



Dear BRNET Members and Friends of BRNET:

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 additional information and check “BRNET Member Announcements” at the end of this newsletter for several job openings and opportunities.

2015 APA Convention: Toronto, Canada

BRNET had a great presence at the 2015 American Psychological Association Convention in Toronto, Canada in early August! Congratulations to all of the BRNET presenters:

Drs. Jamilia Blake, Marc Brackett, Mara Brendgen, Dewey Cornell, Wendy Craig, Laura Crothers, Dorothy Espelage, Thomas Farmer, Jennifer Green, Melissa Holt, Shane Jimerson, Lisa Jones, Jered Kolbert, Joseph Kosciw, Christine Malecki, Amanda Nickerson, Katherine Raczynski, Ian Rivers, Chad Rose, Kevin Runions, Jennifer Shapka, Russell Skiba, Dale Stack, Michael Sulkowski, Susan Swearer, Tracy Vaillancourt, Cixin Wang, and David Wolfe.

Researcher Spotlight – Dr. Amanda Nickerson

Amanda Nickerson is a Professor (effective September 1, 2015) in the Counseling, School and Educational Psychology Department at the University at Buffalo, SUNY. She earned her Ph.D. in School Psychology from the University of South Carolina in 2002, where she received the Outstanding Graduate Work in Research Award and the Dean’s Award for Excellence in Graduate Study. She worked at the Devereux Foundation for three years, where she gained research and clinical experience with youth with emotional and behavioral disorders in school and residential treatment settings.

Dr. Nickerson served on the school psychology faculty at the University at Albany, SUNY from 2002-2011. In 2011, she moved to the University at Buffalo to become the inaugural director of the Alberti Center for Bullying Abuse Prevention (<http://gse.buffalo.edu/alberticenter>). The center’s mission is to reduce bullying abuse in schools and in the community by contributing knowledge and providing evidence-based tools to effectively change the language, attitudes, and behaviors of educators, parents, students, and society.

Her research agenda aims to understand, prevent, and intervene with school crises (particularly violence and bullying). She is also interested in the role of schools, parents, and peers in promoting youth's social-emotional strengths. She is a developer of the *PREPaRE School Crisis Prevention and Intervention Training Curriculum* (<http://www.nasponline.org/prepare/index.aspx>) and co-author of the book *School Crisis Prevention and Intervention: The PREPaRE Model* (2009, NASP; 2nd edition forthcoming). She is also lead author of *Assessing, Identifying, and Treating Posttraumatic Stress Disorder at School* (2009, Springer) and an editor of the *Handbook of School Violence and School Safety: International Research and Practice* (2nd ed., 2012, Routledge). From 2011-2014, she was Associate Editor of the *Journal of School Violence*.

Dr. Nickerson is a co-Investigator on a grant from NIH (PI: Jennifer Livingston) assessing the pathways and outcomes of peer victimization. With funding from the New York State Developmental Disabilities Planning Council, she examined needs for bullying prevention in individuals with disabilities. Her newly funded NIH grant (PIs: Rina Eiden and Amanda Nickerson) will investigate proactive and reactive aggressive pathways of violence and substance abuse in a high-risk sample that has been followed since birth and is now entering adolescence.

As a licensed psychologist (New York) and nationally certified school psychologist, Dr. Nickerson is committed to translating research to practice. She has conducted numerous presentations with educators, mental health professionals, parents, youth, and other community members. She has done interviews with national and international media outlets. Dr. Nickerson serves on the Executive Board of the New York Association of School Psychologists, and is a member of the technical review panel for the National Center for Education Statistics' School Survey on Crime and Safety. She is also Coordinator for Research for the NASP School Safety and Crisis Response Committee. She is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association (Division 16), and recipient of the NASP Presidential Award and the NASP Crisis Management Interest Group Award for Excellence.

U.S. Political/Policy Updates

BULLYING DEBATE COMES TO CAPITOL HILL: On the heels of the Senate HELP Committee's markup of No Child Left Behind, Sen. Bob Casey (D-Pa.) is looking for ways to get his proposed language on bullying into the education bill. "It's a great opportunity to finally - at long last - put this issue right on the front burner," Casey told Morning Education. "Because it's a pretty difficult issue to ignore if it gets to the Senate floor and you have to cast a vote on it." Both Casey and Sen. Al Franken (D-Minn.) withdrew proposals aiming to curb bullying in schools during the markup after the amendments garnered little Republican support. Republicans cited concerns about federal overreach. Casey's proposal would require states to have policies that prohibit bullying based on students race and LGBT status, among other things. It is based on a bill that had two Republican cosponsors - Sens. Mark Kirk (R-Ill.) and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) - in 2013. But during last week's markup, Murkowski expressed doubt about the measure. And a national debate over Indiana's religious freedom law makes for a charged climate when it comes to debating federal policies meant to protect gay and lesbian youth.

- Casey plans to keep in talks with Senate HELP Committee Chairman Lamar Alexander and others as NCLB moves ahead, but he said he doesn't think Alexander's proposed language on bullying is strong enough. "It might be we're still at loggerheads" by the time the bill gets to the floor, Casey said.
- Meanwhile on K Street: The Human Rights Campaign hired Epplin Strategic Planning's Robert Epplin, former legislative director for Sen. Susan Collins (R-Maine), to lobby issues including

bullying of LGBT youth. HRC Government Affairs Director David Stacy said the group is "strongly urging" lawmakers to include both Franken and Casey's anti-bullying language in NCLB. "We will continue to push for those bills to be included when the bill moves to the Senate floor," Stacy said.

- And in bullying news outside the beltway: Montana is no longer the only state in the country without an anti-bullying law. The law Gov. Steve Bullock signed into law will ban students and teachers from bullying students in all K-12 public schools and give parents and authorities a path to go after bullies and others that break the law. More: <http://gftrib.com/1DAXmRy>.

BRNET New Members!

BRNET has a current total of 161 members! Two new members have joined this past month. Welcome to BRNET, Drs. Michelle Demaray and James O'Higgins Norman! Please see below for their brief biographies:

Dr. Michelle Demaray is a Professor in the Department of Psychology at Northern Illinois University. She is the current Editor of the *Journal of School Psychology*. Her research is focused on social support and bullying and victimization in schools. Specifically, her bullying research is focused on the measurement of bystander behavior and online bullying. In addition, she is interested in examining characteristics associated with bullying, victimization, and bystander behaviors and potential buffers from negative outcomes associated with bullying role behaviors.

Dr. James O'Higgins Norman has been the Director of the National Anti-Bullying Centre, formerly of Trinity College Dublin since 2013, which moved to Dublin City University following the retirement of its founder and first Director Professor Mona O'Moore. As an academic at DCU he has contributed to education debates and has been consulted by the media as a spokesperson on educational and social issues. Prior to that, he was awarded a research grant by the Irish Government to examine homophobic bullying in Irish second-level schools. Between 2004 and 2008 he published several reports and two books revealing for the first time the extent of the issue in Ireland. In 2005 he became a lecturer at the School of Education Studies in Dublin City University where his research led to the launch of the "Making Our Schools Safe" campaign by the Department of Education and Science in October 2006

- 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.

If you have recently joined BRNET and have not yet provided your information, please send the following to 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.

Friends of BRNET

Friends of BRNET is a group of graduate students, administrators, parents, and individuals who are interested in learning more about the Bullying Research Network. Friends of BRNET receive our monthly e-newsletter. If you are interested in becoming a Friend of BRNET or to refer someone to Friends of BRNET, please click on this link: <http://cehs15.unl.edu/cms/index.php?s=2&p=711>

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 and we will post the information on our website.

BRNET MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

(1) Two Job Openings, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Two job openings, University of Nebraska – Lincoln: For the past decade the College of Education and Human Sciences at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln has supported the Bullying Research Network (BRNET), an international network of bullying prevention and intervention researchers. Building upon the success of BRNET, the college has developed the Empowerment Initiative that conducts translational research on bullying prevention and intervention. This position is integrally aligned with the Empowerment Initiative and will be part of a **cluster hire of bullying-related researchers**. We are seeking scholars to contribute to our translational research foci on youth empowerment, youth engagement, and bullying prevention across homes, schools, and communities. Please see the attached job descriptions. For more information, please contact Dr. Susan Swearer at: sswearer@unl.edu or by phone: [402-472-1741](tel:402-472-1741) (office).

(2) Seeking Director of Safe and Humane Schools

Clemson University seeks candidates for a Director of Safe and Humane Schools within the Institute on Family & Neighborhood Life (IFNL) at Clemson University. This individual will oversee dissemination of the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program (OBPP) and develop related initiatives within IFNL to create safe and humane settings for children and adults by promoting positive connections and reducing bullying and violence. The successful candidate will be expected to oversee efforts to secure external funding, strengthen and develop partnerships with like-minded organizations and individuals, contribute to the development of educational offerings and online and print resources, supervise several IFNL staff and graduate assistants, and collaborate with researchers within IFNL on a comprehensive research agenda.

This position is available starting in the summer of 2015. Clemson University, located in the Appalachian foothills between Greenville, SC and Atlanta, GA, is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer seeking applicants from diverse social and cultural backgrounds and/or disability status.

Required Qualifications: A Master's degree in a relevant education, social science, or related discipline is required, as is expertise in promoting safe and healthy school (K-12) environments; experience supervising other employees; a record of receiving funding from grants, contracts, and/or donations; and a history of collaborative work. Additional preferred qualifications include: a PhD in a relevant education, social science, or related discipline; experience in leading a program of work within a university or non-profit organization; and experience in implementing the OBPP.

Review of applicants will begin on April 6, 2015, and will continue until the position is filled.

To Apply: Submit a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, and three letters of reference to:

Safe and Humane Schools Search Committee
IFNLSearchCommittee@clermson.edu

Alternatively, hard copies may be sent to:

Safe and Humane Schools Search Committee
Clemson University
Institute on Family and Neighborhood Life
2038 Barre Hall
Clemson, SC 29634

For inquiries, please contact: IFNLSearchCommittee@clermson.edu

(3) Job Opening: 2 Postdoc and 3 PhD Positions

Dear colleagues,

I am looking for excellent researchers who have finished or are about to finish their PhD dissertation to offer them challenging postdoc positions at the project ANTI-BULLYING PROGRAMS 2.0: Tailored interventions to minimize bullying.

See for more information: <http://www.rug.nl/about-us/work-with-us/job-opportunities/overview?details=00347-02S0004FNP>

I am also looking for three PhD students. The PhD positions will be advertised in April on this website: <http://www.ics-graduateschool.nl/ph-d-positions>

Please, send this information to your colleagues who might be interested to come over and join us to cooperate in this innovative project!

Looking forward to get in touch with them, By the way: next week I will be at SRCD (Philadelphia). If you are interested in this postdoc position and you are at SRCD, please let me know. Would be great to discuss this job opening.

Best wishes, René Veenstra

(4) Member Query

A faculty member in the Department of Teaching, Learning, & Teacher Education at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln is writing a book on stories of migration. Some of the youth in the book identify as Third Culture Kids (TCK) —expatriates who come from privileged homes and spend much of their times living in different countries. In one interview, a TCK was bullied in Japan because she was different. If any BRNET member has done research on bullying and TCK's, please contact:

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(5) Bullies, Bullied, and Bystanders Conference



**Bullies, Bullied
and Bystanders:**
Advancing Knowledge,
Understanding and Practice
in Education

9th - 10th June 2016
ABC, National Anti-Bullying Research and Resource Centre
School of Education Studies
Dublin City University

CALL FOR PAPERS

education, comparative studies, business studies, media and communications, law, geography, art, literature, comparative literature, visual studies, psychology, sociology, anthropology, intercultural studies, women studies, gender studies, history, bio-medicine, neuroscience, ICT and the natural sciences.

Deadline for Submission of Abstract proposals: Friday 4th December 2015.

Submission of Abstracts and Registration: www.bully.ie

Call for Papers

Papers are invited from those who are undertaking research that seeks to reconceptualise or present new theoretical or empirical research perspectives related to bullying, especially (but not confined to) those that focus on cultural and ethnic differences and/or the role of bystanders in online and offline environments.

We invite abstracts related to the above topic from academic fields such as

(6) SWAPv Newsletter

Bringing a critical eye to child development

There is a need to bring a more critical eye to bear on theories of child development, according to Adjunct Professor Rosalyn Shute and her co-author, Professor Phillip Slee, both from the SWAPv research centre at Flinders University, South Australia. Although they argued this in the first edition of their book on child development theories, in 2003, the challenge has still to be taken up by other psychological texts on child development.

By contrast, these authors give space not only to well-established theories, such as attachment theory and Piaget's cognitive developmental theory, but to more critical perspectives, such as feminism and

Indigenous theories. In light of both authors' history of research into school bullying it is not surprising that this topic receives consideration in relation to the content of various chapters. New to this edition is a chapter on the 'voices' of children, drawing together perspectives from developmental psychology and the 'new sociology of childhood'. The authors emphasise the importance of recognising the philosophical, historical and cultural conditions within which children's development is examined. They consider the linkages between various theories, including the thorny questions of whether evolutionary developmental psychology and feminism can be reconciled, and whether the scientific and critical approaches can ever be philosophically compatible.

The book ends with a chapter on the practical implications of theories. This includes a discussion of how the emerging field of 'implementation science' – which is finally receiving the attention it requires in the development of anti-bullying programs – is helping to ensure that theoretically-based wellbeing programs fit well with school contexts in order to promote good outcomes for children.

The book has been well-reviewed as 'scholarly', 'vibrant' and 'comprehensive', 'with frequent citations from non-Western writing', and as accurately reflecting 'advances in in the integration and inseparability of heredity/environment, brain/behaviour, and self/other'.

Reference

Shute, R. H., & Slee, P. T. (2015). *Child Development: Theories and Critical Perspectives*. Hove: Routledge. <http://www.routledge.com/products/9781848724525>

For more stories, please visit:

<http://flindersuniversity.cmail2.com/t/ViewEmail/r/FE4B48D0FA8C7A9C2540EF23F30FEDED/AE046317848CD4A34415EB25BE999822>

(7) Chronicle Advertisements for Bullying Search

Please find attached copies of the tenure-track faculty position ads at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

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

Most sincerely,



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



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