

# GAZETTE

Spotlighting the stories of GSAPP Students, Faculty, Staff and Alumni

## IN THIS ISSUE

### UNIVERSITY & GSAPP CELEBRATIONS

Read about the many recent, exciting celebrations, with a special congratulations to GSAPP's graduating class of 2022!

### FACULTY & STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

From receiving grants for innovative research to awards for continued excellence, our faculty and students never cease to amaze!

### MEDIA MENTIONS

Our faculty and alumni were prominently featured in several media channels and publications. Read on!

### SAVE THE DATES

Mark your calendars for these important upcoming events, including the culmination of the Neurodiversity Taskforce, spearheaded by the RCAAS, and much more!

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

We continue to offer a diverse array of live and on-demand webinars. Don't miss these upcoming informative and affordable CE opportunities!



## RU & GSAPP CELEBRATIONS

### A Month of Celebrations!

The past month+ was filled with celebrations and remarkable memories at RU and the Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology (GSAPP). We are beyond grateful to have amazing faculty, staff, students, and alumni. We are especially proud of GSAPP's graduating class of 2022!

### GSAPP's 2022 Commencement

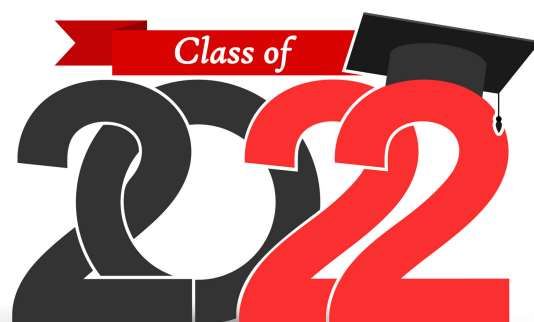
GSAPP's 2022 Convocation Ceremony was celebrated on Thursday, May 12th at the Nicholas Music Center. A special congratulations to the GSAPP graduating class of 2022, who are now masters and doctors of psychology! We are so proud of all your accomplishments. *"Oh, the places you will go!"* Your future is bright, and we can't wait to see what it holds! Remember, GSAPP will always be your home.



### We'd like to acknowledge the following award winners:

- **Professor of the Year**
  - Shireen Rizvi, PhD, ABPP
- **Student Excellence Award Department of Applied Psychology**
  - Nizar Bekai (MAP)
- **Weitz Award Department of Clinical Psychology**
  - Maria Alba
- **Weitz Award Department of School Psychology**
  - Tori Cedar
- **Cyril M. Franks Dissertation Award**
  - Emily Badin (Clinical)
- **Dean's Award**
  - Yasmin Abdelwahab (Clinical)

Stay tuned for pictures from the graduation ceremony in the next issue!



[Click here to submit your news for upcoming issues](#)



# Rutgers Day Returns



## The Psychologist was in!

We also had a very successful and lively Rutgers Day, where we were able to interact with the community and provide valuable information about our GSAPP programs and centers. Everyone was thrilled to have this popular annual event back in-person this year! Thank you to all who came out to volunteer and visit! We hope to see you again, and welcome many new faces, next year!

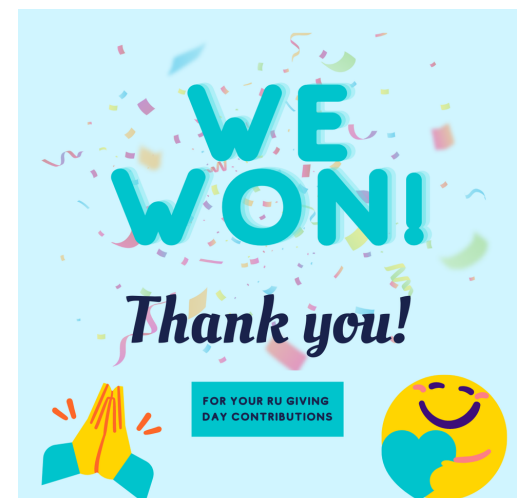
Please enjoy these highlighted photos!



## Rutgers Giving Day

We are thrilled to announce that **GSAPP's Scholarship Fund won "Most-Improved" on the Rutgers Giving Day** leaderboard, receiving a substantial fund match based on a dramatic increase in donations received!

In addition, we received three \$50 New Donor awards, and the DDDC won the New Donor Challenge! We could not have done it without you, and we have an attitude of gratitude for our entire GSAPP community! Thank you for your invaluable contributions; your generosity will make a dramatic impact in supporting future mental health professionals.



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## Organizational Psychology Program Re-Launch

The Organizational Psychology (Org Psych) Program re-launch event was hosted by Peter Economou, PhD, ABPP, at the RCAAS Community Center. This event celebrated GSAPP's longstanding history in organizational psychology and marked the resurrection of the program. Students had the opportunity to network with our admired alumni and faculty. The event was followed by a reception and dinner.



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## Multicultural and International Alumni Dinner

On April 28th, the GSAPP Committee on Diversity hosted the 2022 Dean's Multicultural Advisory Council and International Alumni Dinner, where GSAPP's current Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion efforts were presented. There was an amazing panel of alumni speakers, followed by a dinner, during which alumni and students had an opportunity to connect. Thank you to everyone who attended and participated!

A special thank you to the faculty, Peter Economou PhD, ABPP, Joanna Williams, PhD, Stephanie Lyon, PhD, and Nancy Boyd-Franklyn, PhD; and students, Arianna Irizarry and Oluwakemi Dauda, who were instrumental in organizing and planning this important event!



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## Faculty Council Meeting

On May 2nd, the third floor of the Nelson Building – Innovation Team area, was abuzz with excitement! Faculty and staff gathered for the year-end faculty council meeting, where they enjoyed good company and good food. Poster board presentations were positioned around the room to enable guests to read about each unit's remarkable achievements this past year.

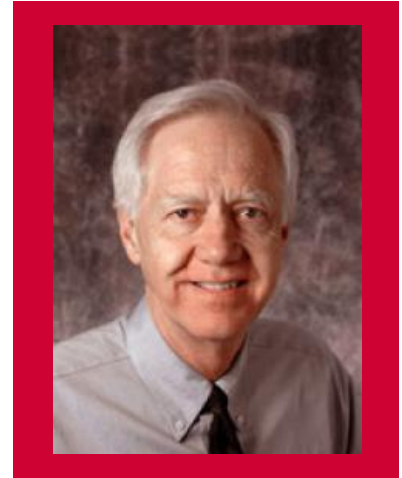
During the event, we celebrated the retirement of three outstanding faculty:



[Susan Forman, Ph.D.](#)



[Nancy McWilliams, Ph.D., ABPP.](#)



[Terry Wilson, Ph.D.](#)

\*Read more about them and their successful careers by clicking their name!\*

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### Dr. Susan Forman's Retirement Party!

"The Department of School Psychology, including other distinguished guests (Drs. Stanley Messer and Cary Cherniss), gathered at a local restaurant to share memorable stories and give toasts to Susan! We wish you much happiness, health, and joy, Susan!"

- Courtesy of Linda Reddy, PhD

## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

### NEWLY-FUNDED GRANT



National Institute on Alcohol  
Abuse and Alcoholism

Congratulations to [Angelo M. DiBello](#), PhD - a grant on which he is Co-Investigator was recently funded! This NIH NIAAA R34 aims to develop a dynamic personalized feedback intervention for young adults with a history of blackouts.

Read more about Dr. DiBello's research study in the *Rutgers Today* article [here](#). Thank you, Dr. DiBello, for exhibiting GSAPP's continued commitment to ground-breaking research!



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## 2022 Faculty Year-End Excellence Awards

Congratulations are definitely in order to the recipients of the prestigious awards below:

- Ramona Ross, PsyD received the **Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching!** This award is given to those who have demonstrated outstanding teaching skills in classroom instruction, clinical instruction, curriculum development, or mentoring. Dr. Ross is a GSAPP-School Psychology alumna and faculty member in Psychology at Rutgers Newark's School of Arts and Sciences. Read her full bio, [here](#).
- Linda Reddy, PhD received the **Board of Trustees Award for Excellence in Research!** This award honors those who have made distinguished research contributions to their discipline and/or society at large. Dr. Reddy is a Professor in the School Psychology Doctoral Program. Read her full bio, [here](#).



Pictured (Left to Right):  
Interim Dean, Ryan Kettler, PhD, Romona Ross, PsyD, and Linda Reddy, PhD

## MEDIA MENTIONS

GSAPP's esteemed faculty were once again featured in the mainstream media, graciously sharing their expertise on a variety of relevant topics. We are so proud of their impressive work and well-deserved representation of GSAPP!



## DR. BAL ON THE DOCTORS

Associate Professor, Vanessa Bal, PhD, Karmazin and Lillard Chair in Adult Autism, was featured on an episode of the CBS talk show, *The Doctors*, which aired on May 20th! In this episode, Dr. Bal shares how to find the resources needed to help people who feel they may be on the autism spectrum. Check out the clip from this episode, [here](#)!



[Click here to submit your news for upcoming issues](#)



## DAN RICE LENDS SEX ED EXPERTISE

[Daniel Rice](#), MEd, former Executive Director of Answer, a Thrive NJ Sex Ed Subcommittee Co-Chair, and GSAPP'S new assistant Dean of DEI, was featured in the following articles:

- A press release by *Thrive NJ* was published on *InsiderNJ* in support of New Jersey's sex education standards. Check out the full release, [here](#).
- An opinion article about how sex education standards help students stay healthy written by Dan Rice and colleagues on *Nj.com*. Read the full article, [here](#).

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## DR. PETE SPOTLIGHTS MENTAL HEALTH AND STUDENT-ATHLETES

GSAPP Associate Professor, [Peter Economou](#), PhD, ABPP, is an expert on the mental health of student-athletes.

Check out Dr. Economou's interview on *NBC LX*, where he shares his expertise on the importance of managing mental health and suicide prevention among female student-athletes, [here](#).

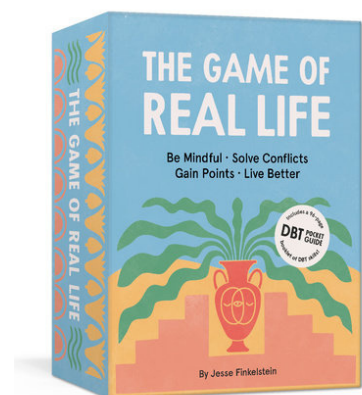


To learn more about his important impact on student-athletes at Rutgers, read the article, "Training Student-Athletes For Life," [here](#).

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## GSAPP STUDENT, JESSE FINKELSTEIN, SPEAKS RE: THE GAME OF REAL LIFE

[Jesse Finkelstein](#), PsyM, a GSAPP doctoral student in clinical psychology promoted his unique creation, The Game of Real Life, on *Pix11 News*! Check out the news clip [here](#)! This one-of-a-kind card game rooted in Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) uses mindfulness to teach emotional problem-solving and interpersonal skills. Discover a fun way to practice mindfulness and develop those skills today! You can purchase the game at this [link](#).



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# Welcome our Assistant Dean of DEI!



## **Dan Rice Named GSAPP's Inaugural Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**



### **A Message on Behalf of Interim Dean, Dr. Ryan J. Kettler:**

The GSAPP Leadership Team is pleased to announce that Daniel (Dan) Rice, M.Ed., has been named GSAPP's inaugural Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). Dan will join the Dean's Office in his new role on July 1.

Dan has been a GSAPP employee for eleven years and for the past three, has led Answer, GSAPP's national sex education center, as their Executive Director. A search to fill Dan's current position is underway. In his recent work, Dan has written professional development modules on cultural responsiveness and microaggressions for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – Division of Adolescent School Health; facilitated racial and reproductive justice learning communities, and served on GSAPP's Diversity Subcommittee for Priority II: Promote Inclusive Teaching and Training, serving as the lead for the Professional Development team.

Please join us in welcoming Dan to the Dean's Office in his new position!

### **A Message from Dan to the GSAPP Community:**

*"On March 29, I had the privilege of presenting my vision for diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEIB) in a GSAPP Town Hall event. There, I shared my commitment to authentic diversity and ensuring we live into our community values through accountability for measurable change and transparency around the process and progress. I shared that I aspire to make GSAPP a place where everyone feels a sense of belonging. Each of us has a role to play in working toward this goal, and my office will always be a space where everyone is welcome and valued. Finally, I shared my goal of making our DEIB work truly comprehensive. Together, we will look at academics, admissions, employee and student policies, recruitment, research, and every additional function of GSAPP through a DEIB lens, and explore options for change as needed.*

*I am honored to have this opportunity to work with the faculty, staff, and students of the GSAPP community to make this vision a reality. As we begin the 2022-2023 academic year, my priority will be meeting with all of you to hear your aspirations and concerns, and to answer any questions you may have. I look forward to learning more about you, and below is a link to my bio if you would like to learn more about me. Together, we can make GSAPP a more just and equitable place to learn and work; explore how we can progressively prepare future mental health professionals to work with clients who have complex, intersecting identities and lived-experiences; and better serve the greater New Jersey community through our service centers. I look forward to beginning this journey in solidarity with all of you!"*

[Read Dan's Bio Here](#)

[Click here to submit your news for upcoming issues](#)

## SAVE THE DATES

### NEURODIVERSITY TASKFORCE

We are excited to announce that the culminating event of the Rutgers Neurodiversity Task Force, will take place on **Thursday, June 16** at the Rutgers Center for Adult Autism Services (RCAAS) Community Center!

Make sure to RSVP with this [link](#)! Breakfast and lunch will be served. There are a limited number of spaces to attend in-person, but there is also a virtual option available.

Read more about RU's Neurodiversity Task Force [here](#)!



**The Rutgers University Neurodiversity Taskforce**  
cordially invites you to an event  
celebrating neurodiversity at Rutgers!



Please join us for:

- an inspiring keynote address
- a student and staff neurodiversity town hall and
- presentations and findings from the Neurodiversity Taskforce's research project

Thursday, June 16  
9:30AM - 2:00PM

RCAAS Community Center  
100 Dudley Road  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Please **RSVP** by clicking [here](#)

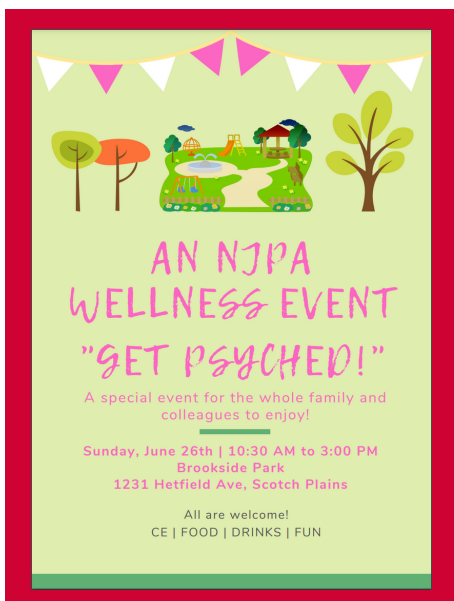
Service • Training • Research rcaas.rutgers.edu

### NJPA WELLNESS EVENT

#### "GET PSYCHED!"

The New Jersey Psychological Association (NJPA) will be holding a wellness event on **Sunday, June 26, from 10:30 AM to 3:00 PM** at Brookside Park in Scotch Plains. This is a family-friendly event that is open to NJPA and non-NJPA members! There will be food, beverages, and a variety of activities available.

This is a great opportunity to network with other mental health professionals from across the state! A presentation will be offered on "Self-Care Skillfulness for Psychologists and Psychology Trainees," presented by Chris King PhD, JD where you can earn 1 CE credit. Learn more and register [here](#)! If you have any questions, email [njpa@psychologynj.org](mailto:njpa@psychologynj.org)



AN NJPA  
WELLNESS EVENT  
"GET PSYCHED!"

A special event for the whole family and  
colleagues to enjoy!

Sunday, June 26th | 10:30 AM to 3:00 PM  
Brookside Park  
1231 Hotfield Ave, Scotch Plains

All are welcome!  
CE | FOOD | DRINKS | FUN



COME ONE, COME ALL!

FOOD | FUN | COLLEAGUES | FAMILY | FRIENDS

The event highlights include:

10:30am: Breakfast (coffee, bagels, pastries)  
11:00am: Continuing Education Presentation  
12:00pm - 1:30pm: Lunch (Panera)  
1:00pm - 3:00pm: Networking, Zumba, Bouncy  
House, and Outdoor Game & Activities

\$25 Adult | \$15 Kids  
CE Certificate Fee:  
NJPA Member \$15 | NJPA Sustaining Member, ECP,  
Emeritus \$5 | NJPA Student FREE | Non-NJPA Member  
\$25

Foundation Fundraisers:  
Tricky Tray & Adult Drink Tickets  
(all tickets sales benefit the Foundation)

TO REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT, VISIT  
[WWW.PSYCHOLOGYNJ.ORG](http://WWW.PSYCHOLOGYNJ.ORG)  
QUESTIONS? EMAIL US  
[NJPA@PSYCHOLOGYNJ.ORG](mailto:NJPA@PSYCHOLOGYNJ.ORG)

[Click here to submit your news for upcoming issues](#)



## CENTER NEWS & EVENTS

### Latest news from the Rutgers Center of Adult Autism Services (RCAAS)



- Check out the RCAAS website for more information: <https://rcaas.rutgers.edu/>
- Check out the [RCAAS Facebook](#) to stay up-to-date on upcoming events and news!

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## ANNUAL AUTISM RESOURCES FAIR

As part of April's Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month, RCAAS-SCALE Director, [James Maraventano](#), EdD, BCBA-D gave a live virtual presentation for the Ocean County Public Library's annual Autism Resources Fair! Throughout the month, the library sponsors a variety of events related to ASD, including panel discussions and Q&A sessions.

Dr. Maraventano's presentation described the services the Supporting Community Access through Leisure and Employment (SCALE) Program offers adults aged 21+ with a primary diagnosis of ASD and how the RCAAS advances its Service, Training, Research mission. Watch the recording of this presentation on the Ocean County Public Library's YouTube page, [here](#).

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## AUTISM MVP

Third-year doctoral student, [Yu Yan](#), is the grateful first recipient of the Autism MVP Foundation Endowed Fellowship! Keith Green, Executive Director of the AutismMVP Foundation, presented a \$31,500 donation to GSAPP and the RCAAS, to assist future mental health professionals serve the underserved adult autistic population. The Autism MVP Foundation Endowed Fellowship will allow GSAPP students, working in partnership with the RCAAS, to gain the necessary training and educational resources they need to empower adults on the autism spectrum.

This generous gift will undoubtedly make a lasting impact. Read the full story [here](#)!

For additional information, visit these links: <https://gsapp.rutgers.edu/.../applied-psychology-department>, <https://rcaas.rutgers.edu>, and <https://www.autismmvp.org/>.



**[Click here to submit your news for upcoming issues](#)**



## RCAAS SPONSORS NJABA CONFERENCE

Recently, the New Jersey Association for Behavior Analysis (NJABA) hosted its annual conference. The RCAAS was honored to sponsor the conference and have several senior team members attend.

Executive Director of the RCAAS, [Christopher Manente](#), PhD, BCBA; CSP Coordinator, [Courtney Butler](#), MS, BCBA; SCALE Director, [James Maraventano](#), EdD, BCBA-D; and SCALE Behavior Analyst, [Whitney Pubylski-Yanofchick](#), MSW, BCBA; and other #GSAPP colleagues participated. Whitney shared compelling research findings of adults on the spectrum with her presentation "Discriminating Relationship Types to Improve Socially Acceptable Statements Made by Adults with Autism."

Thank you for contributing important information about this underserved population and exemplifying the RCAAS mission! For more information about NJABA, please visit: <https://njaba.org/>

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## CALLING ALL BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS

In addition, the RCAAS is hosting the \*first-ever\* Science of Behavior Analysis Conference on **Saturday, June 11!** You already know NJ is a cutting-edge ABA research powerhouse - why wait for the article publications when you can hear directly from the source? Kick off your summer with science at NJABA's Science of Behavior Analysis Conference! The invited keynote speaker is Caio F. Miguel, PhD, BCBA-D, and you can earn 3.0 CEUs for attending. This event is taking place in-person only at the RCAAS Community Center from 8:45 AM to 12 PM.

Register [here](#) and view the presentation schedule, [here](#). Hope to see you there!

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## ABA INSIDE TRACK PODCAST

GSAPP and RCAAS senior leaders, [SungWoo Kahng](#), PhD, BCBA-D, and [Christopher Manente](#), PhD, BCBA joined the hosts of the *ABA Inside Track* podcast to discuss enhancements in supports for autistic adults. *ABA Inside Track* is one of the most popular podcasts about applied behavior analysis (ABA) and the research that fuels the field.

During Episode 201, "Advances in Treatment for Autistic Adults w/Dr. SungWoo Kahng + Dr. Christopher Manente," Drs. Kahng and Manente highlighted the clinical work and research being done at the RCAAS to support autistic adults in the workplace and in college. You can also earn 1.0 general CEU credit for this episode! Listen to their interesting, informative, and impactful dialogue with this [link!](#)



**[Click here to submit your news for upcoming issues](#)**

Macmillan Learning recently partnered with the RCAAS to learn more about supporting employees and coworkers with autism in the workplace. The presentation was led by [Giulietta Flaherty](#), a third-year School Psychology doctoral student, and [Jane Matto](#), a senior at Rutgers University and member of the College Support Program who has spoken at various events to discuss her experiences with Autism Spectrum Disorder. They were joined by [Courtney Butler](#), M.S., BCBA, the Program Coordinator of the College Support Program (CSP) for students on the autism spectrum at Rutgers. Read the full blog post [here](#)!

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## Latest News from the Center of Alcohol & Substance Use Studies (CAS)

- Check out the CAS website for more information, [here](#)!
  - Follow the CAS on Twitter, [@Rutgers\\_CAS](#) to keep up to date on current news and innovative research!
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## 2022 JOSEPH M. RUSSELL MEMORIAL AWARD

Recently, the **2022 Joseph M. Russell Memorial Award** was presented by Dr. Denise Hien, CAS Director, to two doctoral students for their commitment to preserving the history of CAS:

- Nicholas Allred (PhD, 2022, Rutgers English Department)
- William Bejarano (PhD Candidate, Rutgers School of Communication & Information).

This recognition highlights their contributions to designing and conducting historical research, providing access to the unique material in the CAS archives, and sharing CAS history with students and scholars in other disciplines. Read more, [here](#)!



Pictured Left to right:  
William Bejarano, Judit Ward,  
Nicholas Allred

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## WELLNESS IN RECOVERY PROGRAM (WINR) CONFERENCE

On **June 10th from 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM**, the CAS will host the Wellness in Recovery Program (WinR) Conference, "Supporting the Supporters: Collective Action Through Research and Advocacy!"

At this conference, there will be a focus on ways to work together to support one another, building connections among family members, peer supporters, behavioral health providers, researchers, and advocates. Read the detailed flyer and learn more about this event, [here](#)!

**[Click here to submit your news for upcoming issues](#)**

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

# Discounts Available!

- GSAPP alum/supervisors/faculty: 20% off
- Rutgers alum: 10% off
- Current students (any university): 50% off
- GSAPP students: Free

Please email [ce@gsapp.rutgers.edu](mailto:ce@gsapp.rutgers.edu) for discount codes.

Looking to earn your Continuing Education (CE) credits? GSAPP's Office of Professional Development and Continuing Education (OPDCE) strives to meet the training needs of professional psychologists and other behavioral health professionals through a variety of conveniently offered, on-demand and live webinars. Check out the featured webinars below! You can access the full library of offerings [here](#). For questions, please email [ce@gsapp.rutgers.edu](mailto:ce@gsapp.rutgers.edu).

## FEATURED ON-DEMAND WEBINARS



**1 CE Credit**  
**On-Demand Webinar**

**COGNITIVE BEHAVIORAL THERAPY FOR INSOMNIA:  
AN INTRODUCTION AND PRACTICE GUIDE**



**On Demand Webinar**

**Opioid Addiction and Its Treatment:  
A Brief Overview for Psychotherapists**

**1 CE Credit**

Fulfills the NJ psychologist CE Opioids Requirement



**ON-DEMAND WEBINAR**

**Culturally Responsive Supervision**

**3 CE Credits**



**ON-DEMAND WEBINAR**

**Using Games to Enhance Children's Motivation:  
Applications for Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy**

**1 CE Credit**



**ON-DEMAND WEBINAR**

**Healing Racial Trauma:  
An African Centered Perspective**

**2 CE Credits**



**ON-DEMAND WEBINAR**

**Domestic Violence and Trauma: Clinical Considerations**

**4 CE Credits\*\***

\*\*This webinar fulfills the NJ psychologist CE requirement on domestic violence\*\*

**CLICK HERE TO VIEW OUR ON-DEMAND WEBINAR LIBRARY**



**[Click here to submit your news for upcoming issues](#)**

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### JUNE'S FEATURED LIVE WEBINAR

During the month of June, OPDCE will be featuring the live webinar, "Domestic Violence vs. High-Conflict: Impact on Children and Adults," with Dr. Sharon Ryan Montgomery and Dr. Marcy Pasternak. This webinar fulfills the NJ psychologist CE requirement on Domestic Violence!

It also fulfills:

- 4 CE credits for Psychologists (APA)
- 4 CE credits for New York Psychologists (NYSED)
- 4 CE hours for NJ Drug & Alcohol Counselors (CADC/LCADC)
- 4 Clinical CE hours for NJ Social Workers

Learn more about this webinar and register [here!](#)

# Live Webinar!

Join us for "Domestic Violence vs. High-Conflict: Impact on Children and Adults" with Dr. Sharon Ryan Montgomery & Dr. Marcy Pasternak




**This webinar fulfills the NJ psychologist CE requirement on Domestic Violence!**

**Friday, June 10 | 12-4:30 pm EST**  
**4 CE Credits**  
**Price: \$100**

**RUTGERS**  
Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology

## WE'RE HIRING

### Program Coordinator II Position

 We are hiring! Join GSAPP's OPDCE team today as a Program Coordinator II.

For more information, including the job description and how to apply, click this [link!](#)

**RUTGERS**  
Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology

# We are HIRING!

*Join our team*

Open Position ↓

- **Program Coordinator II**
  - Assist in the day-to-day operations of the Office of Professional Development and Continuing Education (OPDCE)'s programs and event planning!

For more info: <https://jobs.rutgers.edu/postings/164391>

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## GAZETTE STAFF

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## PREVIOUS ISSUES

[April 29](#)  
[March 31](#)  
[February 28](#)

*"The future belongs to those who  
believe in the beauty of their  
dreams."*

-Eleanor Roosevelt

## FOLLOW GSAPP ON SOCIAL!



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