RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY

2024

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
Dr. SungWoo Kahng, Department Chair, Applied Psychology
Welcome from the New Jersey Association for Behavior Analysis
Dr. Lindsay Keker, 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 Gironda, 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

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

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<th>Candidate</th>
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<tr>
<td>Blye Abreu</td>
<td>Hanadi Ibrahim</td>
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<td>Hacer Baltaci</td>
<td>Arielle Marshall</td>
<td>Timothy Morris</td>
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<td>Jonah Bann</td>
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#### 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 Weinkauf
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
Sherrikah 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

Centers
Catriona Francis, Ed.M.
Director, Douglass Developmental Disabilities Center

Denise Hien, Ph.D.
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 Adebowale, Jahnayah Bellot, Rebecca Cariaga, Compton Chester, Cameron Cornell, Catherine Emery, Karen Cescio Harford, Stephanie Jimenez, Jenna Juma, Jayshee 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

Peter Economou, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor

Robert Emmerling, Psy.D.
Associate Professor of Professional Practice

Jennifer Foster, Psy.D.
Assistant Teaching Professor

Todd Glover, Ph.D.
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
Preston Lindsay, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor of Professional Practice

Stephanie Lyon-Stirling, Ph.D.  
Clinical Assistant Professor

Christopher Manente, Ph.D.  
Clinical Associate Professor

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

Erum Nadeem, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor

Linda Oshin, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor

Anthony Pawlak, Ph.D.  
Assistant Research Professor

Elena Ragusa, Psy.D.  
Assistant Professor of Professional Practice

Linda Reddy, Ph.D.  
Professor

Karen Riggs-Skean, Psy.D.  
Teaching Professor

Kristen Riley, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor

Shireen Rizvi, Ph.D.  
Professor

Tanya Saraiya, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor

Louis Sass, Ph.D.  
Distinguished Professor

David Shernoff, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor

Elisa Shernoff, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor

Margaret Swarbrick, Ph.D.  
Research Professor

Jamie Walkup, Ph.D.  
Professor

Deirdre Waters, Psy.D.  
Assistant Teaching Professor

EMERITI FACULTY

Nancy Boyd-Franklin, Ph.D.
Brenna H. Bry, Ph.D.
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.
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
Rutgers’ name shall never die
On the banks of the old Raritan.

(Refrain)