

## Faculty Publications

**D**rs. Nerissa Gillum and Katherine Rose were co-authors for the article “Meeting Minimum Standards: How Are We Doing and How Can We Improve?” last winter in *Texas Child Care*.

Dr. Mary Sue Green was a co-author for the article “Postmodern



**Dr. Mary Sue Green**  
Associate Professor

Therapy: Lens of Opportunity” in the *Journal of Feminist Family Therapy* and the article “Discussing Sexuality in the Context of Family Therapy: A Teaching

Tool” in the *American Family Therapy Academy Monograph Series*.

Drs. Joel Muro, Katherine Rose, and counseling and development graduate Ms. Hayley Stulmaker co-authored the article “Coaching Techniques and Play Therapy Responses: A New Communicative Pattern” in *Strategies: Journal for Physical and Sport Educators*.

Dr. Abraham Hwang, family studies faculty, is contracted to write two articles which will be included in *Cultural Sociology of Divorce* by Sage Publishing.



**Dr. Abraham Hwang**  
Associate Professor

The titles include “Financial Hardship of Divorce” and “The Effects of Parental Conflict Associated with Divorce on Children”.

Dr. Katherine Rose recently co-authored “DVD Newsletters: New Ways to Encourage Communication with Families” in *Dimensions of Early Childhood*.



**Dr. Katherine Rose**  
Associate Professor

Also, Dr. Rose and Ms. Kelly Allums, a TWU doctoral student in Kinesiology of whom Dr. Rose is a committee member, co-authored “Move It: Build Self-esteem and Self-efficacy while Fighting Childhood Obesity” in *Texas Child Care Quarterly*.

## Programs:

- Child Development / Early Childhood Education
- Counseling and Development
- Family Studies / Family and Consumer Sciences
- Family Therapy
- Family Sciences Center: Counseling and Family Therapy Clinic Integrated Clinic for Behavior and Learning Evaluation

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Articles are presented without bias to individuals but are ordered by faculty/staff, former students and current students. Faculty articles are ordered by scholarship (books and articles by publication date), teaching, service and professional development.

*Our mission is to provide quality academic education in the scientific study of family, thereby stimulating students' intellectual curiosity; developing their research and leadership skills and their personal and civic responsibilities; and promoting diversity and respect for multiple family forms.*

## Faculty Accomplishments

Dr. Mary Sue Green, family therapy faculty, received the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) Approved Supervisor designation and also became an approved Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) Supervisor in the state of Texas.

Additionally, Dr. Green presented at the American Family Therapy Academy conference in Baltimore, Maryland in June on the importance of assessing the family sexuality legacy in family therapy with the children present and on the influences on adolescent outcomes after parents go through a divorce or cohabitation dissolution.

TWU students, former students, and faculty attended the 2011 Texas Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (TAMFT) Conference in Austin. Margaret Reed, Juana Lotfipour, Holly Carchesio (not pictured), and Michael DuPont (not pictured) presented



posters. Tera Diamond and Parris Green took part in a workshop role play. Drs. Glen Jennings and Mahnaz Sadre (not pictured) presented on creativity in therapy and Drs. Mary Sue Green, Markie Blumer (University of Nevada, Las Vegas - not pictured), and Ms. Miranda Thornton presented on same-sex couple development theories and clinical practice.

*Stay in touch with your advisor to make sure you graduate on time!*

Dr. Abraham Hwang was elected to serve on the Certified Family Life Education (CFLE) Advisory Board in the National Council on Family Relations. The mission of the CFLE Advisory Board is to provide leadership for the ongoing development of the CFLE program as a method to advance and promote family life education as an important and emerging profession.

## Community Works Too

Drs. Mary Sue Green and Katherine Rose participated at the Pioneer Race 5k Fun Run/Walk on April 2nd at TWU. The event was sponsored by the Student Dietetic Association and benefitted the TWU Food Pantry and Our Daily Bread.



## Faculty Awards and Achievements

Dr. Brigitte Vittrup, early childhood development and education faculty



**Dr. Brigitte Vittrup**  
Assistant Professor

member, was presented with the Mary Mason Lyon Award at spring convocation in April. This award was established at TWU in 1985, which recognizes outstanding scholarship, teaching, and service by a faculty member "junior" to the profession with no more than ten years of recorded university teaching. It is named for the founder of Mount Holyoke, the first women's college in the United States established in 1837.

Drs. Rhonda Buckley and Nerissa Gillum, assistant professors in family studies, and Dr. Katherine Rose, assistant professor in early childhood development and education, were recently promoted to associate professor. Each was also granted tenure status – a wonderful achievement for any professor. Additionally, Dr. Sandra McClintic, lecturer in early childhood development and education and family studies, was just promoted to assistant professor in family studies. The department congratulates each of you!

## Staff Receives Award

On April 22nd the TWU Staff Council hosted their annual Pioneer Proud Award ceremony, at which three department staff members were recipients. Carol Nelson, administrative assistant, Jennifer Tyler, secretary, and Harry Winn, program coordinator, each received recognition for service to the university going above and beyond the call of duty.



Special recognition goes to Jennifer who received four nominations. Harry, along with Anne Downing, senior administrative assistant in arts and sciences, were the emcees at the ceremony, where almost 250 names were called out to receive a Pioneer Proud award.

*Get involved in FSA!  
The Family Sciences  
Association meets every other  
Wednesday during long  
semesters in the HDB student  
lounge from 12:00-12:45 pm.*

## Department Says Farewell to Faculty Member

On May 4th a retirement reception was held by long-time department staff and faculty member Dr. Susan Eitel. The reception was attended by many colleagues as well as staff, administrators and students from the TWU community. In particular, Dr. Jennifer Martin, vice provost and dean of the graduate school and former family studies faculty, was asked to say a few words about Dr. Eitel.

Drs. Martin and Eitel first met in 1999 when Susan came to TWU as a major in Family and Consumer Sciences. Jennifer said that “At that time, I was teaching and advising students in that area [and] was so impressed with [Susan’s] goals and her initiative about her education.” Susan started her education in 1995 at the age of 39 and received her Associate of Arts degree in



**Dr. Eitel and Dr. Jennifer Martin**

1997 from Hutchinson Community College in Kansas. She then attended Bethel College and Kansas State before moving to Texas with her husband Dick.. Susan received her B.S. degree from TWU in August 2000, her M.S. in Family Studies in December 2001, and her Ph.D. in Family Studies in 2007. Jennifer said that she was also able to chair Susan’s dissertation—“a wonderful experience for me!”

Dr. Martin continued by pointing out that Dr. Eitel was an excellent student, an exceptional teacher, an energized researcher, and an enthusiastic servant, while revealing a number of supporting examples for each – too numerous to include here. Jennifer also described Susan as “high-impact, optimistic, and tenacious”, also with several examples of each.

So what does the future hold for Dr. Eitel after retirement? Well besides a great deal of grandmothering, Susan has already asked Dr. Martin if she could volunteer at TWU! Susan is a wonderful example of a “servant leader” and will be sorely missed by us all. The department wishes Susan all the best as she closes this chapter in her life and opens a new one.

## Meet the Faculty

Dr. Pedro J. Blanco, new counseling and development faculty member, attended Southwest Texas State University for his undergraduate degree. In 2001 he earned his B.A. in Psychology with a minor in Sociology. In 2005, he earned his M.A. in Counseling Psychology from Lewis and Clark College in Portland, OR.



**Dr. P.J. Blanco**  
Assistant Professor

In 2009, Dr. Blanco received his Ph.D. in Counselor Education from the University of North Texas. Dr. Blanco has taught a variety of courses in Counseling, provided supervision to counseling students, implemented counseling services in school settings, and helped develop counseling training facilities within the community. He is a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC), and National Certified Counselor (NCC), and Registered Play Therapist (RPT).

Dr. Deborah Purge, new adjunct with the department, attended the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign for both undergraduate and master's degrees. In



**Dr. Deborah Purge**  
Adjunct Faculty

1991 she earned a B.S. in Psychology with a minor in Spanish. In 1993, she earned a M.Ed. with a major in Early Childhood Special Education.

Dr. Purge has worked for the last 19 years with children with disabilities and their families, and has done extensive trainings across the DFW for families, early childhood agencies, schools, and social service agencies. She is a Child Development Specialist (CDS), an Early Intervention Specialist (EIS), and a Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE). In 2010, Dr. Purge received her Ph.D. in Family Therapy from Texas Woman's University.

*Interested in graduate education?*

*Attend the Graduate and Professional Fair in the Student Union on  
October 10th, 2011 from 4-6 pm.*

*To register online visit*

*<https://www.twu.edu/secure/graduate-fair-registration.asp>*

## Seminar Day News

This past spring and early summer the department hosted another graduate seminar day as a way of offering professional development opportunities to our growing number of graduate students. As usual several topics were offered as well as student presentations made on current research in the field of family sciences. The spring event covered entrepreneurship, using Blackboard and Taskstream, and the institutional review board (IRB) process, as well as student presentations from doctoral graduate Dr. Mary Bittle (family therapy) and recent doctoral graduate Dr. Alice Ajenga (child development). The keynote speaker was Dr. Susie Hill, doctoral graduate from TWU.



**Ciara Dean, Dr. Joyce Armstrong and Dr. Linda Brock pictured at the complimentary pizza lunch.**

In June the event covered topics in APA and scholarly writing, a primer on grant writing, and graduate advising for all majors. Student presentations came from Ms. Margaret Reed (family therapy master's graduate) and a unique, four-person presentation from Ms. Allison Davis, Gina Garbriano, Heather McKinney, and Heather Ryan (counseling and development). The keynote address was delivered by Ms. Krista D. Stringer (child development master's graduate). Students who attend these events are eligible for some nice door prizes, which are always

presented during the complimentary lunch. Pictured here is Dr. Joyce Armstrong, family studies and family and consumer sciences faculty, calling out the winners, as well as Ciara Dean, family therapy master's student, who is assisting her. Dr. Linda Brock, family therapy faculty, is pictured right.

### *And now the big news...*

Graduate Seminar Day is now expanding to include ALL family sciences students! Now undergraduate students can benefit from these professional development events, which now include practicing their oral communications skills by presenting work from a literature review, paper, or other project for a class. Of course graduate students are strongly encouraged to present current research on their master's thesis or doctoral dissertations. A finely-tuned set of verbal communications skills is paramount to success, not only in the workplace, but in professional and civic settings too.

## Doctoral Graduate Gets Dissertation Published

Dr. Bridget Walsh, recent early childhood graduate, was successful in getting her dissertation published by the *Journal of Research in Childhood Education*. Her dissertation was entitled: "Impact of Adult Vocabulary Noneliciting and Eliciting Questions on the Novel Vocabulary Acquisition of Preschoolers Enrolled in Head Start". Well done, Bridget!

***Next Seminar Day will be on Friday, January 13, 2012.***

## Doctoral Graduates Get Appointments

Dr. Amanze Charles Ihedioha, doctoral graduate in child development, was offered a tenure track assistant professor position in the Human Development and Family Studies Department at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. He began his new duties in August, 2011. In his announcement he said that he was "grateful to each of [the committee members] for your immense support in ways too many to mention during this transitional period. Over the years, I must admit, I have enjoyed your mentorship. Towards this notion, I shall remain committed to educating the next generation and will do my best to make you and I proud." We wish you all the best, Charles.

Dr. Alice Ajanga, doctoral graduate in child development with a minor in special education, has been hired as an Assistant Professor of Special Education in the Early Childhood Education Department at Niagara University, Niagara, NY. She will begin teaching in the fall semester. She and her family will be relocating to New York in August.

## Student Goes International

Millie Lozano, a child development doctoral student, was chosen as one of five student recipients for the 9th bi-annual International Expressive Arts Therapy Association Conference (IEATA) which was held in Lima, Peru August 9th through 14th followed by a post conference experience in Cusco and a trip to Machu Pichu and Ollantataytambo, Sacred Valley of the Incas.

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The conference titled "Living with Uncertainty: Multiplicity as a Healing Pathway through Expressive Arts" was conducted in Spanish and English and workshops included such topics such as Chinese Brush Strokes, Earth Consciousness: Cultivating Inner Guidance with Ancestral Wisdom, and Expression Through Native Peruvian dance.

Projects in Peru showcased focusing efforts on family and play therapy. Applicants hailed from Turkey, China, Switzerland, Canada, USA, Chile, Argentina, and Peru. The selection committee expressed to Ms. Lozano that "it was important to select applications from diverse geographical areas" and "it was extraordinarily difficult to select [applicants] which showed the depth, breadth, innovation, and diversity of the work being done in the Expressive Arts today [as yours did]". Congratulations for your global accomplishments, Millie.

## Alumni Receive Awards

While presiding at the Texas Counseling Association (TCA) annual state conference, counseling and development faculty member Dr. Susan Adams reported that three former counseling and development students received the Counselors Reinforcing Excellence for Students in Texas (CREST) award, presented by the Texas School Counselor Association (TSCA). TSCA is the largest division of TCA which now has over 6,200 members and an annual budget of \$1.7 million. CREST awards are also given to counseling programs that apply and meet the criteria of demonstrating effective communication and commitment to getting results with their student populations.

The three former students are: Boyd Shannon, Elementary School Counselor from The Academy at West Birdville, Kathleen Ashton, High School Counselor from John H. Guyer High School in Denton, and Lisa Tsakonas, High School Counselor from John H. Guyer High School in Denton.

Additionally, Mr. Joseph Cooper, family studies graduate student, recently made the Dean's List for the College of Professional Education, as well as received special recognition for critical thinking on the Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency (CAAP) test. His score was in the top 50% nationwide.

## Ed.D. Student Receives Scholarship

Jeongsook Shin, early childhood education doctoral student, received the Almarie Morris Field scholarship from the TWU Former Student Association (FSA) this summer. She will be formally congratulated at a FSA scholarship reception on September 16th on the TWU Denton campus. Congratulations, Jeong.

## IMPORTANT DATES

### Spring 2012 Early Registration

#### Graduate Students

**Nov. 01, 2011**

#### Seniors and Post Baccalaureates

**Nov. 08, 2011**

#### Juniors

**Nov. 15, 2011**

#### Sophomores

**Nov. 22, 2011**

#### Freshmen

**Nov. 28, 2011**

### Other dates of interest:

#### Late registration

**Aug. 29, 30, 31, Sept. 1**

#### Labor Day (no classes)

**Sept. 5**

#### Last day to file for graduation

#### Last day to drop a class with refund

**Sept. 14**

#### Last day to drop a class with a "W"

**Oct. 6**

#### Last day to drop a class

**Nov. 3**

#### Thanksgiving break

**Nov. 23 - 27**

#### Fall semester ends

**Dec. 16**

**HAVE A GREAT SEMESTER!**

## Phi Kappa Phi Members for 2011-2012

Dr. Joel Muro.....counseling and development faculty  
 Ms. Robin Gray.....family studies master's student  
 Ms. Keri Sparks.....family and consumer sciences bachelors student  
 Ms. Lynette Stuck.....family studies master's student  
 Ms. Hilary Hernandez.....family studies bachelors student  
 Ms. Jennifer Livings.....family therapy doctoral student  
 Ms. Becky Barnes-Matlock.....counseling and development master's student