



**Happy October!** Thank you so much for Dr. Milan Milenovic and his wife Stephanie Holz for speaking about their journey at the Meet & Greet on August 28<sup>th</sup>! And thank you so much for all who attended.

**Before our next Meet & Greet on September 25<sup>th</sup>, learn about our next speaker, Dr. Marcello Maniglia, on page 2!**



## Upcoming ISS Events



### Scholar Coffee Hours

What: Meet to chat with other scholars – bring your own beverage and make some friends!

When: Fridays 11:00AM - Noon

Where: Outside of The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf



### International Scholars Picnic

When: October 4, from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm

Where: Hinderaker Lawn

We'll have hamburgers, games, and activities for everyone to enjoy throughout the day. Please RSVP through the link:

<https://forms.gle/LBbh1etXZE1xfNFJ6>



### Meet & Greet

Where: HUB 265

When: October 30th, Noon – 1pm

Please come meet our new scholars! As always, we will provide lunch ☺

## Check this out!

Please fill out the feedback form on the ISS activities:  
<https://forms.gle/H2ciS3T4sqbHqrTK6>



## This Month's Spotlight

### Dr. Marcello Maniglia Assistant Researcher in Psychology



**We interviewed Dr. Marcello Maniglia, who will be speaking at the International Scholars Meet & Greet on September 25th! Follow his story below.**

#### **Please tell us a little bit about your background (before coming to UCR).**

I was born in a small town in southern Italy, and after high school I moved 1000 km north to enroll in the psychology program at the University of Padova, the second oldest university in the world (est. 1222) and the first Italian university to offer a Psychology major. After 8 years in Padova, culminating in a PhD in Experimental Psychology, I moved to France, where I spend 3 years as a post doctoral researcher, and then to UC Riverside, where I am currently conducting my research in vision science and brain plasticity.

#### **Please briefly describe your role at UCR.**

My current title is Assistant Research Psychologist. This is part of the professional research series that the UC provides to senior postgraduates. In a way, it's a sort of nontenure track assistant professor position. This position allows me to conduct independent research and apply for NIH grants as a PI.

#### **How did you get into psychology?**

For as long as I can remember, I have been fascinated by the brain and its remarkable ability to learn. This could easily be due to early exposure to late-night, black-and-white cult films like *Creature with the Atom Brain* and *The Brain from Planet Arous*. In high school, two books had a profound impact on my growing curiosity about neuroscience: *Eye and Brain* by Richard Gregory, which guided my focus toward the study of the visual system, and *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat* by Oliver Sacks, which sparked my interest towards the brain's capacity to adapt to neural damage and pathology. I eventually pursued this passion at the University of Padova, where I started as an undergraduate in the Department of Psychology and later earned my PhD in Experimental Psychology.

#### **What have been some challenges that you have faced since coming to the US?**

Moving to the USA, and California in particular, required some adjustment. For the prior 30 years, I never owned a car, nor thought I'd need one to accomplish basic tasks like going to work or doing groceries. This naïve thinking became painfully obvious early on, but still, it took me a few years before realizing that I couldn't solely rely on public transportation. A curious consequence of a car-centric life is that my perception of time and distance have changed: for example, now I can understand why 'close by' could mean a 40-min drive. I also experience many cultural differences, but I wouldn't file those under 'challenges', but rather see them as different and interesting ways of seeing and thinking about things.

#### **What are some of your favorite memories at UCR?**

During my time at UCR I have met many great people, and my favorite memories are related to time spent together, going on road trips, visiting national parks, taking graduation pictures all over campus, organizing barbecues, finding the best spots to see the sunset, sharing apartments and offices, going to conferences together. These memories will stay with me for the rest of my life.

**Next month, we will be interviewing Dr. Jedeliza Ferrater for the October Meet & Greet. In the meantime, check out the article that she was featured in about saving the citrus industry in Florida through her research at UCR!**

**LINK: <https://entomologytoday.org/2024/06/14/sterile-insect-technique-shows-promise-asian-citrus-psyllid/>**





## Cultural Conversation Class!

If you or your spouse is interested in participating in the Cultural Conversation Class to help improve your English and to meet new friends. Thank you to those who came to our last class and helped us make it successful!

**Where: HUB 367**

**When: Every Tuesday, Beginning September 10<sup>th</sup>, 9-10 AM**

Our instructor is Candace Jorgensen, who has experience living in other cultures, which adds depth to her teaching the Cultural Conversation Class for international scholars and their families. She also holds a master's degree in education with emphasis on teaching English to speakers of other languages.



## What to do This Month in Riverside

### Riverside Art and Music Festival

Enjoy live music artist vendors food vendors art installations workshops community performers a beer garden and so much more!

When: September 28, 2-9pm

Where: White Park , 3936 Chestnut St

<https://riversideca.gov/calendar/event/riverside-art-and-music-festival-1?date=Saturday%2C%20September%2028%2C%202024>



### Men's Soccer vs. UC Irvine - Latin Heritage Night

When: Wednesday, October 9, 2024 at 7pm

Where: UCR Soccer Field

Cost: Free with UCR ID!

<https://events.ucr.edu/event/mens-soccer-vs-uc-irvine-latin-heritage-night>



### Halloween Events in Riverside

When: October 12-31<sup>st</sup>

<https://riversideca.gov/sites/default/files/calendar/attachments/Halloween%20Happenings%20-%20C.C.png>



### Mission Inn Run

When: October 20<sup>th</sup>, 6am-12pm

Races include the 5K, 10K and ½ Marathon with dedicated 5K Walk (perfect for the kids and pups!)

<https://www.missioninnrun.org/>

## FAQs for International Scholars

### I need to leave the U.S. and ISS has not signed my DS-2019 document! Is that OK?

Please know that you do not need a travel signature on your DS-2019 document to either remain in or to depart the U.S. You do need a valid travel signature to return to the U.S. in J-1 status. A valid travel signature must be no more than twelve months old on the date that you return to the U.S.

If you are departing the U.S. soon and know that your travel signature will expire by the time you expect to return to the U.S., please contact our international scholar advisor at [makbule.koksal@ucr.edu](mailto:makbule.koksal@ucr.edu). If your DS-2019 is going to expire soon, please consult with your department to extend your stay and then contact our scholar advisor.

### What will happen if I end my UCR appointment early and/or depart the United States and do not intend to return to the U.S. for my J program?

If you are a scholar and you depart the U.S. early (more than 15 days before your DS-2019 end date) and you do not intend to return to the U.S. for the remainder of your J program, please discuss this with your faculty sponsor. Please also email our advisor so that she can advise you on the steps and the visa implications of ending your program early.