

School Psychology Bulletin



Towson University

Fall 2018

Greeting from the Editors

Hello School Psychology Students and Alumni!

We hope that everyone's school year is off to a great start. How is it already October? The leaves are changing, it's getting cooler, football has begun, Thanksgiving is around the corner; what's not to love? Zari and I are wishing each of you a fantastic fall and a happy holiday season!

We hope that this newsletter can bring much needed updates along with a few well-deserved laughs. This edition includes upcoming events, alumni updates, quotes from current students, and much more!

Thank you to everyone who contributed, and please never hesitate to stop by and say hello at LA 1101!

Best,

Taylor Fowler and Zari Press

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Important Dates

November 12-16: School Psychology Awareness Week

November 21-25: Thanksgiving Holiday, University Closed

December 10: Last day of classes

December 12-18: Final exams

January 28: Spring Semester Begins

Questions or Concerns?

Stop by the GA office (LA 1101) or contact the School Psychology GAs:

Taylor Fowler: tfowle5@students.towson.edu

Zari Press: zpress1@students.towson.edu

School Psychology GA Office Hours

Monday: 9-3

Tuesday: 9-3

Wednesday: 8-11:30

Thursday: 8:30-3

Test Library Hours

Monday: 10:30-12, 2:40-5:20

Tuesday: 10:30-12, 2:40-5:20

Wednesday: 10:30-12, 2:40-5:20

Thursday: 11-3

Friday: 9:30-1:30



We asked first, second, and third year students “How is your school year going so far?” and this is what they said!

“In the midst of all the semester’s stressors, CrossFit seems to be the one thing I can count on to quiet all the noise. Enduring temporary pain drives me to keep pushing, to enjoy the process, and to appreciate the success that will follow.”

(Pictured: My first Crossfit competition - my partner and I placed 3rd out of 35 teams) — Shawn Brown, Second Year Student



“My internship year is off to a really strong start! I'm learning so much and already gaining confidence in my ability to provide children with the supports they deserve.”

Caroline Brunger
Third Year Student

“I would say that graduate school is really intimidating, but when you have 13 other people going through it with you, it's less terrifying. It's funny how we can bond so quickly. As we start midterms, it's nice to have people to be supportive and going through it all with you.”

Katherine Oysen
First Year Student

“While the transition from undergraduate to graduate school is definitely a challenging one, I am really enjoying myself. Unlike undergrad where we have “core requirements,” everything I am learning now is something I actually *want* to know, and is all applicable to my future career. “

Talia Elstein
First Year Student

“Second year has been really hectic, but being in practicum is amazing! It's so great to watch everything we learned come together, and to spend more time working with kids.”

Maria Nasios
Second Year Student

“My time in this program has taught me that making mistakes is a great way to learn, so don't be afraid to make them. *Be Bold and Go.*”

Martin Onley
Third Year Student

“My first year (semester) has definitely been a “hit the ground running” type of experience. I am learning a lot and I am trying to be like a sponge and soak up all of the information. Luckily, a good portion of the classes (developmental and research design) review topics from undergrad, so that is helpful. I am anxious and excited to see what else the program has to offer!” — John Randall, First Year Student



Exciting Alumni Updates!

Andrea Hillman, Class of 2016, was married in June of 2018 and is now Andrea O'Connell. Congratulations, Andi!



"I did research with a professor at Towson two years ago and we just had our paper published this past April. The article is about the transition from high school to the "real world" for students with an ASD. The title of the paper is: Barriers to Receipt of Services for Young Adults With Autism."- Alexis Jones (Lupfer), Class of 2017

Article Information:

Published online April 02, 2018 by American Academy of Pediatrics
Vol. 141
doi: 10.1542/peds.2016-4300G

http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/141/Supplement_4/S300

Congratulations, Lexi!

Victoria Moore, Class of 2016, was married on August 8, 2018 and is now Victoria Rennie. Congratulations, Victoria!



Katelynn Eyster (Adams), Class of 2014:

"My husband and I have welcomed our first child on 8/13/18. Emma Eyster Adams was born at Harbor Hospital on 8/13/18 weighing 7lbs 15oz and measuring 20.5 inches long. We are already so in love with our baby girl!"



Kerri-Jean (Carter) Wheeler and her husband just welcomed their first child, Virginia Grace Wheeler into the world!

Conferences

Upcoming NASP Conferences

- **NASP 2019 Annual Convention February 26–March 1, 2019 Atlanta, Georgia**

Register by Wednesday, November 7, 2018 to save on registration fees! Early registration cost:

\$104 for Student NASP Members \$459 for Nonmembers

- **NASP 2020 Annual Convention is right here in Baltimore!**

It will be at the Baltimore Convention Center, February 18–21, 2020

Second years **Nneka Opara** and **Shannon Mackain** were selected as Graduate Student Coordinators for this convention. If you have any questions or interest in how you can be involved, contact them at: smacka2@students.towson.edu and nopara1@students.towson.edu.



See the last page of this newsletter for information on becoming a convention assistant to save money on your attendance cost!



MSPA Conference— Did you go?

The Fall 2018 MSPA Conference was on October 19, 2018! Did you go? We would love to hear about it! If you missed it, here is the topic that was discussed:

Topic: Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) for Accommodating Students' Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Health: An Advanced Session for School Professionals

Speakers: James McDougal, Psy. D. & Jillian Archer, NCSP

Email us with your thoughts and comments about the conference here: tfowle5@students.towson.edu.

The Spring 2019 MSPA Conference has not been announced yet. Keep a close eye on your email for the upcoming topic and speakers!

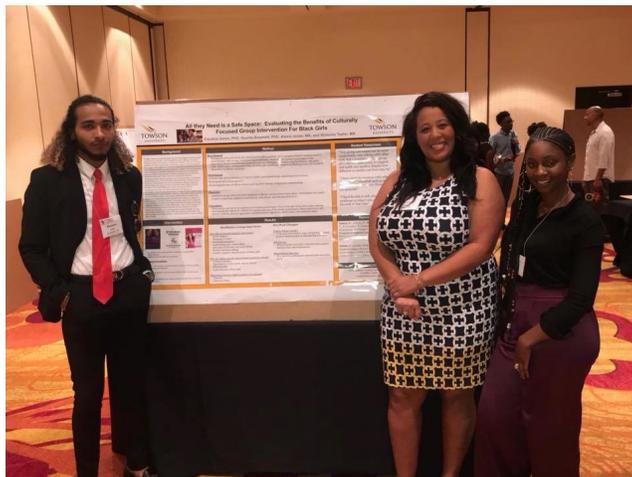
Have You 'Liked' Us On Facebook?

If not, here are some things you might have missed!



Find us here!: <https://www.facebook.com/TUSchoolPsych/>

Professor Dr. Aston and two of our third year interns presented at the annual convention for The Association of Black Psychologists (ABPsi) in Oakland, California this summer!



Please join us in welcoming our newest school psychology cohort, Class of 2021!



Dr. Mortenson and some of our graduate students enjoying milkshakes after finishing another successful summer of PRIDE!



School Psychology Awareness Week

November 12-16, 2018

From NASP:

"During the week of November 12–16, 2018 schools throughout the country will celebrate National School Psychology Awareness Week to highlight the important work school psychologists and other educators do to help all students thrive.

This year's theme is "Unlock Potential. Find Your Password!" A password is a personal key for unlocking any number of areas of potential in our lives. Our goal is to connect with how modern youth and adults unlock things (e.g., gaming levels, phones, devices, codes) and to highlight how thinking about specific skills, assets, or characteristics as "passwords" can lead to positive growth."

Read more about this year's theme & SPAW here:

[http://www.nasponline.org/research-and-policy/advocacy-tools-and-resources/school-psychology-awareness-week-\(spaw\)/about-the-theme](http://www.nasponline.org/research-and-policy/advocacy-tools-and-resources/school-psychology-awareness-week-(spaw)/about-the-theme)

Our new NASP representative is first-year student, **Kat Oysen!**

Kat, along with our graduate assistants Zari and Taylor, will be celebrating School Psychology Awareness week on campus November 12-16th!

They will have a table set up with NASP giveaways, snacks, informational packets, and more!

The purpose of setting up a table on campus during SPAW is to spread awareness about our major and the profession of school psychology. So many individuals do not know the vital role that school psychologists play, so let's educate them!



Please contact Taylor (tfowle5@students.towson.edu), Zari (zpress1@students.towson.edu) or Kat (ktissu1@students.towson.edu) to assist with SPAW this year! **We would love for you to join us to help talk to passersby, hand out giveaways, set up, and so on!**

A Little Game and Words from Dr. Mortenson

Here is a little game brought to you by Patrick Reed, Class of 2006:

“Which of these things didn’t happen to me today?”

- A. Sprayed in the face with deodorant.
- B. Had slime put on my arm that ripped out a chunk of hair.
- C. Had purple sand thrown on me.
- D. Slipped on a banana.

Trick question—

They all happened. You can’t make this stuff up. Self-contained teachers need to have fewer weapons in their room.”

Thanks for giving us a much needed laugh today, Patrick! We all know that school psychologists do not have an easy job, and that it is easy to feel overwhelmed and underappreciated. So with that being said, we are going to close this newsletter with a small dose of encouragement from our program director, Dr. Mortenson:

All,

With autumn upon us we are all conscious that our weekly meetings are stacking up, progress monitoring is overdue and daylight is in decline. Still, we embrace the chill (for a change), unpack our red cable sweaters and wonder if it is too early in the season to drink Pumpkin Spice Lattes. The fall brought some welcome and some less welcome changes to Towson as well. For one thing, our new cohort arrived to campus and immediately found their footing among the different classes, assignments and my sparse guidance on the 733 term paper (give me 25 pages on a topic that will better the life of a child). Several first years camp out in CLA 3150 working on homework, readings and holding court on what makes a quality craft beer.

A second change at Towson is the absence of Dr. Bartels. She did in fact retire over a year ago, but remained for the 17-18 academic year, teaching one course each semester. I tell you honestly, there has been a profound shift in my consciousness of the depth of commitment Dr. Bartels extended toward our program for more than two decades.

As a new director, in a constant state of ‘what did I forget to do today,’ my entreaties to Dr. Bartels for clarification on accreditation or program specific paperwork are always met with generosity and patience. While she is but a text/email/phone call away, she is dearly missed on a daily basis.

For the 18 years we worked together, I would often muse that it is better to ask for forgiveness than permission. As the director, I have (sagely) elected to retire that philosophy. I am entertaining one of two new precepts, each from a former president:

1. It is easier to do a job right than to explain why you didn’t. (Martin Van Buren)
2. If you could kick the person in the pants responsible for most of your trouble, you wouldn’t sit for a month. (Theodore Roosevelt)

Please feel free to weigh in on which precept seems most appropriate. I am open to entertaining other adages as well.

I wish each of you the very best this fall and for the seasons to come.

Bruce P. Mortenson

NASP Convention Assistant Opportunity

- ◆ Graduate students can volunteer as NASP Convention Assistants to receive a \$75 refund for their service.
- ◆ You must be a NASP member to sign up! You must register for the convention before signing up.
- ◆ Registration for these positions opens at noon EST on **Thursday, November 1, 2018.**
- ◆ Convention Assistants work at various jobs and booths during the convention for a minimum of 4 to 6 hours. These slots are intended for graduate students only to help defray the costs of registration.

Research Opportunity

Dr. Aston's is currently working on two projects:

Project 1: Examining protective factors for minority college students- A study that will survey current undergraduate and graduate students from underrepresented groups to ask them about what supports have enabled them to be successful in the college environment.

Project 2: Graduate training in nondiscriminatory assessment-A study that will interview current school psychologists to evaluate their knowledge on nondiscriminatory assessment practices with minority students.

You can contact Dr. Aston for more information at [caston@towson.edu!](mailto:caston@towson.edu)

For Our Next Issue...

Please submit any ideas, pictures, or events that you would like us to highlight in future issues to tfowle5@students.towson.edu or zpress1@students.towson.edu.

Spring 2019 Schedule



First Years	Second Years	Third Years
Monday 4:10-6:50 FBA with Dr. Camp	Monday 4:20-6:50 School Wide Prevention with Dr. Rush	Tuesday 4:10-6:50 Internship with Dr. Rush
Wednesday 12:00-2:40 Counseling with Dr. Rush	Tuesday 4:20-6:50 and 7:00-9:40 Practicum with II Sections 1 and 2 with Dr. Aston	
Wednesday 6:00-8:40 Social Emotional with Professor Kreitzer	Wednesday 4:20-6:50 Academic Assessment with Dr. Mortenson	
Thursday 12:00- 2:40 Assessment of Intelligence with Dr. Mortenson	Thursday 4:20-6:50 Multicultural Psych with Dr. Aston	