific knowledge and communication skills (Dr. Nam Ju Kim), 2) a multidisciplinary collaborative of researchers and practitioners working in informal STEM environments to foster STEM identities among diverse and marginalized K-12 students, and help build a STEM workforce and research infrastructure in South Florida (Dr. Jennifer Kahn), 3) the expansion of a year-long program for culturally and linguistically diverse, young adolescents to develop digital literacies for STEM subjects (Dr. Ji Shen), and 4) the continuation of an empirically supported program for under-served local youth to engage in a college-based experience of STEM learning through personal health and fitness literacy (Dr. Arlette Perry). These projects collaborate with several community partners such as Urgent, Inc., the Boys and Girls Clubs, and Fairchild Gardens. The proposals solicit both federal and local funding agencies such as the National Science Foundation and the Children’s Trust.

Overall, the School’s grant submission rate at the mid-point of the academic year exceeds the number of submissions for all of last year. All of this activity has been facilitated by Dr. Kevin Jacobs, Associate Dean of Research for the SEHD, and our small but mighty team of grant support specialists including Mr. Mohammed Keita, Manager, Sponsored Programs, and Mr. Noel Urbino, Sponsored Programs Specialist. We are grateful for their tireless work in supporting faculty productivity. We are also grateful to our donors and to the foundation support faculty have received over the past year. This support helped to facilitate important research that has immediate community and educational relevance.

Our faculty and students have responded to urgent emerging needs as well, including an upcoming Climate and

Racial Justice Talk Series *Cascading Disasters at the Intersection of Underserved Communities*, planned by a U-Link research team that includes Dr. Scot Evans, and Educational and Psychological Studies (EPS) doctoral student Margo Fernandez -Burgos. The first talk featured medical ethicist Dr. Harriet Washington discussing the intersection of health, climate change, and racial justice in a conversation with Dr. Armen Henderson, assistant professor of medicine at the Miller School of Medicine. Also, urgent and relevant is a forthcoming grant proposal from Dr. Guerda Nicolas addressing barriers, mistrust, and the uptake of the COVID-19 vaccination among the Black community of South Florida.

Another bright but bittersweet moment was our SEHD Virtual Graduation event held December 9th for all May, August and December 2020 graduating students, during what will forever be known as the pandemic interrupted year. Despite the interruption, we were pleased to offer a customized virtual experience for our graduating undergraduate and graduate students. Our undergraduate ceremony student speaker was Senator Lauren Book, a double SEHD alumna who represents District 32 in the Florida State Senate. Sen. Book is a passionate advocate for children and for education – and her encouraging words helped send our graduates out into the world with inspiration, and well-earned wisdom. Our graduate ceremony student speaker was Mr. Dickson Bidokwu. He earned his Master’s in Special Education through the Supporting Educators’ Academic Literacies and Enhanced Discourse (SEALED) program. He is a long-time collaborating teacher with the Dept. of Teaching and Learning’s *Inspire U* program, and he teaches chemistry, physics, and engineering at Booker T Washington Senior High School. He also serves as the school’s Engineering magnet program director. His eloquence reflected his passion and commitment to teaching and advancing equity. One of the best things about the SEHD is the pride we can take in shaping a new generation of leaders and transformational change makers.

Despite some of the positive aspects of last year, many of us were happy to bid 2020 adieu. However, 2021, as new as it is, has already brought tragedy. My heart mourns for those we have lost including the young Mr. Stephen Hyler, a child of the SEHD and the EPS Department - may he forever rest in peace.

I truly hope that some of us have been able to experience the positive possibilities that the new year brings, the beginning of  
*Continued on pg. 15*



# Identifying Strategies to Reduce Inequalities in STEM Education

*Promoting early childhood education and diverse role models can help engage underrepresented students.*

Investing in early childhood education, offering hands-on classroom learning, and providing diverse role models are among the ways educators can encourage underrepresented students to pursue careers in science technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

A varied group of panelists took part in an October 22 virtual panel discussion hosted by the School of Education and Human Development (SEHD) on “Re-Envisioning Partnerships to Support Engaged Science Learning and Success in Secondary and Post-Secondary Education.” Attendees and panelists also saw the premiere of a UM film based on interviews with secondary teachers and their students, UM faculty, and local business and elected leaders. The event was supported by multiple grants, including a U.S. Department of Education Supporting Effective Educator Development award and the UM SEEDS office.

“Our purpose is to discuss how partnerships between public schools and institutions of higher education and business could be reimagined to support STEM careers for women and marginalized populations,” said UM President Julio Frenk. “I hope this is a spark that leads to action across all STEM fields.”

In welcoming attendees, SEHD’s Dean Laura Kohn-Wood emphasized the importance of expanding STEM opportunities for Blacks, Hispanics, and women. She also thanked Mary Avalos, research associate professor, Department of Teaching and Learning, for leading the project and organizing the event.

Several of the panelists, as well as faculty and STEM professionals featured in the film, emphasized the importance of giving science teachers more flexibility in the classroom to accommodate students with different learning styles. Academic freedom for teachers would

also provide more opportunities to implement engaging, hands-on STEM learning over knowledge-based test preparation. On the college level, industry partnerships, such as internships can help students explore career paths in the STEM fields.

But as Ji Shen, associate professor and department chair of Teaching and Learning, noted in the film, “STEM disparities are not something that can be resolved by the education system itself. This is a larger social problem, and we need to bring resources to what happens to students outside the school and in the community.” Thus, providing access to STEM learning experiences outside of the school day may also increase opportunities for all students to pursue STEM majors and careers. 📺



Colleen Wright, education reporter for *The Miami Herald*, moderated the discussion with five panelists:

**State Rep. Vance Aloupis (R-115)**  
CEO  
The Children's Movement

**Henri R. Ford**  
Dean and Chief Academic Officer  
Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine

**Abby Vicencio**  
Member  
SEHD Deans Advisory Committee

**Derin Ural**  
Professor in Practice and Associate Dean  
Student Affairs of the College of Engineering

**Mabilin (Mabi) Rego**  
Former Vice President  
Lifestyle and International Technology  
for Assurant Inc.

# Teachers of the Year Honored for Excellence!

Two School of Education and Human Development graduates



## Nicole Swanson

Miami Palmetto Senior High School

diet and lifestyle. The students were able to touch healthy and unhealthy hearts, kidneys, livers, and lungs and discuss the physical differences.

This past fall, Swanson had to adjust to a learning environment with about 20 students in her classroom and 10 online, a mix of "Zoomies and Roomies" in her words. But regardless of location, she strives to give her students hands-on experiences. "We conducted our first virtual lab analyzing water's unique properties by using everyday household objects in students' kitchens," she said. "We observed capillary action of water through celery sticks; cohesion, adhesion and surface tension on pennies and wax paper; and water's solvency of salt and olive oil."

Swanson also takes time to talk to her students about making the transition to high school, and serves on the Palmetto Women's Union, a student club. "High school is one of the most important times in a kid's life, as so many skills are cemented during those years," she said. "What we say and do as teachers has a direct impact on their lives."

Both teaching and the 'Cane spirit run deeply in Swanson's family. Her grandparents, Norman "John" Swanson and Carita Hopper Swanson met on the Gables campus and married at the Lowe Art Museum. He taught biology at Southwest Miami High School, while she earned a master's degree in education and taught as a substitute. Swanson's older sister Jessica, B.S.C. '14, majored in English and journalism at the U, and is now an editor at *American Airlines* magazine.

At Palmetto, Swanson also serves as a professional development liaison and a member of the professional learning support team. "Teachers always need to be learning," she said. In spring 2020, Swanson earned a master's degree in educational leadership from Barry University. "I am fortunate to pursue my passion of education," she said. "I appreciate being able to mold the Palmetto Panther family and leave my own paw print on the community." 🐾

**N**icole Swanson, B.S. '15, a gifted and honors biology teacher at Miami Palmetto Senior High School, vividly remembers her introduction to teaching. "My first day at Palmetto in January 2015, I followed the large paw prints into the front entrance and into my journey as an educator," she said. "Five years later, I was deeply honored to be selected as "Teacher of the Year."

Growing up in Miami, Swanson enjoyed playing teacher, and discovered a love of science in high school at Mast Academy. She earned her bachelor's degree with a double major in biology and secondary education at the University of Miami, and was recognized by the School of Education and Human Development (SEHD) as the top education student in her class. She was also president of Future Educators of America (FEA).

Now, Swanson teaches biology to ninth graders. "I aim to make my class relevant and motivating by creating high-energy lessons that challenge students to think deeply about the natural world around them," she said. For instance, Swanson has invited University of Miami medical students to her classroom, who brought human organs to illuminate the impact of

were honored this fall as Teachers of the Year.



## Annette Ofelia Mejer

Rockway Middle School

“Supporting Educators’ Academic Literacies and Enhanced Discourse” (SEALED) master’s degree partnership with Miami-Dade County Public Schools. “I have learned so much in the last two years that I can implement directly in my practice,” she said “Every professor at UM was incredible.”

One of the highlights of the UM program was a class on universal design learning (UDL). “It changed my way of giving assignments and helping students in the classroom,” said Mejer, who is now enrolled in a doctoral program in the Department of Teaching and Learning.

This year’s switch to virtual teaching has proven to be a challenge for Mejer, as with other Miami-Dade teachers. “It is so important for our students to feel connected with their classroom, even if they are learning at home,” she said. “However, some students have trouble with the software applications and others have found that home wifi is not working well. We have been trying to get boosters to those students, but that is a gradual process.”

With her master’s degree in hand, Mejer is moving forward in the spring semester. “I feel like a brand-new teacher,” she said. “I’m looking forward to putting my experience and education into action in my classes.”

**A**nnette Ofelia Mejer, M.Ed. ’20, was proud to be named the “Rookie Teacher of the Year” at Rockway Middle School, where she teaches sixth grade U.S. history and eighth grade world history in mixed classrooms that include students with varying exceptionalities.

“I love teaching history and getting my students interested in civics and using their critical thinking skills,” said Mejer. “It is so important these days to try to understand both sides of political topics.” At Rockway, she also conducted a professional development workshop on restorative justice for her colleagues. “At M-DCPS, a teacher is considered a rookie within five years of teaching experience,” she said. “I think I was nominated because within these first years teaching, I have taken multiple leadership positions and have continued my education at the university.”

A Miami native, Mejer knew early in life that she wanted to be a teacher. In high school, she began tutoring friends in U.S. history, and went on to earn a bachelor’s degree in social studies education at Florida State University.

After several years of teaching, Mejer resumed her studies through the School of Education and Human Development’s



# Professor Nam Ju Kim

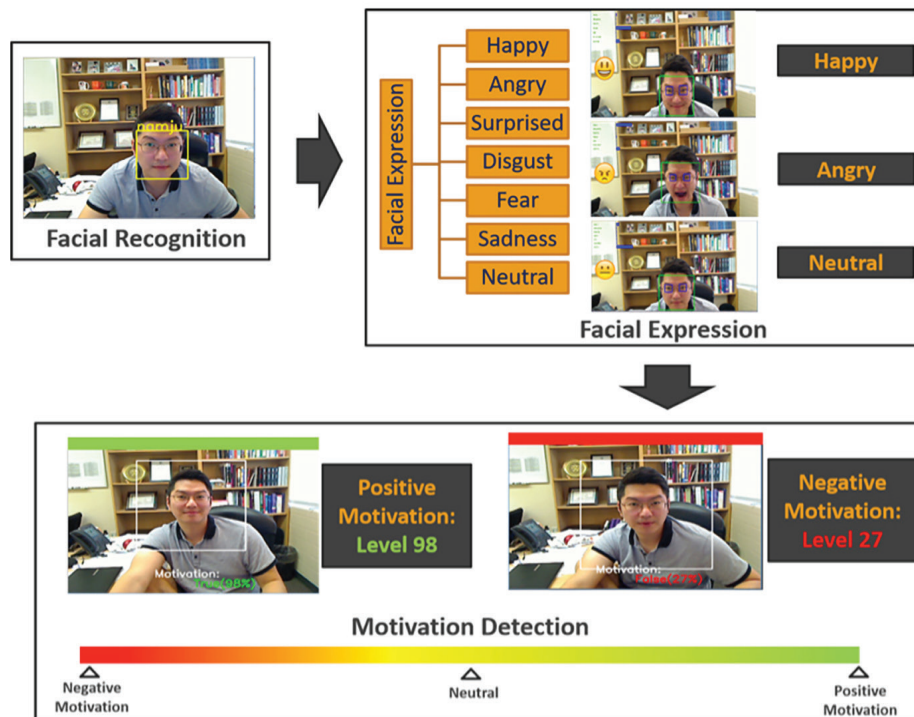
## Developing Powerful Technology Tools for Learning

**M**otivating students can be a difficult challenge for teachers, particularly in a time of online learning. That's why Nam Ju Kim, Ph.D., assistant professor in the School of Education and Human Development's Department of Teaching and Learning, is using advanced technology tools to find a solution.

"Motivation is one of the most important factors for successful learning, but student self-assessments can change dramatically from moment to moment during the school day," he said.

Instead of measuring motivation by paper-based instruments, Kim has developed an artificial intelligence (AI) algorithm for detecting student's motivation based on facial expressions and emotions. "I collected more than 200 students' data about facial expression and motivation, and developed an AI model identifying the unique patterns between two datasets with an accuracy rate of over 95 percent," he said.

With funding from a private foundation, Kim is now validating the AI motivation indicator system in two large-scale schools located in Miami involving more than 2,000 students in grades K-12. "The AI system can identify at-risk students with lower motivation and send real-time alerts to the teacher," he said. "It can also determine when everyone in the class has a low motivational level, indicating a need to make the lesson more engaging for students."



Furthermore, Kim has focused on developing AI-based learning support systems for teachers who find it difficult to provide individualized instruction in a typical classroom of 25 to 30 students. The goal of his project is to design and evaluate an innovative learning technology to assess students' multimodal status in cognition, motivation, and emotion, which drives formative feedback and learning aids to help students develop expository science argumentation skills.

Since joining the school in 2017, Kim has been active in a wide range of technology-related learning initiatives including educational game, robots, and adaptive online learning environment. With support from a Provost Research Award Grant, he is collaborating with

faculty in the College of Engineering on using augmented reality (AR) headsets from Magic Leap to attract and engage undergraduate students. "The mechanics concepts are often abstract, especially those that require students to make the connection between an analytical calculation and its corresponding 3D physical representation," said Kim. "The real and tangible 3D environments facilitated by AR technology can improve students' understanding of contents."

Kim is also working with colleagues at several U.S. institutions to develop an automating meta-analysis tool that can search for published studies across multiple databases, exclude the studies based on the criteria, and calculate the effect size. "A meta-analysis that normally

*Continued on pg .11*



Steven Cadavid, Zachary Ripic, and Moataz Eltoukhy

## KinaTrax Donates Advanced Motion Analysis System to Orovitz Laboratories

# Bringing Artificial Intelligence to Biomechanic Research

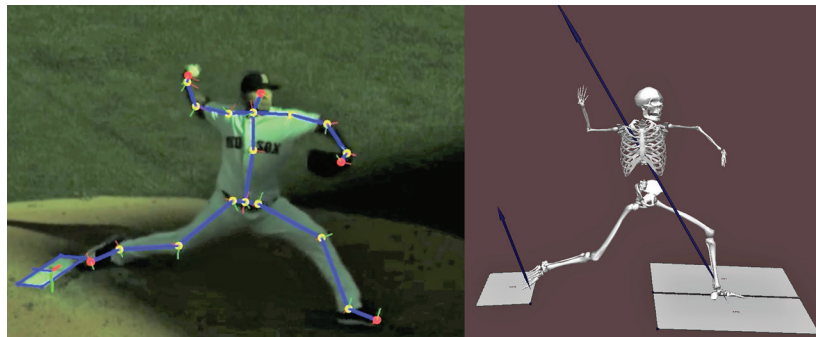
In recent years, KinaTrax's leading-edge motion analysis technology has helped track more than 1 million pitches for Major League Baseball (MLB) teams like the Boston Red Sox, Chicago Cubs and Tampa Bay Rays. Now, researchers in the School of Education and Human Development (SEHD) will be able to use this contactless motion capture technology for studies in biomechanics, thanks to a new system donated by the Boca Raton company.

"The recently installed Sports Medicine and Motion Analysis System at the Max Orovitz Laboratories is a state-of-the-art markerless motion capture system," said Moataz Eltoukhy, associate professor, Department of Kinesiology and Sport Sciences (KIN), and associate professor of industrial engineering. "KinaTrax has applied artificial intelligence (AI) to the field of biomechanics, opening the door to exciting research possibilities."

Steven Cadavid, Ph.D. '11, president, KinaTrax, said, "It is our pleasure to donate to the U. The research being done in the Orovitz Laboratories can benefit from our contactless technology. Through this collaboration, we can collect new data, conduct validation studies and develop models that go well beyond baseball."

KinaTrax's proprietary technology captures, analyzes, and provides a three-dimensional reconstruction of a subject's motion without the use of markers or other devices worn by the subject, added Eltoukhy. "It takes time to place multiple markers on each subject and remove them after the study. This markerless system also benefits participants, students and faculty in the time of COVID-19."

For example, physicians could send individuals with Parkinson's disease to the Orovitz Laboratories for contactless motion analysis using the KinaTrax system. "They could watch the study using a telemedicine platform, review the data, and





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## KinaTrax

*continued from page 7*

adjust medications if needed,” said Eltoukhy. “It’s a convenient solution for both patients and physicians.” KinaTrax’s motion capture system consists of eight high-speed cameras mounted in a circular configuration surrounding the subject. The system combines a proprietary algorithm, a Deep Neural Network, and computer vision techniques to automatically track a subject’s position on a frame-by-frame basis. That stream of data can then be seamlessly imported into Visual3D software to perform the biomechanical analysis, added Eltoukhy.

Eltoukhy said the system can be used in many types of

studies involving injury assessment, gait analysis, balance, and athletic performance. For instance, Zachary Ripic, a KIN graduate student, is already working with the Hurricanes’ baseball team. “Having this system in Orovitz will help us analyze players’ motions,” he said.

Cadavid said KinaTrax’s technology has been installed at more than 30 baseball stadiums round the country, where it is used to assess shoulder, ligament and tendon injuries, while helping coaches improve athletes’ performance. “I’m proud to say we helped the Chicago Cubs go almost injury free in 2016 and win the World Series.” ■





Isaac Prilleltensky believes there is a strong connection between happiness, fairness, and social justice on a national level. “People who live in countries that promote greater social justice tend to be happier,” said Prilleltensky, professor, Department of Educational and Psychological Studies; vice provost for institutional culture; and the Erwin and Barbara Mautner Chair in Community Well-Being in the School of Education and Human Development.

For example, fairer access to health care, education, and childcare frees individuals to pursue their personal aspirations and to be more productive in their careers. In addition, countries that place a greater emphasis on social justice contribute to psychological well-being because residents feel they matter to their communities, Prilleltensky said. It’s no coincidence that Black Lives Matter is the name of a U.S. social justice movement, he added.

Social justice may also help reduce prejudices against migrants, asylum seekers, and other groups. Countries where fairness and equity are strong values may offer more balanced access to career and income opportunities. “The more contrast there is, the lousier the individual at the lower end of the comparison feels,” said Prilleltensky.

In a recent study of 28 European Union (EU) countries, Prilleltensky and Salvatore Di Martino, an independent researcher in Leeds, UK, found that individuals were generally happier in countries such as Denmark, Czech Republic, and the United Kingdom, which enjoy good conditions of social



## Connecting Happiness, Fairness & Social Justice

justice, than in countries like Italy, Greece, and Hungary, which report lower levels of social justice.

Their study, “Happiness as Fairness: The Relationship between National Life Satisfaction and Social Justice in EU Countries,” was published in the *Journal of Community Psychology* and was featured recently in the *Greater Good Magazine* at University of California, Berkeley.

Prilleltensky and Di Martino used data from the EU Social Justice Index, which scores countries on education, healthcare, non-discrimination policies, and many other factors, and compared the findings with how 170,000

Europeans reported their satisfaction with life. They ruled out other variables like age, gender, occupation, or a country’s gross domestic product (GDP).

“Many factors are important in making people happy, including a good income, being healthy, and enjoying social relationships,” said Prilleltensky. At the country level, he and Di Martino found that three interlinked variables strongly predict national happiness:

- Social capital – relationships, institutional trust, social norms, and civic participation.
- Social justice – access to equal resources and opportunities.
- Individual freedom – countries that promote self-determination are slightly happier than countries with rigid cultural norms.

“Our findings lend support to the hypothesis that social justice is highly related to life satisfaction,” said Prilleltensky. “Now, we are working on a new study that suggests that social justice indirectly affects social capital and GDP. This means that if we increase conditions of social justice in a society, it is possible to also increase economic and social conditions; which in turn are important to people’s happiness. These findings are of interest for all those who are advocating for alternative and new measures of country development that go beyond mere financial parameters.”

“People who live in countries that promote greater social justice tend to be happier.”

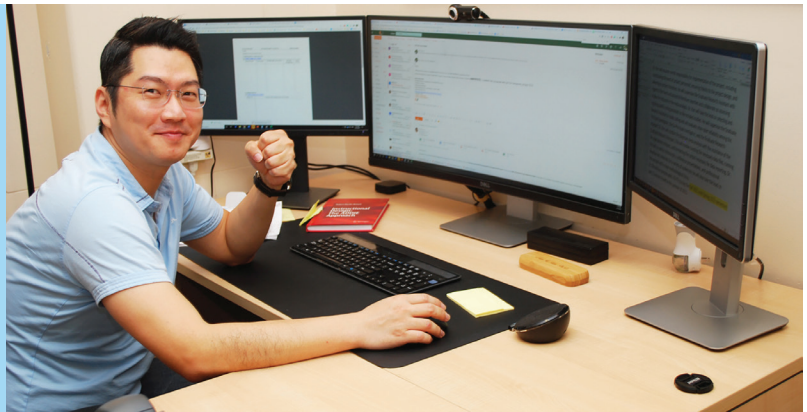
# KUDOS TO OUR GRADS!

*The School of Education and Human Development welcomed another class into the ranks of alumni with a ceremony and reception on December 9, 2020. Best wishes to all recent graduates!*





A facial recognition algorithm captures student expressions, places them into categories, and determines the level of motivation at that moment.



*Continued from pg .6*

might take one to three years can be done by this automating system in just a few hours,” Kim said. “It’s a cost-efficient approach that allows us to use our academic skills more effectively.”

On a national level, Kim is a leader in the American Educational Research Association’s special interest group on problem-based education. This is an emerging instructional strategy that presents students with opportunities to learn from real-world issues, supported by AR, VR and other tools. “Rather than

deliver information directly to students, the teacher becomes a facilitator, observing and helping students when issues arise,” Kim said.

A native of South Korea, Kim earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Yonsei University, where he was an instructional designer developing more than 30 online adult education classes. He earned his doctorate at Utah State University, receiving the Ph.D. Researcher and Outstanding Graduate of the Year awards.

Through the years, Kim has published many studies in top-tier academic journals and has presented numerous papers on instructional technology and learning sciences at national and international conferences.

“As a junior faculty member, I appreciate the great support from our dean and chair in my research and teaching,” said Kim. “Our school is a national leader in instructional technology and I am glad to contribute to advancing our program.”







# Rowing to Success

Olympic Champion and SEHD alum, Lindsay Dare Shoop celebrates success of her new book.

**A**n Olympic gold medalist, Lindsay Dare Shoop, M.S.Ed. '18, is a coach, speaker and author of a new book, "Better Great Than Never". Her inspirational work focuses on her lifelong experiences as an athlete. "I believe you need to embrace every step, good and bad, to find greatness," she said. Published in January, Shoop's book quickly reached #1 on Amazon's Health, Mind & Body chart, and Dr. Michelina Witte, lecturer in the Department of Kinesiology and Sport Sciences who helped as editor, is mentioned in the credits.

In high school, Shoop was an All-State athlete in basketball, but by the time she was in her first year at the University of Virginia, having given up on sports by then, she weighed nearly 200 pounds, was self-conscious of her height, and

frequently missed classes to grab fast food for breakfast with friends. That all changed when she joined the UVA rowing team as a junior; and her grades,

health and happiness rebounded. In just one year, she became an NCAA Division-I All-American; and in four, she broke a world record and won her first World Championship.

"By age 26, I stood alongside my teammates as Olympic Champion, gold medal hanging around my neck and tears streaming down my face as the National Anthem played, and

the American flag raised," said Shoop, who is also a three-time World Champion, and a National Rowing Hall of Fame inductee.

After moving to Miami Beach a decade ago, Shoop worked for the city's ocean rescue team, before returning to rowing as a coach for Pine Crest School in Fort Lauderdale, then for Barry University in Miami Shores, and finally for the University of Miami. "I rediscovered my love for rowing, this time as a coach," said Shoop, whose teams at Barry won two Division II NCAA championships.

Recognizing that a deeper understanding of human physiology would help her become a better coach, Shoop enrolled in the Exercise Physiology program at the UM School of Education and Human Development with an additional focus on strength and conditioning and nutrition.

"That's a rare combination, and it was ideal for me," she said. "Rather than coaching from a conventional standpoint, I could learn and apply a holistic approach that could help young people move better and prevent injuries, which allowed them to further excel and enjoy their sports."

Throughout 2020, Shoop also delivered presentations for USRowing. During her talks, she champions practicing self-care to address mental and physical stress in order to become a better athlete in sport and beyond.

Reflecting on her coaching philosophy, she said, "When you are the best you can be for yourself, you can then be even better for other people." 📖

**"As long as you learn throughout your journey, you can never lose."**

# CLASS NOTES

**Harriet Berenfield Rubinstein, BED '68**, After attending my 50th class reunion I was able to reflect on my days in Coral Gables. I walked around the campus for most of the day and reflected on my time at the U from 1966-1968. I became an Elementary Education teacher. I went back to school and got my my certification in Mathematics. I climbed to the top in my field. In 2002 I was named Teacher of the Year at Sawgrass Springs Middle, Coral Springs, Florida. That same year I was Finalist for Broward County Teacher of the Year. My students were the best Mathletes in the State of Florida. We attended the National MathCounts competition in Washington, DC four times. In that same year 2002 I was named MATHCOUNTS coach of the state of Florida. One of my Mathletes is a Vice President at Amazon.com. Thank you to the University for starting me out on my outstanding career. I loved MIDDLE school. Harriet Rubinstein Berenfield, Master Teacher, Mathematics, Broward County, Florida, Retired

**LTC Glenn A. Ogden, BED '69**, published his eighth American Civil War historical fiction novel, *A Tempest Dawn*. It is the story of a young soldier who fights at the First Battle of Manassas and after his enlistment expires, travels to Wilmington, NC where he joins a Confederate blockade runner steamer, the Molly Mae. He finds and helps escape a young slave girl which will change both of their lives forever.

**Randy J. Ogren, BED '72**, released his third Disney book, *Imagination and Dreams Are Forever*, co-written with his wife Suzanne, and was published by Theme Park Press. All three books are about his career in the early decades of Walt Disney World. Ogren continues to do commissioned paintings mostly Disney themed, from his home studio. He was recently informed that his painting, "First on the Moon", is on permanent display at the Armstrong Air and Space Museum in Ohio. He completed this painting while still a student at the University of Miami, and personally presented it to Neil Armstrong in 1970.

**Patricia Heydet-Kirsch, BSED '79, MSED '80, EDD '04**, After 30 years working as an educator in Florida, I retired from FAU and accepted a position in California. I am serving as the Clinical Practice Director for National University in La Jolla and loving being close to children and grandchildren!

**Clarence J. Maschinot, Jr. EDD '84**, Livin' the retired life in Florida's Friendliest Hometown (The Villages).

**Mary A. McAdams, AB '86, MSED '02**, Just met our third deadline for the yearbook with publisher Herff-Jones at Everglades High School! Woo hoo. COVID won't subdue this 'Cane. Teaching Journalism I-IV and AICE Thinking Skills to some great kids. Wishing all teachers a safe and healthy new year!

**Roger I. Williams, BS '99, MSED '08**, I have worked in the Microbiology and Immunology Department at the University of Miami since June 1999. While employed, in May 2007, I completed a Masters in Education in Higher Education. After obtaining my M.S.Ed, I was promoted to Director, Student Activities and currently serve in this capacity for our Microbiology and Immunology Undergraduate Program. My many duties, to name a few, involve maintaining program accreditation, academic advising, student organization advisement, instruction and coordination of an instructional laboratory, curriculum management and serving as the Editorial Advisor for the first undergraduate science publication on campus, *Scientifica*. I owe a great deal to the mentorship of my colleague and dear friend/supervisor, Dr. Diana M. Lopez. Additionally, I'd like to thank Dr. Carol Ann Phekoo and the various faculty, that provided me with the tools to be successful in my Masters Program.

**Vincenta M. Shephard, MSED '02**, is appreciative of the education received in the Reading and Special Education Program at UM. It is because of my master's education that I was able to secure the experiences as a Miami-Dade County Public School Teacher and Reading Coach (2002-2011), Florida International University (2011-present), Director, Center for Academic Success (2016-present), Reading & Learning Coordinator (2011-2016), and now a Doctoral Candidate in Teaching & Learning.

**Sen. Lauren F. Book, BSED '08, MSED '12**, is an internationally recognized child advocate and safety expert, best-selling author, EMMY-winning television producer, and Florida State Senator. She represents the Broward County-based District 32 in the Florida Senate. She was the Democratic Leader Pro Tempore from 2016-18 and has been an effective advocate for Florida's children and families – recently passing a comprehensive law to combat human trafficking by curbing demand, increasing training in hospitality and massage industries, and increasing funding for survivor services. Following her advocacy in the wake of the Parkland massacre, Senator Book was appointed to the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission to investigate mass shootings and recommend policy to reduce the possibility of future such tragedies. In her capacity as Founder and CEO of Florida-based nonprofit Lauren's Kids, Book works tirelessly to prevent child sexual abuse and help survivors heal, and has been named a *PEOPLE* All-Star Among Us, *L'Oreal* Woman of Worth. She is the recipient of a Congressional Medal of Merit for her tireless work to protect childhood and sits on the Florida Children's Cabinet. She is a four-time EMMY-winning television producer and has been featured by national media outlets including *Newsweek*, *Cosmopolitan Magazine*, the *Huffington Post*, *USA Today* and many more. Through her nonprofit, Book created the first-of-its-kind abuse prevention and personal safety curriculum program, Safer, Smarter Schools – drawing upon lessons learned from her time at the U to create this internationally-implemented program.

**Mercedes G. Ehrman, EDS '08**, retired this June 2020 after teaching for M-DCPS (1983-2020) at Caribbean K8 Center (aka Caribbean Elementary) since 1984. Enjoying time at home - will be travelling as soon as able!

**Brittany L. Brand Poinson, BSED '08, MSED '09**, as of July 2020 - Associate Professor of Child Neurology at University of Oklahoma - specialization in pediatric headache and sports neurology. Clarence J. Maschinot, Jr. EDD '84, Livin' the retired life in Florida's Friendliest Hometown (The Villages).

**Maryann Tatum Tobin, Ph.D. '09**, was recently named Assistant Dean for Professional Education and Personalized Learning at UM's College of Arts & Sciences, after previously serving as Executive Director of Programs for three years. Maryann oversees the A&S Office of Interdisciplinary and Professional Studies, as well as new academic program development, enrollment management, online education, and the college's external marketing initiatives. She and her husband, Nathaniel, have two daughters: Genevieve (7) and Eleanor (3).

**Christina A. Crocco, BSED '11**, member of women's rowing team and Christopher M. Malek, J.D. '09, Iron Arrow, SBA President 2008-2009, were married on February 8, 2020, in New Orleans. Christina remains with the University of Miami and currently works for the Department of Teaching and Learning.

**Brent Vicino, MSED '12**, recently completed my 11th year in intercollegiate athletics. I am currently the Associate Athletics Director for Development at Temple University Athletics in Philadelphia, PA.

**Callah Darmali, BSED '13, MSED '17**, I am working as the Senior Assistant Director of Admission and Scholarships at the University of Southern California Rossier School of Education. Additionally, I am officially halfway through my Ed.D. at USC Rossier pursuing Educational Leadership with a concentration in Leading Instructional Change.

**Dr. Justine S. Green, BSED '13, EDD '19**, is an educator, author, and disability advocate based in Boca Raton, Florida, where she currently serves as the Principal at Tamim Academy. She shares her story of living with a disability in her recently published children's book, *Completely Me*. Her first official interview was posted on Thrive Global by *Huffington Post*.



## CLASS NOTES

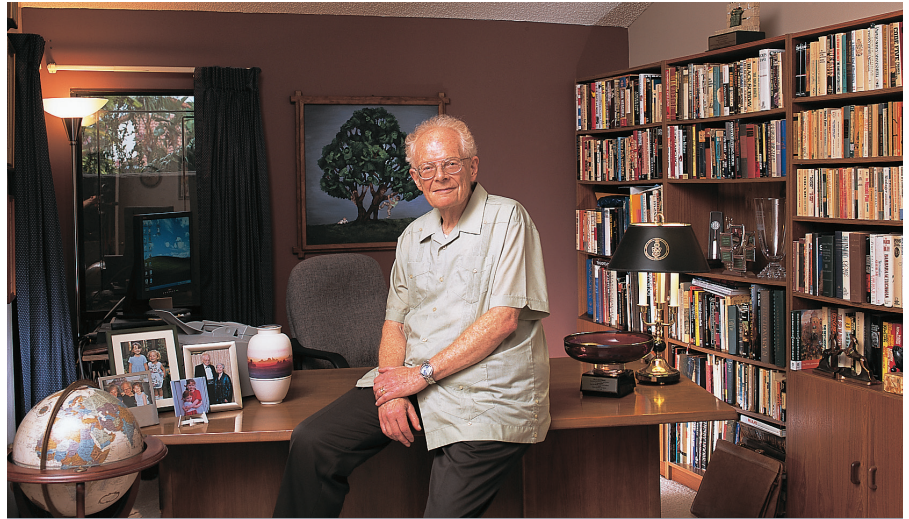
**Ashlyn Reiser, BED '16, MD**, graduated from medical school in May and matched into my first choice specialty, Ophthalmology, at Larkin in South Miami! I'm completing my mandatory general medicine year at Holy Cross in Fort Lauderdale (a University of Miami residency program) and have learned so much, especially during the pandemic! I'm so grateful for UM, as it gave me the tools I needed to succeed both in medical school and now as a practicing physician.

**Joseph P. Callaway, MSed '20**, This has been one of the best experiences of my life! Not only did I learn a great deal, this program has changed the way I teach! Not only that, but it has reignited my curiosity and my passion to teach. The professors were amazing! The most surprising thing was the friends I have made, friends who are now family! Thank you SEALED!! Go Cohort 2!

**David McMillan, PHD '20**, I am a Postdoctoral Fellow for the Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation at the Miller School of Medicine, where I now work at the new Christine E. Lynn Rehabilitation Center for the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis. Here I will be able to continue to collaborate with Dr. Kevin Jacobs and others in our scientific efforts to understand why people with spinal cord injury and other neurological conditions are at increased risk for — obesity and high triglycerides. Recently one of our scientific papers passed peer-review and was accepted for publication in the prestigious *Medicine and Science in Sport and Exercise* journal. Becoming a professional scientist during these unprecedented times has granted more than publications, however, as I now have an embodied understanding of the importance of science communication to our future. Surely the pandemic has stimulated science communication needs. Therefore, I am planning to pioneer an interdisciplinary 'science communication' track with our School of Communication's Master of Art in Journalism program.

### Calling all SEHD Alumni!

To submit your current Class Note to be published in the next *Perspective Magazine*, please send an email with your accomplishments, awards, promotions or a general update to: [SEHDengagement@miami.edu](mailto:SEHDengagement@miami.edu).



## In Memoriam: Luis Glaser

Luis Glaser, who served for nearly two decades as provost of the University of Miami, and nearly a year as interim dean of the School of Education and Human Development, passed away on December 23, 2020.

As executive vice president and provost from 1986 to 2005, Glaser elevated the university's stature as a leading research institution. "A brilliant administrator, researcher, and scholar and a champion for faculty and students" is how Jeffrey Duerk, the University's current executive vice president for academic affairs and provost, described Glaser.

"He was so kind and simply loved and cared for our students. He was the consummate professional and a terrific and brilliant scholar, and I was so lucky to have worked closely with him," said Patricia A. Whitley, vice president for student affairs.

Despite the demanding pressures and time-consuming duties that came with being provost, Glaser, who had a Ph.D. in biochemistry, still found time to teach—engaging with students and showing a genuine interest in their academic progress.

After the sudden death of SEHD Dean Sam Yaeger in 2005, Glaser served as interim dean before the appointment of Isaac Prilleltensky. His daughter, Miriam Lipsky, a former member of the SEHD faculty, and now director of UM student affairs assessment and projects, said her father was a "huge influence" in the family. "He was always there to lend an ear, to listen and share his thoughts and opinions. When I would call him to ask for advice, he'd usually say, 'Let's go to lunch.' Later, when my daughters were UM students, they would often join us for these lunches, and that made my father even happier—to have three generations of 'Canes together.'"

In addition to his wife Ruth and daughter Miriam, Glaser is survived by daughter Nicole Glaser, and granddaughters Megan, Maya, Lauren, Elie, and Ciann.



## PENDING RESEARCH GRANTS

From the Dean, continued from pg. 2  
the end of the pandemic, and actions taken as a result of a renewed awakening for racial justice. And, as Drs. Stephani Burton, Guerda Nicolas and TAL doctoral student Marisol Meyer wrote in their recent Miami Herald Op-Ed, we fervently hope to build upon increased recognition that “the COVID-19 pandemic helped us eliminate some of the barriers that existed [in education] and ensure that every child gets a solid, quality education.” They call for an educational revolution in our communities that extends the problem solving engendered by the pandemic to advance educational equity further than ever before. Concomitantly, I invite you to join us in a revolutionary transformation of education in 2021. Onward.

All my best,

*Laura Kohn-Wood*

**Wendy Morrison-Cavendish**  
**BUILDING SOCIAL CAPITAL**  
TEACHING AND LEARNING  
Spencer Foundation

**Guerda Nicloas**  
**IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON BLACK ADOLESCENTS**  
EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES  
National Institutes of Health (NIH)

**Moataz Eltoukhy**  
**KNEE OSTEOARTHRITIS PREVENTION**  
KINESIOLOGY AND SPORT SCIENCES  
Michigan State University

**Kyle Self**  
**UNDERSTANDING ATTITUDES EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES**  
National Science Foundation (NSF)

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

**Nam Ju Kim**  
**AUTOMATING META-ANALYSIS**  
TEACHING AND LEARNING  
National Science Foundation (NSF)

**Mary Beth Calhoon**  
**IES EXPLORATION**  
TEACHING AND LEARNING  
Institute of Education Sciences

**Mary Beth Calhoon**  
**IES INITIAL EFFICACY**  
TEACHING AND LEARNING  
Institute of Education Sciences

**Nam Ju Kim**  
**VR-H2O**  
TEACHING AND LEARNING  
Georgia State University

**Soyeon Ahn**  
**IES ACTEE**  
EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES  
Institute of Education Sciences

**Soyeon Ahn**  
**EMPOWERING STEM EDUCATORS**  
EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES  
Spencer Foundation

**Nam Ju Kim**  
**EXPLORING SYSTEMATIC DESIGN PRINCIPLES**  
TEACHING AND LEARNING  
Spencer Foundation

**Walter Secada**  
**EFFECTIVE MATH EDUCATORS**  
TEACHING AND LEARNING  
Florida State University (FSU)

## ACTIVE RESEARCH GRANTS

**Miriam Lipsky**  
**MULTI-FAITH PANEL DISCUSSION**  
TEACHING AND LEARNING  
Interfaith Youth Core

**Batya Elbaum**  
**ESE PARENT SURVEY**  
TEACHING AND LEARNING  
Florida Department of Education

**Walter Secada**  
**CGI EXP IN DIVERSE ENVIROMENT**  
TEACHING AND LEARNING  
Florida State University (FSU)

**Maite Mena**  
**CHILDREN'S TRUST CIFTA TRAINING**  
EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES  
The Children's Trust

**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**  
**SBIRT MIAMI GARDENS**  
EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES  
Health Foundation of South Florida

**Walter Secada**  
**FOUNDATIONS FOR SUCCESS**  
TEACHING AND LEARNING  
Florida State University (FSU)

**Nam Ju Kim**  
**AI-BASED MOTIVATION INDICATOR**  
TEACHING AND LEARNING  
Sherman Fairchild Foundation

**Mary Avalos**  
**DEFINITIONS PROJECT**  
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

**Blaine Fowers**  
**GITTNER AWARD**  
EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES  
American Psychological Foundation (APF)

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

**Joseph Kitchen**  
**THOMPSON SCHOLAR LEARNING COMMUNITY STUDY**  
EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES  
University of Southern California (USC)

**Scotney Evans**  
**YEAR SAFE SCHOOLS**  
EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES  
Sociological Initiatives Foundation

**Ashmeet Oberoi**  
**INTERFAITH EXCELLENCE**  
EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES  
Interfaith Youth Core

**Miriam Lipsky**  
**INTERFAITH EXCELLENCE**  
Teaching and Learning  
Interfaith Youth Core

**Matthew Deroo**  
**CREATE: LEVERAGING CULTURAL RESOURCES THROUGH INTRA-INSTITUTIONAL COLLABORATION**  
TEACHING AND LEARNING  
Mellon Foundation

# PUBLICATIONS

**Deroo, M.** (2021). Seeking truth about Muslims?: Critical media literacy in an era of Islamophobia. *Journal of Media Literacy Education*.

**Deroo, M.** & Ponzio, C. (2021). From representation to application: A cross-institutional investigation of pre-service teachers' emerging critical multilingual language awareness. *Journal of Language, Identity, & Education*.

**Grapin, S. E.**, Llosa, L., Haas, A., & Lee, O. (in press). Rethinking instructional strategies with English learners in the content areas. *TESOL Journal*.

**Kahn, J.**, & Jiang, S. (2020). Learning with large, complex data and visualizations: youth data wrangling in modeling family migration. *Learning, Media, and Technology*, 1-16. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17439884.2020.1826962>.

Jiang, S. & **Kahn, J.** (2020). Data wrangling practices and collaborative interactions with aggregated data. *International Journal of Computer-Supported Collaborative Learning*, 15 (257-281). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11412-020-09327-1>.

Kezar, A., **Kitchen, J.A.**, Estes, H., Hallett, R., & Perez, R. (2020). Tailoring programs to best support low-income, first generation, and racially minoritized college student success. *Journal of College Student Retention: Research, Theory, & Practice*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1521025120971580>.

Lee, D.B., Gaskin-Wasson, A.L., Jones, S.C., Harrell, S.P., Banks, K.H., **Kohn-Wood, L.**, Sellers, R.M. & Neblett Jr, E.W. (2020). The Daily Life Experiences Scale: Factor Structure, Reliability, Validity, and Measurement Invariance for African American Males and Females. *Measurement and Evaluation in Counseling and Development*, 1-14.

McMillan DW, Maher J.L., **Jacobs K.A.**, Nash M.S., Bilzon J.L.J. (2020, July) Physiological responses to moderate intensity continuous and high intensity interval exercise in persons with paraplegia. *Spinal Cord Advanced* online publication.

Benedek, J., & **McNary, E.** (2020, June 24). Incentivizing Student Attendance: Rewards Programs in Collegiate Athletics. *SAGE Business Cases*.

Geurin, A. N. & **McNary, E.** (2020, February 11). Athletes as ambush marketers? An examination of rule 40 and athletes' social media use during the 2016 Rio Olympic games. *European Sport Management Quarterly*, DOI: 10.1080/16184742.2020.1725091, 1-18

**Prilleltensky, I.**, McMahon, A., Myers, N., Prilleltensky, O., Dietz, S., Scarpa, M., Lee, S., Pfeiffer, K., Bateman, A., & Brincks, A. (2020). An exploration of the effectiveness of the Fun for Wellness online intervention to promote health in adults with obesity: A randomized controlled trial. *Journal of Prevention and Health Promotion*.

Lee, S., McMahon, A., **Prilleltensky, I.**, Myers, N.D., Dietz, S., Prilleltensky, O., Pfeiffer, K.A., Bateman, A.G., & Brincks, A.M. (in press). Effectiveness of the fun for wellness online behavioral intervention to promote well-being actions in adults with obesity: A randomized controlled trial. *Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology*.

Myers, N.D., **Prilleltensky, I.**, McMahon, A., Lee, S., Dietz, S., Prilleltensky, O., Pfeiffer, K.A., Bateman, A.G., & Brincks, A.M. (2020). Effectiveness of the fun for wellness online behavioral intervention to promote subjective well-being in adults with obesity: A randomized controlled trial. *Journal of Happiness Studies*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10902-020-00301-0>.

DiMartino, S., & **Prilleltensky, I.** (2020). Happiness as fairness: The relationship between national life satisfaction and social justice in EU countries. *Journal of Community Psychology*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jcop.22398>.

**Prilleltensky, I.**, Dietz, S., Zopluoglu, C., Clarke, A., Lipsky, M., & Hartnett, C. (2020). Assessing a culture of mattering in a higher education context. *Journal for the Study of Postsecondary and Tertiary Education*, 5, 58-104. <https://doi.org/10.28945/453>.

Myers, N., McMahon, A., **Prilleltensky, I.**, Lee, S., Dietz, S., Prilleltensky, O., Pfeiffer, K., Bateman, A., & Brincks, A. (2020). Effectiveness of the Fun for Wellness web-based behavioral intervention to promote physical activity in adults with obesity: A randomized controlled trial. *Journal of Medical Internet Research Formative Research*, 4, e15919.

# RECENT PRESENTATIONS

**Kitchen, J.A.**, Perez, R., Hallett, R., Kezar, A., & Reason, R. (2020). *An ecology of validation: Structuring opportunities to validate students in a comprehensive college transition program*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE), New Orleans, LA.

Bernal, I., Dinh, K., Flores, Y., Fernandez, J., **Kohn-Wood, L.**, Lewis, R., Martin, P., Guzman, B. & Torres-Harding, S. (2020, August 5-9). *Subverting white supremacy, centering black lives amidst two public health crises: Anti-Black racism and COVID-19*. SCRA Presidential address/Panel presentation presented at the APA 2020 (Virtual) Convention.

**Kohn-Wood, L.** (2020, November 5-6). *Bastion of bad ideas or bulwark of democracy?* Keynote presented at the Council of Academic Deans from Research Education Institutions (Virtual) Fall Conference.

Geurin, A. N. & **McNary, E.** (2020, September 25). *Examining USA Gymnastics Presidents' Responses to a Sexual Abuse Scandal: A Crisis Communication Perspective*. Presented at the European Association for Sport Management. Virtual Conference.

**McNary, E.** & **Zovko, C.** (2020, February 14). *Sex Trafficking and Sport*. Presented at the Global Sports Business Association. Cozumel, Mexico

**Mena, M.P.** and Santisteban, D.A. (September 2020). *Suicide Prevention: Identifying and Modifying Risk Factors That Can Lead to Suicide Attempts in Latino Youth*. Presented at the National Hispanic and Latino Prevention Technology Transfer Center, SAMHSA, Webinar September 23, 2020.

**Mena, M.P.**, Santisteban, D.A., Del Rey, G. (November 2020). *Working with Adolescents and Families to Treat Self-Harm and other Behavioral and Emotional issues*. Presented at the Miami Dade County Public Schools Department of Mental Health Services, November 18, 2020.

## RECENT NEWS

**Joseph Kitchen** was recently invited to serve on the editorial board of the *Journal of College Student Development* (JCSJ). JCSJ is one of the most prestigious journals in the field of higher education and student affairs and a major resource for scholarship on college students and their success. The application process for a place on its editorial board is highly competitive.



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Or contact:

Kyle Paige, JD  
Estate and Gift Planning  
305.284.2914 or  
1.800.529.6935

Angie Gonzalez-Kurver  
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