Welcome Back HDFS Fall 2019!
BY MELISSA YZAGUIRRE

It has been an eventful semester for the Human Development and Family Studies department! I am excited to share the latest news which includes an introduction to our newest cohort, provide GSAC updates, and highlight some of the amazing accomplishments in HDFS.

My goal this year as newsletter chair will be to gather as much information as possible from everyone in the department and their many wonderful contributions to their fields! I encourage you all participate in our upcoming issues by providing personal or professional news you would like to share with the department!

- MELISSA Yzaguirre

Message from Interim Chair of HDFS

“It has been a great honor to serve for a little over two months now as the Interim Chair of the HDFS Department. I am amazed at the outstanding work that is being conducted by all. We are a diverse group and together we have a goal of making a difference in the lives of individuals and families. I am excited for the months ahead as we continue to make a difference through our research, teaching, and outreach activities.”

- Adrian Blow

IN THIS EDITION

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Lifespan Human Development and Family Diversity

"My research interests include sexual socialization, sexual education, gendered roles, the sexual double standard, sexual assault, female sexuality and reproductive health across cultures, pornography and media influence on perceptions of sex, healthy relationships, and infidelity within relationships."

Kirsten Greer
Advisor: Megan Maas

"I've really enjoyed my transition to MSU/HDFS! Everyone in the department has been so welcoming, and I have loved seeing my clients at the clinic. The photo included was taken at one of my favorite gardens on campus!"

Gia Casaburo
Advisor: Kendal Holtrop

"My research interests are 1) How LGBTQ individuals and relationships are impacted by hetero-normative society and 2) How sexual position preferences influence dynamics within LGBTQ relationships that may be typically presented as gendered roles within a heterosexual couple."

Child Development

"Fun fact about me is that I love extreme sports, and sky diving is next on my to do list. My research interest is in the field of diverse cultural context (American & Indonesian- where I’m from) that includes families of individuals with disabilities, teacher & parent training, and children with disability in the welfare system."

Atikah Bagawan
Advisor: Sarah Douglas

"My research interests are infant toddler development along with infant toddler teacher preparation and professional development. A fun fact about myself is that I used to be scared of cats but I adopted my own kitten a month after moving to East Lansing :)"

Ellen Searle
Advisor: Ryan Bowles

"I was originally in the School Psychology program at Michigan State University but decided that I would rather do research than practice psychology within the schools. My research interests include assessment of nonverbal children with autism as well as home learning practices."

Loria Kim
Advisors: Claire Vallotton and Holly BrophyHerb

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GSAC Updates

I’m excited to be stepping up as Co-Chair this year, and I am looking forward to all of the wonderful events and possibilities in store for GSAC! Welcome to all of our new chairs and representatives who have already begun creating and planning. Our goal for GSAC is to facilitate connections throughout HDFS and get graduate students involved in the department and MSU community.

— KYLA CARY

GSAC 2019 Committee

Back Row: Dr. Megan Maas & Kyla Cary (Co-Chairs), Taylor Reid (Diversity), Melissa Yzaguirre (Newsletter), Morgan PettyJohn (Sustainability & Health), & Atikah Bagawan (Diversity).

Front Row: Kirsten Greer (Sustainability & Health), Loria Kim (Social), Haiden Perkins (Admissions), & Gia Casaburo (Community Service).

HDFS Sustainability and Health Initiative

Under the leadership of 1st year LHDFD student, Kirsten Greer and 3rd year CFT student Morgan PettyJohn

Mission Statement

We recognize that environmental factors are inextricably linked to the development and health of all people across the lifespan. Systematically oppressed populations are disproportionately harmed by environmental hazards and the growing threat of the climate crisis. As HDFS scholars who aim to improve the lives of children, families, and marginalized communities, it is crucial for our department to begin critically thinking about environmental sustainability in our research, classroom instruction, and personal lives. To this aim, the HDFS Sustainability and Health Initiative strives to educate and provide support within the department to help our members become more eco-conscious, creating a healthier and more just world for current and future generations.

I would like to create events and awareness for multiple spectrums of diversity. Furthermore, my goal is to truly encourage our students to not only embrace, but celebrate, diversity. It is important that we are aware of and willing to participate in events that educate us about diverse populations. Continuing my work as a researcher, I want to use this role to offer platforms for everyone’s voices to be heard.

-Taylor Reid & Atikah Bagawan
I am a second year doctoral student in the lifespan track. Throughout my academic career, my goal has been to offer a platform to tell the stories of sexual minority women. Most notably, I have done so by researching the violence that occurs in their relationships with men and women. Currently, I am very excited to serve as the diversity representative on GSAC. As a bisexual woman, it is truly an honor to represent the LGBTQ community in this role. My goal for this role is to expand our definitions of diversity to include other minorities, such as the LGBTQ community. Please feel free to contact me if you have any ideas for how my role as diversity representative can help you or the community at large.

— Taylor Reid
**HDFS Events**

**HDFS Sustainability and Health Initiative: Plant Exchange**

This event will include a Plant Care 101 presented by Meng Fang. Attendees can trade plants, plant clippings or plant seeds!

November 1st
Time: 3-4pm in HE Room 9!

**Indonesian Cultural Festival**

November 23rd 3-5pm at Erickson Kiva.
Get to know about the Indonesian culture;
There will be food, dance and music performances, pencak silat, and much more!
Bring your family and friends, this event is free!

**HDFS Shout-Outs!**

"Shout out to Deb Miller and Dr. Holtrop for their continued inclusion and support on research opportunities. I truly respect their value in teamwork!"

**Melissa Yzaguirre**

"Shout out to Jeremy and Matt! They have been so helpful and always respond to our questions immediately!"

**Chi-Fang Tseng**

"Shout out to Dr. Bowles for running the Stats Discussion Group! I know several people in the department (and other departments too) have been enjoying these meetings!"

**Kyla Cary**

"Even in the midst of hard work, tight schedules and tough days – faculty advisors always make time for us!"

**Deb Miller**

**HDFS SEMINAR SERIES DATES/SPEAKERS**

11/15 KENDALL HOLTROP, YUYA KIUCHI
Time:12-12:45pm Location: HE Room 315

12/6 LAURIE BULOCK, CLAIRE VALLOTTON
Time:12-12:45pm Location: HE Room 325

1/17 FASHINA ALADE: ADVERTISING & PUBLIC RELATIONS
Time:12-12:45pm Location: HE Room 9

**CULTURE**

DIVERSITY COMMITTEE UPCOMING EVENTS:
SHARE YOUR FAVORITE ARTWORK
NOVEMBER 22ND, 1-2:30PM
GLOBAL FOOD FESTIVAL
JANUARY 31ST, 1-2:30PM

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**Deb Miller**

GSAC NEWSLETTER - MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
This Fall, Morgan PettyJohn was appointed to serve as Graduate Assistant for President Stanley’s Expert Advisory Workgroup for Relationship Violence and Sexual Misconduct issues on campus. The Workgroup is tasked with developing a strategic plan and advising the administration on how to make MSU a safer, more trauma-informed institution for students, faculty, and staff.

Ronald Asiimwe won an award-The Miriam J. Kelly African Scholarship Grant Program Award, Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS). This award is to support African graduate students at MSU who are advancing research and intervention research in Africa.

Tim Welch and Deb Miller were invited guests of the State of Michigan Children’s Services for their annual TFCBT implementation conference.

Patricia Huerta and Melissa Yzaguirre were named AAMFT Minority Fellows. The goals of the Minority Fellow Program are to expand delivery of culturally competent mental health and substance abuse services to underserved minority populations and to increase the number of culturally competent marriage and family therapists. This highly meaningful program is funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and administered through the AAMFT Research & Education Foundation.

Mingzhang Chen and Youchuan Zhang are working on data collection for their PAD (Peer and Diversity) project and will work on this throughout the whole semester. PAD project is led by Dr. Wang, which investigates how ethnic/racial and cultural processes in peer networks impact adolescents’ cognitive, psychological, and physical well-being. This project follows 9th graders through high school years and collects daily diary data annually. They visit schools and meet with participants every Thursday and distribute equipment to them (a watch for monitoring their activity and sleep; a tablet for them to complete daily surveys). This is also the major project of their lab!

“MSU HDFS means family to me. I couldn’t ask for better cohorts and faculty!”

— CHI-FANG TSENG
Recent Publications & Presentations


NCFR Family Focus – Paul, Jennifer, Adrian and Deb Miller published “Meeting the Needs of Families Separated by Service Member Treatment at a Warrior Transition Unit”


"learning about real social problems faced by real people in order to think and create ways we can intervene to help individuals, couples, and families live and positively function in their various social locations and contexts, whether at a policy level, academic level, or as clinicians."

— RONALD ASIIMWE
2019 Graduates

Summer PhD Graduates:

Rebecca Kammes
“Parental Roles and Attitudes Regarding Sexuality and Intimate Relationships: Comparing Adult Children with an Intellectual Disability to their Typically Developing Siblings”

Ji Hyun Lee
“Social Relationships and Progression of Frailty: Exploring the Reciprocal Association of Social Ties and Physical Vulnerability in Later Life”

Erica Mitchell
“A Qualitative Exploration of the Process of Recovering from an Affair”

Erica Nordquist – “Examining the Acceptability, Adaptability, and Appropriateness of a School-Based External Mental Health Referral Process: A Qualitative Pre-Implementation Study”

Spring PhD Graduates:

Sophia D’Agostino
“All Outcomes Matter: Evaluating Practitioner Implemented Naturalistic Developmental Behavioral Interventions Within Preschool Classrooms”

Saila Subramaniam
“Examining the Experience of Aging Out of Place in the United States for Asian Indian Late-Life Immigrants and the Risk and Protective Factors Within Multigenerational Asian Indian Families”

Spring Masters Graduates:

Nokwanda Grava, M.S.
Lacey Hood, M.S.
Jamie Stone, M.S.

Congratulations!
"My experience with the department has been great! I was in a teaching university, and I appreciate how people in the department are very open to talk about their research to give me more insights on different topics."

— ATIKAH BAGAWAN

GSAC NEWSLETTER - MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY