What’s New in the Consortium?

The leaves are changing color and the days are now shorter and cooler. Fall is in the air and our academic year is in full swing. We admitted another new class and continue to be impressed with the capabilities of our students and the accomplishments of our graduates and alumni.

We thank those who donated to our two new awards. Because of your generosity we could fund the Eileen O’Neill Student Service Award and the Candace M. Shorter Distinguished Student Award. We are hoping to acknowledge outstanding students annually, funding permitting. Please consider donating to the Program, either for one of these awards, or for our general funds that supports students. To donate, please make your check payable to EVMS. Be sure to enter “VCP clinical psychology donation” and whether you want your contribution to go toward a specific award in the memo line. Checks can be sent directly to our program administrator, Elaine Ross, at the Program office at 700 Park Avenue, NSU MCAR 410. All donations go into an EVMS-held account which allows us to create and fund these awards and for which there are no overhead costs. Donors will be acknowledged in a future newsletter. We will also profile future student award winners.

We are always striving to improve the quality of training that we provide. This year we have focused on ensuring that we both represent a diverse community and provide the best training to our students to be able to work effectively with our increasingly diverse society. These issues are being addressed by our newly formed Diversity Committee. This committee is comprised of both students and faculty to address issues of diversity within the Consortium. They have gotten off to a strong start by hosting a webinar from UNC on the Courage to Lead which addresses issues of advocacy for those who don’t have a voice in our society. They have also started a Diversity Club that you can read about in this newsletter. They are planning to send a survey out to alumni to understand how you feel about the climate of the Consortium while enrolled as well as how well you felt prepared to work with diverse clients. Please be on the lookout for this anonymous survey.

As always, we hope our alumni will stay in touch. Let us know how you are doing and how we can stay in touch via email. Feel free to email our graduate assistants who route incoming program email at vcpcpga@gmail.com or me at rlewis@odu.edu.

With best wishes for a happy Thanksgiving, a joyous and meaningful holiday season, and a happy and healthy new year,

Robin

Robin Lewis
Director of Clinical Training
WELCOMING NEW STUDENTS!

Welcome, to our first-year students! Here are some quick bios to get to know them better.

Pictured: Nathan Hager, Rachel Amerson, Jamie Macchia, Kelly Romano, Madison Smart-McCarthy, and Emily Putnam

Rachel Amerson
From: Keller, Texas
Graduated from: Texas State University, B.A. in Psychology; Stephen F. Austin State University, M.A. in Psychology
Research interests: Intimate partner violence, sexual assault, and the victimization and daily experiences of LGBTQ+ individuals
Fun fact: She enjoys baking and making homemade sugar scrubs.

Jamie Macchia
From: Massapequa Park, Long Island, New York
Graduated from: Binghamton University, B.A. in Psychology
Research interests: LGBT health in relation to alcohol and other substance use/abuse
Fun fact: He has played soccer since the age of four and played in college. He is a huge Arsenal fan and rarely misses a game.

Emily Putnam
From: Raleigh, North Carolina
Graduated from: Appalachian State University, B.A. in Psychology, B.A. in Spanish Language, Literatures, and Cultures
Research interests: Culturally tailored treatments and interventions; violence, injury, and substance use among child and adolescent populations
Fun Fact: She loves running, hiking, kayaking, and all things outdoors.
DIVERSITY CLUB

The Diversity Club held its first meeting in November. Fueled by some delicious pizza, we learned about the history and looming end of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). We also discussed the implications for undocumented individuals, the role of psychologists as advocates, and the roles played by institutions and agencies.

In addition to discussing diversity articles, the Diversity Club aims to be a space where faculty and students can share experiences, resources, and information about local events related to diversity. We hope you will join us for the next meeting!

-Dr. Matt Judah

CURRENT STUDENT NEWS

There are a lot of exciting things going on in our student’s lives beyond their academic pursuits!

Congratulations to Phoebe Hitson and her partner of nine years, Eric Overkamp! They are recently engaged, and a May, 2018 wedding is planned.

Congratulations to Allison Robbins (pictured below) who married Andy Battles on June 10, 2017 in Durham, North Carolina! The couple has been together for 4 years, and they are enjoying married life. Andy currently works for IBM in Durham, but he is searching for a new job in the Norfolk area so that he can move to the area by the end of the year.

Kelly Romano
From: West Hartford, Connecticut
Graduated from: The University of Connecticut, B.A. in English, B.A. in Human Development and Family Studies; Florida State University, M.S. in Mental Health Counseling, Ed.S.
Research interests: Increasing the current understanding of diversity-related aspects of eating disorders with a particular focus on size diversity to better inform treatment development
Fun fact: She has two mini-dachshunds named Oscar and Frankie.

Madison Smart-McCarthy
From: Suffolk, Virginia
Graduated from: Longwood University, B.S. in Psychology; Norfolk State University, M.A. in Clinical/Community Psychology
Research interests: Construction and administration of personality assessments
Fun Fact: She used to be a part-time movie critic blogger.
CURRENT STUDENTS NEWS CONTINUED

Madison Smart-McCarthy (pictured) and her husband welcomed baby Isaac Rodriguez McCarthy on January 26, 2017. Madison shared that his name in Hebrew means “to laugh,” which is fitting because he laughs all the time! Congratulations, Madison!

ALUMNI NEWS

We are happy to share the great successes of our alumni! Congratulations to everyone!

Dr. Jaqueline Haywood graduated from the program on August 27, 2017. She is currently completing a postdoctoral residency specializing in substance use disorders at the North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System. She is also engaged and will have her wedding in March of 2018.

Dr. Carmen (Breen) Lewis joined North Philadelphia Health System, Girard Hospital’s Outpatient Clinic in 2016. She is the primary psychologist in the psychiatric acute impatient unit and supervises 5 pre-doctoral interns while maintaining a caseload of outpatient clients, as well. The year brought a new house and baby for Dr. Lewis, as well.

Dr. Alexis (Chappell) Michalos is currently working for Long-Term Care of Virginia. She rounds in long-term care facilities and provides neuropsychological and psychological assessments for outpatients in nursing homes, assisted living, and skilled nursing facilities. She helped create the position and is delighted with her responsibilities, which provides clinical satisfaction along with a great deal of flexibility allowing her to maintain a comfortable work-life balance. She recommends other graduate students consider atypical opportunities upon licensure!

Dr. Anne Ciccone is Assistant Director at the Tulane counseling center in New Orleans. She is currently collaborating with another VCPCP grad, Dr. Megan Brokenbourgh, on the Steering Committee for Division 39’s spring conference in New Orleans.

Dr. Carol Bonner is the program’s most recent graduate to pass the EPPP and is officially licensed!
Dr. Cathy Cooke is in full-time private practice at Clinical Associates of Tidewater in Newport News. Her specialties include autism assessment and intervention, Parent-Child Interaction Therapy, and pediatric psychology. She also teaches in the Doctor of Physical Therapy program at ODU. She volunteers for Kidz N’ Grief, a bereavement program offering grief education and support to children and tens coping with the death of a family member or close friend.

Dr. Amber Walser is the Assessment Coordinator for the Psychiatry Department at Kaiser Permanente in Los Angeles where she is also the therapy and assessment supervisor for their APA internship. Her responsibilities include running an OCD group and an ADHD group and performing psychological assessments.

Dr. Erin Kurtz presented her dissertation research titled “Adding Military Sexual Assault to an Integrated Model of Risk and Protective Factors for Posttraumatic Stress Symptomatology in OEF/OIF/OND Women Veterans” at the ISTSS Annual Meeting in Chicago on November 11.

A poster presented by Rachel MacIntyre (with Dr. Heron and an ODU undergraduate student as co-authors) won the Virginia Association of Psychological Sciences Best Graduate Student Poster Award at their annual conference in April 2017.

Dr. Paul Harrell was added to the Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment Editorial Board.

Dr. Barbara Cubic was elected Treasurer of Division 38 (Society of Health Psychology of the APA. She was also invited as an attendee to the 1st Beck Excellence Summit for CBT, which took place October of 2017. She was also been selected for the 2017 EVMS Faculty Excellence Award given in October of 2017.

Dr. Erica Russel was selected to serve as a 2017-2018 HBCU All-Star Ambassador by the White Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities. She was also selected to serve the American Association for Blacks in Higher Education (AABHE)
MORNING OF HOPE

The Hampton Roads morning of hope is a walk around Mount Trashmore that seeks to raise awareness about depression and suicide in the local area. The Hampton Roads Survivors of Suicide Support Group sponsors the event and all donations assist this group in offering free support to those who have lost a loved one to suicide. This year, students and faculty of the Consortium attended the event, as it is an issue close to many of our hearts. A program of remembrance took place prior to the walk. The program emphasized that suicide is preventable and depression is treatable. We were able to hear personal stories of those impacted by depression or suicide, and there were licensed counselors on hand to answer questions and offer support. Many speakers noted the importance of mental health treatment, and it was a powerful reminder of the significance of our work. Hopefully we can make this an annual VCPCP event and we invite anyone who was not able to join this year to come next year!

GO TIDES!

On June 6, 2017 the Virginia Consortium cheered on the Norfolk Tides against the Louisville Bats for our Spring Happy Hour!
RESEARCH DAY

On Friday, October 20, clinical doctoral students participated in the VCPCP’s fifth annual Research Day. Third and fourth year students gave presentations of their completed research projects. The research covered a wide variety of topics, represented by the titles listed below. A large audience of students and faculty followed the presentations with questions and comments. Research Day is an opportunity for students and faculty to learn more about the research going on within the Consortium.

Allison Battles

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Michelle Kelley (ODU)
Association between Combat, Morally Injurious Experiences, Spiritual Injury and Alcohol Use among Active Duty Military Personnel and Veterans

Charles Freligh

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Scott Debb (NSU)
Assessing the Influence of the Nonreactivity Sub-Facet of Mindfulness of Resilience in Undergraduate African American College Students

Lindsay Howard

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Kristin Heron (ODU)
Initial Development and Validation of the Deliberate Denial of Disordered Eating Behaviors Scale

Peter Preonas

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Cathy Lau-Barraco (ODU)
Affective Factors Explaining the Association between Depressive Functioning and Alcohol Outcomes

Lydia Qualls

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Kathrin Hartmann (EVMS)
Sexuality and the Autism Spectrum: Implications for Individuals with the Broad Autism Phenotype

Bilgé Yilmaz

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Kelli Will (EVMS)
Adult Sexual Abuse, Disordered Eating Behaviors, and Substance Abuse: The Role of Internalized Shame and Maladaptive Coping Strategies

Rachel MacIntyre

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Kristin Heron (ODU)
Examining Body-Focused Self-Improvement and Self-Evaluation Social Comparisons on Exercise in Young Adult Women Using Ecological Momentary Assessment
RESEARCH ACROSS THE CONSORTIUM

We are proud to recognize individuals who are students, graduates, or faculty within the Consortium for their recent research.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS


Downs, D.S., MacIntyre, R.I., & Heron, K.E. (in press). Exercise addiction and dependence. In M. Anshel, T. Petrie, F. Gardner, E. Labbe, & S. Petruzzello (Eds.), APA handbook of sports and exercise psychology.


**PUBLICATIONS CONTINUED**


Mason, T.B., **Lewis, R.J., & Heron, K.E.** (in press). Obesity. In K.B. Smalley, J.C. Warren, & K.N. Barefoot (Eds.), LGBT health: Meeting the needs of gender and sexual minorities. Switzerland: Springer International Publishing.

Mason, T. B., **Lewis, R. J., & Heron, K. E.** (2017). Indirect pathways connecting sexual orientation and weight discrimination to disordered eating among young lesbians. *Journal of Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity, 4*, 193-204. doi:10.1037/sgd0000220


Pubilcations continued


RECENT PRESENTATIONS/POSTERS


Flaherty, J.M. (2017, February). Assessment and Treatment of College Students with ADHD. Connecting with ADHD: 3rd Annual ADHD Symposium presented by Chesapeake Bay Academy and Children’s Hospital of the King’s Daughters, Virginia Beach, VA.

Gimbel, H., Ware, C. J., & Bradshaw, D. R. The effect of pharmacological agents on stage 3 (deep) sleep. EVMS Research Day May 12, 2017. Norfolk, VA.


Presentations/Posters Continued


Myers, T. & Heron, K.E. (2017). Who is more feminist? Examining feminist beliefs in racially diverse male and female college students. Poster to be presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, August 2017, Washington, DC.

Nishnick, C., McIntyre, R.I., & Heron, K.E. (2017). Feasibility of a smartphone-based study examining college women’s daily experiences. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Virginia Association of Psychological Sciences, May 2017, Norfolk, VA.

Ohana, A., Vazifedan, T., Harrington, J., Vorona, R., & Ware J. C. Adherence to back to sleep campaign in Orthodox & non-Orthodox Jewish parents. Orthodox Jewish parents less apt to follow safe sleep positioning guidelines. SLEEP, 40, 363, Abstract Supplement, 2017, Boston, M.A.

Ohana A., Vazifedan T., Harrington J., Vorona R., & Ware J. C. Sleep time in Orthodox Jewish children. Sleep time is not increased in orthodox Jewish children despite lack of screen-time. SLEEP, 40, 360, Abstract Supplement, 2017, Boston, M.A.


PRESENTATIONS/POSTERS CONTINUED


PRESENTATIONS/POSTERS CONTINUED


RECENT MEDIA


ANNOUNCEMENTS

Williams Hall at EVMS recently underwent a renovation. EVMS Sleep Medicine is now located there, and Pediatric Research Facilities have returned there, as well.

VIRGINIA CONSORTIUM TRAVEL MUG

Show your Consortium pride with this stylish, dishwasher safe travel mug! Mugs are available for pick up at the program office for $10, or can be shipped for an additional $5.

Cash or check only. Please make checks out to ‘EVMS’ and write ‘Clinical Psychology’ in the memo line.

‘Like Us’ on Facebook @ “The Virginia Consortium Program in Clinical Psychology.”

Contact us by e-mail at vaconsortium@odu.edu.