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UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA
Owens Institute for
Behavioral Research

The Owens Observer

Newsletter of the
Owens Institute for
Behavioral Research

January 13, 2025

Welcome back to campus and to the latest edition of the OIBR newsletter. As you can see, the newsletter is in a new format. This new format will make it easier for you to access information about OIBR activities, grant funding, and funding agency updates, as well as learn about research being conducted by OIBR faculty. We are also increasing the frequency of the newsletter. The newsletter will now be sent out during the first week of each month, instead of twice a year. This reflects OIBR's growth and the success of our faculty, as there is just too much news to fit into two issues a year. In this edition, we welcome new affiliates, announce new awards, invite you to three upcoming events, and announce calls for both the **Grant Development Program** and the **OIBR Faculty Seed Grant Program**. Also check out the research spotlight, which focuses on Becky Nesbitt's work on volunteerism, as well tips from the OIBR grants administration staff and an NSF policy update. Our goal is to make this newsletter a source of useful information, so please let us know if you have ideas about what other items we should include. In the meantime, enjoy!

Jody Clay-Warner
Director

Upcoming Events



2025 Gene Brody Symposium



Riana Elyse Anderson, PhD
Columbia University

Dr. Anderson is an Associate Professor in Columbia University's School of Social Work and currently a research fellow at Harvard University's Hutchins Center for African & African American Research. In her scholarship, Dr. Anderson applies mixed methods to study discrimination and racial socialization in Black families and has worked to apply her findings to help families reduce the negative impact of racial stress.

The Gene Brody Symposium honors Regents' Professor and the Center for Family Research Emeritus Director Dr. Gene Brody



Center for Family Research
Owens Institute for Behavioral Research
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Responding to the Mental Health Needs of Youth of Color by Any Means Necessary

FEBRUARY 12, 2025
3:30pm - 4:30pm

**Miller Learning Center
Reading Room, 3rd Floor**

For youth of color, prolonged exposure to racial discrimination has resulted in debilitating psychological, behavioral, and health outcomes. This presentation will explore theories, practices, and burgeoning technological interventions important in the healing processes of racial trauma for families, clinicians, and researchers alike, especially in light of what is known about the proportion of time youth spend on mobile devices.

All UGA community members are welcome

Questions? Contact Dr. Kogan at smkogan@uga.edu



Owens Institute for
Behavioral Research
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

2025 ANNUAL WILLIAM A. OWENS LECTURE



Join us for "The Surprising Science of Meetings"



STEVEN G. ROGELBERG

Chancellor's Professor,
UNC Charlotte

Dr. Rogelberg is Chancellor's Professor of Organizational Science, Management, and Psychology at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He is the founding Director of the Organizational Science program and the Co-editor in Chief of the Journal of Business and Psychology. His research focuses on team effectiveness, leadership, engagement, health and employee well-being, meetings at work, and organizational research methods and has been featured in a variety of media outlets including television, radio, newspapers, and magazines.

Requests for accommodations for those with disabilities should be made as soon as possible but at least 7 days prior to the scheduled lecture. To request an accommodation please notify ahorsman@uga.edu.

This lecture is part of the
UGA Office of the Provost
2025 Spring Signature
Lecture Series

FEB. 27, 2025

UGA RICHARD B. RUSSELL JR.
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARY
300 S. HULL ST.
ROOM 271

LECTURE 3:00 - 4:00PM
RECEPTION 4:00 - 5:00PM

All UGA community members
are welcome

Questions? Email: ahorsman@uga.edu



Funding News

Congratulations to our Distinguished Scholars, Affiliates and Grant Development Program participants who have received research project funding

Dr. **Justin Lavner** (Psychology), Grant Development Program graduate and Distinguished Scholar, received a U.S. Department of Defense grant for the project "Couple-Based Crisis Safety Planning via Telehealth to Reduce Suicide Crisis Symptoms and Suicide Risk" in the amount of \$375,463. This study is for a Phase I randomized controlled trial that tests the efficacy of a one-session Couple-Based Crisis Response Plan (CRP-C) in decreasing suicide crisis symptoms in a community-based Veteran sample compared to standard (individual) Crisis Response Planning (CRP). The CRP-C will help increase engagement with a hard-to-reach population, prevent and reduce psychological health conditions in individuals, and increase readiness in families to ameliorate the potential negative impacts of military and life stressors. UGA Collaborator with a separate award as PI: **Brian Bauer**. Project period: 8/15/2024 - 8/14/2027

Dr. **Brian Bauer** (Psychology), Grant Development Program graduate and Affiliate, received a U.S. Department of Defense grant for the project "Couple-Based Crisis Safety Planning via Telehealth to Reduce Suicide Crisis Symptoms and Suicide Risk" in the amount of \$365,361. This study is for a Phase I randomized controlled trial that tests the efficacy of a one-session Couple-Based Crisis Response Plan (CRP-C) in decreasing suicide crisis symptoms in a community-based Veteran sample compared to standard (individual) Crisis Response Planning (CRP). The CRP-C will help increase engagement with a hard-to-reach population, prevent and reduce psychological health conditions in individuals, and increase readiness in families to ameliorate the potential negative impacts of military and life stressors. UGA

Collaborator with a separate award as PI: **Justin Lavner**. Project period: 8/15/2024 – 8/14/2027

Dr. **Brian Bauer** (Psychology), Grant Development Program graduate and Affiliate, received a Medical Technology Enterprise Consortium subcontract from University of Alaska for the project “Development and Assessment of Effective Suicide Prevention Program for Active-Duty Service Members Assigned to Rural and Remote Areas Overseas” in the amount of \$91,287. The project proposes the development of a pilot leadership intervention that takes an upstream or primary prevention approach to suicide risk by focusing on protective factors that are identified by coordinating with leadership, surveying service members in the region, and reviewing the relevant scientific literature. Project period: 2/8/2024 – 5/31/2027

Dr. **Pablo Lapegna** (Sociology, Latin American Caribbean Studies Institute), Grant Development Program participant, received a National Endowment for the Humanities grant for the project titled “Prosperity, Plants, and Pesticides: The Dangers and Opportunities of Agricultural Biotechnology” in the amount of \$148,467. The proposed work project examines the dangers and opportunities of agricultural biotechnology, as a technology with the potential of both bringing prosperity and contributing to environmental and health problems. Project period: 10/1/2024 – 9/30/2026

Dr. **Thania Galvan** (Psychology), Grant Development Program participant, received a Visionary Grant from the American Psychological Foundation for the project "Examining a Biopsychosocial Model of Suicidality in Latina Adolescents" in the amount of \$19,843. The objective of this pilot study proposal is to test a theoretically-rooted, biopsychosocial model of suicidality in Latina adolescents to understand how two potential mechanisms – sleep and interpersonal relationships – are associated with increased suicide related thoughts and behaviors. Project period: 8/1/2024 – 9/30/2025

Dr. **Catie O’Neal** (Human Development and Family Science), Distinguished Scholar, received a U.S. Air Force grant for the project “Evaluating Family Financial Readiness Programs for the Department of the Air Force” in the amount of \$3,170,759. This project will evaluate the Department of Air Force Personal Financial Readiness Programs. Co-Investigators: **Allan Tate**, Epidemiology and Biostatistics, and **Brian McKay**, HDFS. Project period: 9/1/2024 – 8/31/2029

Dr. **Tatiane Russo-Tait** (Cellular Biology), Affiliate, received an RCN-UBE Incubator Award from the National Science Foundation for the project titled “RCN-UBE Incubator: Expanding Epistemic Boundaries in Biology Education Research" in the amount of \$74,971. The team proposes to expand epistemologies, methodologies, norms, and practices for BER, this network will support discipline-based research and evidence-based practices that can lead to systemic change and will support the learning, retention, and success of students from marginalized and minoritized backgrounds in biology learning environments. This will diversify participation in various biological fields, which will contribute to a shift in culture and biological innovation for social change. Project period: 8/1/2024 – 7/31/2025

Dr. **Erin Hamel** (Communication Studies), Grant Development Program participant, received an Administration for Children and Families award titled “Examining the Pathway from Early Head Start Leadership to Child Outcomes" in the amount of \$99,872. The proposed research will identify the leadership practices of Early Head Start center directors that contribute to pathways for improved teacher well-being, supportive working conditions, positive classroom interactions, and positive child outcomes. Co-Investigators: **Stacey Neuharth Pritchett**, Educational Psychology, and **Kristen Bub**, Educational Psychology. Project period: 9/30/2024 – 3/29/2026

Dr. **Zhuo Chen** (Health Policy & Management), Affiliate, received a National Institute of Health CTSA Pilot Award for the project "Achieving Health Equity by Improving Participant Representativeness in the All of Us Research Program: A Pilot Community-Based Participatory Research in Georgia (CTSA Pilot)" as a subcontract from Emory University in the amount of \$60,400. The pilot research will generate preliminary results that help to develop nation-wide interventions to address the health inequity associated with uneven

participation in the All of Us Research Program (AoURP) and other biomedical research programs in general among Asian Americans in Georgia. Co-Investigators: **Brad Phillips**, Clinical & Administrative Pharmacy, **M. Mahmud Khan**, Health Policy & Management, **Suhang Song**, Health Policy & Management, and **Daniel Jung**, Health Policy & Management. Project Period: 8/1/2024 – 7/31/2025

Dr. **Daniel Jung** (Health Policy & Management), Affiliate, received a National Institute of Health CTSA Pilot Award for the project "Disparities in Machine-Learning Modeling to Predict Hospital Readmissions among Patients Discharged to Skilled Nursing Facility (CTSA Pilot)" as a subcontract from Emory University in the amount of \$57,684.49. The main goal of this study is to develop accurate machine learning models that can predict health outcomes in patients discharged to skilled nursing facilities at the first date of assessment while mitigating the potential biases that could inadvertently introduce unfairness to subgroups (by race/ethnicity and/or dementia status) in data-driven healthcare applications. Co-Investigators: **Zhuo Chen**, Health Policy & Management, **Kerstin Emerson**, Health Policy & Management, and **Jaewoo Lee**, Computer Science. Project Period: 8/1/2024 – 7/31/2025

Research Spotlight



Empowering Communities: Dr. Rebecca Nesbit's Research on Civic Engagement and Volunteerism

[Learn More](#)

Faculty News

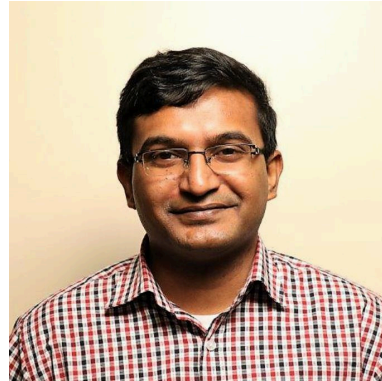
Caughy Receives OIBR Service Legacy Award

[Learn More](#)



Haider Awarded OIBR Rising Star

[Learn More](#)



Welcome New Affiliates

Alexa Bankert, Associate Professor, Political Science
Christopher Bruner, Stembler Family Distinguished Professor, School of Law
Elizabeth Burch, Fuller E. Callaway Chair of Law, School of Law
Bryana Bush, Lecturer, Physiology & Pharmacology
Stephen Correia, Associate Professor, Health Promotion & Behavior
Sarah Grace Dalton, Assistant Professor, Communication Sciences & Special Education
Pamela Foohey, Professor, School of Law
Emma Goodwin, Assistant Professor, Microbiology
Pedro Goulart, Data Analyst, Social Work/CenHTRO
Austin Heil, Academic Professional Associate, Marine Science
Emma Hetherington, Clinical Associate Professor, School of Law
Chad Howe, Professor, Linguistics/Romance Languages
Ching-Yu Huang, Assoc. Dir., Active Learning Initiatives, Center for Teaching & Learning
Peng Huang, Assistant Professor, Sociology
Liu Liu, Assistant Research Scientist, Social Work
Amedee Martella, Assistant Professor, Educational Psychology
John Meixner, Assistant Professor, School of Law
Patricia Murphy, Instructor, School of Law
Gregory Porumbescu, Associate Professor, Public Administration & Policy
Smita Rawal, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Clinical & Administrative Pharmacy
Rosanna Rivero, Associate Professor, College of Environment + Design
Usha Rodrigues, Professor, School of Law
Ashley Sanders, Assistant Professor, Psychology
Daniel Serviansky, Faculty Director, Graduate Program, School of Law

Allan Tate, Associate Professor, Epidemiology & Biostatistics
Lorenzo Villa Zapata, Assistant Professor, Clinical & Administrative Pharmacy
Craig Wiegert, Associate Professor, Physics & Astronomy
New Affiliates as of 7/1/2024

Opportunities

Grant Development Program Applications Open in Spring

Apply to join our GDP program.

[Learn More →](#)

OIBR Faculty Seed Grant in the Social and Behavioral Sciences Available

All faculty in the Social and Behavioral Sciences are encouraged to apply.

[Learn More →](#)

COSSA Social Science Advocacy Day - March 24- 25, 2025

All OIBR Distinguished Scholars that are interested in attending the [COSSA Social Science Advocacy Day](#) in Washington, D.C., please let Andrea Horsman (ahorsman@uga.edu) know by Jan. 31. OIBR will be glad to pay your travel costs. We have had representation in the past, and the participants have found it to be an incredibly valuable experience. And, if you would like to learn more about the program before deciding, please contact Jody Clay-Warner at jclayw@uga.edu.

NIH & NSF Policy Updates

NSF Update: Multifactor Authentication Now Required for Research.gov

The National Science Foundation (NSF) implemented [Multifactor Authentication](#) (MFA) for logging into their grant submission platform, Research.gov, in October. This update enhances security but has caused occasional login issues for some users.

While most challenges have been on our administrative side, a few Principal Investigators (PIs) have mentioned that setting up MFA took some time. If you haven't logged into

Research.gov recently, we recommend starting the login process early—especially if you have any time-sensitive tasks to complete.

Please note that MFA setup is something users must do independently. While Kim and Chris cannot assist directly with the setup, they are happy to help answer any questions or provide guidance. Don't hesitate to reach out if you need clarification!

Tips From the Experts

Important Reminder: Hotel/Motel Tax Exemption for State Employees in Georgia

For those that may be travel, please note that state employees should not be charged county or municipal tax on lodging when staying within the state. Employees are required to submit a copy of the [Hotel/Motel Excise Tax Exemption Form](#) when they register at a hotel/motel. If the hotel refuses to accept the form at check-in, the traveler should attempt to resolve the issue with hotel management before checking out at the end of their stay. If the matter is not resolved by check-out time, the traveler should pay the tax. Travelers should provide an explanation when submitting their expense report. Failure of the employee to submit the Hotel Occupancy Tax Exemption form to the hotel/motel may result in non-reimbursement of the tax to the employee.

UGA accounts payable has started sending expense reports back to employees when occupancy tax is included on their in-state lodging receipts and asking them to reach out to the hotel and ask for a credit and an updated receipt. Save yourself the hassle and submit the form when you register.

Have news? Please send kudos, announcements or other items to Andrea Horsman at ahorsman@uga.edu. Distribution occurs monthly on the second Monday of the month. The deadline for submissions is the first Wednesday.



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