CELEBRATING

FACULTY AND STUDENT-FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP 2020-2021
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Please join us in celebrating the impressive scholarship accomplishments of our Marymount faculty. This report documents the many books, book chapters, journal articles, external conference presentations, grants, and exhibits our faculty completed in the 2020-2021 academic year. The work of several faculty members are highlighted as examples of the ‘behind the scenes’ activities associated with producing scholarly products. We wish we could provide the stories behind every work cited in this document. But know, there are similar stories of outstanding dedication, disciplinary excellence and intellectual vitality behind each and every scholarly work listed in this report.

Marymount faculty scholarship spans a broad and diverse range of topics, including health and wellness, cybersecurity, IT, humanities, history, politics, criminal justice, education, psychology, the scholarship of teaching and learning, and religion/theology, just to name a few. The publications and presentations have a broad reach and significant contribution to scholarship.

Although many in-person conferences were cancelled during this pandemic year, many others were held virtually and required quick and thoughtful reframing of presentations for a remote audience. You will find a long list of Marymount faculty who presented their work at a virtual conference during this pandemic year. The audiences ranged from colleagues around the corner to around the globe. One benefit of remote participation in national and international conferences is the ability to include a wider audience who may not have otherwise been able to travel to the in-person location.

These accomplishments enrich the academic life of Marymount University, both of faculty and students. Our students have many opportunities to actively participate in faculty research and to receive individual mentorship on their own scholarly projects. See our list of student-faculty summer research projects for summer of 2021.

We hope you will take a few minutes to review the achievements of Marymount’s faculty. These faculty members are truly accomplished and dedicated scholars and teachers.

Enjoy, and congratulations to all the great scholars listed in this report.

Rita Wong, Ed.D., P.T., F.A.P.T.A.
Associate Vice President for Research
The need for mental health counseling was already in high demand prior to the COVID-19 pandemic but there has been an increase in the need for traditional and tele-mental–health service since COVID-19. In the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic, the World Health Organization (2022) reported that the global prevalence of anxiety and depression increased by 25%. The Center for Disease Control (2021) reports that 1 in 5 Americans will experience a mental health issue within any given year; 1 in 5 children have experienced mental health symptoms that have led to dysfunction; and 1 in 25 Americans have been diagnosed with a serious mental illness (e.g. schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, or major depression). The address the growing mental health concerns, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (December 2021) has predicted the need for clinical mental health counselors and substance abuse counselors to increase by 23% until 2030.

The need for clinical mental health counselors (CMHC) who work with the medically underserved populations and in communities (MUP/C) across the nation has always been in high demand but there is currently a shortage of CMHC providers to address the mental health needs of the MUP or in rural communities. In the DMV area, the mental health needs of the MUP/C out number the CMHCs in northern Virginia and the greater Washington, D.C., region who have traditionally not opted to seek employment to serve high needs populations; which in our area include youth and adults who experience homelessness, violence, and trauma; those in rural areas; LGBTQ+ populations; acute suicidal risk, and individuals with English as a second language. In addition, approximately one-third (29.8%) of Arlington County households speak a primary language other than English (predominantly Spanish).

The School of Counseling at Marymount University was awarded a $1.3 million Health Resources and Services Association (HRSA) Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training (BHWET) Grant over the next 4 years (July 2021-July 2025) with the overall goal to increase the number of CMHC graduate to be clinically prepared and serve with the MUP/C and in interdisciplinary professional teams. Students in the CMHC program are able to apply for one of the 84 Fellows (Counselors Serving High At-Risk Populations and Settings [C-SHARPS]) over the 4 years who will commit their 2-semester clinical internship placement in working with the MUP/C; and in exchange are awarded 10K for their commitment. Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) or new clinical placements have already been formed with several Virginia Community Service Boards, The Arlington Free Clinic, Whitman Walker Arlington County Community Services Board, National Capital Treatment and Recovery, LifeStance Health, North Spring Behavioral Healthcare- Acute Hospital, Fairfax County Domestic and Sexual Violence Services.

The current HRSA Fellows (John Arnold, Mariah Allen, Kirsten Pettaway, Kelly Kramer, Kelley Dausman, Itzel Munoz, Yasmin Lara, Rachel Costlow, Kyle Ginzl, and Hye Joon Pak) represent diverse cultural and ethnic groups and speak various languages in addition to English (Spanish, German, Korean, Japanese). The grant also places an emphasis on increasing the number of students who are bi/multi-lingual to work with MUP/C in the hopes of providing counseling services while also breaking down stereotypes of seeking mental health counseling. The client populations served by HRSA Fellows are consists of the following mental health issues: substance use, low to no-income, uninsured, homeless, court-ordered, English as a second language, marginalized populations, sexual abuse survivors, severe mental health diagnoses, domestic violence offenders, rural areas, LGBTQ+, Transgender and non-binary, and ageing adults.
The Faculty Grant Team (Lisa Jackson-Cherry, Ph.D., LCPC (HRSA Grant Principal Investigator and Program Coordinator), William Sterner, Ph.D., LCPC (HRSA Coordinator of Clinical Training), Stephanie Chalk, Ph.D., LPC (HRSA Fellows Advisor), and Bonnie Kuo, M.A., LPC (HRSA Coordinator of Clinical Placements) are also involved in increasing trainings in the following areas: trauma-informed care and preventing violence across the lifespan, ethical and legal best practices for telehealth based services, and ethical and legal issues for clinical supervisors. These trainings are available for HRSA fellows, Licensed Professional Counselors (LPCs), and clinical supervisors to be used for continuing education for licensure renewal. Additional trainings and activities for supervisors and HRSA Fellows include case conceptualizations, monthly supervision group consultation and supervision workshops, and interdisciplinary panels. The School of Counseling is excited to have the opportunity to increase the placements and provide students financial stipends for working with the MUP/C. It is the hope that this experience will increase the number of clinical mental health counselors in wanting to work with MUP/C.

“The project is supported by the Health Resources and Service Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling $1.2M with 100% financed with non-governmental sources. The contents of those are of the authors and do not necessarily represent views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.”


Flanagan, B. (2021, August). We Need to Talk. America, 225(2), 40-44.


Other Written Publications

*Names in bold type are Marymount faculty members and * denotes Marymount University students.*


Fischer, S., (2020). Republic of Turkey, Encyclopedia of Conflict in the Middle East. J. Zartman (Ed.) Greenwood, Colorado: *ABC-CLIO.*


Books

Names in bold type are Marymount faculty members.


Design and fine art are manifested primarily in creative work and exploration for a solution through client-based or personal artistic statements. Professor Bridget Murphy, Graphic and Media Design, explores the dynamic relationship between the professional visual communicator and the studio artist. With a background in fine art and design, she is involved in the creative process through printmaking, graphic design, drawing, and teaching—the scholarship of discovery. Her goal is to always integrate creativity into endeavors and keep all boundaries open. This is shown through her personal, professional, and community service work.

Currently, Bridget is a member of Discover Graphics Atelier’s Affiliated Artist Program, located in the Torpedo Factory Art Center. She is a printmaker using traditional intaglio etching as the main artistic medium along with monotypes and mixed-media paintings. Bridget’s creative achievements have been juried in multiple exhibitions including the 2020 Bank of the Arts National Juried Exhibition at the Craven Arts Council and the biennial INK IT: Contemporary Print Practices 2021 at the BlackRock Center for the Arts. The latter was reviewed by Mark Jenkins in the Washington Post’s “In the Galleries” column earlier this year. Bridget’s creative work has also recently received two awards: an Honorable Mention for Pool View, Carefree, AZ at Open Exhibit: Art League and Third Place Award for Miniatures for Grey Iris at 2021 Small Works Exhibition, The Charles H. Taylor Visual Arts Center. Bridget continues to show at regional events and is represented by Gallery 75 at the Alexandria Art League.

Bridget earned a Master in Fine Arts from Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), Rochester, NY and a Bachelor in Fine Arts at Saint Mary’s College, Notre Dame, IN. She is involved in creative research through integrating graphic design, typography, painting, and printmaking.

She has worked on several interdisciplinary projects with other Marymount faculty members and partners. Using her design and technological skills, Bridget created information graphics and an illustration for the article The Evolution of Games and Case Studies in Organic Chemistry, written by Drs. Maria Camarca and Deana Jaber. This article has been accepted to the peer-reviewed journal, The Chemical Educator. Bridget created the digital photomontage for the book chapter: The Courage to Navigate a Man’s World by Marymount faculty Drs. Carly Speranza and Catherine England. Both publications are expected to be completed in late 2021. She also designed the mark for Marymount’s new Center for Optimal Aging. Additionally, Bridget volunteers her time and expertise to various organizations. She conducts in-person and virtual workshops at the Falls Church Senior Center and this past summer she was invited to present a self-care session entitled Drawing and Doodling during the Prevent Child Abuse America National Conference.

Bringing this unique perspective and broad expertise into the classroom helps her students develop unique problem-solving designs and new ways of thinking and exploring. She places a premium on real world service learning projects allowing students to experience professional design projects while still having the structure of the academic environment. During the 2020-21 academic year, Graphic and Media Design students had the opportunity to design logos for entrepreneurs at La Cochina VA. This Arlington-based nonprofit uses the power of food to create social and economic change in low-income communities. Bridget seeks to instill in her students a commitment to the whole equation of communication design—the passions of an artist, the problem solving methods of a designer, and responsibility to community.
**Book Chapters**

*Names in bold type are Marymount faculty members.*


Peer-Reviewed Presentations

Names in bold type are Marymount faculty members and * denotes Marymount University students.


Flanagan, B. P. (2021, June). Becoming middle ages: Forming students as resilient humans through medieval spirituality. Art and Practice of Teaching Theology Section, Annual Meeting of the College Theology Society.


Peebles, K. L. (2021, June 2-5). Enchanting the urban landscape: Picture books that reframe the city [Conference presentation]. PCA/ACA (Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association) National Conference, Boston, MA, United States.


Dr. Leigh C. Johnson, Associate Professor of Literature and Languages, recently published “Chicana Visions: Ana Castillo and Cherríe Moraga’s Friendship, Falling Out, and Forgiveness,” an article based on extensive archival research completed during her sabbatical (AY 2018-2019). Supported by a Faculty Development Grant, Leigh had a minor fangirl experience using the Southwest studies archives at University of Texas Austin and Texas State San Marcos. Her article argues that while both Castillo and Moraga locate significant aspects of their own growth and ability to be compassionate in their relationships with their mothers and children, a shadow narrative can be read against this familial forgiveness. Friendship with like-minded Chicanas has shaped their world views. Evidence from these new memoirs, earlier theoretical readings, and letters from both women found in the Gloria Anzaldúa archives at University of Texas and the Sandra Cisneros papers at Texas State University, San Marcos, reveals that despite their falling out, friendship between Moraga and Castillo has had a lasting positive impact on the field of Chicana literature and feminism.

In the 1980’s, Gloria Anzaldúa and Cherríe Moraga published “This Bridge Called My Back,” and it was tremendously important for the third-wave feminist movement. Their collaboration is possible because they started working through underground presses and building a community where they would say, “here’s what I’m working on – do you have anything that might work with this? How can we collaborate?” Clearly, these writers were working under idea that “nobody else is going to build this for us, so we have to work together.” That thread has been really interesting to read in the letters. For instance, in Anzaldúa’s archive, there are letters from Sandra Cisneros, where she indicates that she wants to work on a project with Anzaldúa, but she owes Random House a novel. And in other letters, writers talk about splitting costs at conferences; they write about their families, their children, and their relationships in these letters, revealing an academic partnership, a scholarly partnership and a really close personal collaboration.

This research was the result of several happy finds in the archives while Johnson was doing research for her book length project on the possibilities and limits of literary activism and collaboration between Chicana and white feminists. Entitled Networked Motherwork, her book examines crucial moments of collaboration when women’s friendships turned public opinion and political resistance toward justice for immigrants, women, and communities of color.

Dr. Johnson and Dr. Noreen Rivera, Associate Professor of English at University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, have collaborated on “Little “Movidas” Go a Long Way: A Chicana Pedagogy for Digital Pen Pals Among College Students as Networks of Learning, Cross-Cultural Solidarity and Testimony during Covid-19,” a forthcoming essay. We immediately recognized the valuable discursive conversations continued by our students in their digital pen pal partnerships, when they, like the majority of students enrolled at institutions of higher education, and k-12, were thrust into online, remote learning situations, in March of 2020, as states mandated stay-at-home orders to curb transmission and death during the initial months of viral spread. Many of our students collaboratively engaged in what is best described as learning networks of care, as penpals emailed one another about their personal concerns and pandemic hardships alongside their literary evaluations and motivated each other to persevere. For example, we noticed students expressed their fears of Covid-19 and wished each other safety and caution before turning to observations and dialogues on the analysis of structures of racism and
Invited Presentations

Names in bold type are Marymount faculty members and * denotes Marymount University students.


Shadle, M. (2021, January 27). Fratelli Tutti on war and peace: The responsibility to protect, lifting up the fallen and pursuing the thieves. Fratelli Tutti: Challenge to a World of Closed Borders. Durham University Centre for Catholic Social Thought and Practice, United Kingdom. Virtual.


Murphy, B. (2020, September 18-September 25). The Maker Directory. DC Design Week


Murphy, B. (2021, July 8-September 5). Siberian iris. [Printmaking]. Gallery 75 Summer 2021. Art League,

Alshameri, F., & Xia, R.* Credit card anomaly detection using data mining tools.


Bubar, E., & Akhtar. S.* Creating immersive virtual worlds!

Conrad, S., & King, S.* Teaching children to code.


Fischer, S., & Sesay, A.* Depictions of the police on television.

Howe, T., & Rikk, B.A.* Horror film: A book project.

Jaber, D., & Lam, S.* Designing pedagogical chemistry games.

Jaber, D., & Carlitti, R.* Developing chemistry case studies.

Kelekar, U., & Oyedepo, F.* Palliative care – a comparative analysis of United States and European countries.

Kelekar, U., & Kumar, S.* Role of distance in determining utilization of dental services in the emergency departments – a review of literature.

Lado, A., & Giacomello, C.* On campus literacy lab and camp for elementary students.

Liu, M., & Hyiamang, O.* A Cross-disciplinary study on the role of cybersecurity measures in an electoral process.
Rimkus, T., & Winnecke, B.* Sea turtle tagging and monitoring.

Rogers-Fruiterman, J. R., & Okoh, C.* The lived experience of acute care nurses during the COVID pandemic.

Schaeffer, D., & Drake, S.* A taxonomy of policy statements on 5G by stakeholders.

Turissini, L., & Kindschi, S.* Where are all of our doctoral students from? What professions are they employed in?

Wright, A., & Hajimiragha, S.* Analyzing coronavirus data.

Zaleski, M., & Beltran, S.* Recovering indigenous voices in the Jesuit archives.

New Grants

Grants awarded between August 2020 and July 30, 2021

Aberman, J., Principal Investigator. (2020). Pivoting technology for the post COVID-19 economy. GoVirginia Fund via George Mason University subcontract. $25,000

Aberman, J., Principal Investigator. (2020). Roadmap to hospitality in technology. GoVirginia Fund via George Mason University subcontract. $30,000


Harwood, K., Principal Investigator, & Bender, J., key personnel. (2020). Functional assessment standardized items for home and community-based use. Through Lewin Group for Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services. $46,432

Harwood, K., Project Manager. (2021). Creation of health and human performance lab and teaching space. Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges, Capital Improvement Grant. $10,007

Jackson-Cherry, L., Principal Investigator, Sterner, W., & Chalk, S., key personnel. (2021). Counselors serving high at-risk populations and settings (C-SHARP). Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). $1,236,762

Murphy, D., Principal Investigator, & Mbaziira, A., key personnel. (2021). Test and evaluation Cyber Center of Excellence. Through Millennium Corporation for the U.S. Army Threat System Management Office. $75,600

Murphy, D., Project Director, Mbaziira, A., & Green, N., key personnel. (2021). CYberAI summer camp for high school students. Machine learning for red team operations. Commonwealth Cyber Initiative (CCI) via George Mason University subrecipient. $35,204

I am a kinesiologist (human movement) with an emphasis in exercise physiology and a professor in the School of Health Sciences/CHE. I am also director of the new kinesiology lab in Berg Hall and a fellow of the honors program at Marymount.

Many a first thought about what an exercise physiologist does is that they work with athletes to improve their performance in sport. And while that is true to some extent; I am very interested in working with students on projects related to athletes on campus, such as how coaching style influences athlete motivation or whether an athlete is psychologically (mood state) or physiologically (e.g., higher levels of cortisol, a biological marker of stress) affected by injury, this notion is not truly reflective of the big picture. Several of these student-driven investigations have been presented at international conferences.

As a member of the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM), exercise is well established as a means to prevent or control disease; the concept that exercise is medicine to address a host of diseases or conditions resulting from a sedentary lifestyle, otherwise known as hypokinetic diseases. In collaboration with Dr. Alexei Wong, my colleague in the School of Health Sciences/Health and Human Performance programs, and a team of researchers overseas, we are interested in determining how specific modalities (types) of exercise and/or dietary supplements may influence biological markers of inflammation in special populations such as those with cancer or obesity.

Exercise is generally divided into two categories, including endurance (cardio) and strength training. Certain aspects of each may be incorporated into the other as well as how intensity or other factors might be manipulated to maximize observed benefits. One particular type of exercise training known as high intensity interval training (aka, HIIT) has recently received considerable attention as an effective strategy to control or even reduce inflammation associated with certain conditions.

Inflammation is often described as oxidative stress which can result from an imbalance between the production and accumulation of reactive oxygen species (ROS) leading to cell and tissue damage. Our body then attempts to control this state through its own well-established antioxidant defense system. We have shown that HIIT exercise such as jump rope training or interval training on a bicycle is more effective than conventional exercise in favorably modifying markers of inflammation such as tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF-α), an important cytokine produced by white blood cells that helps in our resistance to infections and cancers. And some good news… it seems that adding dark chocolate to one’s diet provides adjunctive therapy in increasing our total antioxidant capacity (e.g., greater ability to deal with ROS). Certainly future investigations will need to investigate other populations beyond our current focus on obese females and adolescents and those with breast cancer, but we are encouraged by the results so far. Several recent and collaborative articles of mine may be found in the journals Cancers, Antioxidants, and Nutrients.

I also have a personal interest in biathlon, the winter Olympic sport that combines precision rifle marksmanship with cross country skiing. Surprisingly, in some European nations biathlon is the most viewed sport during the winter months, yet receives little attention in North America, the United States in particular. In an effort to increase awareness, I wrote and published a book, now in its second revision, on biathlon covering its history and military roots, concepts in training, types of competitions, and darker sides to the sport; performance enhancing drugs. I traveled to Norway recently to see where the sport began and for inspiration for the next edition of the book coming out sometime after the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics.