



APRIL 2021

On March 10th, **Dr. David Biek** presented findings from the *2020 On the Table (Virtual Edition)* community engagement events that were held around the region in November 2020. Dr. Biek completed the analysis and interpretation of survey data for the Community Foundation of Central Georgia on behalf of MGA's Center for Applied Research and Education (CARE); a donation from the Community Foundation was made to our School as an honorarium.

Dr. Ervin Briones and several MGA colleagues published a report of ongoing work on PSYC 1101 (Introduction to Psychology) to improve engagement, student learning, and retention, as part of the Gateways to Completion USG-wide initiative:

Briones, E., **Walters**, L. C., **Gladden**, P. R., & **Biek**, D. (2021). Introduction to Psychology (Psyc1101) Course Redesign at Middle Georgia State University. In S.M. Foote (Ed.), *Gateways to Completion Case Study Anthology*, pp. 55-58. Gardner Institute. <https://www.jngi.org/g2c-case-study-anthology>

Dr. Chi Cheung (Psychology) reports that she co-authored a paper on COVID-19:

Fung, I. C.-H., Zhou, X., Cheung, C.-N., Ofori, S. K., Muniz-Rodriguez, K., Cheung, C.-H., Chowell, G. (2021). Assessing Early Heterogeneity in Doubling Times of the COVID-19 Epidemic across Prefectures in Mainland China, January–February, 2020. *Epidemiologia*, 2(1), 95–113. doi:10.3390/epidemiologia2010009

In February, Professor Emerita of Psychology, **Dr. Myra Davis** served as Writer/Director of a Black History Documentary for Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church. Dr. Jimmy Cheek collaborated and served as Audio/Video Producer and Ms. Phylliss Watson was the Logistics Coordinator. To access, go to the Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church/Macon webpage and scroll to the Black History tribute, the format of which is simulated news coverage.

<http://www.mtmoriahmacon.org/>

Ms. Katherine Gray (Education and Social Work) reports the following: Aside from being a full-time advisor and full-time mother, Ms. Gray is authoring a children's book dedicated to autism awareness and education.

Dr. John Hall, Dr. Allison Hamilton and Dr. Christopher Lawrence organized a panel discussion, held virtually on March 25th. The event focused on voting rights issues, election fraud (real and imagined) and ballot security, and reform. John and Allison served as panelists while Chris moderated the discussion. The session was co-sponsored by the MGA Political Science Student Organization and the Alpha Mu Zeta chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the national honorary society for political science.

Dr. Julie Lester participated in the Kettering Foundation's Multinational Research Symposium *Responses to the Pandemic: Citizens' Relationship With Governing Institutions*. She shared preliminary research findings from her project, "Teaching *With* in Public Administration and Political Science Courses," with participants from Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, and the Americas.

SEBS Spotlights is compiled and circulated monthly. Submissions should be received by the fourth Thursday of the preceding month.

- David Biek, Dean