

**SPECIAL
TENTH
ANNIVERSARY
EDITION**

► Adoption is a transformational experience

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Rudd Family Foundation
Chair in Psychology
ANNUAL REPORT 2018

University of
Massachusetts
Amherst

Rudd Family Foundation Chair in Psychology

The Rudd Family Foundation Chair is located within the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and is affiliated with the interdisciplinary Center for Research on Families. The program conducts state-of-the-art research on the psychology of adoption that will impact policy at agency, state, federal, and international levels. It also trains postdoctoral scholars, graduate students, and undergraduate students in theories and methods needed for the study of adoption. Conferences, workshops, and publications disseminate research-based information needed by practitioners, policy makers, and the public. And through key community partnerships, the Rudd Adoption Research Program demonstrates how adoption research can transform policy and practice for the benefit of all whose lives are touched by adoption.

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From the Chair



Dear Friends,

This special edition of our Annual Report series celebrates 2018 as the 10th anniversary of the Rudd Family Foundation Chair in Psychology. The first half of the report provides an overview of how we have addressed our mission over the course of the decade; the second part provides information about activities specifically in 2018.

Our mission continues to guide our work while also allowing room for new initiatives. The Rudd Adoption Research Program

- advances knowledge about the psychology of adoption;
- provides evidence-based knowledge to inform adoption policy and practice;
- engages with community partners to incubate, implement, and evaluate innovative programs that have potential for broad impact;
- mentors the next generation of adoption-competent scholars; and
- creates an adoption-friendly campus at UMass Amherst.

This mission and the activities that support it have allowed us to build a center of excellence in adoption research at UMass Amherst. Our 10th anniversary conference in April 2018 was our largest yet, focusing on The Future of Adoption. We recognize that expertise in adoption comes in many forms, but that one source of expertise, the lived experience of adopted persons, is often underrepresented. Therefore, the conference elevated the voices of many adopted persons who are professionals and students in the field. Their perspectives, both during and after the conference, have provided important insights for the field to consider.

We continue to work toward our goal of creating an “adoption-friendly campus” at UMass Amherst and a destination of choice for faculty and students interested in adoption; this goal has now been added to our official mission. In 2019, we look forward to hosting our second Summer Adoption Research Institute for graduate students and new PhDs who wish to conduct research on adoption. We will also be offering a new undergraduate seminar on the topic of Foster Care: Psychological and Societal Perspectives.

I invite you to review this summary of our activities and see for yourself the exciting ways in which our programs have developed. As always, we express our continuing thanks for their generosity to Andrew and Virginia Rudd, to Scott Chaplin, and to our growing number of individual donors and organizational funding partners who make our work possible every day.

With best wishes,

Harold D. Grotevant, PhD
Rudd Family Foundation Chair in Psychology
hgroteva@psych.umass.edu

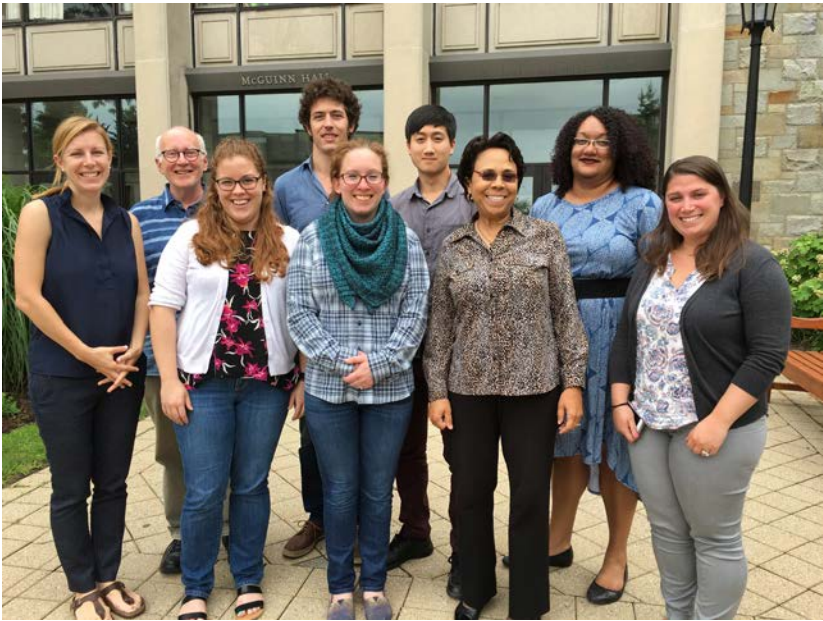
Advancing Knowledge about the Psychology of Adoption

The Rudd Adoption Research Program advances our knowledge of adoption psychology through original research. The Rudd Adoption Lab is home to the Minnesota Texas Adoption Research Project (MTARP), a longitudinal investigation involving 190 adoptive families and 169 birth mothers who have been followed since the mid-1980s; the participants who were children at the outset are now in their thirties and starting families.



Results of this study have been disseminated in numerous ways over the past decade, including through important peer-reviewed journals such as *Developmental Psychology*, the *Journal of Family Psychology*, *Child Development Perspectives*, and the *International Journal of Behavioral Development*. We were invited to contribute the first-ever chapter on adoption psychology for the prestigious *Annual Review of Psychology* (Grotevant & McDermott, 2014). The Rudd Lab has also mentored a steady stream of undergraduate honors theses, master's theses, and doctoral dissertations. This work has been represented at important national and international conferences. Active collaborations on MTARP continue with colleagues at the University of Texas at Austin, Boston College, and Bethel University. In addition to research from MTARP, the lab has hosted research from the Contemporary Adoptive Families Study, the Adoption Mentoring Partnership, the Adoption Genetic Family History Project, the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent and Adult Health, and others.

Our research has been enriched through numerous international connections, which are so important because of the many ways in which adoption is culturally, historically, and legally contextualized. The Rudd Program has been host to international scholars from Spain, Portugal, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Canada, Italy, and Germany. Especially noteworthy are the three doctoral scholars from Spain (Barcelona, Seville, and Cádiz) who each spent three months here, working on their dissertations, learning about adoption and foster care in the U.S., and becoming engaged with Rudd Program activities. The first Rudd Family Visiting Professor, Dr. Jesús Palacios, hailed from the University of Seville. Rudd staff and students have also been actively involved with the International Conferences on Adoption Research, begun by Dr. Grotevant and his students at the University of Minnesota in 1999. The Rudd Program has been well represented at ICAR3 (Leiden, the Netherlands), ICAR4 (Bilbao, Spain), ICAR5 (Auckland, New Zealand), and ICAR6 (Montreal, Canada). Rudd Chair Grotevant has also lectured in the UK, Spain, the Netherlands, and Germany, and has been consulting with the recently created German Adoption Research Center in Munich.



UMass and Boston College MTARP teams, following a productive meeting at BC. L to R: Addie Wyman Battalen, Hal Grotevant, Krystal Cashen, Josep Mercadal Rotger (visiting scholar from Barcelona), Lisa Fiorenzo, Albert Lo, Ruth McRoy, Kat Nielsen, Christina Sellers.



Celebrating adoption research on a river cruise at ICAR6 in Montreal. L to R: Sandra Melero Santos (visiting scholar from Cádiz, Spain), Krystal Cashen, Hal Grotevant, Kyle Simon, Ruth McRoy, Addie Wyman Battalen.



UMass delegation to ICAR4 in Bilbao, Spain. L to R: Rachel Farr, Holly Grant-Marsney, Hal Grotevant, Karin Garber.

Providing Evidence-Based Knowledge to Inform Policy and Practice

"I loved the critical approach to adoption. It's nice to see practitioners present to take the academic findings and apply them to the field."



Andrew and Virginia Rudd, whose vision and generosity made the Rudd program possible.

Our annual conferences have brought together a rich mix of researchers, counselors and therapists, adoption caseworkers, faculty, agency administrators, students, policy makers, and community members — many of whom have multiple connections, personal and professional, to adoption. Since our first conference in 2009, we have welcomed over 2,000 attendees and featured over 200 presenters and 250 posters highlighting research and/or programs. Many people return to the UMass campus year after year, both for the information and the networking.

Conference topics have addressed infancy and early childhood (attachment), navigating the teen years, launching into adulthood, and challenging topics such as contact between adoptive and birth families, overcoming early adversity, adoptive parenting, and growing up in complex families

We have had keynotes from leading experts in the field, including Fennie Juffer (2009), Richard Barth (2010), Mary Dozier (2011 & 2016), Megan Gunnar (2012), Hal Grotevant (2013), Beth Neil (2013), Amanda Baden (2013), Adam Pertman (2013), Phil Fisher (2014), Ann Masten (2016), Jesús Palacios (2017), Gary Mallon (2018), and others.

"Great balance between practice, policy and research — thank you for creating and hosting this valuable gathering for the adoption community."

As part of our conference series, we have honored important professionals in the field and elevated their work for wider recognition. To date, we have given three lifetime achievement awards:

- to Susan Smith and Jeanne Howard, for excellence in the application of adoption research (2015);
- to Joyce Maguire Pavao, for excellence in adoption education and practice (2016); and
- to Dana Johnson, for excellence in adoption research and practice (2018).

We have also presented an Outstanding Poster Presentation award at each conference since 2013, bringing recognition to scholars who are conducting innovative research.

The focus of our 10th anniversary conference in 2018 was "The Future of Adoption: Moving Beyond Safety to Well-Being." Although the three goals of the child welfare system include safety, permanency, and well-being, the first and most urgent attention is typically paid to safety. Well-being is a broader and longer-term goal. When it is the focus, primary attention is paid to well-being of children, rightly including such issues as physical health and social development. When adult adoptees are asked about issues that concern them, however, they often mention

"This was one of the very best Rudd conferences! The quality of the presentations and the research was outstanding."

broader issues that touch on who they are and how they fit into the world. These include knowledge of their own genetic background and health history as well as their connections to their birth relatives and birth culture. These connections all have the potential to enhance adoptees' sense of well-being and were the focus of the 2018 Rudd conference.

We are also intentionally working to extend our reach beyond the campus. We have an active social media presence on Facebook, with Facebook pages for the Rudd program as well as for specialized groups such as the Summer Adoption Research Institute alumni and the Adopted Student Advisory Panel. We host a RuddAdoption YouTube channel, where we post videos from our annual conferences; we also archive the PowerPoints and posters from our annual conferences on the UMass Scholarworks system for easy public access. Our research faculty and students are also present on ResearchGate. In addition, we are actively reaching out to the schools in the Amherst, Mass., area in order to provide information about adoption and foster care that will be useful in the daily work of teachers, librarians, and counselors.

Top: Philip Fisher, University of Oregon, keynote speaker at 2014 Rudd conference.

Center: Susan Livingston Smith and Jeanne Howard received the Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in the Application of Adoption Research (2015).

Bottom: Megan Gunnar, University of Minnesota, keynote speaker at 2012 Rudd conference.



Engaging with Community Partners to Incubate, Implement, and Evaluate Innovative Programs

The Adoption Mentoring Partnership (AMP), a community partnership between the Rudd Adoption Research Program and Big Brother Big Sisters of Hampshire County, matches adopted youth from the Amherst community with college-student young adult adoptees who share a similar adoption story (e.g., adopted internationally), ethnic background, and interests. As the mentors and mentees spend time together each week, they forge positive and lasting relationships.

This university-community partnership, the first of its kind in the U.S., provides adopted youth with a mentor who understands the lived experience of adoption. Concurrently, AMP supports adopted young adult mentors in their own personal development through connections with adopted peers and psychoeducation on adoption and mentoring. Through the supported mentor-mentee relationship, positive psychosocial outcomes are promoted for both parties. To date, AMP has supported 46 mentor-mentee relationships (92 individuals), with three to six new matches formed each academic year. A sign of program success is that matches overwhelmingly continue into their second year, with many continuing into their third year and beyond.



AMP mentors, mentees, and staff gather for the end-of-year celebration.

We'd like to share with you some quotes from past mentors, mentees, and their parents:

"I feel prouder to say I am adopted because I feel any stigma that I have acquired over the years has gone away. I feel this program is what I needed to learn and grow as an adopted person." (Mentor)

"I could not imagine my life today without AMP as part of it. I always knew my adoption was special, but being a part of AMP gave it new meaning." (Mentor)

"One time me and my sister and both of our mentors were hanging out together and then we noticed it's so weird that all four of us are adopted. Well, it's actually kind of normal but that doesn't ever really happen usually. I was like, whoa! And we all laughed!" (Mentee)

"I think it's really helpful to try and normalize adoption for everybody and help kids feel like they're not the only one." (Adoptive Parent)

THE TREEHOUSE COMMUNITY

Since the founding of the Rudd Program, another of our key community partners has been the Treehouse Community in Easthampton, Mass., an intentional intergenerational community focused on families raising children who were adopted from foster care, with the support of a vibrant community of elders. Rudd staff have been involved in Treehouse strategic planning and the national advisory board, evaluation research on the community, and co-sponsorship of a major conference in 2016. We continue to be involved with the design team, charting the future of the Treehouse Community and the movement it has generated, Re-Envisioning Foster Care in America (REFCA). The award-winning Treehouse model is now being replicated on the east and west coasts, and the REFCA model is stimulating new initiatives across the country.



AMP mentee Daniel and mentor Alex participate in the Big Brothers Big Sisters Daffodil Run.



Participants in the 2017 Summer Adoption Research Institute visited the Treehouse Community in Easthampton to learn about its innovative intergenerational model.

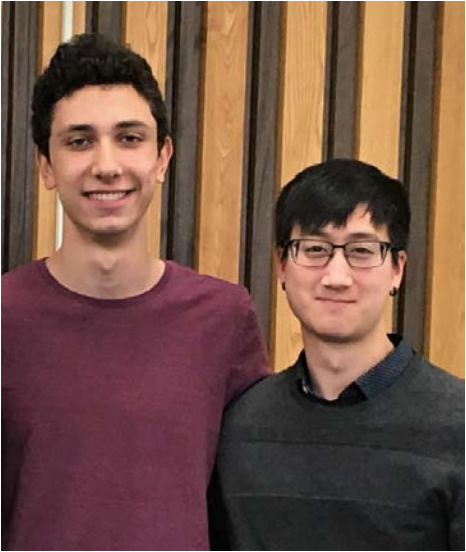
Mentoring the Next Generation of Adoption-Competent Scholars

The Rudd Adoption Research Program provides training and mentoring for graduate students. Since the program's founding, four graduate students have completed their PhDs in clinical psychology under Dr. Grotevant's direction: Dr. Holly Grant-Marsney (now Assistant Professor of Psychology, Bridgewater State University); Dr. Danila Musante (now Clinical Psychologist in the San Francisco Bay Area); Dr. Quade French (now Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, University of Southern California); and Dr. Karin Garber (now Staff Psychologist at the University of Portland). Two additional graduate students, Albert Y. H. Lo and Krystal Cashen, have completed their master's degrees in affiliation with the Rudd Program and are enroute to completing their PhDs in clinical and developmental psychology, respectively. During 2018, Krystal received the Wendy Helmer Memorial Award, a peer-nominated award that is presented annually to a graduate student who positively influences the sense of community in the department by embracing inclusion, collaboration, mentorship, and social justice. Also in 2018, Albert received the Jamie's Smile Award for outstanding service to the division of clinical psychology.

In addition to one-to-one mentoring, the Rudd Program has taken a leadership role in providing mentoring to scholars from around the world who wish to engage in adoption-competent research. Three graduate students from universities in Spain have spent three-month residencies at UMass: Josep Mercadal Rotger (from the University Ramon Llull in Barcelona), Carmen Paniagua Infantes (from the University of Seville), and Sandra Melero Santos (from the University of Cádiz).

In May 2017, the Rudd Program hosted the first Rudd Summer Adoption Research Institute on the UMass Amherst campus, engaging 24 graduate students and postdoctoral scholars in study of the distinctive methodological, statistical, theoretical, cultural, and ethical issues involved in adoption research. This successful mentoring opportunity will be offered again in summer 2019. In 2017, Rudd Chair Hal Grotevant received the national Elizabeth Hurlock Beckman Award in honor of his graduate student mentoring.

The Rudd Program has also trained three postdoctoral scholars: Drs. Lynn Von Korff, Rachel Farr, and Jessica Matthews. Lynn Von Korff served as a postdoc as the Minnesota Texas Adoption Research Project (MTARP) transitioned from the University of Minnesota to UMass Amherst. Her careful documentation and analytic work created a strong foundation for many subsequent researchers to have confidence in the



Graduate student Albert Lo (R) is honored to receive the 2018 Jamie's Smile award, given annually to a graduate student excelling in service to the clinical psychology program by retired faculty member Norm Simonson and his wife Stacy in honor of their son Jamie (L).



Psychology honors student Dominique Altamari presented her research poster at the annual State-wide Undergraduate Research Conference (with advisor, Hal Grotevant).

quality and integrity of the data. While a postdoc, Rachel Farr continued her work with the Contemporary Adoptive Families Study, which she began with her PhD at the University of Virginia, under the direction of Dr. Charlotte Patterson. This significant study of adoptive families headed by lesbian, gay, and heterosexual couples, has provided critically important findings that have informed landmark decisions about the constitutionality of same-sex marriage in the United States. Farr is now an Assistant Professor of Psychology at the University of Kentucky and recipient of the highly competitive William T. Grant Foundation Scholars award, which provides research funding for the next five years. The current Rudd postdoctoral fellow is Jessica Matthews, who completed her PhD at Tufts University with Dr. Ellen Pinderhughes. Matthews is coordinating the activities of the busy Rudd Adoption Lab, and is directing the students in research about the birth fathers of the adolescents and emerging adults represented in the MTARP study.

Top: L to R: Amanda Baden (Montclair State University, Rudd advisory board member) with Holly Grant-Marsney, Karen Garber, and Quade French, all UMass clinical psychology PhD graduates with Rudd program affiliations.

Middle: Rudd program postdoctoral fellow Jessica Matthews (L) and undergraduate research assistant Christine Howard (R), with the poster they presented at the 6th International Conference on Adoption Research (ICAR6), Montreal, July 2018.

Bottom: Krystal Cashen (R), Rudd doctoral student, after receiving the Wendy Helmer Memorial Award in 2018. Pictured with Kirsten Helmer (L), Wendy's wife, following the award ceremony.



Making UMass Amherst an Adoption-Friendly Campus



The Rudd Adoption Research Program has taken the initiative in making UMass Amherst an adoption-friendly campus. For several years, Rudd Program Manager Jen Dolan has sponsored informal monthly lunch gatherings for UMass faculty and staff who are also adoptive parents. Some meetings just provide the opportunity to network with other adoptive parents; others involve guest speakers, readings, or panel discussions. The Rudd Program has also created two organizations for UMass students who are adopted — the Adoption Mentoring Partnership, in which students serve as mentors for adopted children in the Amherst community, and the Adopted Student Advisory Panel, a registered student organization that involves camaraderie, education, and advocacy, led by capable, energetic students. Dolan has also been working actively with the Dean of Students Office to identify and meet the unique needs of UMass students who have experienced foster care. Through these efforts, gatherings such as “We Celebrate Adoption,” and our annual conference, the visibility of adoption and foster care has been elevated on the UMass Campus. UMass is already becoming a “destination of choice” for people with personal connections to adoption, and we hope that will continue to grow.

The Rudd Program also contributes to the university’s mission of educating undergraduate students, strengthening our reputation as an adoption-friendly destination of choice. We do this through credit-bearing classes and through incorporating undergraduates as research assistants in our lab. We offer one undergraduate seminar (Psy 391AD: “The Psychology of Adoption”) both in person and online. This is one of the very few undergraduate courses on adoption taught in psychology departments anywhere in the country. Jen Dolan, Rudd program manager, developed a one-credit freshman seminar entitled, “Giving Voice to Foster Care and Adoption.” In 2018, we offered a new seminar, Psy 391FA, “Children without Permanent Homes: The Future of Adoption.” This seminar was thematically linked to the 2018 Rudd conference, which the students in the course attended. A new senior seminar is planned for fall 2019, Psy 391FT: “Foster Care: Psychological and Societal Perspectives.” In addition to these structured courses, we also engage 10 to 15 undergraduate students per year as research assistants in our lab. Students work on specific projects, many of which eventuate in research papers or conference presentations.

Rudd lab undergraduate students presented at the 2018 Statewide Undergraduate Research Conference: L to R: Molly Caisse, Tahlee Yichye, Dominique Altamari, Vanessa Demaral, Maguatte Mbengue, with supervising co-author, Rudd Postdoctoral Scholar Jessica Matthews.



Members of UMass Adopted Student Advisory Panel and Adoption Mentoring Partnership, following presentation at the 2018 Rudd conference on the future of adoption. L to R: Emma Sander, Victoria Griswold, Jen Dolan (Rudd Program Manager and ASAP sponsor), Jennifer Mutén, Ana Dolan, Peter Nikolai McGinn, (kneeling in front): Ana Gremli.



Chancellor Kumble Subbaswamy and ASAP President Emma Sander at the welcome reception at Hillside for 2018 Rudd Conference participants.



Rudd Program Personnel

Faculty

Harold D. Grotevant, Rudd Family Foundation Chair in Psychology
Kirby Deater-Deckard, Professor of Developmental Psychology
Jennifer M. McDermott, Associate Professor of Developmental Psychology
Patricia G. Ramsey, Professor of Psychology and Education, Mount Holyoke College
David Scherer, Professor of Clinical Psychology

Staff

Jen H. Dolan, Program Manager
Dongwei Wang, Data Manager / Analyst
Amanda Moore, Events Coordinator (with the Center for Research on Families)

Post Doctoral Scholar

Jessica Matthews

Graduate Students

Krystal Cashen, Developmental Psychology
Albert Lo, Clinical Psychology

Undergraduate Research Assistants

Dominique Altamari (Commonwealth Honors College student)
Molly Caisse
Vanessa Demaral
Christine Howard
Haley LeRoux
Jonathan Machadinho
Maguatte Mbengue (Commonwealth Honors College student)
Ekim Otucu
Sabrina Seeley
Marion Worley
Tahlee Yichye

Adoption Mentoring Partnership Mentors

Carly Hochron
Jennifer Little
Maya Lopez
Anna Olsson
Kelibeth Resto-Albelo
Emily Sjogren
Lulu Wan
Alex White

Adopted Student Advisory Panel (ASAP) Leadership:

Ana Dolan
Olivia Lyon
Juliana Malloy
April Mishey
Jennifer Mutén
Emma Sander
Alex White



Advisory Board



Amanda Baden, PhD,
Professor of Counseling and Educational Leadership, Montclair State University, New Jersey



Dana E. Johnson, MD, PhD,
Professor of Pediatrics and member of the Divisions of Neonatology and Global Pediatrics, University of Minnesota



Femmie Juffer, PhD,
Professor of Adoption and Foster Care Studies at the Centre for Child and Family Studies, Leiden University, the Netherlands



Ruth G. McRoy, PhD,
Donahue & DiFelice Endowed Professor of Social Work, Boston College



Cynthia Monahan, PsyD,
Psychologist, Easthampton, Mass.



Elsbeth Neil, PhD, Professor of Social Work, University of East Anglia, Norwich, England



Jesús Palacios, PhD,
Professor of Developmental Psychology, University of Seville, Spain



Maureen Perry-Jenkins, PhD, Professor of Clinical Psychology, University of Massachusetts Amherst



Sally Powers, EdD,
Professor Emerita of Clinical Psychology, University of Massachusetts Amherst



Caren Rotello, PhD,
Professor of Cognitive Psychology and Department Chair, University of Massachusetts Amherst



David Scherer, PhD,
Professor of Clinical Psychology, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Rudd Program Partners and Collaborators



Dana Johnson (R), Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Minnesota and Founder of its International Adoption Clinic, received the 2018 Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Adoption Research and Practice from Rudd Chair Hal Grotevant (L).

University of Massachusetts Amherst

Center for Multicultural Advancement and Student Success
Center for Research on Families
College of Education
College of Natural Sciences
College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Commonwealth Honors College
Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences
Developmental Science Initiative
Office of Engaged Learning
Office of Family Resources
Ombuds Office
Psychological Services Center

Community Associates

Adoption Journeys
Amherst Regional Public Schools
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hampshire County
Boston College School of Social Work
Center for Adoption Support and Education (CASE)
Center for Evidence-Based Mentoring,
University of Massachusetts Boston
Clark University Department of Psychology
Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption
Massachusetts Department of Children and Families
Mount Holyoke College
Re-Envisioning Foster Care in America Initiative
Treehouse Community at Easthampton Meadow
Treehouse Foundation

Publications & Presentations

PUBLICATIONS

Cashen, K. K., & Grotevant, H. D. (in press, 2019). Relational competence in emerging adult adoptees: Conceptualizing competence in close relationships. *Journal of Adult Development*.

Farr, R. H., & Grotevant, H. D. (in press, 2019). Adoption. In B. H. Fiese (Ed.), *APA Handbook of Contemporary Family Psychology*, Vol. 1: Foundations, Methods, and Contemporary Issues Across the Lifespan. (pp. 725-741) Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Grotevant, H. D., Wrobel, G.M., **Fiorenzo, L., Lo, A.Y.H.,** & McRoy, R.G. (in press, 2019). Trajectories of birth family contact in infant adoptions. *Journal of Family Psychology*. (Advance online publication - <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/fam0000449>)

Lo, A. Y. H., Grotevant, H. D., & McRoy, R. G. (in press, 2019). Ethical considerations in adoption research: Navigating confidentiality and privacy across the adoption kinship network. *Adoption Quarterly*. (Advance online publication.)

Matthews, J. A. K. (in press, 2019). Adoption pedagogy: Implications for praxis and social justice. *Adoption & Culture*, 7(1), 22-42.

Palacios, J., Adroher, S., Brodzinsky, D. M., **Grotevant, H. D.,** Johnson, D. E., Juffer, F., Martinez-Mora, L., Muhamedrahimov, R.J., Selwyn, J., Simmonds, J., & Tarren-Sweeney, M. (in press, 2019). Adoption in the service of child protection: An international interdisciplinary perspective. *Psychology, Public Policy, and Law*.

Paniagua, C., Moreno, C., Román, M., Palacios, J., **Grotevant, H. D.,** & Rivera, F. (in press). Under the same label: Adopted adolescents' heterogeneity in well-being and perception of social contexts. *Youth and Society*.

Sellers, C. M., Wyman Battalen, A., **Fiorenzo, L.,** McRoy, R. G., & **Grotevant, H. D.** (in press, 2019). Adoptive mothers' and fathers' psychological distress: Parenting teens adopted from birth. *Adoption Quarterly*. (advance online publication)

Wrobel, G. M., & **Grotevant, H. D.** (in press, 2019). Adoption-related curiosity at emerging adulthood. *Adoption Quarterly*. (Advance online publication)

Wyman Battalen, A., Sellers, C. M., McRoy, R. G., & **Grotevant, H. D.** (in press, 2019). Birth mothers now birth grandmothers: Intergenerational relationships in open adoptions. *Adoption Quarterly*. (Advance online publication.)

Grotevant, H. D. (forthcoming, 2019). Open adoption. In E. Helder, E., Marr, & G. Wrobel (Eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Adoption*.

Lo, A. Y. H. & Cashen, K. K. (forthcoming, 2019). How adoptive parents think about their role as parents. In E. Helder, E. Marr, & G. Wrobel (Eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Adoption*.

Farr, R. H., Ravvina, Y., & Grotevant, H. D. (2018). Birth family contact experiences among lesbian, gay, and heterosexual adoptive parents with school-age children. *Family Relations*, 67, 132-146. DOI: 10.1111/fare.12295

Grotevant, H. D. (2018). Commentary for Narrative Symposium, Healthcare challenges faced by adopted persons lacking family health history information: Claiming what is rightfully mine. *Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics*, 8(2), 137-141.

Names of current and former Rudd program faculty affiliates, staff, and students are in bold.

PRESENTATIONS AND POSTERS

Grotevant, H. D. (2018, March). *Coming of age in open adoption: Navigating complex family relationships*. Invited Robert I. Watson Lecture, Department of Psychology, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH.

Caisse, M., Demaral, V., Otucu, E., Matthews, J. A. K., McRoy, R., & Grotevant, H. D. (2018, April). *How does change in contact with the birth father relate to the adoptee's satisfaction in their relationship with their birth father?* 24th Massachusetts Statewide Undergraduate Research Conference, University of Massachusetts Amherst.

LeRoux, H., Mbengue, M., Worley, M., Matthews, J. A. K., Grotevant, H. D., & McRoy, R. (2018, April). *How is the birth father relationship (or lack thereof) related to adoptees' preoccupation with adoption?* The 10th annual New Worlds of Adoption and Foster Care: Beyond Safety to Well-Being, Rudd Adoption Conference, University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Zhang, X., Shin, R., Kimura, A., Cinney, A., Boland, K., Jurca, A., Kupa, J., **Matthews, J. A. K.**, & Pinderhughes, E. (2018, April). *How is parent reported family race/ethnicity related to parents' understanding and explanation of adoption bias?* The 10th annual New Worlds of Adoption and Foster Care: Beyond Safety to Well-Being, Rudd Adoption Conference, University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Baden, A., Pinderhughes, E., Zhang, X., **Matthews, J. A. K.**, Kitchen, A., Harrington, E., White, E. (2018, July). *Location, Location, Location: Adoption and Racial Microaggressions Experienced by Intercountry Adoptive Families in Diverse Communities*. In A. Baden (Chair), *Forms of Discrimination among International Adoptions: Views from Four Countries*. Symposium conducted at the Sixth International Conference on Adoption Research, Montreal.

Cashen, K. K., Lo, A. Y. H., & Grotevant, H. D. (2018, July). *Examining Kirk's social role theory: Revisiting Shared Fate in a contemporary adoptive sample*. Paper presented at the 6th International Conference on Adoption Research, Montreal.

Cashen, K. K., Wyman Battalen, A., Sellers, C. M., McRoy, R. G., & **Grotevant, H. D.** (2018, July). *The role of tech-mediated and traditional modes of communication in adult adoptees' contact with birth mothers and birth fathers*. Paper presented at the 6th International Conference on Adoption Research, Montreal.

Dolan, J., Grotevant, H. D., & Lo, A. Y., (2018, July). *Leadership development among college students who are adopted*. In K. Freeark (Chair and Organizer), *Innovative approaches to creating adoption communities for young people*. Symposium presented at the 6th International Conference on Adoption Research, Montreal.

Grant-Marsney, H., & Grotevant, H. D. (2018, July). *Adolescent and emerging adult adoptees' feelings on adoption and the impact on relationships*. Paper presented at the 6th International Conference on Adoption Research, Montreal.

Grotevant, H. D., Altamari, D., & Mbengue, M. (2018, July). *Adoptees as parents: Relationships, stress, and the experience of emerging adulthood*. In E. Neil (Chair & Organizer), *From adoption to parenting: How adoptees in different contexts experience becoming a parent*. Symposium presented at the 6th International Conference on Adoption Research, Montreal.

Howard, C., Altamari, D., Yichye, T., Seeley, S., Matthews, J., Grotevant, H. D., & McRoy, R. G. (2018, July). *How is the birth father relationship (or lack thereof) related to adoptees' positive affect towards and negative experiences with adoption?* Poster presented at the 6th International Conference on Adoption Research, Montreal.

Lo, A. Y. H., Grotevant, H. D., & Wrobel, G. M. (2018, July). *Trajectories of birth family contact: Implications for psychological adjustment in adopted young adults*. Paper presented at the 6th International Conference on Adoption Research, Montreal.

Matthews, J. A. K., Pinderhughes, E., & Pertman, A. (2018, July). *Maintaining connection to birth culture among international adoptive parents*. In **J. A. K. Matthews** (Chair), *Achieving Authenticity in Cultural Ethnic Racial Socialization: Factors Related to Parents' Socialization Choices for their Adopted Children*. Symposium conducted at the Sixth International Conference on Adoption Research, Montreal.

McGinnis, H.A., **Grotevant, H. D.**, McRoy, R.G., Palacios, J., Kim, J., Sims, L., (2018, July). *Letter to a young scientist: Dialogue on nurturing the future of adoption research*. Round-table discussion presented at the 6th International Conference on Adoption Research, Montreal.

Miller, L.C., Perouse de Montclos, M., **Matthews, J. A. K.**, Bussi, N., de Truchis, A., Sorge, F., de Monleon, J., Baudin, O., Chomilier, J., & Vaugelade, J. (2018, July). *Adoption Microaggressions in France*. In A. Baden (Chair), *Forms of Discrimination among International Adoptions: Views from Four Countries*. Symposium conducted at the Sixth International Conference on Adoption Research, Montreal.

Pinderhughes, E., **Matthews, J. A. K.**, & Zhang, X. (2018, July). *Family engagement in adoption socialization and cultural socialization: Developmental and contextual considerations*. In **J. A. K. Matthews** (Chair), *Achieving Authenticity in Cultural Ethnic Racial Socialization: Factors Related to Parents' Socialization Choices for their Adopted Children*. Symposium conducted at the Sixth International Conference on Adoption Research, Montreal.

Zhang, X., **Matthews, J. A. K.**, & Pinderhughes, E. (2018, July). *Connecting to birth culture: How transracial adoptive parents think about adoptees' birth culture and what they provide*. In **J. A. K. Matthews** (Chair), *Achieving Authenticity in Cultural Ethnic Racial Socialization: Factors Related to Parents' Socialization Choices for their Adopted Children*. Symposium conducted at the Sixth International Conference on Adoption Research, Montreal.

Cashen, K. K., & Grotevant, H. D. (2018, November). *Relational competence and relationship satisfaction in emerging adult adoptees: An actor-partner interdependence model*. Poster presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, San Diego, CA.

THESES

Altamari, D. K. (2018). *Associations between Peer Attachment and Positive Adoption Affect throughout Adolescence and Emerging Adulthood*. Undergraduate Honors Thesis, Commonwealth Honors College and Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences. (H. Grotevant, advisor; K. Cashen co-advisor)

Cashen, K. K. (2018). *Understanding Relational Competence in Emerging Adult Adoptees: A New Way to Conceptualize Competence in Close Relationships*. Masters Thesis, Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences. (H. Grotevant, advisor)

Lo, A. Y. H. (2017). *Adoptive Parenting Cognitions, Compatibility, and Attachment among Domestically Adoptive Families*. Masters Thesis, Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences. (H. Grotevant, advisor) – (omitted from 2017 annual report)

Names of current and former Rudd program faculty affiliates, staff, and students are in bold.



Richard Carbonaro, UMass doctoral student in sociology, presented his research based on the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent and Adult Health.



Service to the Profession and the University

Throughout 2018, Dr. Grotevant provided service to a number of professional, community, governmental, and university organizations.

Professional, Community, and Governmental Service

St. John's University Adoption Initiative, Advisory Board

Society for Research on Identity Development, Student Award Selection Committee

Treehouse Foundation, National Advisory Board

Center for Adoption Support and Education, Advisory Board for development of Adoption Competent Mental Health Professional credential

International Conference on Adoption Research (ICAR), Site Selection Committee and Senior Advisor

University of Tennessee – Knoxville, External Site Visitor for review of Department of Psychology

Editorial Boards / Consulting Editor Positions:

Adoption and Fostering

Adoption Quarterly

Family Process

Identity: International Journal of Theory and Research

Journal of Early Adolescence

Journal of Family Psychology

UMass Amherst Service

Advisory Board, Center for Research on Families

Personnel Committee, College of Natural Sciences

Faculty Liaison, Graduate Student Diversity Committee, Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences

Search Committee in Clinical Multicultural Psychology



Transformative Generosity



Andrew and Virginia Rudd

Andrew and Virginia Rudd, adoptive parents and visionary philanthropists, saw the need for stronger connections between the academic research being produced at universities and the needs experienced by those with personal connections to adoption in the community. With their initial endowment at UMass Amherst, the Rudd Family Foundation Chair in Psychology, they aspired to stimulate and support research while simultaneously encouraging its translation and dissemination to people who could use it, including parents, clinicians, policymakers, educators, and health care professionals. Subsequent donations and matching gifts created the Rudd Family Endowed Fund for Outreach to Adoptive Parents in 2014.

In 2016, a generous new contribution from Andrew and Virginia Rudd established the Rudd Family Visiting Professorship. This new fund has endowed a visiting professorship within the Rudd Program at UMass in order to enhance training, encourage innovative and collaborative research paths, and expand the implementation of the best adoption practices in the United States and internationally. Recipients will be selected for their expertise in adoption and for their commitment to use their residency to promote dissemination of knowledge to the larger adoption community, including researchers, practitioners, community members, policymakers, and students.

The Rudds' vision and their support have made it possible for the adoption program to become well-established in the adoption research world, in the community, and at UMass. Because it is supported by permanent endowments, we look forward to its ability to flourish and grow into the future.



Scott Chaplin

The program has also benefited from the support of another major donor, Scott D. Chaplin '89, whose life has been touched by adoption. "Giving is an affirmation of how great UMass Amherst was for me," Chaplin said. "The adoption research is interesting and unique and UMass is really making a name for itself in this area."

Gifts made to the Rudd Family Foundation Chair in Psychology, the Rudd Family Endowed Fund for Outreach to Adoptive Parents, and the Rudd Family Visiting Professorship support the priorities of the Rudd Adoption Research Program reflected in this report. Donations will support activities such as adoption research, the annual conference, the Adoption Mentoring Partnership, adoption research training, graduate student and post-doctoral scholar stipends, and visiting scholars. For further information about this unique opportunity, please contact Jenn Cooper, Senior Director of Development, UMass Amherst College of Natural Sciences, at (413) 545-2771 or at jcooper@cns.umass.edu

Scenes from 2018 Conference: The Future of Adoption



Coming in 2019!

- *Rudd Publication Series: The Future of Adoption*
- *2019 Summer Adoption Research Institute (May 19-24, 2019)*
- *First annual UMass campus tour for prospective students, co-sponsored by Rudd Adoption Research Program and Adoption Journeys*
- *New undergraduate course — Psychology 391FT: "Foster Care: Psychological and Societal Perspectives"*

Contact Information

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For information about supporting the
Rudd Adoption Research Program,
please contact Jenn Cooper,
Senior Director of Development,
UMass Amherst College of Natural Sciences.
She may be contacted at
(413) 545-2771 or
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