

School Psychology Newsletter

Fall 2023 | JMU | Graduate Student Psychology



WELCOME BACK!



CONTENTS

- Fall News & Masters Celebration.....2
- Team Building & IPE Day.....3
- Conferences & Grads.....4-5
- SP Week.....6
- SPGSA.....7
- Socials.....8
- Thank you & Contact us.....9

Kicking off this year with a great start, we welcomed 13 new students to our program: Allyana Musa, Ben Little, Briana Page, Chloe Marsh, Lauren Deluca, Madeline Bishop, Mallory McIvor, Rachel Christian, Samantha Sitzman, Sarah Caufield, Sarah Eggleston, Shelley Gies, and Ursula Vogt. Congratulations!



FALL NEWS

Students got to know each other through orientation week and the graduate student back-to-school picnic. It was an exciting fall semester!

MASTER'S CELEBRATION

The School Psychology Graduate Program would like to congratulate Angela Ji, Julia Shin, Kayla Hearl, Fatima Rahman, Sharice Mehlenbacher, Lisandra Artiles, and Ivy Moraa for receiving their Master of Arts in School Psychology! On August 20th, the recent graduates, professors, family, and friends gathered to celebrate the hard work, time, and major milestone the group achieved. The students have successfully completed their master's level training and the official first step of becoming School Psychologists. Congratulations to our Second Years!



TEAM BUILDING CHALLENGE

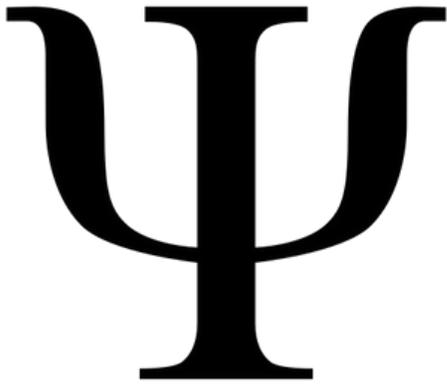
On Friday September 1st, our first- and second-year students and faculty were invited to participate in UREC's Team Empowerment with Adventure for Madison (TEAM) challenge course. There were several team exercises created to challenge participants, help build relationships, and encourage collaboration. Teams were challenged to balance atop wooden logs without falling off and to board a teetering "whale ship" without letting the sides touch the ground. Students had a great time strengthening their bonds and learned to listen and lean on each other in order to overcome obstacles. We are excited to take on future challenges with new-and-improved leadership skills!



INTER-PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION SEMINAR

In late October, the second years in our program attended an Inter-Professional Education Seminar day. During this seminar, school psychology students presented information on the day in the life of a School Psychologist. They also were exposed to the demands of other professions and spent an enriching day collaborating with students from other programs such as special education, counseling, occupational therapy, speech and language, and behavior analysts. It was a unique experience for our students to further their professional development by understanding how school psychologists work with other fields.

CONFERENCES



FALL 2023 VASP CONFERENCE

The Fall 2023 VASP conference was held earlier this October and coordinated by our own Dr. Tiffany Hornsby, VASP President, and conference committee. The conference was held near JMU's campus at the Shenandoah Valley Conference Center, where practitioners, trainers, and students were able to reconnect, gain awareness, and build on current competencies on how we can make a difference through our practice to promote healthy environments for children to succeed. This year's theme was "Be the One: Supporting Students through Comprehensive Service Delivery One School Psychologist at a Time."

This Fall's conference had the highest attendance registration since before the pandemic! Dr. Tammy Gilligan provided a workshop on effective consultation practices in schools, complementing Dr. Debi Kipps-Vaughan's workshop presentation on supporting students who are youth caregivers, both of which were well attended and received. Additionally, second year student Sharice Mehlenbacher had a poster

presentation titled "Layers to this: Experiences of Black Women Teaching, Learning, and Taking the WAIS-IV". Several JMU students were present at the conference and had the opportunity to connect with each other as well as students from other programs at the VASP hosted reception. If you did not make it this time, we hope to see you at the Spring 2024 VASP Conference!



We are honored to share that Taylor Bronaugh, Ed.S., a recent graduate of our training program, was awarded the Virginia Academy of School Psychologists Graduate Student of the Year Award! She received formal recognition of this award at the recent VASP Fall Conference Taylor completed our program in August 2023. She currently is employed as a School Psychologist in Rockbridge County Public Schools in Virginia. Congratulations to Taylor on this well-deserved award!

COMING UP: NASP!

We're thrilled to share that JMU students and faculty will be in attendance at the 2024 NASP conference in New Orleans! The NASP conference is an annual event that brings together professionals, researchers, and students in the field of school psychology. It serves as a platform for sharing cutting-edge research, best practices, and fostering collaboration to advance the understanding and practice of school psychology. Our enthusiastic delegation is eager to engage with the latest developments in the field. In addition to our participation in the conference, we are planning an exciting program gathering and social event. This presents a fantastic opportunity for networking and camaraderie as we collectively immerse ourselves in the vibrant learning environment of the conference.

Reminders!

We are looking forward to connecting with peers, sharing insights, and making the most of this experience together! Check our FB and Instagram for details about the JMU gathering!

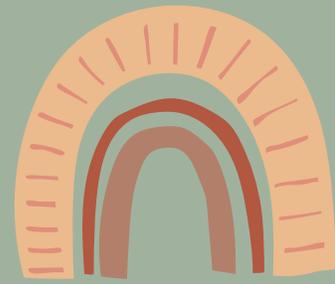
Recent GRADUATES!

Where are they now??

Allison Palmer - Cape Henlopen Public Schools, DE
Jordan Otto - Albemarle County Public Schools, VA
Hannah Delmonte - Carlsbad Unified School District, CA
Taylor Bronaugh - Rockbridge County Public Schools, VA
Mason Folk - Augusta County Public Schools, VA
Zaakirah Fulani - Chesterfield County Public Schools, VA
Stephanie Harris - Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, NC
Arayana Harris - Henrico County Public Schools, VA
Liliana Ferrufino - Montgomery County Public Schools, MD
Robyn Devendorf - Broward County Public Schools, FL



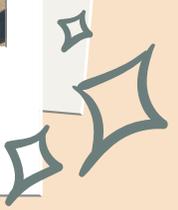
School Psychology Awareness Week



This year, National School Psychology Week took place from November 6-10th with the theme: "Let's Grow Together." This is inspired by the importance of both personal and shared strengths in our growth as individuals and school communities in every season of life. The school psychology community celebrates this week every year through various activities and initiatives. The JMU School Psychology program has a tradition of gifting goodie bags to school psychologists in surrounding counties to show appreciation for their valuable efforts and contributions to the community. In addition, students of the program spread awareness of school psychology and self-care by standing near the quad on JMU's campus and asking community members "What do Dukes do for self-care?"

Participating members contributed their answers on sticky notes which were displayed on a poster to show how our community members take time to grow and rest. Our first-year students also presented to undergraduate students, sharing valuable insights on school psychology, their program experiences thus far, the application process, and more.

The JMU Graduate School Psychology Program would like to thank and bring attention to all School Psychologists for their advocacy, dedication, and drive to help children and adolescents. Your work does not go unnoticed.



SPGSA

News

creative outlets



This Fall...

Several of our SPGSA events focused on self-care. SPGSA members soaked in some sunshine while painting pumpkins to welcome autumn. We also took a trip to the nearby pumpkin patch at Back Home on The Farm.



SPOOKY SEASON

"SPGSA is a great way for students who are interested in the program to connect. Our main goals are to raise awareness of School Psychology show support and appreciation to faculty and practitioners,



and to participate in community events...We do this so that students not only feel like they have a sense of community, but to further deepen our relationships with everyone who supports our program on a regular basis." *Logan Dasher (2022-2023 President)*

If interested in joining or wanting to learn more about our program:

Follow our SPGSA social media



@jmuschoolpsych



spgsa.jmu@gmail.com

SOCIALS & OTHER EVENTS



To start off the school year, several of our students and their friends celebrated the end of the summer with an outing to Cross Keys Vineyard.



Julia Shin, Lisandra Artiles, and Angela Ji attended a Unified Basketball game at Spotswood High School to cheer on Rockingham County high schools' Unified Teams. Dedicated to promoting social inclusion through shared sports training and competition experiences, Unified Sports joins people with and without intellectual disabilities on the same team. The Unified Basketball League has now become one of the most meaningful community events in the Shenandoah Valley.



Let's go Dukes! The sun came out just in time to cheer on our football team as students enjoyed a tailgate for JMU vs Connecticut's football match. Dukes won 44-6.

AWARDS

The O. Ashton Trice Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Julia Shin for her academic excellence and highest GPA within the program.

**Congratulations
to Julia!**

PRACTICUM SITES

The JMU School Psychology Program would like to thank our practicum sites and supervisors for teaching and guiding future school psychologists through their professional journey. We would like to welcome the new supervisors and practicum sites for volunteering your efforts to assist our graduate students. The JMU School Psychology program is grateful for the opportunities and experiences these supervisors offer.

- Greene County Public Schools: Jeremiah Jordan
- Harrisonburg City Schools: Jason Rutt
- Rockingham County Public Schools: Lori Golden, & Jennifer Martin
- Shenandoah County Public Schools: Kristi Estep, Krista Gieseke-Smith & Kate Grisdale
- Waynesboro City Schools: Amy Hutcherson

CONTACT US!

Support our Future School Psychologists!

OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

Tammy Gilligan, Ph.D.
Gilligt@jmu.edu

Debi Kipps-Vaughan PsyD
kippsvdx@jmu.edu

Tiffany Hornsby, Ph.D.
hornsbtc@jmu.edu

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 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