

RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY



CONVOCATION

MAY 2024

Graduate School
of
Applied and Professional
Psychology



Master of Applied Psychology
Master of Applied Behavior Analysis
Doctor of Psychology

2024 Convocation Ceremony

Nicholas Music Center
Cook/Douglass Campus
May 9, 2024
11:00 am

HISTORY AND MISSION OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF APPLIED AND PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY (GSAPP)

“The mission of GSAPP is threefold: education, research/scholarship, and public service. Its goal is to prepare well-educated, qualified, and competent direct-service psychologists who have a special commitment to community involvement and to underserved populations—professionals who can integrate scientific knowledge with innovation in the delivery of psychological services to individuals, families, groups, and organizations. Professionals receiving a degree in psychology should be capable of extending psychological knowledge, as well as exhibiting the high level of analytic skills and theoretical understanding needed to use existing and emerging psychological knowledge.”

Core Values. We are guided by four core values that are apparent in our learning environment, centers, and clinics:

1. Academic excellence in preparing students for careers in applied and professional psychology.
2. Commitment to social justice and helping underserved populations.
3. Diversity of students trained, approaches used, theoretical orientations followed, and populations served.
4. Knowledge generation and dissemination using contemporary research approaches.

ORDER OF EXERCISES

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Dr. Arpana Inman, Dean

Faculty Honors

Presentation of Professor of the Year Award

Dr. Arpana Inman, Dean

Student Speakers

James Dzera, Department of Applied Psychology

Norna Jules, Department of Clinical Psychology

Ayomide (Mustapha) Olorunyomi, Department of School Psychology

Student Honors

Presentation of the Department of Applied Psychology

Student Excellence Award

Presentation of the Robert D. Weitz Awards

Presentation of the Cyril M. Franks Award

Presentation of Degree Candidates

Presentation of Master of Applied Psychology Candidates

Presentation of Master of Applied Behavior Analysis Candidates

Dr. SungWoo Kahng, Department Chair, Applied Psychology

Welcome from the New Jersey Association for Behavior Analysis

Dr. Lindsay Keke, Secretary, Executive Committee

Presentation of Doctor of Psychology - Organizational Candidate

Dr. SungWoo Kahng, Department Chair, Applied Psychology

Presentation of Doctor of Psychology – Clinical Candidates

Dr. Shireen Rizvi, Department Chair, Clinical Psychology

Welcome from the New Jersey Psychological Association

Dr. Marc Girona, President

Presentation of Doctor of Psychology – School Candidates

Dr. Timothy Cleary, Department Chair, School Psychology

Welcome from the New Jersey Association of School Psychologists

Kristine Esposito, Ed.S., President

Congratulatory Remarks

Dr. Francine Conway, Chancellor, Rutgers University-New Brunswick

Induction of New GSAPP Alumni

Dr. Joseph Conerty, President of GSAPP Alumni Organization

Concluding Remarks and Conferring of Degrees

Dr. Arpana Inman, Dean

Congratulations to the Class of 2024!!

Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology

Master of Applied Psychology Candidates

Emily Albright	Lauren Gayoso-Acuna	Kiana Salmon
Simbiat Alimi	Alyssa Granato	Janet Seaman
Elana Bain	Sydney Hall	Janhvi Sheth
Nia Baird	Samantha Harper	Ashley Simpson
Laura Charos	Amanda Jeon	Kiet Tran
Yongxuan Chen	Anika Kasimsetty	Samantha Van Dean
James Dzera	Dinemis Kip	Elajah Vasquez
Shanon Fannell	Cynthia Lando	Conor Wall
Victoria Flanagan	Brandon Orevillo	Kaley Walsh
Anissa Flewellen	Isabella Palmeri	Kristiana Linda Zahare
	Kelly Reyes	

Master of Applied Behavior Analysis Candidates

Blye Abreu	Hanadi Ibrahim
Hacer Baltaci	Arielle Marshall
Jonah Bann	Timothy Morris

Doctor of Psychology Candidate

Organizational Psychology

Adam Ben-Hanania~

New-Generational Leadership Changes in Family-Owned Businesses: Enhancing Organizational Resilience and Preventing Organizational Trauma
Dissertation Committee: Robert Emmerling, Preston Lindsay

Doctor of Psychology Candidates

Clinical Psychology

Gabrielle Gunin *

Transdiagnostic Group Behavioral Activation Therapy (GBAT) with Individual Boosters: Adaptations for Autistic Adults
Dissertation Committee: Vanessa Bal, Brian Chu

Norna Jules *

The Utility of Grit for Latino Families Navigating the Autism Diagnosis Experience
Dissertation Committee: Vanessa Bal, Caroline Coffield

Tian Saltzman *

Defining a Clean Bill of Health: Eating, Sleeping, and Exercise Habits of Diverse Youth
Dissertation Committee: Brian Chu, Kristen Riley

Jong Lee *

Deconstructing Assumptions of Universality in Attachment Theory: An Examination of Applicability to Eastern Asian Culture
Dissertation Committee: Shalonda Kelly, Karen Riggs-Skean

Brittany Wesnitzer *

The Frequency and Association of Racial Microaggressions with Relationship Satisfaction in Asian American and White Interracial Relationships
Dissertation Committee: Shalonda Kelly, Karen Riggs-Skean

Melissa Farsang *

Intersectional Identities in Sexual Minority Women: Internalized Heterosexism and Mental Health Across Identities
Dissertation Committee: Stephanie Lyon-Stirling, Joanna Williams

Alexis Mattia *

From Ghosts in the Nursery to Ghosts in the Therapy Room: A Comparative Case Study of Parent-Child Relationships

Dissertation Committee: Stephanie Lyon-Stirling, Francine Conway

Paulina Calcaterra *

Challenging Anti-Fat Bias, Body Dissatisfaction, and Disordered Eating Among Adolescents Using Health at Every Size and Intuitive Eating Principles

Dissertation Committee: Karen Riggs-Skean, Shalonda Kelly

Emily Hendershot *

A Naturalistic Study of Graduate Student Experiences Implementing Deliberate Practice

Dissertation Committee: Karen Riggs-Skean, Brook Hersey

Drew Mendelson *

The Commitment of a Lifetime: The Role of Emotionally Focused Therapy in Strengthening Attachment Bonds and Improving Relationship Health in Later-Life Couples

Dissertation Committee: Karen Riggs-Skean, Elizabeth Brown

Radwa Mokhtar *

An Exploratory Study of Perspectives on Intersectionality, Mental Health Needs, and Therapy Among Individuals Who Identify as Black and Muslim

Dissertation Committee: Kristen Riley, Nancy Boyd-Franklin

Febrian Moten *

Perceptions About How Racism Contributes to the Development of Borderline Personality Disorder

Dissertation Committee: Kristen Riley, Shireen Rizvi

Molly Stern *

Evaluating the Layers of Stigma in Lung Cancer Patients with Intersecting Identities

Dissertation Committee: Kristen Riley, Erum Nadeem

James Terhune *

Loneliness and Course of Depression in Older Adults

Dissertation Committee: Jamie Walkup, Dawne Mouzon

Doctor of Psychology Candidates

School Psychology

Andrew Cosgrove *

Examining Reading Progress for Students in Grades 3-5 in Special Education Receiving Fountas and Pinnell Leveled Literacy Intervention and Other Supplemental Reading Interventions (LLI+)

Dissertation Committee: Timothy Cleary, Adam Lekwa

Jinmu Meng *

A Pilot Study to Examine the Effects of The Chinese Immigrant Parent Support Group on Parental Efficacy and Satisfaction Among Parents of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Dissertation Committee: Timothy Cleary, Erum Nadeem

Esther Stein *

Predictors of Self-Efficacy in Young Adults with Inflammatory Bowel Disease and Comorbid Behavioral Health Conditions

Dissertation Committee: Timothy Cleary, Jeffrey Segal, Laurie Keefer

Julia Weinkauff *

School Psychologists' Perceptions and Practices Related to School-Based Eating Disorder Screening, Identification, Prevention, and Intervention

Dissertation Committee: Susan Forman, Timothy Cleary

Gabrielle Moya ***

Leading as a Family: Applying Family Systems Theory to School Leadership

Dissertation Committee: Anne Gregory, Erum Nadeem

Ayomide (Mustapha) Olorunyomi *

Juvenile Justice Youth Understanding of Trauma: Perceptions of Mental Health Treatment Providers

Dissertation Committee: Joanna Williams, Anne Gregory

Russi Soffer [◊]

Limits and Possibilities of Restorative Conferences in Schools: An Exploration of Conference Participant Characteristics and Perceptions

Dissertation Committee: Anne Gregory, Erum Nadeem

Yu Yan **

Using Behavioral Skills Training with Video Modeling to Promote Social Communication Skills to Young Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Dissertation Committee: SungWoo Kahng, Linda Reddy

Sherrickah Thigpen Hayes *

The Significance of Paternal Roles: Can Absent Fathers Affect the Way Young African American Women View Their Heteroromantic Relationships?

Dissertation Committee: Shalonda Kelly, Joanna Williams

Kristen Foley *

Understanding the Intersection Between Social Emotional Learning and Socioeconomic Status

Dissertation Committee: Maurice Elias, Adam Lekwa, Brian Eichert

Ashlee Trent *

When Districts Bring in SEL Assessment: A Cautionary Tale for School Psychologists

Dissertation Committee: Maurice Elias, Adam Lekwa

Rachel Hoffman *

Clinician Perspectives on Implementing a School-Based Trauma Intervention for Elementary School Students: A Study of Adaptations

Dissertation Committee: Erum Nadeem, Timothy Cleary

Jessica Krass *

The Influence of Social Emotional Learning on Student Engagement

Dissertation Committee: Maurice Elias, David Shernoff

Giulietta Flaherty *

The Experience of Black Students in Inclusive Post-Secondary Education: An Exploratory Study

Dissertation Committee: Jennifer Durham, Christopher Manente

** August 2023 graduates

* October 2023 graduates

◇ January 2024 graduates

~ May 2024 graduate

≠ August 2024 graduates

*** October 2024 graduates

Candidates receiving an August 2024 or October 2024 Diploma have met their requirements pending internship completion.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Dean's Office

Arpana Inman, Ph.D.

Dean

Lara Delmolino, Ph.D.

Associate Dean for Administration and Strategic Operations

Ryan Kettler, Ph.D.

Associate Dean for Academic and Faculty Affairs

Linda Reddy, Ph.D.

Associate Dean of Research

Daniel Rice, M.Ed.

Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Departments

Timothy Cleary, Ph.D.

Chair, Department of School Psychology

Angelica Diaz-Martinez, Psy.D.

Director of Clinical Training, Clinical Psychology Program

Jennifer Durham, Psy.D.

Director of Clinical Training, School Psychology Program

Jennifer Foster, Psy.D.

Director, Multi-Tiered Systems of Support Program

SungWoo Kahng, Ph.D.

Chair, Department of Applied Psychology

Director, Academic Programs in Applied Behavior Analysis

Director, Organizational Psychology Program

Shireen Rizvi, Ph.D.

Chair, Department of Clinical Psychology

Deirdre Waters, Psy.D.

Director, Master of Applied Psychology Program

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

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Director, Center of Alcohol and Substance Use Studies

Joshua Langberg, Ph.D.
Director, Center for Youth Social Emotional Wellness

Christopher Manente, Ph.D.
Executive Director, Rutgers Center for Adult Autism Services

Kelly Moore, Psy.D.
Director, Center for Psychological Services

Stephanie Lyon-Stirling, Ph.D.
Executive Director, Answer

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Rachel Diaz
Program Coordinator, Department of Applied Psychology

Chanelle Greene
Administrative Assistant, Dean's Office

Robin Hussey
Program Coordinator, Department of School Psychology

Alice Liou
Senior Administrative Assistant, Dean's Office

Julie Skorny
Program Coordinator, Department of Clinical Psychology

Thank You to Our Volunteers!

Ayomitunde Adebawale, Jahnayah Bellot, Rebecca Bowers, Bernie Cariaga, Compton Chester, Cameron Cornell, Catherine Emery, Karen Cascio Harford, Stephanie Jimenez, Jenna Juma, Jayshree Mariwala, Nirmal Sadarangani, Christine Sanchez, Ben Sheard, Tony Soriano, Kim Spinelli, Faith Torres, Usha Yerramilly

FACULTY

Vanessa Bal, Ph.D.
Associate Professor

Alexandria Bauer, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor

Germán Cadenas, Ph.D.
Associate Professor

Nicole Cain, Ph.D.
Associate Professor

Brian Chu, Ph.D.
Professor

Timothy Cleary, Ph.D.
Professor

Joshua Cohen, Ph.D.
Assistant Teaching Professor

Sheva Cohen-Weiss, Psy.D.
Assistant Teaching Professor

Yulema Cruz, Ph.D.
Assistant Teaching Professor

Meghan Deshais, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor

Angelica Diaz-Martinez, Psy.D.
Teaching Professor

Angelo DiBello, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor

Jennifer Durham, Psy.D.
Teaching Professor

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Assistant Professor

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Associate Professor of Professional Practice

Jennifer Foster, Psy.D.
Assistant Teaching Professor

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Research Professor

Emily Graybill, Ph.D.
Associate Professor

Anne Gregory, Ph.D.
Professor

Connie Hoyos-Nervi, Psy.D.
Assistant Teaching Professor

Julia Iannaccone, Ph.D.
Clinical Assistant Professor

Robert Isenhower, Ph.D.
Associate Teaching Professor

SungWoo Kahng, Ph.D.
Professor

Shalonda Kelly, Ph.D.
Professor

Ryan Kettler, Ph.D.
Professor

Joshua Langberg, Ph.D.
Professor

Robert LaRue, Ph.D.
Clinical Professor

Adam Lekwa, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor

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*Assistant Professor of
Professional Practice*

Kristen Riley, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor

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Clinical Assistant Professor

Shireen Rizvi, Ph.D.
Professor

Christopher Manente, Ph.D.
Clinical Associate Professor

Tanya Saraiya, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor

Thor Mann, Psy.D.
*Associate Professor of
Professional Practice*

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Cary Cherniss, Ph.D.

Nancy Fagley, Ph.D.

Daniel B. Fishman, Ph.D.

Susan Forman, Ph.D.

Sandra L. Harris, Ph.D.

Stanley B. Messer, Ph.D.

Kenneth Schneider, Ph.D.

G. Terence Wilson, Ph.D.

ALMA MATER

On the Banks of the Old Raritan

From far and near we came to Rutgers
And resolved to learn all that we can;
And so we settled down,
In that noisy college town,
On the banks of the old Raritan.

Refrain:

*On the banks of the old Raritan (my friends)
Where old Rutgers evermore shall stand,
For has she not stood
Since the time of the flood,
On the banks of the old Raritan.*

Then sing aloud to Alma Mater
And keep the scarlet in the van'
For with her motto high
Rutgers' name shall never die
On the banks of the old Raritan.

(Refrain)

Rutgers University Alumni Association

Welcome

TO THE RUTGERS UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Congratulations! You are now one of more than 550,000 alumni worldwide—a global community that is scarlet forever. Your membership in the Rutgers University Alumni Association starts now, lasts a lifetime, and gives you access to:



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