



FAMILY SCIENCE & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

MARCH 2021

DATES TO REMEMBER

March 1

Deadline to [Register](#) for Summer FSHD Internships

March 13

Daylight Savings Time - Turn Clocks Ahead 1 Hour Tonight

April 2

Good Friday - Classes are in Session

Social Justice Advisory Board Appointed

It is hard to believe it is already March and the official start of spring will be here soon, March 20th to be exact. Spring often is considered a time full of life, new growth, and general renewal. Although a bit cliché, we believe this captures our social justice plans for the spring semester as we bid farewell to winter and the extended university winter break and welcome the next chapter of our social justice growth.

Within this newsletter, and continuing over the next several editions, we are thrilled to begin introducing the exceptional members of the inaugural FSHD Social Justice Advisory Board. These introductions will largely be alphabetical. This edition features both alumni and current undergraduate and doctoral students. As you will see across the spring newsletters, each member has a deep commitment to social justice, brings diverse strengths, experiences, and perspectives to the team, and is strongly connected to our FSHD community.

By the time this newsletter reaches you, it is likely that we held our first meeting. The plan for this meeting is to spend some time on member introductions, and to share our perspectives of social justice and hopes for how FSHD can enhance its social justice work. We also plan to begin making decisions about how the Board will operate within the context

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March is National Social Work Month

During March we celebrate National Social Work month with the 2021 theme “Social Workers are Essential,” highlighting the valuable contributions social workers make in our society, especially as we address the coronavirus pandemic.

After graduating from MSU, many FSHD majors pursue a career in social work, one of the fastest growing professions in the United States, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. There are currently 700,000 social workers in our nation, and that number is expected to exceed 800,000 by 2029.

Social workers make an impact throughout society by protecting children from abuse and neglect, providing mental health and substance abuse treat-

ment, assisting veterans and active duty military, helping corporations better serve their communities, and working in schools, community organizations and government. Many social work professionals also own private consultation practices.



During the pandemic, social workers have been on the front lines ensuring that hospitalized patients get the quality care and services they need, and helping individuals cope with mental illness and substance use disorders while services are limited.

To learn more about social work, visit the National Association of Social Workers at socialworkers.org. ■

Meet the Social Justice Advisory Board Members

FSHD Ph.D. Alumni Representative

Autumn Bermea, Ph.D.

(she/her, they/them)

Postdoctoral Research Fellow
College of Education and
Human Ecology
The Ohio State University

"Social justice is the practice of recognizing, resisting, and changing oppressive structures and systems."



FSHD Undergraduate Representative

Wilfredo Flores-Bruno

(he/him/his)

Sophomore, double major, FSHD
(Family Services) and Psychology
Montclair State University

"Social justice can be defined as the equal opportunity given to all people. All people should be treated respectfully and equally regardless of race, self-identity, socioeconomic status, or beliefs. Everyone should be given the opportunity to strive. Social justice would promote social development and community-growth."



FSHD Undergraduate Alumni Representative

Daniela Grinienko,

MSW, LSW

(she/her/hers)

School Based Social Worker
Elizabeth Public Schools

"Social justice to me means equal opportunities to all, no matter individual circumstances, race, ethnicity or gender preferences. Working with children and adolescents has truly expanded the meaning of social justice for

me. The district where I work is diverse in population and many of our students are at economic disadvantage. I am excited to be part of this Advisory Board and I'm looking forward to our meetings and activities together."



FSHD Doctoral Student Representative

Elvis Gyan, MA, MDiv

(he/him/his)

FSHD Ph.D. Student and
Doctoral Assistant
Montclair State University

"In my perspective, and very simplistically, social justice encompasses an individual's rights for equality and equity in a societal context. It includes personal liberties and rights, freedom, and the ability to have access to a variety of resources."



Social Justice Advisory Board

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of a shared governance model and discuss draft ideas for the FSHD social justice strategic plan and activities contained within.

It is an ambitious agenda for sure – one that we are excited to begin and one that will continue to unfold over several meetings. We recognize that true systemic change takes vision, planning, is messy, and cannot be rushed. Accordingly, we will work to maintain a balance between intentionality, thoughtfulness, and speed of action. Over the course of the spring semester, we envision adopting a strategic plan. This plan will guide our activities over the next few years. Its creation and adoption will be done with everyone's input. For example, it is likely we will conduct a

couple of town hall events and a brief survey to ensure everyone has an opportunity to provide input. We also envision offering at least one program for the entire FSHD community and one training event for FSHD faculty and staff.

As a reminder, we have created a virtual feedback form to ensure everyone has an anonymous way to provide feedback and/or make suggestions related to the FSHD community's social justice work. It can be found [here](https://montclair.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3JHboG6J8W0DO4J) or you can cut and paste this link: https://montclair.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3JHboG6J8W0DO4J

Be empathetic. Be compassionate. Be kind. Be you! ■

Written by Dr. Brad van Eeden-Moorefield, FSHD Professor and Associate Department Chair for Social Justice Initiatives.

Student Spotlight

Shayla Crawford-Hymon

Shayla Crawford-Hymon is a senior FSHD major with a concentration in Family Services, and a double minor in African American Studies and Psychology.

Her Story: I initially applied to Montclair as a Psychology major, but I was advised to declare FSHD because of my passion to become a professor and teach courses related to family science. I struggled as a freshman; I missed being home and did not make an effort to become active on campus. While I was not the happiest personally, academically I thrived. I enjoyed all of my courses, including the general education classes.



I began to branch out in my sophomore year and joined several organizations. I was no longer solely focused on school; I had other responsibilities, such as being an executive board member for two organizations and balancing two jobs. At times I did not know how I was going to perform within my roles, which caused moments of doubt and anxiety. I felt relaxed while in class learning, with my favorite classes being Gender in a Changing World, Family Development Over a Lifespan, Poverty & Families, and Sibling Relationships.

Her Plan: Over the last four years I have thought of many directions to go in after I graduate, but I always remained grounded in my aspiration to become a professor of Family Science and Human Development. In Fall 2021, I will be enrolled in a higher education program to receive my master's degree. I look forward to advising and teaching students of color, particularly black men. As an FSHD major, I have applied concepts to my own family and it has brought not only me, but my mother, joy to know that my education is going to educate others.

Her Thoughts: "Ease is a greater threat to progress than hardship." Whenever I am feeling overwhelmed, I consciously think of this quote from Denzel Washington. It assures me that nothing in life worth having comes without obstacles and much effort. ■

Staff Spotlight

Colleen Casenta Internship Coordinator

Colleen Casenta joined the CEHS Career Services team in January as Internship Coordinator. In her role, she oversees the management of the student internship experience, from exploration to enrollment, for CEHS students. She will be working very closely with the FSHD Department to ensure a positive internship experience for our students. Additionally, Colleen meets with students for all aspects of career counseling, including resume and cover letter writing, interview skills, and professionalism. She's very excited to work with all of you!

Fun Fact: While studying abroad in Ireland, Colleen researched her genealogy. She met Irish family members she never knew about, and visited her grandfather's birthplace which is still a functioning farm!

Words of Wisdom: "I once heard Oprah talk about aligning your personality with your purpose and it made such an impression on me when I was thinking about my career. First discovering what makes you uniquely *you*, will help inform what your purpose is in life and career. You will change and grow over time and, therefore, remember that your purpose in life and career will expand and develop as well." ■



★ Our Achievements ★ FSHD Faculty & Staff

Dr. Ashley Ermer joined the advisory editorial board for the *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*. She also had a paper accepted into the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*:

Ermer, A. E., Roach, A.L., Coleman, M., & Ganong, L. (in press). Constructed views regarding forgiveness and leaving behaviors in the context of relationship aggression. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*.

Webinars for All Stages of Your Career Development

Starting Your Career?

LinkedIn Tips and Tricks

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

1:00 p.m.

Learn how to harness the LinkedIn platform to interact with professionals in your field, expand your contacts and search for a job. Open to students and alumni, and qualifies for FBUS Campus to Career credit. [Registration](#) is required.

Cover Letters & Thank You Notes

Thursday, March 25, 2021

1:30—2:15 p.m.

Attend this webinar to learn how to quickly compose an eye-catching cover letter, as well as a crucial strategy to use when writing a thank you note. Open to students and alumni. Register [here](#).

CEHS Career Workshops

The College of Education and Human Services offers an ongoing schedule of workshops to help you prepare for your career:

- Resume Writing
- Interviewing Skills
- Job Search Strategies
- LinkedIn
- Professionalism
- Time Management

For a complete schedule of virtual events, check out the Student Success Center's website [here](#).

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Dr. Lyndal Khaw, Chair

Lisa Mills, Newsletter Editor



Advancing Your Career?

Urban Teacher Residency Program

Tuesday, March 9, 2021

7:00—8:00 p.m.

MSU's Urban Teacher Residency is an apprenticeship-based program for individuals dedicated to teaching in urban areas. The UTR program provides on-site education, intensive classroom experiences with a master teacher, mentoring and professional development.

A generous living stipend helps cover the cost of graduate tuition while enrolled in the 12-month program. Graduates earn NJ teacher certification and their Master of Arts in Teaching, and must make a three-year commitment to teach in the Newark or Orange Public Schools. [Register for the webinar](#) to learn more about the UTR program.

Teacher Leadership Endorsement Program

Wednesday, March 10, 2021

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

The College of Education and Human Services has a long history of developing teacher leaders. This webinar introduces the new Teacher Leadership Endorsement program, which will be launched this summer for teachers with at least four years of experience. Register [here](#).

Counseling Programs

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

5:30—6:30 p.m.

If you're interested in becoming either a Certified Drug and Alcohol Counselor or a Student Assistance Coordinator, register for this informative [webinar](#). The academic preparation follows guidelines established by state licensure and certification boards.

Educational Leadership Master's Degree

Wednesday, March 24, 2021

4:00—5:00 p.m.

The Master's program in Educational Leadership prepares dedicated school leaders to develop principles of moral leadership and cultivate a democratic vision for schools and learning. Learn more about the program at this [webinar](#).