



Rudd Family Foundation
Chair in Psychology
ANNUAL REPORT 2019

University of
Massachusetts
Amherst BE REVOLUTIONARY™

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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Contact Information (back cover)

Cover photos:
Top: Participants in 2019 Summer Adoption Research Institute.
Center left: Anne Marie Shier, SARl participant from the Technological University of Dublin.
Center right: AMP mentor Kelibeth Resto-Albelo (right) with her mentee.

From the Chair



Dear Friends,

This edition of our Annual Report series highlights accomplishments of the Rudd Family Foundation Chair in Psychology during calendar year 2019. 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. We recognize that expertise in adoption comes in many forms, but that one source of expertise, the lived experience of adopted persons, is often under-represented. Therefore, our 2018 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 and served as the foundation for our 2019 Future of Adoption Publication Series and as inspiration for our planned 2020 conference: “Adopted Adults: Connections Across Generations.”

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.

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
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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, 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 30s and starting families

Results of this study continue to be disseminated in numerous ways, including through important peer-reviewed journals such as *Developmental Psychology*, the *Journal of Family Psychology*, *Child Development Perspectives*, the *International Journal of Behavioral Development* and several chapters in the new *Routledge Handbook of Adoption* (in press, 2020). This work has also been represented at important national and international conferences, including every one of the International Conferences on Adoption Research.

The body of work coming from MTARP has influenced adoption practice and policy throughout the United States, Europe, Australia, and New Zealand. Its findings were also featured in an influential article published in 2019 by an international, interdisciplinary team led by Rudd Advisory Board Member Dr. Jesús Palacios (University of Seville, Spain), and including Dr. Grotevant: Adoption in the service of child protection: An international interdisciplinary perspective. *Psychology, Public Policy, and Law*, 25, 57-72. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/law0000192>



MTARP data are currently being used to address important research questions such as the following:

- How do adoptees fare as young adults, and what are their concerns?
- How do the ways in which adoptive parents think about adoption influence their decisions about contact with their children's birth relatives?
- Are there special or additional challenges that young adult adoptees face when they become parents, in comparison to their nonadopted peers?
- How do birth mothers experience the role of birth grandmother, and how do birth grandmothers and adoptive grandmothers navigate connection with their new grandchildren and each other?
- How are changes over time in contact between adoptive and birth family members related to adjustment outcomes in young adulthood?
- How do young adults experience relationships with their birth fathers, when access to information about birth fathers may be controlled by their birth mothers?
- What role does technology-mediated communication (e.g., social media, texting, e-mail) play in maintaining contact between adoptees and their birth parents?

The Rudd Lab has mentored a steady stream of undergraduate honors theses, masters theses, and doctoral dissertations. Active collaborations on MTARP continue with colleagues at the University of Texas at Austin, Boston College, Bethel University, and the University of Kentucky. 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.



Colleagues on the Minnesota-Texas Adoption Research Project: Dr. Addie Wyman Battalen, recent PhD from Boston College; Dr. Hal Grotevant, UMass Amherst; Dr. Ruth McRoy, Donahue and DiFelice Professor of Social Work at Boston College.



The Rudd Lab welcomed back Dr. Karin Garber (UMass Psychology PhD, 2016) to meet with the current research team (L to R: Dongwei Wang, Jen Dolan, Krystal Cashen, Karin Garber, Hal Grotevant, Albert Lo).



Dr. Ruth McRoy, co-founder of MTARP with Dr. Grotevant, is honored by Dean Gautam Yadama at her retirement celebration at the Boston College School of Social Work, 2019.

Providing Evidence-Based Knowledge to Inform Policy and Practice

During 2019, the Rudd Program undertook a major outreach initiative in launching its first Publication Series on *The Future of Adoption*. The papers were written by leading researchers in the field, each of whom was committed to making their contribution solidly research-based, yet accessible to a broad audience. The series was so well-received that we plan to launch more in the future. All 19 papers are available at www.umass.edu/ruddchair/future, and are available in pdf format for free download.

We are especially proud that this series was recommended as “essential reading” by the National IRO Managers Partnership in the UK. IROs (Independent Reviewing Officers) are assigned for every child in care; they oversee the child’s permanency plan and work to make sure it is carried out.



Future of Adoption Overview

Truth, Consequences, and Reform: Rethinking Adoption in the 21st Century – Gerald P. Mallon

Truth, Consequences, and Reform: Rethinking Adoption in the 21st Century – Reflections from the Experts – April Dinwoodie (panel chair) with Sue Badeau, Elliotte Harrington, Dana Johnson, Gerald Mallon, Amnoni Myers, Ridghaus

The Voices of Adopted Persons

How Adoptees are Shaping Post-Adoption Services – Steve Kalb and Angela Tucker

Generational Shifts: Adult Adoptee Scholars’ Perspective on Future Research and Practice – Hollee McGinnis, Amanda Baden, Adam Y. Kim, JaeRan Kim

An Open Letter from the UMass Adopted Student Advisory Panel – Ana Dolan, Jennifer Mutén, Peter Nikolai McGinn, Ana Greml, Emma Sander, Victoria Griswold

Programs and Interventions

Intervening Early to Promote the Development of Adopted and Foster Children – K. Lee Raby, Mary Dozier

Treehouse: Intergenerational Community as Intervention – Beth Spong, Kerry Homstead

Building an Adoption Competent Workforce – Dawn Wilson, Debbie Riley, Bethany Lee

Diverse Families

Intercountry Adoption: The Beginning of the End – Amanda Baden

Promoting Adoptees’ Well-Being in Transracial Adoptive Families – Ellen E. Pinderhughes

Successful Models for Recruitment and Retention of African American Adoptive Families – Kathleen Belanger, Ruth G. McRoy, Joe Haynes

LGBTQ Parent Adoption – Rachel Farr

Contact with Birth Families after Adoption

Planning and Supporting Birth Family Contact When Children are Adopted from Care – Elsbeth Neil

Foundation for Love: General Principles for Post-Adoption Communication Agreements – Marla Ruth Allisan

Open Adoption: Rethinking Family – Harold D. Grotevant

Promotion of Well-Being and Prevention

Relationships: The Roots of Well-Being – Susan Badeau

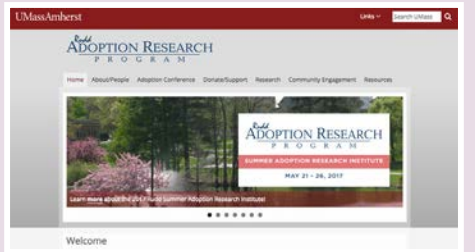
When Things Do Not Go as Expected: Adoption Breakdown – Jesús Palacios

Engaging the Adoption Community About the Potential Uses of Genetic Testing – Thomas May

Overview of Recommendations for Research, Practice, and Policy

Overview of Recommendations for Research, Practice, and Policy – Harold D. Grotevant, Jen Dolan, Kirby Deater-Deckard

In addition to disseminating information such as this series via our website, we also have an active social media presence on Facebook, with Facebook pages for the Rudd Adoption Research 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. Visit our website at www.umass.edu/ruddchair/ for links to all these resources.



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 Brothers 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 49 mentor-mentee relationships (98 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.

We'd like to share with you some quotes from past and present mentors:

"I think it was a great opportunity to serve as an important mentor in a young adoptee's life and I think it benefitted both of us." (Mentor)

"I think I would have really liked being a part of the program when I was younger and to have a Big Sister who was adopted and who shared that important aspect of my identity and could relate to me and understand me in a way that most other people can't." (Mentor)

"It [being a mentor] was great. I learned so much and have enjoyed it. It was one of my biggest experiences at UMass. it kept me busy and informed. I am so grateful for being a part of it and am so much more aware of other adoptees in the community. I feel better informed about myself and who I am and how I was brought up." (Mentor)



Mentors and mentees in the Adoption Mentoring Partnership each received their "Certificate of Awesomeness" at the end-of-year gathering to celebrate their special relationships.



THE TREEHOUSE COMMUNITY

Since the founding of the Rudd Program, another of our key community partners has been the Treehouse Community in Easthampton, 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). In November, 2019, Jen Dolan along with two former UMass Adopted Student Advisory Board (ASAP) club officers presented a workshop at the REFCA conference entitled, "Creating an Adoption and Foster Care Friendly Campus at UMass Amherst." Members of the Treehouse Community regularly welcome our visitors and colleagues wishing to learn more about their work, including those who attended the Summer Adoption Research Institute in 2019; and Kerry Homstead, Treehouse Community Coordinator, was a guest speaker in our new course on Foster Care: Psychological and Societal Perspectives. 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.



Participants and presenters from the Summer Adoption Research Institute spent an evening at the Treehouse Community in Easthampton, MA, learning about this innovative intergenerational community.

Mentoring the Next Generation of Adoption-Competent Scholars

Graduate students and recent Ph.D.s with strong interest in careers involving adoption research were invited to apply to participate in the **2019 Rudd Summer Adoption Research Institute, May 19 - 24, 2019**, held on the campus of UMass Amherst. Once again due to an overwhelming response we were able to select 20 applicants to participate in the week-long institute. The cohort of graduate students and recent PhDs spent a week together engaging in extended interactions and community-building with experienced adoption researchers in an effort to build expertise in some of the special methodological and statistical issues inherent in this field. Participants hailed from around the world, representing eight countries.

The following topics were presented:

- Culture, Race & Class in Designing & Interpreting Adoption Research (Amanda Baden Montclair State University and Ellen Pinderhughes, Tufts University)
- Conducting Research with LGBT Adoptive Families (Abbie Goldberg, Clark University)
- Translating and Disseminating Research Findings for Impact (Jesús Palacios, University of Seville)
- Longitudinal Data Analysis (Aline Sayer, UMass Amherst)
- Analyzing Family & Couple Level Data (Holly Laws, UMass Amherst)
- Data Organization and Management (Margaret Burchinal, UNC – Chapel Hill)
- Adoption Research Using Secondary Data Sets (Hal Grotevant & Kirby Deater-Deckard, UMass Amherst)
- Funding for Adoption Research (Kirby Deater-Deckard & Hal Grotevant, UMass Amherst)

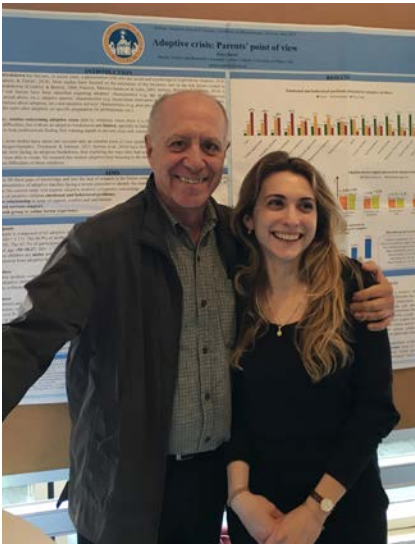
These methodological topics were interspersed with discussions of adoption in global perspective, balancing the personal and professional, the history of adoption, research ethics, and much more. The group toured the Treehouse Community in Easthampton, and one evening featured poster presentations offered by all the participants. At the end of the conference, participants were named Rudd Adoption Research Scholars, and were added to the growing list of scholars who have learned from and contributed to the work of the Rudd program. SARI will be offered again in summer, 2021.

In advance of SARI, Hal Grotevant was interviewed by Albany-based NPR station WAMC-FM about national and international trends in adoption and why professionals are coming to SARI. Read about his interview here:

<https://www.umass.edu/newsoffice/article/umass-amherst-host-international-summer>

and listen to the interview here:

<https://www.wamc.org/term/hal-grotevant>



Professor Jesús Palacios, SARI faculty member, with doctoral student Petra Barni, Catholic University of the Sacred Heart of Milan.

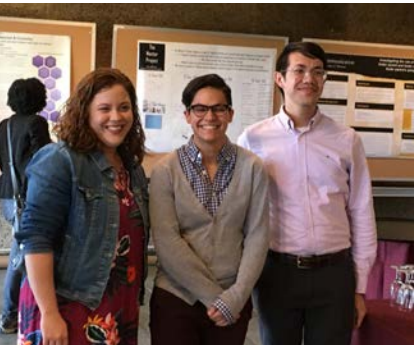


Doctoral student Johanne Thomson-Sweeney (University of Montreal) presented her research at the SARI poster session.

Scenes from the 2019 Summer Adoption Research Institute



SARI participants before the Poster Session at the Campus Center: Marty Forth (doctoral student, University of Hong Kong); Amanda Baden (Professor, Montclair State University); Jing Wang (doctoral student, University of California, Riverside); Sofia Stepanyan (doctoral student, University of California, Riverside).



SARI participants with their poster presentations: Krystal Cashen (doctoral student, UMass Amherst); Casey Vásquez (doctoral student, University of Kentucky); Kyle Simon (doctoral student, University of Kentucky).



Hal Grotevant welcomes SARI participants to the UMass Campus with an orientation and dinner at Old Chapel.



Presenters and participants in the 2019 Summer Adoption Research Institute.

Rudd Program Postdoctoral and Graduate Students

The Rudd Program is also involved in the training of postdoctoral and graduate students who are seeking to become adoption-competent researchers. Current trainees and their interests include

Jessica A. Matthews, PhD, emerging adult adoptees' relationships with birth parents

Krystal Cashen, MS, family contexts of development of sexual identity

Grace Cho, BA, ALM, suicide risk in adolescents and young adults

Christina Hogan, BA, parenting stress and development of emotion regulation in children

Albert Lo, MS, adoptive parenting cognitions, attachment, and identity development

In September 2020, the Rudd Lab will be joined by Postdoctoral Scholar Anna Wright, who will be receiving her PhD from Virginia Commonwealth University in clinical psychology prior to arriving.

Making UMass Amherst an Adoption-Friendly Campus

The Rudd Program furthers its mission by making UMass Amherst an adoption-friendly campus. This means that we provide innovative courses and educational opportunities for undergraduate students, that we promote specific community-building activities, and that we support UMass faculty and staff who are adoptive or foster parents.

Courses and Educational Opportunities

The Rudd Program provides educational opportunities for undergraduate students through five credit-bearing classes and through incorporating undergraduates as research assistants in our lab.

- We regularly offer an undergraduate seminar (Psych 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.
- Every semester, we offer a 2-credit seminar (Psych 395A, Adoption Mentoring Seminar), which provides an academic foundation for the mentors who participate in our Adoption Mentoring Partnership program. This seminar is taught by doctoral candidate Albert Lo, who works closely with the AMP students and the BBBS Case Manager, Ruth Harms.
- Jen Dolan, Rudd Program Manager, regularly offers a 1-credit freshman seminar entitled, “Giving Voice to Adoption.”
- In 2018, we offered a new seminar, Psych 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 was offered in fall semester 2019, Psych 391FT: “Foster Care: Psychological and Societal Perspectives.” The development and implementation of this course involved many of our community partners who served as consultants for the development of the course and as guest speakers.
- In addition to these structured courses, we also engage undergraduate students as research assistants in our lab. Students work on specific projects, many of which culminate in research papers or conference presentations; and students in the Commonwealth Honors College conduct thesis research on adoption-related topics.

Community Building Activities

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. Jen 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.



Supporting Adoptive and Foster Families

Once a month since the fall of 2013, parents of adoptive and foster youth have been getting together for brown bag lunches on the UMass campus. Most of the parents work at UMass, but some come from the community or other local higher education institutions. There are many similarities in parenting biological children and adoptive/foster children, but there are also differences; the lunch gatherings give parents the space to engage with others who understand first-hand the nuances of parenting a child who is not biologically related to them. The lunches offer a relaxed and informal atmosphere for parents to share their parenting joys and challenges. The collective understanding and knowledge of the group enables each of the parents to easily access university and community resources that they might not have learned about otherwise.



Members of the Adopted Student Advisory Panel for 2018-2019. Standing L to R: Nicole Gomes, David Hincapie, Olivia Lyon, Julie Niemyski, Alex White Front L to R: Ana Dolan, Lily Elkin, Skylar Unger.



ASAP members and friends sponsor the We Celebrate Adoption event for 2019, linking campus and community members, as well as mentors and mentees.

Rudd Program Personnel

Harold D. Grotevant, Rudd Family Foundation Chair in Psychology

Affiliated Faculty

Kirby Deater-Deckard, Professor of Developmental Psychology, UMass Amherst
Abbie Goldberg, Professor of Psychology, Clark University
Jennifer M. McDermott, Associate Professor of Developmental Psychology, UMass Amherst
Ellen Pinderhughes, Professor, Child Study and Human Development, Tufts University
Patricia G. Ramsey, Professor of Psychology and Education, Mount Holyoke College
David Scherer, Professor of Clinical Psychology, UMass Amherst
Rebecca Woodland, Professor of Educational Leadership, UMass Amherst

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
Grace Cho, Clinical Psychology
Christina Hogan, Clinical Psychology
Albert Lo, Clinical Psychology

Undergraduate Research Assistants

Huma Aldatmaz
Kiri Carlson (Commonwealth Honors College Student)
Mollie di Curcio Clayton (Postgrad RA)
Christine Howard
Jonathan Machadinho
Maguatte Mbengue (Commonwealth Honors College Student)
Sabrina Seeley
Marion Worley
Tahlee Yichye

Adoption Mentoring Partnership Mentors

Mackenzie Abbott	Anna Olsson
Sara Chang	Grace O’Neil
Andrew Edwards	Kelibeth Resto-Albelo
Michaela Flanders	Emily Sjogren
Carly Hochron	Kristina Troy
Maya Lopez	Lulu Wan
Leeanne Nielsen	Alex White

Advisory Board



Amanda Baden, PhD,
Professor of Counseling and
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Professor of Adoption and
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Centre for Child and Family
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Ruth G. McRoy, PhD,
Donahue & DiFelice
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Work, Boston College



Cynthia Monahan, PsyD,
Psychologist, Easthampton,
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Elsbeth Neil, PhD, Professor
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Maureen Perry-Jenkins,
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Sally Powers, EdD,
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Caren Rotello, PhD,
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Psychology and Department
Chair, University of
Massachusetts Amherst



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

Joining the Advisory Board in 2020:

Amy Conley Wright, PhD,
University of Sydney

Mary Dozier, PhD,
University of Delaware

Kerry Homstead, EdD,
Treehouse Foundation

Hollee McGinnis, PhD,
Virginia Commonwealth
University

Publications & Presentations

PUBLICATIONS IN PRESS

Cashen, K. K., & Grotevant, H.D. (in press; published online Feb 06, 2019). Relational competence in emerging adult adoptees: Conceptualizing competence in close relationships. *Journal of Adult Development*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10804-019-09328-x>

Grotevant, H.D. (in press, 2020). Open adoption. In G.M. Wrobel, E. Helder, & E. Marr (Eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Adoption*.

Lo, A. Y. H. & Cashen, K. K. (in press, 2020). How adoptive parents think about their role as parents. In G.M. Wrobel, E. Helder, & E. Marr (Eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Adoption*.

Lo, A. Y. H., & Grotevant, H. D. (in press, 2020). Adoptive parenting cognitions: Acknowledgement of differences as a predictor of adolescent’s attachment to parents. *Parenting: Science and Practice*.

Matthews, J.A.K. (in press, 2020). Maltreatment of adoptees in adoptive homes. In G.M. Wrobel, E. Helder, & E. Marr (Eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Adoption*.

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

Matthews, J.A.K., Pinderhughes, E., & Pott, M. (in press). Adoptive parenting is more complex than evolutionary theory would predict: Evidence from historical and contemporary perspectives. In V.A. Weekes-Shackelford & T.K. Shackelford (Eds.) *The Oxford Handbook of Evolutionary Psychology and Parenting*. Oxford University Press.

Miller, L.C., Pérouse de Montclos, M-O., **Matthews, J. Peyre, J.,** Vaugelade, J., Baubin, O., Chomilier, J., de Monleon, J-V., de Truchis, A., Sorge, F., & Pinderhughes, E. (2020, in press). Microaggressions experienced by adoptive families and internationally adopted adolescents in France. *Adoption Quarterly*.

Paniagua, C., Moreno, C., Román, M., Palacios, J., **Grotevant, H.D.,** & Rivera, F. (in press; published online Feb 2019). Under the same label: Adopted adolescents’ heterogeneity in well-being and perception of social contexts. *Youth and Society*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0044118X19828081>

PUBLISHED IN 2019

Special Issue of *Adoption Quarterly*, 2019, Vol 22(1).

Grotevant, H.D., & McRoy, R.G. (2019). Beyond the childhood years: Openness in adoptive kinship networks. Introduction to the special issue. *Adoption Quarterly*, 22, 1-4. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10926755.2019.1578038>

Sellers, C.M., Wyman Battalen, A., **Fiorenzo, L.,** McRoy, R.G., & **Grotevant, H.D.** (2019). Adoptive mothers’ and fathers’ psychological distress: Parenting teens adopted from birth. *Adoption Quarterly*, 22, 5-28. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10926755.2018.1508530>

Wrobel, G.M., & **Grotevant, H.D.** (2019). Minding the (information) gap: What do emerging adult adoptees want to know about their birth parents? *Adoption Quarterly*, 22, 29-52. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10926755.2018.1488332>

Wyman Battalen, A., Sellers, C. M., McRoy, R.G., & **Grotevant, H.D.** (2019). Birth mothers now birth grandmothers: Intergenerational relationships in open adoptions. *Adoption Quarterly*, 22, 53-74. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10926755.2018.1488327>

Lo, A. Y. H., Grotevant, H.D., & McRoy, R. G. (2019). Ethical considerations in adoption research: Navigating confidentiality and privacy across the adoption kinship network. *Adoption Quarterly*, 22, 75-93. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10926755.2018.1488328>

Cashen, K. K., Altamari, D. K., Grotevant, H. D., & McRoy, R. G. (2019). Hearing the voices of emerging adult adoptees: Perspectives on adoption agency practices. *Child Welfare*, 97(4), 1-22.

Farr, R. H., & Grotevant, H.D. (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. (2019). Trajectories of birth family contact in infant adoptions. *Journal of Family Psychology*, 33, 54-63. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/fam0000449>

Matthews, J.A.K. (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. (2019). Adoption in the service of child protection: An international interdisciplinary perspective. *Psychology, Public Policy, and Law*, 25, 57-72. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/law0000192>

Pinderhughes, E., Scott, J.C. & **Matthews, J.A.K.** (2019). Youth of color in care: Intersecting identities and vulnerabilities. In Fitzgerald, H., Johnson, D., Qin, D., Villarruel F., & Norder, J. (Eds.), *Handbook of Children and Prejudice: Integrating Research, Practice and Policy*. Springer, Cham.

Grotevant, H.D. (2019). (Editor). *Rudd Adoption Research Program Publication Series: The Future of Adoption*. (19 papers). University of Massachusetts Amherst. <https://www.umass.edu/ruddchair/future>

Grotevant, H.D., Dolan, J., & Deater-Deckard, K. (2019). The future of adoption: Concluding thoughts about research, practice, and policy. *Rudd Adoption Research Program Publication Series: The Future of Adoption*. University of Massachusetts Amherst.

PRESENTATIONS IN 2019

Wyman Battalen, A., Sellers, C. M., **Cashen, K.,** McRoy, R.G., **Grotevant, H.D.** (2019, January). *Psychological presence of adult adoptees: Exploring birthmother perspectives*. Poster presented at the Annual Conference of the Society of Social Work Research (SSWR), San Francisco, CA.

Deater-Deckard, K., & Grotevant, H.D. (2019, May). *Strategies for funding adoption research*. Presentation to Summer Adoption Research Institute (SARI 2019). Amherst, MA: UMass Amherst.

Grotevant, H.D., & Deater-Deckard, K. (2019, May). *Secondary data sets with adoption data*. Presentation to Summer Adoption Research Institute (SARI 2019). Amherst, MA: UMass Amherst.

Grotevant, H.D. (2019, August). *Adoptive kinship networks: Maintaining connections from childhood to adulthood*. Invited lecture to staff of Barnardos Australia (major NGO adoption agency), Sydney, Australia.

Grotevant, H.D. (2019, August). *Children and permanency: Perspectives on relationships over the life span*. Keynote address, Sydney Ideas Event, University of Sydney, Australia.

Grotevant, H.D. (2019, August). *Adoptive kinship networks: Relationships for life*. Keynote address, University of Sydney Research to Practice Forum, University of Sydney, Australia.

Cashen, K. K. (2019, October). *Sexual identity in contemporary emerging adults with LGBTQ+ parent(s)*. Poster presented at the Conference of the Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood (SSEA), Toronto, CA.

Cashen, K. K. (2019, November). “*I assume she’s bisexual but I wasn’t absolutely certain*”: *Experiences of young adults with parents with same-gender relations*. Poster presented at the Annual Conference of the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR), Fort Worth, TX.

Grotevant, H.D. (2019, November). *Adoption: What is it (really)? and Why should school psychologists care?* Invited presentation to School Psychology graduate students and faculty. Amherst, MA: College of Education, UMass Amherst.

Matthews, J.A.K., Grotevant, H.D., & McRoy, R. (2019, November). *Emerging adult adoptees and the birth father relationship: Information, perceptions and satisfaction*. Presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Fort Worth, TX.

Dolan, J., Mutén, J., & Dolan, A. (2019, November). *Creating an adoption and foster care-friendly campus at UMass Amherst*. Workshop presented at the Re-Envisioning Foster Care Conference, Boston, MA.

Rudd Program Partners and Collaborators

University of Massachusetts Amherst

Center for Research on Families
Center for Multicultural Advancement and Student Success
College of Education
College of Natural Sciences
Commonwealth Honors College
Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences
Developmental Science Initiative
Diversity Sciences Institute
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 (C.A.S.E.)
Center for Evidence-Based Mentoring, University of Massachusetts Boston
Clark University Department of Psychology
Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption
Friends of Children
Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange
Massachusetts Department of Children and Families
Mount Holyoke College
Re-Envisioning Foster Care in America Initiative
Treehouse Community at Easthampton Meadow
Treehouse Foundation

Service to the Profession and the University

During 2019, Dr. Grotevant provided service to a number of professional, community, governmental, and university organizations.

Professional, Community, and Governmental Service

Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE), Board of Directors
St. John’s University Adoption Initiative, Advisory Board
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

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, UMass Amherst
Personnel Committee, College of Natural Sciences, UMass Amherst
Graduate Student Cohort Mentor, Clinical Psychology Program, UMass Amherst

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. In 2020, Dr. Jean Rhodes, Frank Boyden Professor of Clinical Psychology and Director of the UMass Boston Center for Evidence-Based Mentoring will hold the Visiting Professorship and consult with Rudd Program faculty and staff about the Adoption Mentoring Partnership on the occasion of its 10th anniversary.

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.

The program has also benefited from the support of another major donor, Scott D. Chaplin (UMass Amherst class of 1989), 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 Julie Taugher, Office of Development, UMass Amherst College of Natural Sciences, at (413) 577-1923 or at julie.taugher@umass.edu



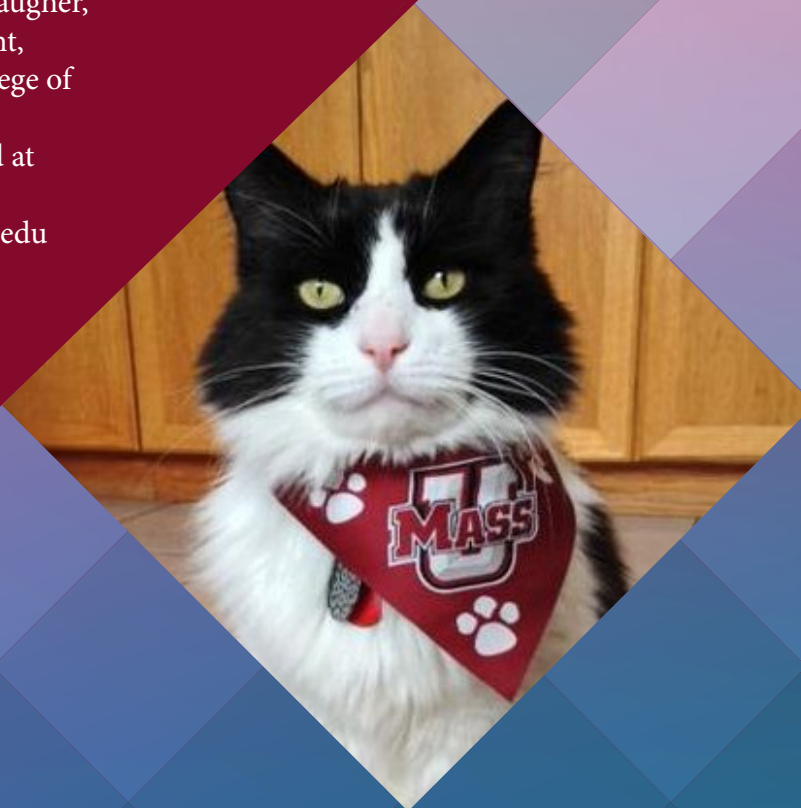
Scott Chaplin

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For information about supporting the
Rudd Adoption Research Program,
please contact Julie Taugher,
Office of Development,
UMass Amherst College of
Natural Sciences.
She may be contacted at
(413) 577-1923 or
julie.taugher@umass.edu



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