

FAMILY SCIENCE & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

FEBRUARY 2023



2023 FSHD Scholarship Program Offers Four Awards

The Family Science and Human Development Department is proud to offer four tuition-based scholarships to undergraduate FSHD students. To be eligible for these tuition-based scholarships, recipients must have at least one semester remaining at MSU after Spring 2023.

The application deadline is **Monday, February 20, 2023**. Download the application [here](#). Awards will be applied to Fall 2023 tuition, and recipients will be recognized during the CEHS Awards Ceremony on Thursday, April 27, 2023.

Katharine B. Hall Scholarship

This scholarship recognizes the professional and academic accomplishments of a full-time undergraduate prospective senior student with a minimum 3.5 GPA. Preference is given to students who are active participants in FSHD department activities or members of a professional organization affiliated with their course of study. Amount of award is to be determined.

Doris Ruslink Scholarships

Two \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to full-time or part-

time undergraduate FSHD majors with a minimum 3.0 GPA. Preference is given to students who provide evidence of financial need.

Dalila Reid Award

This \$500 scholarship will be awarded to a full-time or part-time undergraduate student majoring in Family Science and Human Development, with a concentration in Family Services and a minimum 3.0 GPA. Preference is given to students who have exhibited significant contributions in the area of community service with families and/or children, and with

demonstrated financial need.

Family Science and Human Development Award

This \$250 award will go to a full-time or part-time undergraduate junior or senior majoring in Family Science and Human Development (all concentrations) with a minimum 3.3 GPA. Preference is given to students who have demonstrated significant contributions in the area of community service with families and/or children. ■

“Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.”

- Malcolm X

Department Chair’s Corner

We are well into the Spring 2023 semester and I hope you are having a blast so far, with new experiences and connections made in and out of the classrooms. What a world of difference this semester has been, and I certainly hope it continues to stay



Dr. Lyndal Khaw

uneventful for all of us!

In thinking of what to focus my chair’s message on this month, one topic that has jumped out most salient to me over the

past few weeks is the importance of family. Of course, families - both of origin and the ones you create - are significant to FSHD, we even have “family” in our department’s name! In our classes, we talk about families all the time and explore the dynamics of diverse family formations, the role families play from birth through death, and the many decades of research surrounding the value and impact of families.

I was fortunate to have the opportunity to visit mine in Malaysia last month, where I was able to see my parents, siblings, and extended family for the first time in over five years. As it did with everyone, Covid

(Continued on page 5)

DATES TO REMEMBER

February 1

Deadline to apply for Teacher Education Program

February 15

Deadline to apply for May 2023 graduation

February 20

Deadline to apply for FSHD Scholarships

March 1

Deadline to Register for Summer Internships

Social Justice Initiatives

Welcome to 2023! We hope that the winter break provided opportunities to refresh, recharge, and spend time with loved ones, and that you are settling into the spring semester and new classes.

Our Social Justice Advisory Board continues to make great progress toward achieving the goals and commitments outlined in our first departmental social justice strategic plan, and we have many plans for the remainder of the academic year. Key among these plans are:

- To continue antiracist and social justice reflexive conversations in which the staff and faculty have been engaged over the course of the fall semester, using the *Antiracist Deck* by Ibram X. Kendi as a guide (it is a great resource and conversation facilitative agent).
- Enhance the focus on building more collaborative partnerships across the university and in our communities.
- Continue our curricular update work that also will further enhance the presence of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion across all core courses.
- Complete the general social justice statement for the department.

Importantly, as we prepare to be one of the inaugural departments in MSU's new college, the College *for* Community Health, beginning July 1, 2023, we will advocate and take part in infusing social justice into the structures (e.g., policies and practices) of the new college. We see this as a great opportunity and an area where our collective expertise can contribute in a meaningful way.

As part of our reporting and transparency commitments, we have prepared updated data about various parts of FSHD student experiences and successes, who we are as a community, as well as some of the experiences and successes of the faculty and staff. We are presenting this information in the form of infographics, included in this newsletter and that also will appear on our website. We believe these infographics demonstrate the vibrancy, equity, and success across our FSHD community. These data will continue to be used to identify new initiatives that enhance our collective success and further our social justice mission as well.

Here are a few highlights from the infographics:

1. Almost 100% of undergraduate and Ph.D. students, faculty, and staff are engaged with our communities.
2. About 52% of our undergraduate and 69% of Ph.D. students are people of color.

(Continued on page 7)

Family Science & Human Development

Montclair State University

Faculty Scholarship (2018-2022)

Interdisciplinary, Collaborative, Community-Engaged, & Social Justice-Focused



Collaborators In Our Communities

City of Paterson, Paterson Public School District, Eva's Village Paterson, Turning Point of Paterson, Teends2BHeard, St. Joseph's University Medical Center Paterson Campus, Paterson Coalition Against Substance Abuse (P-CASA), Livingston Public Schools, Boy Scouts of America, Aging in Montclair, Golda Och Academy, Spring Point Partners, The Hive, Essex County Mental Health Advisory Board, Jewish Services for the Developmentally Disabled, Rachel Coalition, Enob New York, Universidade Federal do Parana, Lubuto Library Partners Zambia, Glasswing International, School #2 in Chervonohrad, Ukraine

Faculty In The Media



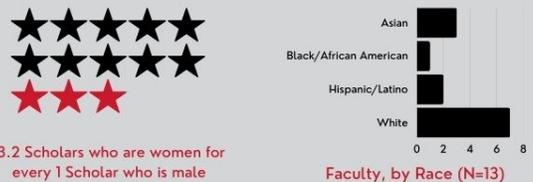
Scholarship By The Numbers (2018-2022)



Examples of Faculty Books, 2018-2022

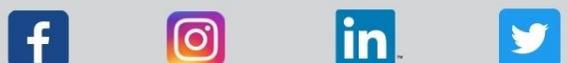


Faculty Diversity Snapshot



Connect With Us!!

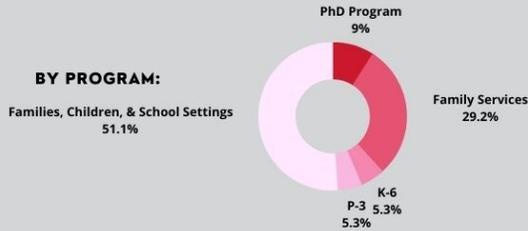
<https://www.montclair.edu/family-science-and-human-development/>



Family Science & Human Development

Montclair State University

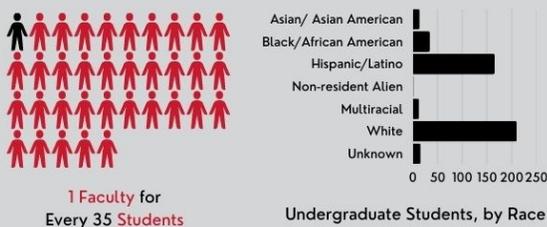
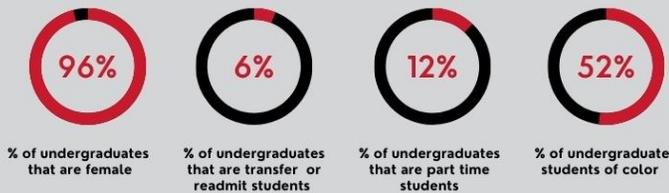
489 Current FSHD Students Making A Difference



Engaged In Our Communities



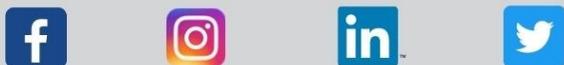
Things That Make Us, Us...



The Work We Do...Together

The Department of Family Science and Human Development (FSHD) seeks to strengthen the health and wellbeing of individuals, families, and communities, over the life course, using a multidisciplinary approach especially those efforts aimed at reducing social inequities. Central to our mission is an unwavering commitment to inclusion and social justice.

Connect With Us!
<https://www.montclair.edu/family-science-and-human-development/>



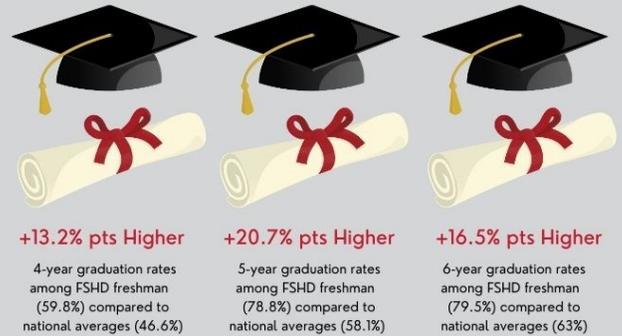
Family Science & Human Development

Montclair State University

1890 FSHD Alumni (2014-2021)

Making A Difference... In Our Communities

Graduation Success in FSHD



Creating Graduation Equity for Students of Color

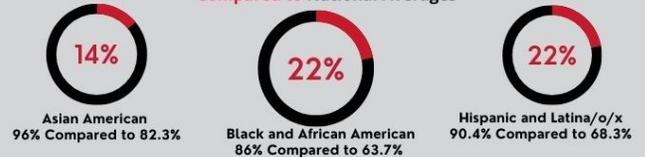
% pts Higher FSHD Students of Color are to Graduate in 4 years Compared to National Averages



Second Year Retention



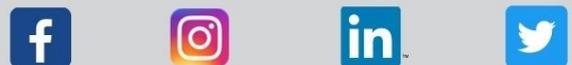
% pts Higher FSHD Students of Color are to Return for a Second Year Compared to National Averages



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Connect With Us!
<https://www.montclair.edu/family-science-and-human-development/>



Student Spotlight

Catina Pierce-Harris

Catina Pierce-Harris is a senior majoring in Family Science and Human Development with a concentration in Family Services.



Her Story: Catina's higher education journey began some time ago. She is an adult student who transferred to Montclair State University following an extended break. Growing up, Catina's father would often say, "Go to college so you can find a good job," however, he did not add, "Finish your degree so you can maintain a career."

After taking some time off from college and working in corporate America, Catina transitioned into public education and was employed in the special education department of the urban school district she once attended. Recognizing that her work experience and education were in direct conflict, Catina knew she needed to complete her bachelor's degree if she wanted to unlock new avenues along the career path. She entered Montclair State University excited and nervous, yet eager to enhance her experience and complete her degree.

With a passion for special needs families, Catina says, "It's not just the child who has a special need, the family has one as well." She has become a valuable resource to the school community she supports by informing families and students of the resources required and available to them. She credits her professors and course content for gaining this knowledge.

Her Path: Catina's path to a degree has been a long and winding road. She started college but left during her junior year for a great job in publishing. She became a wife, mother and instructional aide, but never a college graduate. Then one day at a faith-based event, FSHD Department Advisor Christopher Cottle asked her, "When are you going to come to MSU and finish your degree?" He saw her passion, dedication, and creativity, and that was the motivation she needed. Without that push, she would not have gained the keys to unlock her potential.

Her Thoughts: Catina recognizes the strong need for family services within school settings. She wants special needs families to know that they are not alone. Caregivers need help navigating the waters of special education, support services, and being present for the family unit to help their child progress throughout life. Securing a degree in Families Services will allow Catina to work as a transition coordinator, helping families and students prepare to transition out of the school environment into adulthood. ■

Alumni News

FSHD Alum Recognizes and Fills Community Need

Dr. Fatimah Turner, an alumna of the Family Science and Human Development PhD Program, founded the Inner City Cafe in Orange, NJ, to fill a need for a work and networking space for residents of Orange and the surrounding areas.

While working toward her PhD, Turner used a local Starbucks as her "office." However, during the COVID pandemic, the cafe wasn't always open, leaving her without a place to work. That's when she realized the community was lacking a space where people could network and

receive support from area leaders and teachers. After talking with residents and friends, she decided to establish a place where they could gather, study, work, and network.



The Inner City Café, founded by FSHD alum Dr. Fatimah Turner.

The Inner City Cafe serves as a safe place for community members of all ages to learn new skills and meet new people. It is a community center that offers tutoring, GED classes, etiquette classes, college admissions support and counseling, as well as writing circles and an event space to showcase local artists. All services are sponsored by community members for free or at extremely reduced prices.

Turner believes that having this space available encourages neighbors to support one another. "I make it a point and priority to be heavily involved in my community and let people know what we have going on at the cafe, what we're building here," she said. As a licensed clinical social worker and former vice principal, she relies on her experience to determine what the community needs. And others chip in, sharing their own skill sets to anyone who might need them. "People want to help," she said.

Visit theinnercitycafe.com for information and upcoming events. ■

Black History Month

This year marks the 97th commemoration of black history in the United States. Celebrated every February, the 2023 theme of Black History Month is *Black Resistance*.

Black people have long resisted oppression in all forms by advocating for a dignified self-determined life and fighting discrimination in all sectors of society, from employment to education to housing. Consistently pushing the United States to live up to its ideals of freedom, liberty, and justice for all, Black institutions have used many approaches to nurture and protect Black lives, including education, nonviolent protests, armed resistance, literature, sports, media, and legislation.

***“If they don’t give you
a seat at the table,
bring a folding chair.”***

- Shirley Chisholm



Celebrating at Montclair State

Here at MSU, the theme for Black History Month is *Champions of the Bridges that Carried Us Over*, and a series of programs and activities have been planned:

- Opening Program on February 1
- Black History Month Exhibit in Sprague Library
- Black Educators Summit
- Black History Museum
- Film Festival
- A Tribute to Mary McLeod Bethune
- Panel Discussion: “This Little Light of Mine: Activism in the Black Church”
- DIASPORA: A Collection of Black Art

For additional information and to register for any of these events, [click here](#).

Helpful Resources

Some of the information above was sourced from the these helpful sites:

- [Black History Month](#)
- [Association for the Study of African American Life & History](#)
- [National Endowment for the Humanities](#). ■

Department Chair’s Corner *(Continued from page 1)*

prolonged my absence away from home, and with the time lapse, change is inevitable. There was something both calming yet unsettling about returning to something both familiar and unfamiliar at the same time. While I came back to my childhood home looking exactly the same, the smells of home, the food, the family traditions, and the warmth of the people are familiar to me, there is also the unfamiliar - my parents and siblings are aging, my nephews and nieces have quickly grown up beyond recognition, many already creating families of their own.

I guess my point is, even with the ebbs and flows within families, it’s remarkable how families still serve as a constant in our lives. And that can be incredibly useful, especially given the giant curveball we’ve all encountered in the last few years. Now, I write this with full recognition that not everyone perceives families as supportive or constant, but at the very core of society, there is no doubt that families can be a steady hand as people navigate change.

Which brings me back to the “family” in family science. A huge part of what we do as family scientists, developmentalists, and helping professionals is to support families through transitions and change. And in FSHD, we support families not just with research-based evidence but with a keen eye for social justice and equitable treatment for all families. So that every family can best serve as that steady hand when we most need them.

Have an amazing semester. Warmer weather is just around the corner! ■

Red Hawks Athletics

Come out and cheer for your teams!



**Baseball
Basketball
Lacrosse
Indoor Track
Swimming & Diving**

Find the [full calendar here](#)

Summer Internship Combines Research with Hands-on Community Engagement

As a final step in their academic careers, FSHD majors in the Family Services concentration obtain a professional internship where they gain on-the-job training in a setting that provides contact with individuals in various FSHD program-related environments. Often working in a community/service organization or social service agency, students enhance their competency in critical thinking, assessment techniques, research, problem-solving, decision-making, utilization of resources, and ability to function as part of a diverse workforce.

The **Summer Community Engagement Internship** is a unique, site-specific program that uses a community-based, participatory approach that allows students to apply their classroom knowledge and implement social justice principles in a real-world context.



Dr. Robert Reid and Dr. Pauline Garcia-Reid coordinate the summer research internship.

Spearheaded by FSHD Professors Drs. Robert Reid and Pauline Garcia-Reid, the internship combines community engagement with action research through a federally-funded substance misuse and HIV/AIDS prevention program targeting racial and ethnic minority youth and young adults in the city of Paterson, NJ.

FSHD student Alicia Rivera '23 participated in the program during the summer of 2022. She believes the experience "is not just an internship but rather an opportunity to create an impact in the city of Paterson." Rivera said she achieved great personal growth "in the areas of teamwork, leadership, and professional development that I welcomed through every challenge and constructive feedback. The experience, being hands-on in nature, has left a positive imprint on my passion for the work that I will continue to do."

This nine-credit internship involves 300 hours of fieldwork and provides a stipend to students who complete the course requirements. Students interested in registering for this program in Summer 2023 can contact Dr. Reid at reidr@montclair.edu. ■

Making Career Plans? Internship Coordinator Can Help

Attention graduating seniors! Career preparation at the end of your college experience can be overwhelming and intense.

Internship Coordinator Colleen Casenta is here to support you! She would love to meet with you to help with your job search, interview prep, career options, and any other career topics you are interested in exploring.



Colleen Casenta

Please don't hesitate to schedule a meeting with her on [Handshake](#) (click "Career Center" then "Appointments") or email her at casentac@montclair.edu. ■

Career Corner

With a degree in Family Science and Human Development, you can pursue a career as a...

Children's Museum Educator

Children's museum educators essentially inspire youngsters to learn. They act as teachers in a non-traditional setting by enriching educational opportunities for museum visitors, and developing interesting, age-appropriate programs for school children.

These positions involve various responsibilities such as designing museum displays, crafting interactive exhibits, and guiding museum tours for families and/or school groups. Other duties might include:

- Teaching workshops and on-site programs
- Recruiting and training volunteers
- Developing community outreach programs
- Collaborating with artists, technicians, teachers and volunteers
- Budgeting
- Overseeing administrative responsibilities

To succeed as a children's museum educator, individuals should have a passion for science, art, history, and culture. They must feel comfortable speaking to large groups, and have a pleasant, approachable personality to help children understand the exhibits and feel comfortable asking questions. Creative talents and organizational skills are also vital attributes of effective museum educators. ■

Webinar Explores Urban Teacher Residency Program

Thursday, February 23, 2023
6:00—7:00 p.m.

MSU's Urban Teacher Residency is an apprenticeship 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 their NJ teacher certification and a Master of Arts in Teaching, and must make a three-year commitment to teach in the Newark or Orange Public School District.

[Register for the webinar](#) to learn more about the UTR program. ■

Social Justice *(Continued from page 2)*

3. FSHD undergraduate students are more likely to graduate in 4, 5, or 6 years compared to national averages. For example, 78.8% of FSHD students graduate in 5 years compared to the national average of 58.1%. Although we do a lot better than national averages, we want to do even better!

4. Compared to national averages, every racial and/or ethnic group of FSHD students is more likely to graduate. For example, FSHD students that are African American/Black have a 33% higher graduation rate compared to national averages. In other words, graduation rates in FSHD are more equitable compared to the national disparities we see.

5. For the period 2018-2022, FSHD faculty had an average of 16.7 publications each, and garnered over \$17 million in grant funding. Just over 70% of faculty publications included student co-authors and co-authors outside of FSHD. We are collaborators and interdisciplinary!

Share Your Thoughts

Remember to use our [virtual feedback form](#) as an anonymous way to share feedback and/or suggestions related to the FSHD community's social justice work.

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

Preventing Teen Dating Violence

Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month is held every year in February, in stark contrast to this month's more romantic celebration of Valentine's Day.

Statistics from the Centers for Disease Control show that one in 12 high school students has experienced dating violence in some form, such as:

- Physical violence
- Sexual violence
- Verbal or psychological abuse
- Digital or electronic intimidation
- Harassment
- Stalking

Violent or abusive relationships can have a significant negative impact on teens and youth, resulting in depression, anxiety, substance abuse, illegal or inappropriate behaviors, or suicidal thoughts.

National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline 866-331-9474

If you or someone you know is a victim of dating violence, call the dating abuse hotline today for free, confidential help. And visit the Centers for Disease Control website for information on [Preventing Teen Dating Violence](#). ■

Family Science & Human Development

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[Visit the FSHD Website](#)

Dr. Lyndal Khaw, Chair

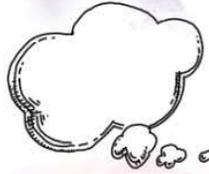
Lisa Mills, Newsletter Editor



SHARE A SNACK.



GIVE OTHERS THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT.

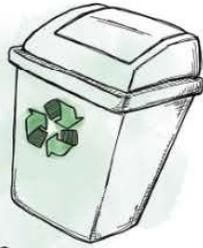


DRINK A GLASS OF WATER.



DONATE BLOOD.

PICK UP LITTER.



READ WITH A CHILD.



COMPLIMENT WITH RECKLESS ABANDON.



ACKNOWLEDGE SOMEONE WHO DESERVES PRAISE.

THANK A TEACHER.



OPEN DOORS FOR OTHERS.

SMILE.



USE A REUSABLE WATER BOTTLE.



SUPPORT LOCALLY OWNED BUSINESSES.



RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS DAY FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH



SHARE YOUR FAVORITE SONG WITH SOMEONE.

TEXT SOMEONE A POSITIVE MESSAGE.



PLACE ENCOURAGING STICKY NOTES IN PUBLIC AREAS.



LEAVE AN EXTRA BIG TIP.



ENCOURAGE A FRIEND.

GIVE AN UNEXPECTED GIFT.



GO FOR A LONG WALK.



MAKE KINDNESS THE NORM!

RANDOMACTSOFKINDNESS.ORG

CELEBRATE SOMEONE ELSE'S ACCOMPLISHMENT.

LAUGH UNTIL YOUR BELLY HURTS.



PUT AWAY YOUR PHONE AND LISTEN WITH YOUR HEART

LOVE WHO YOU ARE.



SEND A THANK YOU NOTE

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS
FOUNDATION®

