

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY NEWSLETTER

Like us on Facebook!
@jmuschoolpsych

In this Issue:

Page 1: Surviving COVID-19

Page 2: Spring Symposium

Page 3: NASP Convention

Page 4: Workshops and Trainings

Page 5: Cultural Experience

Page 6: Welcome Class of 2023

Page 6: Service Project

Page 7& 8 : Our Amazing Students and Faculty

Page 9: What's still to come?



Graduate School during COVID-19

It is with heavy hearts that the Spring semester has had a change of course. To those affected by COVID-19, we are with you and we are thinking of you.

In order to ensure no disruption of student learning, faculty wasted no time to restructure all classes from in-person to online format. In addition, students were provided a list of possible online training opportunities for practicum and internship hours. All current students and faculty were able to gain practicum hours by completing an online Telehealth Training with PESI. Summer classes will start as planned on May 18th but were also restructured to follow an online format.

However JMU plans to welcome all students for face-to face instruction in the fall. All current Graduate Assistant positions continued remotely through the end of the spring semester.

Despite the challenges due to the 2020 Coronavirus pandemic, students and faculty in the JMU School Psychology Program are aiming to make the best of their time while social distancing. This includes learning new recipes, learning a new instrument, establishing an exercise routine, enjoying the outdoors, and spending more time with their family and pets.



SPRING SYMPOSIUM, A LITTLE DIFFERENT



Due to COVID-19 social distancing orders, the annual research symposium took place online on April 17th, 2020. Presentations were pre-recorded and available for viewing. During the afternoon there was a live discussion session beginning at 2:15 for all presenters and participants. Below are the School Psychology Symposium titles and presentations:

Jacqueline Billy: An Exploration of High School Principals' Perceptions of Implementing Mental Health Curriculum's in Schools

Thesis chair is Debi Kipps-Vaughan

Victoria Bunting: Do Relationships Matter? The Effects of Student-Teacher Relationships on Student Perceptions of School Safety

Thesis chair: Tammy Gilligan

Michelle Hayes Bryant: Siblings of Children with Intellectual Disability: A Skills Group Experience

Thesis chair: Tiffany Hornsby

Katelin Curd: Supporting Siblings of Children with Disabilities Through School Based Practices

Thesis chair: Tiffany Hornsby

Stacey Davidson: School Psychologist/ Counselor LGBTQ+ Student Survey

Thesis chair: Tammy Gilligan

Carleigh Fuhrman: PBIS & Restorative Practices: Implementation and Impact on the Role of School Psychologists

Thesis chair: Ashton Trice

Sarah Lanyi: School Racial Climate and Discipline Practices

Thesis chair: Tiffany Hornsby

Aleksa Putnam: Virginia Elementary Schools and Their Preparedness for Students Impacted by Trauma

Thesis chair: Debi Kipps-Vaughan

Jessica Williams-Chase: "It's really hard to leave everything behind": Conversations About School with Immigrants from Kurdistan.

Thesis chair: Ashton Trice

Hello Baltimore!

This year's National Association of School Psychologist (NASP) Annual Convention was held in Baltimore, Maryland. Our program was strongly represented by Faculty, several interns, all second year students and most first year students.



Our program values and supports contributing to research, as a result faculty presented research posters, papers, and hosted practitioner conversations at this years NASP Convention.

Ashton Trice, Ed.D.: Consultation and Collaboration with Educators and Parents
Ashton Trice, Ed.D.: Reading Performance Improves With Dyslexia Font Over Time
Debi Kipps-Vaughan, Psy.D.: School Based Substance Use Disorder Interventions
Tammy Gilligan, Ph.D.: Inter-professional Collaboration for Children in Foster Care
Tammy Gilligan, Ph.D.: Keeping Joy in the Job: A Conversation With Mid-Career Professionals
Tiffany Hornsby, Ph.D. : Defining Needs for First-Generation College Students

Stephanie McGrew, an alum of the program also presented her research on promoting the inter-professional collaboration of school psychologist and social workers.

The Keynote speaker this year was social entrepreneur and best selling author, Wes Moore. He motivated and mesmerized the professional crowd by sharing the story behind his book, "The Other Wes Moore". The vast amount of NASP sessions and enormous Exhibit Hall filled with vendors can be overwhelming for first attenders. However, with guidance from faculty and second time attendees it became a fun and memorable professional development experience. Meeting up to connect with Alumni from the program during NASP has become a tradition. Faculty and Alumni were able to catch up while first and second years had the opportunity to ask Alumni questions and share experiences. Thank you to those that came out and we will see you next in Salt Lake City for NASP 2021!

JMU Workshops:

Interprofessional Workshop

On January 17, 2020, the JMU School Psychology program sponsored the workshop “Inter-professional Collaboration in schools: Working together to solve complex behavior problems”. The Virginia Institute of Autism presented the workshop to faculty from the graduate psychology department, students from the school psychology, applied behavioral analysis, and CI programs, and to school psychology supervisors and local professionals in the surrounding counties.

Motivational Interviewing

As an introduction to the consultation course in the fall, first-year students attended a Motivational Interviewing Workshop with Paige Hawkins, M.Ed. Substance Abuse Prevention Specialist at JMU. Students were introduced to the concept of Motivational Interviewing and were able to apply its practices in small groups. First year school psychology students mixed with counseling students role-played through consultation scenarios rotating between acting as counselor, student and observer.

ASIST Training

Suicide has become a serious public health crisis, yet too many don't know how to talk about it. Each spring semester, first year graduate students attend a two day Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST). This workshop is taught by Jane Wiggins, Ph.D., DirectorThe Campus Suicide Prevention Center of Virginia. During these two days students learned suicide first-aid, to help a person at risk stay safe and seek further help as needed. Furthermore, through roleplay and group simulations, students practiced using a suicide intervention model. This Model assisted in identifying persons with thoughts of suicide, finding a shared understanding of reasons for dying and living, and help develop a Safeplan based upon a review of risk. Completing this training has prepared 11 additional future School Psychologist to recognize risk of suicide. They are now equipped with tools to intervene and prevent the immediate risk of suicide they might encounter.

Leadership at Sea: An Exploration of Cross-Cultural Competence

This semester, Dr. Tiffany Hornsby co-directed a spring break study abroad trip to the Bahamas for honors students. This experience was attached to a hybrid section of honors seminar, during which students engaged in the research process from start to finish, including completing IRB training, designing a qualitative research study, and concluding in a research paper and presentation. The class also integrated self-reflection and the measurement of students' cultural intelligence before and after participating in the study abroad trip. As JMU's first study abroad cruise, students traveled to Manhattan, Port Canaveral, Great Stirrups Cay, and Nassau. While abroad, students attended in-person class meetings and programs related to cultural competency and leadership.



Leadership at Sea: An Exploration of Cross-Cultural Competence

During this program, participants will embark on a cruise and complete a major project surrounding cultural competency. With over 20 different nationalities represented in the workforce of one ship, the cruise industry is the perfect environment to observe intercultural experiences where the US context is not the norm. The remainder of the course after Spring Break will consist of reflection and presentation of their project.

COURSE:

HON 300: Honors Seminar: An Exploration of Cross-Cultural Competence (3 credits)

PROGRAM DIRECTORS:

Gilpatrick Hornsby | hornsbgd@jmu.edu | Hart School
Tiffany Hornsby | hornsbtcc@jmu.edu | Graduate Psychology

To learn more about this program, please visit:
www.jmu.edu/global/abroad/programs



READING WELL IS IMPORTANT!

During the beginning of the spring semester, first year students Cara McQuaid, Aj Levy and Kiarra Steer spend Friday mornings practicing reading with students at *Fort Defiance High School*, in Augusta County.

Each Graduate student was paired with one 9th grader to effectively work one on one. Although this year's experience was cut short, the time spent at *Fort Defiance High School* was meaningful. Besides strengthening student's reading skills, 9th graders and graduate students got to connect and really get to know each other.

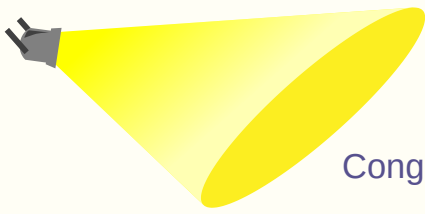
Cara, one of the volunteers shared; " The experience was fun, the student I worked with said he didn't like to read but after reading his dad's yearbook passages, he was surprised to learn about the obstacles his dad's basketball team faced that year. After that day he agreed that reading had value and wasn't so bad after all."



Welcome Class of 2023!

JMU would like to welcome the class of 2023. We are proud to announce 11 new members will be joining the program in the fall. Please help us welcome:

Jordan Otto, Hannah Delmonte, Taylor Bronaugh, Mason Folk, Zaakirah Fulani, Aubrey McFayden, Tyler Frink, Stephanie Harris, Arayana Harris, Alison Palmer and Liliana Ferrufino.



School Psychology Spotlight

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

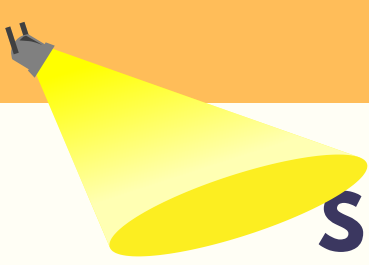
Dr. Debi Kipps-Vaughan was the principal investigator for a grant to support further training of faculty within our college in substance disorder intervention, expand the training of future health care providers, support research, and provide GA funding for one of our new admits. We are proud of Debi for working tirelessly for this grant, Expanding Addiction Education Across Health Professions: JMU Substance Use Disorder Education. Way to go, Debi!

Outstanding Graduate Research Award: 2017 Cohort Each of the 9 students in this cohort continued with applied research projects during our recent pandemic and movement to on-line learning communities. Several had to alter methodologies while staying committed to the research questions of interest. All engaged in projects that sought to support vulnerable and/or marginalized youth and school communities. This cohort is recognized for their dedication to scholarly activity and their resilience as researchers.

Kiersten Bell was awarded the O. Ashton Trice Memorial Scholarship for Academic Excellence. This award is given to students who have the highest GPA and exceptional academic performance. This award provides support for summer tuition. Congratulations, Kiersten!

Laëtitia Sakponou was awarded the Patricia Warner Scholarship. The Patricia Warner Scholarship supports future leaders and advocates in the field of School Psychology by providing a scholarship to a current second year student in support of summer tuition. This award will be given to one student who demonstrates outstanding potential for leadership and advocacy in school psychology as determined by core program faculty. Congratulations, Laëtitia!

Emily Walsh was awarded the Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award. Emily has provided service to the Department of Psychology through her support of undergraduates in various courses and teaching labs associated with core psychology courses. She has been consistent in her dedication to providing excellence in teaching assistance. Faculty and students have appreciated her teaching efforts and her willingness to embrace new challenges and experiences. Congratulations, Emily!



School Psychology Spotlight

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

Jacqueline Billy was the recipient of the Outstanding Graduate Service Award. She is well deserving of the Graduate Psychology Service Award, with a spirit for serving children and families in schools through her volunteer services in the Page County Public Schools and Albemarle County Public Schools with activities extending beyond course requirements. Jacqueline provided (in partnership with another graduate school psychology student) two Substance Use Disorders presentations to high school students. Jacqueline also coordinated with Johns Hopkins University in developing research opportunities regarding incorporation of Mental Health Curriculum in high school classrooms. She has provided substance use disorder interventions with students in Albemarle County Public Schools (APCS) and presented information for this work to other school professionals in ACPS. Her dedication to serving schools has been evidenced in many other areas in her work as an intern. She has consistently demonstrated a spirit for 'stepping up' to help others.

Davina Putz received the Tina Kauten Service Award. This Memorial Award is given to a student who exemplifies service and compassion for others, the program, and the profession. Davina demonstrates a true spirit of caring that is evident in all that she does. Her spirit is genuine and enthusiastic, and we all benefit from her positive and supportive nature.

Community Partner Award: Becky Reeser, Clymore Elementary School, Augusta County Public Schools This award recognizes a partner in the community who has supported the training and development of our graduate students. Becky Reeser serves as the intervention specialist at Clymore Elementary, where first-year students enrolled in Assessment II complete a field experience conducting academic assessment and implementing interventions. Through her role, Becky helps identify participating teachers and students, orients JMU students to Clymore's instructional and assessment practices, and consults with each of the JMU students about their cases. Her work with our program has been paramount to the success of our students during this experience. Becky consistently goes above and beyond her job duties to help JMU students fulfill their course requirements and to meet the needs of Clymore students, and we appreciate her dedication and collaborative spirit as our community partner!

Upcoming Events:

Nondiscriminatory Assessment of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students

The JMU School Psychology Program will be sponsoring a 2-day professional development event with Dr. Sam Ortiz. The workshop will on May 28th and 29th from 8:30am to 4pm. The workshop will take place live using WebEx. This workshop will focus on nondiscriminatory assessment, legal compliance in assessment, use of interpreters, and research regarding the Culture-Language Test Classifications (C-LTC) and Interpretive Matrix (C-LIM). We are so excited to have Dr. Sam Ortiz with us!

If you are interested in attending this workshop, you can register online at: <https://jmu.irisregistration.com/Form/NACLDS20>
Cost: Full 2 day workshop registration -\$65; Single day registration -\$35.

Thank you, Susan!



Susan Black, who has been our Clinician-in-Residence for our program for 10 years has accepted a job to work with the Department of Defense Education Schools in South Korea. Susan worked in Staunton City Public Schools prior to moving to South Korea. In addition to working in Stanton, she often came in talk to graduate students about working with culturally and linguistically diverse students, how to manage classroom behavior and expectations, and working with an interpreter. We will miss you, Susan!



Second Years: Where are they Going for Internship?

Anna Weaver - Greene County Public Schools, VA

Bailey Brooks - Honolulu District, HI

Emily Smith - Albemarle County Public Schools, VA

Emily Walsh - Cecil County Public Schools, MD

Joshua Knight - Manassas City Public Schools, VA

Kiersten Bell - Hampton City Public Schools, VA

Laëtitia Sakponou - Roanoke County Public Schools, VA

Muna Yusuf - Prince William County Schools, VA

Con-GRAD-ulations Class of 2020!

Due to COVID-19, the Class of 2020 was unable to walk in May. At this time, we would like to extend a big congratulations to all nine students. We are so proud of you!



Contact Us

TAMMY GILLIGAN, PH.D
PROGRAM DIRECTOR
GILLIGTD@JMU.EDU

DEBI KIPPS-VAUGHAN, PSY-D
INTERNSHIP COORDINATOR
KIPPSVDX@JMU.EDU

ASHTON TRICE, ED.D
RESEARCH COORDINATOR
TRICEAD@JMU.EDU

TIFFANY HORNSBY, PH.D
PRACTICUM COORDINATOR
HORNSBTC@JMU.EDU

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

Visit Our Website:
<http://psyc.jmu.edu/school/>