

FAMILY SCIENCE & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

APRIL 2021

DATES TO REMEMBER

April 2

MSU Open (Good Friday)

Classes are in Session

April 15

Last Day to Withdraw
from a Full Semester Class

April 26

Registration Begins for
Fall 2021 and Winter 2022

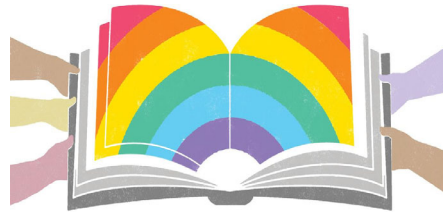
May 1

Deadline to Apply for
Fall 2021 Internship

Creating LGBTQ Inclusive Classrooms

Thursday, April 22, 2021

3:00 - 5:00 pm



Students and faculty are invited to “*Creating Inclusive Classrooms, Teaching LGBTQ History*,” a workshop exploring how to create learning environments that stress inclusivity and social justice practices. You’ll learn LGBTQ terminology, as well as methods for supporting students and teaching LGBTQ history. Sponsored by the MSU Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Education Project, this program is free and offers professional development hours. [Registration](#) is required. ■

Reversing Racism in STEM Fields

On Wednesday, April 28, Dr. Ebony McGee from Vanderbilt University will present “*Black, Brown, Bruised: How Racialized STEM Education Stifles Innovation*” at a virtual event co-sponsored by the College of Education and Human Services and the College of Science and Math.

Dr. McGee will discuss the challenges that underrepresented students confront in order to succeed in predominantly White academic and professional realms. She will present structural changes that are imperative for reversing the negative effects of racialized STEM.

The presentation will take place from 1:30-2:30 p.m., followed by three breakout discussions:

- 2:30-3:20 p.m. — Undergrads, teachers and high school students
- 3:30-4:20 p.m. — University faculty and staff
- 4:30-5:30 p.m. — Graduate students

[Registration](#) is required for this free Zoom event.

The campus community is also invited to participate in a discussion of Dr. McGee’s book on Tuesday, April 27 at 4:00 p.m. Copies of the book will be made available, while supplies last, to those who register for the discussion at <https://forms.gle/hRVZkX6rxySzyhd8> ■

Happy Spring



FSHD Statement on Anti-Asian Racism

The FSHD Community stands in solidarity with those who identify as Asian, Asian American, and/or Pacific Islanders.

We condemn any acts of hate and violence and the spreading of false information that fuels anti-Asian racism. We call out and reject any and all white terrorism and white supremacy behind this hate and violence. We encourage our FSHD community to stand



together as one, with one voice, to combat these continued racial injustices and to support the health and well-being of Asian, Asian American, and Pacific Islander individuals, families, and communities.

As details about the March 16, 2021 murders of 8 people in Atlanta continue to emerge, the fact that 6 of the 7 female victims were of Asian cultural heritage strongly suggests motivations of anti-Asian racism. This tragedy comes after a year of increased violence and other bias incidents in the U.S., and globally, directed toward those with Asian cultural heritage.

Many centers and agencies track [bias incidents](#) as well as those acts that fit the legal definition of a [hate crime](#). All of these figures suggest a sharp increase in violence directed toward those with an Asian cultural heritage, including in the NYC/NJ area. A number of these occurrences are attributable to false information spread through mainstream and social media outlets [about the origins of COVID-19](#) and a desire to assign blame for the pandemic. In doing so, people of Asian descent became targets of retaliation fueled by fear, uncertainty, anger, and pre-existing biases.

The bias incidents and hate crimes from the past year most often were rooted in patriarchal and white supremacist culture. To be clear, though, anti-Asian racism is not new in the United States as evidenced by

#StopAsianHate

the long history of discrimination, exclusion, and violence directed toward those with Asian cultural heritages. Multiple sources document the [history](#) of anti-Asian racism in the U.S. and we encourage everyone to familiarize themselves with the historical context that serves as a backdrop to the anti-Asian racism pervading society today.

FSHD encourages everyone to educate and arm themselves with facts about the lives and culture of Asian, Asian American, and Pacific Islanders, their families, and their communities.

FSHD encourages everyone to call out and report any racial injustice and/or discrimination toward Asian, Asian American, and Pacific Islanders.

In the aftermath of this heinous event, our hearts are heavy; yet, our resolve is stronger than ever. ■

Links to helpful resources:

- If you experience or witness bias at MSU, report it [here](#).
- If you need someone to support you, contact [MSU's Counseling and Psychological Services](#).
- Peruse the [Resource Collection](#) on Dismantling Anti-Asian Racism compiled by the National Council on Family Relations.
- For additional informational statistics, educational resources, and organizations, click [here](#).
- If you have suggestions for programming or resources we can provide for the FSHD community, tell us [here](#).

Meet the Social Justice Advisory Board Members

The FSHD Social Justice Advisory Board provides direction and input for the department's social justice strategic plan, programming and community impact.

FSHD Undergraduate Alumni Representative

Kevin Brenfo-Agyeman, MA



(he/him/his)

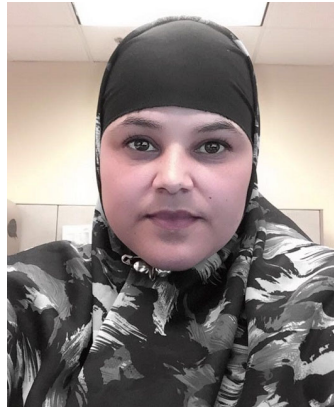
Academic Advisor
School of Social Science
& Human Services
Ramapo College

"I believe the essence of social justice is the equal distribution of opportunities, rights, and responsibilities regardless of one's race, gender, sexual

orientation, religion, age, culture, values, etc. Social justice is fairness in our society."

Community Representative

Bernadette Land



(she/her/hers)

Volunteer Director
Compasses Hospice
FSHD Alumnus

"Social justice should be a foundation of our human rights, an equal opportunity to pursue one's happiness, goals, and personal liberties without discrimination and oppression. This

would allow people equal access and opportunity for a good life in the society in which they live."

FSHD Ph.D. Alumni Representative

Rebecca Swann-Jackson, M.Ed., Ph.D.

(she/her/hers)

Associate Research Manager
Institute for Families
School of Social Work
Rutgers University

"When I think of social justice, I think of a quote from James Baldwin. Uncle Jimmy said, 'If I love you, I have to make you conscious of the things you do not see.' For me, social justice starts



with recognition of the four I's of oppression - interpersonal, internalized, ideological, and institutional. We have to recognize oppression and injustice as systemic."

FSHD Doctoral Student Representative

Christin Haynes, MSW

(she/her/hers)

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

Black Family Scholar Podcast Developer and Host

"My commitment to diversity and social justice means focusing attention to issues of oppression, power, and privilege impacting the wellbeing of Black American family members. The residuals of America's dark past, including 400 years of subjugation, exploitation, and forced labor of Africans, continue to haunt the Black American community and American society. By gaining a greater understanding of these factors and their effects, it affords an opportunity to empower Black American families with a roadmap for dismantling cultural beliefs and behaviors at the intrapersonal, interpersonal, and community level."



*"In the unceasing ebb and flow of justice and oppression
we must all dig channels as best we may,
that at the propitious moment
somewhat of the swelling tide may be conducted to the barren places of life."*

— Jane Addams



Our Achievements

FSHD Faculty & Staff



Dr. Lyndal Khaw, FSHD Department chair, has been named president-elect of the Affiliate Councils Board of the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR). She is the advisor for the Montclair Student Council on Family Relations which is an affiliate of NCFR.

Dr. Miriam Linver, Dr. Brad van Eeden-Moorefield, and Dr. Soyoung Lee had their article, "A Longitudinal Examination of Work-Family Balance among Working Mothers in the United States: Testing Bioecological Theory," published in the *Journal of Family & Economic Issues*.

Dr. Brad van Eeden-Moorefield co-authored "Understanding the roles of masculinity and transnationality in family formation for a Mexican-American adolescent father," which was published in *SN Social Sciences*. He also co-authored "Stepfamily Involvement In and Out of School and (Step)children's College Preparation Behaviors: A Latent Cluster Analysis," which was published in the *Journal of Family Issues*.

Dr. Ashley Ermer was elected Secretary/Treasurer of the Research & Theory Section of the National Council on Family Relations. Also, the final paper from her dissertation, "The association between relationship satisfaction and well-being among older adult couples: The moderating role of social connectedness," was accepted by *Aging & Mental Health*.

Family Science & Human Development
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FSHD@montclair.edu
[FSHD Website](#)

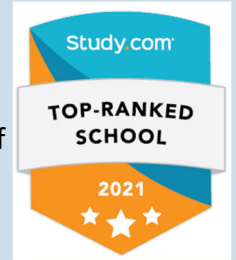
Dr. Lyndal Khaw, Chair
Lisa Mills, Newsletter Editor



FSHD Ranked #7 in the Nation

Our FSHD program holds the #7 position on the list of [Best Bachelor's Degrees in Human Development and Family Studies](#) in the nation by Study.com for 2021.

Methodology for the ranking focused on quality school programs that provide a high-value education, while still being accessible and affordable. MSU, the only New Jersey school on the list, was recognized for the availability of academic and career resources, as well as the quality of education.



This honor reinforces our belief that our program and faculty are highly effective in educating and preparing our students for careers related to the development of individuals and families in various socio-cultural contexts. We are proudly celebrating this ranking! ■

Personal Growth Opportunities

Virtual Career Fair

Wednesday, April 21, 2021

2:30-4:30 p.m.

Join this virtual career fair to video chat with employers from a variety of industries who will be hiring for full-time positions and internship. [Register here](#).

How to Ace

Phone & Video Interviews

Tuesday, April 27

12:00-12:45 p.m.

[Register](#) for this webinar to determine the best interviewing strategies for these modalities.



Free Private Swim Lessons

Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays

Want to learn how to swim or add lap swimming to your exercise routine? Take free lessons at the Rec Center. All swimming levels welcome. [Register here](#).

Congratulations and Best Wishes to our FSHD Graduates

Fall 2020 and Winter 2021



Aguilar, Esteisy
Akdemir, Melisa
Almonte, Maria A.
Arias, Daniella
Barry, Jaimie
Begum, Jebin
Brynczka, Anna M.
Buckley, Emma P.
Cabrera, Jocelyn J.
Calderon, Maria
Caniglia, Justine A.
Caputo, Manae
Carrillo, Sasquia N.
Chica, Valerie N.
Correa, Erika M.
Cottrell, Nathan M.
Darwish, Yousef K.
Dollar, Adrienne
Duong, Jennifer
Farro, Gianna T.
Fogel, Gina
Frederick, Amber R.
Froehlich, Lauren E.
Fuentes, Ellison J.
Garcia, Kimberly M.
Garcia, Miranda L.
Garcia, Paloma D.
Ghysels, Madison A.
Gnoinski, Lauren S.
Granovskaya, Rebecca A.
Guaman Arevalo, Tania M.
Jimenez, Leslie M.
Joseph, Daniela
Joyner, Maya A.
Kovach, Brianna N.

Krkuti, Hana
La Puente, Milagros E.
Mangiafico, Samantha M.
Marini, Amelia
Martin, Jacqueline
McEachern, Claire F.
McLoughlin, Melissa L.
McVicar, Hannah
Molina, Jaritza
Naiman, Kayla B.
O'Halloran, Joelle
Pancaro, Stefanie R.
Pena, Patricia
Politz, Courtney L.
Racioppi, Frankie A.
Repic, Milana
Rivera, Christina M.
Rodriguez, Jennifer
Roque, Arlenys
Safa, Lara M.
Saint-Hilaire, Mayra
Salerno, Adrianna
Scheipe, Caroline
Sergeant, Lara D.
Sheckfee, Alexander D.
Sierra, Krysta J.
Smith, Nyameke P.
Solis, Maireny
Torebka, Alexandra R.
Valdez, Heylin J.
Wasienko, Claire
Watabe, Joshua Y.
Wiese, Mellisa A.
Yi, Christine S.
Zeoli, Angela



Alumni Spotlight

Michael Statile

FSHD graduate Michael Statile details the journey to earning his undergraduate and master's degrees.

His Story: I started at MSU in 2014 as a Chemistry major. It took me three semesters to realize that my major would not allow me to be around people as often as I would like, and that I needed to make a

change. After having conversations with friends at my job in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, I convinced myself that my path was to become a school counselor.



I immediately scheduled an appointment with Mr. Cottle to look over my transcript and the program

of study to see how it would work best for me to change majors. Through his guidance as an advisor as well as a professor, and the help of so many others, one of whom is Jen Wilenta, I loved every single minute of my new major. The FSHD staff, faculty, and curriculum pushed me to think further about issues and concepts I had not put much thought into previously.

I reached graduation in May 2018 with confidence in my heart that the time I spent as an FSHD student had prepared me to quickly move into the Master's program in School Counseling right here at MSU. The coursework surrounding mental health, diversity/poverty issues, and especially the field experience and senior internship, taught me more than I could ever have asked for.

His Plan: I graduated from the Master's program in December 2020 after working as a graduate assistant in the ADP Center for Learning Technologies. I am now seeking a full-time school counseling position, hopefully at the elementary level!

His Thoughts: I really have the FSHD Department and program to thank for everything I have accomplished so far and every experience that I have had over the past few years. ■

Department Chair's Message

Hello FSHD family!

At the time I write this message, it is exactly a year since the first COVID case hit New Jersey and



Dr. Lyndal Khaw

Spring Break 2020 became an extended spring break nobody asked for! Thinking of the past brings up such a mixed bag of emotions for

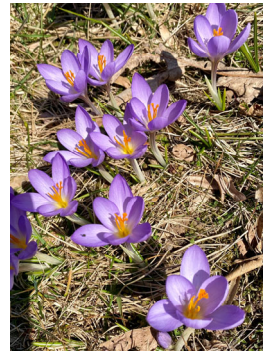
me, but especially, an overwhelming sense of relief and hope for what's to come. As of late, more than 130 million doses of the vaccine have been administered in the United States, and for once, I sense a new dawn is upon us.

However, while there is much good, we have also been surrounded by some heavy news lately. The March 16 shooting in Atlanta in three spaces occupied by people of Asian

descent took the nation by a storm, and prompted our Department to speak out against anti-Asian racism (see page 2) in full solidarity with our students, faculty, and staff who identify as Asian, Asian-Americans, or Pacific Islanders.

As an immigrant from Malaysia myself, this news personally hit me and my family particularly hard. The pandemic has not just heightened my awareness of my identity as an Asian immigrant, but after the Atlanta incident, my identity as an *Asian woman*. This is intersectionality, something many of you all are familiar with, especially if you are a member of a minoritized group; knowing that I fit the boxes means putting me at a greater risk of being harmed. I know I am not alone in feeling this fear and vigilance, as I have thought constantly for my kids, my family, my friends and colleagues, and my students - who look like me.

I share this with everyone because the work that we do is sometimes deeply personal and our concerns may be dismissed as simply someone "having a bad day." I hope these events encourage you to discuss these issues in your classes and the part you can play to challenge the mainstream narrative. As my 8-year-old has told me, "To fight racism, we must fight with love and unity in our community." Where there is hate, fortunately, there is also kindness.



To end on a positive note, these little crocus blooms caught my eye while walking my dog one day, and I had to stop to snap this picture. Sharing this with everyone as a reminder of the good that's just around the corner. ■

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Although most frequently aligned with physical assault, child abuse takes many forms including emo-

tional abuse, neglect, sexual molestation, child pornography and human trafficking.

According to the US Department of Health & Human Services, most children enter the foster care system due to neglect, when they are not provided with proper supervision, food, clothing, medical care or shelter.

Every April, *National Child Abuse Prevention Month* is an opportunity to raise awareness of all forms of child maltreatment. The 2021

theme, "Thriving Children and Families: Prevention with Purpose," emphasizes that the most important step toward prevention is supporting families *before* they reach a crisis. Working together, communities and organizations can identify signs of child abuse and become educated on how to prevent it.

If you recognized neglect or abuse, would you know how to report it? Learn more here: [How to Report Child Abuse & Neglect](#). ■

