



Rutgers Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology (GSAPP) Presents

"Meeting the Moment: 50 Years of Impact"



Gala Celebration

October 4, 2025
The Heldrich Hotel and Conference Center
New Brunswick, NJ

Our Gala Co-Chairs

Our 50th Anniversary Gala Co-Chairs are delighted to welcome you, the devoted GSAPP Community, on this milestone occasion! This celebratory event commemorates our exceptional school's half-century of innovation, education, and service. Tonight, we gather together to reflect on five decades of remarkable achievements and to look to the future with pride and purpose.

Thank you for joining us on this journey.



Rosalind Dorlen, PsyD has a busy professional double-life as an artist and a psychologist/psychoanalyst. She has been painting for the past 50 plus years, and her oils have been displayed in major exhibitions in New York, New Jersey, and Canadian art galleries and museums, including the Montserrat Contemporary Art Gallery, in Chelsea, NY. Additionally, countless works are in privately-owned collections.

Roz's career as a board-certified clinical psychologist has been most rewarding. In addition to her independent practice in Summit, NJ, she is a past president of the GSAPP Alumni Organization, member of the first clinical class at GSAPP, and member of the allied staff of the department of psychiatry, Overlook Medical Center. Roz is a past president of the New Jersey Psychological Association (NJPA), former NJPA Representative on

American Psychological Association (APA) Council, and NJ Psychologist of the Year. She was recipient of the Peterson Prize from GSAPP and the Rutgers University Edward Bloustein Award for her work on an initiative that led to a national law to screen postpartum women. She received the APA Heiser Award for advocacy.

Roz and Dave Dorlen are celebrating nearly 60 years of marriage, a lifetime of world travel, and much joy and pleasure with their grown family and three grandchildren.

Our Gala Co-Chairs



Lara Delmolino Gatley, PhD currently serves as the Associate Dean of Administration and Strategic Operations at GSAPP. Since 2018, she has held various roles within the Dean's Office, allowing her to touch many areas across our school. In addition, Lara plays a key role in the school's Applied and Academic Autism initiatives. She has considered herself a "GSAPPER" since first stepping foot in Dean Sandra Harris's office for supervision as a student in 1994; she began her graduate journey alongside fellow practicum students, Angelica Diaz-Martinez and Milton Fuentes at the Douglass Developmental Disabilities Center (DDDC).

As a Professor of Clinical Practice, Lara has been a GSAPP faculty member for 25 years, having engaged in research, practice, and training at the DDDC before becoming its Director in 2008 and Executive Director in 2018. She has also taught generations of GSAPP students in our Applied Behavior Analysis course sequence, since its inception more than 20 years ago, with many of those students advancing to serve in significant professional leadership positions.

Lara has truly enjoyed the opportunity to connect with many members of GSAPP's extended family throughout the gala planning process and is continually reminded of how much GSAPP has to commemorate on this landmark anniversary. She is grateful for the tremendous support of the planning committee and other amazing GSAPP colleagues, as well as her husband, Chris, her children, Brooke and Rin, and the rest of her family and friends who are here celebrating tonight.



This event would not be possible without the tireless efforts and energy of the following members of the GSAPP Community:

Gala Planning Committee

Clark Bills
Dorothy Cantor
Catherine Ciampi
Olúwakémi Dauda
Peter DeNigris
Rosalind Dorlen
Jennifer Foster
Dan Hart

Ryan Kettler
Alice Lau
Bonnie Markham
Gracy Patel
Jade Rubino
Ben Sheard
Kim Spinelli

Gala Subcommittees

Communication: Ambassadors/Influencers/Outreach

Peter DeNigris, Milton Fuentes, Sharon Glazer, Robert Isenhower, Cong Liu, Joan Glass Morgan, Sheila Rouzitalab, Jade Rubino, William Schiele, Ben Sheard, Kim Spinelli

Fundraising

Catherine Ciampi, Cara Phillips, Daniel Rice, Ingrid Rodriguez

History & Memorabilia

Lara Delmolino, Jennifer Foster, Catriona Francis, Robert Isenhower, Bonnie Markham, Stanley Messer, Ben Sheard, Kim Spinelli

Script/Run-of-Show

Peter DeNigris, Ryan Kettler, Alice Lau, Cong Liu, Kierra Pean, William Schiele, Kim Spinelli

Special Thanks

Bernadette Cariaga, Sharon Cocuzza, Chanelle Greene, Eric Hagarty, Kitman Kan, Shilpa Kulkarni, Deanna Walker McDonald, Roma Mitra, Ashley Pierre, Nirmal Sadarangani, Peggy Swarbrick, Angelique Wurpel, Usha Yerramilly

In Gratitude to our Sponsors and Student Supporters

Table Sponsors

The Autism MVP Foundation
The Center for Children with Special Needs
The Center for Youth Social Emotional Wellness at GSAPP
The Delmolino-Gatley Family
Peter DeNigris and Somerset Psychological Group, PA
Rosalind and David Dorlen
Dina Karmazin Elkins
Friends of the RCAAS
The Sandra Harris Endowment for the DDDC
The Lillard Family
Office of the Chancellor, Rutgers University-New Brunswick
John Vaccaro and Family

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Laura Kogan	Johanna and Matthew Strobel
Latino Mental Health Association of NJ	Lucy Takagi
Bonnie Markham	Cindy Taylor

Student Supporters

Nicole Cain
Brian Chu
Milton Fuentes
Anne Gregory
Rebecca Johnson
Wade Johnston
Shireen Rizvi

Evening Program

Welcome and Introductory Remarks

Dr. Lara Delmolino and Dr. Rosalind Dorlen, **Gala Co-Chairs**
Clark Bils and Dr. Dorothy Cantor, **Gala Emcees**
Dr. Daniel Hart, **Interim Dean of GSAPP**
Dr. Joseph Conerty, **Alumni Speaker, GSAPP**
Dr. Francine Conway, **Chancellor, Rutgers University-New Brunswick**

Feature Video Presentation

Celebratory Toast and Dinner

Recognition of our Distinguished Honorees

Recipient	Award	Presenter
Dr. Diana Salvador	Alumni Honoree	Dr. Carole Salvador
Dr. Peter DeNigris	Alumni Honoree	Dr. Francine Conway
Keith Green on behalf of the Autism MVP Foundation	Community Partner Honoree	Dr. SungWoo Kahng
John Vaccaro & Family	Donor Honoree	Dr. Christopher Manente

Dessert, Dancing & Auction

Music provided by Limitless Entertainment

Meet our Gala Emcees



Clark Bils, PsyM is a 4th-year Clinical Psychology PsyD student at Rutgers Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology (GSAPP). The Minneapolis native is currently an extern at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center Metro Regional Diagnostic Treatment Center (NBIMC RDTC) conducting forensic psychosocial evaluations and providing trauma-focused interventions for children and families impacted by abuse. During his time at GSAPP, Clark has received training in college counseling (Rutgers CAPS), school-based clinic (The Haven), integrative addiction medicine (Courage), and outpatient hospital (NBIMC RDTC) settings. Clark has also utilized the Center for Psychological Services (CPS) at GSAPP to conduct learning assessments, provide therapy to couples and families, and engage in longer-term individual treatments.

Aside from his clinical work, Prof. Bils is an Adjunct Faculty Instructor at College County of Morris, inspiring the next generation of psychology students. He is also a research assistant with Answer, Rutgers's award-winning organization that provides sexual health education to young people and professional development for youth-serving adults nationwide. As the 2022 GSAPP Alumni Scholarship Award recipient, he proudly served as the first openly transgender president of GSAPP's Queer Student Association (QSA) from 2023-2025. Clark gives all the credit for his success to his right-hand pooch and trusty assistant since 2016, Snoopie.

Fun Fact Clark Learned About His Co-Emcee: Dorothy led GSAPP's first student rebellion. She rallied her classmates to collectively bargain a year-long course down to one semester; she utilized her newly available time the following term to undertake an independent study and secure her first publication (with dozens to follow)!

Meet our Gala Emcees

Dorothy W. Cantor, PsyD, 1976, was a member of the first class at GSAPP. Since retiring from clinical practice six years ago, she is living her life according to her own advice in her sixth book, *What Do You Want To Do When You Grow Up?* She is keeping her life purposeful. Dr. Cantor currently serves on the Board of the American Psychological Foundation and is Chair of their Advancement Committee, and as an Emeritus member of the Rutgers University Board of Trustees.

She mentors a significant number of younger psychologists in leadership. Her own leadership activities are many. Dr. Cantor has served as President of the New Jersey Psychological Association, President of the American Psychological Association, President of the American Psychological Foundation, Chair of the Insurance Trust, Chair of the Rutgers University Board of Trustees, and Vice-Chair of the Rutgers University Board of Governors.



Dr. Cantor has received numerous awards over the years. She was named NJ Psychologist of the Year and is a recipient of the Peterson Prize from GSAPP. She was inducted into the Rutgers Hall of Distinguished Alumni and subsequently named a Loyal Daughter of Rutgers. In the year of Rutgers's 250th anniversary, she was named a University Scholar.

In addition to continuing to be engaged professionally, Dr. Cantor takes a course every semester in a subject about which she knows very little. Additionally, she knits and plays in a weekly mah jongg game. With all that, her greatest joy is her family. She has two children, five grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. She considers herself blessed.

Fun Fact Dorothy Learned About Her Co-Emcee: Clark read the entire book *Graduate Study in Psychology* before deciding to apply to GSAPP. Nothing random about his choice, and aren't we glad he was accepted?



Our Distinguished Honorees

Alumni Honoree

Diana Salvador, GSAPP '02, School PsyD

**Clinical Director of Children's System of Care at the
New Jersey Department of Children and Families**



Dr. Diana Salvador is a licensed psychologist and the Clinical Director of the New Jersey Department of Children and Families Children's System of Care (NJ CSOC), the state public behavioral health system for youth and families. Within this role, Dr. Salvador provides oversight of the Multi-Disciplinary Clinical Team, Office of Residential Services, and the Office of Engagement and Service Excellence. She is charged with identifying and integrating evidence-based and promising practices into the service continuum. Dr. Salvador assists in program

development and evaluation activities and uses data to drive decision-making with a priority on reducing health disparities and increasing access to high-quality care.

Prior to joining CSOC, she worked as the Program Director of Child and Adolescent Services at Rutgers University Behavioral Healthcare (UBHC) and the Vice President of Quality at CPC Integrated Care. Dr. Salvador received her MA in Applied Psychology at Boston University and completed her doctorate in School Psychology at the Rutgers Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology (GSAPP). Recently, Dr. Salvador was an integral part of the RU-NB Chancellor-led event and panel discussion, "Empowering Minds and Strengthening Communities: Improving Youth Behavioral Health."



Our Distinguished Honorees

Alumni Honoree

Peter DeNigris, GSAPP '04, Clinical PsyD

**Co-Founder and Co-Owner of
Somerset Psychological Group, PA
Member, Rutgers Board of Trustees**

Dr. Peter DeNigris earned his PsyD in Clinical Psychology in 2004 from the Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology (GSAPP) at Rutgers University. He is co-founder and co-owner of Somerset Psychological Group, PA, in Martinsville, NJ. His general practice includes evaluating and treating adolescents and adults. Two of Dr. DeNigris's primary areas of interest include anxiety and mood disorders. An additional area of specialty is forensic psychology, including therapy with those involved in the legal system as well as evaluations assessing level of risk and fitness for duty.



Dr. DeNigris has worked with numerous state and federal agencies to establish contractual agreements that guarantee payment for services for underserved populations. In addition, Dr. DeNigris is a member of the Medical Staff at Morristown Medical Center. He has taught at GSAPP and at Drew University and has supervised countless GSAPP students. In 2017, he received the GSAPP Outstanding Clinic Supervisor Award.

Many of Dr. DeNigris's clinical experiences involve working with children and adolescents who have experienced trauma. His research includes developing and implementing a model for treating adolescents affected by trauma who were resistant to traditional modes of psychotherapy. The model, called "Community-Based Intervention for Trauma-Affected Adolescents (CITA)," was applied to adolescents who were directly affected by the terrorism at the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. Dr. DeNigris remains active with traumatic response.

Dr. DeNigris was the longest serving president of the Alumni Organization (AO) in GSAPP's history. He has served on the Dean's Strategic Planning Committee, was the Chair of GSAPP's 40th and 45th anniversary galas, served on the planning committee for GSAPP's 50th anniversary gala, created an achievement award in memory of one of his classmates that continues to benefit current students each year, assisted on numerous Interview Days, organized several student-alumni networking, engagement, and fundraising events, and was appointed to two search committees in the hiring process of GSAPP's Dean. During his tenure as AO president, the Rutgers University Alumni Association (RUAA) recognized the GSAPP AO for its student mentoring program, which Dr. DeNigris oversaw at the time. The GSAPP AO received the Rutgers Excellence in Alumni Leadership (REAL) Award, which highlighted exceptional volunteerism and student-alumni engagement. Dr. DeNigris accepted this award on behalf of the AO. Due to his contributions to the GSAPP AO, Dr. DeNigris received the Grace K. Smith, PsyD Award for Meritorious Service to the Alumni Organization in 2021.

In 2021, Dr. DeNigris was chosen as President-Elect of the New Jersey Psychological Association. He began his term as President in 2022. As a result of his numerous accomplishments, he was named the 2023 Psychologist of the Year by the New Jersey Psychological Association.

Our Distinguished Honorees



Community Partner Honoree **Autism MVP Foundation**

The mission of the Autism MVP Foundation is to build, cultivate and strengthen the region's workforce of autism-focused educators and therapists. Through annual and endowed scholarship programs, the volunteer-run nonprofit eases the financial burden of future leaders in the fields of autism therapy and special education who are committed to improving social, educational, and daily life skill outcomes for children and adults impacted by autism.

Autism MVP is proud to partner with the Rutgers University Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology through the Autism MVP Dwight Macock Endowed Memorial Scholarship program. The \$100,000 gift is the largest in the organization's history and will benefit GSAPP students who want to work with children who display complex or challenging behaviors in the classroom. In 2022, the Foundation established the Autism MVP Endowed Fellowship, which benefits students who are trained at the Rutgers Center for Adult Autism Services and have a career goal of supporting adults with autism.

Since 2015, the volunteer-run organization based in Monmouth County has granted dozens of scholarships to graduate students through more than \$300,000 of annual and endowed scholarships at regional universities.



Our Distinguished Honorees

Community Partner Honoree

Keith Green, APR

Autism MVP Founder

From the NBA hardwood to the NASCAR asphalt to the exciting world of record breaking, Keith Green has more than three decades of experience transforming brands and companies. His creativity, along with his PR, marketing, and sales expertise, has helped the organizations he has worked for exceed sales goals and outperform revenue projections while enhancing each company's reputation among its key stakeholders. Keith's work experience includes a fun and exciting journey as a VP at Guinness World Records, six years in the NBA for the Philadelphia 76ers, ten years as the Director of Public Relations for two different NASCAR tracks, and eight years as SVP at award-winning Synergy, an event marketing agency in NJ.



In addition to his sports and entertainment background, Keith has more than ten years of teaching experience in adjunct and full-time roles. His introduction to higher education began in 2006 when he created and taught the Business and Marketing of NASCAR as an adjunct instructor at Virginia State University. That course was among the first of its kind at an HBCU and led to an award-winning partnership with his then full-time employer, Richmond Raceway, one that is still going strong more than 20 years later. Through this and other classroom experiences, Keith's teaching philosophy centers on bridging the gap between the classroom and workplace by sharing his experiences and connecting his students to his vast network for internship and job opportunities. Keith currently serves as Director of Communications and Strategic Operations for the College of Communication and Media at Montclair State University, where his role involves teaching several classes, including a Sports PR course. He also teaches Hawk Communications, an internship-style class where students work in small teams to execute tactical communications work for small businesses and nonprofit organizations.

In 2015, Keith paired his higher education experience and "big idea" thinking to form the Autism MVP Foundation. Inspired by the many therapists and educators who helped his family navigate a new and challenging world after Keith's son was diagnosed with autism at the age of two, Autism MVP was founded with a simple mission — to increase the number of highly trained, autism-focused therapists and educators into a marketplace that desperately needs them. Based in Monmouth County, the all-volunteer nonprofit has granted more than \$300,000 in endowed and annual scholarship funds to graduate students, including a \$100,000 gift that will benefit GSAPP students who want to work with children on the autism spectrum who display challenging or complex behaviors.

Keith holds a Bachelor of Arts in journalism and a Master of Education in sports administration from Temple University. He lives in Little Silver, New Jersey with his wife Donna, their teenage son, Gavin, and their dogs, Brew and Doc. When he's not cheering on his favorite Philadelphia sports teams, including his beloved Super Bowl champion Philadelphia Eagles, he can be found golfing, cooking, gardening, and spending time with his family on New Jersey's beautiful beaches.

Our Distinguished Honorees



Donor Honoree

John Vaccaro and Family

President, Bettaway Supply Chain Services

John Vaccaro is a highly accomplished business leader with over four decades of experience in supply chain management. A natural entrepreneur, John's career began at a young age, when he worked in his family's soda bottling plant in Brooklyn, NY. From sweeping floors to managing the warehouse, John quickly learned the ropes of the business, ultimately taking over the family's private label beverage brand at just 17 years old. Under his leadership, the brand expanded to serve over 100 restaurants and catering halls in New York.

In 1982, John's family founded Bettaway, a small, three-truck operation initially focused on distributing the family's private label soda. Bettaway soon evolved into a leader in trucking, Third Party Logistics (3PL), and Pallet Management.

Upon taking full control of Bettaway in 1998, John focused on two primary goals: embracing emerging technologies and scaling the business to align with the growth of Bettaway's long-standing customers. Under his leadership, the company developed cutting-edge logistics and pallet management software platforms, while expanding its services to include warehousing and supply chain consulting.

Today, Bettaway, headquartered in Central New Jersey, is a prominent player in the food and beverage logistics sector. As President, John has driven the company's strategic vision, overseeing growth initiatives and ensuring that Bettaway's offerings remain aligned with the evolving needs of its customers. Under his leadership, Bettaway has worked with some of the most iconic brands in the industry, including Snapple, Arizona Beverages, Vitamin Water, Fuze, SOBE, and Voss Water. John played an integral role in helping these brands scale from their infancy to multi-million and billion-dollar businesses.

Bettaway's success has been recognized by several leading organizations, with the company earning the prestigious PepsiCo Chairman's Award, along with multiple accolades for excellence and growth from Nestlé Waters and Inc. 5000, plus countless Carrier of the Year awards for Bettaway's established trucking company.

In addition to his business achievements, John is deeply committed to giving back to the community and the industry. He partners with Rutgers Business School-Supply Chain Management to provide internships and co-op programs for emerging leaders in the field.

John also holds a founding position at the Rutgers Center for Adult Autism Services (RCAAS) and the We Make — Autism at Work program, which are dedicated to creating a national benchmark for adult autism programs. Outside of work, John enjoys a fulfilling family life with his wife, Laura, to whom he has been married for 30 years, and their two sons, Anthony Vaccaro, PhD and Frankie Vaccaro, one of the first participants in the RCAAS. John Vaccaro's career is a testament to his leadership, innovation, and commitment to fostering growth both in the supply chain industry and within the community.

Honoree Student Attendants

Olúwakémi Dauda, PsyM is a fifth-year Clinical Psychology PsyD student at GSAPP. She is currently completing her APA-accredited doctoral internship at Tulane University School of Medicine in New Orleans, LA. Throughout her time at GSAPP, Olúwakémi has been an active contributor to the student community, with a particular focus on student representation and diversity. She has served as a student representative on the Committee on Diversity and Culture Conference, as well as Past President and a current member of the Black Graduate Student Association (BGSA). Additionally, she has been a student representative on the planning committee for GSAPP's 50th Anniversary Gala. Her research and clinical interests center around child and adolescent psychology, culturally responsive care, and trauma.

Gracy Patel is a third-year School Psychology PsyD student at GSAPP. She is currently completing an externship in the division of neuropsychology at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) and as a consultant in the South Brunswick School District. Gracy earned her bachelor's degree in psychology and neuroscience from Wilfrid Laurier University in Canada, where she conducted research exploring the use of standardized testing in multilingual and non-English speaking populations, along with projects exploring COVID-19 impacts on immigrant populations. She currently serves as one of the leaders of the Applied and Professional Psychology Student Association (APPSA) and as GSAPP's Student Senator on the Rutgers University Senate. Gracy hopes to continue her work in neuropsychology exploring brain injuries, while also serving the South Asian community.

Kierra Pean, PsyM is a fifth-year Clinical Psychology PsyD student at GSAPP. She is a proud Scarlet Knight who also earned her bachelor's degree from Rutgers in 2020. Kierra has participated in many practicums at GSAPP, including: DBT-RU; The Center for Rutgers Counseling, Alcohol and Other Drug Assistance (CAPS); and the Children (And Families) Healing After Trauma (CHAT) Clinic. She served for two years as a Clinic Coordinator in the Center for Psychological Services (CPS) on campus. Her dissertation focuses on the core mechanisms targeted by DBT-A skills and their association with peer relationships of adolescents diagnosed with ADHD. Kierra is currently completing an internship working on a forensic inpatient unit at The Behavioral Wellness Center in Philadelphia, PA. Kierra is interested in helping low-income, severely mentally ill, and minority populations. She hopes to continue working on an inpatient unit when she graduates in 2026.

William Bennett Schiele is a second-year School Psychology PsyD student at GSAPP. He is a first-generation doctoral student and the Clinic Coordinator of Psychological Services at the Rutgers Center for Adult Autism Services (RCAAS). William completed his first year of clinical training providing trauma-informed therapy to young adolescents and implementing system-level interventions at Hubbard Middle School in the Plainfield Central School District. William has also presented research at the 2024 National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) conference, where he shared a poster examining patterns of mastery and fluency for targeted math skills across grades 3 through 6. His professional interests include neuropsychology and the integration of clinical training with research. William aspires to pursue a career in academia as a professor following the completion of his doctoral training.

Victoria Valentin is a fifth-year Organizational Psychology PsyD student at GSAPP. Her dissertation research explores how queer women entrepreneurs cultivate inclusive, community-centered businesses and how these spaces contribute to both social and emotional wellness. Victoria is also a *ScarletWell* grant recipient for her project, Move with Meaning, a wellness initiative that blends movement, journaling, and the 8 Dimensions of Wellness to foster belonging, connection, and holistic well-being within the Rutgers community. Victoria has been a member of the Psi Chi International Honor Society in Psychology since 2020 and currently works as a Graduate Coordinator in Career Exploration and Success (CES) at Rutgers University–New Brunswick.

Research on Display

Kudos to these GSAPP students who presented research posters on display this evening:

A multilevel analysis of temporal focus in trauma-related expressive writing and daily anxiety: The role of trauma-processing moderators. Virinca Jaipuriyar, Rhoen Hoff, Skyler D. Jackson, Abigail W. Batchelder, Tami P. Sullivan, Jillian R. Scheer

Associations between social connectedness and psychosocial health in youth after trauma exposure. Rhia Simons, Dumebi Okonkwo, Linda Oshin

District-level barriers to FBA/BIP implementation. Nia Joyner, Emily Graybill, Scott Lewis

Equity-oriented SEL in U.S. K-12 schools. Anne Gregory, Emma Veron, Brianna Clifford, Caitlin O'Connor

Examining the relationships between hope and suicide cognitions across LGBTQ+ college students. Rachel Pomeranz, Scott Compton, Jacqueline Pistorello, Shireen Rizvi, John Seeley, Linda Oshin

Intoxication and intimacy: The role of alcohol in sexual behavior among autistic young adults. Tatyanna Landell, Maria Eugenia Contreras Perez, Xiangyu Tau, Kelli Bradley, Casey Cragin, Anthony Spirito, Stephen Sheinkopf, Kristina Jackson

Meeting the moment in education: A mixed methods study of culturally sustaining teaching practices. Hailey Romano, Abigail Holenchik, Anne Gregory, Elisa S. Shernoff

Misconceptions in the media: White women's meta-stereotypes, emotions, vigilance, and allyship after viewing negative and positive interracial interactions. Brianna Clark, Sandra Manfreda, Valerie Jones Taylor

Plainfield public schools, Project Star: School-based training advancing resilience. Jennifer Durham, Ashton Conwell, MacKenzie Farrar, Karen Weldler-Laster, William Schiele, Jonathan Arlequin-Aleem

Reviving and expanding comprehensive DBT training: The re-establishment of DBT-RU as a graduate training clinic. May Stern, Alejandra Sanchez-Sarmiento, Kelly Shah, Thanhara Silamongkol, Liza Pincus, Lauren Bonavitacola

School-based mental health needs and expectations: A comparison of youth and adult responses. Karen Weldler, Emily Graybill, Smrithi Venkatraman, Carlson Bohl

The impact of a psychosocial treatment for opioid use disorder and co-occurring PTSD on cigarette use. Sonali Singal, Priya Johal, Sara Hameed, Tanya C. Saraiya

The role of alexithymia in the relationship between PTSD symptoms and rejection sensitivity. Hannah Lee, Nicole Cain

Utility of the W-ADL to assess daily living skills in minimally verbal autistic adults. Yuen Yvonne Yu, Elaine Clark, Ellen Wilkinson, Vanessa Bal

Workplace ostracism and career development: A multilevel study of help-seeking and proactive personality. Vi Phung, Cong Liu

Crowdfunding Campaign

*As we celebrate GSAPP's 50 years of impact, we invite you to help shape the next 50! GSAPP, in partnership with the Rutgers University Foundation (RUF), launched a Crowdfunding Campaign that will conclude on **December 31, 2025**. Your support will ensure that we continue to attract, prepare, and retain exceptional students -- competent and compassionate direct service psychologists and behavioral health professionals -- for generations to come.*

To Contribute this Evening

Please scan the QR code to access our Crowdfunding page, and for every ten dollars (\$10) you donate, you will receive one (1) ticket to enter our raffle for these terrific prizes! Cash entries are also welcome at the raffle table; please provide exact change. Good luck!



Wellness Basket

RU ready for your wellness journey? Have the ultimate self-care experience with this Wellness Basket, thoughtfully curated to rejuvenate your body and mind.

- **Two Personal Training Sessions donated by John Khanjian**, certified personal trainer and founder of PerformasDesigned.com. John comes to you, offering customized workouts designed around your goals — whether at home, outdoors, or in your preferred space.
- **One Infusion Session donated by Amanda Khanjian, RN**, provider of infusion and wellness services through AKWellness.com. Amanda's infusion therapy helps restore energy, hydration, and overall vitality.

This basket combines expert guidance, personalized care, and the convenience of services that come directly to you — perfect for anyone looking to invest in their health, boost energy, and experience true wellness from the inside out.



The Rutgers Experience Basket

Experience the best of what Rutgers has to offer with this all-in-one package! Start with a day of Big Ten excitement with **four (4) tickets to the Rutgers vs. Maryland football game on November 8th!** After football season, you can access our world-class exhibitions and cultural events with a year-long **membership to the Zimmerli Art Museum**. Looking for a night of fine dining? Dinner is on us! Enjoy a gift card to **The Rutgers Club**, the university's premier social and dining venue conveniently located on the Livingston Campus.

Whether you're a proud alum, a passionate fan, or simply love immersing yourself in the Rutgers community, this basket is your ticket to the ultimate Scarlet Knight experience.



Crowdfunding Campaign

Vacation Baskets: Hacienda Encantada Resort & Residences

Escape to paradise with these extraordinary vacation baskets featuring **unforgettable getaways** at the luxurious **Hacienda Encantada Resort & Residences** in Cabo San Lucas, donated by **Dr. Bonnie Markham, Class of 1986**. Nestled on the dramatic cliffs overlooking the Sea of Cortez, this five-star resort blends authentic Mexican charm with world-class amenities, offering the perfect balance of relaxation and adventure.

- **Studio Suite Getaway:** February 7 – February 14, 2026
- **Studio Suite Getaway:** February 14 – February 21, 2026
- **Two-Bedroom Suite Getaway:** January 31 – February 7, 2026

Each suite combines elegant design with modern comfort, featuring private terraces, ocean views, and access to the resort's stunning pools, gourmet dining, spa, and private beach club. Whether you're indulging in a couple's retreat, a week of wellness, or a family escape, Hacienda Encantada promises a breathtaking experience filled with sun-soaked days and magical Cabo nights.

Three unique lucky winners will walk away with a week in paradise — making these prizes the ultimate tickets to luxury, relaxation, and unforgettable memories.



Continuing Education Basket

Advance your professional growth with this exclusive offering from **GSAPP's Office of Professional Development and Continuing Education (OPDCE)**, led by **Dr. Jessica Benas**. This basket provides **40 credits of free, online continuing education** that will completely fulfill your CE requirements for the current licensing period.

With this prize, you will enjoy peace of mind **knowing that your CE requirements have been fully met**. These flexible, live and on-demand webinars, taught by expert instructors, make it easy to stay current knowing that your professional development is in good hands with GSAPP.



To Contribute after the Gala

Please scan the QR code or visit our campaign page (go.rutgers.edu/gala-donate). While the prizes will have been claimed, you can conveniently donate through calendar year-end and will be providing a priceless gift to grateful GSAPP students.



R | **RUTGERS-NEW BRUNSWICK**
**Graduate School of Applied
and Professional Psychology**



*AS ONE OF THE PSYCHOLOGISTS WHO HELPED
ESTABLISH GSAPP, I AM ESPECIALLY THRILLED TO HAVE
WITNESSED ITS EXTRAORDINARY SUCCESS AND FEEL
VERY PRIVILEGED TO JOIN IN THE CELEBRATION
OF ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY.*



*MAY GSAPP CONTINUE TO THRIVE AND GROW IN ITS
OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION OF
PSYCHOLOGY AND TO THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE.*



STANLEY B. MESSER, PH.D
DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR EMERITUS
CHAIR, DEPT. OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY AND
DIRECTOR OF CLINICAL TRAINING, 1992-2001
DEAN OF GSAPP, 2001-2016





RUTGERS-NEW BRUNSWICK
Graduate School of Applied
and Professional Psychology

Congratulations

...on the 50th Anniversary of the founding of GSAPP and with gratitude to the mentors, partners, and visionaries, who — with a leap of faith — “Met the Moment” and made GSAPP the stunning reality it is today.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate and play such a rewarding role in this wonderful profession.

— **Rosalind S. Dorlen, PsyD, ABPP**



Congratulations

to GSAPP on its 50th Anniversary.

*With undying gratitude for preparing me for
a career I could never have imagined,*

Dorothy W. Cantor, PsyD , '76



RUTGERS-NEW BRUNSWICK
Graduate School of Applied
and Professional Psychology

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF GSAPP

As the Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology marks its 50th anniversary, I celebrate not only this milestone but also a deeply personal one – 50 years of connection, love, and shared purpose with my beloved husband, Myron Stanley Gessner, MD (1940-2024).

With gratitude and remembrance,
Bonnie Markham, PhD, PsyD, 1986



SOMERSET PSYCHOLOGICAL GROUP, P.A.

With great pride, the staff at Somerset Psychological Group, PA extends its heartfelt congratulations to the Rutgers University Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology (GSAPP) on reaching this remarkable milestone. For half a century, GSAPP has stood as a beacon of academic excellence, innovation, and transformative leadership and service.

This golden jubilee is not only a celebration of the school's rich legacy, but also a tribute to the faculty, staff, alumni, and students whose dedication and vision have shaped its journey. GSAPP's impact is felt far beyond the classroom — in clinical settings, schools, communities, organizations, and nations around the world.

May this 50th anniversary inspire continued growth, meaningful discoveries, and an unwavering commitment to excellence for many generations to come.

Congratulations, GSAPP!

Peter DeNigris, PsyD (*Class of 2004*)
Amanda Morales-Clarke, PsyD (*Class of 2015*)
Zachary Yeoman, PsyD
Brian Eichert, PsyD (*Class of 2018*)
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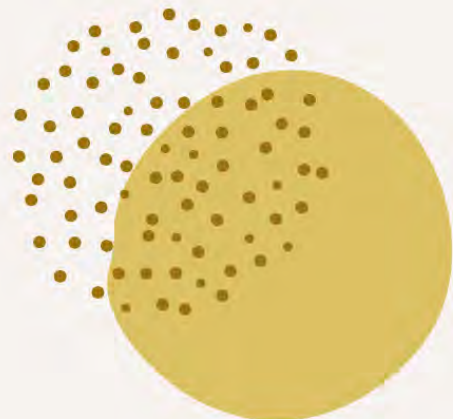


WE HONOR OUR FOUNDERS

More than 50 years ago, a small group of New Jersey Psychologists came together with Rutgers Graduate School Psychology Professors. With foresight and purpose, they designed an innovative clinical doctoral Psychology program that became part of Rutgers University. They named it GSAPP, and it grew into one of the most highly-rated doctoral-level Psychology programs in our country's universities.

Those of us who have been privileged to train at GSAPP have also been privileged to serve communities in New Jersey and indeed around the world.

— Jane Hochberg, PsyD, 1976





RUTGERS-NEW BRUNSWICK
Graduate School of Applied
and Professional Psychology

Kudos to GSAPP on 50 years of innovative service, training, and research, and with immense gratitude to the RCAAS for its vital work supporting adults on the autism spectrum.



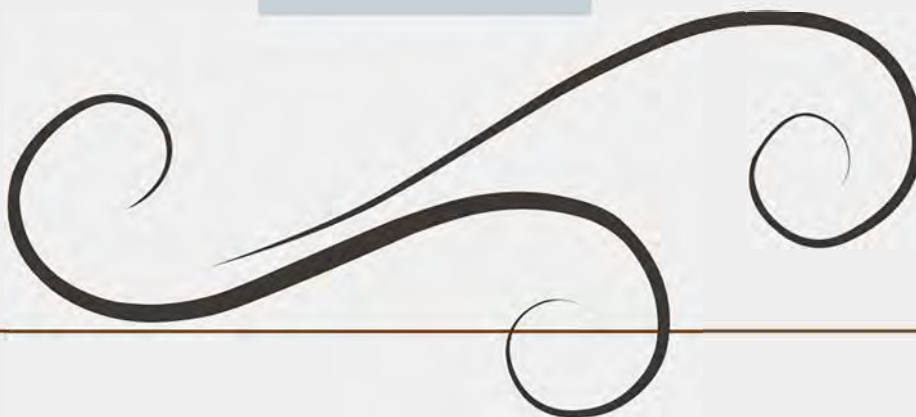
— JOHN VACCARO & FAMILY



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**Congratulations to GSAPP on 50 years of
excellence and a special thank you to the
RCAAS for improving the lives of
adults with autism.**

— Mike & Amy Lillard

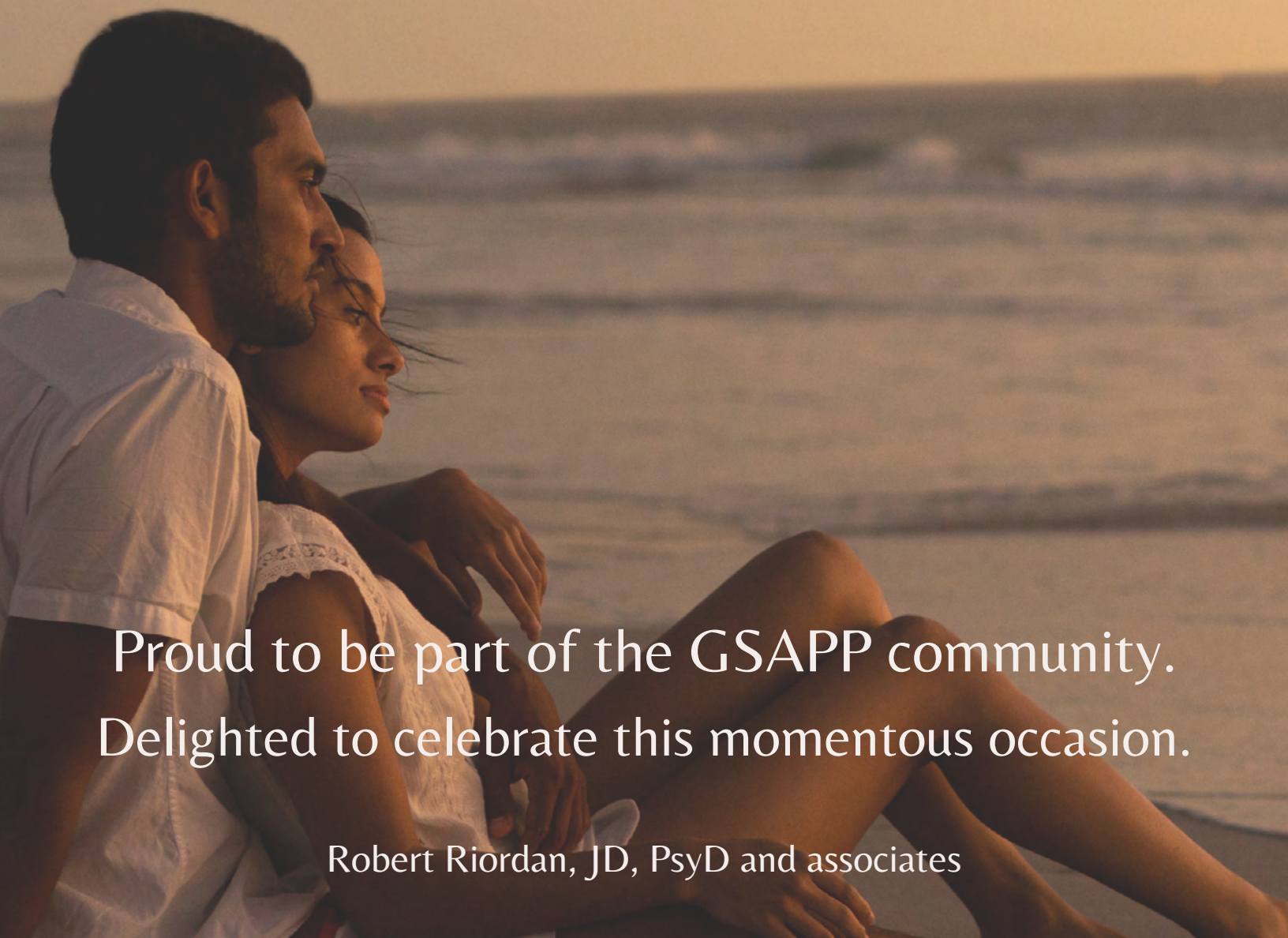




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Robert Riordan, JD, PsyD and associates



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Congratulations!
Peter DeNigris, PsyD
Alumni Honoree
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New Jersey Psychological Association

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- Professional Development
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The NJPA Foundation is the heart of NJPA. We are a 501(c)(3) organization whose sole objective is to support the education and research of psychology graduate students who are dedicating their future careers to treating the mental health and well-being of underserved populations throughout New Jersey. These populations include inner-city students, children with Asperger's, the elderly in need, and immigrants. One hundred percent of proceeds from this fundraising event go to support this mission by issuing graduate students grants and awards to help fund their training and research.

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With pride and enduring love, we honor the memory of Charles – devoted leader, beloved classmate, and friend.

His legacy of integrity, warmth, and dedication continues to inspire our community.

As we celebrate this milestone gala, it is deeply meaningful to see his dear friend and fellow classmate, Dorothy Cantor, Psy.D., serve as our host emcee.

“One day, in retrospect, the years of struggle will strike you as the most beautiful.”
– Sigmund Freud

This quote speaks to Charles’s belief in the transformative power of perseverance and the value of growth through challenge – both in life and in learning.

Forever in our hearts,
Sharon Shrensel, Psy.D. and Family

Please stay connected to GSAPP and complete this brief Contact/Interest Form:

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Thank You!

50th Anniversary

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