



**Dear BRNET Members:**

Thank you for being a part of the Bullying Research Network! Below you will find updates from our network. Be sure to check our website at <http://brnet.unl.edu> for more information as well.

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***Save the Date! 2014 BRNET-PREVNet Think Tank***

Save the date for the next BRNET Think Tank, June 24 and 25, 2014 at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, BC, hosted by BRNET and PREVNet ([www.prevnet.ca](http://www.prevnet.ca)), a Canadian national organization that addresses bullying.

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**Researcher Spotlight – Dr. Kostas Fanti**

Kostas A. Fanti holds a Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology (2007) from Georgia State University and is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Psychology, University of Cyprus. His bachelor's degree in Psychology is from the University of New Orleans (2002). His research interests include the development of child psychopathology, and how individual and social risk and protective factors are associated with the development of behavioral and emotional problems, including bullying and victimization.

**Research**

Dr. Fanti has received several research grants from the European commission and the Cyprus research promotion foundation. These grants enabled the collection of longitudinal data from children and adolescents to understand the development and co-development of bullying and victimization. His research into bullying began in 2009 and focused on (1) the prevalence and nature of school-based bullying and victimization in Cyprus, (2) the cross-sectional and longitudinal association of personality traits (i.e., callous-unemotional traits, narcissism, impulsivity) with bullying and victimization, (3) the longitudinal-transactional association between parent-child relationship quality and bullying and victimization, and (4) the co-occurrence between bullying and victimization.

One of the major contributions of Dr Fanti's work is the application of developmental methods to understand bullying and victimization. For example, he investigated the longitudinal-transactional association between parenting and bullying/victimization. These findings provide evidence that parenting behaviors (i.e., conflict and involvement) and child bullying behavior reciprocally influence each other, rather than one shaping the other in a unidirectional fashion. Using latent growth curve modeling, he provided evidence that bullying behaviors are more stable among youth scoring high on narcissism. Further, youth high on impulsivity show more stable victimization by peers across development. In

addition, adolescents high on both conduct problems and callous-unemotional traits tend to be at the greatest risk for engaging in bullying across development. Similar associations were identified for cyber-bullying and cyber-victimization. His current work focuses on comparing bullies, victims, and bully-victims on different physiological measures investigating for differences in autonomic responses to positive and negative stimuli. Initial evidence suggests that bully-victims and bullies score lower on startle potentiation to fearful stimuli compared to victims, providing evidence for amygdala dysfunction. These findings are currently used to create a school-based intervention aiming to reduce the occurrence of bullying and victimization.

### **Selected refereed publications:**

- Fanti, K. A. & Henrich, C. C. (in press). Effects of narcissism and self-esteem on bullying and victimization during early adolescence. *Journal of Early Adolescence*.
- Fanti, K. A., & Muñoz Centifanti, L. C. (2013). Childhood Callous-Unemotional Traits Moderate the Relation Between Parenting Distress and Conduct Problems Over Time. *Child Psychiatry & Human Development*, 1-12. doi:10.1007/s10578-013-0389-
- Fanti, K. A., & Kimonis, E. R. (2013). Dimensions of Juvenile Psychopathy Distinguish “Bullies,” “Bully-Victims,” and “Victims”. *Psychology of Violence*, 3(4), 396-409. doi:10.1037/a0033951 [Special Issue on “Violence in Adolescence”]
- Fanti, K. A., & Georgiou, S. N. (2013). Bullying, Victimization, School Performance, and Mother-Child Relationship Quality: Direct and Transactional Associations. *Journal of Criminology*. doi:10.1155/2013/289689 [Special Issue on “Bullying and Victimization”].
- Fanti, K. A., Demetriou, C. A., & Kimonis, E. R. (2013). Variants of Callous-Unemotional Conduct Problems in a Community Sample of Adolescents. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 42(7), 964-979.
- Fanti, K. A. (2013). Individual, social, and behavioral factors associated with co-occurring conduct problems and callous-unemotional traits. *Journal of Abnormal Child Psychology*, 41, 811-824.
- Fanti, K. A., & Kimonis, E. R. (2012). Bullying and victimization: The role of conduct problems and psychopathic traits. *Journal of Research on Adolescence*, 22(4), 617-631.
- Fanti, K. A., Demetriou, A. G., & Hawa, V. (2012). A longitudinal study of cyber-bullying: Examining risk and protective factors. *European Journal of Developmental Psychology*, 9(2), 168-181. [Special Issue on “Cyber-Bullying”].
- Fanti, K. A., & Henrich, C. C. (2010). Trajectories of pure and co-occurring internalizing and externalizing problems from age 2 to age 12: Findings from the NICHD Study of Early Child Care. *Developmental Psychology*, 46(5), 1159-1175.
- Georgiou, St. & Fanti, K. A. (2010). A transactional model of bullying and victimization. *Social Psychology of Education: An International Journal*, 13, 295-311.
- Fanti, K. A., Brookmeyer, K. A., Henrich, C. C., & Kuperminc, G. (2009). Aggressive behavior and quality of friendships: Linear and curvilinear associations. *Journal of Early Adolescence*, 29(6), 826-838.

Fanti, K. A., Frick, P. J., & Georgiou, St. (2009). Linking callous-unemotional traits to instrumental and non-instrumental forms of aggression. *Journal of Psychopathology and Behavioral Assessment*, 31, 285-298.

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### **BRNET New Members!**

BRNET has a current total of 146 members! No new members have joined this past month. Please send recommendations for potential BRNET members (i.e., faculty, researchers, and clinicians who are conducting research on bullying or related topics) to Dr. Shelley Hymel, Dr. Susan Swearer, or to [bullyresearchnet@gmail.com](mailto:bullyresearchnet@gmail.com).

*If you have recently joined BRNET and have not yet provided your information, please send the following to [bullyresearchnet@gmail.com](mailto:bullyresearchnet@gmail.com).*

- 1) contact information that can be posted on the website,
  - 2) a brief biography of you and your work,
  - 3) a list of current/ongoing projects in this area,
  - 4) an annotated bibliography of your work in this area (i.e., full reference plus a few sentences about the work), and,
  - 5) relevant web-based links you would like to share.
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### **BRNET Member Grant/Funding Announcements**

Receipt of funding facilitates the BRNET mission to conduct interdisciplinary research related to bullying and aggression, with particular attention being paid to the link between basic and applied research. Thus, the BRNET directors are excited to offer members a new opportunity to share grants (and other sources of funding) they have received for their research projects.

Funding varies across countries and is not limited to federal grants. If you are interested in sharing your grants or funding with other BRNET members, please send an abstract of the research funding along with the funding source to [bullyresearchnet@gmail.com](mailto:bullyresearchnet@gmail.com).

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### **Special Issue of *Journal of School Violence***

*Journal of School Violence* will feature an exciting special January issue. Please stay tuned for the upcoming formal release of this special issue, titled, "Interrupting the Continuity From School Bullying to Later Internalizing and Externalizing Problems: Findings From Cross-National Comparative Studies."

Guest Editors: Maria M. Ttofi, David P. Farrington, and Friedrich Lösel

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### **Extended Call for Editorship Applications for the *Journal of School Violence***

Routledge Journals invites nominations and applications for the position of Editor for the rapidly growing scholarly journal *Journal of School Violence*.

Please send replies to Routledge staff at: [Barton.Dudlick@TaylorandFrancis.com](mailto:Barton.Dudlick@TaylorandFrancis.com)

## TO APPLY

A complete application package will include:

- A curriculum vitae of the candidate
- Statement of interest in the position stating a vision for continued expansion of the publication
- Upon nomination as Editor, a letter of support from the candidates' home institution to act as Editor of *Journal of School Violence*

## TO NOMINATE A COLLEAGUE

If you would like to nominate someone to be considered for the editorship of *Journal of School Violence*, please send the name of the person you are nominating, his or her email address, and brief description of qualifications to Routledge Journals staff at: [Barton.Dudlick@TaylorandFrancis.com](mailto:Barton.Dudlick@TaylorandFrancis.com)

## ABOUT THE JOURNAL

The *Journal of School Violence* offers tested information on such urgent matters as threat assessment, hostage situations, stalking behavior, and teacher safety. For longer-range strategic planning, it features articles on social policy, staff training, and international and cross-cultural studies. This peer-reviewed journal helps administrators and policymakers plan effectively to ensure school security by considering issues of administration, assessment, and funding. Drawing on the expertise of eminent researchers and educational leaders worldwide, the *Journal of School Violence* features information derived from a variety of academic disciplines, including psychology, sociology, criminology, theology, education, political science, and the arts.

For more information on the journal, visit the journal webpage at: [www.tandfonline.com/WJSV](http://www.tandfonline.com/WJSV).

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## Job Announcements

Pennsylvania State University (Penn State) is in the process of becoming a leader in what they are calling Child Maltreatment. It has a broad scope and they are seeking multiple positions across the university in different departments with the plan for developing cross discipline collaborations. One of those focuses

on school settings. Here is the website on all of the positions including a specific description for the one for our Department. <https://chroniclevitae.com/jobs/0000798472-01>

The Department of Educational Psychology, Counseling, and Special Education (EPCSE, <http://www.ed.psu.edu/educ/epcse>) in the College of Education at The Pennsylvania State University invites applications for an open rank tenure-track faculty position. The position is part of the cluster hire associated with Penn States Network for Child Protection and Well-Being and will be co-funded by the Social Science Research Institute. We are interested in hiring a colleague whose research program engages school-based personnel (e.g., teachers, school psychologists, counselors, nurses) to screen, detect, and intervene effectively when confronted with signs of potential child maltreatment in school settings, including sexual abuse, violence, and other forms of maltreatment. We are particularly interested in hiring a colleague whose research focuses on the detection and reporting of maltreatment for children with or at risk for disabilities. Applicants should demonstrate a funded program of original research and a publication record commensurate with their experience. Responsibilities include teaching both undergraduate and graduate level courses as well as directing theses/dissertations. An earned doctorate in Rehabilitation, School Psychology, Special Education, Counselor Education or a closely related field and the promise of outstanding scholarly accomplishments are required. The successful candidate will have access to research facilities including the departments Educational Risk Initiative. Opportunities for collaboration also exist across the College and University with multiple academic units (e.g., Curriculum and Instruction, Human Development and Family Studies, Psychology, School of Nursing, Hershey Medical Center) and centers within the Network on Child Protection and Well-Being (e.g., Prevention Research Center, Child Study Center, Center for the Protection of Children, and the Center for Children and the Law). To apply, send a cover letter describing research and teaching interests and experiences, curriculum vitae, names of three professional references, and supporting materials (e.g. reprints, preprints) to: Ms. Bobbi Robison, The Pennsylvania State University, 125 CEDAR Building, University Park, PA 16802; [bjb9@psu.edu](mailto:bjb9@psu.edu). Please indicate Cluster-Protection and Well-Being Search in the subject line of email correspondence. For inquiries about this position, email Kathleen J. Bieschke, Search Chair at [kxb11@psu.edu](mailto:kxb11@psu.edu). - See more at: <https://chroniclevitae.com/jobs/0000798472-01#sthash.p8BIm31g.dpuf>

The Department of Educational Psychology, Counseling, and Special Education (EPCSE, <http://www.ed.psu.edu/educ/epcse>) in the College of Education at The Pennsylvania State University invites applications for an open rank tenure-track faculty position. The position is part of the cluster hire associated with Penn States Network for Child Protection and Well-Being and will be co-funded by the Social Science Research Institute. We are interested in hiring a colleague whose research program engages school-based personnel (e.g., teachers, school psychologists, counselors, nurses) to screen, detect, and intervene effectively when confronted with signs of potential child maltreatment in school settings, including sexual abuse, violence, and other forms of maltreatment. We are particularly interested in hiring a colleague whose research focuses on the detection and reporting of maltreatment for children with or at risk for disabilities. Applicants should demonstrate a funded program of original research and a publication record commensurate with their experience. Responsibilities include teaching both undergraduate and graduate level courses as well as directing theses/dissertations. An earned doctorate in Rehabilitation, School Psychology, Special Education, Counselor Education or a closely related field and the promise of outstanding scholarly accomplishments are required. The successful candidate will have access to research facilities including the departments Educational Risk Initiative. Opportunities for collaboration also exist across the College and University with multiple academic units (e.g., Curriculum and Instruction, Human Development and Family Studies, Psychology, School of Nursing, Hershey Medical Center) and centers within the Network on Child Protection and Well-Being (e.g., Prevention Research Center, Child Study Center, Center for the Protection of Children, and the Center for Children and the Law). - See more at: <https://chroniclevitae.com/jobs/0000798472-01#sthash.p8BIm31g.dpuf>

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## Member Announcements

### *New Publication in the Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*

Please see the below citation and link for a new publication on teacher-child relationships and peer victimization:

Runions, K. C., & Shaw, T. (2013). Teacher-child relationship, child withdrawal and aggression in the developmental of peer victimization. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*, 34, 319-327. doi: 10.1016/j.appdev.2013.09.002

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0193397313000774>

*Thank you to Dr. Kevin Runions for sharing this article!*

### *International Cyberbullying Conference*

There will be an international cyberbullying conference in Gothenburg, Sweden on May 11-12, 2014. See the link below for information about the conference, speakers, program, and registration:

<http://www.cyberbullying.se/eng/>

*Thank you to Dr. Robert Thornberg for sharing this announcement!*

### *Research Request*

I am interested in published/presented research that examines educational leaders'/school principals' thoughts, opinions, openness to school-wide assessments of bullying. If anyone is conducting research in this area that they would be willing to share for citation purposes can you please email me at [jjblake@tamu.edu](mailto:jjblake@tamu.edu). Thank you.

*Thank you to Dr. Jamilia Blake for sharing this announcement!*


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Thank you for your involvement in the Bullying Research Network! If you have any news, information, research, suggestions for new members, or other materials that our members would find useful, please do not hesitate to email us at [bullyresearchnet@gmail.com](mailto:bullyresearchnet@gmail.com)

Most sincerely,



Dr. Shelley Hymel  
University of British Columbia  
BRNET Co-Director



Dr. Susan Swearer  
University of Nebraska - Lincoln  
BRNET Co-Director