Psychology + Neuroscience

Partners + Advisors



Kit Yarrow, Ph.D. Consumer Psychologist + Professor Emerita, Golden Gate University

Kit Yarrow, Ph.D., is an award-winning consumer psychologist, a professor, author, consultant and speaker. Her home base is Golden Gate University in San Francisco, where she is Professor Emerita. She was previously a jointly appointed, tenured professor of both psychology and marketing, and Chair of the Department of Psychology. Kit's unique ability to apply clinical psychology to the field of behavioral economics has won her four endowed research professorships and recognition as the 2012 Outstanding Scholar of Golden Gate University. Kit has been a visiting professor at the Helsinki School of Economics and has taught consumer behavior at leading universities around the world. As a widely recognized authority on the psychology of consumers — and on the Millennial Generation in particular — Kit is regularly quoted in a variety of media including The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, NPR, and Good Morning America.

Fran Blumberg, Ph.D. Developmental Psychologist + Professor, Fordham University Graduate School of Education

Fran C. Blumberg is a professor in the Division of Psychological & Educational Services in Fordham University's Graduate School of Education. Her research primarily concerns the development of children's attention and problem solving in the context of informal and formal digital learning settings, which has been funded through the Spencer Foundation, the National Science Foundation, and the Center for Curriculum Redesign. She is an affiliated faculty member of the Children's Digital Media Center at Georgetown University. She also is editor of *Learning by Playing: Video Gaming in Education* (Oxford University Press, 2014) and co-editor with Patricia Brooks of the recently published *Cognitive Development in Digital Contexts* (Academic Press, 2017).





Casey Jordan, Ph.D., J.D. Criminologist + Attorney

Dr. Casey Jordan is a behavioral analyst, criminologist, attorney, and professor at Western Connecticut State University where she has taught in the Division of Justice and Law Administration for more than 25 years. As an academic researcher of forensic psychology and behavioral typologies, Dr. Jordan has interviewed hundreds of offenders and provided more than 1,000 analyses for criminal investigations, legal defense, and media commentary. Dr. Jordan has frequently served as the CNN in-house Criminologist, a contributor for In Session/HLN, and spent the last five years hosting the ID channel's hit series "Wives with Knives," in which she interviewed and analyzed 50 women who had stabbed their partners.

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Amy Briesch, Ph.D. Associate Professor of Psychology, Northeastern University

Dr. Amy Briesch is an Associate Professor in school psychology at Northeastern University. Subsequent to receiving her bachelor's degree in psychology and creative writing from Dartmouth College, she worked as a high school resource room teacher and college counselor in Maine (as well as the Dean of Students for EXPLO at Yale). Her primary research interests involve the development of feasible yet effective tools for intervening with and assessing student's social behavior in schools. She co-directs the Center for Research in School-Based Prevention (http://northeastern.edu/crisp), and is currently a Co-Principal Investigator on two grants funded by the Institute of Education Sciences of the Department of Education. Dr. Briesch has authored three books and over 50 peer-reviewed journal articles to date, and was the 2014 recipient of the Lightner Witmer award from the APA for early career scholarship.

Eduardo Salas, Ph.D. Allyn R. + Gladys M. Cline Chair and Professor, Rice University

Eduardo Salas is the Allyn R. + Gladys M. Cline Chair Professor and Chair of the Department of Psychology at Rice University. Previously, he was a Trustee Chair and Pegasus Professor of Psychology at the University of Central Florida where he also held an appointment as Program Director for the Human Systems Integration Research Department at the Institute for Simulation and Training (IST). Before joining IST, he was a senior research psychologist and Head of the Training Technology Development Branch of NAWC-TSD for 15 years. During this period, Dr. Salas served as a principal investigator for numerous R+D programs including TADMUS — that focused on teamwork, team training, decision-making under stress and performance assessment. Dr. Salas has co-authored over 450 journal articles and book chapters, and has co-edited 29 books and authored one book on team training. His expertise includes assisting organizations in how to foster teamwork, design and implement team training strategies, facilitate training effectiveness, manage decision making under stress, and develop performance measurement tools.





Albert "Skip" Rizzo Director of Medical Virtual Reality, USC Institute for Creative Technologies

Albert "Skip" Rizzo is a clinical psychologist and director of Medical Virtual Reality at the University of Southern California Institute for Creative Technologies. He is also a Research Professor with the USC Deptartment of Psychiatry and at the USC Davis School of Gerontology. Over the last 20 years, Rizzo has conducted research on the design, development and evaluation of Virtual Reality systems targeting the areas of clinical assessment, treatment and rehabilitation across the domains of psychological, cognitive and motor functioning in both healthy and clinical populations. This work has focused on PTSD, TBI, Autism, ADHD, Alzheimer's disease, stroke and other clinical conditions. His recent work has involved in the creation of artificially intelligent virtual human (VH) patients that novice clinicians can use to practice skills required for challenging diagnostic interviews and for creating online virtual human healthcare guides and clinical interviewers with automated sensing of facial, gestural, and vocal behaviors useful for inferring the state of the user interacting with these virtual human entities. The common thread that drives all of his digital technologies work involves the study of how interactive and immersive Virtual Reality simulations can be usefully applied to address human healthcare needs beyond what is possible with traditional 20th Century tools and methods.