



**Dear BRNET Members and Friends of BRNET:**

Thank you for being a part of the Bullying Research Network! In our June newsletter, you will find updates from the network.

Be sure to check out our website at <http://cehs.unl.edu/BRNET/> for additional resources and announcements.

**Featured Spotlight—Dr. Kevin Runions**

**Kevin Runions (PhD; OISE/UToronto)** is a Senior Research Fellow at Telethon Kids Institute, University of Western Australia, and Research Coordinator with Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services. He has led large scale program trials for early elementary students and high school students with Prof Donna Cross' team since 2006, including a trial of motivational interviewing (Cross, Runions et al., 2018; Pennell et al., 2020). The team has recently published effectiveness evidence from this trial of the *Friendly Schools* initiative for early high school students (Cross, Runions, et al., 2019), adding to 20 years of efficacy, effectiveness and translational research with more than 30,000 students, their teachers and parents.

Dr Runions has written about the need to expand the reactive-proactive distinction (i.e., reward and rage motives) to account for deliberate aggression in response to provocation (i.e., revenge) and spontaneous aggression without provocation (i.e., recreational motives)(e.g., Runions, 2013). A 2018 paper (Runions, Salmivalli, Shaw, Burns, & Cross, 2018) found that bully/victims report greater rage, revenge and recreational motives than do 'pure bullies.'

Bully/victim co-occurrence is a key focus of Dr Runions' research, and he is currently working with Dr Eva Romera and Prof Ortega-Ruiz (U Cordoba) on research examining the progression from victimhood to perpetration. He has just completed a systematic literature review of peer relationships and borderline personality disorder (Runions et al, under review), which has highlighted the potential role of revenge as a possible motive for bullying perpetration of those with BPD, and the need for further research on bully/victim co-occurrence.

Understanding the role of specific mechanisms of moral disengagement has been another focus. A 2019 article tested MD for bully/victims and pure bullies and found that the cut-off for self-reported bullying involvement appears very important. Using a conservative cut-off that captures only more

intense bullying, MD was not different for pure bullies and bully/victims. But a more liberal cut-off revealed pure bullies to rely on moral justification, distortion of consequences, diffusion of responsibility and euphemistic labelling more than bully/victims.

These improved understandings of bullying perpetration will inform an upcoming revision of the *Friendly Schools* bullying prevention Initiative.

### Selected Publications

References available upon request: [kevin.runions@telethonkids.org.au](mailto:kevin.runions@telethonkids.org.au).

Cross DS, **Runions** KC, Resnicow KA, Britt EF, & Gray C. (2018). Motivational interviewing as a positive response to high-school bullying. *Psychology in the Schools*, 55, 464-475.

Cross D, **Runions** KC, Shaw T, Wong J, Campbell M, Pearce N, Burns S, Lester L, Barnes A, & Resnicow K. (2019). Friendly Schools universal bullying prevention intervention: Effectiveness with secondary school students. *International Journal of Bullying Prevention*, 1(1), 45-57.

Modecki KL., Minchin, J., Harbaugh, A.G., Guerra, N.G., & **Runions**, K.C. (2014). Bullying prevalence across contexts: A meta-analysis measuring cyber and traditional bullying. *Journal of Adolescent Health*, 55(5), 602-611. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jadohealth.2014.06.007> (Top 1% most cited works; Web of Science May 2020)

**Runions** KC. (2013). Toward a conceptual model of motive and self-control in cyber-aggression: Rage, revenge, reward, and recreation. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 42, 751-771. (Top 5% most cited works; Scopus, Jan 2019)

**Runions**, K. C., Salmivalli, C., Shaw, T., Burns, S., & Cross, D. (2018). Beyond the reactive-proactive dichotomy: Rage, revenge, reward, and recreational aggression predict early high school bully and bully/victim status. *Aggressive Behavior*, 44(5), 501-511.

**Runions** K, Shaw T, Bussey K, Thornberg R, Salmivalli C, & Cross D. (2019). Moral disengagement of pure bullies and bully/victims: Shared and distinct mechanisms. *Journal of Youth & Adolescence*, 48(9), 1835-1848. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10964-019-01067-2>

Pennell D, Campbell MA, Tangen D, **Runions** K, Brooks J, & Cross DS. (2020). Facilitators and barriers to the implementation of motivational interviewing for bullying perpetration in school settings. *Scandinavian Journal of Psychology*, 61(1) 143-150.

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## **NEW BRNET Article Sharing Policy**

BRNET has very recently changed our policy regarding sharing BRNET members' articles in our newsletters. Due to the lack of consistency across publishers regarding the permissibility of sharing full articles via email (e.g., [Elsevier's Policy](#), [APA's Policy](#)), we are now opting to share our members' citations (including the DOI link, if possible) and the article abstracts.

We appreciate how willing BRNET members have been in sharing their important research; we would like to continue this communication. If you would like to share research articles to be highlighted in our monthly newsletters, please email Alia Noetzel at [bullyresearchnet@gmail.com](mailto:bullyresearchnet@gmail.com) with the following information:

- Your article citation (with a link to the DOI, if possible)
- Your article abstract
- Your email (so individuals who receive our newsletter can request further information, if desired)

Please let us know if you have any questions!

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### **BRNET New Members!**

BRNET has a current total of 238 members! Welcome to the BRNET, **Drs. Oriol & Ayala!**

### **New Friends of BRNET!**

BRNET has a current total of 84 'Friends!' Welcome, **Erica Smith!**

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Please send recommendations for potential BRNET members (i.e., faculty, researchers, and clinicians who are conducting research on bullying or related topics) to Drs. Shelley Hymel, 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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### **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 want to refer someone to Friends of BRNET, please email Alia Noetzel, the BRNET Coordinator, at [bullyresearchnet@gmail.com](mailto:bullyresearchnet@gmail.com) with the following information: name, title, address, and email address.

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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) and we will post the information on our website.

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## BRNET MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

### (1) Author Exchange—BRNET Member Publications

BRNET member, Dr. deLara, recently composed a paper, soon to be published in the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. Please see attached PDF and citation below. Additionally, please contact Dr. deLara ([edelara@syr.edu](mailto:edelara@syr.edu)) for additional information.

deLara, E. W. (in press). Family Bullying in Childhood: Consequences for Young Adults. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* (soon to be available online).

BRNET member, Dr. Finkelhor, and colleagues recently published a paper making the case that Internet safety education would be better accomplished in conjunction with the more evidence-based educational programs currently addressing related forms of offline risk, rather than stand-alone efforts. Please refer to the attached abstract and citation below:

Finkelhor, D., Walsh, K., Jones, L., Mitchell, K., & Collier, A. (2020). Youth Internet Safety Education: Aligning Programs With the Evidence Base. *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177%2F1524838020916257>

BRNET member, Dr. Frey, recently published several papers. Please refer to the attached abstracts and citations below:

Frey, K. S., Strong, Z. H., Onyewuenyi, A. C., Pearson, C. R., & Eagan, B. R. (2020). Third-Party Intervention in Peer Victimization: Self-Evaluative Emotions and Appraisals of a Diverse Adolescent Sample. *Journal of research on adolescence*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1111%2Fjora.12548>

Higheagle Strong, Z., McMMain, E. M., Frey, K. S., Wong, R. M., Dai, S., & Jin, G. (2019). Ethnically Diverse Adolescents Recount Third-Party Actions That Amplify Their Anger and Calm Their Emotions After Perceived Victimization. *Journal of Adolescent Research*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177%2F0743558419864021>

Frey, K. S., Strong, Z. H., & Onyewuenyi, A. C. (2017). Individual and class norms differentially predict proactive and reactive aggression: A functional analysis. *Journal of Educational Psychology*, 109(2), 178. <https://doi.org/10.1037%2Fedu0000118>

Frey, K. S., & Strong, Z. H. (2018). Aggression predicts changes in peer victimization that vary by form and function. *Journal of abnormal child psychology*, 46(2), 305-318.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10802-017-0306-5>

BRNET member, Dr. Nassem, recently published two books. Please see the citations and links below:

Nassem, E. and Kyriacou, C. (2020) 'Dealing with bullying in schools'. Forthcoming for the *Fabián Society Education Group Essays*. Accepted for publication. Available at: <https://www.bulliedvoices.com/publications/115-dealing-with-bullying-in-schools.html>

Kyriacou, C. & Nassem, E. (2020). Book Review-The Teacher's Guide to Resolving School Bullying: Evidence-Based Strategies and Pupil-Led Interventions. *The Psychology of Education Review*. <https://shop.bps.org.uk/the-psychology-of-education-review-vol-44-no-1-spring-2020.html>

## **(2) Post-Doctoral Job Opening**

The [Social-Emotional Development Research Group \(SED-RG\)](#) in the Department of Educational and Counselling Psychology at McGill University, directed by Dr. Chiaki Konishi, is currently seeking a competent Postdoctoral Researcher (PDR) in research investigating social and emotional experiences and bullying at school and factors associated with them. Please see the full posting attached.

Please feel free to share this posting with your colleagues and/or students.

## **(3) Save the Date—Workshop on Aggression 2020 in Turku, Finland**

The 25th Workshop on Aggression will take place on **November 13-14, 2020** in Turku, Finland, with the overarching theme "Prevention of aggression and violence among and against youth." Please come to meet researchers studying bullying, dating violence, online abuse and grooming, child maltreatment, and other types of aggression, and evidence-based prevention of these global challenges. This workshop is hosted by BRNET member, Dr. Christina Salmivalli. Please visit the official website for conference registration and submission: <https://woa2020.utu.fi/>. Additionally, please visit the event's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/university-of-turku-finland/25th-workshop-on-aggression-2020/285787245671110/>.

## **(4) Save the Date—Bullying Research Symposium 2020 in Vienna, Austria**

The Bullying Research Symposium (BRS) will take place on **November 6-7, 2020** at the University of Vienna (Austria) and addresses scholars on all career stages whose research focuses on school bullying. The aim of the Symposium is to intensify exchange about current research and to establish closer networks between the individual researchers and research teams.

Besides the keynotes the program will include shorter presentations, symposia, databased workshops and a poster session. The thematic focus is set around teachers and school bullying. We are very proud to welcome Prof. Sheri Bauman (University of Arizona, USA) and Prof. Yuichi Toda (Osaka Kyoiku University, Japan) in Vienna as keynote speakers, who will provide input from an international perspective.

For more information on registration and submission visit: <https://bullyingresearchsymposium.univie.ac.at/>

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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) and we will include it in our newsletter and/or on our website.

Most sincerely,



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



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