Good news, good works May 2021

Awards
As I mentioned during the end-of-the-year celebration, Dr. Rodriguez was selected for a 2021 Faculty Opportunity Award for her new research project on the lives and educational experiences of local Latinx students. Specifically, she’s focusing in on CCSD’s curricular mariachi program, which involves almost 7,000 students around the valley, and aims to enhance their academic achievement.

Now for the newest news…Cassaudra just received word that she was also selected for the COLA Summer Research Award to jumpstart her project through the summer months. Big congratulations! It’s great to see others acknowledge this very interesting, timely, and community-focused research.

Doctoral candidate Jason Scott received the Commitment to Diversity Award at the 2021 Division of Student Affairs Rebel Awards ceremony. The award acknowledges the behind-the-scenes work Jason has done for the past couple of years to encourage the university to develop support resources for justice-impacted students – students who have been incarcerated, have an arrest record, or have been convicted of a crime and, consequently, face a number of barriers typically not encountered by other students. The supports include a mentoring program and the UNLV Justice impacted Summer institute to teach faculty, staff, and students how to better serve the up to 10 percent of justice impacted students at the university. Impactful work Jason!

Hired
I recently heard some outstanding news from our alumnus, Dr. Nicole Jenkins. She just accepted an Assistant Professor position in the Sociology & Criminology Department at Howard University, in Washington, D.C. She says “things have been wonderful,” and she’s working on a book proposal and starting collaborative projects with her colleagues. What a win! Super outcome for a super scholar!

Publications
Doctoral candidate Josiah Kidwell and Dr. Borer recently published "The Sanctuary of the Spectacle: Megachurches and the Production of Christian Celebrities and Consumers," in the Journal of Media and Religion. They examine “the entanglement of religion, media, and celebrity culture in the context of a Las Vegas-based megachurch [and] unpack the implications of media and celebrity culture as a platform for the transmission of religious meaning.” Fascinating topic and analysis. Nice work!

Doctoral candidate Marta Soligo and Dr. Bernhard co-authored the article, "Crisis management practices in the hospitality and gambling industry during COVID-19" in International Hospitality Review. They review crisis management approaches among gambling industry stakeholders during the COVID-19 pandemic, offering innovative methodological contributions and valuable practical considerations for gambling-related hospitality businesses. Excellent contributions Marta and Bo!

Dr. Gottschalk recently published a chapter titled, “Click, Validate, Reply: Three Paradoxes of the Terminal Self” in the International Handbook of Symbolic Interactionism. He explains that our interactions require us to adjust our sensorimotor skills and perceptual aptitudes, our need for social recognition, and our emotional orientations, among others, to the digital logic. These adjustments, in turn, present us with paradoxes that we resolve by developing our terminal selves. Great insights Simon!

Dr. Bhatta co-authored a recent article “Exploring the Relationships Between Resilience, Mindfulness, and Experiential Avoidance After the Use of a Mindfulness- and Acceptance-Based Mobile App for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder” in the journal Perspectives in Psychiatric Care. Their findings offer practical implications for ways to enhance resilience among those experiencing PTSD. Fantastic work, Tirth!

Alum and instructor Dr. Cheryl Radeloff recently published a chapter “Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies: A Degree and Perspective for Essential Workers in the 21st Century” (with Michelle Berger) for an online book Persistence is Resistance: Celebrating 50 Years of Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies (Ed. Julie Shane) 2020.
They help to answer what they call “The never ending question” – So what can you do with a degree in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies? Important work, Cheryl!

In the Media

**Dr. Borer** was featured in the recent article, “Community: We Live By Knight” in KNPR’s Desert Companion. The author explores the role the Las Vegas Golden Knights, play to “heal, inspire, and unite” our local community, especially after October 1 and the pandemic. Michael says, “[Sport] creates this focal point, where multiple peoples from our larger community can focus on and root for the same team. That in itself can be really healing.” Nice job Michael!

**Dr. Futrell** was recently featured in a [Washington Post article](https://www.washingtonpost.com) and [video interview](https://www.youtube.com) – “From memes to race war: How extremists use popular culture to lure recruits” – discussing the January 6th insurrection and far right recruitment.