Mentor Spotlight:
Dr. Lindsay Malloy, Ph.D.
Legal Psychology

Allison: What/Who interested you in the field of psychology? And how did you become interested in child development and its applications to the law and legal system?

LM: Deb Poole, a mentor who I had in my undergraduate years at Central Michigan University. She was an instructor for my freshman honors seminar, and until I met her, I didn't know that a psychology and law field even existed. Hearing about this really satisfied my interests in both areas so I ended up switching my major from marketing to psychology. When I took the class with Deb Poole, she talked about her expert witness cases. The idea that her research findings were going to make an impact on actual legal cases was really exciting to me. I loved the idea of doing research in general, but what really got me interested was the idea of doing applied research that affected the lives of children.

Allison: What do you see as the greatest challenge to the field of psychology and the law in the future? What do you think are the greatest issues future research needs to address regarding children’s eyewitness testimony?

LM: Having communication with practitioners in the field – police, attorneys, judges – is
key. Also, obtaining funding will become even more of a challenge in the future, and without funding, you don’t have the opportunity to do the really groundbreaking work that might make the greatest impact. In terms of children’s eyewitness testimony, I think the greatest issue is determining how to help reluctant children make true disclosures, without increasing the number of false disclosures. This is a key issue, and it has been for some time. Also, although much research has focused on child victims, it’s important to consider how development impacts child suspects and defendants, as well.

Andrea: What do you see as the most exciting or rewarding aspect of your career?

LM: Giving the Saleem Shah Address at the American Psychology-Law Society (AP-LS) conference was pretty much a dream come true for me! Just having the research we’ve been doing for a number of years recognized at AP-LS was incredibly rewarding. It’s also been exciting to see my students achieve things. An accepted publication is even more exciting when students are co-authors, particularly when they are first authors!

Andrea: You’ve had great success in publishing and obtaining funding for your research. What are the keys to success in both of these domains?

LM: Persistence is really the big thing. Submitting, resubmitting, resubmitting again … It’s all about not giving up. Any reasonable study has a home out there somewhere. You just have to find it. Also, you want to have multiple irons in the fire. It’s crucial to always have projects in different phases of development.

Andrea: What experience or person had the greatest impact on your career development and how?

LM: It’s so hard for me to choose because I have been super lucky and had so many amazing mentors, including at FIU! Jodi Quas, my graduate mentor at the University of California, Irvine, has had a tremendous impact on me. She is so dynamic, energetic, and exceptionally good at what she does, especially grant writing. From Jodi, I learned how to write – especially grant writing – and that has helped me tremendously. I try to focus on writing with my own students and hope that I demonstrate the value of persistence through my own work with them! I don’t think the mentoring ever really ends. I still rely on my mentors from graduate school and my postdoctoral work for moral support, to run ideas by, and occasionally we even get to work together.

Andrea: Few people know that you were once an “on-air personality” at a popular radio station in your hometown before you discovered your love of psychology. Do you have any plans to merge your two interests to become the most sensational academic radio personality of our time?

LM: I’m not sure I can quite merge being a rock radio DJ with being an academic (haha). If there was an opportunity to merge those things, I would definitely do it, though, because being on the air was a lot of fun and I miss it sometimes!

Allison: From climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro to recently welcoming sweet baby Leo into the world – you’ve done it all. How do you create a work-life balance and what “words of wisdom” do you have for young scholars to help them achieve a healthy work-life balance?

LM: I’m not sure that I’ve ever been very good at this. But I think we’re really lucky because our career does allow for some degree of flexibility. And the work ebbs and flows. Sometimes you have to push hard, work weekends etc., before you have a chance to take a break. I really like having the big pushes, and then doing something like traveling to Tanzania. And you have to prioritize – travel has always been really important to me but less so now with having a baby.
OUR NEW STUDENTS

**Angela Blizzard** (BA, University of Maryland) came to FIU to work with Dr. Dan Bagner in the Clinical Program. She is interested in advancing training and workforce development for providers in evidence-based interventions, organizational and systemic factors that ameliorate the uptake of evidence-based interventions in public child serving systems and examining factors that improve parental engagement in treatment. Angela has recently published 3 papers.

Publications:


Angela recently got married and went to France and Germany this summer!

**Brittany Boyd** (BA, Ms.Ed, Northern Illinois University) came to FIU to work with Dr. Dionne Stephens. She’s interested in examining cultural contexts’ influence on Black women’s intimate relationship outcomes. She is particularly interested in the ways that decision-making processes of this diverse population are influenced by perceptions of HIV/AIDS and intimate partner violence experiences. Brittany was recently awarded funding from the Graduate Minority Opportunities Program and was accepted into the FIU SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Program – congratulations, Brittany! Brittany is from Chicago, IL. She worked as a full time academic advisor for the FIU Chemistry Department for 2 years.

**Laura Bry** (BA, New York University) came to FIU to work with Dr. Jon Comer in the Clinical Program. Laura is interested in the onset, presentation, and treatment of internalizing and externalizing disorders in youth, and comorbidities between the two. She is interested in family-based interventions, as well as adaptations of existing evidence-based treatments that broaden applicability and meet a wider range of child and family mental health care needs. She is particularly excited about the potential for leveraging technology to increase the reach of treatment to traditionally underserved areas. In her free time, Laura is an avid and adventurous home cook and an enthusiastic cyclist!

**Mileini Campez** (BA, Florida International University) came to FIU to work with Dr. Joseph Raiker in the Clinical Program. She is interested in the underlying cognitive processes of ADHD and their relation to treatment outcome. She has recently given 2 conference presentations, both of which were first-author presentations. Mileini is a Miami native and likes to oil paint in her free time.

**Jessica Flannery** (BA, Grinnell College) came to FIU to work with Dr. Matthew Sutherland in the Cognitive Neuroscience Program. She is interested in the neuroscience of reward processing and addiction. Jessica loves musicals and painting!

**Dea Garic** (BA, University of Florida) came to FIU to study with Dr. Anthony Dick in the Developmental and Cognitive Neuroscience Programs. She is interested in neuroimaging studies examining executive function in young children. She recently gave 2 poster presentations, 1 of which was a first-author presentation. Outside of work, she likes to spend time with her two dogs, working on her car, and being out on the ocean!

**Amelia M. Jafary** (BA, University of California, Los Angeles; MA, California State University, Fullerton) came to FIU to study with Dr. Jacqueline Evans in the Legal program.
Maanasa Jayachandran (BA, University of Miami; MS, University of Sydney) came to FIU to study with Dr. Timothy Allen in the Cognitive Neuroscience Program. She is interested in the neurobiological mechanisms of disease processes related to cognition and behavior.

Jacqueline Moses (BA: University of California, Los Angeles) came to FIU to work with Dr. Miguel Villodas in the Clinical Program. She is interested in resiliency against externalizing disorders among low-income and minority at-risk youth. Jacqueline was awarded the McKnight Fellowship, and the University of Pittsburgh Hot Metal Bridge Post-Baccalaureate Fellowship – congratulations Jacqueline! Jacqueline is Nigerian American and speaks Yoruba!

Ileana Pacheco-Colón (BS, Brown University) came to FIU to work with Dr. Raul Gonzalez in the Clinical Program. She is interested in substance use and adolescent brain development. She was recently awarded the McKnight Doctoral Fellowship – congratulations Ileana! She has recently published 1 paper and given 1 first-author conference presentation.

Publication:


Ileana is a dancer – she dances everything from hip-hop to the Latino styles to even South Asian styles!

Brianna Pankey (BS, Howard University) came to FIU to work with Dr. Melanie Stollstorff in the Cognitive Neuroscience Program. She is interested in executive function and control of belief bias involving stereotypes. She was awarded a Graduate Minorities Opportunity Program Fellowship and a Graduate Need Grant from FIU – congratulations Brianna! She has also recently given 5 conference presentations, 4 of which were first-author presentations. Brianna recently visited New York City and Philadelphia!

Ranjita Poudel (BS, Kathmandu University; MS, Norwegian University of Science and Technology) came to FIU to work with Dr. Matthew Sutherland in the Cognitive Neuroscience Program. She is interested in addiction and meditation.

Ali Pournaghdali (BA, University of Tehran; MS, Institute for Cognitive Science Studies) came to FIU to study with Dr. Bennett Schwartz in Cognitive Neuroscience Program. He is interested in the neural correlates of consciousness, especially the role of primary visual cortex in visual consciousness. He is an amateur mountain climber, and interested in astronomy and observing the night sky; he is also a huge fan of soccer!

Bridget Poznanski (BA, Fordham University) came to FIU to work with Drs. Katie Hart and Jon Comer in the Clinical program. She is interested in parent- and teacher- delivered treatment models for young children with and at risk for the development of anxiety and behavior problems.

Puck Reeders (BA, University of Miami) came to FIU to study with Dr. Timothy Allen in the Cognitive Neuroscience Program. She is interested in the neurobiology of memory in humans and animals. Puck was born in the Netherlands and grew up in Curacao. She loves watersports like windsurfing, wakeboarding, kite surfing, and diving!

Ben Sheler (BS, University of Michigan) came to FIU to work with Dr. Melanie Stollstorff in the Cognitive Neuroscience Program. He is interested in using functional MRI to study how interactions between the top-down and bottom-up processes
influence attention. He played on hockey, golf, tennis, baseball, and basketball teams in high school!

Vanessa Vieites (BA, Smith College) came to FIU to study with Dr. Bethany Reeb-Sutherland in the Developmental Program. She is interested in the individual differences in the relation between hippo-campal-dependent learning and spatial reorientation in young children, gender differences in the ontogeny of large- and small-scale spatial abilities, the development of spatial anxiety in relation to gender, and environmental factors that affect spatial ability. She recently received the 2015 McKnight Doctoral Fellowship and the Psychology Graduate Seed Fund Award. Congratulations to Vanessa! She also recently published 1 paper and gave 1 first-author conference presentation.

CLINICAL PROGRAM

Nicole Barroso is a 4th year student working with Dr. Dan Bagner. She is interested in parenting and early childhood behavior. She has recently published 1 paper and given 6 conference presentations, 3 of which were first-author presentations.

Publication:


Nicole also recently visited Cuba for the first time!

Michele Bechor is a 5th year student working with Dr. Jeremy Pettit. She recently was awarded an F31 to examine neural correlates of attention training in children with anxiety disorders. Michele also received the FIU Honors College ARCH research award, 3rd place outstanding poster presentation at the GPSC Scholarly Forum, and ABCT 2014 Graduate Student Research Grant Honorable Mention – congratulations Michele! She has also recently given 9 conference presentations, 4 of which were first-author presentations. Michele also recently contributed an informational article on attention bias modification training: https://www.anxiety.org/abmt-promising-new-treatment-pediatric-anxiety!

Maya Boustani is a 6th year student working with Dr. Stacy Frazier. She has recently published 7 papers and given 3 first-author conference presentations.

Publications:


Cheley Hartley is a 5th year doctoral student in the Clinical Science Program. Her research focuses on depression, and her mentor is Dr. Jeremy Pettit. Chelsea recently received a Fellowship and published two papers:

Student funding:
Florida International University, 2015
Amount Awarded: $16,600 for two terms plus tuition waiver

Publications:


Randi Cheatham-Johnson is a 2nd year student working with Dr. Katie Hart. She is interested in the parental role in the development of early learning and behavioral problems in community populations. Randi was recently awarded the Delores Auzenne Fellowship, designed to increase the matriculation of minority graduate students enrolled in disciplines where there is an underrepresentation – congratulations Randi! She has also recently published 1 paper and given 2 conference presentations, 1 of which was a first-author presentation.

Publications:

Tommy Chou is a 3rd year student working with Dr. Jon Comer. He is interested in interventions science. He has recently published 4 papers and has given 11 conference presentations in the last year, 2 of which were first-author presentations.

Publications:


Danielle Cornacchio is a 3rd year student working with Dr. Comer. She is interested in the bidirectional relationship between parenting behavior and irritability in children. She has recently published 4 papers and has given 7 conference presentations in the last year, 4 of which were first-author presentations.

Publications:


Sarah Helseth is a 6th year student working with Dr. Stacy Frazier. She is interested in peer-mediated interventions and community-based interventions. Sarah was recently awarded the 2015 Dissertation Year Fellowship from the FIU University Graduate School, as well as the 2015 FIU Provost Award for Graduate Student Outstanding Paper or Manuscript. Congratulations, Sarah! She’s recently published 2 papers and given 1 first-author conference presentation.

Publications:


Ryan Hill is a 6th year student working with Dr. Jeremy Pettit. He is interested in depression and suicide prevention. He recently published 3 papers and has given 1 first-author conference presentation.

Publications:

Annie really enjoyed being a lead counselor at the Summer Treatment Program (STP) and recently visited Argentina!

Gabriela Hungerford is a 6th year student working with Dr. Dan Bagner. She has recently published one paper, and given 4 conference presentations.

Publications:

Gabriela is currently completing her doctoral internship at the Kennedy Krieger Institute/Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland!

Michael Meinzer is a 6th year student working with Dr. Jeremy Pettit. He is interested in the prevalence of, explanations for, and prevention of comorbid ADHD and depression. Michael has recently published 3 papers and given 5 conference presentations, 3 of which were first-author presentations.

Publications:

Michael recently moved to Charleston to complete his doctoral internship, and has fully incorporated “y’all” into his vocabulary!

Raquel Melendez is a 4th year student working with Dr. Jeremy Pettit. She has recently given 2 conference presentations, 1 of which was a first-author presentation.

Annie Morrow is a 4th year student working with Dr. Miguel Villodas. She recently published 2 papers, and has given 3 conference presentations, 1 of which was a first-author presentation.

Publications:

Annie really enjoyed being a lead counselor at the Summer Treatment Program (STP) and recently visited Argentina!
**Amanda Sanchez** is a 2nd year student working with Dr. Jon Comer. She's recently published 2 papers and given 3 conference presentations, 2 of which were first-author presentations.

Publications:

**Anthony R. Ward** is a 4th year student working with Dr. Erica Musser. He is interested in examining the causes and development of externalizing disorders at multiple levels of analysis (i.e. physiological, temperamental, and socialization factors). He has recently published 1 paper and has given 6 conference presentations, 4 of which were first-author presentations.

Publications:

Anthony just celebrated the birth of his first child, Hana, in June! Congratulations, Anthony!

**DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAM**

**Carla Abad** is a 4th year working with Dr. Shannon Pruden. She is interested in spatial development. She was recently awarded the GSAW 2nd place social science oral presentation award – congratulations Carla! She has recently published 1 paper and given 7 conference presentations, 6 of which were first-author presentations.

Publications:

**Starlie Belnap**, a 2nd year student working with Dr. Licklitter, recently gave an oral presentation and a poster presentation in San Sebastian, Spain. Starlie recently co-founded an emerging scholars affiliate program for the Student for the Society of Human Development (SSHD)!

**Emily Boeving** is a 2nd year student working with Dr. Eliza Nelson. She is interested in motor development, social communication and cognition in primates, particularly the brain-behavior relationship. She has recently published 3 papers, and given 2 first-author conference presentations.

Publications:
Adam is currently learning Clair de Lune on the piano and Chopin op.9 no 2. He is also an uncle to both of his sister’s babies.

Elaine Espanola is a 5th year student working with Dr. Anibal Gutierrez. She is interested in behavior analysis/autism research. Elaine has given one first-author conference presentation.

**Publications:**


Sandy Gonzalez is a 3rd year student working with Dr. Eliza Nelson. She is interested in motor development and language. She was recently awarded the MRBS RISE fellowship through NIH; she was also awarded 2015 FIU Psychology Graduate Student Seed Funding for her project titled “improving language comprehension measures for diverse Hispanic populations: adaptation of the Mexican-Spanish Computerized Comprehension Task” – congratulations Sandy! She has also recently published 1 paper, and given 2 conference presentations, both of which were first-author presentations.

**Publications:**


Rosalie Odean is a 4th year student working with Dr. Shannon Pruden. She was recently awarded the NSF Distinguished Student Poster Award at the International Mind, Brain, and Education Society Conference – congratulations, Rosalie! She has recently published 2 papers and given 9 conference presentations, 5 of which were first-author presentations.

**Publications:**


Michelle Ramos is a 2nd year student working with Dr. Bethany Reeb-Sutherland in the Developmental Program. She has given 4 conference presentations, 3 of which were first-author presentations. Michelle recently got to go to Spain for a conference!

Jessica Saunders is a 3rd year student working with Dr. Leslie Frazier. She was recently awarded Student Seed Funding from the FIU Psychology Department for her project titled “interrelations between the development of attention skills and body image” – congratulations, Jessica! She has recently given 1 first-author conference presentation.

Adam Zimmerman is a 3rd year student working with Dr. Dionne Stephens. He is interested in anonymity, social modeling, and aggression as well as the consequences of ostracism and group interactions with burdensome individuals. He has recently published 2 papers.

**Publications:**

Christopher M. Altman is a 2nd year student who was awarded a grant from the American Psychology-Law Society (AP-LS) to fund breathalyzers for research on intoxicated individuals - congratulations to Chris! Chris presented his work at the AP-LS conference. Chris recently went snorkeling for the first time, became an FIU Campus Representative for AP-LS, and became the president of the Psychology Graduate Student Association (PGSA). He also is conducting studies at a local bar in Miami and has plans to run another study in his hometown of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania!

Andrea Arndorfer is a 6th year student working with Dr. Lindsay Malloy. She is interested in police interrogation and confession, eyewitness memory, and eyewitness identification. She recently received a FIU Psychology Graduate Student Seed Fund Award to support her dissertation; she also was awarded third place paper presenter by the graduate & professional student committee for her paper titled “examining best practice guidelines for eliciting eyewitness identification confidence: are laboratory or ecologically valid confidence assessment methods more indicative of identification accuracy” – congratulations Andrea! She has published 2 papers and given 5 conference presentations, 4 of which were first-author presentations.

Publications:


Melissa Kavetsky is a 5th year student working with Dr. Charman. Melissa was recently awarded the Psychology Graduate Student Seed Fund Award to support her dissertation research. Congratulations Melissa! Melissa has recently given 2 first-author conference presentations.

Alexandra Mosser is a 4th year student. She is interested in investigative interviewing and eyewitness memory. She has recently published 2 publications and given 3 conference publications.

Publications:


Michelle Pena is a 2nd year student working with Dr. Nadja Schreiber-Compo. She is interested in investigative interviewing...
Techniques and cognitive bias. She has recently published one paper and given 3 conference presentations, 1 of which was a first-author presentation.

Publication:


**Bryan Keith Wylie** is a 2nd year student working with Dr. Evans. He recently gave 1 conference presentation.

**Allison Mugno** is a 5th year student in the Legal Psychology department under Dr. Lindsay Malloy. Her research focuses broadly on child eyewitness testimony, specifically on children’s deceptive behaviors, disclosure patterns, child witness credibility, and individual differences in event memory. She recently received two awards and published a paper.

**Student Awards**

**Award: Society for Research in Child Development Student Travel Award**

Date: Spring, 2015

Title: Lying for concealment or gain: Antisocial lie-telling among children with Disruptive Behavior Disorders

Award Amount: $300

**Award: Florida International University’s College of Arts and Sciences Award for Best Master’s Thesis**

Date: Spring, 2015

Title: Caught in a lie: An experimental investigation of lie-telling among children with Disruptive Behavior Disorders


**Publications:**


In R. Cautin & S. Lilienfeld, The Encyclopedia of Clinical Psychology (pp. 1–3).

John Wiley & Sons, Inc.


**Conference Presentations**

* = Allison was the presenter


Allison just became an aunt to Bryn Elizabeth Reeder on September 9th!

INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONAL PROGRAM

Ryan Jacobson is a 2nd year student working with Dr. Asia Eaton interested in the outcomes and perceptions of organizational policies in the workplace involving discrimination and the examination of how perceptions made during the selection process regarding applicant competence and hireability are effected by the intersectionality of race and gender. Ryan was accepted in March of 2015 to the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society as an active doctoral student member. He has recently given 1 first-author conference presentation.

Archana Manapragada is a 4th year student working with Dr. Vish. She has recently received the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health Pilot grant through the Sunshine Education and Research Center at the University of South Florida. Congratulations Archana! She has also recently published one paper and given 2 first-author conference presentations.

Publications:


Vanessa Quiroz is a 2nd year student working with Dr. Asia Eaton. She is interested in examining the inter-group dynamics that are at the core of social power disparities in order to understand how the interaction between gender and race stereotypes can have implications for women’s career success.

Jose F. Rodriguez is a 5th year student working with Dr. Valentina Bruk-Lee. He is interested in occupational health psychology. He recently taught study abroad in Europe this past summer for 6 weeks!

April Schantz is a 3rd year student working with Dr. Valentina Bruk-Lee. April was recently nominated for 2015 Provost Award for Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant – congratulations April! She recently published 1 paper and has given 2 first-author conference presentations.

Publications:

**COGNITIVE NEUROSCIENCE**

Carolina Vias is a 2nd year student working with Dr. Anthony Dick. She is interested in the neurobiology of language. She recently gave a first-author conference presentation.

**FORMER STUDENTS**

Jon Carbone graduated from the Legal psychology program after successfully defending his dissertation on jury decision-making and coherence effects under the direction of Dr. Steve Charman. Jon recently accepted a position with the Miami-Dade public school system as a Research and Assessment Specialist!

Anya T. Edun graduated from the IO psychology program after successfully defending her dissertation, “Workplace Discrimination Climate and Team Effectiveness: The Mediating Role of Collective Value Congruence, Team Cohesion, and Collective Affective Commitment” under the direction of Dr. Chockalingam Viswesvaran. Any is now a learning & development manager at Active Capital Ltd (a Dart Enterprises Company located in Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands).

Michael B. Harari graduated from the IO psychology program after successfully defending his dissertation on the stability of personality-job performance relationships across time under the mentorship of Dr. Viswesvaran. He is now an assistant professor in the department of management in the college of business at Florida Atlantic University.

Aparajita “Tuma” Biswas Kuriyan graduated from the clinical psychology program after successfully defending her dissertation titled “the Effectiveness of an Online Workshop on Behavior Management as a Professional Development Tool for Teachers” under the direction of Dr. Bill Pelham. Tuma is currently working part-time as a consultant for the Children’s Trust, and staying home with her daughter, Asha.

Alejandra Matamala graduated from the IO psychology program after successfully defending her dissertation, “Assessing Organizational Image: Triangulation Across Different Applicant Perceptions, Website, and Facebook Features” under the mentorship of Dr. Viswesvaran. Alejandra is now working as a Senior Consultant for IBM’s Smarter Workforce Group.

Dana Hirn Mueller graduated from the Legal psychology program after successfully defending her dissertation titled “the Effects of Post-Recall Feedback: Examining Witness Recall Quantity, Accuracy, and Confidence” under the mentorship of Dr. Nadja Schreiber Compo. She is currently the IRB Coordinator in the Office of Research at the Medical College of Wisconsin.
Hod Tamir graduated from the developmental psychology program after successfully defending his dissertation titled “Romantic Relationships and Adjustment in Early Adulthood: The Role of Cross-Sex Experience in the Context of Social Norms and Support” under the direction of Dr. Dionne Stephens. Hod is now a National Institute of Health Postdoctoral Fellow, through FIU Department of Epidemiology and the Fogarty Global Health Equity Scholar (GHES) Program. He is currently in South India, directing a research project mapping social networks of HIV+ women with the eventual goal of developing a social intervention to increase support and decrease stigma within the HIV community.

Angela Reaves graduated from the IO program after successfully defending her dissertation on creativity in the workplace under the mentorship of Dr. Viswesvaran. Angela is currently the organizational development manager at Marsh & McLennan Agency. This year she married fellow recent alumni, Michael Harari – congratulations, Angela!