



FAMILY SCIENCE & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

JUNE 2021

June is LGBTQ Pride Month

June is designated as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Pride Month, in honor of the Stonewall Uprising. On June 28, 1969, New York City Police raided the Stonewall Inn, a gay club in Greenwich Village. Tired of ongoing discrimination and oppression, the club's patrons fought back, sparking a riot that led to six days of protests and violent clashes with law enforcement. The riots became the impetus for the gay rights movement.

“Our journey is not complete until our gay brothers and sisters are treated like anyone else under the law, for if we are truly created equal, then surely the love we commit to one another must be equal as well.”

- Barack Obama
second inaugural address, January 22, 2013

One year later, the first Pride March was held in New York to commemorate the uprising when “thousands of homosexuals went to the streets to demonstrate against centuries of abuse...from government hostility to employment and housing discrimination, Mafia control of gay bars, and anti-homosexual laws.”

The last Sunday in June subsequently became known as Gay Pride Day, and quickly grew to encompass a month-long series of events. Today, LGBTQ Pride Month attract millions of people around the world to celebrations including parades, picnics, workshops, and concerts, as well as memorials to honor those lost to hate crimes and HIV/AIDS.

The New York City Pride theme for 2021 is “The Fight Continues” and PrideFest is scheduled for Sunday, June 27 in Greenwich Village. ■

Minor in FSHD Now Available

MSU is New Jersey's only four-year public university with a major in Family Science and Human Development, and starting in Fall 2021 we will offer a minor as well.

The new 18-credit minor provides students in any major with a bird's-eye view of the FSHD field through core courses as well as a wide range of electives on topics such as:

- Immigrant Families
- Gender in a Changing World
- Family Stress and Coping
- Women in Contemporary Society
- and many others!

To learn more about the FSHD minor, or to receive a worksheet listing the required courses, please make an appointment with any academic advisor in the CEHS Student Success Center, CEHSadvising@montclair.edu, or book through Navigate. ■

DATES TO REMEMBER

June 8

FSHD Baccalaureate Commencement

June 11

FSHD Doctoral Program Commencement

June 18

Juneteenth Holiday — No classes

Meet the Social Justice Advisory Board Members

The FSHD Social Justice Advisory Board provides direction and input on the department's social justice strategic plan, programming and community impact. Meet the two members who work in the FSHD Department.

FSHD Staff Liaison

Christopher Cottle



(he/him/his)
**Department Advisor
Family Science and Human
Development Department
Montclair State University**

"Social justice serves as a proponent for equity, equality, appreciation of and respect for diversity, and a method for communication that can promote understanding and a stronger sense of community. It is the best way to work toward combating all of the negative perceptions and behaviors that exist in our society."

FSHD Faculty Liaison

Brad van Eeden-Moorefield, MSW, PhD, CFLE



(he/him/his)
**Professor and Associate Department
Chair for Social Justice Initiatives
Family Science and Human
Development Department
Montclair State University**

"Social justice is working to ensure everyone has an equitable chance to live and pursue their dreams and hopes, and to be healthy, happy and safe. It is about holding systems and institutions accountable, and working to dismantle the injustices they create and perpetuate, such as racism and ableism."



Our Achievements

Dr. Jennifer Brown Urban and **Dr. Miriam R. Linver** were guest editors for the issue of *New Directions for Evaluation* focusing on Relational Systems Evaluation. They co-authored several articles in the issue, including three written with students: "Applying the Systems Evaluation Protocol in the real world: Six case studies," "Promoting evaluation in youth character development through enhanced evaluation capacity building: Empirical findings from the PACE Project," and "Resonance, stickiness, and the value propositions of evaluation capacity building: Key takeaways and future directions." In addition, they co-authored "Predicting positive youth development from self-regulation and purpose in early adolescence" in the *Journal of Research on Adolescence*.

Dr. Olena Nesteruk was published in the *Journal of Family Issues* with "Family dynamics at the intersection of languages, cultures, and aspirations: Reflections of young adults from immigrant families." She also co-authored a chapter, "A tale of two cultures: Nigerian immigrant parents navigating a new cultural paradigm" for *Conceptual and methodological approaches to navigating immigrant ecologies*.

FSHD Nominated for Social Justice Award

The Department of Family Science and Human Development is proud to have been nominated by the MSU Office for Social Justice and Diversity for an *Inclusive Excellence Award* in recognition of our perseverance and social justice advocacy within the campus community.

As a department, we are actively committed to social justice, equity and inclusion, and we vow to continuously and systematically strengthen that commitment. We invite everyone to read our [Statement on Social Justice and Inclusion](#) which was adopted in Fall 2020.

Our Social Justice Advisory Board is carefully crafting a strategic plan to guide our activities over the next several years. The two board members representing the FSHD faculty and staff are featured in this newsletter.

We are thankful to be part of the MSU community that is genuinely dedicated to championing practices and programs rooted in social justice and intersectionality through the lenses of anti-racism and anti-oppression. ■



Alumni Spotlight

John Gunn, Ph.D.

Dr. John Gunn graduated in May 2019 with a Ph.D. in Family Science and Human Development, having completed a dissertation titled *“Suicide in Younger and Older Adults: A Comparison of Two Theoretical Models for Suicide.”*

His Story: The FSHD doctoral program at MSU contrasted a bit with my previous education, and introduced me to a much more multidisciplinary environment. Having faculty from diverse educational backgrounds — psychologists, social workers, sociologists, family scientists and more — placed me at an advantage by enabling me to experience my education, and view the problem of suicide, through many different lenses.

I also look back with gratitude on FSHD’s centralized focus on social justice. Throughout my time in BA and MA psychology programs at other universities, I never heard the term “social justice.” It was not until I came to MSU and the FSHD program that I became introduced to the concept, and to intersectional thinking. This revolutionized the way I view the problem of suicide and opened my



eyes to my own positionality and privilege. I take this knowledge with me into every project and classroom I now go – doing what I can to check my privilege and listen to those whose experiences are different from my own.

His Path: Following graduation, I went to the New Jersey Gun Violence Research Center where I focus on better understanding the relationship between access to firearms and suicide mortality. My work has included comparisons of state gun laws and suicide rates, in which we found that the more gun laws in a state, the lower the suicide and homicide rates, as well as examinations of the relationship between gun laws and youth gun carrying, in which more gun laws were associated with reduced youth gun

carrying behavior. The Center encompasses many fields of study, and the multidisciplinary nature of my education at MSU directly contributed to my fitting in.

His Plan: I recently accepted an Assistant Professor position at Gwynedd Mercy University, where I’ll be joining the Department of Psychology.

His Thoughts: The FSHD program made me into the scholar I am. Though I came to MSU with a passion for research, my work with the faculty (especially my dissertation committee, Dr. Sara Goldstein, Dr. Constance Gager, and Dr. Amanda Birnbaum) helped mold me into the scholar and developmental scientist that I now am. These research skills were vital in my transition into a Postdoctoral Fellowship following my graduation from MSU. ■

[Learn more about our unique Ph.D. program!](#)

MSCFR Service Project Helps Hungry Families

The Montclair Student Council on Family Relations hosted a community service project in May, providing meals to soup kitchens in Newark. MSCFR Board members Edith Marin, Israa Assaf, Carolina Torres, and Jakeli Lliguicota packed dozens of bag lunches

that included a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, granola bar and water. MSCFR is a student affiliate of the National



Council on Family Relations. To learn more or to join the group, email MSCFR2021@gmail.com.

Family Science & Human Development

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[FSHD Website](#)

Dr. Lyndal Khaw, Chair

Lisa Mills, Newsletter Editor





Congratulations

May 2021 FSHD Graduates

Addeo, Allegra H.
 Aktas, Gianna M.
 Ali, Wafa
 Altamar, Jennifer
 Andolino, Paulina R.
 Andre, Dorcas A.
 Antigua, Mary P.
 Antona, Erin-Nichelle
 Arens, Nerline J J.
 Arminio, Skylar N.
 Atiyat, Razan
 Atoynatan, Hannah M.
 Ayala, Yasmine
 Azanedo, Nicole M.
 Azcona, Anais
 Barry, Caitlin
 Bartnicki, Kerri R.
 Becker, Melissa K.
 Bledsoe, Phoebe
 Bollinger, Hannah
 Bonino, Nicoletta
 Boss, Lara
 Bracco, Julia E.
 Brockmann, Alyson M.
 Browne, Shannon A.
 Burmeister, Bethany
 Cabascango, George
 Canfield, Sarah J.
 Cano, Bianca R.
 Carver, Mariah
 Chasmar, Melanie P.
 Chohan, Ariyana E.
 Cichon, Magdalena
 Cipparulo, Victoria
 Circelli, Melanie A.
 Collins, Petagay L.
 Coviello, Jaclyn E.
 Crawford-Hymon, Shayla
 Da Silva, Nicole S.
 DaCosta, Nina M.
 Dahdah, Natalie R.
 DeAngelis, Juliana M.
 Delemo, Renee M.
 Desai, Krupa

Diaz, Leoneiry
 DiLuccio, Melissa
 Duenas, Natalie C.
 Eder, Brielle L.
 Eleam, Jade
 Elkayal, Yassmine
 Elsayed, Israa H.
 Fernandez, Melissa M.
 Ficke, Ashley A.
 Filiault, Ilana A.
 Filipek, Julia
 Flood, Megan V.
 Florio, Noelle R.
 Freire, Erica L.
 Funez, Samantha D.
 Gabriele, Alana J.
 Gaffney, Stephen J.
 Gawin, ChLoe J.
 Ghougasian, Sela N.
 Giannakopoulos, Rachel J
 Gollootto, Kaitlyn A.
 Gonzalez, Abigail S.
 Gordon, Rahjaun
 Goriscak, Afton
 Guerrero, Laura M.
 Hall, Katty
 Hannah, Alisa N.
 Harrison, Josie
 Hartwig, Jaclyn E.
 Hasch, Kristen A.
 Heath, Olivia U.
 Hirschfeld, Dana M.
 Hoffmann, Miranda
 Hughes, Kimberly
 Hutton, Stephanie L.
 Imbinbo, Joshua A.
 Intriago, Natasha D.
 Iradi, Nicole
 Jackson, Sarah T.
 Jenkins, Samantha L.
 Jerez, Gabriela
 Jimenez, Anyssa N.
 Jones, Stephanie
 Kaczynski, Dominika

Koolery, Gabrielle F.
 Kuglin, Ashley C.
 Kuriki, Hitomi M.
 LaBella, Brianna E.
 Lefkowitz, Sara
 Leon, Amanda M.
 Lindner, Erica C.
 Liu, Christopher
 Lopez, Aleksey L.
 Lopez, Melissa A.
 Lummer-Aikey, Shannon
 Machado, Michelle A.
 MacPhee, Michele
 Maliborski, Alisia M.
 Mariscal, Beatriz I.
 Mazure, Kylie A.
 McGarrity, Daniella N.
 McGivney, Hope F.
 McKenzie, Aizhaneiya
 Mcknight, Nariah A.
 Mejia, Andrea Z.
 Melendez, Tatyana T.
 Minkiewicz, Karolina
 Miragliotta, Lauren L.
 Montes-Valdez, Lucila
 Montesdeoca, Michelle A.
 Moreno, Jessica M.
 Morris, Jada S.
 Myers, Mara R.
 O'Rourke, Megan R.
 Pace, Kristin
 Papanikolaou, Grecia J.
 Pezzolla, Remi J.
 Pontoriero, Daniella
 Porres, Kelly L.
 Prado-Dominguez, Elyssa
 Randall, Jessica A.
 Raymond, Samantha A.
 Retamozo, Diana C.
 Richardson, Moriah
 Riquelme, Lauren G.
 Rojas, Luz E.
 Rojel, Catherine A.
 Roman Rivera, Llamylis

Russo, Nicole
 Sabahia, Marina R.
 Salas, Giselle
 Sanchez, Gabriela
 Sansone, Ryelle A.
 Santos, Parker C.
 Sedita, Katie M.
 Shifa, Fatima
 Singer, Reem A.
 Singh, Prabhjot K.
 Singleton, Myiah
 Sirc, Remy N.
 Smeriglio, Allison
 Smith, Lauryn S.
 Soriano, Omayra
 Stearns, Courtney
 Swenty, Jaime
 Szwed, Hannah
 Talamo, Marta
 Tavarez, Luisa I.
 Tejada, Michelle J.
 Tilley, Allison R.
 Tisa, Jannatul F.
 Tomao, Camryn L.
 Tronio, Jacey T.
 Trowbridge, Hailei A.
 Tyrrell, Cynthia
 Uchoffen, Angie N.
 Vargas, Brandon A.
 Vasquez, Kimberly N.
 Vergara, Madison
 Vieira, Alison
 Wajda, Natalia M.
 Wartel, Cierra L.
 West, Kaila M.
 Wiggins, Shanique
 Wille, Julia L.
 Williams, Jasmine R.
 Williams, Juliane K.
 Williams, Kendra T.
 Zavala, Alejandra G.
 Zerelik, Michelle



Kudos to our two graduates who were chosen as the CEHS Commencement Student Speakers.

**Amanda
Leon**

**Alexandra
Torebka**

What a great honor!

