

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY BULLETIN

Towson University

Fall 2017

Greeting from the Editors

Hello School Psychology Students and Alumni!

We hope that everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable summer filled with laughter and plenty of sunshine. This fall season will bring its own share of new experiences for all of our school psychology students, old and new. Our first year students are adjusting to graduate school and soaking up knowledge; our second year students are beginning practicum and getting a taste of their chosen career; and our third year students are starting their internships, where they will gain incredibly valuable hands-on experience. How exciting!

This fall edition of the newsletter includes information about NASP, MSPA, new faculty, former graduates, your fellow students' summer activities, and more!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our newsletter! Be on the lookout for our spring edition!

Best,

Brooke Sanchez and Taylor Fowler

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Important Dates

November 13-17: School Psychology Awareness Week

November 22-26: Thanksgiving Holiday, University Closed

December 11: Last day of classes

December 13-19: Final exams

Questions or Concerns?

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

Brooke Sanchez: bsanch5@students.towson.edu

Taylor Fowler: tfowle5@students.towson.edu

School Psychology GA Office Hours

Monday: 11-4
Tuesday: 8-1
Wednesday: 8-1
Thursday: 12-5

Test Library Hours

Monday: By Appointment
Tuesday: 10-4, 7-7:40
Wednesday: 10-4
Thursday: 3-7
Friday: 11-2:30



What were Towson students up to this summer?



Sara Grayson, Class of 2020, worked with Johns Hopkins Pediatrics Residency Program, training them on a new database system they implemented!

Brooke Sanchez, Class of 2019, worked in the school psychology GA office!

Shawn Brown and Shannon Mackain, Class of 2020, both worked at summer camps!



Taylor Fowler, Class of 2020, worked as a paraeducator for Howard County!



Caroline Pellerin, Jessica Smolarz, Nickolette Hanzigiannis, Adriana Pizadilli, and Michelle Wolanski from the Class of 2018 (above) spent some time relaxing together before starting internship!



PRIDE Spotlight

“Volunteering at PRIDE was a great experience all around. I thoroughly enjoyed working with children and co-teaching social and coping skills. As a PRIDE counselor, I was privileged to go on field trips to museums, parks, and animal centers as well as to engage in activities such as fishing, canoeing, and hiking. Teaching mindfulness activities using nature as well as arts and crafts was a new experience for me and it allowed me to gain more insight in how to effectively work with all kinds of children. PRIDE definitely allowed me to strengthen my skills.”

Alexia Jones, Class of 2019

**NEW FOR 2018: PRIDE will be built into the summer course:
Interventions in School Settings!**

Meet Dr. Aston!

Dr. Candice Aston is a new addition to the Towson School Psychology family this year! Please join us in welcoming her!

Three Fun Facts about Dr. Aston:

1. She is a Pittsburgh Steelers fan!
2. She loves to travel!
3. She is a former preschool teacher!



Candice N. Aston, Ph.D., Assistant Professor

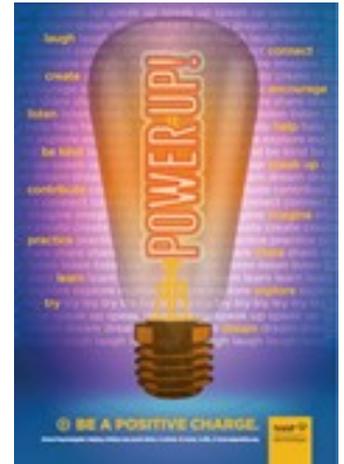
Dr. Aston earned her doctorate in School Psychology in 2017 from Duquesne University. She also earned a M.S. degree in Child Psychology and a M.A. in Elementary Education. Dr. Aston has years of experience working with urban populations in school and clinical settings. She recently completed her doctoral internship at Sarah Reed Children's Center, which provides intensive psychiatric services for children with significant trauma and mental health concerns. The focal point of her research has centered around culturally relevant social-emotional interventions for racially diverse populations. In addition, Dr. Aston is interested in Black female identity development and disproportionality. Dr. Aston will be responsible for the coordination of practicum placements and will be teaching the Practicum Seminar.

WELCOME

NASP Updates by Clare Bailey

Hello fellow School Psychology Grad Students and Alumni,

I am excited to be Towson's NASP student leader for the 2017-2018 school year. If you haven't already, I hope you will join me and become a NASP member! The student membership rate of \$75 makes now a great time to join! As a member, you gain access to resources, periodicals, and professional development opportunities. NASP regularly shares resources in responses to crises and current events that have a real impact on the students and families with whom we work. There is also a discounted NASP convention registration rate for student members!



School Psychology Awareness Week (SPAW) is November 14-18th! This year's theme is "Power Up! Be a Positive Charge." We will be bringing School Psychology Awareness Week to TU through a number of activities and events!

Be sure to give NASP a "like" on Facebook for updates right to your newsfeed. Feel free to email me (cbaile16@studets.towson.edu) with any questions about NASP membership, or if there is anything else I can help you with!

Sincerely,
Clare Bailey, NASP Student Leader

NASP 2018 Annual Convention



Explore hundreds of educational sessions on topics relevant to the field of school psychology at NASP's annual convention next year in Chicago!

Visit <https://www.nasponline.org/professional-development/nasp-2018-annual-convention> for more information!

MSPA Updates by Steve Bobb

Hello All,

I hope you are enjoying a successful start to the school year. I am the second-year student representative for the Maryland School Psychologists' Association (MSPA), a local professional group affiliated with NASP. MSPA provides a wealth of opportunities for students who are looking to network and learn more about the profession.

MSPA serves as a platform for school psychologists to discuss topics that are most relevant to our profession. All MSPA members are welcome to attend free, monthly Executive Board Meetings for the most up-to-date information on the organization's projects. MSPA promotes professional development through conferences, institutes, and panels. MSPA also advocates for the profession through various committees and legislative efforts. Members of MSPA receive monthly listservs, quarterly newsletters, updates on local employment, and discounted rates on continuing education events.

Student membership is just \$20. Be sure to become a member before signing up for MSPA events.

Towson's School Psychology Program is currently searching for a MSPA representative from the first-year cohort. If you are interested or have any other questions, feel free to contact me at sbobb1@students.towson.edu.

Sincerely,
Steven Bobb, MSPA Student Representative



MSPA Conference

Topic:
Combating Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) in Schools

Friday, April 20, 2018

Location:
The Hotel at Arundel Preserves
7795 Arundel Mills Blvd.
Hanover, MD 21076

Go to <http://www.msponline.org/event-2497009> to see the full program overview and all of the presenters!



Intern Spotlight

New intern, Jessica Smolarz, answers the question:

“After your first few months working as an intern in Howard County what aspects of Towson’s program are you already finding useful?”

“There are many aspects I learned from Towson that have already been useful during my internship. Due to my experiences in practicum, I feel more competent completing comprehensive assessments, leading counseling sessions, and implementing interventions at my internship. I also incorporate skills I learned earlier in the program like conducting systematic observations, utilizing effective communication skills, and discussing the competing behavior pathway.”

Thanks, Jessica!

Updates & Congratulations



Jessica Felix (Moore), Class of 2014, is expecting baby number two in November of 2017!

(Pictured above)

- Taylor Fowler, Class of 2020, got engaged in Iceland!
- Shannon McGrath, Class of 2017, got married to Jake Ellis on July 8th, 2017!
- Amanda Hartwig (Hebert), Class of 2006, welcomed a healthy baby girl named Josephine Grace Hartwig on April 4th, 2017!
- Katherine Buente (Kloda), Class of 2015, got married!
- Kim Schuetz, Class of 2020, got engaged!
- Michelle Wolanski, Class of 2018, got engaged!

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Towson Class of 2017, the world's newest school psychologists!

Kaitlyn Wilson, Class of 2016, got married to Zach Stone on June 25th, 2017!

Nikkole Wilson, Class of 2013, is getting married 11/25/17!



Emily Dahne (Kamon), Class of 2010, said she is currently living and working part-time outside of Philadelphia with her husband and 10 month old daughter, Ava! She works with students with brain injuries to help them return to school!

Sara McKeen, Class of 2016, and husband Justin McKeen welcomed Mollie Suzanne (pictured above) on April 2nd, 2017!



Kerri-Jean Wheeler (Carter), Class of 2012, said, "I was recently awarded School Psychologist of the Year for 2016-2017 for Baltimore City by the Baltimore City Association of School Psychologists, and was a Nominee for the MSPA School Psychologist of the Year for the 2016-2017 school year for which I was recognized at the spring MSPA conference."

(Pictured on left)



Katelynn Adams (Eyster), Class of 2014, got married to John Adams on May 27th, 2017 in Jamaica! (Pictured above)

Teresa Durrschmidt, Class of 2014, had her first son, Bodhi Rhoads, on March 27th, 2017.

(Pictured on right)



Aubrey Roesener (Tuttle), Class of 2015, and her husband are having a baby girl in January of 2018!

Dana Wiles (Watkins), Class of 2011, just welcomed a baby boy on 9/12/17 named Bauer William Wiles!

Have news to share? E-mail Brooke or Taylor to have it included in our next issue!

“Like” Us on Facebook!

Our Facebook page is a way for prospective students, current students, faculty, and alumni to connect. Use it to share ideas and stay up to date on what is happening in the field of school psychology.

<https://www.facebook.com/TUSchoolPsych>



Research Opportunities

Dr. Aston’s research focuses on **adapting evidence based interventions for use with specific cultures.**

“Students that are interested in providing group based interventions to racially diverse students are invited to contact me via email.”

You can contact Dr. Aston at 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 bsanch5@students.towson.edu or tfowle5@students.towson.edu.

Spring 2018 Schedule

First Years	Second Years	Third Years
Monday 11:00-1:40 Cognitive Assessment with Dr. Mortenson	Monday 4:10-6:50 Special Topics with Dr. Rush	Wednesday 4:10-6:50 Internship with Dr. Rush
Tuesday 1:00-2:40 Counseling with Dr. Rush	Tuesday 4:10-6:50 Multicultural Psych with Dr. Aston	
Tuesday 4:10-6:50 FBA with Dr. Bartels	Wednesday 4:10-6:50 Psych 735 with Dr. Mortenson	
Wednesday 7:00 p.m.– 9:40 p.m. Soc. Emotional with Professor Kreitzer	Thursday 4:10-6:50 and 7:00 p.m.- 9:40 p.m. Practicum II Sections 1 and 2 with Dr. Aston	