Where are they now?
The JMU School Psychology 3rd year students have been on internship at various sites across the United States since August 2010. They have provided us with updates on their progress in their own words.

Marlana Ashe, M.A.: Prince George's County Public School System, MD:
Currently, Marlana Ashe is completing her internship with the Prince George's County Public School System. The schools she serves range from a vocational high school to an elementary school with an autism program. In addition to her primary placement, she also has rotations in a high school ED program and a program for students with multiple disabilities.

Dale Bostwick, M.A.: Manassas City Public Schools, VA: Dale Bostwick is completing her internship in Manassas City Public Schools this year. She primarily works in Baldwin Elementary School and supports her supervisor in Osbourn High School.
**Sandi Horton, M.A.:** Fairfax County Public Schools, VA: Sandi Horton is completing her internship at Fairfax County Public Schools. She is primarily based in an Elementary school that houses a center for Emotional Disabilities and Autism, giving her the unique experience of working within a general education setting with a large special education focus. She is also completing rotations within several centers specialized for specific needs populations, and currently is gaining experience working with children with multiple severe disabilities in the Kilmer Center. She is really looking forward to a full year of new and exciting experiences with FCPS.

**Mikaela Cribbs, M.A.:** Martinsville City School, VA: Mikaela Cribbs provides district wide psychological services in four schools at the primary and secondary level. Her role includes conducting psychological assessments, individual and group counseling, and participating in a variety of leadership and problem solving teams. She is also involved with the implementation and monitoring of interventions, community education, and consultation.

**Jamie Constantz, M.A.:** Harford County Public Schools, MD: Jamie Constantz is completing her internship in Harford County which has specialized classrooms, an alternative education school, and a public special education school. This allows interns the opportunity to experience different educational settings. Community resources also exist outside of the school system and interns are encouraged to learn what is available throughout the county. In addition, the Harford County School psychologists believe in continuous learning and several professional development opportunities are offered to the interns throughout the year. Jamie’s supervisor is a JMU School Psychology Alumna!

**Jess Bass, M.A.:** Williamsburg James City County Public Schools, VA: Jess Bass is currently completing her internship in the Williamsburg James City County Public Schools in Williamsburg, VA. She really enjoys that the school psychologist’s main role is as a consultant and a therapist. Jess recently married on October 30, 2010, in the William and Mary Wren Chapel. Next year it look like Jess will be moving to El Paso, Texas with her soon-to-be husband who is a Second Lieutenant in the Army.

**Brad Call, M.A.:** Anchorage Public Schools, AL: Brad Call is completing his internship in Anchorage, Alaska, and has had a great experience thus far. He says that he is privileged to have a JMU Alum and National School Psychologist of the Year Award winner, Deb Ward, as a supervisor. He claims that it has felt like a real privilege to work in a school district with much diversity and many programs to meet the needs of the diverse population. He highly
recommends the location to those seeking internships in the future!

**TK Beam, M.A.: Puyallup School District, WA:** Being in Puyallup School District has afforded TK a unique opportunity to experience a completely different system, environment, and community. She has been working closely with several self-contained programs, especially those for the deaf and hard of hearing as well as students with emotional and behavioral difficulties. She has also participated in laying the groundwork for RtI in two elementary schools by becoming integral to assisting teachers and other professionals organizing and displaying data. She has been trying to enjoy the beauty of the pacific northwest to its fullest and is having a wonderful experience!

**Andrew Intagliata, M.A.: Alexandria City Public Schools, VA:** Andrew Intagliata is completing his internship in the Alexandria City Public Schools where he spends most of his time at Hammond Middle School functioning as the second psychologist based at the school. He says that he will be getting some opportunities to provide psychological services for the preschool program and at elementary schools. Given that the district has such a diverse population of students, there is also a demand for bilingual evaluations which he will assist with as the year progresses.

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**Provost’s Departure**

Douglas T. Brown, long time Provost of James Madison University, retired in June, 2010. Trained as a child psychologist, Doug found his way to JMU in 1974. The University, then much smaller than it is now, desired Dr. Brown’s cross-disciplinary skills, while he in turn was attracted to the University’s plans for growth and expansion. Brown began as a professor at JMU in School Psychology, became Department Head of Psychology and then Vice President of Academic Affairs. In 1994, he was entrusted with what seemed to be an impossible task, restructuring the entirety of the liberal arts program. The massive change involved many departments and 250 faculty members, not all of whom were excited about the changes. From that point on, the university expanded exponentially over the next two decades, becoming a well rounded cross-disciplinary institution. This radical shift and growth was directed largely by the actions and efforts of this one extraordinary man. In 2002, the University’s governing body restructured the administration and named Dr. Brown as Provost. He explained that his role as provost focused on ensuring that JMU continued to offer majors and
programs that were relevant to the nation’s job market. He is recognized as the longest serving provost in Virginia.

Dr. Brown spent the first 5 years of his professional career working with children in Nashville, TN’s Department of Juvenile Corrections. Later he would work teaching children with intellectual disabilities in South Carolina and play a role in helping poverty stricken communities in Appalachia. While he was working at these positions he pursued a doctoral degree in clinical and child psychology from Indiana University.

In 1980, Doug served as President of NASP and was instrumental in establishing training guidelines and credentialing for the young profession. Dr. Brown’s influence also helped get JMU’s applied doctorate in Psychology approved by the American Psychological Association on its first application. As the first doctoral program at the university, it marked a massive step forward for the institution as a whole. Doug mentored many students who are working across the country in School Psychology and numerous leadership positions. Thank you, Dr. Brown!

New Superintendent of Harrisonburg City Schools

On April 28, 2010, Dr. Scott Kizner was announced as the new Superintendent of Harrisonburg City School District. Dr. Kizner is a JMU alum, having obtained his masters in psychology at the university and then his doctorate at Virginia Tech. Dr. Kizner has a wealth of experience in the educational realm where he has worked extensively with students with disabilities as a teacher, as a director of special education programs, and as a school psychologist. He served as a superintendent for Westerly, RI Public Schools and Martinsville City Public Schools, VA prior to being selected for the Harrisonburg City Schools position. Dr. Kizner is working closely with the community to develop strong working relationships with its members and encouraging more community involvement in educational endeavors. Welcome!
Tribute to Sister Denise

Sister Denise Mosier, a Benedictine nun, tragically lost her life on Sunday, August 1, when she was killed by a drunk driver. Her funeral was held on August 6 at the Benedictine Monastery in Bristow, VA. Sister Denise spent over 50 years performing missionary work and teaching elementary and high school students in Africa. She was a frequent guest speaker in the Role and Function course, sharing her cultural experiences and appreciation for diversity around the world. Due to her extraordinary generosity she has bestowed on James Madison University, she was named a member of the Madison Founders Society, a group of donors who gives charitable gifts to the university. The James Madison University community will always remember Sister Mosier for her compassion, generosity, and dedication to improving the school.

BEST FIT Training and Grant

The BEST FIT program is a part of a grant initiative through the Virginia Department of Social Services’ Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Development – Pilot Communities for Infant and Toddler Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Development. An acronym for Behavioral, Emotional, and Social Training for Infants and Toddlers, the goals of the BEST FIT program are to both improve the access of child care providers to community resources and to increase the capacity of child care providers to recognize and address the social, emotional, and behavioral development of infants and toddlers in their care. The BEST FIT program functions at three different tiers or levels. The initial level focuses on expanding and raising awareness of mental health services for infants and toddlers. The second level provides a three tiered professional development program for childcare providers. The final level focuses on increasing the availability and accessibility of mental health services for infants and toddlers through 3 levels of intervention.
The School Psychology program’s summer practicum students were heavily involved in the planning, design, and training process of the BEST FIT program. Under the supervision of Ginger Griffin and Debi Kipps-Vaughan (both alums of the SP program!), the students designed and presented two training modules, one on development and another on environmental factors, to mentors undergoing the training process. These mentors will then take the information, resources, and techniques presented in the training to local childcare providers. The practicum students left with valuable real world experience and everyone benefited from the effort put into the program by everyone who was involved.

Relay for Life team!

To support the School Psychology Program and the training of our students, consider making a contribution to the JMU Foundation specifying Account Number 14789. We value your continued support in maintaining our educational excellence by providing funds that go towards student professional development and research.
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Did we miss someone?
Please send us e-addresses of colleagues who may not receive our newsletter.