

Annual Report 2023

Summer 2022, Fall 2022, & Spring 2023

Graduate Programs at James Madison University

I. Program Name/Department/College

The official titles of our Ed.S.-level program, based on the history of JMU, are School Psychology and Counselor Education: concentrations in School Counseling. This program is housed in the Department of Graduate Psychology, which is a part of the College of Health and Behavioral Studies (CHBS).

II. Title/Type of Degree(s) Offered

- Master of Arts/Educational Specialist-School Counseling

III. Mission Statement of Program

Mission Statement of School Counseling

The School Counseling Program of James Madison University is a learning community of faculty, staff, and students who vary in abilities, age, class, gender, ethnicity, race, religion, and sexual orientation. Coming together from a variety of geographic areas, we share a common vision of achieving a vitally important mission – training students to become successful school counselors.

Our alumni are dedicated to providing competent, caring, and ethical services to diverse students in public and private schools. Putting our principles of school counseling into practice, we strive to create an academic community in which our students can thrive personally and grow professionally. While many of our graduates play vital roles in schools along Virginia's Shenandoah Valley or among the mountains of West Virginia, many more have moved on to serve in rural, suburban, and urban schools throughout the mid-Atlantic region, and across the nation. We invite our students to embark on a life-long journey of exploring new possibilities, refining their skills, and staying fresh throughout their careers. We encourage them to support one another in the formidable task of making a difference in students' lives by meeting their emotional, social, educational, and career development needs as licensed or certified school counselors. Finally, we challenge our graduates to advance the school counseling profession through service, research, innovation, advocacy, and training.

IV. Program Progress, APR, and Accreditation Status

Effective January 2020, the Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) has accredited the School Counseling, the Clinical Mental Health Counseling, and the Ph.D. in Counseling and Supervision concentration through January 2028. Our next self-study will need to be submitted prior to January 2027.

Major Unit (Program) Accomplishments

Engagement

Community Engagement

School Counseling Ed.S. students provided over 3000 hours of support as school-based mental health providers in K-12 schools in the Harrisonburg, Staunton, and Rockingham, Shenandoah and Augusta County areas.

Civic Engagement

Michele Kielty, Counseling Professor, provided two, 2-hour workshops for the leaders and employees of several community organizations supported the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS). These workshops provided support for stress management and development of resiliency in the workplace for front-line workers as well as leaders.

Dr. Kielty also provided multiple trainings for school employees in the Commonwealth of Virginia related to mindfulness and stress management as well as mental health/behavioral support groups for middle school students at a Waynesboro City School.

Joe LeBlanc participated in the Virginia Partnership for School Mental Health grant, a collaboration with school mental health programs within universities across the state. Four students were placed in grant-approved schools, and Dr. LeBlanc attended meetings in which advocacy for school counselors was discussed along with actions and future research.

Drs. Kielty and LeBlanc have also created programming to support provisionally-licensed school counselors per new legislation in the state. We collaborated with the Department of Education and George Mason University to decide the best course of action in offering courses. We created and are offering two summer courses (PSYC 640 and PSYC 641) specifically for provisionally-licensed personnel, who must complete coursework within a 3-year window.

Engaged Learning

School Counseling students provided engaged learning in schools by creating opportunities for support of LGBTQ youth (instituting an alliance at a local high school) and starting Positive Behavior Support (PBIS) programming such as check-in, check-out systems in elementary schools.

Access, Inclusion, Diversity

School Counseling students worked with the RISE-UP grant to provide mental health services to rural communities. Students created training materials related to supporting mental health of underserved communities in rural Virginia. Students provided over 3000 hours of service to rural, underserved K-12 school communities.

The School Counseling Program Director has served on the Equity Committee in Staunton City Schools, as well as the College of Education Laboratory School Steering Committee.

Clinical and School Counseling will now require all students to complete the Multicultural Counseling Knowledge, Awareness, and Skills Assessment (Ponterotto, 2002) at the beginning and completion of their training.

Joe LeBlanc facilitated the creation and implementation of CFI's May Symposium. He worked directly

with the guest speaker, Dr. Tracie Addy, author of *What Inclusive Instructors Do: Principles and Practices for Excellence in College Teaching*.

Comprehensive Campaign

One of the ways we currently engage with alumni is through faculty's involvement with the Central Valley Counselors Association. A large number of our local alumni are involved in CVCA and CVCA functions. We also include alumni in our newsletter distributions and FaceBook groups. The Clinical Mental Health Counseling faculty also work with our external advisory board to explore training trends and opportunities.

Individual Faculty/Staff Honors and Accomplishments

Rankings & Recognitions

Positions of leadership in national and international organizations

- Item-Writer. National Board of Certified Counselors (2017-2023), Amanda Evans..
- Committee Member, American Counseling Association's Human Rights Committee (2021-23), Amanda Evans.
- President of the Virginia Counselors Association Foundation, 2023, Renee Staton.
- Governing Council Representative, American Counseling Association, Amanda Evans.
- Journal Reviewer, Counseling & Values, Joe LeBlanc.
- Journal Reviewer, Journal of Counseling & Development, Amanda Evans.
- Journal Reviewer, Counseling & Values, Kenson Hiatt.
- Qualitative and Mixed Methods Book Reviewer (Sage Publications), Cara Meixner.
- Journal Reviewer, Georgia Journal of College Student Affairs, BMC Health Services Research, Cara Meixner.
- President Elect, Association for Assessment and Research in Counseling (AARC), Stephanie Crockett
- Editorial Review Board Member, Journal of Counseling and Development, Stephanie Crockett
- Chair, Western Association of Counselor Education and Supervision Committee on Climate Change, Environmental Justice, and Counselor Education, Debbie Sturm
- Co-Chair, Association of Counselor Education and Supervision Committee on Addressing Climate Change & Environmental Justice in Counselor Education, Debbie Sturm

National or international awards received by faculty/staff/students

2023. Award Recipient. Past Presidents Award. Association for Humanistic Counseling (Amanda Evans).
2023. Award Recipient. Outstanding Teaching Award. Yorkville University. (Amanda Evans).
2022. Award Recipient. Graduate Psychology Distinguished Scholar. James Madison University. (Amanda Evans).
2022. Award Recipient. Graduate Psychology Outstanding Teaching. James Madison University. (Renee Staton).
- 2022-3. Nominee and Appointee. [Moody-Galveston Brain Injury Fellowship/Conference](#). (Cara Meixner)

2022. Award Recipient. Association for Counselor Education and Supervision's Diversity Scholarship (Jinokim)

Other rankings and recognitions of faculty/staff/students

Eight School Counseling students are RISE UP Fellows.

Students participated in the following presentations:

Dinwiddie, L. (2022). Small Group Counseling Smackdown. Virginia School Counselor Association Conference, Hampton, VA, October 2022.

Dinwiddie, L. (2022). Creating Small Group Curriculum: A Strategy for Teaching Group Counseling to School Counselors. Southern Association of Counselor Education & Supervision Conference, Baltimore, MD, November 2022.

LeBlanc, J., & **Haskins, R.** (2022). "It Takes a Village": Training Counselors from an Interprofessional Perspective. Southern Association of Counselor Education & Supervision Conference, Baltimore, MD, November 2022.

Sturm, D., Reese, R., Finn, S., & Dinwiddie, L. (2022). Climate Change and Student Mental Health: school counselor and environmental education partnerships. Western Association of Counselor Education & Supervision Conference, Portland, OR, October 2022.

Publications

Attia, M., **Staton, R., Evans, A. M., & Tang, S.** (2023). School counselor's perspectives regarding advocacy with students who are immigrants. *Journal of Child and Adolescent Counseling*, 9(1).

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/23727810.2023.2168361>

Evans, A. M. (2023). *Rural communities and mental health*. Counseling Today. American Counseling Association.

Evans, A. M., Staton, R., & Attia, M. (2022). Bicultural Individuals: A Content Analysis of Counseling Journals, 2000 to 2020. Pennsylvania Counseling Association Journal.

http://www.pacounseling.org/aws/PACA/asset_manager/get_file/765027?ver=1

Ghoston, M., Field, T., & **Sturm, D.** (Accepted). Influence of University Policies Prohibiting Same-Sex Relationships on Counseling Programs. Submitted to the Journal of Counseling & Values.

Hiatt, K. (2022). Compassion-supported development: A humanistic approach to counseling supervision. *Journal of Humanistic Counseling*.

Kielty, M. L. & Gilligan, T. D. (2023). Cross-Cultural Mindfulness: Examining the Processes and Outcomes of a Unique Study Abroad Experience. Submitted for publication to *Journal for Contemplative Studies*

Kielty, M. L., & Staton, A. R. & LeBlanc, J. (2023). Leading K-12 Community Responsiveness to Cyber Threats via Education of School Community. Submitted to *Journal of Cybersecurity Education, Research and Practice*

Milowsky, A., Haffner, A., **Crockett, S.A.**, Erford, B., & Byrd, R. (in press). *Journal of College Counseling: Analysis of Publication Characteristics from 2000-2019. Journal of College Counseling*

Porter, L., Beers, D., **LeBlanc, J.**, Meza, D., & Koubek, K. (2022). Creating Equitable Learning Pods: Leveraging Community Collaborations in Response to COVID-19. Accepted for publication. *Journal of Community Engagement and Scholarship*.

Ramsay-Seaner, K., **Evans, A. M.**, Born, S., & East, C. (accepted for publication). Multiracial Americans experiences with racial microaggressions: An ethnographic content analysis on an on-line forum. *Journal of Multicultural Counseling and Development*.

Staton, A. R., & Kielty, M. L. (2023). A lurking threat: Counselor practices to guard against cyber threats. *Journal of Mental Health Counseling*, 45(1), 20–33. <https://doi.org/10.17744/mehc.45.1.02>.

Waalkes, P. L., DeCino, D. A., **LeBlanc, J.**, Phelps-Pineda, M. M., Somerville, T., & Flynn, S. V. (2023). Generic qualitative dissertations in counselor education: A content analysis. *Counselor Education and Supervision*, 62(1), 52-63.

White, D., Green, D., Jarrett, J., & **Evans, A. M.** (revise and resubmit). Race-based trauma in counselor education: A proposed course curriculum. *Journal for Humanistic Counseling*.

Presentations

Crockett, S.A., & Korenchuk, J. (2022, September). *Pragmatic Strategies to Create Research-Practitioner Partnerships in Action Research*. Presented at the National Assessment and Research Conference, St. Louis, MO.

Evans, A. M., Conner, C., & Jarrett, H. (2023). Stages of racial identity development and race-based trauma. *American Counseling Association*. Toronto: Canada.

Evans, A. M., Gaines, B., Haskins, R., & Oginz Wilson, A. (proposal accepted). Humanism, positive psychology, and liberation: Conceptualizing oppression. Association for Humanistic Counseling, Denver, Colorado.

Evans, A. M., Sommers-Flanagan, J., & **Hiatt, K.** (2023). Wellness and social justice: A positive, liberation-oriented approach. *American Counseling Association*. Toronto: Canada.

Gaines, B., **Kielty, M.**, **Meixner, C.**, & **Evans, A. M.**, (proposal accepted). Black girl magic: Exploring the black mother-daughter relationship. Association for Humanistic Counseling, Denver, Colorado.

Hiatt, K. (*proposal accepted*). Compassion-supported developmental supervision: A collaborative, humanistic approach. Association for Humanistic Counseling, Denver, Colorado.

Kielty, M. L. (November, 2022) *Intentional Life by Design: A Career and Life Planning Approach*. Virginia Counseling Association, Williamsburg, VA

Kielty, M.L., Gilligan, T.D. & Staton, A. R. (2023, May). *Cross-Cultural Mindfulness: Integrating Cross-Cultural Experiences and Mindfulness*. Association for Humanistic Counseling, *Association for Humanistic Counseling*, Denver, Colorado.

Kielty, M. L., Staton, A. R., & Gilligan, T. D. (2022, October). Study Abroad Cross-Cultural Mindfulness: Working with Students in Higher Education to Understand and Value Cross-Cultural Experiences with Mindfulness and Contemplative Practices. Poster session presented at the European Branch of the American Counseling Association Conference, Athens, Greece.

LeBlanc, J., & Haskins, R. (2022). "It Takes a Village": Training Counselors from an Interprofessional Perspective. Poster presentation at the Southern Association of Counselor Education and Supervision, Baltimore, MD.

Staton, A. R., Kielty, M. L., & Gilligan, T. D., (2022, October). Supportive School Counseling Services in Rural Schools. Session presented at the European Branch of the American Counseling Association Conference, Athens, Greece.

Sturm, D., Reese, R., Finn, S., & Dinwiddie, L. (2022). Climate Change and Student Mental Health: school counselor and environmental education partnerships. Western Association of Counselor Education & Supervision Conference, Portland, OR, October 2022.

Sturm, D., Stice, B., Peterson, G., & Johnson, L. *Climate Change & Mental Health: Proposed counselor training, competencies, and curriculum*. Accepted for presentation at the Western Association of Counselor Education & Supervision Conference, Portland, OR, October 2022.

Invited Presentations/Workshops

Evans, A. M. (2023). *Keynote address*. Spring Symposium, Graduate Psychology, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Kielty, M. L. & Gilligan, T.D. (December, 2022) Stress Management and Self-Care for High Intensity Professions. Invited workshop, Virginia Department of Social Services, Augusta County, VA

Kielty, M. L. (June, 2023) Thriving and Finding Joy in the Workplace. Virginia Department of Social Services, state-wide.

Meixner, C., Muhonja, B., & Patterson, C. (May, 2023). Achieving Equity and Inclusion in Awards Management. Invited institute, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Podcasts & Continuing Education Videos

Grants

Evans, A. M. (PI), Atwood, K., Gilligan, T., & **Kielty, M. L.** (2023). *Rural interdisciplinary services and education: Unlimited potential (RISE-UP)*. (\$1,635,822). Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training for Professionals (HRSA-21-089).

CHBS mini-grant program. (\$950, PI). Spring 2023. College of Health and Behavioral Studies, James Madison University.

Kielty, M. L., & LeBlanc, J. (2023) 2023 -VA grant recipient for Increasing Mental Health Services in K-12 Settings by Helping Provisionally Licensed School Counselors Meet the Requirements for Full Licensure as Professional School Counselors in Virginia, \$10,500

Meixner, C., & McKay, C. (2022-2023). Investigating Equity in the Evaluation of Teaching. College of Health and Behavioral Studies Collaborative Grant, \$10,000.

Sturm, D., & Staton, A. R. (2022). Nature Pedagogy, Climate Change, and Mental Health. College of Health and Behavioral Studies Teaching Grant, JMU, \$4500.