



SASP NEWS



Fall 2008

Student Association of School Psychologists
www.chsbs.cmich.edu/psychology/SASP

Dear Alumni & Friends,

It seems that every year, I start this note by saying how quickly the year has flown by. As I am a stickler for tradition....Another year has flown by here at CMU!

As you will see from our program faculty notes, CMU remains an active and vibrant place. Our students continue to succeed and bring excitement into our program. As always, many things appear to stay the same...but I think you would be surprised by some of the changes as well we all face ahead.

As much as I enjoy the tradition (remember—I am a stickler) of watching the first year students staple, fold, and prepare this newsletter for mailing, I can't help but feel a tinge of guilt using paper. Yes, I am trying to go paperless. Please send Kay a note (information provided below) if you would like to receive this via email. Also, as much as we enjoying sharing with you the changes in our lives, we really like hearing from you and hope that this can become a format for you to stay in touch with friends and share good news. I sent an email to everyone on our listserv asking for updates. If you did not receive a request, please contact us with an updated email. I promise not to bombard your inbox with too many messages.

We have continued to expand a clinic through the Psychological Training and Consultation Center this year. It provides a fantastic format to consult with local districts and for our students to learn. Also, we have the opportunity for advanced students to practice providing supervision (thanks Jason). It is so much fun, in fact, that I recently attended a 2 ½ hour IEP! We have had several interesting cases focusing on assessment and intervention for ADHD (of course), anxiety, and autism. Please contact me if you have questions regarding the services.

My sons, Ben and Jack, have kept me busy as well. Ben has entered middle school! Although I always thought I enjoyed working with preschool and early elementary students, I am having a ball watching them grow. They keep us very busy with sports (basketball and golf) and a constant stream of questions and conversation. I must be missing the "my little boys" a bit—next year I hope to include a picture of a new puppy in this newsletter.

As always, I hope this note finds you all well. I am certain that many of you are facing challenging times. Remember that we are proud of you! And that we continue to rely on you to keep our program strong!

Sandy Morgan, Director
morga1sk@cmich.edu



Season Greetings!

The Central Assessment Lending Library has been particularly busy this academic year and it is so nice to hear from CMU Alums. We have added many new tests as well as instructional materials to our website: www.chsbs.cmich.edu/psychology/CALL and will continue to do so throughout the year. We tried to select research-based instructional materials designed for students with low-incidence disabilities. If there are measures for which you would like test reviews, call (989-774-1611) or e-mail us (CALL@cmich.edu) and we can email them to you. Let us know how we can be of help.

Carl and I rose to new heights this month by climbing the Sears Tower. This is a charity event that takes place once a year to raise money for cancer research. They allow 2,000 people (one every 7 seconds) to climb the 103 floors. Carl did it last year also, but I had the flu. People come from around the world for the climb. It was fun, but much more difficult than I anticipated....certainly a good work out!

In June, the interior of the house we bought in Ludington last year was destroyed by a rain storm that brought 11 inches of rain in 1 ½ hours. We had just finished the renovation the week before. The house had to be *completely* gutted (floors, plaster walls, ceilings) and we started over. Fortunately, insurance covered much (but not all) of it. It was like building a new house, but with the outside walls up. We are hoping that by Christmas the house will be finished, but it may be the end of January. This project has kept us way too busy this year, but we are very happy with the results and anxious to see it finished.

If you would like a copy of the article Carl, Jason Vladescu, and I wrote on a comprehensive model for assessing autism that is published in JPA, please contact us through CALL and we will send a reprint. The third edition of the book on psychoeducational assessment of students who are visually impaired or blind that Sandy and I wrote is finally out.

Emma (10), Nicky (8), Lydia (6), and Katelynn (3) are a lot of fun. We are looking forward to seeing them over the holidays. Jason and Bridget are doing well.

We wish you and your families an enjoyable holiday season. Stop by any time you are in Mt. Pleasant or Ludington.

Sharon Bradley-Johnson, Admissions Coordinator, johns1sb@cmich.edu



Greetings Alumni,

Another year has passed, and it is time for the newsletter again. I hope all is well and productive for each of you.

I am once again way too involved in many activities. My term last year as chair of the Academic Senate was very “interesting,” and I actually believe I accomplished some things, particularly in the area of promoting diversity issues on campus. But I am quite pleased to now service as past chair.

Last Spring, I was nominated by CMU’s president to stand for election to the Board of Trustees of the Higher Learning Commission. The HLC is that part of the old North Central Association that accredits colleges and universities in 19 states. For better or for worse I was elected, and have now attended two board meetings. I actually am finding the work of the Commission to be very interesting, and I am very impressed with the other members of the Board,

which includes college presidents, provosts, a state senator, and a state Supreme Court justice, among others.

My work with CHARGE syndrome continues. Doctoral student Kasee Stratton and I were in Christchurch, New Zealand for the Australasian conference. Kasee’s presentation on stress and pain in CHARGE was a huge hit. Kasee’s thesis and dissertation work is on pain in CHARGE and she is making good progress. Some people are organizing a symposium on pain in CHARGE in Denmark for next fall, and we are looking forward to that event. We are also conducting a small study on the prevalence of testing for the gene that causes CHARGE. I am also the senior editor of a book to come out late next year on CHARGE. It will be the first, and I am very excited about it.

A travel highlight for me this year was a trip to Vilnius, Lithuania, for the International Congress of Individual Psychology. The weather was perfect and the city was beautiful, and the Congress ended up being somewhat emotional as the Lithuanian delegates presented about their country’s struggles with Russia and the former USSR.

We were very happy to have DeafBlind Central, my statewide service project, re-funded for another five years. The nature of our activities will change somewhat with a larger focus on providing training on deafblindness. I hope you will consider taking advantage of our services, and please refer any children or adolescents with both a hearing and vision impairment to our project.

Happy Holidays, and please keep in touch.

Tim Hartshorne, SASP Advisor
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Greetings alumni and friends,

All of the kids have colds right now, but, otherwise, are doing well. Emma will turn five in January, Evan just turned three, and Eli is 10 months. Our students are doing a lot of really great work in practicum and getting good experiences related to response to intervention, consultation, academic and behavior interventions, etc. We are always looking for new practicum supervisors. If you are interested, please contact me.

We worked with four children at the *Learning Acceleration Clinic* last summer, and I will probably do it again this summer, but I'll be keeping it small. The reading curriculum we primarily use is sold at teachyourchildrenwell.com. I am using a combination of this program, Funnix (funnix.com), and Headsprout (Headsprout.com) with Emma, and it is going well. I think a lot of students completed their theses/dissertations this year. Congratulations to you on a huge accomplishment. I love hearing what you are up to, so please keep in touch.

Michael Hixson, Practicum Coordinator
hixso1md@cmich.edu



Season's greetings to current and former school psychology students, spouses, partners and friends.

Work stuff. The school psychology program at CMU has an excellent but small group of new students this year, and Sandy Morgan has been doing a terrific job as program coordinator. These are tough economic times but there are still job openings in the field of school psychology. So, if you encounter an academically talented college student who has an interest in graduate school in psychology, please encourage them to consider applying to our program. We would love to see an increased number of qualified applicants.

This is my third year as coordinator of a team of faculty and students at CMU who share an interest in improving the school climate for gay, lesbian, bi-attractual, transgender, and questioning youth. This fall we started a Center for Research, Training, and Consultation on GLBTQ Youth Issues. We have a number of research initiatives underway, and are providing consultation to schools and agencies on meeting the needs of GLBTQ youth. We also are continuing to offer an on-campus activity group for area GLBTQ teens (STRUTS, website: <http://struts@cmich.edu>). In addition, I continue to serve as co-chair of NASP's Ethics and Professional Standards Committee, and on the writing group for the 2010 NASP's *Principles for Professional Ethics*.

Last May, I presented a workshop in Vancouver, Canada, and had a wonderful visit with Sandy Klar. Thanks again, Sandy, for all your gracious hospitality.

On the home front, I have a new addition to the family. Last winter, Maggy (yes, she is a Labrador Retriever) retrieved a freezing and emaciated miniature pincher from a snow bank during a heavy winter storm. He had no tags, but I was able to locate

his owner. His owner asked me to keep him, and so Maggy now has a brother named Erskine "Spike" Veronous. Spike bites Maggy's nose, tries to eat the dog food in her dish, runs off with her toys, takes the best sun spots on the floor, and hogs the bed covers by tunneling underneath and then standing up and walking in circles, but Maggy still loves him and treats him gently, just like (some) real brothers and sisters.

Thank you all for your emails and notes and letters. Keep in touch. Have a safe and happy holiday, and I hope to see many of you at NASP in Boston.

Susan Jacob, NASP Liaison
jacob1s@cmich.edu



Happy Holidays!

I hope this last year was joyous and productive for you and your family. Last fall I was able to take a sabbatical to obtain my post-doctoral clinical hours so I am now a fully licensed psychologist in Michigan. It was a great opportunity to learn so much from Community Mental Health and hopefully develop an opportunity for our students to gain value training from a mental health clinic if they choose.

Koby is now 4 ½ and started preschool this year. He is a very curious and talkative little boy! Kyle is 2 ½ and he is so funny and friendly. When he gets in trouble, he shrugs his shoulders, tilts his head, and says, "Ohhhhh, mama". Kameron just turned 1 and he has been walking for a few months. He has no fear and is the most stubborn in the group. I can't tell you how many times he has gotten to the dogs' water dish before I have and then he corrects himself by saying, "No, no, no". Like most of you, I feel very fortunate to have a job that I enjoy that affords me quality time with my family. Have a wonderful holiday season!

Katrina Rhymer, Doctoral Internship Coordinator
rhyme1kn@cmich.edu



2008 Theses

Boynton, Sheryl, S.Psy.S.

Use of best practice guidelines in assessment of ADHD in children: A practioner self-report survey of assessment/diagnostic practices.

Doty, Sara, M.A.

Assess Advanced Phonics Skills.

Leshk, Amanda M., M.A.

Explicit timing and interspersal story problem completion rates in fifth grade students.

Taton, Jonnie L., S.Psy.S.

The impact of an instructional unit regarding gay and lesbian issues on knowledge and comfort level of course participants.

Townsley, Joshua K., M.A.

Reliability and validity of nonsense word fluency for kindergarten and second-grade students.

Van Treese, Eric J., M.A.

Academic perfectionism among eight graders and relationship to parental academic goals.

Vladescu, Jason C., M.A.

Evaluation of psychoeducational assessment options for young children with severe impairments.

Youngs, Michelle E., M.A.

Extracurricular activity participation and student reported sense of belongingness to school among alternative education students.

2008 Dissertations

Allen- Kosal, Lindsay, Ph.D.

Cooperative learning and cooperation pre-training: An intervention for loneliness in elementary students.

Stiner, Aleta, Ph.D.

Psychometric properties of the unconditional self-acceptance questionnaire and the association of self-acceptance with eating disorders.



Welcome Incoming Class Fall 2008

Renee Bancroft	Alma College
Jennifer Felber	SUNY: College at Buffalo NY
Josh Hook	CMU
Rachel Jones	MSU
Megan Kleinheksel	Hope College
Megan McNally	Case Western Res. Univ.

2008 Ph.D. Graduates

Lindsay Allen-Kosal
Aleta Stiner

Expected December 2008

MA/S.Psy.S. Graduates

Amber Shaw
Eric J. VanTreese
Michelle (Wilson) Youngs

Presentation Awards

Sara Doty
Dan Drevon
Jennifer Reynolds
Kasee Stratton

News

Eric VanTreese: I'm currently working my second year as a school psychologist at Kent City Community Schools. We are having some success implementing RtI, but have a long way to go still. Beth and I are enjoying our rental house on a lake where we enjoyed paddle boating and fishing (hobbies newly acquired since our time at CMU) before the weather got cold. Beth will be graduating in May with her Doctorate in Physical Therapy. We both see the light at the end of the tunnel. I hope everybody is doing well.

Nichole Dailor - I finished my internship at the beginning of August and was hired by Bourbonnais Elementary School District as a school psychologist. I am one of two psychologists for a six building district and this is the first time they have had two psychologists in many years. Our district is working towards a district RtI plan as Illinois is requiring all districts to have a plan on file by Jan 2009. Sean and I bought our first home. Michael is in 3rd grade and Kyle is in Kindergarten. I am almost done with data collection for my dissertation and am hoping to get that wrapped up before the end of the school year. If you are in the Chicago area, give us a buzz – we'd love to have visitors.

Dr. Mark Reilly and his wife Trish welcome their son, Darwin.

Val Martins welcomed a daughter, Sara.

Trisha Powell married Mark Simpson this year.

Bob Hove is the past President of MASP and Paul Robb is the current President.

Jenny Anderson got married this summer.

Traci Garcia-Witzke and Troy Witzke had twins this year. They now have three young boys to keep them very busy. Traci has returned to a local school district after a successful time teaching at Delta.

Several current students were married this year. Congratulations to Danny Drevon, Rachel (Mack) Knight, Jennifer (Wilson) Reynolds, and Michelle (Wilson) Youngs.

2008 Publications

Blake, K.D., MacCuspie, J., Roy, M., Davenport, S. L. H., Corsten, G., & Hartshorne, T. S. (in press). Postoperative airway events of individuals with CHARGE syndrome. *International Journal of Pediatric Otorhinolaryngology*.

Blake, K.D., Hartshorne, T. S., Lawand, C., Dailor, A. N., & Thelin, J. W. (2008). Cranial nerve manifestations in CHARGE syndrome. *American Journal of Medical Genetics*, 146A, 585-592.

Bradley-Johnson, S., & Morgan, S.M. (2008). *Psychoeducational assessment of students who are visually impaired or blind: Infancy through high school*. (3rd ed.). Region IV Special Services, Houston, TX.

Bradley-Johnson, S., & Morgan, S.M. (2008). Best practices in instructing students who are visually impaired or blind. In A. Thomas & J. Grimes (Eds.) *Best practices in school psychology-V*, Silver Springs, MD: National Association of School Psychologists.

Bradley-Johnson, S., Johnson, C.M., & Vladescu, J. (2008). A comprehensive model for assessing autism. *Journal of Psychoeducational Assessment*, 26, 325-338.

Burns, M.K., Jacob, S., & Wagner, A. (2008). Ethical and legal issues associated with using responsiveness-to-intervention to assess learning disabilities. *Journal of School Psychology*. 46, 263-279.

Dailor, A.N., & Jacob, S. (in press). Ethical and legal challenges: Negotiating change. Book chapter to appear in J. Kaufman & T.L. Hughes (Eds.), *The Handbook of Education, Training and Supervision of School Psychologists in School and Community*. NY: Taylor Francis/Routledge.

Hartshorne, J. K., Salem-Hartshorne, N. D., & Hartshorne, T. S. (in press). Birth order effects in the formation of long-term relationships. *Journal of Individual Psychology*.

Hartshorne, T. S., Heussler, H. S., Dailor, A. N., Williams, G. L., Papadopoulos, D., and Brandt, K. K. (in press). Sleep Disturbances in CHARGE Syndrome: Types and Relationships with Behaviour and Caregiver Well-Being. *Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology*.

Hixson, M.D., Wilson, J.L., Doty, S.J., & Vladescu, J.C. (2008). Review of the behavioral theories of autism and evidence for an environmental etiology. *The Journal of Speech-Language Pathology and Applied Behavior Analysis*, 3, 46-59.

Hixson, M.D., Christ, T., & Bradley-Johnson, S. (2008). Best practices in the analysis of progress monitoring data and decision making in J. Grimes & A. Thomas (Eds.), *Best Practices in School Psychology-V*. National Association of School Psychologists.

Jacob, S. & Powers, K.E. (in press). Privileged communication in the school psychologist-client relationship. *Psychology in the Schools*.

Jacob, S. (2008). Best practices in developing ethical school psychological practice. In A. Thomas and B. Grimes (Eds.), *Best Practices in School Psychology V*, (Vol. 6 pp. 1921-1932). Bethesda, MD: National Association of School Psychologists.

Jacob, S., Drevon, D., Abbuhl, C.M., & Taton, J. (in press). Preparing school psychologists to address the needs of gay, lesbian, biattractual, transgender, and questioning youth. Book chapter to appear in J. Kaufman & T.L. Hughes (Eds.), *The Handbook of Education, Training and Supervision of School Psychologists in School and Community*. NY: Taylor Francis/Routledge.

Reda, N. M. & Hartshorne, T. S. (2008). Attachment, bonding, and parental stress in CHARGE syndrome. *Mental Health Aspects of Developmental Disabilities*, 11, 10-21.

Syrek, A.L., Hixson, M.D., Jacob, S., & Morgan, S. (2008). A comparison of error correction procedures on word reading. *Journal of Precision Teaching and Celeration (in press)*.

Williams, B., Armistead, Leigh, & Jacob, S. (2008). *Professional ethics for school psychologists: A problem-solving model casebook*. Bethesda, MD: National Association of School Psychologists, Bethesda, MD.



2008 Presentations

Armistead, L., Williams, B.B., & Jacob, S. (2008). Ethical principles for school psychologists: A problem-solving approach. Invited workshop, National Association of School Psychologists, New Orleans, Feb.

Bradley-Johnson, S., Vladescu, J., & Livingston, K. (2008). A Comprehensive Model for Assessing Autism. Michigan Association of School Psychologists Conference. Grand Rapids, MI.

Doty, S., Reynolds, J. L., & Hixson, M. D. (2008). Teaching b d letter discrimination with delayed prompting. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavior Analysis, Chicago, IL.

Hartshorne, T. S. (2008). The Challenge of Parenting Children with CHARGE. 8th Australasian CHARGE Conference, Christchurch, New Zealand.

Hartshorne, T. S. (2008). Coping with Challenging Behavior – Teenage Years and Beyond. 8th Australasian CHARGE Conference, Christchurch, New Zealand.

Hartshorne, T. S. (2008). The Challenge of Parenting Children with Severe Disabilities. 24th International Congress of Individual Psychology, Vilnius, Lithuania.

Hartshorne, T. S., & Schäfer, A. (2008). Parenting Children with Significant Disabilities. North American Society of Adlerian Psychology, Harrisburg, PA.

Hartshorne, T. S. (2008). CHARGE syndrome: What does it really mean? Deafblind Coalition of Ontario, The Spirit of Intervenors, Huntsville, Ontario, Canada.

Hartshorne, T. S. (2008). Understanding CHARGE syndrome and working with challenging behaviors. Ontario Chapter of the Canadian DeafBlind and Rubella Association, Brantford, Ontario, Canada.

Hixson, M.D. (2008). DIBELS Controversy. Paper presented to Gratiot-Isabella school psychologists, Mt. Pleasant, MI. [October, 2008]

Jacob, S. (2008). Ethics for school psychologists. Invited workshop. British Columbia Association of School Psychologists and College of Psychologists of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada, May.

McNamara, K., & Jacob, S. (2008). Making ethical decisions in challenging situations. National Association of School Psychologists, New Orleans, Feb.

Reynolds, J. L., Doty, S., & Hixson, M. D. (2008). Computerized instruction and curriculum steps to facilitate mathematics facts fluency. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavior Analysis, Chicago, IL.

Taton, J., Drevon, D.D., & Jacob, S. (2008) Impacting teacher knowledge and attitudes towards GLBT students. Paper presented at the National Association of School Psychologists 2008 Convention, February, New Orleans.

Grants

Dr. Tim Hartshorne - DeafBlind Central: Michigan's Training and Resource Project. U.S. Department of Education. 10/1/2008-9/30/2013. Funded for \$1,281,445.

CMU School Psychology Program Centers **DB Central**

<http://www.chsbs.cmich.edu/DBCentral/>

CALL

<http://www.chsbs.cmich.edu/Psychology/call/>

Center for Research, Training, and Consultation **on GLBTQ Youth Issues**

<http://struts.cmich.edu/>



SASP News

Season's greetings to school psychology faculty, students, staff, and alumni! This has been a great year for our members. To start, we have had an exceptional number of students pursuing research endeavors and sharing their work with the field through presentations. Members Christine Abbuhl, Daniel Drevon, Sara Doty, Rachel Knight, Kristi Knop, Jennifer Reynolds, Jason Vladescu, and Alyssa Warshay presented their research at the National Association of School Psychologists annual convention in New Orleans, the Michigan Association of School Psychologists spring and fall conferences, and the Association for Behavior Analysis annual convention in Chicago. Through aid of Central Michigan University's Vending Machine Fund, SASP was able to support many of its members in attending these events. Along with our research, presentations, and full class schedules, SASP members have been focusing on volunteerism, advocacy, promoting awareness of the field, and getting involved in state and national professional organizations. This fall, we challenged the other psychology student organizations at CMU to a food drive for a local food pantry. Through a little friendly competition we were able to collect a substantial amount of food that will help make the holidays a little better for families in our community. We are looking forward to beginning our Toys for Tots drive as well. This year, SASP has worked to get more involved in School Psychology Awareness Week activities. We were able to share our passion for the field with over 400 psychology undergraduate students. We also worked to spread the view of school psychologists as an important resource in schools by sharing information about the breadth of what we do with future teachers in the education department at CMU. In October, Paul Robb, MASP President, spoke at a SASP meeting that was open to alumni and area school psychologists about getting involved in advocacy through MASP. In addition to these volunteer, awareness, and advocacy efforts, members continue to be involved in many programs on campus including the Central Assessment Lending Library, the Learning Acceleration Clinic, Deafblind Central, the Psychological Testing and Consultation Center, and the new Center for Research, Training, and Consultation on GLBTQ Issues.

This year we welcomed six new students into the program from undergraduate programs across multiple states. We are working to encourage and support them during their transition to graduate school through our mentor program. Along with welcoming our new students, we are preparing to say good-bye

to three of our doctoral students who are currently working hard on getting through the internship application process. Sara Doty, Jennifer Reynolds, and Jason Vladescu will be leaving Mount Pleasant in the spring to head to their internship sites. Along with these exciting changes, the personal lives of several of our members have also been exciting. We would like to congratulate Daniel Drevon, Rachel Knight (formerly Mack), and Jennifer Reynolds (formerly Wilson) on their marriages that took place this spring and summer.

We could not accomplish all we do in SASP and as students without the help of our faculty and staff. We would like to thank Dr. Sharon Bradley-Johnson, Dr. Mike Hixson, Dr. Susan Jacob, Dr. Sandy Morgan, and Dr. Katrina Rhymer for their support. We would like to extend a special thank you to Dr. Tim Hartshorne for supporting us and serving as our SASP faculty advisor. Our thank you would not be complete without an enormous thank you to Barb Houghton and Kay Purtill. The two of you are amazing in helping with the smallest questions to the biggest tasks. Finally, I would like to thank my fellow officers Daniel Drevon - Vice President, Rachel Knight – Secretary, and Carrie Fineis – Treasurer for all their work so far this year. Email us at: SASP@cmich.edu.

SASP would like to wish everyone good luck in the upcoming year and again, Happy Holidays!

**Christine Abbuhl, President
Student Affiliates in School Psychology**

We're getting greener and greener!

If you received a copy in the mail, then we do not have your email address. Please take a moment and drop Kay Purtill (purti1k@cmich.edu) an email, so she can add you to the green email list. Thank you and **Happy Holidays to all.**

SASP hosted a friendly competition with the other Psychology Organizations to a food drive for the Isabella Community Soup Kitchen in November. All together, 347 items were collected. Way to go! ☺

Pictured here: SASP President, Christine Abbuhl and Vice-President Danny Drevon.

