

**MYRON J. BURNS**  
 Nova Southeastern University  
 College of Psychology  
 Department of Psychology and Neuroscience  
 3301 College Ave.  
 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33314  
 (954)-262-7921  
 Email: [mb2371@nova.edu](mailto:mb2371@nova.edu)

## EDUCATION AND ACADEMIC TRAINING

---

- |           |  |                           |
|-----------|--|---------------------------|
| 2002-2003 | <b>University of Miami Miller School of Medicine,<br/>Miami, FL</b><br>Department of Psychiatry<br>Clinical and Research Training<br>Specialization: HIV/AIDS and Substance Abuse Prevention   | <b>Post Doc</b>           |
| 2002      | <b>Tennessee State University, Nashville, Tennessee</b><br>Specialization: Counseling Psychology (APA Approved)<br>Dissertation Title: <u>AIDS health locus of control, self-efficacy for safer sexual practices, and future time orientation as predictors of condom use in college students</u><br>Dissertation Chairman: Steven Olivas, Ph.D. | <b>Ph.D.</b>              |
| 1998      | <b>Tennessee State University, Nashville, Tennessee</b><br>Specialization: Guidance and Counseling<br>Thesis Title: <u>Condom use among college students: The relationship between fear, behavioral skills, and past experiences with condom usage</u><br>Chair: John Joyner, Ph.D.  | <b>M.S.</b>               |
| 1994      | <b>Howard University, Washington, DC</b><br>Major: Human Development<br>Minor: Psychology  | <b>B.S.<br/>Cum Laude</b> |

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

---

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| 2011- | <b>Associate Professor of Psychology, Nova Southeastern University,<br/>Ft. Lauderdale, FL</b><br>• Undergraduate courses-Introduction to Psychology; Personality; |
|-------|--|

Abnormal Psychology; Criminal Justice and Substance Abuse; Group Counseling in Substance Abuse; Drug Prevention and Education; Rehabilitation Strategies; General Studies Capstone Experience; Stress Management.

- Graduate courses: Career and Lifestyle Assessment; Substance Abuse

2007-2011

**Assistant Professor of Psychology/Counseling, Nevada State College, Henderson, NV**

- Undergraduate courses-Introduction to Human Services and Counseling; General Psychology; Personality; Psychology of Learning; Health Psychology; Counseling Skills in Human Services; Psychology of Sex; Drugs and Behavior; Identification and Assessment in Addictions; Advanced Professional Issues in Substance Abuse; Sports Psychology

2003-2007

**Project Director, University of Miami, Center for Family Studies, Miami, FL.**

Population: HIV+ Women recovering from substance abuse and their family members.

Responsibilities

- Directed a staff of 16 in coordinating 2 large and complex clinical trial studies pertaining to adherence in HIV+ women recovering from substance abuse and the effects it has on family members.
- Supervised recruitment, enrollment, and assessment staff in their work with study participants.
- Prepared reports (e.g. Serious Adverse Events, Continuing Review) to IRB and NIH.
- Selected and hired staff.
- Oversaw subject flow and the collection of data from study subjects.
- Created and implemented documentation and study monitoring plan.
- Participated in publication plans for the study.
- Supervisor: Victoria Mitrani, Ph.D., and Daniel Feaster, Ph.D.

2006-2007

**Adjunct Professor, Florida Memorial College, Department of Psychology, Miami, FL**

- Undergraduate courses-Introduction to Psychology; Learning

Theories.

- 2004-2005      **Adjunct Professor, Florida International University,  
Department of Psychology, Miami, FL.**
- Undergraduate courses-Introduction to Psychology; Human Growth and Development
- 1999-2000      **Research Associate, Behavioral Health Services Division,  
Metropolitan Police Department of Nashville and Davidson  
County**
- Collected, coded, and analyzed data for the study of resiliency and stress among law enforcement officers and their families.
  - Supervisor: Lorraine Greene, Ph.D.
- 1999              **Teaching Assistant, Tennessee State University, Department of  
Psychology, Nashville, TN.**
- Undergraduate course-Elementary Statistics
- 1998-2001      **Adjunct Instructor, Tennessee State University, Department of  
Psychology, Nashville, TN.**
- Undergraduate courses-Principles of Human Sexuality; General Psychology; History and Systems of Psychology; Senior Project; Computer Application and Technical Writing; and Personality Theories
- 1996-2000      **Teaching Assistant, Tennessee State University, Department of  
Sociology, Nashville, TN.**
- Undergraduate course-Courtship and Marriage; and Social Statistics
- 1996-2000      **Research Assistant, Center for Health Research, Tennessee State  
University, Nashville, TN**
- Edited grant proposals
  - Collected, coded, and analyzed data using SPSS for grant proposals and various research grants.
  - Supervisor: Baqar A. Husaini, Ph.D.
- 1996              **Program Assistant and Adjunct Instructor, Bowie State  
University-Bowie Maryland, College of Education**
- Directed and assisted a staff of undergraduate college students with their work in providing academic, social, and emotional

- support for incoming freshmen students.
  - Taught undergraduate course-Freshman Orientation
  - Supervisor: Bruce Purnell, M.S.
- 1995            **Adjunct Instructor, Indian River College-Fort Pierce, Florida**
  - Undergraduate course-Freshman Orientation
- 1994 - 1996    **Fourth Grade Teacher, Saint Lucie County School Board.**
  - Manatee Elementary School-Port Saint Lucie Florida
- 1991-1992      **Counselor/Tutor, University Counseling Service, Howard University, Washington, DC**
  - Provided academic and emotional support for incoming freshmen and school age children.
  - Supervisor: Michael Barnes, Ph.D.
- 1991-1993      **Research Assistant, National Head Start Association, Alexandria, VA**
  - Collected, coded, and analyzed data for a project concerned with educating parents about teenage drug use.
  - Supervisor: Ura Jean Oyemade, Ph.D.

## PUBLICATIONS

---

- Mitrani, V.B., McCabe, B.E., Burns, M.J., and Feaster, D.J. (2012). Family mechanisms of structural ecosystems therapy for HIV-seropositive women in drug recovery. *Health Psychology, 31* (5), 591-600. doi: [10.1037/a0028672](https://doi.org/10.1037/a0028672)
- Brincks, A. M., Feaster, D. J., Burns, M. J., and Mitrani, V. B. (2010). The influence of health locus of control on the patient-provider relationship. *Psychology, Health and Medicine, 15* (6), 720-728.
- Feaster, D. J., Mitrani, V. B., Burns, M. J., McCabe, B. E., Brincks, A. M., Rodriguez, A. E., Asthana D., and Robbins, M. S. (2010). A randomized controlled trial of structural ecosystems therapy for HIV medication adherence and substance abuse relapse prevention. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence, 111*, (3), 227-234.
- Feaster, D. J., Burns, M. J., Brincks, A. M., Prado, G., Mitrani, V. B., Mauer, M. H., and Szapocznik, J. (2010). Structural Ecosystems Therapy for HIV+ African American Women and Drug Abuse Relapse. *Family Process, 49*, (2), 204-219.

- Mitrani, V.B., Weiss-Laxer, N.S., Ow, C., Burns, M.J., Ross, S., and Feaster, D.J. (2009). Examining the family networks of HIV+ women in drug recovery: Research challenges and opportunities. *Families, Systems, and Health*, 27, (3), 267-283.
- Burns, M.J., Feaster, D.J., Mitrani, V.B., Ow, C., and Szapocznik, J. (2008) Stress processes in HIV+ African American mothers: Moderating effects of drug abuse history. *Anxiety Stress and Coping*, 21, (1), 95-116.
- Robbins, M., Szapocznik, J., Feaster, D.J., Mayorga, C., Dillon, F.R., and Burns, M.J. (2007). The impact of family functioning on adolescent proactive racial socialization. *Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology*, 13, (4), 313-320.
- Burns, M.J. and Dillon, F.R. (2005). AIDS health locus of control, self-efficacy for safer sexual practices, and future time orientation as predictors of condom use in African American college students. *Journal of Black Psychology*, 31, (2), 172-188.
- Burns, M.J., Cain, V., and Husaini, B.A. (2001). Depression, service utilization and treatment costs among medicare elderly: Gender differences. *Home Health & Community Care Services Quarterly*, 19, (3), 35-44.
- Lasane, T.P., Sweigard, P.N., Czopp, A.M., Howard, W.L., and Burns, M.J. (1999). The effects of student academic presentation on perceptions of gender and sociability. *North American Journal of Psychology*, 1, (2), 173-188.

## PRESENTATIONS

---

- Burns, M.J. (2012). “*The Stigmatization of Mental Health in the African American Community*”. Invited roundtable presentation for Medivance (insurance billing company). This forum was taped and broadcast on the local NBC News affiliate. Ft. Lauderdale, FL.
- Burns, M.J., Feaster, D.J., Mitrani, V.B., Ow, C., and Szapocznik, J. (2008). *Drug Abuse and Stress Process in HIV+ African American Mothers*. In S Safren (Chair). Impact of Stress and Coping on Mental Health in HIV. Symposium conducted at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Boston, MA.
- Mescia, N. Ow, C.E., Burns, M.J., Mitrani, V.B., and Feaster, D.J. (2007). *IMB and adherence among African American HIV+ women in recovery*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, San Francisco, CA.

- Ow, C.E., Mitrani, V.B., Feaster, D.J., Burns, M.J. and Ross, S. (2007). *Identifying the family context surrounding HIV+ women in recovery*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, San Francisco, CA.
- Burns, M.J. (2005). *Structural Ecosystems Therapy for Recently Sober Women: Medication Adherence, Drug Abuse Relapse Prevention, and Family Mechanisms of Action*. In A. Ehrhardt (Chair). Structured Ecological Therapy. Symposium conducted at the NIMH Annual Conference on the Role of Families in Preventing and Adapting to HIV/AIDS. Brooklyn, New York.
- Burns, M.J. (2005). *A Research Program to Examine Structural Ecosystems Therapy for HIV+ Persons and their Families*. Invited presentation at the University of South Carolina Annual Multicultural Symposium, "Health Disparity Research", Columbia, South Carolina.
- Mitrani, V.B., Feaster, D.J., Burns, M.J. and Szapocznik, J. (2004, August). *A Research Program to Examine the Family Mechanisms of Structural Ecosystems Therapy in HIV+ Women Recovering from Drug Abuse*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Honolulu, HI.
- Lucenko, B.A., Jennings, T., Farrell, N., Dévieux, J., Malow, R.M., and Burns, M.J. (2002, November). *Audio-Casi vs. interview administration of an HIV/STD risk of exposure measure for substance abusing adolescents*. Poster presented at the American Public Health Association 130<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.
- Lasane, T.P., Hunting, W., Jacques, T., Switzer, J., Weaver, A., Munro, G., and Burns, M.J. (2000, March). *Gendered Social Perception as a Function of Academic Presentation Style and Ethnicity*. Poster Presented at the annual meeting of Eastern Psychological Association, Baltimore, MD.
- Burns, M.J., Cain, V., Husaini, B.A., McClain, R. and Gadsden, K. (1999, November). *Depression, Service Utilization and Treatment Costs Among Medicare Elderly: Gender Differences*. Poster Presented at the annual meeting of The Gerontological Society of America, San Francisco, CA.
- Lasane, T.P., Trionfo, G., Jeffers, J., Smith, R., Burns, M.J., Seeley, E. and Josph, K. (1999, April). *Interracial Dating Attitudes and Racial Identity*. Poster Presented at the annual meeting of Eastern Psychological Association, Providence, RI.
- Husaini, B.A., Levine, R., Blasi, A., Miller, O., Cain, V., and Burns, M.J. (1998, November). *Medicare health care costs for African American beneficiaries with psychiatric illness:*

- Rural-urban differences*. Paper presented at the American Public Health Association 126<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.
- Husaini, B.A., Levine, R., Blasi, A., Miller, O., Cain, V., Pitts, D., and Burns, M.J. (1998, November). *Effect of Co-Morbidity on Health Care Cost Among Medicare Beneficiaries with Psychiatric Diagnoses*. Paper presented at the American Public Health Association 126<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.
- Husaini, B.A., Neff, J.A., Miller, O., Blasi, A., Cain, V., Burns, M.J., and Pitts, D. (1998, November). *Outcome of a pilot AIDS intervention program for Black College students*. Paper presented at the American Public Health Association 126<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.
- Lasane, T.P. and Burns, M.J. (1998, August). *The content of social perceptions of Black- White couples*. Poster accepted for presentation at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, San Francisco, CA.
- Husaini, B.A., Levine, R., Blasi, A., Miller, O., Cain, V., and Burns, M.J. (1998, July). *Medicare costs for beneficiaries with a primary diagnosis of mental disorders: Racial differences*. Paper presented at the National Caucus and Center on Black Aged National Health Symposium, Washington, D.C.
- Burns, M.J. (1998, March). *College students' level of HIV knowledge, attitudes, and past experiences with condom usage*. Paper presented at Tennessee State University 20<sup>th</sup> Annual University-Wide Research Symposium, Nashville, TN.
- Lasane, T.P., Maxson, E., Pickett, L. and Burns, M.J. (1998, February). *Attitudes and social perceptions of Black-White couples*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Boston, MA.
- Sweigard, P.N., Lasane, T.P., Czopp, A.M., Howard, W.L., and Burns, M.J. (1998, February). *Social perceptions as a function of academic self-presentation: Influences of masculinity*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Boston, MA.
- Husaini, B.A., Levine, R., Blasi, A., Miller, O., Cain, V., and Burns, M.J. (1997, November). *Mental health service utilization by the elderly in Tennessee: The effect of race, social class, and co-morbidity*. Poster session presented at the American Public Health Association 125<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Indianapolis, IN.

Burns, M.J. (1993, August). *Afro-Americans and Euro-Americans Attitudes Towards School*. Paper presented at the Summer Minority Research Institute, University of Delaware, Newark, DE.

Burns, M.J. (1992, July). *Attributions of Familiarity*. Paper presented at the Human Development Research Institute, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, NC.

### **Funded Research Performed**

National Institute of Health Loan Repayment Program Award Recipient-Health Disparities Research, total award \$70,000; 2004-2006

Co-Investigator/Project Coordinator, Family Therapy Mechanisms in HIV+ Women in Drug Recovery, NIDA (Grant #1R01 DA016543-01A2) Victoria Mitrani, Principal Investigator, total award: \$2,524,033; 2003-2008

Co-Investigator/Project Coordinator, Adherence in HIV+ Women Recovering from Substance Abuse, NIDA (Grant # RO 1 DA 15004) Daniel J. Feaster, Principal Investigator, total award: \$3,684,794; 2002-2007.

### **EDITORIAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

Reviewer *Journal of Black Psychology* 2008-2011; 2015-present

Editorial Board *Journal of Black Psychology* 2006-2008

Reviewer for *Journal of Social Behavior, and Health Sciences* 2008

Reviewer for the *International Journal of Sociology of the Family* 2006-2007

Reviewer for the *Hispanic Health Care International* 2006-2007

### **RESEARCH INTEREST**

- Substance abuse prevention; HIV/AIDS; Minority health; stress-process of health outcomes including individual, family, and ecological factors.

### **CORE TRAINING EXPERIENCES**

---

### **CLINICAL EXPERIENCE**

2001-2002                      **Doctoral Internship: Southern Mississippi Psychology Internship Consortium, Hattiesburg, Mississippi (APA Approved)**

Population: Undergraduate and graduate students attending a state

university. Inpatient/outpatient adults, adolescents, and children.

Responsibilities:

- Conducted short-term individual counseling services for individuals of varying ages and comprising a variety of mental health issues including depression, adjustment, anxiety, interpersonal relationship, phobias, eating disorders, career and college major decisions, and grief issues.
- Supervised two doctoral practicum students work with clients.
- Conducted clinical interviews, administered test batteries and scored, interpreted, and wrote report findings. Assessment batteries typically included personality measures and individual test of intelligence.
- Group co-therapist for adult psychiatric inpatients and outpatients- The approach of the groups was process oriented.

2000-2001

**Practicum: Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Adult Psychiatry, Nashville, TN.**

Population: inpatient/outpatient adults

Responsibilities:

- Conducted clinical interviews, administered test batteries and scored, interpreted, and wrote report findings. Assessment batteries typically included personality measures and individual test of intelligence.
- 3 hours of client contact and 2 hours of individual supervision per week.
- Supervisor: Howard Roback, Ph.D., Licensed Psychologist.

2000-2001

**Practicum: Middle Tennessee Mental Health Institute, Nashville, TN.**

Population: inpatient adults

Responsibilities:

- Conducted clinical interviews and forensic evaluations for competency to stand trial.
- Conducted short-term individual counseling sessions for individuals who vary in age, gender, ethnicity, and lifestyles presenting for mental health issues such as mood disorders, schizophrenia, adjustment and grief issues.
- 3 hours of client contact and 1 hour of individual supervision per week.
- Supervisor: Joe Mount, Ed.D., Licensed Psychologist

- 1999-2000      **Group Therapist, Center for Health Research, Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN.**  
Population: Elderly  
Responsibilities: Led group therapy program aimed at reducing depression among elderly high-rise residents. Funded by National Institute of Health
- Total Hours: 160
  - Principal Investigator: Baqar A. Husaini, Ph.D.
  - Clinical Supervisors: Howard Roback, Ph.D. and Sherry Cummings, Ph.D.

- Fall 1997      **Practicum: Cumberland Heights Alcohol and Drug Treatment Center, Nashville, Tennessee.**  
Population: inpatient/outpatient adults  
Responsibilities:
- Conducted intake evaluations, drug therapy sessions and wrote discharge evaluations and progress notes.
  - Total hours: 150
  - 1 hour of individual supervision weekly
  - Supervisors: Fran Overall, M.A. and Robert Chapman, MSSW

## **OTHER EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE**

---

- Summer, 1993      **University of Delaware-Newark DE**
- Supervisor: James Jones, Ph.D.
  - Participated in an 8-week summer program dealing with research design and methodology.
- Summer, 1992      **University of North Carolina-Greensboro**
- Supervisor: Robert Guttentag, Ph.D.
  - Participated in a 6-week summer program dealing with research design and methodology.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

---

American Psychological Association, Member

2004-2005 Sickle Cell Disease Association of America, Miami-Dade County Chapter, Inc., Board Member

## **COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

2016-present Experiential Learning. Committee charged with identifying course work and learning opportunities which provides students immersive and transformative learning that actively engage the student through ongoing critical reflection.

2011- present Member: Undergraduate Curriculum Committee; Department of Psychology, Nova Southeastern University

2012-2015 Faculty peer-reviewer for Assessment of Student Learning (ASLO) Outcomes as required by SACS. Nova Southeastern University. Assess whether program:

- Identified program outcomes
- Established direct measures to assess student learning
- Applied and used the ASLO findings for academic improvement.

2013-2014 Faculty Authored textbook

- Committee charged with developing a policy for faculty use of their authored textbooks in classes taught by them. Nova Southeastern University

2012 & 2014 Faculty Merit Portfolio Review Committee, Nova Southeastern University

2010-2011 Fiscal Affairs Committee, Nevada State College

2010-2011 Diversity Coalition, Nevada State College

2008-2010 Accreditation Team, Nevada State College

2008-2010 Core Curriculum Review, Liberal Arts and Sciences-Social Sciences, Nevada State College

2007-2011 Institutional Review Board (IRB), Nevada State College

2007- 2009 Faculty Senate, Nevada State College

2001-2002 Advisor, Men of Excellence, University of Southern Mississippi.

- Advised a group of undergraduate African American males with their work in providing community services.

1998 – 2002 Graduate Psychology Student Organization, Tennessee State University

- 1994 – 1996 Businessmen, Manatee Elementary, Port St. Lucie, Fl
- Lobbied local businesses in providing funds for school activities.
- 1994-1996 Multicultural, Manatee Elementary, Port St. Lucie, Fl
- Chaired committee responsible for developing a multicultural curriculum for elementary students.
- 1993 – 1994 Psychology Club, Howard University
- 1992-1993 Vice President, Activity Coordinator, Absalom Jones Student Association, Howard University.

### **HONORS AND REWARDS**

---

- 2016 Nova Southeastern University Merit Pay, Teaching
- 2013 Nova Southeastern University Merit Pay, Teaching
- 2008 Nevada State College Travel Award, Liberal Arts and Sciences
- 2006 National Institute of Health funded Summer Travel Award, Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting.
- 2005 National Institute of Health funded Summer Institute on the Design and Conduct of Randomized Clinical Trials Involving Behavioral Interventions
- 2004 National Institute of Health funded Summer Institute, University of Pittsburgh Mind-Body Center Travel Award - *Basic Pathways Linking Behavior and Disease* (\$1000)
- 1998 Minority Biomedical Research Support Program Fellowship, Tennessee State University
- 1998 2<sup>nd</sup> Place winner in Tennessee State University 20<sup>th</sup> Annual University-Wide Research Symposium, Graduate Science and Social Science Category
- 1996 Fred D. Calhoun Memorial Scholarship, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity
- 1993 Kappa Delta Pi International Education Honor Society
- 1993 Summer Minority Research Fellow, University of Delaware
- 1992 Summer Minority Research Fellow, University of North Carolina-Greensboro

1990 Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Scholarship

## REFERENCES

---

- Michael Reiter, Ph.D.      Nova Southeastern University  
College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences  
Department of Family Therapy  
3301 College Ave.  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33314  
(954)-262-7921  
Email: [mdreiter@nova.edu](mailto:mdreiter@nova.edu)
- Christopher Harris, Ph.D.      Nevada State College  
Social Sciences  
1125 Nevada State Dr.  
Las Vegas, NV 89002  
(702) 992-2640  
Email: [Christopher.Harris@nsc.edu](mailto:Christopher.Harris@nsc.edu)
- Victoria Mitrani, Ph.D.      University of Miami  
School of Nursing and Health Sciences  
P.O. Box 248153  
Coral Gables, FL 33124  
(305) 284-9139  
(305) 243-1780  
Email: [vmitrani@miami.edu](mailto:vmitrani@miami.edu)