

# The University of Miami

## School of Education & Human Development

# The Educator



Volume III/No. 6  
Spring 2016

### Dean's Notes

Dear Colleagues,

Every few years we take a look at what we're doing well, what we can start, what we can renew, and what we may need to stop. We began this process at the last faculty meeting in the fall, and it continued during two consecutive school council meetings. After school council reviewed the ideas that emerged from the faculty meeting, and added some new ones to the list, it presented me with some options for moving forward.

I spent the winter break reviewing all the ideas that school council submitted and thinking about strategic opportunities. At the last school council I proposed that we focus our energies on a few initiatives that meet the following criteria:

- Build on our strengths
- Cross disciplines
- Align our efforts with President Frenk's vision
- Consider our existing resources
- Have the potential for reach, relevance, and revenue

I presented four topics to the school council, and the group added one more. The consensus was to pursue five initiatives in interdisciplinary fashion:

- Educational innovation
- Climate change
- Culture of belonging
- Health and wellness
- Hemispheric focus

School council created a small team to begin the process of forming groups that would work on these initiatives. The

group consists of Dina Birman, Mary Beth Calhoon, Cathy Ferguson, Alicia Jessop, Miriam Lipsky, and Marilyn Neff. They are now working on terms of reference for the various groups. In total, we will have five task forces working on proposals for the five themes identified above. The overall principle is to maximize the interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary opportunities to make a difference in these five areas of research and action. Please contact any one of these colleagues to participate in one of the task forces.

We are going to give ourselves until December 2016 to propose, discuss, and decide on priorities for the next ten years. Remember that we're calling this process the "10 + 10 = 100" project because we're looking to build on the last ten years of work to plan for the next ten years, at which time the university will reach its centenary.

I appreciate very much the willingness of the school council to lead this process. I believe that the only way to fulfill our vision of becoming a center of excellence in the promotion of well-being in multicultural communities is through collaboration, participation, and ownership of our collective future. There is no doubt that this process is already reflecting the values of Responsibility, Excellence, Creativity, and Teamwork embodied in the DIRECCT values of the university (Diversity, Integrity, Responsibility, Excellence, Creativity, Compassion, and Teamwork). The topics we chose to focus on also advance Diversity and Compassion. The value of Integrity should be reflected in our process and in the outcome of our work together.

Continued on page 2...

### Upcoming Events

- 2/28/2016 - UM v Florida, Mark Light Field @ 1PM
- 3/2-6-2016 - Basketball ACC Tournament
- 4/15-16/2016 - USport Industry Conference @ Bank United Center



*Natacha Janac, Kimberly Ho, Dorothy Addae, and Amina Simmons presented posters at the International Association for the Study of Attachment 2015 conference held in Miami, Florida this year. Dorothy and Kimberly's posters reflected development and work on community-based programs they lead (Strong Roots Parents and Caregiver Program and Children's Branch Program) as members of the UM CRECER research team. Natacha Janac, a student in the Community and Social Change master's program and licensed mental health professional, presented on her work with Head Start Parents, and Amina Simmons presented on her research aimed at capturing the experiences of Black student mothers in post-secondary education.*

## *Dean's Notes* Continued from cover...

Talking about the DIRECCT values leads me to my new job as Vice Provost for Institutional Culture. As some of you know, I've been involved with the culture improvement process at the university for the last couple of years as a member of the Culture Leadership Team. Following work with external consultants, the university decided to institutionalize this project in order to make it sustainable. My job entails program development and measurement of this effort. The overarching objective is to create a culture in which everyone at the university feels valued and has an opportunity to add value. This is the essence of mattering: feeling valued and having opportunities to add value. I thank you all for participating in the creation of a healthy and positive culture in our school. I've learned a great deal from all of you about how to foster a culture of respect, dignity, appreciation, wellness and fairness.

I look forward to your continued participation in the 10 + 10 = 100 plan and in the Culture Transformation Project.

Best,

## *Project Imagine the Future* by Ji Shen

Project Imagine the Future (Project IF), an afterschool program led by Drs. Ji Shen and Blaine Smith from the Department of Teaching and Learning, aims to engage middle school students in collaboratively producing multimedia science fiction. The UM research team provides support in terms of writing science fiction, technology training (e.g., creating animation), and science lessons related to the fiction topics students choose connected to environmental issues. Each student contributes to the project through self-selected differentiated roles, including being the group's writer, scientist, or designer. Students also have the opportunity to listen to distinguished guest speakers and visit UM research labs. The project has completed two pilot runs in Spring 2015 at Ponce de Leon Middle School and Fall 2015 at UM. The project is currently planning its next run as an elective course at Henry S. West Laboratory School. You can visit the Project IF website ([imaginefuture.org](http://imaginefuture.org)) to learn more.

Testimonials from participating students:

"My favorite part of the project is everything. I like everything about it. I like doing it. I like reading it.... and it's fun."

"From creating the project I learned about Bitstrips and Scratch. I learned about those different programs. I learned about certain writing stuff, like descriptive language."

"We thought trying to incorporate something that was life changing to everyone."

"[I liked] designing the project... and whenever I can put the story into visuals, I'm obsessed with that."

"Writing science fiction can make me write creatively and we chose a topic that I enjoy."

"This club is the best in the world and I want to go to it for 10000000000 years!"



Project IF participating students in Fall, 2015 and the UM research team (Faculty: Ji Shen, Blaine Smith; Students: Jennifer Augustin, Guanhua Chen, Shiyang Jiang, Sooyeon Kim, Kristin Watson).

Students from Project IF presented at the Miami International Science Fiction Film Festival in January 2016.



# Fall 2015 Top Administration Education Grad Programs announced by Graduateprograms.com

Graduateprograms.com is pleased to announce its Fall 2015 Administration Education Grad Rankings according to grad students. The rankings are based solely on ratings and reviews from current or recent graduate students posted on graduateprograms.com.

Program rankings, compiled using data gathered between September 1, 2012 and September 30, 2015, encompass reviews posted by more than 75,000 students participating in over 1,600 graduate programs nationwide. Ratings are based on a 10 star system (with 1 being the worst and 10 being the best).

For a copy of our [Top Rankings Badge & Seal](#), please click on the link.

For specific rankings, please click on the [Administration Education Rankings](#) page.

## The Top 15 Administration Education Programs are listed below:

- 1 Virginia Tech
- 2 Texas Woman's University
- 3 University of North Carolina at Charlotte
- 4 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 5 University of Utah
- 6 University of Oklahoma Norman Campus
- 7 North Carolina State University
- 8 Temple University
- 9 University of Southern California
- 10 Hofstra University
- 11 Johns Hopkins University
- 12 Brown University
- 13 Seton Hall University
- 14 University of Miami**
- 15 New York University

## METHODOLOGY

Graduateprograms.com reaches current and recent graduate students through scholarship entries as well as social media platforms.

Graduateprograms.com assigns 15 ranking categories to each graduate program at each graduate school. Rankings cover a variety of student topics such as academic competitiveness, career support, financial aid and quality of network.



## WVUM Award...

Natalie Kivell was recently awarded Best Talk Show award for RadioActive, her show on WVUM.

Natalie's thank you write-up...

"Best Talk Show award for RadioActive!! Thanks @wvum and @mikematt89 for your help making the show what it is. I have way too much fun putting it together each week for our loyal listeners and have learned so much from my time on air. Thanks to everyone who joins me on air, listens in, sends in questions or anything else. Can't wait to keep going! If you ever want to join me on air as a guest let me know! Love you all...keep it locked!!"

## *Dr. Signorile Presents Research at the International Association of Yoga Therapists Conference*

The premier yoga therapist research conference in the world is held each year at the Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, September 28-30. The invited speakers included researchers from the National Institutes of Health, Colorado State University, Vanderbilt, UC San Diego and Harvard Universities and from countries as far away as India and Japan. This year Dr. Joseph Signorile of the Department of Kinesiology was invited to present research completed at the Max Orovitz Laboratories over the past three years on the modification of specific yoga poses and sequences to target the needs of special populations. The invitation included presentations at both the preconference and the conference itself. The pre-conference lecture was entitled "Muscle Activation Analysis for Yoga Interventions" and examined the differences in muscle utilization patterns during specific poses and by experience and fitness levels of practitioners. The conference presentation expanded upon the Laboratory's unique concept of modifying yoga workouts for special populations. The presentation, entitled "The Efficacy of Yoga as an Intervention for Older Fallers and Patients with Parkinson's Disease," reported our successes in designing yoga programs that successfully addressed balance and other movement-related issues that face these two groups of individuals.

In collaboration with Kiersten Mooney and her team from Green Monkey Yoga, the laboratory continues to explore new strategies for modifying classic yoga practices to address prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation.

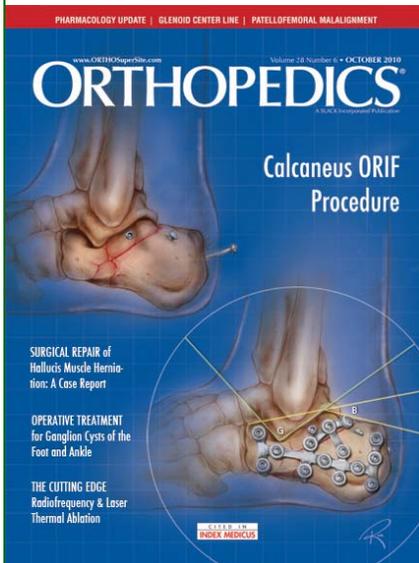


### *My Favorite Spot on Campus* by Jackie Ojeda

I do not have one favorite spot on campus, I enjoy the campus in general. I believe we have a beautiful and well-manicured campus that provides a pleasant scenery to the eye. My weekly goal is to walk around campus three to five days of the week for my personal well-being. Another important factor is building a better U together, and I strongly believe in building relationships. Therefore, I start from the top (President Frenk) to my common everyday working area.



## Collaboration between the Max Orovitz Laboratory and Industrial Engineering Produces One of the Most Downloaded Articles in the Journal of Orthopedics



Olympic lifts have now become a common training tool for everyone from the professional athlete to the fitness enthusiast at the local Crossfit gym. Among the most relevant questions associated with these lifts is the nature and quantification of the individual forces working on the spine during their performance. In their article "Examination of a lumbar spine biomechanical model for assessing axial compression, shear, and bending moment using selected Olympic lifts" published in the May issue of *the Journal of Orthopaedics*, Drs. Moataz Eltoukhy, Joseph Signorile and recent graduate Dr. Hector Heredia-Vargas in collaboration with Drs. Frecesco Travascio, Shihab Asfour and their student Shady Elmary presented results from an innovative biomechanical model of the lumbar spine. Given the interest generated by this article, it appears that the model presented will constitute an important clinical tool for the assessment of forces during these lifts, as well as other training methods and competitive events.

This is the latest in a series of articles from the Max Orovitz laboratories and its collaborators to have gained national recognition. As you may recall, the articles "High-speed circuit training vs hypertrophy training to improve physical function in sarcopenic obese adults: a randomized controlled trial" by

Anoop Balachandran, Steve Krawczyk, Melanie Potiaumpai and Joseph Signorile published in the December issue of *Experimental Gerontology* and "Muscle utilization patterns vary by skill levels of the practitioners across specific yoga poses (asanas)" by Meng Ni, Kiersten Mooney, Anoop Balachandran, Luca Richards, Kysha Harriell and Joseph Signorile, printed in the August issue of *Complementary Therapies in Medicine*. Both included in the top ten most cited articles for those journals in 2014.

## President Frenk visits with the Faculty



## EPS Student Award...

Nanette Vega will be awarded the 2016, **Community Advancement Award** from Latin@ Network. She was nominated by Erik Colon who proved that she is the perfect candidate to receive this award for all of her leadership and dedication to higher education as a whole.

Her award will be acknowledged at the LN Open Business Meeting at the American College Personnel Association (ACPA) 2016 National Convention in Montreal, Canada (March 2016).

## Active Grants

PI	Title	Award Department	Sponsor
Santisteban, Daniel	CULTURALLY INFORMED FAMILY - BASED TREATMENT OF ADOLESCENTS: A RANDOMIZED TRIAL	EPS	NATL INST ON DRUG ABUSE
Fowers, Blaine	VIRTUES AS PROPERLY MOTIVATED, SELF-INTEGRATED TRAITS	EPS	JOHN TEMPLETON FND
Santisteban, Daniel	INTEGRATING SBIRT INTO PRIMARY CARE: A SCHOOL OF NURSING TRAINING PROGRAM	EPS	SUBSTANCE ABUSE & MENTAL HEALTH SERV ADM
Lee, Debbiesiu	KRISTI HOUSE: GA POSITION	EPS	KRISTI HOUSE INC
Krawec, Jennifer	IES - SOLVE IT!	TAL	DEPT OF EDUCATION (U.S.)
Calhoun, Mary Beth	READING ACHIEVEMENT MULTI-COMPONENT (RAMP-UP)	TAL	DEPT OF EDUCATION (U.S.)
Shen, Ji	TRANSFORMATIVE ROBOTICS EXPERIENCE FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS (TREES)	TAL	NATL SCIENCE FND
Avalos, Mary	THE EFFECT OF DEFINITIONS, CONTEXTUAL SUPPORT, AND COGNATE STATUS ON 4TH GRADE SPANISH-SPE	TAL	UNIV OF TEXAS
Elbaum, Batya	2015 2016 MEASURING OUTCOMES FOR PRESCHOOL CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES	TAL	FL ST DEPT OF EDUCATION
Elbaum, Batya	2015-2016 MEASURING OUTCOMES FOR PRESCHOOL CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES	TAL	FL ST DEPT OF EDUCATION
Avalos, Mary	WRITING FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (WELLS): EXPLORING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN WRITING	TAL	OHIO STATE UNIV
Elbaum, Batya	2015-2016 EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION ESE PARENT SURVEY PROJECT	TAL	FL ST DEPT OF EDUCATION
Secada, Walter	REPLICATING THE CGI EXPERIMENT IN DIVERSE ENVIRONMENTS	TAL	FL ST UNIV
Lipsky, Miriam	INCLUSIVE COLLABORATIVE LEADERS UNITED FOR DIVERSITY IN EDUCATION (INCLUDE)	TAL	DEPT OF EDUCATION (U.S.)

## President Frenk visits the Institute for Individual and Family Counseling (IIFC)

On October 16th as part of his listening exercise, President Frenk met with the Clinic Director, Office Manager, and some of the practicum students.



## Pending Grants

Title	PI	PI Department	Sponsor
EVALUATION OF THE SCALING UP OF MENTAL HEALTH CARE IN HAITI: BUILDING CAPACITY IN THE CARI	<b>Nicolas, MarieGuerd</b>	EPS	NATL INST OF HEALTH
UM SBIRT AND MI CULTURALLY INFORMED TRAINING PROGRAM FOR THE HEALTH PROFESSIONS	<b>Santisteban, Daniel</b>	EPS	DEPT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
A COMPARISON OF TWO TYPES OF INTERVAL TRAINING ON METABOLICSYNDROME COMPONENTS IN MINORIT	<b>Perry, Arlette</b>	KIN	AMER COLLEGE SPORTS MED FND
PROMOTING READING ENGAGEMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT WITH DOGS AND ROBOTS (PROREADR)	<b>Lipsky, Miriam</b>	TAL	SPENCER FND
OPENING DOORS FOR LEADERS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION	<b>Harry, Elizabeth</b>	TAL	DEPT OF EDUCATION (U.S.)
SOLVE T 5 6: IMPROVING THE PROBLEM SOLVING PERFORMANCE OF STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DISABILIT	<b>Krawec, Jennifer</b>	TAL	INST OF EDUCATION SCIENCES
READING ACHIEVEMENT MULTIMODULAR PROGRAM INTENSIVE TRAINING(RAMP IT UP)	<b>Calhoon, Mary Beth</b>	TAL	INST OF EDUCATION SCIENCES
DIGESTING STEM THROUGH FOOD MYTH-BUSTING (PROJECT FOODMYTH)	<b>Shen, JI</b>	TAL	NATL SCIENCE FND
VIDEO MODELING TO IMPROVE THE MATH PROBLEM-SOLVING PERFORMANCE OF STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES	<b>Krawec, Jennifer</b>	TAL	NATL SCIENCE FND
SPECIAL EDUCATION LEADERS FOR A DIVERSE SOCIETY (SPELDS)	<b>Morrison-Cavendish, Wendy</b>	TAL	DEPT OF EDUCATION (U.S.)
TEACHERS LEARNING ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE THROUGH A COMPLEX-SYSTEM MODELING	<b>Barth-Cohen, Lauren</b>	TAL	NATL SCIENCE FND

## UM Names Vice Provost for Institutional Culture

as posted in eVeritas February 11, 2016



Isaac Prilleltensky has been appointed vice provost for institutional culture at the University of Miami. As vice provost, his primary responsibility will be the ongoing implementation of the University's culture transformation initiative. In addition to this new role, Prilleltensky will continue to serve as dean of the School of Education and Human Development and report to the provost.

Prilleltensky will focus on developing programs to actualize the values embraced by the University community. In addition, he will be in charge of evaluating the culture transformation initiative. He will also serve as a resource for the team that has been established by President Julio Frenk to create the framework for a culture of belonging at the U.

"This position will be critical to aligning University efforts to be one U—to be a place where each individual feels valued and has the opportunity to add value at the U," said President Frenk. "Isaac's lifelong dedication to the study of individual, organizational, and community well-being will be a tremendous asset as we work together on this important initiative."

In the past, the University has worked with external consultants in the fields of service excellence and culture to create a foundation for culture change. Phase two of the culture transformation initiative brings these efforts inside the U, with Prilleltensky at the helm. Phase two of the culture journey will expand on the foundation of values, behaviors, and standards that have been established University-wide. The existing culture leadership team will grow to include new members and will continue to be chaired by Executive Vice President and Provost Thomas J. LeBlanc.

"I look forward to working with all of our friends across the University as we begin phase two," said Prilleltensky. "Speaking on behalf of the entire UM community, I would like to extend our collective thanks to the culture coaches, work team members, and others who have gone above and beyond their duty to help with this effort."

## *Drs. Youngmee Kim and Joe Signorile Receive Provost's Research Award for 2017*



The Research Council has selected Dr. Youngmee Kim of the Department of Psychology and Dr. Joe Signorile of the Department of Kinesiology and Sport Science to receive a Provost's Research Award for the fiscal year 2017. The proposed "Healthy U/Healthy Us" intervention is designed to address the physical declines in colorectal cancer survivors and their primary support persons through lifestyle changes in regular exercise and proper nutrition. The term of the award will run from June 1, 2016 through May 31, 2017.

Colorectal cancer (CRC) is the third most common cancer in both men and women and is most prevalent among older persons. Besides increased vulnerability to health problems due to the cancer treatments, age and overweight/obesity typical of colorectal cancer, survivors significantly increase their risk for functional decline. Primary support partners of CRC survivors are also vulnerable to premature health problems due to stresses the disease and the effort of care bring to the family and close friends. Despite the substantial concern about functional decline and numerous evidence-based healthy lifestyle recommendations, the majority of the survivors and their partners develop poor dietary habits and fail to meet minimal activity associated with a healthy lifestyle.

The most accepted factors in the negative lifestyle profile in survivors and their partners are:

- (a) Elevated stress from having cancer in the family competes with their desire to make make positive behavioral changes.
- (b) The failure of the partner or survivor to mutually support a change in dietary and physical activity habits and to maintain those positive changes together.
- (c) The majority of existing dietary and physical activity programs are not tailored for older cancer survivors and their support members.
- (d) Participating in a behavioral intervention often requires a large time commitment and is inconvenient, as those interventions are typically offered in group classes and are restricted to specific class hours.

The "Healthy U/Healthy Us" intervention proposed is a 30-minute, 12-week program designed to fully address all these concerns. The intervention is guided by Self-Determination Theory and is delivered via Skype. This study will test the efficacy of this intervention in slowing the decline in physical function and increase in BMI as primary outcomes, and improved dietary choices and increased physical activity as modifying factors. These positive changes are hypothesized to be more likely to occur and be sustained when participants perceive that their partner supports their psychological needs for autonomy, competence, and relatedness. The positive effects of the intervention are also likely to have a synergistic impact between survivors and partners, whereby both optimize the health benefit of the intervention. As this intervention capitalizes on a "person side" of technology it can potentially yield meaningful improvement in the health of a large number of older CRC survivors and their partners, who constitute an understudied and difficult to reach population at a high risk for morbidities. Overall, the proposed study will fill a gap in cancer survivorship care and public health through sound theoretical and innovative approaches, which have the potential to advance the applied science and health care for cancer survivors, their families, and their close friends.

This research grant demonstrates the mutual benefits of the collaborations which exist between the Department of Kinesiology and other department throughout the university in the application of activity- and nutritional-based interventions to address prevention and rehabilitation in diverse clinical populations.

## Publications...

**Cavendish, W.** & Samson, J. (October 25, 2015). A balanced approach. [Book Review], *Reading instruction that works: The case for balanced teaching* by M. Pressley & R. L. Allington]. *Teachers College Record*, <http://www.tcrecord.org/content.asp?contentid=18161>

**Dees, W.**, Hall, T., & Tsuji, Y. (2015). Examining the roles of event personality, identification, and attitudes in a sport sponsorship context. *International Journal of Sport Management*, 2, 437-454.

**Dees, W.**, Boggs, D., Harris, S., & Jimenez, N. (February, 2015). The effect of active versus non-active promotions on Minor League Baseball attendance. Presentation at the Global Sport Business Association annual conference, Nassau, Bahamas.

Tsuji, Y., **Dees, W.**, & Hall, T. (2015). Attitudes toward bandwagon sponsors: A resource-matching perspective. Presentation at the Sport Marketing Association annual conference, Atlanta, GA.

**Dees, W.** (2015). Creative partnerships = More revenue. Featured panelist at the Sport Marketing Association annual conference, Atlanta, GA.

Langi, F. L., **Oberoi, A.**, Balcazar, F. E., & Awsumb, J. (2016). Vocational Rehabilitation of Transition-Age Youth with Disabilities: A Propensity-Score Matched Study. *Journal of Occupational Rehabilitation J Occupational Rehabilitation*

**Nicolas, G.**, Byer, K., & **Ho, K.** (2015). Implementing culturally sensitive and sustainable mental health programs internationally: Lessons from Haiti. *International Journal of Culture and Mental Health*

**Smith, L.**, **Kohn-Wood, L.**, & **Nicolas, G.** (forthcoming). The "One Drop Rule:" Shifting Expressions of Racial Identity and Well-Being in Black-Multiracial Individuals. In, J.M. Sullivan & W. Cross (Eds.), *Meaning-Making, Internalized Racism, and African American Identity*. NY: SUNY.

## Presentations...

**Cavendish, W.**, Scanlon, D., & Haley, K. (October 2015). Council for Learning Disabilities, Las Vegas, Nevada, *Meaningful Approaches and Challenges in the Individualized Education Plan*.

Zhang, Q. & **Cavendish, W.** (October 2015). Council for Learning Disabilities, Las Vegas, Nevada, *The Relationship between Self-Concept and Math Achievement for Students with Disabilities: A Meta-analysis*. Poster presentation.

**Cavendish, W.**, & Fenton, P. (September 2015) Council for Children with Behavior Disorders,

## Community & Social Change Reception

On October 14, 2015 CSC student presented their capstone projects and Michael Matthiesen received the Silver Medallion award from the MCCJ.



The Dean with  
Lisa and Ken Rosen



Michael receiving  
his award.



Student  
presenters