



School Psychology Newsletter

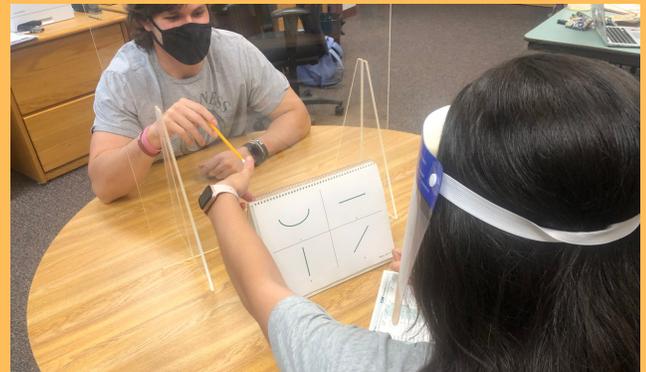
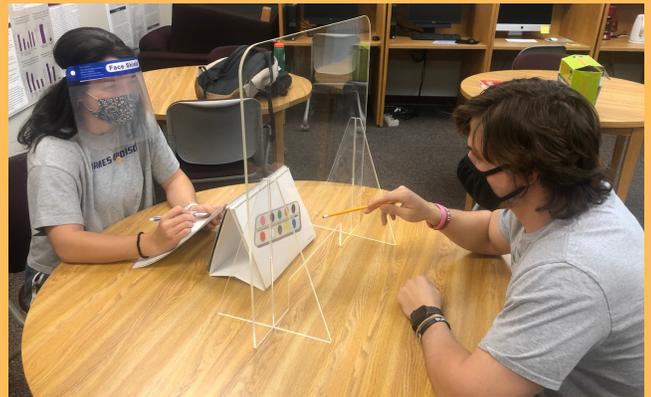
SPRING 2021 | JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

WE SURVIVED A YEAR OF VIRTUAL LEARNING

COVID ANNIVERSARY CAME AND WENT

This spring semester we reached a bittersweet milestone. We've endured a full year since the start of the pandemic when everything was shifted to online learning. Despite the difficulty that arose from this change the program faculty and students have shown resilience and hard work throughout the year! Somehow Covid-19 makes tasks that were simple for us in the past take more effort and time, so grace and patience have become staples of our new normal.

First year students did not miss out on assessment practice. Equipped with full PPE graduate students were able to practice and learn how to administer cognitive and achievement assessments safely midst the pandemic.



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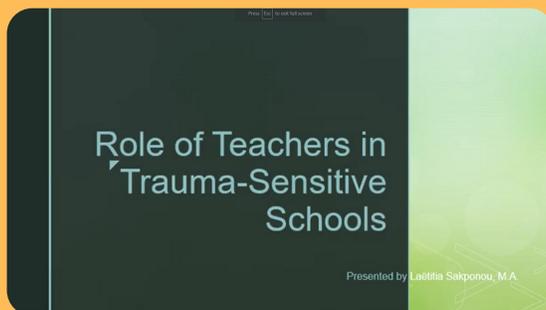
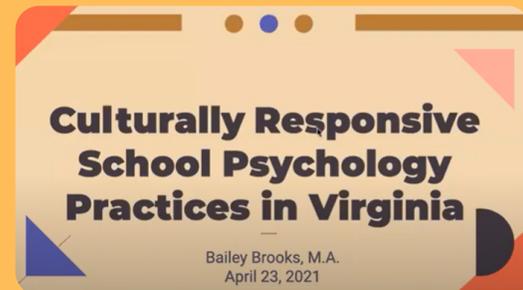
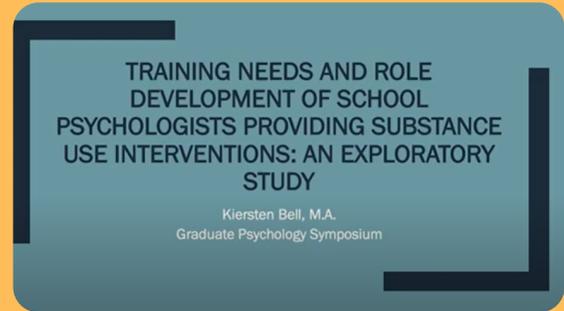
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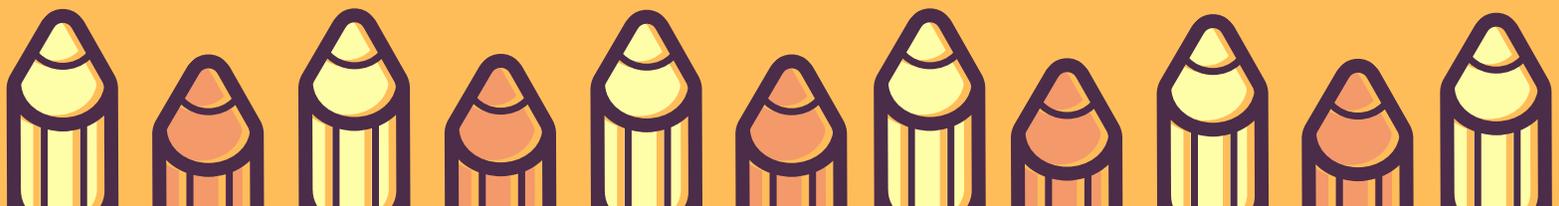
SPRING SYMPOSIUM!

On April 23, 2021, the school psychology program met for the annual symposium in research and practice. Graduate students and faculty attended this virtual event which offered a forum for students currently on internship to share their developing areas of expertise related to their thesis. All presentations were pre-recorded and available for viewing the morning of April 23rd. Later in the afternoon, a live discussion session for all presenters and participants was held. The 2021 College of Health and Behavioral Studies Madison Scholar, Dr. Cara Meixner also presented on her current research.

Thesis Topics



Emily Walsh and Anna Weaver (co-presenting): From Ally to Accomplish: Bridging the Gap Between Best Practice and Reality for LGBTQ+ Students | **Kiersten Bell**: Training Needs and Role Development of School Psychologists Providing Substance Use Interventions: An Exploratory Study | **Muna Yusuf**: Am I Black Enough? – Identity and Belongingness of Second-Generation African Students | **Emily Smith**: Primary Caregivers' Reports of Early Literacy Skills and Supporting Children's Literacy Success Through Home-School Collaboration | **Bailey Brooks**: Culturally Responsive School Psychology Practice in Virginia | **Laetitia Sakponou**: Role of Teachers in Trauma-Sensitive Schools | **Joshua Knight**: Uncovering stories: Investigating Factors that Contribute to Parent Experiences in Eligibility Meetings



NASP CONVENTION!

JMU students and faculty enjoyed attending NASP's first ever virtual convention. It was the largest convention in NASP history, with 9000+ people attending.

Our very own Dr. Tiffany Hornsby and Sarah Snyder presented on:

School Psychologists and BCBAs Working Together to Solve Complex Problems.

NASP is providing postconvention access to sessions **through May 12, 2021.**

To receive CPD credit for attending a Live Session, attendance was tracked via attention check pop-up boxes with a "ding" sound at random intervals throughout the session.

The "ding" quickly became a phenomenon on its own. NASP liked how enthusiastic people were about the "ding" and designed an "I Survived the Ding" picture available for download.



As in previous years, JMU upheld the tradition to host a social event during the convention for current students, faculty and alum to meet. This year's social was virtual, which allowed people to attend who might not have been able to otherwise.

NASP 2022 Annual Convention is around the corner!

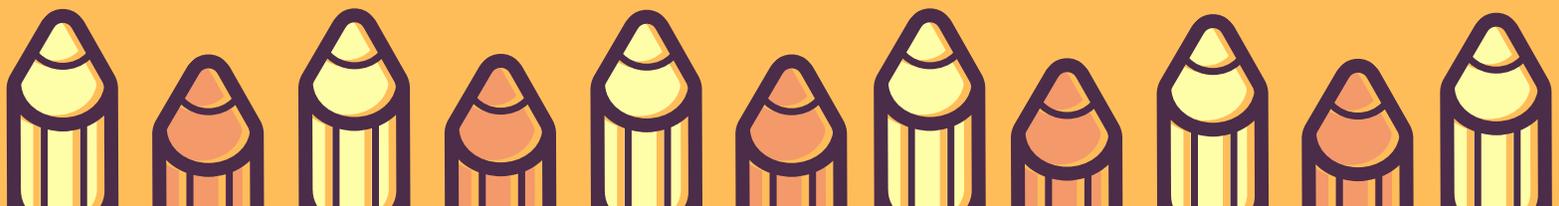
Make sure you save the date. It is set to take place on February 15-18 2022 in Boston! NASP is cautiously optimistic that they will be able to hold next year's convention in person.

Save
the
Date

NASP 2022
ANNUAL CONVENTION
FEBRUARY 15-18, 2022
Hynes Convention Center, Boston, MA



NASP
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
School Psychologists



MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING WORKSHOP

On March 8th the first years had the privilege of attending a virtual training workshop for Motivational Interviewing that was presented by Paige Hawkins, M.Ed. Substance Use Prevention Specialist. Students were introduced to motivational interviewing through an ice breaker activity where they shared something with a partner and practiced listening to summarize what they had heard back to their partner. First years learned techniques about motivation and initiating change as well as how to be present for others if they are not ready to make a change. The workshop finished with watching the 10-meter tower challenge where participants tried to convince themselves to jump off the high dive. The video showed how being present for someone without pushing them past their comfort zone can help them determine whether or not they feel ready for change.



Liliana Ferrufino



Mason Folk



Jordan Otto



Alison Palmer



Taylor Bronaugh



Hannah Delmonte

SPGSA NEWS

Leadership is an essential competency for school psychologists. In school communities school psychologists serve as leaders by advocating for the needs of students and their families. Holding an executive board position in SPGSA gives graduate students the opportunity to practice these leadership skills. Please welcome SPGSA's 2021 Executive board:

President: Liliana Ferrufino

Vice President: Mason Folk

Treasurer: Jordan Otto

Secretary: Alison Palmer

Philanthropy chair: Taylor Bronaugh

Social and Wellness Chair: Hannah Delmonte

SPGSA is adding a Social and Wellness Chair position for the upcoming year. Current members decided that in addition to the monthly formal meetings, SPGSA should offer more social events and opportunities for first- and second-year cohorts to bond. The Social and Wellness Chair will take on the role of creating opportunities to help the two cohorts connect with each other more outside of a academic setting.

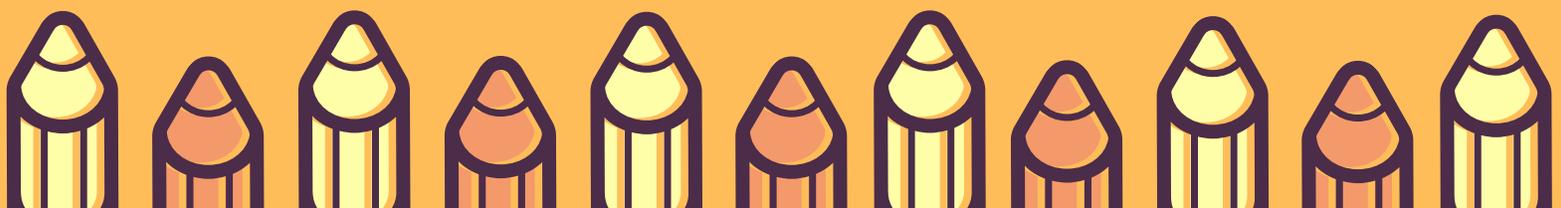
Thank you to Madeline Brawley, AJ Levy, Cara McQuaid, Davina Putz and Kiarra Steer for serving as officers on the executive board for the 2020/21 school year!



BREATHING IN THE LAVENDAR



On April, 28th the second years, Dr. Tammy Gilligan and Tiffany Hornsby met in celebration of the accomplishments of the year. It is a Program tradition to visit the **White Oak Lavender Farm** in Harrisonburg. This trip celebrated the completion of the practicum experience and conversations about self-care. A bittersweet goodbye moment, as the second years meet as a group for the last time. After a year filled with zoom meetings and online classroom discussions, students enjoyed eating lunch on the patio, taking a walk around the farm, and visiting with some of the farm animals. Just in time for Mother's day several students took advantage of the Farm's gift shop and purchased small gifts for their loved ones. A final Hurrah before graduate students leave campus and continue their journey to internship for the 2021/22 school year in their new school districts.



WALK FOR HOPE



School Psychology Program students joined the **first virtual Walk for Hope on Saturday, March 27th.**

The Walk for Hope has been an annual event in the community for over 9 years, bringing together members of James Madison University, Blue Ridge Community College, Bridgewater College, Eastern Mennonite University, and area residents to raise awareness about depression & suicide prevention, while encouraging hope.

While most chose to walk in the comfort of their neighborhood, School Psychology Graduate Student Association (SPGSA) arranged an alternative, so that some graduate students would not have to walk alone. A few students met at Purcell Park and walked the 2 miles together, socially distanced and wearing masks.

JOIN THE 2021 VIRTUAL

walk for
hope

3.27.21



WALK 2 MILES

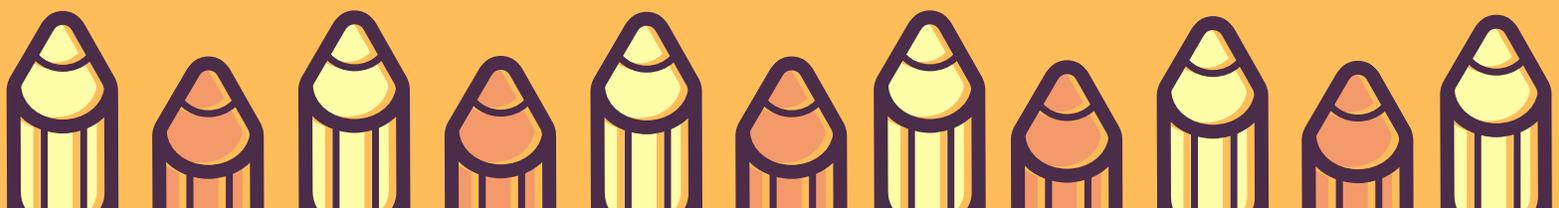
on your schedule, where you are



WATCH [www.facebook.com/
Walk.for.Hope.Harrisonburg/](https://www.facebook.com/Walk.for.Hope.Harrisonburg/)

Raising Awareness of Depression, Suicide Prevention, & Hope

This year's virtual event, everyone was encouraged to walk 2 miles in honor of the event, and then visit the "Walk for Hope" Facebook page to view a video featuring speaker Dave Urso, Dean of Academic Affairs at Blue Ridge Community College and a long-time supporter of Walk for Hope.



WELCOMING A NEW COHORT: CLASS OF 2024!

*Logan Dasher, Michelle Moore, Sa Mone Moore, Jordan Phipps,
Chutikarn “Jah” Cotham, Jacob Wadler, Emily Davis, Julia
Unger, Christian Fary & Courtney Hassan!*

INTERNSHIP PLACEMENTS

ANDREW LEVY

Loudon County Public Schools, VA

ALLISON POGGENDORF

Roanoke City Schools, VA

CARA MCQUAID

Kent School District, WA

DAVINA PUTZ

Henrico County Public Schools, VA

KAITLIN BRITTAIN

Greene County Public Schools, VA

KIARRA STEER

Hampton County Public Schools, VA

MADELINE BRAWLEY

Henrico County Public Schools, VA

MAYA RIVERS

Chesterfield County Public Schools, VA

MONICA HOLTZ

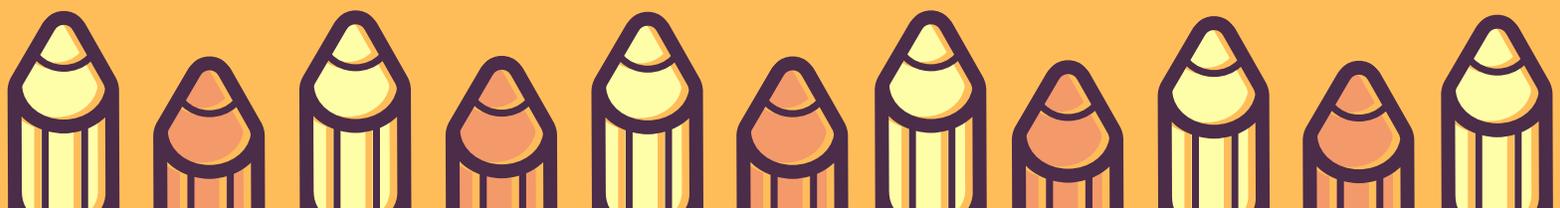
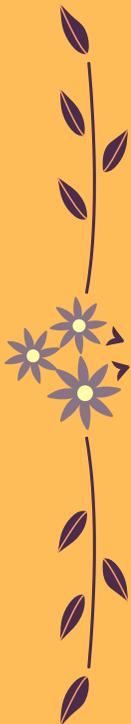
Newport News Public Schools, VA

RIANNA TAYLOR

Newport News Public Schools, VA

ISMAEL VALDEZ

Harrisonburg City Schools, VA



SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY SPOTLIGHT

SPRING AWARDS



Laëtitia Sakponou was awarded the Outstanding Graduate Service Award. This award is given to a student who goes above and beyond in serving the schools that they work in. The work that they do surpasses course requirements and supports the community via school psychology services.

Davina Putz is the recipient of the Patricia Warner Leadership and Advocacy Award. This award will recognize future leaders in school psychology.

Ish Valdez was awarded the Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award. This award is given to a student in the program who goes above and beyond in their teaching positions here at JMU. The work that they do goes above and beyond course requirements and supports the department of Psychology and its faculty.

Allison Poggendorf was the recipient of the Tina Kauten Memorial Service Award. The Tina Kauten Memorial Service Award is presented to the School Psychology Program student who has made significant contributions to the program, to the professional growth of other students, and profession.

AJ Levy is the recipient of the O Ashton Trice Scholarship. This memorial scholarship is open to all school psychology students and is awarded to the student with the highest GPA and exceptional academic performance, honoring the intent of the donor.

The School Psychology community Partnership Award goes to **Molly Bowman**, PsyD, Licensed Clinical Psychologist. Molly contributes substantially to the program by helping guide our practicum students through their experience at the Child Development Clinic during summer practicum.



UPCOMING EVENTS

VASP SPRING 2021 CONFERENCE: SOCIAL JUSTICE

The VASP Spring Conference will be a webinar on
Friday, May 14, 2021 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Registration closes May 13th.

PRESENTATIONS:

Session 1: Session 1: Educational Social Justice Reform with Felecia Friend-Harris, B.A., M.S., Ph.D. and Kimberly Jackson-Small, B.S., M.A.; Richmond Public Schools

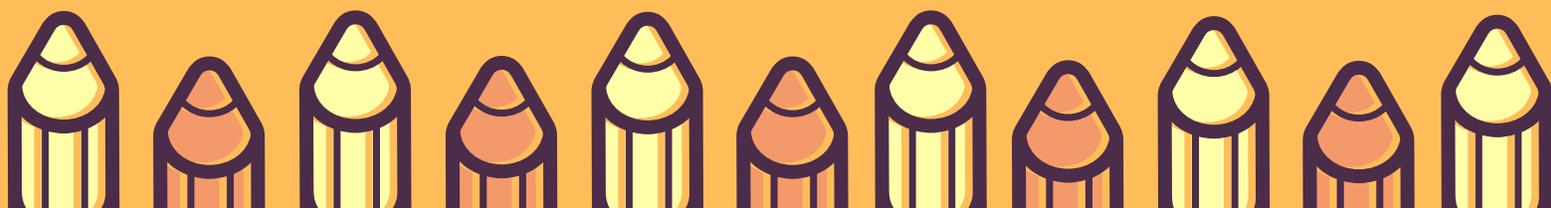
Session 2: Understanding the Experiences of BIPOC School Psychologists: A Call to Expand the Conversation with Janise Parker, Ph.D., Leandra Parris Degree, Ph.D., and Kate Murray, M.Ed.; William & Mary

Session 3: The Equity Challenge: Serving Through a Social Justice Lens with Laura Early, Ed.S., NCSP, Virginia Eacho, Ed.S., Shana Little, Ed.S., NCSP, Patricia Onorato Ph.D., NCSP, Mia Johnson, Ed.D.; Chesterfield County Public Schools

ASIST SUICIDE PREVENTION "FIRST AID" TRAINING

The Campus Suicide Prevention Center of Virginia partnered
with the School Psychology Graduate Program at
James Madison University to host this training
on May 20-21st from 8:20 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

This summer the current first year student will participate in this 2-day intensive, interactive and practice-dominated training course. This course was designed to help caregivers with recognizing the risks for suicide, allowing them to intervene to prevent immediate harm and help connect persons at risk to next level care. ASIST is used by people of varying roles such as: school and campus student support staff, community counselors, case workers, nurses, police/ correctional officers, clergy and any 'natural helper' who works in the human service field.





Contact Us!

AND VISIT OUR WEBSITE

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Support our Future School Psychology students!

Make a donation to the Program and training of our students by going onto the School Psychology Webpage and clicking 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. Ashton Trice Scholarship and the Patti Warner Award, which both award summer tuition support. Please keep in mind that 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 it to the address below:

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