

The Missive

Department of Educational Psychology



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

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October 2018

From the Chair

I'm happy to share with you the work of many hands with our Department Newsletter. Many things have been happening in the past several years since our last edition. However, rather than trying to catch you all up to date in one message – we are planning to have a short newsletter every few months to share major accomplishments, interesting events, and celebrate the good work of our students, colleagues and alumni. To start off this edition, I would like to take a moment to re-acquaint everyone with the department. No matter how long it has been since you last visited, you will see there have been changes!

The goal of this periodical is to connect with our alumni, friends, and former colleagues. We have many things we want to share with you – and we are particularly interested in hearing about and sharing the great contributions and accomplishments you have made since you departed. I believe this is the perfect opportunity to reconnect. Ball State University is celebrating our Centennial this year – and you are all part of that story. In this edition, you will read about some of the recent growth and changes we have navigated, hear about some amazing local and global efforts we are engaged in, and read about a few select accomplishments from our department.

First, a quick self-introduction. I'm in my second year as Department Chair, having stepped into the void left when Sharon Paulson ended her term after 6 tremendous years of her leadership and growth in the department. Sharon made the transition to this position bearable, and I am grateful to her for that support. I've been with the department since 1999, and when I'm not handling administrative duties, my areas of interest include test anxiety, learning, and research methodologies.



Jerrell Cassady, Department Chair

Other recent updates to share include:

- The MA in School Counseling joined the Department in Fall 2016. We also recently added a new MS in Quantitative Psychology program. In total, we now have 7 Graduate Degrees and 4 Certificate programs that are vibrant and productive!
- We welcomed Dr. Gerardo Ramirez as our newest Tenure Track faculty member, coming to us from his faculty position at UCLA this fall.
- Drs. Holmes Finch, Andrew Davis, and Ken McCoy, and Graduate Admissions Specialist Linda Jones, recently celebrated 15 years with the Department!

Keep in touch, and please join us whenever you find yourself in the Muncie area. If you cannot be here in person, we hope to at least hear from you!

Jerrell – jccassady@bsu.edu; 765-285-8522

Featured Event: Visiting Lecture

For the past decade, our department has been connected with two Universities in Kenya (Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology; MMUST) and Moi University. In the Fall of 2017, we were honored to host a visiting team from MMUST, including the Vice Chancellor and the Dean of Education. This partnership has led to several tremendous collaborative activities that benefit our Department as well as the Universities and local communities in Kenya. While many faculty members and administrators have been instrumental in this partnership, Professor Winnie Mucherah has been our leader and primary advocate in this initiative.

Most recently, Dr. Mucherah was awarded the Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship to spend this past summer in Western Kenya working with faculty from MMUST to establish a center devoted to community outreach about Sickle Cell Disease in Kakamega, Kenya. This summer, the Ball State and MMUST team provided informational sessions for nurses, nursing students, and families of children with sickle cell in the community. The goal of this effort is to promote the ability for health care providers and community members to be more aware of the

signs of Sickle Cell Disease, ensuring that children will be more likely to receive treatment and manage their illness in a way that helps them thrive in their educational settings and daily lives.



In addition to this transformative initiative, Dr. Mucherah was a keynote speaker at the first Pan African International Conference on Knowledge Generation and Dissemination (PAIRC) held in Kisumu, Kenya. Her presentation was focused on promoting sustainable development by enhancing global research proficiency and competence.

Featured Event: Visiting Lecture



Thanks to a generous University Foundation gift, and leadership of our colleague Dr. Serena Shim, the Department of Educational Psychology will host UCLA's Distinguished Research Professor,

Dr. Bernie Weiner for one of the showcase Ball State Centennial Events.

Dr. Weiner is an internationally renowned psychologist, perhaps most famous for his contribution of attribution theory to the field of achievement motivation. Dr. Weiner will present his research entitled, *Some things you know, and some things you do not know, about human motivation*, on **Thursday, October 18, 2018 from 2:00-3:30pm in the Student Center Ballroom**. The session is open to the public, and we hope you may be able to attend if you are in the area.

If you are available to join us, let us know in advance so we can look out for you!

Students and Programs

Beyond time in the schools, classrooms, and labs, the students also engage in social and philanthropic events. Some recent photos show school psychology (below) and school counseling (right) groups during recent events. Space on a newsletter makes it impossible to list all the publications, presentations, and other accomplishments – but we will highlight a few on our web version (see link below).

As an example, 2 students recently were identified as award winners at the Indiana Association of School Psychologists meeting. We also had 5 different students in the past few months achieve their first peer-review publication.



The students are consistently working to become better practitioners, scholars, and advocates in their field. Keep an eye on our web version of this newsletter for updates on awards, publications, and social events.



For more connection to those regular or archived updates, you can visit the web editions of the newsletters at:

<http://espace.bsu.edu/edpsy/news>

Alumni Update: NASP Lifetime Achievement

We were pleased to hear that Dr. George Batsche, a graduate of the School Psychology doctoral program was awarded the National Associate of School Psychologists Lifetime Achievement Award at their annual conference this spring. Dr. Batsche is Professor of School Psychology and the co-director of the Institute for Reform at the University of South Florida. The honor was bestowed in recognition of his influential work in the areas of multi-tiered systems of support and response to intervention. He is prolific in both publishing and grantsmanship – regularly funding large scale grants to support services in schools.



Photo Credit: University of South Florida

More information on Dr. Batsche is available on his faculty webpage:

<https://www.usf.edu/education/faculty/faculty-profiles/george-batsche.aspx>

Share your news, contributions, or updates (professional or personal):

https://bsu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2ifp8Gy4XTdjf1z

Awards and Accomplishments

Sharon Paulson

2018 Ball State University Outstanding Faculty Award



Dr. Paulson's contributions to the University and the fields of Developmental and Educational Psychology were recognized this year as she was awarded the University's

highest faculty honor. As the only faculty member to ever receive all three Teachers College Faculty Awards (Outstanding Research, 2014; Outstanding Teaching, 1995; Outstanding Service, 2016), Sharon has demonstrated her remarkable contributions in all aspects of professional life. Her career accomplishments are extensive – but the most recent contribution has been the publication of two textbooks focused on Developmental Psychology readings that support future teachers in recognizing the impact of child and adolescent development in educational settings. As part of this award, Sharon will have the honor of serving as the Summer 2019 Commencement Speaker.

Maria Hernandez-Finch

2018 Ball State University Outstanding Diversity Advocate



Dr. Hernández Finch's professional leadership has impacted diversity awareness and inclusion at the university, community, state, and national levels. Locally, she was twice awarded the *Recognition of*

Diversity Research (2015, 2017) from BSU Office of Institutional Diversity and is currently serving on the OID Diversity Advisory committee. At the national level, Maria is serving as co-chair of the NASP Social Justice Interest Group in the National Association of School Psychologists. In addition to these formal roles, her research consistently explores diversity topics, identifying optimal strategies for equitable assessment and educational access. She also has been instrumental in the Social Justice Book Club – raising the attention of University faculty, staff, and students to topics of social justice.

Supporting the Department

We are very grateful of support we receive from former colleagues, friends of the department, and Alumni. Many of the activities we share through these newsletters will showcase work that would be impossible without support. If you are in a position to provide a contribution (small or large), I invite you to consider a donation to the **Educational Psychology Foundation Account** (the link is below). Many alumni donate to the University in response to an alumni callout – those funds are appreciated, but support the general needs of the University. If you are interested in supporting this department specifically, the link below is the place. You may add a note about specific goals you would like to foster. If you are an alumnus who benefited from support during your time – perhaps consider supporting current students! You can also direct funds to support innovative programs, invited speakers, or faculty research.

There's also the **Raymond S. Dean Fund for Graduate Student Research** honoring our colleague Ray (for that one, you can type that information and/or "8819" to make your gift contribute to that fund we are hoping to endow).

<https://connect.bsu.edu/Give?fid=OSI5qRxWOfs%3d&fdesc=VMs6J4154Xp%2bhPeoPK5baMq9HkL8DYSL>

2017-2018 Graduates

PhD in Educational Psychology

Annie Liner
Michael Martynowicz
Natalie Schelling
John Starling
Chris Thomas

MS in Quantitative Psychology

Rachel Stenger

MA and MS in Educational Psychology

Tamar Albert-Ephrat
Sadorah Anderson
Robert Berghorst
Brea Klair Browning
Sarah Chambers
Heidi Cogdill
Deanna Craig
Melissa Dobbs
Cynthia Fish
Katelyn Fowler
Allyson Gordon
Jenna Hambly
Erica Harrison
Amy Hathaway Spurling
Joshua Heath
Rachel Hinshaw
Angelina Hui
Lyndsey Keiser
Susan Lawrence
Laurence Leonhardt
Diamond Malone
Anthony Mangino
Kelley Neville
Sara Stokes
Anna Rainwater
Paige Rudasics
Amanda Shaw
Amy Sirkis
Sierra Snapp
Sarah Stark
Ross Szabo
Michael Terwillegar (MS)
Tiffany Venturi
Kate Wallace
Mecca Westbrook-el
Anne Windham

PhD in School Psychology

Audra Cook
Nicholas Harris
Elizabeth Hooks
Kelly Hoover
Evan Koehn
Valerie Rice
Veronica Smith



MA/EdS in School Psychology

Samantha Foulks
Sonia Kosmala
Cassandra Marschall
Kaleigh McCoy
Haley Wilde



MA in School Counseling

Joseph Pesut
Amanda Peterson
Darren Scott
Sharla Smith
Stephanie Hooper
Jeffrey Doran
Jacob Hauck
Zachary Schaefer



Certificate Programs

Clifford Jack
Christina Miller
Sierra Snapp
Ashley Emmons
George Grimes
Deborah Moore
Ruth Olmer
Amanda Shaw
James Van Hoven
Jennifer Murphy
Raelynn Buczkowski
Tyler Donges
Erica Harrison
Brandon Johnson
Shelby Toll

