

Cornerstone

Transformational Scholarship at Azusa Pacific University

Office of Research and Grants | Fall 2016



Faculty Spotlight

Rachel Castaneda

Associate Professor, Psychology, School of Behavioral and Applied Sciences

A brief interview with Dr. Castaneda
(on page 3)

3



Student Archives

SBM China Program Interns

Program Directors: Drs. Stuart and Barbara Strother, School of Business and Management
Students Thank Freeman Foundation!
(on page 2)

2



Recent Grants & Achievements

Achievements:

Drs. Anupama Jacob, Rachel Castaneda

Recent Grants

August 1 – October 31, 2016

4



Upcoming Events

Upcoming ORG Events & Deadlines

Grant and RCR Training
Events: UR Showcase, Sabbatical Luncheons, Fulbright Luncheon, Writing Consultation
Research Ethics Deadlines

3

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<https://sites.google.com/a/apu.edu/org/>



Emerging Research Trends... Multidisciplinary Research

Tremendous research advances have been achieved the past few centuries as researchers deconstructed our world into smaller and smaller units, thus leading to the ascendance of specialized or single-discipline research.¹ A growing recognition over the past 40 years, however, of the complexities of modern societies and interconnectedness among people everywhere has engendered research approaches that are decidedly multidisciplinary.

The allure of multidisciplinary research, also referred to as interdisciplinary or transdisciplinary research, is its promise to solve practical and often complex problems because it is not limited by discipline boundaries. Indeed, in a 2014 study discussed in Times Higher Education, academicians cited multidisciplinary projects by a four to one margin when asked to identify research that made substantial impact outside academia.² Society and the physical world are by nature complex and often intertwined. Practical problems are complicated, so their solutions typically require multiple perspectives. For instance, biology, psychology, sociology, social work, communication studies, and history, to name just a few, all speak into developing strategies to cope with problems faced by aging populations in modern societies.

To be sure, some remain wary of multidisciplinary trends. Ian Goldwin, Professor of Globalisation and Development at Oxford University's Oxford Martin School suggests in a provocatively titled article, *Multidisciplinary Research 'Career Suicide' for Junior Academics*, that multidisciplinary research still struggles to gain widespread traction and implies it is reduced to being just a buzzword.³ Goldwin asserts that research councils, and by implication, sources of research funding, shy away from multidisciplinary projects because of uncertainties in evaluating the authenticity of leadership and the innovativeness of such projects. This uncertainty is mimicked by leading journal editorial boards, resulting in few truly multidisciplinary studies being published in top-tier journals. Since leading journals are still dominated by a discipline-specific focus, Goldwin encourages young academicians to master a specialized field before pursuing multidisciplinary endeavors. So, which will prevail? Single- or multidisciplinary approaches? No doubt, it is both, with the recognition they often reinforce each other. *(Article continued on Page 4)*

Student Archives

School of Business and Management

Thank you Freeman Foundation!

"This scholarship has really meant a lot to me personally, as it provided me the opportunity to go to China for the purpose of studying business and working in a business internship." (DM)

"The financial support of the Freeman Foundation has been immense... I was able to completely maximize on my experience and do things I could never have if I would have been tied to the limits of my personal finances. (TL)

"The greatest gift from my time in China is not only the unique business experience, but the personal growth traveling and experiencing a new culture has provided... I give credit for this to the SBM China Program and to the generous and ongoing support the Freeman Foundation has provided." (BR)

"I am so thankful for a scholarship to travel abroad and participate in an internship in China... Without the Freeman Foundation scholarship, I would not have been able to go on this trip." (JH)

"As a newly graduated senior, this internship has shown me how much I do know from my college education... it made me feel more prepared and confident about the future... Thank you!" (SB)

"First and foremost, I want to express my eternal gratitude for your support in empowering students... I have developed more endurance throughout this experience, and I look forward to new adventures and challenges. My life has literally been changed through this experience." (KM)

"Without the help of Freeman Foundation, I never would have been able to come on the trip, let alone afford it. Thanks greatly" (NS)

"Without the Freeman scholarship, I would not be in China and that's a fact. I would have never been stretched and have learned that there is so much out there than what we know. Thank you for opening the door to this life changing experience!" (BA)

"This scholarship has really meant a lot to me personally, as it provided me the opportunity to go to China for the purpose of studying business and working in a business internship." (DM)

"Receiving this scholarship has been a great honor and has made my college experience exceptional... Thank you. This trip meant the world to me..." (CV)

"It's been more than incredible. And I am beyond thankful that the Freeman Foundation has been such a blessing to me... if you work hard and keep persevering you will succeed. And I will humbly and gratefully say that I am most proud of this accomplishment." (LT)

"I am forever grateful for the Freeman Foundation and the belief they had in this program and for students like me. Thank you!" (NF)

"The Freeman Foundation's financial support has been the most monumental gift to date for me... this experience has given me the momentum and confidence to take the work world by storm upon returning home." (CS)

"Being a first generation college student, coming to China and being led by our amazing professors' trumps any experience I have ever had in college or ever dreamed of having... Thank you for everything and believing in all of us. I am forever grateful for this wonderful experience. (BM)

"The Freeman Foundation has given me an opportunity to broaden my horizons and open my eyes to the world. (ET)

"... a time of growth, academically, personally, and career-wise... Being able to apply all my classroom learning to a real-life setting was such a great experience... Thank you!" (MH)

"I was pleasantly surprised with China and I can definitely picture myself coming back again. Thank you!" (MC)

"As a psychology major as well as a marketing major, I had a particular interest in the culture and people of China. The most memorable thing that I learned about the people here is the remarkable kindness... Thank you so much for this opportunity. I am forever grateful!" (KK)

"I have seen personal and career growth because of my incredible China internship experience... the generous Freeman Foundation scholarship opened a unique opportunity for me..." (PS)

"It's been more than incredible. And I am beyond thankful that the Freeman Foundation has been such a blessing to me... I truly experienced that if you work hard and keep persevering you will succeed. And I will humbly and gratefully say that I am most proud of this accomplishment." (LT)

"Thank you for your support. It has been a major blessing and without it I would not have been able to participate in this life changing experience." (JN)

"To be empowered by the Freeman Foundation has meant the world. I and the other APU students often found ourselves in some awe-inspiring moments of celebration and grief, thinking to ourselves, "Would you ever have thought you'd be here?" You have made these moments possible. You have inspired growth, confidence, and success." (EC)

"My China internship experience will be beneficial for my career growth in that it demonstrates to employers that I can be put into any situation; that I will be flexible and learn to overcome whatever challenges may arise. The financial support from the Freeman Foundation has meant a tremendous amount since this was a life changing experience for me." (LJ)

"I want to take the time to thank you for supporting my fellow classmates and me during our stay in China. Over the past couple months I have grown in the business field, but most importantly I have grown as an individual." (CG)

"During my internship I was lucky enough to be offered a chance to run one of the companies while I am living in the States. I accepted the job and I am excited to continue our growth from two countries. This will open up so many opportunities for me to travel back and forth from China in the future. All this was possible through the Freeman Foundation's financial support. (GK)

"Grit, a positive attitude, and prayer can get you through the hardest of moments. This experience in China has taught me about myself and that I control how I perceive things... The only reason I got to experience China is because of the Freeman Foundation and for that I thank you." (CL)

"My internship in Hong Kong this summer has been truly life-changing and the experience has impacted my perspective of my culture, beliefs, values, and lifestyle. Thank you!" (JY)

"...I remember being beyond excited... China was a giant International Business classroom with unlimited possibilities and conversations that were educational not only in the business sense, but also in learning about cultural context and social norms." (EJ)

"Living and working in China has been the most incredible and expansive experience of my college career... Thank you for generously funding this life-changing experience and business opportunity. (VB)

"A magical and memorable moment occurred when I felt at ease with all the differences and rather than fight the challenges, I embraced them." (JW)



Calendar & Events

Faculty Spotlight

Dr. Rachel Castaneda joined APU as an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology in 2011. Her research is focused on recovery from substance use specifically taking a developmental social approach. She also leads the Faith Integrated SBIRT Network as part of a SAMHSA federal grant alongside with Dr. Mary Rawlings (Social Work) and Dr. Sheryl Tyson (Nursing). As affiliated scholar in the Integrated Substance Abuse Programs within the Department of Medicine and Public Health at UCLA, Dr. Castaneda has recently been involved in a number of evaluations for adolescent programs. We asked her a few questions to find out more about her motivation and success:



ORG: How did you get started down the path of a research scholar? What led you in that direction to start with? **RC:** Mentors at UCLA played a significant role in engaging me in a path towards research and scholarship.

ORG: What continues to motivate you as a researcher? That is, why do you continue doing what you have been doing? **RC:** I have a deep-seated desire to create change among youth in local communities challenged by substance use issues.

ORG: You have been so successful in acquiring research-related grants, contracts, and sub-awards. Why is that? How do you explain it? **RC:** I am privileged to have had very strong research mentors. These mentors have continued to come alongside me in partnerships and collaborations even after I left their immediate group and began branching out in my career.

ORG: Do you find it difficult to manage time demands between research, other academic duties, such as writing grants, publishing papers, going to conferences, etc.? What one or two tips might you give to up and coming researchers in this area?

RC: It takes commitment - so building in time each week that is dedicated to writing is key. It also takes good partnerships, mentors, and collaborators who will invest in the work as well; building in time to foster and facilitate relationships is important.

ORG: All successful researchers also encounter failures. Has this happened to you? If so, how did you feel? How do you respond to rejection? **RC:** Yes, it's part of the process. I view the manuscript and grant reviews/critiques as critical agents that serve as feedback to help strengthen the resubmission instead of considering such critiques as rejection or failure.

ORG: Collaboration is big these days in the world of research and grants. Can you share a little bit about the collaborative efforts between psychology, social work and nursing at APU under one of your grants? **RC:** This is the *Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) Training Initiative among.....* (continued on Page 4)



"The research output of our faculty is something to celebrate as a community, and over the last 10 years I have seen the need for much celebration as our faculty increased their mark on the scholarly world."

*Robert R. Duke, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Theology and Azusa Pacific Seminary*

Research and Grants

Grant Training

November 21, 2016: Grant Writing: A Different Kind of Genre (webinar)

December 14, 2016: Federal Grants: Strategies for Preparing a Competitive Application (webinar)

January 11, 2017: Non-Federal Grants: Strategies for Success (webinar)

January 13, 2017: Finding Funding Opportunities: Use of PIVOT Search Engine (workshop)

January 19, 2017: Grants Management Roundtable (session)

RCR Training

January 27, 2017: RCR Collaborative Research, Authorship, Data Management (sessions)

Events

Undergraduate Research Showcase

November 9, 2016: 5:00-6:00pm, Wilden 119

Writing Consultation with John Trent

November 21-22, 2016

Sabbatical Luncheons

November 9, 2016: Alan Oda

November 15, 2016: Alexander Jun

December 8, 2016: Skyla Herod

January 19, 2017: Joanne Gilbreath

January 25, 2017: Roger White

Fulbright Luncheon

November 30, 2016: Mary Wong

Research Ethics Deadlines

IRB (human subjects research)

December 7, 2016: Full Board Review Application deadline for December 14 meeting

January 4, 2017: Full Board Review Application deadline for January 18 meeting

IACUC (animal research)

December 14, 2016: Protocol or amendment deadline for December 21 meeting

January 11, 2017: Protocol or amendment deadline for January 18 meeting

Resources

IACUC CITI Training is now available for APU Students!

✓ [CLICK HERE](#)

Faculty Spotlight continued (from Page 3)

... *Allied Health Professional Disciplines at Faith-Based Colleges* project. It's been an exciting endeavor. Mary Rawlings, BAS Department of Social Work, and Sheryl Tyson, School of Nursing, are strong scholars who also have deep convictions for using research to support community change and improve practices within our respective fields. This project is also a collaboration with UCLA, who has been a tremendous partner to our multidisciplinary project effort at APU.

ORG: In looking back at your research, what accomplishment(s) brings you the most satisfaction, and why? **RC:** I am especially enthusiastic about building evidence-based programs and interventions that young people readily embrace which serve to improve the system of care for youth and families impacted by substance use disorders.

ORG: What advice would you offer those entering academics who dream of having a career just like that of Dr. Rachel Castaneda? **RC:** They should strive to be active learners and committed scholars who continually seek to build effective partnerships and relations.

Emerging Research Trends article continued (from Page 1)

When physicists first discovered X-rays (1895) and gamma-radiation (1900), the enormous benefits to many areas of health science over the ensuing century was hardly imaginable. Indeed, discoveries from specialized disciplines can be especially transformative when applied in multidisciplinary environments, so distinctions in advantages of single- versus multidisciplinary approaches are blurred.¹

APU researchers should take note of funding opportunities that emphasize multidisciplinary approaches. The John Templeton Foundation (www.templeton.org), for example, emphasizes input from natural and social sciences along with theology and philosophy in many of its core funding areas. Indeed, the Character Virtue Development subsection of the Templeton core states, "We support a broad range of programs . . . whether understood from a scientific, philosophical, or religious point of view."

Multidisciplinary funding opportunities are evident in many other foundation calls for proposals, but they also come from federal programs, often in spurts. Over the past years, NIH has encouraged projects that blend humanities and medical science, social media technology and health, and a variety of alternative methodologies to use in health care. These include music therapy and spiritual and psychological effects on health. In fact, even as this report was being drafted, we noticed two recent NIH R01/R21 opportunities titled *Addressing Health Disparities through Effective Interventions among Immigrant Populations* prompting collaborations from experts in education, environmental science, and health. NSF also promotes special multidisciplinary programs and dedicates a section of its website to information on multidisciplinary opportunities through NSF (https://www.nsf.gov/od/oia/additional_resources/interdisciplinary_research/).

An exciting example of a multidisciplinary undertaking among APU faculty is the *Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) Training Initiative among Allied Health Professional Disciplines at Faith-Based Colleges* project. In 2015, APU received an award of \$936,000 from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in the DHHS to be used over three years. The SBIRT project, mentioned in the above Faculty Spotlight, illustrates how convergence of diverse disciplines can help address complex issues. This project enhances psychology, social work, and nursing curricular components within faith-based institutions to prepare those who will work with patients at risk for substance use disorders.

APU researchers should contact pre-award specialist Marta Cenac-Mehedinti (mcenac@apu.edu) if thinking of creating a team or searching for grants with multidisciplinary emphases.

1 <https://globalhighered.wordpress.com/2009/06/26/multidisciplinary-research-an-essential-driver-for-innovation/>

2 <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/ref-2014-impact-case-studies-government-policy-cited-most/2019291.article>

3 <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/multidisciplinary-research-career-suicide-junior-academics>

Congratulations!!

Achievements



Emerging Scholar

Dr. Anupama Jacob selected by the US DHHS, Office of

Planning Research and Evaluation, as the next emerging scholar for the Self-Sufficiency Research Clearinghouse (SSRC). Congratulations!



Commissioned Paper

Dr. Rachel Castaneda had a paper commissioned by the

National Academy of Science titled *Youth Recovery from Substance Use Disorder and Co-occurring Disorders: Implications of Developmental Perspectives on Practice, Assessment and Definitions, and Measurement*. Congratulations!

Recent Grant Awards

(August 2016 – October 2016)

Mark Bernier (SOT). *Hope and Human Flourishing*. Hope and Optimism Project: Non-Residential Fellowship Research Proposal. Funded by University of Notre Dame. (\$63,000)

Rachel Castaneda (BAS). *Evaluation of the Los Angeles County Adolescents Treatment System*. Funded by LA County through University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) (\$158,368)

Rachel Castaneda (BAS). *Evaluation of the CADCA*. Funded by University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) (\$4,999)

Rachel Castaneda (BAS). *Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Evaluation Services*. Funded by LA County through University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) (\$304,553)

Aja Lesh (SON). *Health Initiatives for Healthy Communities*. Funded by Kaiser Permanente Baldwin Park Community Benefit Charitable Contributions Program (\$7,500)

