

Fall 2018

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# Welcome Back!

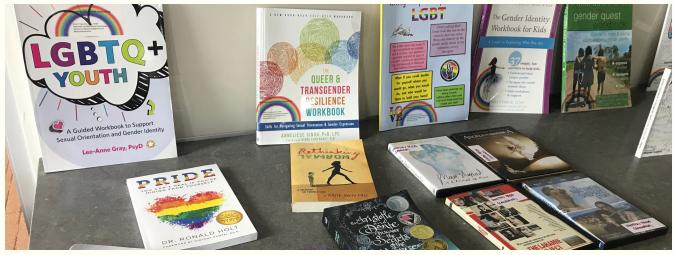
The 2018-2019 academic year is off to a great start for the JMU School Psychology Program! The program welcomed eight new students; Kiersten Bell, Bailey Brooks, Joshua Knight, Laetitia Sakponou, Emily Smith, Emily Walsh, Anna Weaver and Muna Yusuf.

On July 23rd, 2018, the School Psychology program proudly announced the successful completion of Masters requirements to a wonderful group of emerging school psychologists. Students, families, and friends came together to celebrate the first major step in the process of becoming a professional school psychologist. The students have worked hard to complete coursework in child development, statistics and measurement, assessment, and counseling techniques, along with many other topics. The School Psychology program prides itself on training competent professionals in the areas of assessment, consultation, counseling, crisis management and prevention as well as many core fundamentals in the areas of education and psychology. Congratulations to all students on their accomplishments!





Fall 2018



# LGBTQ++ Workshop

On September 14th, the school psychology community held a professional development day that featured Amy Cannava, an alumnae of the program. The seminar was entitled True Colors Shining Bright: Providing Counseling and Supports for LGBTQ++ Youth. Participants learned about about historical perspectives of the LGBTQ++ community, how providing services for these students corresponds with NASP's ethical guidelines, and how to use affirmative practice when working with LGBTQ++ youth. Workshop attendees came away with practical knowledge about how to provide a safe space for youth that may be experiencing difficulty and stress due to their gender identity and/or sexual orientation.



#### GREAT START TO THE NEW YEAR!

Students and faculty welcomed the 2018–2019 school year by participating in several activities. In September, students and faculty attended a dinner hosted by Dr. Ashton Trice, followed by As You Like It at the American Shakespeare Center's Blackfriars Playhouse. Those in attendance enjoyed time spent with classmates and colleagues. The School Psychology program also brushed up on their teamwork skills by participating in UREC's Team Empowerment with Adventure for Madison (TEAM) Challenge Course. First and second year students had to work together to complete tedious "missions." Overall, the participants were able to get to know each other and practice working as a team.







## **VASP Fall Conference**

Aleksa Putnam, second year student, and Laetitia Sakponou, first year student, had a great time at VASP! They went to a Gangs Awareness presentation where they learned valuable information on identification of gang membership, risk factors and protective factors of gang involvement, and information on how gangs work. They also attended Debi Kipps-Vaughan and Maggie Dassira's (third year student) presentation on Substance Use Intervention in Schools. Attendees gained perspective on the rising need for school personnel to develop programming related to substance use early intervention. The legal and ethical concerns related to confidentiality were of particular interest. Following that, Aleksa and Laetitia attended the Trauma Informed Schools presentation where it was discussed how trauma informed care can be implemented through an multi-tiered systems of support lens. A practical focus was brought into play with information on Tier 1 interventions that everyone can use, how reports and meetings with parents can be more trauma informed, and some updates on legal happenings that impact what we can do for students impacted by trauma. Several recent graduates and current interns were also in attendance!



# VASP Graduate Student of the Year

Congratulations to **Kaitlynn Carter** for winning the Virginia Association for School Psychologists (VASP) Graduate Student of the Year Award. Kaitlynn was recognized today at the VASP conference. This is the second year in a row that a JMU School Psychology student took home this honor



### **Recent Graduates**

Where are they now? Our August 2018 graduates are now serving school communities in Virginia, and as far away as Illinois and Texas.

- Jessica Meeks Chesterfield County Public Schools, VA
- Shana Little Chesterfield County Public Schools, VA
- Alexis Morse Rockbridge County Public Schools, VA
- Ebony Mason Charles County Public Schools, MD
- Rachel Larkin Montgomery County Public Schools, VA
- Neo Moss Irving Independent School District, TX
- Katie Hughes Kaskaskia Special Education District, IL
- Kaitlynn Carter- Greene County Public Schools, VA



### Service Project: Hurricane Relief

After Hurricane Florence, Debi Kipps-Vaughan reached out to Lyndsay Green, third year intern at Union Co. Schools in Charlotte, North Carolina to see how the school and school community were doing since Hurricane Florence left. Hearing the need for support, Kipps-Vaughan set up a Hurricane Relief Drive where James Madison University faculty and students collected non-perishable food items, toiletries and school supplies. The donated goods were transported to Charlotte by first year student Bailey Brooks.





# International Conference on Mindfulness

This summer, Tammy Gilligan traveled with professors, Michele Kielty and Renee Staton, to the International Conference in Mindfulness held in Amsterdam, Netherlands. There they presented a poster and a symposium, Multi-Level Integration of Mindfulness Teaching, Research, and Service in Training School-based Counselors and Educators and Student Outcomes, Teacher Feedback, and Best Practices for Implementation of Mindfulness Interventions in K-12 Settings. This summer Tammy and Michele will direct a short term study abroad program examining crosscultural practices of mindfulness. They will travel with advanced undergraduate students and graduate students to Germany, the Netherlands and France.



### Students celebrate SPAW!

Current just celebrated School Psychology Awareness Week (SPAW). They packaged up cookies to give to local school psychologists and individuals who support the program. Students also engaged with the JMU community by asking them how they support their friends.



Schools

School Psychology Newsletter

### **Third Year Internship Sites**

Taylor Carrington -Henrico County Public SchoolsKatherine Flemister -Anne Arundel County Public

Stephanie Smith -Alexandria City Schools, VA

Ryan Harting – Loudoun County Public Schools, VA

Maggie Dassira - Manassas City Public Schools, VA

**Sarah Stout** – Green Tree School & Services, Philadelphia, PA

Kaylor Duncan - Hanover County Public Schools, VA

Rick Krogmann – Greene County Public Schools, VA

**Stephen Ferrara** - Culpeper County Public Schools, VA

Lyndsay Greene - Union County Public Schools, NC

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#### Support Future School Psychologists

To support the School Psychology Program and the training of our students, consider making a contribution to the JMU Foundation. Make a donation by logging onto the School Psychology webpage and click the "Give Now" button. We value your continued support in maintaining our educational excellence by providing funds that go towards professional development and materials for student research. Contributions can also be made specifically to the O. Ashton Trice Scholarship, which awards summer tuition support, and the Patti Warner Award, which also helps cover the cost of summer tuition. To contribute to these awards, click on the "Give Now" button listed next to the description (donations made to the Patti Warner Award need to have "put gift towards the Patti Warner award" in the special instructions box). Please keep in mind, many Graduate Assistantships no longer cover the full 12 credits per semester or any of summer tuition.

If you wish to send a check, please mail them to:

Advanced Gift and Record James Madison University 800 South Main Street Harrisonburg, VA 22807

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