SPRING 2019



# SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY NEWSLETTER

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY



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# JMU Takes on the NASP Convention

This year's National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) Annual Convention was held in Atlanta, Georgia. Current students enjoyed attending sessions and meeting with school psychologists and students from across the country. Kaitlynn Carter, an alumni of the program, presented her research on examining the use of the Specific Learning Disability exclusionary clause in Virginia.

Second year student, Victoria Bunting, explained that she enjoyed meeting new people and learning about their school psychology experiences. She also pointed out, "the keynote speaker was very inspiring!" This year's NASP Keynote speaker was teacher and inspirational speaker, Michael Bonner. The theme of this year's convention was 'Unlock Potential: Prevention is Key.' Many of our students attended sessions that focused on preventative work in schools.

Along with all the NASP sessions and the JMU reunion (pictured to the left), current students and faculty member, Dr. Debi Kipps-Vaughn took a trip to the Georgia Aquarium!

#### **The Spring Symposium**

On April 19, 2019, James Madison Univesity hosted the annual Graduate Psychology Spring Symposium. Students shared their experience and findings on their thesis and research projects. Dr. Debbi Bandalos, recipient of the Graduate Psychology 2018-2019 Madison Scholar Award, delivered the keynote speech to kick off Symposium day!

The Annual Symposium in Research and Practice offers a forum for students to share their developing areas of expertise. The presenters come from graduate programs in Psychological Sciences, School Psychology, Clinical Mental Health Counseling, School Counseling, and the doctoral programs in Counseling & Supervision and Combined-Integrated Clinical & School Psychology.

After the symposium, students and faculty met at Ruby's Arcade to celebrate the intern's hard work and the semester Rick Krogmann: School-based mindfulness being [almost] over. Symposium research projects included: intervention for adolescents with Autism



Taylor Carrington: Understanding boredom proneness in children within the classroom

Maggie Dassira: School psychologists' collaboration and implementation of substance abuse interventions

Kaylor Duncan: Traumatic Brain Injury and the college transition

Stephen Ferrara: An initial development of a Hardiness Scale for elementary school students

Lyndsay Green: Educators' perceptions of the process and implementation of a multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS): A case study

Ryan Harting: Student teachers' perceptions and knowledge of school psychology

spectrum disorder

Stephanie McGrew: Inter-professional collaboration for children in foster care

Sarah Stout: Current practices and opinions of school psychologists: Early childhood psychological assessment

## A little bit of lavender and a whole lot of relaxation.

In celebration of the accomplishments of the year, second year students and Drs. Tammy Gilligan, and Tiffany Hornsby visited the White Oak Lavender Farm in Harrisonburg. This trip celebrated the completion of the practicum experience and facilitated conversations about self-care. Students enjoyed eating lunch on the patio, taking a walk around the farm, and visiting with the many animals.



#### **Project Read at Fort Defiance**

First year students, Kiersten Bell, Anna Weaver, Emily Smith, and Emily Walsh spent every Friday morning during the Spring semester helping students at Fort Defiance High School read.

The graduate students worked one on one with a 9th grader helping them strengthen their reading skills. "It was a great experience getting to know the students and seeing them progress over the course of the semester!" Emily Walsh said.



#### School Psych's Walk for Hope!

On April 6th, members of the JMU school psychology community participated in the Walk for Hope. The Walk for Hope seeks to raise awareness about suicide prevention. The walk brings together students, faculty, and community members from JMU, Bridgewater College, Eastern Mennonite University and Blue Ridge Community College.





### Autism 5k

On April 20, 2019, the School Psychology community participated in the 11th annual 5k for Autism. All proceeds from this event went toward the Shenandoah Valley Autism Partnership, which strives to improve the lives of those affected by Autism through community awareness, effective training, and support across the life-span. Dr. Tammy Gilligan and first year, Kiersten Bell were the top finishers of their age group!

#### **Upcoming Events:**

Summer Statistics "Boot Camp" Back by popular demand, there will be a statistics boot camp offered for incoming first year students to help them prepare for the fall statistics course. The boot camp will be led by Graduate Psychology faculty member, Jeanne Horst. Current first year students who attended the boot camp last summer raved about the content covered and how well prepared they felt going into the fall semester. The dates of the boot camp are August 20, 21, and 22. For more information feel free to contact Jeanne Horst (horstsj@jmu.edu).

#### Welcome Class of 2022

The School Psychology Program would like to welcome the new cohort of 11 students!

# School Psychology Spotlight

Congratulations to these students and staff for their outstanding work this year, we are proud of you!

Distinguished Service Award: Dr. Tammy Gilligan

Tina Kauten Service Award: Katelin Curd

Outstanding Graduate Research Award: Ryan Harting

Outstanding Graduate Service Award: Bailey Brooks

O. Ashton Trice Scholarship: Jessica Williams-Chase

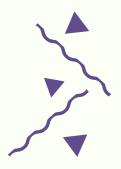
Patricia Warner Scholarship: Sarah Lanyi

Not sure the name of this award: Dr. Jane Wiggins

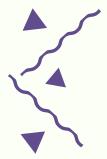
Current interns headed back to campus to participate in the **Department of Graduate Psychology's Spring Celebration** on May 2nd. Interns received a special recognition at the ceremony before walking in cap and gown at the graduation ceremony that followed on Thursday evening. The interns are proud of their achievements and are ready to begin their careers as school psychologists.







# **CONTACT US!**



OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

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# Support our 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 toward professional development and materials for student research. Contributions can also be made specifically to the O. Aston 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 the "Give Now" button listed next to the description (donations made to the Patti Warner Award need to have "put gift toward Patti Warner Award" in the special instructions box). Please keep in min 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:

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