

Behavioral Science...

Devoted to the study of human behavior and the systems in which we live.

Community Science...

Bridging the gap between science, practice & policy with community-centered models.

BCS enrolls nearly 2,200 students, and represents the largest portion—nearly 40%—of all external funding for USF's Academic Affairs.



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH FLORIDA

COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL
& COMMUNITY SCIENCES

Junius Gonzales, MD, MBA *Dean*

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The College of

Behavioral & Community Sciences

... focuses on the development and implementation of innovative solutions to the complex conditions that affect the behavior and well-being of individuals, families, populations, and the communities in which we live.

The College of Behavioral & Community Sciences (BCS) was established in 2008, merging existing schools and departments in related disciplines to better position BCS faculty, students, and staff to work together to achieve the university's strategic goals of becoming a pre-eminent research university with state, national and global impact.

W W W . B C S . U S F . E D U

BCS Departments & Schools

Department of Aging and Mental Health Disparities

Larry Schonfeld, PhD, *Chair*

Department of Child & Family Studies

Mario Hernandez, PhD, *Chair*

Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders

Theresa Chisolm, PhD, *Chair*

Department of Criminology

Tom Mieczkowski, PhD, *Chair*

Department of Mental Health Law and Policy

Roger Peters, PhD, *Chair*

Department of Rehabilitation & Mental Health Counseling

Tennyson J. Wright, PhD, *Chair*

School of Aging Studies

Cathy L. McEvoy, PhD, *Director*

School of Social Work

William Rowe, DSW, *Director*

Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute

Junius Gonzales, MD, MBA, *Dean*

BCS Academics

BCS prepares students who will become service providers, professionals, scholars, and policy makers committed to:

1. Improving the quality of life, health, and safety of diverse populations.
2. Promoting sustainable communities, organizations and systems.
3. Supporting positive change for individuals and groups.

Academics



Undergraduate Programs

- Criminology
- Gerontology
- Interpreter Training
- Long-Term Care Administration
- Social Work
- Speech-Language-Hearing Science

Undergraduate Minors

- American Sign Language
- Behavioral Healthcare
- Gerontology

Master's Programs

- Applied Behavior Analysis
- Aural Habilitation/Deaf Education
- Criminal Justice Administration
- Criminology
- Gerontology
- Public Health/Behavioral Health Focus*
- Rehabilitation & Mental Health Counseling
- Social Work
- Speech-Language Pathology

Doctoral Programs

- Aging Studies
- Audiology
- Communication Sciences & Disorders
- Criminology
- Social Work
- Public Health/Behavioral Health*
 - » Professional Degree
 - » Research Degree

* These programs are in partnership with the USF College of Public Health

Graduate Certificates

- Criminal Justice Administration
- Children's Mental Health: Systems of Care
- Hearing Specialist: Early Intervention
- Mental Health Planning, Evaluation & Accountability
- Addictions and Substance Abuse Counseling
- Behavioral Health Counseling
- Marriage and Family Therapy
- Rehabilitation Technology
- Gerontology
- Health Care Risk Management and Patient Safety
- Geriatric Social Work/Clinical Gerontology
- Hospice, Palliative Care, and End-of-Life Studies

Internships/Fellowships

Educational experiences are available for students through internships, predoctoral, and post-doctoral fellowships, and preceptorships.



BCS Research & Engagement

Our research has influenced

- **State policy** in areas such as drug courts, Medicaid reimbursement, suicide prevention, managed care mandates, nursing homes.
- **National policy** through the Surgeon General's Report on Mental Health, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Committees, and the Obama-Biden DHHS transition report.

A Snapshot of Areas of Research and Engagement

- Auditory perception and intervention
- Bilingualism and language variation
- Children and youth with serious emotional disturbances and their families
- Children at special risk of poor outcome because of exposure to abuse, neglect, other forms of violence, absence of family, or long-term poverty
- Children with autism and related disabilities
- Cognitive aging and alzheimer's disease
- Criminology, criminal ethnography, victimology, and radical criminology
- Juvenile justice and delinquency
- Language and literacy
- Language processing and intervention
- Neurophysiology of hearing, speech, and language
- Speech and voice production
- Substance use and abuse
- Suicide prevention
- The long-term health, mental health, and support system needs of older adults
- Health disparities

BCS Partners Include...

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| ■ Achieve Management, Inc. | ■ Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities | ■ Mental Health Care, Inc. |
| ■ Admin for Children and Families | ■ Florida Department of Children and Families | ■ Naples Children & Education Foundation |
| ■ Agency for Health Care Administration | ■ Florida Department of Education | ■ National Cued Speech Association |
| ■ Agency for Persons with Disabilities | ■ Florida Department of Elder Affairs | ■ National Institute of Mental Health |
| ■ Agency for Workforce Innovation | ■ Florida Department of Health | ■ National Institute on Drug Abuse |
| ■ American Institutes for Research | ■ Goodwill-Suncoast Industries | ■ National Institutes of Health |
| ■ Anodyne Therapy, LLC | ■ H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center | ■ Ortho-McNeil Janssen Scientific Affairs |
| ■ Area Agency on Aging for SW Florida, Inc | ■ Health Management Associates, Inc. | ■ Pinellas County Florida |
| ■ Casey (Annie E) Foundation | ■ Health Resources and Srvcs Admin | ■ Substance Abuse & Mental Health |
| ■ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention | ■ HIPPIY USA | ■ Success 4 Kids & Families, Inc. |
| ■ Children's Board of Hillsborough County | ■ Hispanic Services Council | ■ Texas A & M University |
| ■ Children's Home Society of Florida | ■ JEHT Foundation | ■ The Dawn Center |
| ■ Clinton Eaton Ingham Community Health Authority | ■ Jewish Family and Children's Services | ■ University of Alaska |
| ■ Community Partnership for Children | ■ Johnnie Byrd Alzheimer's Research Institute | ■ University of Florida |
| ■ Corporation to Develop Communities | ■ Junior League of Tampa, Inc. | ■ University of Oregon |
| ■ Department of Veterans Affairs | ■ Justice Resource Institute | ■ US Department of Education |
| ■ Eckerd Youth Alternatives, Inc. | ■ Little Havana Community Partnership | ■ Vanderbilt University |
| ■ Family Network on Disabilities of FL | ■ MACRO International | ■ Veterans Administration Medical Center |
| | ■ Magellan Health Services, Inc | ■ West Central Florida Area Agency on Aging |
| | ■ Magna Systems, Inc. | |

Research

Research

- BCS research represents the largest portion—nearly 40%—of all external funding for USF's Academic Affairs.
- BCS is now the home of the Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute. Celebrating its 35th anniversary in 2009, the Institute is among the nation's largest behavioral health services research centers and houses one of only 13 mental health research institute libraries in the country.
- BCS houses one of the nation's largest compilation of behavioral health services data for use in research in its Policy & Services Research Data Center, and through the Annie E Casey Foundation-funded Kids Count program, now in its 16th year.

Academic

- Three of the four BCS departments/schools with doctoral programs are ranked among the "Top 10" nationally by *The Chronicle of Higher Education* for scholarly productivity.
- BCS is home to one of the few programs in the United States offering bachelors, masters, and doctoral degrees in Gerontology and Aging Studies.
- Several academic journals are edited or co-edited by BCS faculty including *Ear and Hearing*, *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders*, *Journal of Phonetics*, *The Journal of Behavioral Health Services & Research*, *Topics in Early Childhood Special Education*, & *Trends in Amplification*.

Direct Service & Technical Support

- BCS offers an audiology lab and hearing center for patients from birth to retirement.
- Since 1998, the Florida Kinship Care Center, housed within the School of Social Work, has served thousands of families of children raised by non-parent caregivers throughout Florida. The Center is a statewide information and training clearinghouse for caregivers, agencies and universities.
- The Florida Center for Inclusive Communities (FCIC), a nationally funded University Center of Excellence, serves to improve the lives of the 240,000 Floridians with developmental disabilities.
- BCS is home to the Florida Policy Exchange Center on Aging, a research center with the mission to inform policymakers, media representatives, scholars, and advocates on policies, programs, and services for older adults.
- CARD-USF (Center for Autism and Related Disabilities) serves 2,100 Florida families and 1,500 professionals within 14 counties.

Technology & Assessment Tools

- BCS staff developed technology to address problems associated with wandering behavior and the threat of falling in nursing homes and VA Hospitals.
- BCS staff developed the first empirically-based competence assessment tool (MacCat-CA) for forensic evaluation.

Promoting Effective Services in Communities

- BCS faculty are collaborating on the Disaster Center for Elderly, which serves as a national model to provide transportation options and unique care to underserved elderly populations during threat of evacuation.
- BCS is collaborating with staff from USF Architecture, Public Health, Sociology, Anthropology, the Florida Center for Community Design & Research, area churches, coalitions, government agencies, and student social justice groups to address the problems of affordable housing and homelessness.
- Through efforts of the Florida Suicide Prevention Implementation Project (FSPiP), BCS is enhancing Florida's capacity to initiate, implement, and sustain suicide prevention activities, with a special focus on youth suicide through a widely dispersed school-based guide.
- BCS faculty and staff created Florida's first Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Technical Assistance Center to help local governments develop strategies for diverting people from the criminal justice system into appropriate treatment.
- The Jim Walter Partnership Center engages faculty and students in community development work through partnerships with neighborhood-based organizations, civic groups, and policy makers.
- BCS is partnering with USF Colleges of Nursing, Public Health and others to address far-reaching service needs for veterans and their families.
- The Florida/Caribbean AIDS Education and Training Center trains health personnel in Florida, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands in the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of HIV disease.