

## JULIA R. HEIMAN

Originally from Arizona, Dr. Julia R. Heiman began her academic career at SUNY Stony Brook University. After completing her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology, she joined the faculty in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Stony Brook University and held a concurrent position as research scientist with Long Island Association Research Institute. She trained with renowned psychologists Dr. James Geer and Dr. Joseph LoPiccolo. Dr. Heiman later joined the faculty at the University of Washington (UW) School of Medicine, where she rose through the ranks as a talented scientist and clinician, and co-founded and directed the Reproductive and Sexual Medicine Clinic to address sexual problems in men, women, and couples. While at UW she was professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and adjunct professor of psychology; she still maintains clinical courtesy appointments and long-standing collaborations at UW. Dr. Heiman was recruited to IU in 2004 to serve as the fifth director of the Kinsey Institute for Research in Sex, Gender, and Reproduction, a leadership post she held from 2004 to 2013, and as professor of psychological and brain sciences and of clinical psychiatry.

Dr. Heiman's career has focused on understanding patterns of sexuality from an integrated psychosocial-biomedical perspective. She has published broadly in the area of sex research on male and female sexual function and dysfunction. She is especially renowned for her significant contributions to understanding psychophysiological components of sexual arousal patterns, measurement of sexual response, sexual dysfunction treatment, sexuality and health, and sexual and relationship correlates of histories of childhood sexual and physical abuse. Her research program has balanced being both a careful, methodical researcher and an innovative pioneer in pushing new methodologies to better understand sexual behavior and sexual response, and in turn applying this research to improving people's intimate lives. It is also why she has been tapped for major initiatives, such as participating in the early clinical studies on sildenafil citrate (Viagra) and serving on sexual function drug review panels for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.



Dr. Heiman and colleagues have published over 200 journal articles and chapters on a variety of topics and methodologies in clinical sexology, from sexual satisfaction in midlife-and-older couples cross-nationally, to standards for clinical trials in sexual dysfunction of women, to sexual arousal response using serial MR imaging and vaginal photoplethysmography. In addition to these articles, she was co-author of a popular human sexuality textbook in 1984. She also co-authored the best-selling book *Becoming Orgasmic: A Sexual and Personal Growth Program for Women* (1976, revised 1988), which took sexology research from the laboratory and clinic and thoughtfully applied it to the sexual problems people face in their daily lives and relationships. It serves still today as an important cross-over reference. In 2011, with Dr. Donald Pfaff, she co-edited a landmark special issue of the journal *Hormones and Behavior* on the topic of sexual arousal.

Dr. Heiman has held multiple leadership positions in sex research and received some of the field's highest honors. She served as president of the International Academy of Sex Research and of the American Board of Family Psychology, and as editor-in-chief of the *Annual Review of Sex Research* (2000–04). In 2011, she edited a special issue of the journal *Hormones and Behavior* on sexual arousal with Donald Pfaff at Rockefeller University. Dr. Heiman is a recipient of the Distinguished Scientific Achievement Award from the Society of

the Scientific Study of Sexuality (2001), the Richard J. Cross Award (2006), the SSTAR Masters & Johnson Award (2006), and the Gold Medal Award from the World Association of Sexual Health (2009), and was made a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in 2012.

In addition to her many contributions to research and clinical practice, Dr. Heiman has served as a mentor and advisor to many researchers currently in the field: Dr. Cindy Meston (University of Texas), Dr. Lori Brotto (University of British Columbia), Dr. Zoe Peterson (Indiana University), Dr. Justin Garcia (Indiana University), and Dr. Kathryn Macapagal (Northwestern University), among many other researchers and clinicians. Still an active researcher and speaker, she has made an enormous, unforgettable mark on the psychology of human sexuality, and most especially in clinical sexology. Everyone who has worked with Julia—as a collaborator, mentor, professor, or committee member—knows they are fortunate to have her as a colleague, as she works tirelessly to produce quality science and advance our collective knowledge on a topic too many are afraid to explore.

*Justin R. Garcia*