

College of Behavioral & Community Sciences

Organizational Structure

Established in 2008, the College of Behavioral and Community Sciences (CBCS) includes six academic departments/schools: Aging Studies, Child & Family Studies, Communication Sciences & Disorders, Criminology, Mental Health Law & Policy, and Social Work. The College is the home of the Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute, one of the largest behavioral health research and training institutes in the country, as well as the home to 19 specialized Research Centers and Institutes. Leadership for the college is provided through the Dean's Office. Dr. Julianne Serovich is the Dean of the College.

Mission

The mission of the College of Behavioral and Community Sciences is to prepare students, scholars, human service providers, policy makers, and other professionals to improve the quality of life, health, and safety of diverse populations and to promote positive change in individuals, groups, communities, organizations and systems. Through multidisciplinary teaching and research, service, and engagement with community partners, the College focuses on the rigorous development, dissemination/implementation, and analysis of innovative solutions to the complex challenges that affect the behavior and well-being of individuals, families, populations, and communities in which we live.

Established in 2008, the College of Behavioral & Community Sciences is breaking new ground by combining knowledge gained through the behavioral sciences with knowledge gained from the community. Our emphasis on **behavioral science** reflects a focus on individuals, emphasizing behavioral research that examines the problems and challenges people encounter, as well as their need for clinical and supportive services. Our emphasis on **community science** reflects our commitment to understanding the larger contextual factors that have an impact on the well-being and safety of individuals and their families, such as the effectiveness of systems and policies that impact and support the well-being of individuals. We accomplish this by engaging community and neighborhood stakeholders in a partnered, participatory manner and by collaborating with local, state, and national organizations in both the public and private sectors.

Students, Faculty, and Programs

The College of Behavioral & Community Sciences serves more than 3000 students with approximately 2150 at the undergraduate level and 850 at the graduate level. The college employs more than 170 faculty. CBCS offers eight undergraduate, eight master's, and six doctoral programs. Undergraduate degrees are offered in the areas of Behavioral Healthcare, Criminology, Gerontology, Long Term Care Administration, Social Work, Speech-Language-Hearing Science, Interpreter Training, and Deaf Studies. Master's programs are offered in Applied Behavior Analysis, Child & Adolescent Behavioral Health, Criminology, Criminal Justice Administration, Gerontology, Rehabilitation & Mental Health Counseling, Social Work, and Speech-Language Pathology. Doctoral programs offered are in Aging Studies, Applied Behavior Analysis, Audiology, Communication Sciences & Disorders, Criminology, and Social Work.

In addition, CBCS collaborates with the College of Public Health in offering concentrations in Behavioral Health in their masters and doctoral programs, including a joint MSW/MPH degree. In addition to formal degree programs, the College offers ten graduate certificates and one undergraduate certificate.

Research

The scholarly work of the faculty in CBCS is supported through grants funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Institute on Aging (NIA), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), U.S. Department of Education (DOE), the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA), the National Science Foundation (NSF), and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) among others. CBCS had \$27.4 million in total awards in FY14, a \$2 million increase over FY13. The College ranks second among all colleges within USF's Academic Affairs in external funding. The faculty published 219 articles in peer-reviewed journals and made over 390 presentations at international and national conferences in 2014. Seven journals edited/coedited by BCS faculty are ranked in the top quartile in their respective disciplines.