FIU Psychology Newsletter

Issue #3 November 2016

FIU
PSYCHOLOGY

2015 – 2016

For questions or feedback please contact Dr. Leslie Frazier, Director of Graduate Studies.
Mentor Spotlight

Interview with Dr. Valentina Bruk-Lee

Jose: What interested you in the field of Psychology and specifically I/O and your research field?

VBL: My interest in I/O began at a young age and was shaped in large part by my family experience. I recall how both work related stressors and organizational factors impacted my father's health and our family. That personal experience piqued my interest in understanding the psychological factors that drive organizational effectiveness and impact employee well being. With dual interests in communication and psychology, I was specifically attracted to understanding the influence of the social-work environment on organizational and personal outcomes.

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

VBL: My consulting experiences with state government agencies and the U.S military had a great impact on my career. As an I-O psychologist, I addressed major concerns of our military, such as Army recruiter and Navy SEALS selection. I worked with leading I-O figures, such as Wally Borman, in applying cutting edge research to address issues of national and global impact. I also lead major promotional test development efforts across Florida, which is at the core of personnel testing in our field. I believe that having to address significant
organizational questions with best-in-class research and practical solutions has given me a very unique perspective on the importance of narrowing the scientist-practitioner gap in I-O.

Jose: What do you see as the greatest challenges to your field in the future? What is the unsolved problem in your research area specifically?

VBL: Next year's Society of Industrial-Organizational Psychology conference focuses on the future of I-O through its theme track sessions. I am chairing a symposium that presents a vibrant future of I-O as multidisciplinary. A growing movement exists to foster multidisciplinary science as a means of addressing the pressing questions of our time. I-O psychologists, too, have made meaningful contributions to our knowledge of work, its design, and its impact by spanning across disciplinary boundaries. Organizational psychologists face the challenge of identifying the opportunities and threats that lie ahead for them in an increasingly cross-boundary world.

There are so many factors changing the nature of work, including rapid changes in technology and globalization -- with the latter not just referring to global business practices, but also to the increased diversity present in today's workforce. These factors have a significant influence on understanding issues of workplace stress by redefining the way in which work is designed and its demands. A major issue remaining in my area of research is taking into account the various contextual levels that impact this experience, so that the external
societal context is considered in conjunction with both organizational and individual level factors. We are also seeing a major shift from studying strain to predicting wellness. This has raised many questions regarding the role of positive psychology in shaping organizational interventions and creating psychologically healthy workplaces.

**Jose:** What are the keys to success in today’s job market?

**VBL:** I think the answer would vary depending on the stage of career that we are discussing and the specific job industry. For example, there has been tremendous emphasis on the role of authenticity in leadership or in technological skills in today’s entry level jobs. There are widely used predictors of work performance that organizations rely on, such as cognitive ability, critical thinking, communication skills, and conscientiousness. However, beyond these, employers are seeking young professionals who can manage change, influence, and demonstrate strategic perspective. Through one’s ability to manage change, employers seek candidates that display innovative thinking, propose new methods or technologies, and find ways to create efficiencies.

Just as important in today's competitive job market is the ability to gain support for one's ideas while engaging others in seeking win-win solutions. Past experiences that illustrate a candidate's success in gaining commitment from multiple parties and project stakeholders can really help set them apart in a competitive job market. Strategic thinkers are able to analyze and articulate complex problems. They understand the issues from a variety of perspectives and know the networks that drive information sharing at work. These are all areas that
can be developed with proper training and through experience, and which will certainly help any candidate succeed in today's workforce.

Jose: Given your expertise in stress in the workplace and work-life balance, what “words of wisdom” do you have for young scholars/graduate students to help them achieve a healthy work-life balance?

VBL: People at all stages of work and school need strategies to help them remained balanced and 'healthy'. There are three strategies that I discuss in my leadership seminars that apply:

1. **Connecting**: You must find daily time to establish and maintain meaningful relationships with others. By connecting with others, we build on our emotional, instrumental, and informational resources. Social time is key to ameliorating the impact of work (or school) stress and improving cognitive functioning.

2. **Time in**: refers to the use of relaxation or meditation techniques to help rebalance the mind and body. Mindfulness refers to paying attention in a particular way: on purpose, in the present moment, and nonjudgmentally. Among many other benefits, it has been shown to improve attention and flexible perspective taking and to increase self-control.

3. **Recovery**: Refers to challenging off-job experiences that provide opportunities for learning and success. These can take, for example, the form of hobbies or exercise. It involves dedicated focused time which helps us to fine tune our working memory which is important in short- and long-term planning. This type of activity has also been shown to relate to emotion regulation.
Michele Bechor

**Year:** 6th year Ph.D. student  
**Area of research:** Neural Correlates of Child Anxiety  
**Major Professor:** Dr. Jeremy Pettit

**Funding:**  
2015 - 2017. *Neural Correlates of Attention Training in Children with Anxiety Disorders*, (F31 MH105144-01A1), **Bechor, M.** (Fellow/Principal Investigator) with Jeremy Pettit, Ph.D., Wendy K. Silverman, Ph.D., Bethany Reeb-Sutherland, Ph.D., & Michael Crowley, Ph.D. Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award National Institutes of Mental Health; Amount $67,672

**Awards:**  
2016 – International Society for Developmental Psychobiology Travel Award to attend Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA.  
Title of project: Neural Correlates of Attention Training in Youth With and Without Anxiety Disorders.  
Amount: $550

2015 – FIU Honors College ARCH Research Award

2015 – Travel funding, Graduate Student Professional Committee, FIU SGA  
Amount: $300.00

2015 – Graduate Student Travel Subsidy, College of Arts & Sciences, FIU  
Amount: $200.00

**Published Papers:**

**Conference Presentations:**


**Posters:**


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**Laura Jane Bry**

**Year:** 6th year Ph.D. student

**Published Papers:**


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**Victor Buitron**

**Published Papers:**


**Conference Presentations:**


**Posters:**


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**Randi Cheatham-Johnson**

Funding:

2016 - National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) Research Initiative for Scientific Engagement (RISE) Fellowship

Conference Presentations:


Posters:

• **Cheatham-Johnson, R.,** Poznanski, B., Scaramutti, C., & Hart, K. C. (2016, September). *Examination of Associations between Oral Reading Fluency and Inattention/Overactivity and Oppositional/Defiant Symptoms in Young Children At-Risk for Learning and Behavioral Disorders.* Poster presented at the National Conference in Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology Biannual Meeting, Lawrence, KS.


**Personal Accomplishments:** Founder & Vice President of the Black Graduate Women's Association (BGWA) at FIU. BGWA at FIU was founded to promote the visibility of Black women in various graduate programs across campus and to strengthen their relationships with each other across programs within the university. Our goal is to provide a safe space that fosters well-being, dialogue, scholarship, community, and leadership development in the lives of graduate women of the African Diaspora on campus and beyond. We are committed to celebrating the successes and addressing the needs, unique challenges, and lived experiences of Black women, as well as those salient to the Black experience.
Tommy Chou

Year: 4th year Ph.D. student
Area of research: Dissemination and Implementation science research
Major Professor: Dr. Stacy Frazier

Published Papers:


Conference Presentations:


- Bry, L., Bufka, L.J., **Chou, T.**, Comer, J.S., Mohr, D.C., Weingardt, K.R. (2016, October). *Overcoming traditional barriers only to encounter new ones: Doses of caution as the exciting field of behavioral telehealth begins to “go live”*. Discussion panel conducted at the 50th annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies. New York City, NY.


- **Chou, T.**, Golik, A.M., Martin, J., Caproni, E., Carpenter, A.L., Cornacchio, D., Miguel, E., Sanchez,

**Posters:**

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**Danielle Cornacchio**

**Published Papers:**

**Conference Presentations:**
- Poznanski, B. & **Cornacchio, D.** (2016, November). *Nothing to lose sleep over: New advances in understanding sleep problems among anxious youth.* Symposium to be co-chaired at the 50th annual


**Posters:**


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Jacqueline Duperrouzel  
**Year:** 3rd year Ph.D. student  
**Area of research:** Substance Abuse  
**Major Professor:** Dr. Raul Gonzalez
Funding:
R01 DA033156, R01 DA031176

Awards:
2016 - Psychology Travel Award, $750.00

Published Papers:


Posters:


Personal Accomplishments: Contributing as second author to a chapter.

Leah Feinberg
BS in Psychology with a minor in Biology from Northeastern University
Area of research: risk factors linked to the development of anxiety, especially parental interaction patterns and their relationship with the trajectory of anxiety disorders
Major Professor: Dr. Jonathan Comer

Published Papers:

**Posters:**


**Fun Fact:** “I love heights! I have been bungee jumping and skydiving, and have a list of other height-related activities I hope to try.”

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**Alexis Garcia**

**Published Papers:**


**Conference Presentations:**

• Garcia, A., & Graziano, P. (2016). *Preschoolers with ADHD and Co-Occurring Weight Problems: The Role of Self-Regulation and Parenting towards Healthy Habits*. In M. Gowey (Chair), Psychological and Neurocognitive Correlates of Health Behaviors in Pediatric Obesity: Child and Caregiver Considerations. Symposium presented at the Society of Pediatric Psychology Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA.

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**Chelsey Hartley**

**Year:** 6th year Ph.D. student  
**Area of research:** Maternal Reward Responsively in Parenting  
**Major Professor:** Dr. Jeremy Pettit

**Posters:**


**Personal Accomplishments:** Chelsey is completing an internship year at the Medical University of South Carolina and defended her dissertation in June 2016.
Natalie Hong

**Area of research:** Research interests focus on evidence-based interventions for children with anxiety and disruptive behavior problems. Particularly in informed decision-making for children who exhibit slower or fewer improvements over the course of an intervention.

**Major Professor:** Dr. Jon Comer

**Published Papers:**


**Conference Presentations:**


**Posters:**


Fiona Macphee

**Published Papers:**


Raquel Melendez

**Published Papers:**


**Conference Presentations:**

**Posters:**

Loreen Magariño

B.S., University of Florida

**Area of research:** Research interests include the implementation and efficacy of psychosocial interventions for externalizing behavior in children and adolescents from at-risk and culturally diverse populations. Also interested in the role of ecological factors, including culture and family dynamic, in the conceptualization, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of behavioral problems and mental health issues in children and adolescents.

**Major Professor:** Dr. Miguel Villodas

**Fun Facts:** “I enjoy visiting art museums and turbulence!”
Bridget Poznanski

Published Papers:

Posters:

J. Megan Ross

Year: 6th year Ph.D. student
Area of research: Neurocognitive functioning and risk-taking behavior among adolescents
Major Professor: Dr. Raul Gonzalez

Published Papers:

Conference Presentations:
development of cannabis dependence among teens: Preliminary observations. Paper presentation at the International Neuropsychological Society. Boston, MA.

Posters:


News to share: Began internship at the University of Florida, Clinical and Health Psychology Department as a Child/Pediatric Psychology Intern.

Daniella Vaclavik
Year: 3rd year Ph.D. student
Area of research: Neural correlates of anxiety in youth
Major Professor: Jeremy Pettit

Funding:

Published Papers:


Conference Presentations:
- Pettit, J.W., Silverman, W.K., Rey, Y., Bechor, M., Melendez, R., Vaclavik, D., & Buitron, V.

**Posters:**

- **Buitron, V., Vaclavik, D., Melendez, R., Rey, Y., Marin, C., Silverman, W.K., & Pettit, J.W.** (October, 2016). *Peer-Involved Group CBT Leads to Greater Reductions in Concurrent Depressive Symptoms than Parent-Involved CBT in Children and Adolescents with Anxiety Disorders and Negative Peer Interactions*. Poster accepted for presentation at the annual convention of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, New York, NY.


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**Anthony Ward**

**Published Papers:**


**Conference Presentations:**


**Posters:**


• Lugo, Y., **Ward, A.R.,** Tenenbaum, R., Musser, E.D. (2016). *Parent affect and child autonomic regulation in childhood attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).* Poster presented at the *Conference for Undergraduate Research,* Florida International University, Miami, FL.


Personal Accomplishments: Hana Ward was born June 24, 2015 at 7lbs, 5 oz. She's now 15 months old, walking and running, gives kisses (when she feels like it), and can say a handful of words.

Carlos E. Yeguez
B.S. Psychology from the University of Michigan
Year: 1st year Ph.D. student
Area of research: Developmental psychopathology of youths with ADHD and co-occurring emotional or behavioral problems and intervention development for these youths.
Major Professor: Dr. William E. Pelham Jr.

Awards:
2016 – Researching Injustice and Sociality Inequality (RISE) Award Honorable Mention
   Association for Psychological Science Student Caucus
2016 – Student Travel Award
   Association for Psychological Science Student Caucus
2016 – First Place Poster Award
   Conference on Adolescent Health
   University of Michigan Health Systems’ Adolescent Health Initiative

Published Papers:


Posters:


**News to Share**: Before moving to Miami to begin graduate school he donated all of his furniture, books, and household items to a local shelter in Southeast Michigan.

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**Katherine Zambrana**  
University of Miami, Master of Science in Education 2016;  
Major: Research methods, Measurement, and Evaluation

**Area of research**: Promoting school readiness in young children at risk for early learning and disruptive behavior problems and the development and evaluation of school-based interventions. I have a particular interest in also examining the role of family involvement and parenting on children’s socio-emotional development specifically for ethnically and linguistically diverse children and families.  
**Major Professor**: Dr. Katie Hart

**Published Papers**:

Recent Graduate: Maya Boustani

Dissertation Title: Sexual health promotion programming for youth in or at-risk for foster care: Improving knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors.

Current position: Postdoctoral scholar at University of California, Los Angeles

Personal Accomplishments: Completed internship at University of Texas Health Science Center


Recent Graduate: Kathleen Crum.

Ongoing program of research involves examining the psychophysiological and behavioral underpinnings of youth psychopathology, including callous-unemotional traits and anxiety.

Major professor: Dr. Jon Comer
Dissertation title: Anxiety and Callous-Unemotional Traits: Physiological and Behavioral Responses to Others' Distress

Current position: Postdoctoral research fellow with the Center for Neurobehavioral Research at Boys Town National Research Hospital in Omaha, NE, investigating the relationship between neurocognitive dysfunction and specific symptom sets among youth.
Recent Graduate: Ryan M. Hill, PhD

Dissertation title: Open Trial and Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial of a Novel Program to Reduce Perceived Burdensomeness

Major Professor: Dr. Jeremy Pettit

Current position: Instructor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.

Recent Graduate: Dainelys Garcia, PhD

Dissertation title: Parent-Child Interaction Therapy as a Family-Focused Approach for Young Children with Traumatic Brain Injury

Major Professor: Dr. Daniel M. Bagner

Current position: Postdoctoral associated at FIU

Awards: FIU Words ahead graduate

Published papers:


Conference presentations/posters:

- Bagner, D. M., Coxe, S., Hungerford, G. M., Garcia, D., Barroso, N. E., Hernandez, J. & Rosa-


**News to share:** “Finished internship, graduated, and bought a house this year!”
COGNITIVE NEUROSCIENCE

Lauren Hill
B.S. Colorado State University; M.S. Nova Southeastern University
Year: 1st. year Ph.D. student
Major Professor: Dr. Matthew Sutherland in the Neuroinformatics and Brain Connectivity Lab
Sanjay Narasiwodeyar
BS in Physics - University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (2014)
BA in Psychology - State University of New York, Brockport (2016)

**Year:** 6th year Ph.D. student

**Area of research:** Interested in enhancing our theoretical understanding of memory and learning mechanisms in the brain. Specifically, developing computational models of specific memory circuits that are vital for discriminating new experiences from prior experiences.

**Major Professor:** Dr. Fabian Soto

**Fun Fact:** “If I wasn't doing science, I'd be a photojournalist. My dream gig would be: doing street photography in human conflict zones around the world.”

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Ranjita Poudel

**Posters:**

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Ali Pournaghdali

**Year:** 2nd year Ph.D. student

**Area of research:** Interested in simulating blindsight in people with normal vision, using perceptual and brain stimulation methods, in order to study the association between neural activities in the primary visual cortex and visual consciousness.

**Major Professor:** Dr. Bennett Schwartz.

**Published Papers:**

**Personal Accomplishments:** A mountain climber and right now is training to get ready for a few expeditions during the holidays.
Ben Sheler

Published Papers:

Conference Presentations:
- Sheler, B. (2016, May) *Limited Processing Capacity in Attention.* Presented at the South Florida Child Psychology Collaborative Research Conference, University of Miami, Miami, FL

Personal Accomplishments: Designed and programmed a cognitive task that was run on over 350 participants. The task studies the processing of distracting irrelevant stimuli and how it impacts awareness and selective attention.
DEVELOPMENTAL SCIENCE

Carla Abad

Awards:
2016 – Best Thesis in Psychology CASE Award

2016 – GPSC Conference Funding. Amount: $500

2016 – CAS Travel Support. Amount: $200

2016 – PSY Seed Fund Award. Amount: $2,000

2015 – GPSC Conference Funding. Amount: $309.70

2015 – CDS 2015 Diversity Travel Award. Amount $500

Conference Presentations:

Posters:


• Abad, C., Odean, R., Pruden, S.M. (2015, October). Sex Differences in Gains on Spatial Ability Throughout Pre-Kindergarten. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Columbus, OH.


Personal Accomplishments: Master’s Thesis: Sex Differences in Hispanic Pre-Kindergartners’ Spatial Thinking
Starlie Belnap

**Year:** 3rd year Ph.D. student  
**Area of research:** The influence of prenatal sensory stimulation on neural and physiological development of coordinated movement and its subsequent influence on the developing system. In particular, the role of motor coordination in hemispheric lateralization, social facilitation, and behavioral preferences.  
**Major Professor:** Dr. Robert Lickliter.

**Published Papers:**

**Conference Presentations:**
- **Belnap, S.** (2016); *What is a developmental psychobiologist, what do we do and why is it cool?*, Bent Tree Elementary, Miami, FL
- **Belnap, S.** Lickliter R. (2016); *Prenatal light exposure affects coordinated movement in Bobwhite quail chicks.* Graduate Student Appreciation Week Scholarly Forum, Florida International University, Miami, FL
- **Belnap, S.**, Lickliter R. (2016); *Prenatal light exposure affects coordinated movement in Bobwhite quail chicks.* Center for Children and Families Speaker Series, Florida International University, Miami, FL

**Personal Accomplishments:** Starlie is an active member in her community and leads a youth organization at her church.

Brittany Boyd

**Awards:**
- 2015- 2016 Graduate Minority Fellowship  
- Department of Psychology SEED Fund Award  
- SREB Scholar

**Published Papers:**

**Posters:**
- **Boyd, B.,** Stephens, D. P., Ruvalcaba, Y., & Johnson, A. (2016, May). *Do Black college women who receive formal HIV/STI intervention exposure engage in lower levels of sexual risk taking, as measured by a condom use, as compared to those who do not?* Poster session presented at the Black Graduate Conference in Psychology, Miami, FL.

**News to share:** Won the faculty/staff portion of Panther's Got Talent at Homecoming 2016.

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**Christopher Clifford**

BS Institution: University of New Mexico  
**Area of research:** Multi-sensory processing, memory and attention, and brain communication in neurotypical and developmentally disabled populations of children and adolescents, primarily through electrophysiological measures.  
**Major Professor:** Dr. Bethany Reeb-Sutherland.

**Conference Presentations:**  

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**John Paul Currea**

**Year:** 2nd year Ph.D. student  
**Area of research:** Perceptual Developmental  

**Major Professor:** Dr. Robert Lickliter and Dr. Jamie Theobald  
**Funding:** NIGMS RISE Graduate Research Fellowship, funded by National Institutes of Health/National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIH/NIGMS).

**Conference Presentations:**  

**Personal Accomplishments:** “I recently worked as producer on a documentary set in Ebeye, Republic of Marshall Islands, where about 15,000 people are dealing with the direct and indirect effects of the United States’ nuclear testing during the Cold War. The film is still in production.

I also contributed to a project called Corpus Callosum, an interdisciplinary art-science project collaborating with the New World Symphony and the new Frost Science Museum, that will use biofeedback from musicians and audience members during a musical performance to project visuals inside the museum’s planetarium. I helped by giving a guest lecture on vision, audition, and the curious condition of sound-color synesthesia.”
Sandy Gonzalez

Year: 4th year Ph.D. student
Area of research: Infant motor and language development
Major Professor: Dr. Eliza Nelson

Awards: Honorable Mention at the Fall 2015 MARC U*STAR & MBRS RISE Mini-Symposium for the following poster:


Published Papers:


Posters:


Myriah McNew

Awards:

- 2015 Professional Development Travel Award, Graduate & Professional Student Committee, Florida International University

Published Papers:

Posters:


Rosalie Odean

Awards:

- FIU Psychology Seeds Grant ($2000). **Project:** Development of Spatial Language

- Cognitive Development Society Diversity Travel Award ($500).

Posters:


Ohio.


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Michelle L. Ramos  
**Year:** 3rd year Ph.D. student

**Conference Presentations:**


**News to share:** Teaching her first Socio-emotional Development course online in Fall 2016

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Yanet Ruvalcaba  
BA institution: Florida International University  
**Year:** 1st year Ph.D. student  
**Area of research:** relationship development among racial/ethnic minority adolescents, teen dating violence, and intersectional identity development.  
**Major Professor:** Dr. Asia Eaton  
**Funding:** FIU McNair Graduate Fellowship  
**Awards:**  
2016 - Outstanding Academic Achievement Award in Psychology presented by the College of Arts, Science, and Education & graduated with Magna Cum Laude.

**Posters:**

Jessica Saunders

Published Papers:


Conference Presentations:
- **Saunders, J.F.** (2016, March). *Interrelations between inhibitory control and body dissatisfaction in emerging adolescence: the role of environmental and contextual risk factors*. Oral presentation at the Center for Children and Families Graduate Student Data Blitz, FIU, Miami, FL.


Posters:


Megan A. Taylor
B.S., Indiana University – Purdue University Columbus, Psychology

**Year:** 1st year Ph.D. student

**Area of research:** Motor development and handedness

**Major Professor:** Dr. Eliza Nelson

**Awards:**
2016 - Indiana University – Purdue University, Columbus’ Promising Future Psychologist Award $200 Scholarship.
2016 - IUPUC Office of Student Research Grant Award Winner. Amount: $1,000; “Recognition of First-Person Action in Children II: Exploring Early Knowledge of Optic Flow with Body Movement.”

2016 - 21st Indiana University Undergraduate Research Conference Presentation Winner. $250 Scholarship.

**Posters:**


- **Taylor, M.A.** (2016, April). *Recognition of First-Person Action in Children II: Exploring Early Knowledge of Optic Flow with Body Movement.* Poster presented at an Annual Conference hosted by the Office of Student Research at Indiana University-Purdue University, Columbus, IN.

- **Taylor, M.A.** (2015, November). *Recognition of the First-Person Experience in Children.* Poster presented at the 21st Annual Undergraduate Research Conference at Indiana University, Bloomington, IN.

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**Vanessa Vieites**

**Major Professor:** Dr. Bethany C. Reeb-Sutherland

**Funding:**

2015-Present: McKnight Doctoral Fellowship recipient

**Awards:**

- Travel award (up to $550): notification received September 2016 by the International Society for Developmental Psychobiology (ISDP) to attend and present a poster at the ISDP annual meeting in November 2016.

- Coauthored a poster awarded 5th place for Outstanding Research Poster at CUDCP Diversifying Clinical Psychology Event in January 2016.
  - Poster Citation: Jimenez, M., Vieites, V., Garduno, A., & Reeb-Sutherland, B. C. (January, 2016). *Mother-Infant Reciprocity and the Development of Joint Attention & Language Acquisition in 12-Month-Old Infants.* Presented At The Cudcp Diversifying Clinical Psychology Networking Event: Miami, Fl.

- McKnight travel funding ($250) awarded January 2016 by the Florida Education Fund for attending and presenting a poster at the Society for the Study of Human Development’s (SSHD) biennial meeting in October 2015.
• Conference travel and registration funding ($350) awarded October 2015 by the Graduate and Professional Student Committee (GPSC) to attend and present a poster at the Society for the Study of Human Development’s (SSHD) biennial meeting.

Published Papers:
• Vieites, V., & Reeb-Sutherland, B. C. (under review). Individual Differences in Non-Clinical Maternal Depression Impact Infant Affect and Behavior during the Still-Face Paradigm across the First Year. Submitted to the journal Infant Behavior and Development.

Conference Presentations:
• Vieites, V. & Reeb-Sutherland, B. C. (May, 2016). The Role of Gender in Spatial Anxiety, Wayfinding Strategies, and Early Wayfinding Experience: Implications for Hippocampal-Dependent Learning and Spatial Memory in Adulthood. Presented at the University of Miami’s South Florida Child Psychology Collaborative Research Conference: Miami, FL.


• Vieites, V. (February, 2016). A Novel Approach to Studying Spatial Reorientation and Hippocampal Development in Young Children. Presented at the McKnight Mid-Year Research & Writing Conference: Tampa, FL.

• Vieites, V. (December, 2015). Longitudinal Effects of Non-Clinical Maternal Depression on Infant Behavior during the Still-Face Paradigm. Presented at Florida International University’s Graduate Student Data Blitz: Miami, FL.

Posters:
• Vieites, V., Pruden, S., & Reeb-Sutherland, B. C. (November 2016). Relation between Spatial Reorientation and Hippocampal-Dependent Learning and Memory in Young Children. To be presented at the International Society for Developmental Psychobiology Annual Meeting: San Diego, CA.


INDUSTRIAL / ORGANIZATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

Ryan Jacobson

Year: 3rd year Ph.D. student
Area of research: Organizational climate and sexual harassment reporting in the workplace

Major Professor: Dr. Asia Eaton.
Awards:

Conference Presentations:


- Jacobson, R., & Eaton, A. A. How organizational policies influence the likelihood of reporting coworker perpetrated sexual harassment. Submitted to the 2017 Society of Industrial and Organizational Psychology Conference, Orlando, FL.

- Jacobson, R., & Viswesvaran, C. A reliability generalization study of the political skill inventory. Submitted to the 2017 Society of Industrial and Organizational Psychology Conference, Orlando, FL.

Posters:

News to share: “Very excited about new puppy!”

Anna Kallschmidt
BA in psychology with a minor in Mass Communications from the University of South Florida
Year: 1st year Ph.D. student
Area of research: Interested in social class and how it impacts individual's occupational opportunities and achievements.
Major Professor: Dr. Asia Eaton

Fun Fact: “I grew up in a very small town, and did not even know what a Ph.D. was until I moved to USF to pursue a journalism career. After a few Honors College classes and a good bit of career counseling, I was unexpectedly on the path to become a psychologist.”
Archana Manapragada

Awards:
2016 – Florida International University Dissertation Seed Fund Award
Title of project: The “always on” employee: The effect of work-related email use on employee burnout. Amount: $1400

Published Papers:

Posters:

News to share: “I got married in August, and took a trip to the Galapagos Islands!”

Vanessa Quiroz

Year: 3th year Ph.D. student
Area of research: Broadly, I’m interested in examining the impact of multitasking on employee performance.
Major Professor: Dr. Valentina Bruk-lee
Funding:
2014 – Present: McKnight Doctoral Fellowship
2014 – Present: FIU McNair Graduate Fellowship

Published Papers:

Conference Presentations:
Perceptions? Paper submitted to the 2017 Society of Industrial/Organizational Psychology Conference (SIOP), Orlando, FL.

José F. Rodríguez

Major Professor: Dr. Valentina Bruk-lee

Funding: Self-funded through university employment

Conference Presentations:

Personal Accomplishments: Has recently stepped down as Assistant Dean of the Honors College to join the faculty of the Honors College and has been teaching full time.

April D. Schantz

Year: 6th year Ph.D. student

Funding: 2016 - Travel Funding awarded in the amount of $750, by the College of Arts and Sciences for participation in professional development event, SoCal Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA) Workshop hosted by Drs. Charles Ragin and Peer Fiss at the University of California in Irvine.

Published Papers:

Conference Presentations:

Personal Accomplishments:
- Attended interesting methods workshop: SoCal QCA Workshop, 2016
  The SoCal QCA Workshop was organized by Drs. Charles Ragin and Peer Fiss and hosted at University of California, Irvine. Primary goals of this workshop were to provide foundational training in Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA) and fuzzy sets. Three days of intensive instruction with hands-on components enabled participants to understand QCA methodology, use fsQCA software to conduct analyses and interpret results, and upon completion, be prepared to utilize this set-theoretic approach in design and execution of their respective research programs.
- Primary instructor of upper division course: Organizational Psychology
Led upper division course that focused upon the application of social psychology theory in the workplace. Main objectives of the course included exposure to organizational psychology concepts such as motivation, job attitudes, workplace stress, team processes, leadership and organizational culture. Class sessions incorporated theory and research through integrated class discussions, group activities, and learner centric modalities to facilitate critical analyses and comprehension of topic areas. (Fall 2016 enrollment: 50 students)

• Completed courses required for Minor in Quantitative Methods (yay!)

Alexander Snihur.
BA in Psychology at the University of Miami.
Year: 1st year Ph.D. student
Area of research: Positive Psychology in the workplace (e.g. flow, optimism, well-being, resilience) worker engagement, worker satisfaction, and work-life balance.
Major Professor: Dr. Valentina Bruk-lee

Interesting things about Alexander: He has a twin sister. Has played competitive tennis since he was 6 years old, loves to bake, and declares himself a complete foodie: “if anyone needs advice on where to eat I am your guy.”

Tyler Stout
Year: 8th year PhD student
Major Professor: Stefany Coxe

Conference Presentations:

Posters:

Dissertation Title: Multilevel modeling issues and measurement of stress in multilevel data.
LEGAL PSYCHOLOGY

Amelia Jafary

Year: 1st year Ph.D. student
Funding: CAS Travel Support; Psychology Department Travel Fund; Graduate student on Dr. Evans' NSF grant studying the effects of alcohol on suspect interrogation/confession behavior.
Conference Presentations:


Personal Accomplishments: “I am now a student reviewer for the Psychology Law Evidence Database. I am happy to hereby have the opportunity of helping in the process of disseminating knowledge that has been gathered in the field of legal psychology. All in all, my first year as a graduate student at FIU was great, and I am looking forward to my second year!”

Kureva Matuku
BA institution: Jacobs University, Germany
Year: 1st year Ph.D. student

Area of research: Eyewitness memory and lineup procedures.
Major Professor: Dr. Steve Charman
Personal Accomplishments: I’m from Zimbabwe and I speak 5 languages. In the last year I’ve traveled to 7 countries.

Alexis Mook
B.A., Psychology, Bucknell University
Year: 1st year Ph.D. student
Major Professor: Dr. Ron Fisher and Dr. Steve Charman.

News to share: “Taylor Swift gave me a high-five once.”

Alexandra Mosser
Year: 5th year Ph.D. student
Area of research: Investigative Interviewing and Witness Memory
Major Professor: Dr. Jacqueline Evans

Awards: 2016 - "Using the Cognitive Interview to Enhance Recall During Contact Tracing", FIU Psychology Dissertation Year Fellowship, $16,600 (and tuition waiver), two semesters
2016 - "Using the Cognitive Interview to Enhance Recall During Contact Tracing", FIU Graduate Student Seed Funds, $2,000

**Published Papers:**


**Conference Presentations:**


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**Allison Mugno**

**Year:** 6th year Ph.D. student

**Area of research:** Children’s deceptive behaviors, Children’s disclosure patterns, Child witness credibility, Individual differences in event memory.

**Major Professor:** Dr. Lindsay Malloy

**Funding:**

2016 - 2017 – National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant.

**Title of Project:** Does priming honesty elicit truthful disclosures from children regarding adult wrongdoing? **Amount:** $26,100

**Published Papers:**


Conference Presentations:


Michelle Pena Awards:

- Conference Funding. Title of the project: Perceived Source Credibility Mediates the Effect of Increasing Misinformation on Memory Performance
  Funding source: GPSC. Amount: $343.00
  CASE Matching Funds from Psychology Department
  Amount: $200.00

Published Papers:


Conference Presentations:


Posters:

Danielle Sneyd
B.A.: Psychology and Criminal Justice at Roger Williams University
M.A.: Cognitive and Social Processes at Ball State University
**Area of research:** Research Interest: Interrogations/interviews and Eyewitness memory
**Major Professor:** Dr. Nadja Schreiber Compo

**Fun Fact:** Has 4 dogs back home.

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Andrea Wolfs
BS and MS degrees from Maastricht University, the Netherlands
**Area of research:** Eyewitnesses, interviewing and interrogation
**Major Professor:** Dr. Nadja Schreiber Compo

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Keith Wylie
**Year:** 3rd year Ph.D. student
**Area of research:** Investigative interviewing, eyewitness memory
**Major Professor:** Dr. Jacqueline Evans

**Conference Presentations:**


**Personal Accomplishments:** Started teaching Legal Psychology this Fall.

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Andrea Arndorfer
**Year:** 7th year Ph.D. student
**Area of research:** Interrogations and Confessions; Eyewitness Memory; Lineup Identification and Procedures; Juvenile Justice and Delinquency
**Major Professor:** Dr. Lindsay Malloy
**Funding:**
2016 - **Title of Project:** Increasing the elicitation of truthful information from young suspects: An empirical investigation of the effects of temporal discounting
Funding Source: Florida International University College of Arts, Sciences, & Education Doctoral Evidence Acquisition Fellowship.

**Conference Presentations:**

**Personal Accomplishments:** Has accepted and began a tenure track position as an Assistant Professor in the Criminology Department at California State University, Fresno.

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**Recent Graduate: Melissa Kavetski**

**Area of research:** Eyewitness/Lineups  
**Major Professor:** Dr. Steve Charman  

**Dissertation Title:** The Field View: An Initial Examination of an Exploratory Eyewitness Identification Procedure  

**Awards:**
- Data Evidence Acquisition grant, College of Arts & Sciences, FIU  
- PSY Graduate Student Seed Fund Award  
  FIU Psychology Dept. Amount: $2000  

**Conference Presentations:**

**Posters:**


**Personal Accomplishments:** Current position: ORISE Fellow.