# PSYCHOLOGY NEWS

THE NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH

**Fall 2013** 

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## Notes from the Co-Chairs

We would like to welcome everyone back for the spring semester and we wish you all the best for the new year. Last semester, while Emanuele Castano was on sabbatical, Bill Hirst filled in for him as co-chair of the Psychology Department along with Jeremy Safran. This semester, Emanuele returns from sabbatical to continue in his role as co-chair with Jeremy. We are delighted to be able to announce that the Psychology Department has recommended Emanuele for promotion to the rank of Full Professor and Wendy D'Andrea for reappointment. In addition we would like to congratulate Emanuele and David Kidd for the publication of their article Reading Literary Fiction Improves Theory of Mind, in the prestigious journal, Science. Their article has received considerable attention in the media, including a front-page story in the New York Times. In other news, the provost's office has approved a replacement position for Daniel Casasanto and a search is currently underway.

Last but not least, towards the end of last semester, the American Psychological Association completed their reaccreditation review site visit of the Clinical Psychology Program. The verbal feedback we received from the site visitors was extremely positive, and we are optimistic that the final report from the APA Commission on Accreditation will be equally positive. Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to express our

gratitude to Miriam Steele, Director of Clinical Training, for doing such a superb job of maintaining and improving the quality of the Clinical Program in recent years, and for spearheading the preparation of the Clinical Psychology Program and the self-study for the reaccreditation review.

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### **Faculty News**

Doris Chang gave several talks on Taoist Cognitive Therapy, a new culturally adapted treatment that she developed in collaboration with her colleagues Zhang Yalin and Cao Yuping (Central South University, Hunan, China), and Teddy Chen (Charles B. Wang Community Health Center, NYC). The treatment manual was completed in the Spring, and they are conducting a pilot test of the treatment with Charles B. Wang Community Health Center. The study was funded by the AAPA/APF Okura Mental Health Foundation Fellowship and the New School Faculty Development Fund.

Doris presented at a symposium conducted at the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Psychiatry and Culture in Toronto, Canada. The title was "Returning to the source: Taoist Cognitive Therapy for Chinese immigrants with generalized anxiety disorder." She also spoke at the Taoist Cognitive Therapy internship seminar at Hamilton-Madison House in New York. Doris presented at a symposium conducted at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association in Honolulu, Hawaii. The title was "Returning to the source: Taoist Cognitive Therapy for Chinese immigrants with generalized anxiety disorder."

She spoke during Diversity Day on the topic of "Cultural competence: In search of a scientifically grounded theory" at the Gordon F. Derner Institute of Advanced Psychological Studies, Adelphi University, NY.

Doris also spoke at an interactive discussion conducted at the Annual Meeting of the Asian American Psychological Association about Asian American Women and Leadership.

She co-edited a special issue of *Frontiers* in *Cultural Psychology* titled "Contextual shaping of health and well-being:
Contributions from cultural-clinical psychology."

Why does each hemisphere of our brain relate to the opposite (contralateral) side of the body? Marcel Kinsbourne's theoretical contribution entitled "Somatic Twist: A model for the evolution of decussation" is the lead article in the current issue of Neuropsychology. It offers an evolutionary mechanism for the hitherto unexplained fact that this "decussation" of connecting nerve tracts exists only in the Chordate phylum, including the Vertebrates. All the other phyla harbor uncrossed ipsilateral neural connections. In invertebrate ancestors the nervous system (neuraxis) sweeps back from the brain to run along the ventral aspect of the body, whereas the vertebrate spinal cord travels along a dorsal trajectory. This could be explained by a 180 degree rotation (twist) of the body behind the brain and the pharynx so as to swing the neuraxis dorsally, under the protection of the dorsal backbone. Caught up in this twist, the long tracts decussate. This model also explains why the direction of flow of the vertebrate circulating blood is the reverse of that in invertebrates, and why the first (olfactory) cranial nerve is the only one that does not decussate.

Joan Miller gave an invited talk on "Cultural Variation in the Internalization of Duty: Implications for Self Determination Theory" at the Fifth International Conference on Self Determination Theory, Rochester, New York, June, 2013. She also co-authored a chapter with Chloe Bland on "A Cultural Psychology Perspective on Moral Development" for M. Killen & J. Smetana (Eds.) in the *Handbook of Moral Development*. Joan co-authored a chapter with J. Patrick Boyle on "Culture and Social Psychology" for T. Millon & M. Lerner (Eds.), in the *Handbook of Psychology: Personality and Social Psychology*.

Jeremy Safran's recent book Psychoanalysis and Psychoanalytic Therapies, published in 2012 by the American Psychological Association is the winner of the prestigious 2013 Gradiva Award for books in field of psychoanalysis. Previous award winners include: George Makari's Revolution in Mind; Daniels Stern's The Present Moment in Psychotherapy and Everyday Life; Linda Hopkin's False Self: The Life of Masud Khan; Elizabeth Danto's Freud's Free Clinics; Sophie Freud's Living in the Shadow of the Freud Family; and Salman Akhtar's Freud Along the Ganges: Psychoanalytic Reflections on the People and Culture of India.

An Italian translation of *Psychoanalysis* and *Psychoanalytic Therapies* was recently published. Dr. Safran's 2003 book *Psychoanalysis* and *Buddhism:* An *Unfolding Dialogue* was recently translated into Chinese.

Michael Schober was recently honored at the American Association for Public Opinion Research's (AAPOR) 68th Annual Conference with the Warren J. Mitofsky Innovators award. This annual award is presented to those who demonstrate innovative uses of new technologies to collect data and conduct surveys.

#### **Student News**

Jessica Chavez won a grant from the Society of Family Planning Research Fund for an extension of her dissertation research. Jessica's work draws from a reproductive justice framework, and she aims to better understand women's psychological experiences of abortion using a discursive approach. Although many studies demonstrate that abortion does not lead to negative mental health, Jessica looks at how this research is used in policy and psychotherapy practice. Read more about her work here <a href="http://www.societyfp.org/research/abstracts/chavez2013.asp">http://www.societyfp.org/research/abstracts/chavez2013.asp</a>.

Jon Dimond (with Drs. Doris Chang and Lisa Rubin) presented the poster Dangerous children: Cultural childhood gender performance anxiety at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Andrea Fortunato (with Wendy D'Andrea, Lou Bergholz, and Joseph Spinazzola) published "Play to the whistle: A pilot investigation of a trauma-informed sports-based intervention for girls in residential treatment" in the Journal of Family Violence. The article is available online at: http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10896-013-0533

Andrea presented *Power Perception*, *Dissociation*, *and Autonomic Reactivity in Survivors of Complex Trauma* at the International Society for the Study of Trauma and Dissociation Annual Conference in Baltimore, MD.

Ingmar Gorman spoke on a panel at

the Drug Policy Conference in Denver, Colorado.

Malin Källberg-Shroff was awarded a scholarship of \$2,000 from the Swedish Women's Educational Association to support the cross-cultural study of preschool educational practices that she is conducting for her doctoral dissertation research in the US and Sweden. She also co-authored a chapter with Joan Miller on "Culture and the Development of Theory of Mind" for O. Saracho & B. Spodek (Eds.) Theories of Mind in Contemporary Perspectives in Early Childhood Education.

David Kidd published a report with Emanuele Castano in the October edition of the journal Science. The article was titled "Reading Literary Fiction Improves Theory of Mind" and it presented the results of five experiments showing that participants randomly assigned to read literary fiction performed significantly better on tests of theory of mind than did participants randomly assigned to read nonfiction, genre (popular) fiction, or nothing at all. They hope to further study the aspects of literary fiction responsible for these effects, but also plan to more broadly study the impacts of the arts and other cultural artifacts on important psychological processes.

Madeleine Miller-Bottome was an author of an article entitled "AAI predicts patients' in-session interpersonal behavior and discourse: a 'move to the level of the relation' for attachment-informed psychotherapy research" published in Attachment & Human Development.

**Chloe Mura** won a dissertation grant from the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI). Chloe's

dissertation examines narratives of trauma-related distress and treatment preferences in West African asylumseekers. The aim of her research is to capture the cultural variations in the expression and understanding of trauma in order to inform mental health interventions for this population. This project is done in collaboration with the Program for Survivors of Torture at Bellevue Hospital.

Nancy Ng (with Jeff Prout, Brad Thomas, and Dr. Doris Chang) presented a paper "Understanding therapist self-disclosure in cross-racial therapy: A mixed-methods design" at the Diversity Challenge: Intersections of Race and Culture and Health and Mental Health at the Institute for the Study and Promotion of Race and Culture at Boston College in Boston, MA.

**Sara Waters** presented a paper "Negotiating cultural identities in the therapeutic relationship: A qualitative analysis" at the Diversity Challenge.

Jeremy Yamashiro organized a workshop on Social Aspects of Remembering at the conference for the Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition (SARMAC 2013) in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, and presented research ("Mnemonic convergence in a social network") at the conference for the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2013) in Berlin, Germany.

Four of Dr. Safran's students gave presentations at the North American Society for Psychotherapy Research (NASPR) Meeting in October in Memphis, Tennessee. **Catherine Boutwell** gave a presentation entitled "The Effects of Alliance Focused Training on Therapists' Experience of the Therapeutic

Relationship." William Jock gave a presentation entitled "Effects of Alliance Focused Training on Patient and Therapist Interpersonal Process." Jessica Kraus presented a paper entitled "A Perfect Match: A Research-informed Case Study of Interpersonal Process and Change." Alexandra Shaker gave a presentation entitled "A Qualitative Analysis of Rupture Sessions in High and Low Outcome Brief Relational Therapy Cases."

Students from Dr. Safran's Psychotherapy Research Lab also presented posters at the North American Society for Psychotherapy Research (NASPR), the Society for Psychotherapy Integration (SEPI), and Mind and Life conferences. Madeline August presented a poster at NASPR entitled Comparing two methods of therapist self-report rupture detection: Shewhart Control Chart methods versus single item self-report. Erica Gardner-Schuster presented a poster at the Mind and Life Summer Research Institute entitled Training Mindful Therapists: Relational Mindfulness in Psychotherapy. She also presented a poster entitled Mindfulness in Psychotherapy and Therapist Clinical Training at the Mind and Life Europe Symposium in Berlin. Madeleine Miller-Bottome presented a poster at NASPR entitled AAI-status predicts Clients' In-Session Interpersonal Behavior and Discourse: A Study with the Patient Attachment Coding System. She also presented a brief paper entitled Clients' AAI-status predicts their in-session discourse across different treatment modalities: A study with the Patient Attachment Coding System (co-authored by Lauren Defressine) at the Society for Psychotherapy Integration (SEPI) conference in Barcelona. Amy Withers

presented two posters at NASPR entitled Interplay of Reflective Functioning between Patients and Therapists and Mindfulness and Reflective Functioning in Therapists (the latter with co-authors Erica Gardner-Schuster and alum Mary Minges). Rachel Wyner presented a poster at NASPR entitled The Evolution of Attachment Patterns in Psychotherapy and their Bearing on the Patient-Therapist Bond (co-authored by Jordan Bate).

### **Alumni News**

**Laura Hahn Lind** published an article "Why do survey respondents disclose more when computers ask the questions?" in the Winter 2013 edition of *Public Opinion Quarterly*.

## MHSAC Events

The Concentration in Mental Health and Substance Abuse Counseling (CMHSAC) co-sponsored NYSPA's Addictions Division Conference on October 4, 2013 with the help of Tracey Rogovin and Nichelle Horlacher. Dr. Talley presented on Incorporating Mindfulness in the Treatment of Substance Misuse during the NYSPA conference. The CMHSAC co-sponsored a 3-day training with Dr. Andrew Tatarsky and The Center for Optimal Living on Integrative Harm Reduction Psychotherapy on November 8-10.

We are in the process of planning several events for the spring as well. The CMHSAC will be hosting a forum for treatment providers to discuss the role of harm reduction in the Latino community on February 21, 2014 from 6-8 p.m. in collaboration with the Diversity Committee, a panel discussion on opiates and overdose prevention on March 14, 2014 from 12-2 p.m., and a day-long training led by Dr. Jenifer Talley on mindfulness on March 8, 2014 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

We are also launching a year-long certificate program in Integrative Harm Reduction Psychotherapy for advanced graduate students and professionals that will start in the Fall 2014 semester. For more details about these upcoming events, please email Dr. Talley at talleyj@newschool.edu or visit www.harmreductiontraining.com.

**READING LITERARY FICTION IMPROVES** "MIND-READING" SKILLS, FINDS A STUDY FROM THE NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL **RESEARCH** 

## "Theory of Mind" Fostered by Challenging, High-Quality Literature

NEW YORK (October 3, 2013)—Heated debates about the quantifiable value of arts and literature are a common feature of American social discourse. Now, two researchers from The New School for Social Research have published a paper in Science demonstrating that reading literary fiction enhances a set of skills and thought processes fundamental to complex social relationships—and functional societies.

Ph.D. candidate David Comer Kidd and his advisor, professor of psychology Emanuele Castano performed five experiments to measure the effect of reading literary fiction on participants' Theory of Mind (ToM), the complex social skill of "mind-reading" to understand others' mental states. Their paper, which appears in the Oct. 3 issue of Science is entitled "Reading Literary Fiction Improves Theory of Mind."

To choose texts for their study, Kidd and Castano relied on expert evaluations to define three types of writing: literary fiction, popular fiction, and nonfiction. Literary fiction works were represented by excerpts from recent National Book Award finalists or winners of the 2012 PEN/O. Henry Prize for short fiction; popular fiction works



Emanuele Castano and David Comer Kidd

were drawn from Amazon.com bestsellers or an anthology of recent popular fiction; and non-fiction works were selected from Smithsonian Magazine.

After participants read texts from one of the three genres, Kidd and Castano tested their ToM capabilities using several well-established measures. One of these measures is the "Reading the Mind in the Eyes" test, which asks participants to look at black-and-white photographs of actors' eyes and indicate the emotion expressed by that actor (see Figure 1 below). Another one is the Yoni test, which includes both affective



Figure 1: Reading the Mind in the Eyes

trials and cognitive ones (see Figure 2 below). "We used several measures of ToM to make sure the effects were not specific to one type of measure, thus accumulating converging evidence for our hypothesis, " the researchers said.

Across the five experiments, Kidd and Castano found that participants who were assigned to read literary fiction performed significantly better on the ToM tests than did participants assigned to the other

experimental groups, who did not differ from one another.

The study shows that not just any fiction is effective in fostering ToM, rather the literary quality of the fiction is the determining factor. The literary texts used in the experiments had vastly different content and subject matter, but all produced similarly high ToM results.

"Experiment One showed that reading literary fiction, relative to nonfiction improves performance on an affective ToM task. Experiments Two through Five showed that this effect is specific to literary fiction," the paper reports.

Kidd and Castano suggest that the reason for literary fiction's impact on ToM is a direct result of the ways in which it involves the reader. Unlike popular fiction, literary fiction requires intellectual engagement and creative thought from its readers. "Features of the modern literary novel set it apart from most bestselling thrillers or romances. Through the use of [...] stylistic devices, literary fiction defamiliarizes its readers,"



Figure 2: The Yoni Test

Kidd and Castano write. "Just as in real life, the worlds of literary fiction are replete with complicated individuals whose inner lives are rarely easily discerned but warrant exploration."

"We see this research as a step towards better understanding the interplay between a specific cultural artifact, literary fiction, and affective and cognitive processes," Kidd and Castano say.

## Cannabinoid **Event**

On March 4, 2014 Dr. Sunil Kumar Aggarwal will join us for a talk titled "Cannabis, Other Psychoactive Substances, and Mental Distress Seen Through the Lenses of Cannabinoid Science and Political Ecology." This talk will present a political ecology of health



framework to understand the humancannabis relationship which can also be applied to other contraband psychoactive biota of social and therapeutic import. A cannabinergic and medical geographic perspective on the human-cannabis relationship utilizing the lens of political ecology and health metrics such as healthrelated quality of life will be described. Data will be presented from field research conducted in Washington state with 176 medical cannabis-using patients and one medical cannabis dispenser using medical records review, prospective surveys,

interview, and participant-observation. Information on chronic pain management in medical cannabis-using patients and mental distress levels related to drug law enforcement will help define the framework and guide research and health policy.

This event will take place at 6:30 p.m. in Wolff Conference Room, room 1103 at 6 E. 16th St.

Sunil Kumar Aggarwal, M.D., Ph.D, Executive Science Director at the Center for the Study of Cannabis and Social Policy, is a Medical Geographer and Physician-Scientist who is currently a Senior Resident in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at a large academic medical center in New York and will soon begin a clinical fellowship in Hospice and Palliative Medicine at the National Institutes of Health. He has published original research and reviews in Journal of Psychoactive Drugs, Clinical Journal of Pain, Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease, Harm Reduction Journal, American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine, Journal of Opioid Management, Medscape General Medicine, Denver University Law Review, and has published chapters in edited volumes such as The Pot Book and Principles and Practices of Palliative Care and Supportive Oncology. His dissertation research examined the political ecology of mental distress and health-related quality of life, pain management, and symptom relief in 176 medical cannabis-using patients in urban and rural Washington State.

## The Flight from Conversation: An Evening with Sherry Turkle

#### THURSDAY APRIL 3, 6:30 P.M.

On April 3, The New School will host Sherry Turkle, a leading thinker at the nexus of psychology, new media, and culture in the 21st century, for a conversation on the emotional and psychological prices we pay for living in a "technological universe."

Sherry Turkle, author of *Alone Together:* Why We Expect More from Technology and Less from Each Other (2011) and Life on the Screen: Identity in the Age of the Internet (2009), will explore the paradoxes of living in our "plugged in" world in a conversation that connects the divisions of The New

An expert on mobile technology, social networking, and social robotics, Sherry Turkle has explored the subtle and unexpected ways in which new forms of technological connection transform our sense of who we are and the quality of our intimate relationships.

Sherry Turkle is Professor of the Social Studies of Science and Technology in the Program in Science, Technology, and Society at MIT and the founder and current director of the MIT Initiative on Technology and Self.

For more information, please visit http://events.newschool.edu/event/the flight\_from\_conversation\_an\_evening\_ with\_sherry\_turkle.

## The Sandor Ferenczi Center

The Sandor Ferenczi Center at The New School for Social Research was established in 2008 with the goals of promoting research, scholarship, and publications regarding Ferenczi and his work and contributing to the ongoing vitality of psychoanalysis as a cultural, intellectual, and psychotherapeutic discipline.

This fall The Sandor Ferenczi Center continued its clinical workshop series with a workshop titled "Ghosts in the 21st Century: A Clinical Workshop on the Presence of the Uncanny in the Unconscious Intermingling Worlds of Patient and Analyst." Adrienne Harris, Galit Atlas, Michael Feldman, Heather Ferguson, Arthur Fox, Margery Kalb, and Susan Klebanoff presented clinical case illustrations and led discussions that explored the presence of uncanny and spectral features in treatments, sometimes from the analyst and sometimes from the patient, often passing down generations unmetabolized and finding its way into the nooks and crannies of life in the consulting room.

The Ferenczi Center hosted a book launch celebration for the Routledge Relational Perspectives book release, Clinical Implications of the Psychoanalyst's Life Experience: When the Personal Becomes Professional, edited by Steven Kuchuck. In this new collection, established psychoanalytic writers and newer contributors came together to address the phenomena of the analyst's personal life and psychology. Authors explored the childhood and adult life events and crises that contribute to personality formation,

personal and professional functioning, choices of theoretical positions and clinical technique.

Fall events also included the second in a series of workshops with Anthony Bass titled "The Analytic Relationship, the Dialogue of Unconsciouses, and the Use of the Self in Contemporary Relational Technique." Dr. Bass's workshops explore the nature of the psychoanalytic relationship in depth, using Ferenczi's concept of a "dialogue of unconsciouses" as a point of departure for the experience. These workshops deepen our grasp of unconscious dimensions of psychoanalytic relating through engaging with difficult analytic moments.

For more information about Ferenczi Center events, please visit: http://blogs.newschool.edu/sandor-ferenczi-center.

#### **ARTS IN MIND**

Arts in Mind is a conversation series hosted by the Ferenczi Center with artists whose work addresses mental health issues. The objective is to initiate discussions among artists, clinicians, and the public that will generate innovative ideas and deepen our understanding of the connections between the arts and mental health.

The series was conceived by curator Joshua Wolf Shenk, author of *Lincoln's Melancholy: How Depression Challenged a President and Fueled His Greatness* and is cosponsored by the Erikson Institute for Education and Research of the Austen Riggs Center in Massachusetts (recognized for its innovative treatments for mental illness) and the Ferenczi Center.

The most recent Arts in Mind event featured renowned performer, director, and screen writer, Josh Radnor. A star of Broadway productions including *The Graduate*, Josh Radnor is best known

for his role as Ted Mosby in the Emmy-Award winning sitcom *How I Met Your Mother*. His screenwriting and directorial debut, *happythankyoumoreplease*, in which he also starred, won the Audience Award at the 2010 Sundance Film Festival.

Joshua Wolf Shenk engaged the artist in a conversation about the imagined worlds that the writer and actor inhabit, and the boundaries (or lack thereof) between the performer's identity and the characters whose lives they portray. The interview was followed by a dialogue with a clinician from Austen Riggs, Dr. David F. Flynn, about the artistic process from a psychologically informed perspective. Audience members expanded the discussion by contributing their questions.

Arts in Mind has concluded for 2013, but the series will continue at The New School. For information about future events, visit ArtsinMind.org. Related links: Austen Riggs Center; The Sandor Ferenczi Center at The New School for Social Research.

## Psychology Department's Diversity Committee

This semester was an exciting one for the Psychology Department's Diversity Committee. The Committee now has four subcommittees: Communications, Grants and Fundraising, Programming and Public Events, and Cultural Competence Training and Resources. We recruited an energetic group of student representatives to the committee, including undergraduate students from Lang College and graduate students from our program. The Committee welcomes its student members: Emily Brietkopf, Alethea Simone Churchman, Erica Gardner-Schuster, Tracy Huynh, Lory Reyes, Camila Rivera-Morales, Melissa Simone, Danae Sonnenfeld, Brad Thomas, Sara Waters, and Greg Weintraub who join continuing members Billy Somerville, Jessica Joseph, and Lilian Salinas.

We are working on revamping our webpage and are now on Facebook. Search for the NSSR Department of Psychology Diversity Interest Group (DIG!). We encourage everyone to post relevant articles, videos and promote discussion surrounding diversity issues in psychology.

#### **COMMITTEE DESCRIPTIONS**

The Communications subcommittee (Convener: Doris Chang) is responsible for creating and updating our Diversity Initiatives webpage, our Facebook page, and promoting diversity programming and events. The Grants and Fundraising subcommittee (Conveners: Miriam Steele and Lisa Rubin) works to

raise funds to support student scholarships, programs, and training initiatives. The Programming and Public Events subcommittee (Conveners: Lisa Rubin and Jenifer Talley) works across divisions and departments to organize public and departmental programs on issues related to psychology, diversity, and social justice. The Cultural Competence Training and Resources subcommittee (Conveners: Chris Christian, Wendy D'Andrea) collects and disseminates resources and training opportunities to enhance faculty and student development of cultural competence in research, teaching, and clinical practice.

#### PROGAMS AND EVENTS

Several events on diversity-related issues also took place. The Brown Bag luncheon and film screening/discussion series was instituted by our Current Statue Foundation Fellow, Jessica Joseph. On Thursday November 7, the group met to discuss Human Trafficking and Sex Work after watching a short film produced by APA's Division 35 (Society for the Women in Psychology) entitled The Psychology of Modern Day Slavery and a portion of Scarlet Road. On Thursday November 21, the discussion topic was "Understanding the History of Diversity in Psychology: and reviewed two articles: "Teaching diversity: What can history offer?" by Rutherford (2013) and "Recontextualizing Kenneth B. Clark: An Afrocentric perspective on the paradoxical legacy of a model psychologist-activist" by Phillips (2013). This series will continue throughout the spring 2014 semester. Brown Bag discussions will be offered every two weeks and/or monthly, on Thursdays.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Several events are already planned for spring

- "Celebrating The Latino Community: A Town Hall Meeting for Service Providers" on February 21 at 6PM in Theresa Lang Community and Student Center. Organized by the NSSR Concentration in Substance Abuse and Mental Health Counseling and sponsored by the Diversity Committee.
- David Serlin, Ph.D. (Associate Professor, UC San Diego) will discuss his work on gender/sexuality studies and disability studies on February 28 at 3:30PM in Kellen Auditorium.
- A day-long mini-conference, "Embodiment(s) of the Patient: Examining the Diverse Embodied Experiences of the Patient in the Therapy Room" will take place on On April 19 in Kellen Auditorium. This conference will foster a discussion about how the corporeal experience of the patient is understood by and interacts with that of the therapist, who is also navigating their own embodiment(s). Focus on the intersections of diverse embodiment(s) will be highlighted, including race and ethnicity, color, ableness, size, sexuality, sex and gender.

You can join the NSSR Psychology Diversity Interest Group (DIG!) on Facebook. If you are interested in joining the Diversity Committee or if you would like to learn more, please contact the committee co-chairs, Drs. Doris Chang and Lisa Rubin at changd@newschool.edu or rubinl@ newschool.edu or Clinical Psychology secretary Nichelle Horlacher at horlachl@ newschool.edu.

The Committee is looking forward to another productive semester and we hope you'll take a look at our Facebook group or attend one of our upcoming events.