

Melissa Curran, Ph.D.
Professor
Human Development and Family Science
John and Doris Norton School of Human Ecology
College of Agriculture, Life, and Environmental Sciences
The University of Arizona

EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin	Ph.D. Human Development & Family Sciences	2004
Illinois State University	M.S. Lifespan Developmental Psychology	2000
Ball State University	B.S. Psychology	1998

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

--Interpersonal and family relations	--Transition to Parenthood
--Relational sacrifices and relationship quality	--Experiences of cancer within the family system
--Family Finance	--Marital representations and adult attachment

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2021 – present	Professor, University of Arizona Human Development and Family Science
2012 – 2021	Associate Professor, University of Arizona, Family Studies and Human Development
2006 – 2012	Assistant Professor, University of Arizona, Family Studies and Human Development
2004 – 2006	Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Texas at Austin, Human Development and Family Sciences

HONORS and AWARDS

2026	Recipient of the Alumnus of the Year Lifetime Achievement Award for 2026 Selected by the Department of Psychology at Illinois State University
2025	Recipient of award from Wiley Publisher: <i>Editorial synthesis for 2 in 2023: A collaboration between IARR's two journals: Recognizing the need for greater inclusivity in relationship science</i> , coauthored by Ashley Randall and Melissa Curran, was recognized as a "Top Cited Article" in Personal Relationships among work published between January 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023, with this award presented to the authors in June, 2025.
2024	Recipient of award from the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR): <i>Couple-level attachment styles, finances, and marital satisfaction: Mediation analyses</i>

among emerging adult newlywed couples, led by Xiaomin Li, published in Journal of Family and Economic Issues. Selected as “Best Paper” in 2024 by the NCFR Family Financial Wellbeing Group.

- 2023 **Recipient of award from the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR):**
Less than fully honest: Financial deception in emerging adult romantic relationships published in Emerging Adulthood, led by Matthew Saxey, published in Emerging Adulthood. Selected as “Best Family Financial Wellbeing Student Paper” in 2023 by the NCFR Family Financial Wellbeing Group.
- 2023 **Finalist for awards from the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR):**
#1: *The sooner, the better? Couples' first financial discussion, relationship quality, and financial conflict in emerging adulthood*, led by Matthew Saxey, published in Journal of Financial Therapy.
#2: *Spenders and tightwads among newlyweds: Perceptions of partner financial behaviors and relational well-being*, led by Heather Kelley, published in Journal of Financial Therapy.
Both papers were selected as “finalists” for the Best Family Financial Wellbeing Student Paper in 2023 by the NCFR Family Financial Wellbeing Group.
- 2021 **Recipient of award from the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR):**
Romantic attachment orientations, financial behaviors, and life outcomes among young adults: A mediating analysis of a college cohort, led by Xiaomin Li, published in Journal of Family and Economic Issues. Selected as “Best Family Financial Wellbeing Paper Award” in 2021 by the NCFR Family Financial Wellbeing Group.
- 2019 **APLUS (Arizona Pathways to Life Success for University Students) Research Scholarship.** Awarded for contributions to APLUS scholarship, including in publications and mentorship of graduate students in this research; award is from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- 2018 **Top 10% / Top 50 Reviewer for *Family Relations*.** Selected by Editor of this journal for quality and quantity of reviews contributed to this journal for this year.
- 2017 **Recipient of award from the National Council on Family Relations:**
Queer theory, intersectionality, and LGBT-parent families: Transformative critical pedagogy in family theory, published in *Journal of Family Theory & Review (JFTR)*, 8, 74-94. Selected as the 2017 Alexis Walker Award; the best research in the Family Science field published by a Wiley Journal in 2015 and 2016. Recognition of distinguished contributions to path-breaking new research or innovative theory development in the family science field.
- 2017 **Article recognition for number of downloads:**
For the JFTR article above (*Queer theory...*), the publisher, Wiley, of JFTR reported that this article was one of the top download articles in the recent publication history of the journal. Specifically, this article had been downloaded 2,429 times by the end of 2017, 3,323 times by the end of 2018, and 4,859 times by the end of 2019.

- 2017 **Top 10% / Top 50 Reviewer for *Family Relations*.** Selected by Editor of this journal for quality and quantity of reviews contributed to this journal for this year.
- 2017 **Recipient of Woman of Influence Award in Mentoring from the Tucson Local Media / Inside Tucson Business** for making significant contributions to the *mentoring* of individuals, including undergraduate and graduate students.
- 2017 **Recipient of Woman of Influence Award in Education from the Tucson Local Media / Inside Tucson Business** for making significant contributions to the field of *education*.
- 2016 **Recipient of Mentoring Award from the Commission on the Status of Women at University of Arizona** for making contributions that lead to engagement and career success and improving campus climate with respect to mentoring opportunities.
- 2016 **Recipient of award from the National Council on Family Relations:**
The unique role of parents and romantic partners on young adults' financial attitudes and behaviors, published in Family Relations. Selected as "Best Paper" in 2015 from the Family Economics Group.
- 2016 **Top 10% / Top 50 Reviewer for *Family Relations*.** Selected by Editor of this journal for quality and quantity of reviews contributed to this journal for this year.
- 2015 **Recipient of two awards from the National Council on Family Relations, with presentations led by graduate students:**
--*Approach-avoidance motivations of sacrifice and relational quality.* Selected as "Outstanding Poster Award by a Student" for the Family Therapy Section.
--*Daily relationship quality in same-sex couples: Attachment and sacrifices.* Selected as "Best Abstract by a Student or New Professional" for the Research and Theory Section.
- 2015 **40 under 40 Award.** Selected by the Arizona Daily Star / Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in recognition of rising leaders in the community, as demonstrated by significant accomplishments, strong leadership, and contributions to the profession and the Tucson community.
- 2015 **Top 10% / Top 50 Reviewer for *Family Relations*.** Selected by Editor of this journal for quality and quantity of reviews contributed to this journal for this year.
- 2014 **Outstanding Faculty Member Award.** Selected by the Council of Alumni and Friends for outstanding teaching, mentoring, research, and devoted service to the Norton School, the college, and the University.
- 2013 **Consulting Editors of the Year, *Journal of Family Psychology*.** Selected by Editor and Associate Editors for quality and quantity of reviews to this journal for the year.
- 2012 **Shirley O'Brien Diversity Award.** Selected by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences for work promoting diversity and an inclusive environment in research and teaching.

2010 **Bart Cardon Early Career Teaching Award.** Selected by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences as evidence of early teaching excellence.

EDITORSHIP

2020-2024	<i>Journal of Social and Personal Relationships</i> , Editor-in-Chief
2020-2023	<i>Journal of Social and Personal Relationships</i> and <i>Personal Relationships</i> , Co-Guest Editor for a special issue, "Editorial Synthesis for 2 in 2023: A Collaboration Between IARR's Two Journals: Recognizing the Need for Greater Inclusivity in Relationship Science" (with Ashley Randall)
2019-2021	<i>Journal of Family and Economic Issues</i> , Guest Editor for special issue: "Couples, Families, and Finance" (with Ashley LeBaron, Xiaomin Li, and Casey Totenhagen)
2015-2019	<i>Journal of Social and Personal Relationships</i> , Associate Editor
2015-2017	<i>Journal of Social and Personal Relationships</i> , Guest editor for special issue: "Data Analytic Issues in Relationship Research" (with Lara Kammrath and Jean-Philippe Laurenceau)

EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBERSHIPS

2006-present	<i>Family Relations</i>
2008-2009; 2010-2019	<i>Journal of Marriage and Family</i>
2010-present	<i>Journal of Family Issues</i>
2010-2014	<i>Journal of Family Psychology</i>

AD HOC REVIEWS

Journal of Family and Economic Issues, Journal of Family Violence, Journal of Homosexuality, Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, Marriage and Family Review, Personal Relationships, Current Psychology, Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin, Family Relations

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2006-present	International Association of Relationship Research
2006-2020	National Council on Family Relations
2009-2020	Associate Member of the Arizona Cancer Center, Univ of AZ
2010-2020	Member of the School of Mind, Brain and Behavior, Univ of

GRANTS

Factors associated with student loan indebtedness in retirement. *Take Charge America Institute*. 7/1/2021 - 06/30/2022. Total award (\$8,410). Co-PI (1%). PI: Thomas Korankye.

Measuring family financial socialization. *National Endowment of Financial Education (NEFE)*. 1/20/2020 - 5/31/2021. Total award (\$128,510). Co-PI (30%); PI Ashley LeBaron and Co-PI Jeff Hill.

Adult fiscal competency: An analysis of financial behavior during the transition to adulthood. *National Endowment of Financial Education (NEFE)*. 2/1/2016 - 1/30/2017. Total award \$75,000. PI of subaward from Univ. of Minnesota to Univ. of Arizona (30%). PI J. Serido and Co-PI S. Shim.

APLUS (Arizona Pathways for Life Success for University Students); Data collection at Wave 4. *University of Wisconsin-Madison / Great Lakes Higher Education Corporation and Affiliates*. 4/1/2016 - 3/30/2017. Total award \$19,350. PI of subaward from University of Wisconsin to University of Arizona (30%). PI Soyeon Shim.

Different forms of family instability: Key mechanisms linking family strengthening interventions, family functioning and child wellbeing. *Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services, Secondary Analyses of Strengthening Families Datasets*. 1/1/15 - 6/1/16. Total award \$105,068. Co-PI (40%), PI Melissa Barnett.

How does climate change adaptation-related stress and coping impact family functioning and adaptation-related behaviors? *Deans Research Advisory Council, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, University of Arizona*. 8/1/2014 - 1/31/2016. Total award \$7,000. Co-PI (25%), PI Melissa Barnett and Co-PIs Sabrina Helm and Zeliann Craig.

Multi-disciplinary partnership for strengthening child-care & youth development, University Outreach and Workforce Development Project: The Extension System-Military Partnership. *U.S. Department of Agriculture / Department of Defense*. 3/1/2010 – 2/30/2013. Total award \$2,000,000. Consultant on Putting Research to Work, or PRTW, briefs (10%), PI Lynne Borden.

A longitudinal examination of physical well-being for women with breast cancer: The impact of intensity of treatment, the spouse as a confidant, and acceptance of emotion. *American Cancer Society Institutional Research Grants*. Total award \$20,000. 7/1/2009 - 6/30/2010. PI, 85%.

The transition to parenthood for unmarried, cohabiting couples. *Office for the Vice President for Research Small Grants, University of Arizona*. 9/15/2008 - 9/10/2010. Total award \$9,750. PI, 100%.

The effects of parental conflict resolution on their children's adult romantic relationships. *The Honor's College, University of Arizona*. 6/1/2008 – 5/30/2009. Total award \$1,350. Awarded to Sarah Kelsey, freshman honors student. Faculty sponsor, 50%.

Activities and relationships. *The McClelland Institute, University of Arizona*. 4/1/2008 -- 6/30/2008. Total award \$1,500. PI, 100%.

Project REACH: Reaching Out and Expanding Access to Coursework in Human Development. *Arizona Reach Out Grant Program, Arizona Board of Regents*. 1/1/2007 – 5/30/2008. Total award \$49,274. Co-PI, 50%, PI Angela Taylor.

Financial instability, health, and marital risk: How important are different types of support from family versus others? *Take Charge America Institute*. 1/1/2007 – 5/31/2007. Total award \$4,000. PI, 100%.

Agricultural Experiment Station System / HATCH grants and projects

Health, well-being, and economic opportunity for LGBT persons in rural communities. *Agricultural Experiment Station HATCH / Multistate, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, University of Arizona*, (NCDC229). 07/2015 to 09/2019. Co-I (5%).

Interactions of individual, family, community, and policy contexts on the mental and physical health of diverse rural low-income families. *Agricultural Experiment Station HATCH / Multistate, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, University of Arizona*, ARZT-1370330-R07-214 (NC1171). 03/10/2015 to 09/31/2019. Co-I (5%).

Postnatal follow up: Partners to Parents: Exploring the transition to parenthood for unmarried, cohabiting couples. *Agricultural Experiment Station, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, University of Arizona*. 10/2011 – 9/2014. PI, 100%.

Partners to Parents: Exploring the transition to parenthood for unmarried, cohabiting couples. *Agricultural Experiment Station, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, University of Arizona*. 7/2007 -- 9/2011. PI, 100%.

RESEARCH ARTICLES

GUEST EDITORSHIP ARTICLES

Curran, M. A. & Randall, A. K. (2023). Editorial synthesis for 2 in 2023: A collaboration between IARR's two journals: Recognizing the need for greater inclusivity in relationship science. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 40(3), 717-733.
<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/02654075231154322>

This same article is published as: Randall, A. K. & **Curran, M. A. (2023).** Special issue: 2 in 2023: A collaboration between IARR's two journals: Recognizing the need for greater inclusivity in relationship science, *Personal Relationships*, 30, 4-18.
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/per.12477>

Noted as a "Top Cited Paper" in *Personal Relationships* among work published between January 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023, with this award presented to the authors in June, 2025.

For the synthesis published in *Personal Relationships*:

In March 2025: This article was recognized as a top cited article in *Personal Relationships* (among work published between January 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023).

Curran, M. A., +LeBaron-Black, A., +Li, X., & Totenhagen, C. (2021). Introduction to the special issue on couples, families, and finance. *Journal of Family and Economic Issues*, 42, 215-224.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10834-021-09771-7>

Kammrath, L. K., **Curran, M. A.**, & Laurenceau, J. P. (2018). Introduction to the special issue: Data analytic issues in relationship research. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 35, 3-6.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0265407517734399>

RESEARCHER PROFILE ARTICLES

Curran, M. (2023). Researcher Profile: An Interview with Melissa Curran. *Journal of Financial Therapy*, 14 (1) 9. <https://doi.org/10.4148/1944-9771.1357>

IN MEMORIAM ARTICLES

Mauss, I., Sbarra, D., Curran, M.A., Gross, J., & Barnard, K. (2022). In memoriam of Emily Butler, 1963-2023. *Cognition and Emotion*, 36(8), 1464-1466. doi.org/10.1080/02699931.2022.2186597.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Curran, M.A., Cao, H., & Li, X. (2026 November as expected publication date). *Beyond the implications of biological sex and sexual orientation for interdependence for close relationships*. In S. Gaines (Ed)., *Understanding Interdependence in close relationships*. Elgar Publishing.
<https://www.e-elgar.com/shop/usd/understanding-interdependence-in-close-relationships-9781035361137.html>

Curran, M.A., Li, X., Russell, L., Kopystynska, O. (2026). *Family systems and family relationships: Family subsystems across diverse families*. In A. Vangelisti, D. Perlman, & S. Sprecher (Eds.). *Cambridge Handbook of Personal Relationships* (3rd ed; Chapter 11; pp. 217-237). Cambridge University Press.

Link to chapter:

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/cambridge-handbook-of-personal-relationships/17A0CFC7796BF3A9573063E19E3408F8>

Links to book:

#1:

<https://www.cambridge.org/ad/universitypress/subjects/psychology/social-psychology/cambridge-handbook-personal-relationships-3rd-edition?format=PB&isbn=9781009381901>

#2:

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/cambridge-handbook-of-personal-relationships/17A0CFC7796BF3A9573063E19E3408F8>

Pollitt, A., & Curran, M.A. (2022). Application: How a gender-as-relational perspective has been applied in quantitative studies of emotion work in romantic relationships. In K. Adamsons, A. Few-Demo, C. Proulx, & K. Roy (Eds). *The Sourcebook of Family Theories and Methodologies* (pp. 401-406). Springer. https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-030-92002-9_28#DOI.

Curran, M. A., Totenhagen, C., & Serido, J. (2022). Psychological well-being, marital risk, and advice seeking. In F. Maggino (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Quality of Life and Well-Being Research, second edition*. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-69909-7_4053-2.

Swiatkowski, P., O'Byrne, M., & Curran, M. A. (2020). We aim to please: Reading into relational dynamics. In J. M. W. Kratzer (Ed.), *Communication in Kink: Understanding the influence of the Fifty Shades of Grey Phenomenon* (pp. 175-197). Lanham, Maryland: Lexington Books.

Curran, M. A., Totenhagen, C., & Serido, J. (2014). Psychological well-being, marital risk, and advice seeking. In A.C. Michalos (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Quality of Life and Well-Being Research* (pp. 5177-5179). Dordrecht, Netherlands: Springer.

PUBLICATIONS IN PEER-REVIEWED / REFEREED SCHOLARLY JOURNALS

-Authorship order: Authors are generally listed in decreasing order of contribution. The *first* author is usually the person who conducted most of the work and wrote the main contents of the manuscript. Depending upon the discipline, the senior person is most often listed in the *second* or *last* position, especially when mentoring students.

-Work with graduate student author is denoted with †.

[For some individuals (e.g., Totenhagen, Young, Muraco, McDaniel, Pollitt, LeBaron or LeBaron Black, Li) the research listed was completed while they were doctoral students, as denoted with †. Research with these individuals post graduation does not include †].

-Work with undergraduate student author is denoted with ^U.

In preparation

+Shah, M. N., Perez-Brena, N., **Curran, M. A.**, +Aroz-Moscoso, G., +Suxo-Sanchez, S., Yorgason, J., & LeBaron-Black, A. (in prep). *Financial communication and secure attachment behavior among couples: A growth curve model*.

+Suxo-Sanchez, +Haddock Edwards, M., LeBaron-Black, A., **Curran, M. A.**, +Shah, M. N., +Aroz-Moscoso, G., & Holmes, E. (in prep). *Money to marriage: Exploring latent profiles of financial distress and financial management behaviors and their association with relationship satisfaction*.

Under review

Li, X., **Curran, M. A.**, Xiao, J., Sorgente, A., & Yorgason, J. (revise & resubmit; revision submitted). *Parental financial support and relationship satisfaction among young adult couples: Happier wives get more?* Journal of Family and Economic Issues.

LeBaron-Black, A. B. & **Curran, M. A.** (under review). *The socialization of financial planning scale and the socialization of financial giving scale: Development and preliminary validation*. Journal of Family and Economic Issues.

+Shah, M. N., **Curran, M. A.**, +Aroz-Moscoso, G., +Suxo-Sanchez, S. C., Yorgason, J. B., & Holmes, E. K. (under review). *Links between depressive symptoms, perceived partner financial mismanagement, and secure attachment behaviors in newly-married couples*. Journal of Family Psychology.

+Saxey, M. T., LeBaron-Black, A. B., +Lowe, S. M., **Curran, M. A.**, & +Priest, N. (under review). *Which financial behaviors matter most for emerging adults' financial satisfaction? Exploring variation across family and socio-economic contexts*. Emerging Adulthood.

+Aroz-Moscoso, G., **Curran, M. A.**, Barnett, M. A., Knapp, D., & +Shah, M. (under review). *Testing associations between interparental conflict, support and affection, and coparenting alliance among lower-income couples*. Marriage and Family Review.

LeBaron-Black, A., Leonhardt, N. D., +Jorgensen-Wells, M. A., +Hanna-Walker, V., **Curran, M. A.**, Busby, D., M., Yorgason, J. B., +Haddock, M., & +Priest, N. (under review). *Security is recognized, not practiced: Bidirectional associations between attachment insecurity and secure attachment behaviors*. Journal of Social and Personality Psychology.

Accepted / In press / published

LeBaron-Black, A. B., +Saxey, M. T., +Okamoto, R. M., Leonhardt, N. D., Rogers, A. A., & **Curran, M. A.** (2026). Nine versions of the Parent Financial Socialization Scale: Full, short, and minimal versions for emerging adults, adolescents, and parents. *Journal of Family and Economic Issues*, 47, 309-324. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10834-024-09966-8>. [Special issue on finances and measurement].

Kopystynska, O., Crapo, J. S., Barnett, M. A., Bradford, K., Higginbotham, B., & **Curran, M. A.** (2025).

Implications of unique and shared variance of interparental conflict and child emotional insecurity. *Development and Psychopathology*, 37(5), 2624-2635.
doi:10.1017/S0954579425100199

LeBaron-Black, A. B., +Saxey, M. T., ^UMcRae, K., **Curran**, M. A., Willoughby, B. J., ^UMcGee, M. T., ^UDawes, T. A., & Hill, E. J. (2025). Single, but ready to mingle? Predictors of marital timing and relationship flourishing. *Journal of Financial Counseling and Planning*, 36(3), 392-406.
doi:10.1891/JFCP-2023-0047

Li, X. S., Li, X., **Curran**, M. A., Wheeler, B., Holmes, E., +Herrera, C., +Howlett, E., & James, S. (2025). Navigating the past and the present: Links among family-of-origin adversity, secure attachment behaviors, and marital satisfaction. *Family Relations*, 74, 2526-2545.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/fare.70053>

Totenhagen, C. J., **Curran**, M. A., & Randall, A. K. (2025). Benefits and burdens of daily sacrifices and commitment in same- and different-gender couples: Explorations of proximity and direction of effects. *Family Process*, 64(1), March 2025 e13093. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/famp.13093>

Li, X., +Khan, A., LeBaron-Black, A., & **Curran**, M. A. (2025). Learning from bitter lessons: Interparental financial conflicts, financial beliefs and behaviors, and well-being among Hong Kong young adults. *Journal of Family and Economic Issues*, 46, 383-396.
doi.org/10.1007/s10834-024-09972-w

+Shah, M. N., **Curran**, M. A., Kopystynska, O., Barnett, M. A., & +Aroz-Moscoso. (2025). Pathways linking depressive symptoms, financial stress, constructive conflict, and coparenting alliance in unmarried, low-income mothers and fathers. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 47(7), 1678-1702. <https://doi.org/10.1177/02654075251331326>

Li, X., +Zhao, **Curran**, M. A., Cao, H., & Mills-Koonce, W. R. (2023). Awareness and equity of behavioral sacrifice and same-sex relationship quality: Heterosexist discrimination as distal predictor. *Family Relations*, 72(5), 3100-3116. <https://doi.org/10.1111/fare.12854>

+LeBaron-Black, A. B., **Curran**, M. A., Hill, E. J., ^UFreeh, M. E., Toomey, R. B., & Speirs, K. E. (2023). Talk is cheap: Parent financial socialization and emerging adult financial wellbeing. *Family Relations*, 72(3), 1201-1219. <https://doi.org/10.1111/fare.12751>

Li, X., Zhao, Z., **Curran**, M. A., Mills-Koonce, W.R., & Cao, H. (2023). Heterosexist discrimination and relational sacrifice of same-sex couples. *Personal Relationships*, 30, 1024-1047.
<http://doi.org/10.1111/pere.12495>

+Saxey, M. T., LeBaron-Black, A. B., Totenhagen, C. J., & **Curran**, M. A. (2023). More than a score? Indirect associations between credit score and romantic relationship quality in emerging adulthood. *Journal of Financial Counseling and Planning*, 34(1), 55–67.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1891/JFCP-2022-0018>

LeBaron-Black, A. B., +Saxey, M. T., ^UDriggs, T. M., & **Curran**, M. A. (2023). From piggy banks to E significant others: Associations between financial socialization and romantic relationship

flourishing in emerging adulthood. *Journal of Family Issues*, 44(5), 1301-1320.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0192513X211057536>

Curran, M. A., Young, V., Akcaboza Kayabol, N. B., Totenhagen, C. (2023). A systematic review of relationship sacrifices from 2002-2021: Moving toward inclusivity. *Personal Relationships*, 30, 76-112. <https://doi.org/10.1111/pere.12451>

+Li, X., **Curran**, M. A., +LeBaron, A., Wilmarth, M., Jorgensen, B., & Yorgason, J. (2023). Couple-level attachment styles, finances, and marital satisfaction: Mediation analyses among emerging adult newlywed couples. *Journal of Family and Economic Issues*, 44, 125-142.
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10834-021-09808-x>

Chosen as “Best Paper” in 2024 by the National Council on Family Relations from the Family Financial Wellbeing Group.

+Li X., **Curran**, M. A., Butler, E., Mills-Koonce, W. R., & Cao, H. (2022). Sexual minority stressors and intimate partner violence among same-sex couples: Commitment as a resource. *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, 51, 2317-2335. doi: 10.1007/s10508-021-02261-9

+LeBaron-Black, A. B., **Curran**, M. A., Hill, E. J., ^UFreeh, M. E., Toomey, R. B., & Speirs, K. E. (2022). Parent Financial Socialization Scale: Development and preliminary validation. *Journal of Family Psychology*, 36(6), 943–953. <https://doi.org/10.1037/fam0000927>

+Saxey, M. T., LeBaron-Black, A. B., Dew, J. P., & **Curran**, M. A. (2022). Less than fully honest: Financial deception in emerging adult romantic relationships. *Emerging Adulthood*, 10(6), 1529–1542.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/21676968221089190>

LeBaron-Black, A. B., Yorgason, J. B., **Curran**, M. A., +Saxey, M., +Okamoto, R., & ^UDriggs, T. (2022). The ABC-X's of stress among U.S. emerging adults during the COVID-19 pandemic: Relationship quality, financial distress, and mental health. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. 19, 13125.
<https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph192013125>.

Helm, S., +Li, X., **Curran**, M. A., & Barnett, M. (2022). Coping profiles in the context of global environmental threats: A person-centered approach. *Anxiety, Stress, and Coping*, 35(5), 609-622. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10615806.2021.2004132>

+Li. X., **Curran**, M.A., Serido, J., +LeBaron, A. B., & Shim, S. (2022). Financial behaviors, financial satisfaction, and goal attainment among college-educated emerging adults: A mediating analysis with latent change scores. *Applied Developmental Science*, 26(3), 603-617.
doi.org/10.1080/10888691.2021.1976182

+Kelley, H., +Chandler, LeBaron-Black, A., Li, X., **Curran**, M. A., Yorgason, J., & James, S. (2022). Spenders and tightwads among newly married couples: Perceptions of partner financial management behaviors and relational wellbeing. *Journal of Financial Therapy*, 13 (1) 3, 20-38.
<https://doi.org/10.4148/1944-9771.1288>

+Saxey, M. T., LeBaron-Black, A. B., & **Curran**, M. (2022). The sooner, the better? Couples' first

- financial discussion, relationship quality, and financial conflict in emerging adulthood. *Journal of Financial Therapy*, 13(1), 1-19. <https://doi.org/10.4148/1944-9771.1299>
- +Li, X., **Curran**, M. A., Butler, E., Toomey, R., Cao, H., & Fang, X. (2022). External stressors and trajectories of marital quality during the early years of Chinese marriage: Buffering effects of resources at multiple ecological levels. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 39(5), 1294-1323. <https://doi.org/10.1177/02654075211055236>
- +Li, X., Jin, M., Corkery, S. & **Curran**, M. A. (2022). Tripartite commitment and relationship quality: A person-centered approach. *Marriage and Family Review*, 58(1), 63-88. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01494929.2021.1935398>
- Brunner, S. R., Ruiz, J. B., & **Curran**, M. A., &. (2021). Dear Solomon, Dear Prudence: Using student written advice responses to demonstrate and teach theory application. *Communication Teacher*, 36, 2, 117-121. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17404622.2021.1945641>
- Marshall, C.A., **Curran**, M. A., Trejo, J., +Gonzalez, A., Crist, J., Amin, J., Hamann, H., Badger, T., & Garcia, F. (2021). The evolution of Un Abrazo Para La Familia: Implications for survivors of cancer. *Journal of Cancer Education*, 36, 1075-1080. doi.org/10.1007/s13187-020-01737-x
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- +Li, X., **Curran**, M. A., +LeBaron, A.B., Serido, J., & Shim, S. (2020). Romantic attachment orientations, financial behaviors, and life outcomes among young adults: A mediating analysis of a college cohort. *Journal of Family and Economic Issues*, 41, 658-671. doi.org/10.1007/s10834-020-09664-1

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- +Li, X., Cao, H., **Curran**, M. A., Fang, X. Zhou, N. (2020). Gender ideology, work-family conflict, and marital quality among Chinese dual-earner couples: A moderated mediation model. *Sex Roles*, 83, 622-635. doi.org/10.1007/s11199-020-01125-1
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- Marshall, C. A., **Curran**, M. A., Brownmiller, G., Solarte, A., Armin, J., Hamann, H. A., Crist, J. D., Niemelä, M., Badger, T. A., & Weihs, K. L. (2018). Oregon's Familias en Acción replicates benefits for underserved cancer co-survivors through Un Abrazo Para la Familia. *Psycho-Oncology*, 27, 2405-2411. doi: 10.1002/pon.4841.

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- Few-Demo, A., Humble, A., **Curran, M. A., & Lloyd, S. (2016).** Queer theory, intersectionality, and LGBT-parent families: Transformative critical pedagogy in family theory. *Journal of Family Theory & Review*, 8, 74-94. doi: [10.1111/jftr.12127](https://doi.org/10.1111/jftr.12127)

***Distinction #1:** 2017 Alexis Walker Award from the National Council on Family

Relations; awarded for best research in the Family Science field published by a Wiley Journal in 2015 and 2016; recognition of distinguished contributions to path-breaking new research or innovative theory development in the family science field.

***Distinction #2:** Chosen by journal editor of JFTR to be featured as broader digital scholarship discussion with educators in United States and beyond (<https://www.ncfr.org/jftr/blog>). Blog, twitter, and Facebook posts all exceeded initial JFTR expectations.*

***Distinction #3:** At the end of 2016: The editor of JFTR reported that this article was the #1 most downloaded article in JFTR in 2016 and the #4 most downloaded article in the past 3 years in JFTR.

***Distinction #4:** At the end of 2017, the publisher (Wiley) of JFTR reported that this article was one of the top download articles in the recent publication history of the journal. Specifically, this article had been downloaded 2,429 times by the end of 2017, 3,323 times by the end of 2018, and 4,859 times by the end of 2019.

Serido, J., **Curran**, M., Wilmarth, M., +Ahn, S., Shim, S., & +Ballard, J. (2015). The unique role of parents and romantic partners on young adults' financial attitudes and behaviors. *Family Relations*, 64, 696-710. doi: 10.1111/fare.12164

***Chosen as "Best Paper" in 2015 by the National Council on Family Relations from the Family Economics Group. ***

Curran, M. A., †McDaniel, B. T., †Pollitt, A. M., & Totenhagen, C. J. (2015). Gender, emotion work, and relationship quality: A daily diary study. *Sex Roles*, 73, 157-173. doi: 10.1007/s11199-015-0495-8

†Muraco, J., Totenhagen, C., †Corkery, S., & **Curran**, M. A. (2014). Reflections on family science education: The importance of technology, experience, and diversity in the classroom. *Family Science Review*, 19, 40-49.

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- Young, V., **Curran**, M. A., & Totenhagen, C. (2012). A daily diary study: Working to change the relationship and relational uncertainty in understanding positive relationship quality. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 30, 132-148. doi: 10.1177/0265407512453826
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- †Ruppel, E. & **Curran**, M. A. (2012). Relational sacrifices in romantic relationships: Satisfaction and the moderating role of attachment. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 29, 508-529. doi: 10.1177/0265407511431190
- †Muraco, J. A., & **Curran**, M. A. (2012). Associations between marital meaning and reasons to delay marriage for young adults in romantic relationships. *Marriage and Family Review*, 48, 227-247. doi: 10.1080/01494929.2012.665013
- †Corkery, S., **Curran**, M. A., & †Benavides, R. (2011). "Me" and "we:" How expectant cohabitators talk about economic difficulty. *Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment*, 21, 978-994. doi: 10.1080/10911359.2011.588541
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- Curran**, M. A., †Corkery, S., & †Post, J. (2011). Partner commitment, gender, and depressive symptoms for expectant cohabitators. *Family Science*, 1, 222-229. doi: 10.1080/19424620.2010.570948
- Totenhagen, C., & **Curran**, M. A. (2011). Daily hassles, sacrifices, and relationship quality in pregnant

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Jacobvitz, D., Hazen, N., **Curran**, M. A., & Hitchens, K. (2004). Observations of early triadic family interactions: Boundary disturbances in the family predict symptoms of depression, anxiety, and attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder in middle childhood. *Development and*

Psychopathology, 16, 577-592. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0954579404004675>

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Biner, P. M., Huffman, M. L., **Curran**, M. A., & Long, K. R. (1998). Illusory control as a function of motivation for a specific outcome in a chance-based situation. *Motivation and Emotion*, 22, 277-291. doi: 10.1023/A:1021300306318

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS (since 2010)

Invited Colloquia / Discussant / Speaker

Curran, M.A. (2026, October). *A discussion of relationship sacrifices, intersectionality, and promoting greater inclusivity in relationship and family science*. Invited speaker for Alumni Day at the Department of Psychology at Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois.

Curran, M. A. (2026, July). *Finding time for writing: Time management for the academic*. In J. Tomlinson and the IARR Mentoring Committee New Scholar Workshop. Invited panelist for the symposium panel discussion at the International Association for Relationship Research (IARR), Glasgow, Scotland.

Curran, M. A. (2024, July). What is JSPR doing to help international authors publish their work in JSPR and what feedback do international authors have for JSPR? In S. Donato & I. Alonson-Arbiol (Chairs), *Panel discussion from the perspectives of representatives of IARR Internationalization committee, IARR-supported publications and mentoring program*. Symposium panel discussion presented at the International Association for Relationship Research, Boston, MA. [JSPR: Journal of Social and Personal Relationships; IARR: International Association for Relationship Research]

Curran, M.A. (2024, March). *A review of relationship sacrifices, the lens of intersectionality, and moving toward inclusivity in relationship science*. Invited speaker for the HDFS Colloquium Series, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX.

Curran, M.A. & Randall, A. R. (2023, May). Publishing in JSPR [Journal of Social and Personal Relationships] and PR [Personal Relationships]. Invited discussant at the New Scholars Workshop, International Association for Relationship Research, Tempe, AZ.

Curran M.A. (2020, November). *Meeting the Editors of IARR (International Association for Relationship Research)*. Invited discussant for a webinar panel for IARR. Hosted by IARR via Zoom.

Curran, M.A. (2020, July). *Family resiliency during COVID-19: Encountering stress in your romantic relationship and what to do about it*. Invited discussant for a webinar panel for University of Arizona alumni. Sponsored by the University of Arizona Foundation.

Curran, M.A. (2020, July). *How to get published*. Invited discussant at the International Association for Relationship Research, London, England. [This conference was cancelled due to COVID-19].

Curran, M.A. (2018, July). *Laying the groundwork for a successful career in relationship science*. Invited discussant at the New Scholars Workshop, International Association for Relationship Research, Fort Collins, CO.

Curran, M.A. (2017, June). *Making the most out of your conference; tips for networking*. Invited discussant at the New Scholars Workshop, International Association for Relationship Research, Syracuse, NY.

Curran, M.A. (2015, November). *Understanding patterns of variability in daily relationship quality for couples*. Invited presentation to the Social Psychology Colloquium/Brown Bag Series, Psychology department, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ.

Curran, M.A. (2015, June). *The process of personal and professional productivity*. Invited discussant at the New Scholars Workshop, International Association for Relationship Research, New Brunswick, NJ.

Curran, M.A. (2014, November). *Examining the impact and process of union dissolution*. Invited discussant at the National Council on Family Relations, Baltimore, MD.

Curran, M.A. (2014, March). *How to work with family and leave it at the office*. Invited presentation to the SEN Design Group, Tucson, Arizona.

Curran, M. A. (2012, November). *Co-parenting and computer-mediated communication: Methodological techniques*. Invited discussant at Theory Construction and Research Methodology, Phoenix, AZ.

Curran, M. A., Weihs, K., Young, V., & Simmens, S. (2011, April). *Understanding physical well-being over time for women with breast cancer: Identification of "best" interpersonal support*. Invited paper to "Data Blitz" to Mind, Brain and Body Research Collaborative Investigators, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ.

Curran, M. A. (2010, March). *Relational sacrifices and relationship quality*. Invited presentation to The School of Family Life at Brigham Young University, Provo, UT.

Curran, M. A., +Young, V., & Weihs, K. (2010, March). *Understanding physical symptoms for women with breast cancer: Importance of first marriage and the spouse as confidant*. Invited presentation to The School of Family Life at Brigham Young University, Provo, UT.

Curran, M. A., +Young, V., & Weihs, K. (2010, February). *Physical symptoms after breast cancer: Do relationships make a difference?* Invited presentation to the American Cancer Society Local Office, Tucson, AZ.

Symposia Leadership / Main organizer

+Parrott, E., & **Curran, M.A.**, (2018, November). *Finances and romantic relationships*. Poster symposium presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, San Diego, CA.

Curran, M. A. & Few-Demo, April (2017, November). *Engagement in classroom activities for the teaching of family theories: Ambiguous loss, conflict, feminism, intersectionality, and queer theories.* Symposium presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Orlando, FL.

Barnett, M. A., & Curran, M. A. (2017, November). *Fathers' and mothers' coparenting and parenting in family systems.* Symposium presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Orlando, FL.

Curran, M. A. & Serido, J, April (2017, November). *Relationships and finances: Multiple influences and multiple outcomes.* Symposium presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Orlando, FL.

Barnett, M., & Curran, M.A. (2016, November). *Family instability in diverse families.* Symposium presented at the National Council on Family Relations, Minneapolis, MN.

Curran, M.A. & Serido, J. (2016, November). What happens in romantic relationships when money is tight? Symposium presented at the National Council on Family Relations, Minneapolis, MN.

Serido, J. & Curran, M.A. (2014, November). *Young adults' financial and life satisfaction: What's love got to do with it?* Poster symposium presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Baltimore, Maryland.

Curran, M.A., Barnett, M., & Ellis, B., (2012, November). *New approaches to studying American families in a changing society.* Symposium presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Phoenix, Arizona.

Curran, M.A., & Kamp Dush, C. (2010, November). *Cohabitors' relationship quality and financial considerations.* Symposium presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Minneapolis, MN.

Symposia presentations

Curran, M.A., Cao, H., & Li, X. (2026, July). *Beyond the implications of biological sex and sexual orientation for interdependence for close relationships.* In S. Gaines (Ed.), *Understanding Interdependence in close relationships.* Symposium presented at the International Association for Relationship Research, Glasgow, Scotland.
[This symposium was part of the "Past President's Session" (as the past president was Stan Gaines, the chair of this symposium) and this was the last session for this 2026 conference].

+Shah, M., +Aroz, G., & Curran, M. A. (2024, July). Pathways linking depressive symptoms, financial stress, constructive conflict, and coparenting alliance in unmarried, lower-income mothers and fathers. In J. Peetz (Chair), *Finances in romantic relationships.* Symposium presented at the International Association for Relationship Research, Boston, MA.

LeBaron-Black, A. B., +Okamoto, R. M., +Saxey, M. T., Curran, M. A., & Leonhardt, N. D. (2023,

- November). Nine versions of the Parent Financial Socialization Scale: Full, short, and minimal versions for emerging adults, adolescents, and parents. In K. M. Trexburg & S. Suvo-Sanchez (Chairs), *Family financial socialization: Examinations and measurement in context*. Symposium presented at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Orlando, FL.
- LeBaron-Black, A. B., Yorgason, J. B., +Saxey, M. T., +Okamoto, R. M., **Curran**, M. A., & +Driggs, T. M. (2022, November). The ABC-X's of stress among U.S. emerging adults during the COVID-19 pandemic: Relationship quality, financial distress, and mental health. In R. Okamoto & A. LeBaron-Black (Chairs), *Families and money: Shedding light on understudied issues*. Symposium paper presented at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Minneapolis, MN.
- +LeBaron-Black, A. B., **Curran**, M. A., Hill, E. J., ^UFreeh, M. E., Toomey, R. B., & Speirs, K. E. (2021, November). *Talk is cheap: Family financial socialization methods and emerging adult financial wellbeing*. In A. LeBaron-Black (Chair), Financial wellbeing in emerging adulthood. Symposium paper submitted to the annual conference of the Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood. Live Online.
- +LeBaron, A. B., **Curran**, M. A., +Li, X., Dew, J. P., +Sharp, T., & Barnett, M. A. (2019, November). *A tale of two samples: Predictors of relational bonadaptation after a financial stressor among lower-income, unmarried couples*. In M. Wilmarth & A. LeBaron (Chairs), Financial considerations for supporting romantic relationships and family sustainability. Symposium presented at the National Council on Family Relations, St. Louis, MO. [This conference was now a virtual one due to COVID-19].
- +Li, X., **Curran**, M. A., Zhou, N., Serido, J., & Shim, S. (2019, November). *Financial behaviors, depressive symptoms, relationship satisfaction, and adult identity: Latent change score analyses*. In J. Yan (Chair), Couple relationships and individual well-being. Symposium presented at the National Council on Family Relations, Fort Worth, TX.
- Barnett, M., +Warren, S., Kopystynska, O., & **Curran**, M. A. (2019, March). *Associations among neighborhood disorder, unmarried fathers' parenting and coparenting, and young children's development*. In G. Brown (Chair), Unmarried fathers of young children: Correlates, consequences, and contributions. Symposium presented at the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.
- +Li, X., **Curran**, M. A., Serido, J., & Shim, S. (2018, November). *Young adults' life outcomes: Attachment styles, young adults' own financial behaviors, and perceived financial socialization from the romantic partner*. In E. Parrott+ & M. A. **Curran** (Chairs), Finances and romantic relationships. Poster symposium presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, San Diego, CA.
- Pollitt, A., Russell, S., **Curran**, M. A., Toomey, R., & +Grossman, A. (2018, April). *Inside and outside: Heteronormativity, gender, and health in the lives of bi/sexual minority youth*. In Alexa Martin-Storey (Chair), Romantic relationship among sexual minority youth: Risk, resilience and a call for future research. Symposium presented at the Society for Research on Adolescence, Minneapolis, MN.

- †Kopystynska, O., Paschall, K. W., Barnett, M. A., & **Curran**, M. A. (2018, January). *Patterns of interparental conflict, parenting, and children's emotional insecurity: A person-centered approach*. In M. A. Barnett, C. Beck, and O. Kopystynska (Chairs), Families as complex systems: Understanding how complex family relationships interact to influence individual and family well-being. Symposium presented at the Annual Conference of Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, Arizona Chapter, Sedona AZ.
- Curran**, M. A. (2017, November). *Ambiguous loss: How not all losses can be resolved and how to create new family meaning*. In M. A. **Curran** & A. Few-Demo (Chairs), Engagement in classroom activities for the teaching of family theories: Ambiguous loss, conflict, feminism, intersectionality, and queer theories. Symposium presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Orlando, FL.
- Curran**, M. A., Kuvalanka, K., & Oswald, R. (2017, November). *Engaging students to think beyond binaries and privilege*. In M. A. **Curran** & A. Few-Demo (Chairs), Engagement in classroom activities for the teaching of family theories: Ambiguous loss, conflict, feminism, intersectionality, and queer theories. Symposium presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Orlando, FL.
- Barnett, M. A. **Curran**, M. A. +Kopystynska, O., +Pech, A., & +Warren, S. (2017, November). *Coparenting alliance and parenting behaviors: Links with children's development*. In M.A. Barnett and M.A. Curran (Chairs), Fathers' and mothers' coparenting and parenting in family systems. Symposium presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Orlando, FL.
- Curran**, M.A., Serido, J., Ahn, S., & +Parrott, E. (2017, November). *Perceived financial influences and young adults' life outcomes*. In M.A. Curran and J. Serido (Chairs), Relationships and finances: Multiple influences and multiple outcomes. Symposium presented at the National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference, Orlando, FL.
- Barnett, M., +Paschall, K., +Kopystynska, O., & **Curran**, M. A. (2017, April). *Interactions among the quality and quantity of fathers' parenting: Links to young children's development*. In M. Barnett (Chair), Processes linking father involvement to children's development: How and when father involvement impacts children. Symposium presented at the 2017 meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, Texas.
- +Ahn, S., **Curran**, M.A. & Serido, J. (2016, November). *Financial instability and satisfaction: The Influence of shared versus conflictual financial values with romantic partners*. In M.A. **Curran** & J. Serido (Chairs), What happens in romantic relationships when money is tight? Symposium presented at the National Council on Family Relations, Minneapolis, MN.
- Barnett, M., +Paschall, K., & **Curran**, M.A. (2016, November). *Multidimensional approaches to family instability across the transition to parenthood*. In M.A. **Curran** & M. Barnett (Chairs), Family instability in diverse families. Symposium presented at the National Council on Family Relations, Minneapolis, MN.

Serido, J., **Curran**, M.A., & +Ahn, S. Y. (2014, November). *Young adults' financial and life satisfaction: What's love got to do with it?* In J. Serido & M. A. **Curran** (Chairs), *Financial and life satisfaction: It's a family affair*. Poster symposium presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Baltimore, Maryland.

Curran, M. A., Totenhagen, C., & †Muraco, J. (2013, November). *Preferences: A daily study of couple shared activities and satisfaction*. Poster symposium presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, San Antonio, TX.

†Corkery, S., **Curran**, M. A., & †Benavides, R. (2010, November). A qualitative study of cohabitators' transition to parenthood during economic times. In M. A. **Curran** & C. Kamp Dush (Chairs), *Cohabitators' relationship quality and financial considerations*. Symposium presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Minneapolis, MN.

Curran, M. A., †Domschke, T., & †Young, V. (2010, November). Influences of gender and relationship type on support, strain, and relationship satisfaction. In M. A. **Curran** & C. Kamp Dush (Chairs), *Cohabitators' relationship quality and financial considerations*. Symposium presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Minneapolis, MN.

Curran, M. A., & †Bosch, L. (2010, November). Identity style, attitudes about marriage, and reasons not to marry for pregnant cohabitators during the transition to parenthood. In S. Schoppe-Sullivan (Chair), *A nuanced look at the transition to parenthood*. Symposium presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Minneapolis, MN.

Paper / Poster / Data Blitz Conference Presentations

LeBaron-Black, A., & **Curran**, M. A. (2026, June). *Socialization of financial planning and socialization of financial giving scales: Development and preliminary validation*. Paper presented at the International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development, Incheon, South Korea.

+Shah, M. N., Perez-Brena, N., **Curran**, M. A., +Aroz-Moscoco, G., +Suxo-Sanchez, S., Yorgason, J., & LeBaron-Black, A. (2026, July). *Financial communication and secure attachment behavior among couples: A growth curve model*. Paper presented at the International Association for Relationship Research, Glasgow, Scotland.

+Aroz-Moscoco, G., +Shah, M. N., +Suxo-Sanchez, S., & **Curran**, M. A. (2026, July). *Couple relationship quality and coparenting alliance: Examining the mediating role of interparental conflict*. Paper presented at the International Association for Relationship Research, Glasgow, Scotland.

+Suxo-Sanchez, +Haddock Edwards, M., LeBaron-Black, A., **Curran**, M. A., +Shah, M. N., +Aroz-Moscoco, G., & Holmes, E. (2026, July). *Money to marriage: Exploring latent profiles of financial distress and financial management behaviors and their association with relationship satisfaction*. Paper presented at the International Association for Relationship Research, Glasgow, Scotland.

+Shah, M. N., **Curran**, M. A., +Aroz-Moscoco, G., Yorgason, J. B., & Holmes, E. K. (2025, August). *Examining links between depressive symptoms, finances, attachment security, and relational strengths in newlywed couples*. Data blitz presented at the International Association for

Relationship Research, London, England, UK.

- +Aroz-Moscoso, G., **Curran**, M. A., & +Shah, M. N. (2025, August). *Exploring the moderating role of interparental conflict on support and affection and coparenting alliance in couples during the transition to parenthood*. Data blitz presented at the International Association for Relationship Research, London, England, UK.
- Li, X.S., Li, X., Wheeler, B., **Curran**, M.A., +Herrera, C., +Howlett, E., Holmes, E., & James, S. (2024, November). *Couple interaction as a moderator for links between family of origin adversity and marital satisfaction*. Poster presented at the National Council on Family Relations, Bellevue, WA.
- +Aroz, G., +Shah, M., & **Curran**, M.A. (2024, July). *Interparental conflict, support and affection, and coparenting alliance among lower-income, unmarried couples transitioning to parenthood*. Data blitz presented at the International Association for Relationship Research, Boston, MA.
- +Shah, M.N., +Kuelz, A., **Curran**, M. A. & +Aroz, G. (2023, May). *Attachment patterns and satisfaction with sacrifices and their connections to relationship satisfaction in couples*. Poster presented at the International Association for Relationship Research, Phoenix, Arizona.
- +Aroz, G., +Kuelz, A., **Curran**, M. A. & +Shah, M. N. (2023, May). *Couples' reasons for cohabitation as linked with satisfaction with sacrifices*. Poster presented at the International Association for Relationship Research, Phoenix, Arizona.
- +Staples, R., Kopystynska, O., Barnett, M., Bradford, K., Higginbotham, B., & **Curran**, M. A. (2022, April). *The influence of constructive and destructive interparental conflict on child emotional insecurity: The mediating role of depressive symptoms*. Poster presented at the Utah Council on Family Relations. Ogden, UT.
- +Chandler, A., **Curran**, M.A., & Sbarra, D. (2022, July). *Couple intervention, destructive conflict, and coparenting among lower-income, unmarried parents*. Paper presented at the International Association for Relationship Research (virtual).
- Curran**, M. A., +Li, X., Barnett, M., +LeBaron, A., & +Chandler, A. (2021, August). *Intervention exposure, financial difficulties, and depressive symptoms for unmarried, expectant, and economically disadvantaged parents*. Paper presented at the International Association for Relationship Research. [This conference was moved to a virtual conference due to COVID-19].
- +Vasquez, M. B., Barnett, M. A., & **Curran**, M. A. (2021, April). *Social support as a buffer between depressive symptoms and parental warmth*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development. [This conference was moved to a virtual conference due to COVID-19].
- Kopystynska, O., Barnett, M., Bradford, K., Higginbotham, B., & **Curran**, M. A. (2021, April). *Implications of marital quality on children's emotional insecurity in the context of interparental conflict*. Paper presented at the Society for Research in Child Development. [This conference was moved to a virtual conference due to COVID-19].
- +Chandler, A. B., **Curran**, M. A., Sbarra, D. A., Hamann, H. A., & O'Connor, M-F. (2020, November).

- Testing BSF intervention effects on co-parenting: A latent variable approach with destructive conflict as a mediator.* Paper presented at the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies Conference, Philadelphia, PA. [This conference was moved to a virtual conference due to COVID-19].
- +Chandler, A., & **Curran**, M. A. (2020, July). *Emotion work and relational sacrifices: A daily diary study.* Paper presented at the International Association for Relationship Research, London, England. [This conference was cancelled due to COVID-19].
- +LeBaron, A. B., **Curran**, M. A., & Hill, J. (2020, July). *Measuring family financial socialization.* Paper to be presented, International Association for Relationship Research, London, England. [This conference was cancelled due to COVID-19].
- +LeBaron, A. B., **Curran**, M. A., & Hill, E. J. (2020, May). *Measuring family financial socialization.* Paper to be presented at the Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood, Milan, Italy. [This conference was cancelled due to COVID-19].
- O'Byrne, M., Swiatkowski, P., & **Curran**, M. A. (2019, November). *Surviving Christian Grey: Identifying relational variables.* Poster presented at the National Communication Association, Baltimore, MD.
- Jin, M. K., +Li, X., Corkery, S. & **Curran**, M. A. (2019, June). *Tripartite commitment and relationship quality: A person-centered approach.* Paper presented at the *International Association for Relationship Research, Ottawa, Canada.*
- Young, V. J., Lents, K., & **Curran**, M. A. (2018, November). *Interpersonal effects of health-related social control: An examination of dyadic influence, partner behavior change, and relationship quality.* Paper presented at the National Communication Association, Salt Lake City, UT.
- Brunner, S. R., **Curran**, M. A., & Ruiz, J. B. (2018, November). *Dear Solomon, Dear Prudence: Using student written advice responses to demonstrate theory application.* Paper presented at the National Communication Association, Salt Lake City, UT.
- +Li, X., **Curran**, M. A., Paschall, K., & Barnett, M. (2018, November). *Antecedents for relationship statuses transitions among low-income, unmarried parents.* Poster presented at National Council on Family Relations, San Diego, California.
- +Kopystynska, O., Barnett, M. A., Beck, C. J., & **Curran**, M. A. (2018, November). *Parents' destructive conflict, violence, and child emotional insecurity.* Paper presented at National Council on Family Relations, San Diego, California.
- +Kopystynska, O., Barnett, M., **Curran**, M.A., +Li, X. (2018, October). *Constructive and destructive interparental conflict, parenting, and coparenting alliance.* Paper presented at the Society for Research in Child Development DEVSEC (Conference on the Use of Secondary and Open Source Data in Developmental Science), Phoenix, AZ.
- Totenhagen, C. J., Betancourt, A. E., **Curran**, M. A., Randall, A. K., & Wilmarth, M. W. (2018, July). *A daily*

diary study of sacrifices and commitment: Testing direction of effects. Paper presented at the International Association for Relationship Research, Fort Collins, Colorado.

Curran, M. A., +Li, X., Paschall, K., Barnett, M., + Kopystynska, O. (2018, July). *Paternal and maternal pregnancy intentions and family functioning among low-income, unmarried couples: A person-centered approach.* Paper presented at the International Association for Relationship Research, Fort Collins, Colorado.

+Li, X., **Curran, M. A., Ahn, S., Serido, J., & Shim, S.** (2018, July). *Romantic partner financial behavior, depressive symptoms, and relationship satisfaction: The moderating roles of gender and attachment.* Poster presented at the International Association for Relationship Research, Fort Collins, Colorado.

+Rodas, J., Romero, A., Toomey, R., & **Curran, M.A.** (2018, April). *The association between ambiguous loss of family relationships and depressive symptoms among Latino youth.* Poster presented at the Society for Research on Adolescence, Minneapolis, MN.

Curran, M. A., Barnett, M., & Paschall, K. (2017, July). *Building Strong Families: How does family instability, coparenting quality, and father involvement explain child development outcomes?* Presented at the 2017 International Association for Relationship Research, Syracuse, NJ.

+Kopystynska, O., +Warren, S. M., Barnett, M. A., **Curran, M. A., & Paschall, K. W.** (2017, November). *Constructive and destructive conflict, parenting, and co-parenting alliance.* Presented at the National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference, Orlando, FL, November 2017.

†Pech, A., ^UColacicco, R., **Curran, M. A., Barnett, M., & †Paschall, K.** (2017, April). *Associations among parental depressive symptoms, coparenting and behavior in young children with previously incarcerated fathers.* Presented at the 2017 meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, Texas.

†Kopystynska, O., †Paschall, K., Barnett, M., & **Curran, M. A.** (2017, April). *Patterns of interparental conflict in relation to parenting and children's behavior problems: A person-centered approach.* Presented at the 2017 meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, Texas.

+Gonzalez, J., +Akcabozan, B., +Gamble, H., & **Curran, M. A.** (2016, November). *Variability in daily relationship quality: Roles of daily sacrifice motives and gender.* Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations, Minneapolis, MN.

+McDaniel, B. T., Sprecher, S., **Curran, M. A. & Galovan, A. M.** (2016, November). *Do you want me? The interplay between sex, sexual desire, and daily sexual satisfaction in heterosexual couples.* Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations, Minneapolis, MN.

Helm, S., +Pollitt, A., Barnett, M., & **Curran, M. A.** (2016, November). *Examining parents' environmental values, coping strategies and behavior.* Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations, Minneapolis, MN.

- Few-Demo, A., **Curran**, M. A., Humble, A., & Lloyd, S. (2016, November). *Strategies for using a queer, intersectional lens to teach family theories*. Roundtable presented at the National Council on Family Relations, Minneapolis, MN.
- Galovan, A., McDaniel, B., **Curran**, M. A., & Ledermann, T. (2016, September). *Variations of within-dyad similarity: A daily diary example with couple emotion work*. Paper presented at the Third Biennial Developmental Methods Conference, Whitefish, MT.
- Tang, C., Curran, M. A., & +Ervin, J. (2016, July). *Do you know how much I sacrificed for you? Concurrent and lagged attribution of relational sacrifices and relationship quality*. Paper presented at the International Association of Relationship Research, Toronto, Canada.
- Galovan, A., +McDaniel, B., & **Curran**, M. A. (2016, July). *Daily similarity in couple emotion work and relationship quality*. Paper presented at the International Association of Relationship Research, Toronto, Canada.
- +Akcaozan, B., +McDaniel, B., Corkery, S., & **Curran**, M. A. (2016, July). *Gender, sacrifices, and commitment: A daily diary study of pregnant unmarried cohabitators and their male partners*. Paper presented at the International Association of Relationship Research, Toronto, Canada.
- Barnett, M., +Paschall, K., & **Curran**, M. A. (2016, July). *Multiple dimensions of fathers' parenting: Links to children's behavior problems and language development*. Paper presented at The Administration for Children and Families' (ACF) National Research Conference on Early Childhood, Washington, D.C.
- Reilly, A., Oswald, R. F., Routh, J., McGuire, J., Gafsky, E., Zvonkovic, A., Toomey, R., Cuthbertson, C., Paceley, M., Walsh, M., & **Curran**, M. A. (2016, March). *Development of a theoretical model to study LGBT people living in rural areas in the United States of America*. Presented at the Rural Development Conference, Bangkok, Thailand.
- +Cooper, A., Totenhagen, C., **Curran**, M. A., Randall, A., & ^USmith, N. (2015, November). *Daily relationship quality in same-sex couples: Attachment and sacrifices*. Poster presented at the 2015 annual conference of National Council on Family Relations, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.
- *Selected as **"Best Abstract by a Student or New Professional"** for the Research and Theory Section at this conference.*
- +Gonzalez, J.M., +Gamble, H., & **Curran**, M. A. (2015, November). *Approach-avoidance motivations of sacrifice and relational quality*. Poster presented at the Annual Conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.
- *Selected as **"Outstanding Poster Award by a Student"** for the Family Therapy Section at this conference.*
- +McDaniel, B., +Galavon, A., & **Curran**, M. A. (2015, November). *Intensive longitudinal data (ILD) design and analysis bootcamp*. Workshop presented at the Theory Construction and Research Methodology, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

- Young, V., & **Curran**, M. A. (2015, November). *Intimacy behaviors and relationship satisfaction for cohabitators: Intimate sacrifices are not always beneficial*. Paper presented at the National Communication Association, Las Vegas, NV.
- +Corkery, S.A. & **Curran**, M. A. (2015, November). *Relational sacrifices and tripartite commitment dimensions*. Poster presented at the Annual Conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.
- +Akçabozan, N. B., +Chavez, C., +Pech, A., & **Curran**, M. A. (2015, November). *Actor and partner attachment styles and relationship quality for cohabitators*. Poster presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.
- +Akçabozan, B., **Curran**, M., & Young, V. (2015, June). *Perceived appreciation of intimate sacrifices and depressive symptoms for cohabitators*. Paper presented at the International Association of Relationship Research, New Brunswick, NJ.
- +Akçabozan, B., Young, V., & **Curran**, M. (2014, November). *Appreciation of intimate sacrifices and depressive symptoms for cohabitators*. Poster presented at the University of Arizona Student Showcase, Tucson, Arizona.
- Burke, T., Young, V., Totenhagen, C., & **Curran**, M. A. (2014, November). *Relational sacrifices about intimate behavior and relationship quality for expectant cohabitators*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Chicago, IL.
- †Loving, A., †McDaniel, B., Totenhagen, C., & **Curran**, M. A. (2014, November). *Volatility in daily relationship quality: The role of attachment*. Poster presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Baltimore, MD.
- †Muraco, J., Russell, S., **Curran**, M. A., & Butler, E. (2014, November). *Minority stress and public displays of affection in gay and lesbian couples*. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Baltimore, MD.
- Marshall, C. A., **Curran**, M. A., Demmler, J., Garcia, F., Kroll, T., & Niemelä, M. (2013, November). *Addressing the psychosocial support needs of cancer co-survivors in low-income communities*. Paper presented at the meeting of the American Public Health Association, Boston, MA.
- Young, V., **Curran**, M. A., Simmens, S., & Weihs, K. (2013, November). *Physical well-being after breast cancer: The value of relationships*. Poster presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, San Antonio, TX.
- Corkery, S. A., & **Curran**, M. A. (2013, November). *Tripartite commitment and relational sacrifices for pregnant, unmarried cohabitators*. Poster presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, San Antonio, TX.
- Serido, J., †Ahn, S. Y., †Garner, E., & **Curran**, M. A. (2013, November). *Young adults' finances: Influences from parents and romantic partners*. Poster presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, San Antonio, TX.

- †Muraco, J., †Gu, L., Russell, S., & **Curran**, M. (2013, November). *Conceptual matters: An examination of sexual orientation conceptualized four ways*. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, San Antonio, TX.
- Young, V., Burke, T., & **Curran**, M. A. (2013, October). *Affectionate sacrifices and relationship satisfaction of cohabiting individuals: Is there evidence of exchange and/or communal orientations motivating behaviors?* Paper presented at the meeting of the International Association for Relationship Research, Louisville, Kentucky.
- Totenhagen, C., & **Curran**, M. A. (2013, October). *Did my partner notice? Daily sacrifices and commitment*. Paper presented at the meeting of the International Association for Relationship Research, Louisville, Kentucky.
- ‡Ernsky, A., †Corkery, S., & **Curran**, M. A. (2012, November). *Attachment and relational quality for unmarried, pregnant cohabitators*. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Phoenix, Arizona.
- †Corkery, S. & **Curran**, M. A. (2012, November). *Daily sacrifices, satisfaction, and commitment for pregnant, unmarried cohabitators*. Poster presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Phoenix, Arizona.
- Totenhagen, C., **Curran**, M. A., & Young, V. (2012, November). *Relational sacrifices and commitment: A daily diary study*. Poster presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Phoenix, Arizona.
- ‡Palomer, A., †Corkery, S., ‡Van Gelder, S., ‡Badt, K., ‡Contreras, S., & **Curran**, M. A. (2012, November). *Knowing when you are "in a relationship:" A qualitative study*. Poster presented at the National Council on Family Relations, Phoenix, AZ.
- †Muraco, J., Russell, S., & **Curran**, M. A. (2012, November). *How past relationships influence LGB young adults' relationship quality*. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Phoenix, AZ.
- Marshall, C. A., **Curran**, M. A., Koerner, S., ‡Whittier, K., Verdugo, L., & García, F. (2012, September). *Un Abrazo Para La Familia: Providing cancer education to low-SES Hispanic co-survivors*. Paper presented at the International Cancer Education Conference, Ann Arbor, MI.
- Curran, M. A., & †Bosch, L. (2011, October). *Representations of marriage and engagement coping for expectant cohabitators*. Poster presented at the International Association of Relationship Research Mini-Conference, Tucson, AZ.
- †Corkery, S., †Cabeza de Baca, T., & **Curran**, M.A. (2011, October). *But what do I get out of it?: Perceived ease of individual relational sacrifices and lower depressive symptoms*. Poster presented at the International Association of Relationship Research Mini-Conference, Tucson, AZ.
- †Cabeza De Baca, T., †Corkery, S. A., & **Curran**, M. A. (2011, October). *Relational satisfaction among pregnant, unmarried cohabitators: A life history approach*. Poster presented at the

International Association of Relationship Research Mini-Conference, Tucson, AZ

- Russell, S. T., †Muraco, J. A., & **Curran**, M. A. (2011, October). *The effect of same-sex marriage discussion at school on school safety as associated with frequency and supportiveness of discussion, sexual orientation, and current ballot initiatives*. Poster presented at the International Association for Relationship Research Mini-Conference, Tucson, AZ.
- Curran**, M. A., †Corkery, S., & †Post, J. (2011, November). *Partner commitment, gender, and depressive symptoms for expectant cohabitators*. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations conference, Orlando, FL.
- †Totenhagen, C., ^UKatz, M. Butler, E., & **Curran**, M. A. (2011, November). *Daily variability in relational experiences*. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations conference, Orlando, FL.
- †Corkery, S., **Curran**, M. A., Segrin, C., & Koerner, S. (2011, November). *What matters most?: Interdependent factors of relational sacrifices*. Poster presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations conference, Orlando, FL.
- Young, V. J., **Curran**, M. A., ^UBadt, K. D., & ^USykes, M. E. (2011, November). *Grounded theory approach of relationship commitment expectant for cohabiting couples*. Paper presented at the National Communication Association, New Orleans, LA.
- †Ruppel, E. K., & **Curran**, M. A. (2011, November). *Relational sacrifices in romantic relationships: Sacrifice and the moderating role of attachment*. Paper presented at the National Communication Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Weihs, K., **Curran**, M. A., Young, V., & Simmens, S. (2011, March). *Marital biography and affection predict trajectories of physical well-being after breast cancer*. Paper presented at the American Psychosomatic Society, San Antonio, TX.

NEWS COVERAGE OF RESEARCH / INTERVIEWS DONE ABOUT RESEARCH / TRANSLATIONAL ARTICLES

Helm, S., +Li, X., **Curran, M. A.**, & Barnett, M. (2022). Coping profiles in the context of global environmental threats: A person-centered approach. *Anxiety, Stress, and Coping*, 35(5), 609-622. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10615806.2021.2004132>.

UA News: <https://news.arizona.edu/story/two-types-climate-coping-and-what-they-mean-your-health>

Curran, M. A., & Randall, A. K. (2021). Positionality statements.

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/pb-assets/assets/14756811/Positionality-Statements1621354517813.pdf>

Interview with Melissa **Curran** by Dr. Anthony James: Episode 1: The value of reviewing with Dr. Melissa Curran / Podcast: The Editor Is In (2021 interview).

<https://soundcloud.com/anthony-james-jr-3749380/the-editors-in-with-dr-anthony-james-episode-1>

+LeBaron, A. B., **Curran, M. A.**, +Li, X., Dew, J. P., +Sharp, T. K., & Barnett, M. A. (2020). Financial stressors as catalysts for relational growth: Bonadaptation among lower-income, unmarried couples. *Journal of Family and Economic Issues*, 41, 424-441. doi.org/10.1007/s10834-020-09666-z

UA News

<https://uanews.arizona.edu/story/what-helps-couples-weather-financial-storms>

ABC15 (Phoenix, Arizona) interview with Ashley LeBaron, "University of Arizona researcher offers navigation tools for couples"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C25b5waUrFo>

ABC15 / The Rebound

<https://www.abc15.com/rebound/managing-the-pressure/coronavirus-pandemic-causing-financial-and-mental-stress-at-home>

Thrive Global

<https://thriveglobal.com/stories/relationship-thrive-during-coronavirus-pandemic-advice-emotional-physical-financial-communication/>

News Break

<https://www.newsbreak.com/news/00t7aYKw/heres-how-to-keep-your-relationship-strong-during-these-financially-uncertain-times>

Theravive

<https://www.theravive.com/today/post/why-do-some-couples-weather-financial-storms-better-than-others-0004569.aspx>

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UA News

<https://uanews.arizona.edu/story/how-your-romantic-attachment-style-affects-your-finances-wellbeing>

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Phys.org

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Science Daily

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UA News

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Arizona Public Radio

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Inside Higher Ed

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Science Daily

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<https://www.thehealthsite.com/news/good-financial-habits-can-shield-you-from-depression-study-678766/>

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Reuters

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Science Daily

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Mad in America (Science, Psychiatry, and Social Justice)

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Anthropocene Magazine (Innovation in the Human Age)

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UA News

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Science Daily

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<https://www.cnn.com/2018/04/06/study-your-romantic-partners-spending-affects-your-well-being.html>

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Florida State University release:

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Psych Central

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Economic Times:

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Science daily:

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2017/06/170619105352.htm>

Science Newslne:

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Tallahassee Democrat:

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The Asian Age

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Independent Online

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Interview with Melissa **Curran** by Alexis Blue (February 13, 2015). *What you and your valentine should know*. UANews. <http://uanews.org/story/what-you-and-your-valentine-should-know>

Interview with Melissa **Curran** by Kathleen Smith (Summer, 2014). *The write fix: Writing mistakes are common in grad school. Here's how to avoid them*. gradPSYCH Magazine, American Psychological Association <http://www.apa.org/gradpsych/2014/09/write-fix.aspx>

Interview with Melissa **Curran** by Gabriela Diaz (November 6, 2014). *Arizonans not in a rush to the altar*. Arizona Sonora News Service. <http://arizonasonoranewsservice.com/arizonans-rush-altar/>

Interview with Melissa **Curran** by Julie Huynh (April 4, 2014). *Studies expose downside of live-in relationships*. Arizona Daily Wildcat. <http://www.wildcat.arizona.edu/article/2014/04/studies-expose-risks-of-live-in-relationships>

Interview with Melissa **Curran** by Julie Huynh. (February 19, 2014). *Conversation helps cancer patients cope*. Arizona Daily Wildcat. <http://www.wildcat.arizona.edu/article/2014/02/conversation- helps-cancer-patents-cope>

Interview with Melissa **Curran** by Julie Huynh. (February 12, 2014). *Examining the differences between love and lust*. Arizona Daily Wildcat. <http://www.wildcat.arizona.edu/article/2014/02/love-vs-lust>

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- <http://spr.sagepub.com/content/suppl/2013/04/25/0265407512472475.DC1> [Podcast]
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http://www.kvoa.com/videos/study-shows-your-good-deed-may-go-unnoticed-by-your-significant-other/](http://www.kvoa.com/videos/study-shows-your-good-deed-may-go-unnoticed-by-your-significant-other/)
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- http://www.cosmopolitan.com.au/relationships/relationship-advice/2013/5/the-things-we-do-forlove/#.UYKLcUqk1_M
- <http://www.redorbit.com/news/health/1112834910/stressful-days-and-sacrifices-in-a-relationship-050113/>
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Totenhagen, C. J., Serido, J., **Curran**, M. A., & Butler, E. A. (2012). Daily hassles and uplifts: A diary study on understanding relationship quality. *Journal of Family Psychology*, 26, 719-728.
<http://www.goodtherapy.org/blog/uplift-relationship-quality-commitment-1112123>

Interview with Melissa **Curran** by Cecilia Marshall (2012, February 14). *The dollars and sense of breaking up: Long-term commitments can last even when relationships don't*. Arizona Daily Wildcat.
http://www.wildcat.arizona.edu/article/2012/02/the_dollars_and_sens_of_breaking_up

Interview with Melissa **Curran** and Dave Swihart (2012). *When we break up*. UA News.
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Van Campen, K. S., Muraco, J. A., & **Curran**, M. A. (2011). *What do relationships of expectant cohabitators look like?* (Frances McClelland Institute for Children, Youth, and Families ResearchLink, Vol. 3, No. 1). Tucson, AZ: The University of Arizona.
<http://childrenandthelawblog.com/>

Interview with Melissa **Curran** by Ford Burkhart. (2010). *Tying the Slipknot: Gen M's New Rules for Love, Sex, and Mortgages Before Marriage*. Arizona: The Magazine of the University of Arizona Alumni. <http://alumni.arizona.edu/communications/article/755>

Abbreviations for following sections:

FSHD (Family Studies and Human Development; program)

HDFS (Human Development & Family Science – name change from FSHD – program)

FCS (Family and Consumer Sciences; school)

HECL (Human Ecology; school)

CALS (College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; college)

UA (University of Arizona)

SERVICE POSITIONS AT UA (Intramural) -- LEADERSHIP

2025-2026	Chair of the Committee on Committees, HECL
2024 to present	Director of Graduate Studies, HDFS
2019 to 2020	Program Chair, FSHD
2018 to 2019	Vice Program Chair, FSHD
2016 to 2017	Co-Chair of committee to hire Associate Professor, FSHD
2016 to 2017	Co-Chair of the committee to hire Director of Take Charge America Institute, FCS
2016 to 2020	Director of Research, Take Charge America Institute, FCS
2016 to 2017	Organizer and Convener of Faculty Learning Community (3 semesters)
2013 to 2019	Chair of Undergraduate Committee, FSHD
2015 to 2016	Co-Chair of committee to hire Professor of Practice / Undergraduate Coordinator, FSHD
2014 to 2015	Chair of committee to hire Professor of Practice, FSHD
2013 to 2014	Chair of committee to hire Professor of Practice, FSHD

SERVICE POSITIONS AT UA (Intramural)

2024 – 2025	Member of the Committee on Committees, FCS
2023	Ad hoc reviewer, Eminent Researcher Award Review, CALS
2022 to 2023	Ad hoc reviewer, Promotion and Tenure / Continuing Status Review, FCS
2021 to 2023	Member, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, CALS
2021 to 2022	Promotion & Tenure Committee, CALS
2021 to 2023	Member of the Committee on Committees, FCS
2018 to 2019	Grant reviewer for Research, Discovery, and Innovation Research Advancement Committee Member, UA
2019 to 2023	Member of Undergraduate Committee, FSHD
2018	Ad hoc reviewer, Promotion and Tenure / Continuing Status Review, FCS
2017 to 2019	Member of Faculty Review Committee, FCS
2012 to 2015	Member of Curriculum and Academic Standards, FCS
2011	Grant reviewer, Vice President for Research Grants, UA
2006 to 2012	Member of Undergraduate Committee, FSHD

SERVICE POSITIONS OUTSIDE OF UA (Extramural)

2022, 2023	External letter writer, promotion to Professor
2022	External letter writer, promotion to Associate Professor with tenure
2019	Grant reviewer, Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences
2015-present	Mentoring Committee Member, International Association for Relationship Research
2017	External letter writer, promotion to Associate Professor with tenure
2015	External letter writer, promotion to Associate Professor with tenure
2008-2016	Conference reviewer, International Association for Relationship Research
2007-2015	Conference reviewer, National Council on Family Relations

ADVISING / MENTORING

Dissertation, Comprehensive Exams, Master's theses

Role of major advisor

Shah, M. (2026, April in progress). Examining the role of couple financial communication in couple relationships as partners and parents. *In progress dissertation, HDFS, UA.*

Aroz-Moscoso, G. (April in progress). Relationship strengths and coparenting: Fostering positive relationships between parents and coparents. *In progress dissertation, HDFS, UA.*

Shah, M. (2025, November). Couple financial communication. Conceptualization and links to the couple relationship. *Completed comprehensive exams in HDFS, UA.*

Aroz-Moscoso, G. (2025, November). Exploring links between positive relational constructs and coparenting. *Completed comprehensive exams in HDFS, UA.*

Walker, K. (2025, August). Grit and racial-ethnic identity in understanding the academic experiences of pregnant and parenting Latinx adolescents. *Completed dissertation in HDFS, UA.*
[Advising team is me, Dr. Joel Muraco, and Dr. Norma Perez-Brena].

Walker, K. (2024, July). Exploring grit: The role of individual, familial, and cultural contexts. *Completed Comprehensive exam, HDFS, UA.*

Shah, M. (2024, May). Pathways linking depressive symptoms, financial stress, constructive conflict, and coparenting alliances in unmarried, lower-income mothers and fathers. *Completed Master's thesis, HDFS, UA.*

Aroz, G. (2024, September). Interparental conflict, support and affection, and coparenting alliance among lower-income, unmarried couples transitioning to parenthood. *Completed Master's thesis in HDFS, UA.*

- Kuelz, A. (2023, August). *Interpersonal dynamics of social interaction*. Completed dissertation in FSHD, UA. [Role of advisor started in January, 2023 after the passing of Dr. Emily Butler].
- Chandler, A. (2022, May). *Retesting intervention effects in the Building Strong Families Dataset (BSF)*. Completed dissertation in Clinical Psychology, UA.
- Ligon, V. (2021, May). *Two cooks in the kitchen: Effects of shared decision-making authority in food provisioning among dual-income earning couples in the US*. Completed dissertation, Retailing and Consumer Science, UA.
- Li, X. (2021, May). *External stressors, resources, and relational outcomes among underrepresented couples: Actor-partner interdependence models*. Completed dissertation, FSHD, UA.
- LeBaron, A. (2021, May). *Measuring family financial socialization*. Completed dissertation, FSHD, UA
- LeBaron, A. (2019, December). *Family financial socialization, measurement creation, and data collection: A critical review*. Completed comprehensive exams in FSHD, UA.
- Li, X. (2019, November). *Stresses, commitment, protective factors, couple behavior, and well-being*. Completed comprehensive exams in FSHD, UA.
- Chandler, A. (2020, January). *Questions included: Changing and complex families; Destructive conflict; maladaptive repetitive thought; Habituation; Multilevel modeling; The new statistics; Cultural competence; Designing clinical trials*. In progress comprehensive exams. Clinical Psychology, UA.
- Pollitt, A. (2017, April). *Bisexual youth, heteronormativity, health, and mixed methods*. Completed dissertation in FSHD, UA. [Co-Chair with Dr. Stephen Russell at UT-Austin].
- Pech, A. (2017, April). *The role of resilience in the life experiences of children of incarcerated parents*. Completed Master's thesis in FSHD, UA.
- Corkery, S. (2015, August). *An examination of relational sacrifices: Associations with daily commitment and satisfaction and tripartite commitment experiences*. Completed Dissertation in FSHD, UA.
- Corkery, S. (2012, September). *Dimensional commitment: A critical review, discussion of dimensions, and suggestions for future research*. Completed Comprehensive exams in FSHD, UA.
- Corkery, S. (2011, May). *A dyadic examination of personal commitment and relational sacrifices for unmarried, expectant cohabitators*. Completed Master's thesis in FSHD, UA.
- Totenhagen, C. (2011, May). *Daily processes in romantic relationships*. Completed Dissertation in FSHD, UA.
- Totenhagen, C. (2009, March). *Questions included daily hassles, relational sacrifices, close relationships, and methods (Question format)*. Completed Comprehensive exams in FSHD, UA.
- Casper, D. (2009, January). *Self-harm from the school counselors' point of view*. Completed Master's thesis in FSHD, UA.

Bosch, L. (2009, May). *Identity style in young adulthood: The role of attachment and family communication patterns*. Completed Master's thesis in FSHD, UA.

Role of minor advisor

Cooper, R. A. (2022, November). *Applying an attachment theory framework to the question of older adult caregiving*. Completed Comprehensive exams in Communication, UA.

Liang, S. (2020, March). *Applying an attachment theory framework to the question of how has your relationship with your parents or caregivers affected your transition to adulthood (asked of college students / emerging adults)*. Completed Comprehensive exams in Educational Psychology, UA.

Terán, L. (2020, February). *Applying an attachment theory framework to the topic of sexualizing media, sexual interpersonal interaction, and consent*. Completed Comprehensive exams in Communication, UA.

Dinsmore, D. (2018, May). *Applying an interdependence framework to experiences of stress in couples*. Completed Comprehensive exams in Communication, UA.

Springer, S. (2015, May). *Family adaptation to caregiving for aging relatives*. Completed Comprehensive exams in Communication, UA.

Ervin, J. (2015, May). *Relational sacrifices: A review, critique, and other considerations*. Completed Comprehensive exams in Communication, UA.

Swiatkowski, P. (2015, May). *Interpersonal processes and media effects using daily diary methods*. Completed Comprehensive exams in Communication, UA.

Gamble, H. (2015, April). *The model of sacrifice intensions*. Completed Comprehensive exams in Communication, UA.

Brunner, S. (2014, May). *Health, interpersonal communication, computer mediated communication, methods, and statistics*. Completed Comprehensive exams in Communication, UA.

Muraco, J. (2013, April). *Public displays of affection, depression, and psychological health for individuals in gay and lesbian relationships*. Completed Comprehensive exams in FSHD, UA.

Young, V. (2009, April). *Health, interpersonal communication, relational sacrifices, methods, and statistics*. Completed Comprehensive exams in Communication, UA.

Role of committee member

Hettinger, M. (2026, April). *Promoting consumer resilience to climate change: A look into individuals, families, and communities*. Completed comprehensive exams in HDFs, UA.

Cooper-Roundy, V. (2026, August). *Black fathering in context: Examining the links between fathering*

ideologies, racial identity, and parenting efficacy on parenting behaviors. Completed dissertation in HDFFS, UA.

Cooper-Roundy, V. (2024, December). *How positive father figures contribute to the identity of Black fathers' engaged parenting.* Completed Comprehensive Exams in HDFFS, UA.

Hettinger, M. (2023, August). *Climate change and retirement savings behavior.* Completed Master's thesis in FSHD, UA.

Bueno, E. (2022, December). *An integrative conceptual model of FoK and PVEST through a familial perspective: Links on STEM Achievement mechanisms among minoritized college students.* Completed Comprehensive Exams in FSHD, UA.

Kuelz, A. (2022, May). *A systematic review of the literature on physiological linkage in the past seven years.* Completed Comprehensive Exams in FSHD, UA.

Vasquez, M.B. (2022, May). *Partner support as a buffer between parental depressive symptoms and parental engagement.* Completed Master's thesis defense in FSHD at UA.

Zhen, Z. (2021, February). *Revisiting the construct of sexual orientation disclosure and concealment with the focus on sexual minority youth.* Completed Comprehensive Exams in FSHD, UA.

Boyd, S. (2020, May). *Social anxiety, context, and affiliation: The mediating role of interpersonal autonomic physiology.* Completed Master's thesis defense in FSHD at UA.

Fonseca (2019, March). *Love is universal but still culturally specific: A model for understanding healthy relationship functioning in intercultural couples.* Completed dissertation in FSHD, UA.

Kopystynska, O. (2018, June). *Pathways linking interparental conflict and abuse to family processes.* Completed dissertation in FSHD, UA.

Rodas, J. (2017, December). *The association between ambiguous loss of family relationships and self-esteem among Latino adolescent youth.* Completed Master's thesis defense in FSHD at UA.

Fonseca (2017, October). *Love is universal but still culturally specific: A model for understanding healthy relationship functioning in intercultural couples.* Completed dissertation proposal in FSHD, UA.

Kopystynska, O. (2017, September). *The role of parental personality in predicting interparental conflict and parenting behaviors: A theoretical review.* Completed Comprehensive Exams in FSHD, UA.

Fonseca, A. (2017, April). *Love is universal: The central role of culture and dyadic emotional processes in interracial romantic couples.* Completed Comprehensive Exams in FSHD, UA.

Rodas, J. (2017, March). *The association between ambiguous loss of family relationships and self-esteem among Latino adolescent youth.* Completed Master's thesis proposal in FSHD at UA.

Lohre, S. B., (2016, December). *Attunement to infant (AI): The design of an attunement to infant (AI)*

- intervention and family support program with integrated evaluation*. Completed Dissertation in School of Applied Psychology, Counseling, and Family Therapy, Antioch University.
- Gonzalez, H. (2016, May). *Examining the influence of cultural values on pathways to strengthen responsible fatherhood among Mexican-origin fathers*. Completed Dissertation in FSHD, UA.
- McNelis (2016, April). *Divorce across the lifespan*. Completed minor comprehensive exam in Communication, UA.
- Brunner, S. (2015, June). *Attachment, self-disclosure, and new technologies: Investigating the connection between attachment and self-disclosure across different communication technologies*. Completed Dissertation in Communication, UA.
- Pollitt, A. (2015, April). *Health disparities for bisexual individuals*. Completed Comprehensive exams in FSHD, UA.
- Gonzalez, H. (2014, May). *Fathers who separate and reintegrate: A close look at the impact of incarceration, deployment, and deportation on father involvement*. Completed Comprehensive exam in FSHD, UA.
- Muraco, J. (2014, May). *The influence of minority stress on the lives of gay and lesbian young adults*. Completed Dissertation in FSHD at UA.
- Pollitt, A. (2014, May). *Relationship history, religion and gender in a nationally representative sample of both-sex attracted adolescents*. Completed Master's thesis in FSHD, UA.
- Watson, R. (2013, May). *Interpersonal relationships, mental health, and minority stress*. Completed Comprehensive exam in FSHD, UA.
- Muraco, J. (2012, May). *Moderators of gay and lesbian romantic relationship quality: Gender, race, age, and previous relationship experience*. Completed Master's thesis in FSHD, UA.
- Gonzalez, H. (2012, January). *The influence of support from romantic partner social fathers and nonresident biological fathers on maternal wellbeing in Mexican-American families*. Completed Master's thesis in FSHD, UA.
- Domschke, T. (2011, January). *Health, interpersonal communication, social support, methods, and statistics*. Completed Comprehensive exams in Communication, UA.
- Young, V. (2010, April). *Investigating health behaviors in romantic relationships*. Completed Dissertation in Communication, UA.
- Merrifield, K. (2009, May). *Marital and coparenting qualities: Associations with parenting cognitions*. Completed Dissertation in FSHD, UA.
- Ogolsky, B. (2007, April). *Antecedents and consequences of relationship maintenance in intimate relationships*. Completed Dissertation in FSHD, UA.

Totenhagen, C. (2007, May). *Sexual and relationship satisfaction in gay and lesbian couples: The roles of daily stress and closeness*. Completed Master's thesis in FSHD, UA.

Role of external evaluator

Horne, R. (2023, January). Navigating conflicts of interest and psychological need satisfaction in romantic relationships. *Completed Dissertation in Psychology, University of Toronto*.

Minor advisor to doctoral students

Jia You (Communication; 2026 to present)
Brad Frick (Communication; 2026 to present)
Anna Marcucci (Communication; 2026 to present)
Amanda Cooper (Communication; 2020 to 2022)
Scarlett Liang (Educational Psychology, 2019 to 2020)
Larissa Terán (Communication; 2018 to 2020)
Dana Dinsmore (Communication, 2015 to 2020)
Melissa McNelis (Communication; 2014 to 2016)
Hilary Gamble (Communication; 2013 to 2015)
Jennifer Ervin (Communication; 2013 to 2015)
Shelia Springer (Communication; 2013 to 2015)
Paulina Swiatkowski (Communication; 2012 to 2015)
Steven Brunner (Communication; 2012 to 2015)
Amy Olson (Educational Psychology; 2012 to 2014)
Michelle Dunivan (Communication; 2011 to 2014)
Joel Muraco (Family Studies and Human Development; 2011 to 2014)
Analisa Arroyo (Communication; 2010 to 2013)
Erin Ruppel (Communication; 2009 to 2011)
Valerie Young (Communication; 2009 to 2011)

Undergraduate honor's theses

Burchard, Stephanie. (2021, Spring). *A review of relational sacrifices in romantic relationships, relationship quality, and its application to the therapeutic setting*. Completed undergraduate Honor's thesis in Psychology, UA.

Javery, Bianca (2020, Spring). *Couple and family finance and debt: A review*. Completed undergraduate Honor's thesis in Psychology and FSHD, UA.

Ribeiro, Vanessa (2019, Spring). *Review of parental leave policies in the United States*. Completed undergraduate Honor's thesis in FSHD, UA.

Arroyo, Corrie (2017, December). *Attachment theory, grief and loss, and connections to young children*. Completed undergraduate Honor's thesis in FSHD, UA.

Rosenberg, A. (2016, May). *Parent and adult child characteristics associated with overparenting*.

Completed undergraduate Honor's thesis in FSHD, UA.

Hahn, K. (2013, March). *Marital representations on relationship quality in pregnant unmarried cohabitators*. Completed undergraduate Honor's thesis in Psychology, UA.

Palomer, A. (2012, May). *Attachment theory and reasons not to marry among emerging adults*. Completed undergraduate Honor's thesis in FSHD, UA.

Van Boven, A. (2011, May). *Marital representations for expectant cohabitators with a history of personal and parental divorce: A qualitative study*. Completed undergraduate Honor's thesis in Psychology, UA.

Smith, L. (2009, May). *Why pregnant, unmarried, cohabitators remain unmarried: A focus on finances and support from alternative others*. Completed undergraduate Honor's thesis in FSHD, UA.

Stewart, S. (2009, May). *A case study about adopting children after the sensitive period of infancy*. Completed undergraduate Honor's thesis in FSHD, UA.

Supervisor of undergraduate research units (Directed Research; FSHD 492)

2020 Spring	Maggie Freeh (Supervision by Ashley LeBaron for a dissertation project)
2016 Fall	Emma MacKenzie and Caroline Klein
2016 Spring	Emma MacKenzie, Hope Roberts, ReAnne Colacicco (Co-advised with Dr. Sabrina Helm and Alexandria Pech)
2015 Fall	ReAnne Colacicco, Emma MacKenzie, Hope Roberts, Amelia Rosenberg, Josephine Sebring
2015 Spring	Emily Adams, Olivia Moncibaez
2014 Fall	Lorena Acevez, Emily Adams, Olivia Moncibaez, Ron Ruano, Bert Skye
2014 Spring	Shira Hefter, Alex Russell, Drew Seamans
2013 Summer	Katie Adelman, Roxanne Cleary
2013 Spring	Emma Garner
2012 Fall	Holly Blevins, Staci Ebadirad, Hannah Eckert, Alisha Howe, Alexa Maestranzi, Patricia Matei, Rachel Part, Amanda Richardson, Alexandra Russell, Brandi Wolstencroft (Supervision of six of these students by graduate student, Shannon Corkery for coding of a dissertation project).
2012 Spring	Annick Hope-Ezeigbo, Angela Palomer, Meghan Rice, Kelsey Whittier
2011 Spring	Kim Badt, Jessica Belter, Samantha Contreras, Annick Hope-Ezeigbo, Mara Katz, Catherine Morton, Emily Psyk, Meghan Rice, Megan Sykes
2011 Fall	Annick Hope-Ezeigbo, Meghan Rice, Catherine Morton, Angela Palomer, Amy Singletary, Sienna VanGelder, Kelsey Whittier
2010 Sp/Fall	Kimberly Badt, Angela Goermar, Julie Jackson, Allison Martin, Caitlin McCarthy, Lauren Orlowski, Tiffany Sorrell, Amber Spears, Megan Sykes, Jacquelynn Villa-baze,
2009 Sum/Fall	Reyna Benavides, Lisset Chavez, Anne Clemens, Ashley Feurbach, Mary Flynn, Chelsea Hodges, Allison Martin, Amanda Parkman, Lauren Stern, Kellie Shuler, Vanessa Smith, Amber Spears, DaLeesia Underwood
2009 Spring	Lindsey Abramovitch, Marissa Ferguson, Mary Flynn, Carolyn Gavin, Diana Haymore, Chelsea Hodges, Sarah Kelsey, Randee Luben, Allison Martin, Alex Robie, Caroline

2008 Spring Sethney, Lauren Stern
 Monique LaBonte, Sarah Kelsey

Supervisor of undergraduate preceptors (undergraduate members of the teaching team; FSHD or HDFS 491) or undergraduate teaching assistants

2026 Spring Cassidy Peshek, Kyla Giltner
2025 Spring Lauren Craig, Reese Henning
2024 Fall Mary Brokenshire
2022 Fall Bitu Mosallai, Caledonia Yeager
2021 Fall Danae Rojas, Elise Nochomovitz
2021 Spring Danae Rojas, Rachael Perez
2020 Fall Isabella Gallo
2020 Spring Carlie Adams, Emma Mericle
2019 Fall Rachel Foote
2019 Spring Rebecca Colombo, Sydney Lewin
2018 Fall Rebecca Colombo, Vanessa Ribeiro
2018 Spring Marcos Aguayo, Dana Willis
2017 Fall Lily Wilhelm, Luis Valencia
2017 Spring Elena Meeker, Lily Wilhelm
2016 Fall Emma MacKenzie
2016 Spring Josephine Sebring, Melissa Ruiz
2014 Fall Erica Christopher, Sarah Escalante, Erin Scanlon, Ryan Smith, Abby Wirth
2013 Fall Natalie Minas
2013 Spring Victoria Bernhardt, Tessa Facer, Ali Garrett, Margaret LaBonte
2012 Fall Melissa Fisher, Carolyn Guthrie, Rachel Part, and Sarah Weis
2012 Spring Alicia Ernsky

STUDENT AWARDS (based upon my nomination, or co-nomination)

University level Centennial Award for Graduate Student Excellence, UA:

Alexandria Pech (2015)
Henry Gonzalez (2014)
Shannon Corkery (2011)

Meritorious Award for Graduate Teaching, University of Arizona, CALS, UA:

Zhenqiang Zhao (2021)
Xiaomin Li (2018)
Alexandria Pech (2016)
Jose-Michael Gonzalez (2016)
Dan Erickson (2015)
Rebecca Reed and Joel Muraco (2012)
Shannon Corkery (2011)

Outstanding Research Assistant Award, Graduate and Professional Student Organization (GPSC), UA:

Amanda Pollitt (2017)
Katie Paschall (2016)
Shannon Corkery (2012)

Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, Graduate and Professional Student Organization (GPSC), UA:
Joel Muraco (2012)
Shannon Corkery (2011)

Outstanding Senior Award in CALS, UA:
Hope Roberts (2016, Fall)
Sarah Kelsey (2011, Spring)

Outstanding Senior Award in FSHD, UA:
Bita Mosallai (2023, Spring)
Rachael Perez (2021, Spring)
Marcos Aguayo (2018, Spring; Tri-award winner)
Lily Wilhelm (2017, Fall)
Hope Roberts (2016, Spring)
Sarah Escalante (2015, Fall; Co-award winner)
Lorena Aceves (2015, Spring)
Julie Jackson (2010, Fall)
Amanda Parkman (2009, Fall; Co-award winner)
Marissa Ferguson (2009, Spring)

Overcoming Challenges in FSHD, UA:
Sarah Escalante (2015, Fall) and Shira Hefter (2014, Spring)

Faculty Achievement / Special Recognition Award in FSHD or HDFS, UA:
Cassidy Peshek (2026, Spring; special recognition for leadership)
Rebecca Colombo (2019, Spring)
Dagmar Veillet (2018, Fall)
Luis Valencia (2018, Spring)
Daisy Reyes and Elena Meeker (2017, Spring)
Emma MacKenzie (2016, Fall)
ReAnne Colacicco (2016, Spring)
Emily Boyd and Erin Scanlon (2014, Fall)
Natalie Minas, Brianna Mason, and Drew Seamans (2014, Spring)
Emma Garner (2013, Spring) and Ali Garrett (2013, Fall)
Angela Palomer (2012, Spring)

Emerging Professional Award for the Council of Alumni and Friends of the Norton School of FCS, UA:
Casey Totenhagen (2023)
Amanda Parkman (2013)