



THIS MONTH WE CELEBRATE A WOMAN OF MERCY WHO EXEMPLIFIES THAT A MERCY GIRL IS SMART, INQUISITIVE, AND HARD WORKING!

Dr. Amie Ashley Hane '92 received her B.A. in Psychology magna cum laude and with departmental honor from University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) in 1996. While at UMBC she pursued her passion for helping children facing adversity. Amie worked first as an undergraduate intern and then as a Mental Health Associate in the inpatient Pediatric Psychiatry Unit at University of Maryland Medical Center. Also as an undergraduate at UMBC, Amie worked in a developmental psychology laboratory conducting research on mother-infant attachment. It was through these experiences that Amie cultivated her career in conducting research to inform early interventions for at-risk families with infants to optimize developmental outcomes. Amie received her Ph.D. in Applied Developmental Psychology from University of Maryland Graduate School in 2002, and then went on to a postdoctoral fellowship in infant behavioral neuroscience in the laboratory of Nathan Fox at the University of Maryland, College Park.

In 2006, Amie moved to rural New England to join the faculty of Williams College, nationally ranked liberal arts college, as an Assistant Professor of Psychology. Now a full Professor of Psychology at Williams, Amie continues her work in developmental psychology by examining the basic science of how early relationships influence behavior and biological stress responding in her Early Experience and Physiology laboratory (<https://sites.williams.edu/ahane/>). After earning tenure at Williams, Amie enrolled in a certificate program in Parent-Infant Mental Health at the University of Massachusetts, Boston in order to translate her basic science of relationships into clinical research to help families facing adversity, including families affected by preterm birth and the

experience of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. More recently she has extended her research to low- income families and to young adults who have a history of childhood adversity.

In addition to being a Professor at Williams, Amie is on faculty in the Department of Pediatrics at Columbia University Medical Center, where she is the Director of Behavioral Coding for the Nurture Science Program of Dr. Martha Welch, M.D. As the developmental psychologist on this multidisciplinary research team, Amie oversees the assessments of relationship quality in mothers and infants/children enrolled in nurture-based interventions aimed at improving relationship health.

Amie is incoming chair of the Public Health Program at Williams and a faculty affiliate of the Williams College Neuroscience Program. In 2018, Amie was named a Fellow of the American Psychological Society for her sustained outstanding contributions to the field of Psychological Science.

Amie's compassion for helping the underserved and her commitment to academic excellence were cultivated by her Mercy Education. According to Amie, "I enjoy telling my students enrolled in Psychology 101 that you never know how one class might just change you and define your life's work. I share with them that my first Psychology class, which was Ms. Jeanne Blakeslee's Honors Psychology course, which I took as a senior at Mercy, is why I am their professor today. One of my most special memories is that Ms. Blakeslee assigned a paper on a book we could select from a list she provided. I chose Jerome Kagan's *The Nature of the Child*. Once I picked up that book, I never stopped reading about child development. Decades later, I hosted Dr. Kagan as a guest speaker at Williams. I told him that story as he signed a copy of *The Nature of the Child* for me. That signed copy is proudly on display in my office—a daily reminder of my developmental origins in the field of Psychology and the Mercy education that made that possible."

To learn more about Amie's work, go to <https://psychology.williams.edu/profile/ahane/> or <https://psychology.williams.edu/files/Hane-CV-October-2018-1.pdf>.

Amie's continued dedication to her profession as well as her drive to continue learning and use her knowledge to benefit others make her a wonderful example of a Mercy Girl who has become a Woman of Mercy!