

## Newsletter

The Multicultural Consultation (MCC) Team is composed of graduate students in the Department of Psychology at the University of Rhode Island.

Our mission is to cultivate an inclusive community and facilitate the conduct of culturally-informed, inclusive, and equitable research, teaching, service, and clinical practice.

We support students, faculty, and staff as they build knowledge and implement multiculturalism into their work.

### What services do we provide?

- Teaching (e.g., review of syllabi, input on best classroom practices)
- Research (e.g., recruitment strategies, selection of psychological tests or questionnaires)
- Supervision (e.g., groundwork for culturally competent supervision, ways to address cultural differences in supervisory relationships)
- Mentorship (e.g., resources for power differentials, input on recruitment and retention of diverse students)
- Practice (e.g., culturally competent best practices, suggestions for culturally competent training opportunities, resources for working with interpreters in mental health settings)

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Inclusion and Diversity Committee (IDC)

The **Inclusion and Diversity Committee (IDC)** is a collaboration of faculty, staff, and graduate students who are committed to cultivating a department environment that promotes inclusive excellence. Members engage in critical conversations and select thoughtful actions during monthly meetings. All are welcome to join our meetings!

**Fall 2023 Meetings (in Chafee 150 or via Zoom):**

**10/23/23 at 1 PM**

**11/27/23 at 1 PM**

## IDC Brown Bag Series

**10/18/23 at 12 PM via Zoom**

**Dr. Guerda Nicolas** is presenting on culturally effective interventions with Caribbean and immigrant children, adolescents, and families.

**11/16/23 at 4:30 PM via Zoom**

**Dr. Anastasia Hronis** is presenting on cognitive behavioral therapy with children with disabilities.

## Students of Color Meetings

The **Students of Color** meetings serve as a platform and safe space for graduate students of color to discuss experiences and issues that might be affecting them in and outside of the program.

Meetings are held monthly. For more information about the Students of Color Meetings, email Diana at [hodiana@uri.edu](mailto:hodiana@uri.edu).

**Fall 2023 Meetings**

**10/19/23 at 5pm, Avedisian Hall 403**

**11/20/23 at 3:30pm, Avedisian Hall 403**

**12/07/23 at 5pm, Avedisian Hall 403**

# NEW MEMBERS & SPOTLIGHT



**Mariyam Abbas, M.A.** is a second-year Behavioral Sciences Ph.D. student at the University of Rhode Island working with Dr. Theodore A. Walls. She is a first-generation Ph.D. student hailing from Lucknow, India. Her research focuses on health risk behaviors, particularly addictive behaviors such as smoking, alcohol use, and smartphone addiction, with an emphasis on cognitive and positive psychology perspectives. She also investigates the role of acculturative stress among Indian Americans and South Asian populations, especially within socioeconomically disadvantaged communities. In addition to her academic work, Mariyam had developed a child meliorism program, earning her a fellowship from ASha Education Zurich, which aimed to support underprivileged socioeconomically backward children in India.



**Gabriella (Gabby) Epshteyn M.A.**, is a second-year Clinical Psychology Ph.D. student at the University of Rhode Island. Prior to coming to URI, Gabby served as the Research Manager of the Transitioning Service Member / Veteran And Suicide Prevention Center (TASC), as well as the Co-Investigator/Program Manager for Dialectical Behavior Therapy For Justice-Involved Veterans (DBT-J) the James J. Peters VA Medical Center. Gabby continues to conduct research with the TASC team as well as maintaining a research affiliate role with the Yale School Of Medicine, Department Of Psychiatry. Gabby's research focuses on themes suicide, trauma, substance use, personality disorders and the adaptation of culturally adapted mindfulness-based interventions. She is particularly interested in high-risk, high-need underrepresented and socioeconomically disadvantaged populations including active duty service members, Veterans, justice-involved Veterans and incarcerated persons.

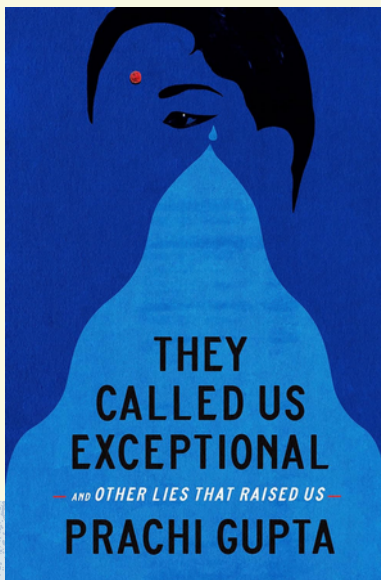
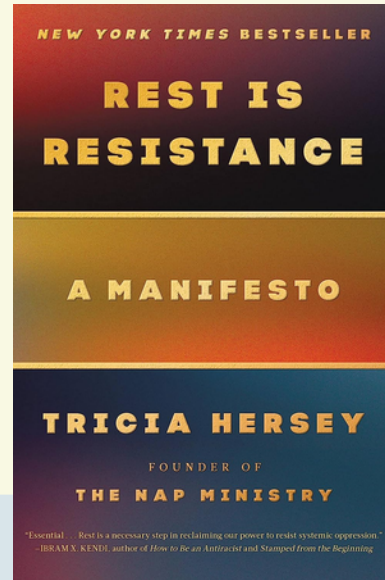
## IDC SUBCOMMITTEES

Over the past year, the IDC has seen a growth in the number of new subcommittees. If you are interested in joining a subcommittee, please contact the listed representative. New members are welcome!

- Accessibility and Student Support: contact [irenamikhalyuk@uri.edu](mailto:irenamikhalyuk@uri.edu)
- Advancing Recruitment and Retention (ARR): contact [asrinagesh@uri.edu](mailto:asrinagesh@uri.edu)
- Conflict Resolution: contact [astamates@uri.edu](mailto:astamates@uri.edu)
- LGBTQ+ Students: contact [mverpault@uri.edu](mailto:mverpault@uri.edu) and/or [liam-rozum@uri.edu](mailto:liam-rozum@uri.edu)
- Multicultural Consultation: contact [raudales@uri.edu](mailto:raudales@uri.edu)
- Social Justice: contact [aeganleong@uri.edu](mailto:aeganleong@uri.edu)
- Students of Color: contact [hodiana@uri.edu](mailto:hodiana@uri.edu)

Check out the IDC website here: <https://web.uri.edu/psychology/student-resources/inclusion-and-diversity-committee/>

# GOODREADS



# MCC TEAM

**Mariyam Abbas, M.A.**

**Alana Egan, M.A.**

**Gabriella Epshteyn, M.A.**

**Burcu Kaplan, M.A.**

**Alexa Raudales, M.A.**

**Aradhana Srinagesh, M.P.H., C.H.E.S.**

**Emmanuel Thomas, M.A.**

**Catherine Trinh, M.A.**

**Not sure what other services we provide?**

**Just ask!**

**To schedule an appointment, please visit  
our website:**

**<https://web.uri.edu/psychology/about/inclusion-and-diversity-initiatives/multicultural-consultation-team/>**