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University of South Florida
College of Education
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EDUCATION

Graduate: University of South Florida
Degree: Doctor of Philosophy (degree conferred August 2008)
Program: School Psychology (APA Accredited, NASP Approved)
Concentration: Pediatric School Psychology
Dissertation: *Beyond the Barriers: A Qualitative Investigation into the Experiences of General Pediatricians Working with Young Children Exhibiting Developmental Delays and Disabilities*

Graduate: University of South Florida
Degree: Education Specialist (degree conferred August 2005)
Program: School Psychology (NASP Approved)
Thesis: *Are School Psychologists Engaging in Parent Involvement Activities at the Elementary School Level? A National Study*

Undergraduate: Bethune-Cookman University (previously Bethune-Cookman College)
Degree: Bachelor of Science (degree conferred May 2001)
Major: Psychology

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENT

Assistant Professor of Instruction

Assistant Professor of Instruction & Practicum/Internship Coordinator August 2019 – Present

A variety of graduate courses have been delivered to first-year, second-year, and advanced-level students (3+ years) within USF's School Psychology Program. Instruction has emphasized multi-tiered problem solving using a culturally-responsive lens, the implementation of empirically-supported practice, and systems change to enhance the well-being and achievement of students from early childhood through late adolescence. Additionally, whole group and individual supervision has been provided each school year to graduate students enrolled in field experiences.

Graduate Course	Semester(s) Taught
<i>Assessment of Child and Adolescent Personality (SPS 6196)</i>	Fall Semesters 2019, 2020, & 2021
<i>Biological Bases for Learning Behavior (EDF 6213)</i>	Spring Semesters 2020, 2021, & 2022
<i>Child & Adolescent Behavior Disorders (SPS 6101)</i>	Summer Semester 2021
<i>Consulting Skills for Staff Development (EDF 6166)</i>	Fall Semesters 2021 & 2022
<i>Internship - Ed.S. (SPS 6947.001)</i>	Fall Semesters 2019, 2020, 2021 & 2022 Spring Semesters 2020, 2021, 2022, & 2023

<i>Internship - Ph.D. (SPS 6947.902)</i>	Fall Semesters 2019, 2020, 2021 & 2022 Spring Semesters 2020, 2021 & 2022 Summer Semesters 2020, 2021, 2022 & 2023
<i>Pediatric Health Issues in Schools (EDG 7931)</i>	Fall Semesters 2019 & 2020
<i>Practicum in Psych-ed Intervention (SPS 6940 & SPS 6941)</i>	Fall Semesters 2019, 2020, 2021 & 2022
<i>Psychoeducational Diagnosis and Prescription II (SPS 6198)</i>	Spring Semesters 2020, 2021, 2022 & 2023
<i>Social Psychology (EDF 6938)</i>	Summer Semesters 2020 & 2022

Activities to enhance the quality of field experiences have been developed and facilitated for graduate students each school year. Specifically, a new practicum course (*Introduction to School Psychology Practicum – SPS 6945*) was recently developed to expand the knowledge and skills of graduate students beginning their first semester in the program. Internship Seminars also have been developed and delivered each Fall semester to support students in search of APPIC and non-APPIC placements with the application process. Lastly, affiliation agreements have been developed in collaboration with USF’s General Counsel, and are tailored as appropriate for interns placed in sites throughout Florida.

Institute for School-Community Partnerships, Integrated Services, and Child Mental Health and Educational Policy (The Institute)

Faculty Affiliate – The Institute

May 2023 – present

The Institute is a research and technical assistance center within USF’s College of Education that is focused on improving educational and related services for children, youth, families, and communities. In the 2022-2023 school year, the Institute's budget was just under \$23,000,000. Current work has focused on the development of a new program that will strengthen community partnerships throughout Florida. Contributions include collaborating with current Institute staff to develop the mission, vision, and initial action steps, identify and interview applicants for key personnel positions, and establish a communication plan for this new program.

Current Grant (funded)

Co-Principal Investigator

Duration: 1/1/2023 – 12/31/2027

Title: *Project TIERS (Targeted and Intensive Emotional and Relational Supports) in Schools*

Description: Project TIERS is a collaborative project between USF’s School Psychology program and a local public school district. The primary aims of this project are to increase access to quality school-based mental health services for children attending high-needs elementary schools, address the shortage of school psychologists in high-needs Local Education Agencies (LEAs), and increase the presence of school psychologists from diverse backgrounds in local schools.

Funding Source: U.S. Department of Education

Total amount: \$4,092,846

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Graduate Adjunct Professor

Adjunct Professor – Nova Southeastern University

August 2018 – December 2018

Adjunct instructor for the *Integrated Report Writing* course in the School Psychology Program. This course teaches graduate students how to effectively integrate multiple sources of data while writing psychoeducational reports for students having learning and/or behavioral concerns. Students gained knowledge and practice with conducting feedback sessions of evaluation findings with parents. Lectures, class discussions, and feedback were provided to graduate students on a weekly basis.

Adjunct Professor – University of South Florida

January 2017 – July 2018

Adjunct instructor and developer of the course, *Advanced Psychoeducational/Behavioral Interventions*, for the School Psychology Program. This course provided an overview of multi-tiered systems of support for behavior. Content focused on using a problem-solving approach to assist school psychologists with implementing universal, secondary, and tertiary behavioral supports for students. Specifically, positive behavior intervention supports (PBIS), proactive classroom management strategies, social emotional learning, and mentoring were addressed. Lectures, reflective assignments, class discussions, and feedback were provided to graduate students on a weekly basis.

School Psychological Services: District-Level

School District Coordinator of Professional Development for the School Climate Transformation Grant

2015-2016

- Developed and coordinated the delivery of professional development trainings for Hillsborough County Public Schools Title 1 principals, teachers, and support services personnel.
- Facilitated the development of new professional development Social Emotional Learning curricula to strengthen the climate and culture of learning environments.
- Presented school-wide professional development trainings.
- Consulted and collaborated with Title 1 school administrators, teachers, and support services personnel regarding the implementation of social-emotional initiatives and programs for students.
- Developed and monitored task management plans and engaged in fidelity checks of grant activities.
- Secured and managed contractual service agreements for internal and external partners. Managed grant expenditures for internal and external partners, materials, and resources.

School District Peer Evaluator for Psychological Services

2012-2015

- Collaborated with Hillsborough County Public School district leaders to develop and enhance the observation and evaluation system for the psychological services department.
- Trained supervisors and coordinators of the Psychological Services department, Multi-tiered System of Supports department, and the department of Charter Schools in the observation and evaluation process for support services staff.
- Observed, evaluated, and collaborated with 100+ psychological services personnel within elementary, middle, high, alternative, bilingual, and therapeutic settings through problem solving and the development of individualized action plans to enhance practice.

Supervision of School Psychology Clinical Externs & Practicum Students 2009-2012

- Supervised graduate-level practicum students within Hillsborough County Public Schools regarding the administration of evaluation tools, utilization of consultation skills, and implementation of social-emotional supports within elementary schools.
- Supervised graduate-level clinical externs within Hillsborough County Public Schools who engaged in the assessment and intervention of emotional and behavioral concerns exhibited by elementary students.

District Crisis Team Member – Hillsborough County Public Schools 2008-2012

- Facilitated group and individual crisis counseling to elementary, middle, and high school students, educators, and families.
- Attended planning and debriefing meetings with district crisis team members.
- Presented crisis counseling techniques to district crisis team members.

School Psychological Services: Building-Level*School Psychological Services - Elementary*

Belle Witter Elementary – Tampa, Florida	July 2017 – June 2019
Lamb Elementary - Tampa, Florida	Nov 2016 - June 2017
Belle Witter Elementary – Tampa, Florida	2005-2012
Pizzo Elementary – Tampa, Florida	2004-2005

- Completed assessments and psychological evaluation reports for students in need of academic, behavior, and/or emotional supports.
- Consulted with parents and educators regarding student assessment results, intervention plans, and student progress.
- Administered curriculum-based assessments and developed individualized interventions to enhance the academic performance of students at the elementary level.
- Facilitated a year-long social skills group for elementary students in a Varying Exceptionalities classroom (grades 3, 4, and 5).
- Consulted with healthcare providers and members of student-centered community agencies to enhance student achievement.
- Provided Tier 2 and Tier 3 interventions for students in need of social-emotional supports.
- Served on the school-wide problem-solving leadership team.
- Facilitated weekly Tier 3 problem-solving meetings to support students with academic, behavioral, and/or emotional concerns.
- Served as the PBIS Coach and collaborated with the PBIS team to implement school-wide positive behavior supports.
- Organized and delivered crisis counseling for students and educators.
- Provided multiple trainings per year to assist educators with the implementation of procedures and best practices to enhance academic and social-emotional supports for students at Tiers 1, 2, and 3.
- Engaged in Tier 1 problem-solving with school administrative team and teacher leaders to enhance the fidelity of school-wide CHAMPS for behavior management.

School Psychological Services – Secondary

Van Buren Middle School – Tampa, Florida	2005-2006
North Tampa Alternative – Tampa, Florida	2004-2005

Brandon Alternative – Brandon, Florida 2004-2005

- Completed assessments and psychological evaluation reports for students in need of academic, behavior, and/or emotional supports.
- Provided counseling for students in need of Tier 3 social-emotional supports.
- Consulted with parents and educators regarding student assessment results, intervention plans, and student progress.
- Administered curriculum-based assessments and developed individualized interventions to enhance the academic performance of students at the secondary level.
- Co-facilitated treatment team meetings to problem solve student concerns at the secondary level.
- Created and facilitated leadership groups for secondary students to enhance school climate and culture.
- Facilitated Tier 2 social emotional groups for female students in grades 10, 11, and 12.
- Co-facilitated weekly problem-solving meetings per grade level within the middle school setting.

School Psychological Services for Early Childhood

Visiting Professor of Research – Florida Mental Health Institute 2005

- Collaborated with families and educators to support young children with developmental delays and behavior challenges.
- Guided parents and early childhood educators in the implementation of preventative strategies to enhance the development of young children within the home and learning environments.
- Conducted site visits to determine the quality of learning within pre-k settings.
- Facilitated action-research to support and document changes in stakeholder ability to effectively manage and reduce challenging behaviors.

Early Childhood Council of Hillsborough County Developmental Screenings 2004

- Worked with families to screen the physical, adaptive, social-emotional, cognitive, and communication skills of young children (ages 3 through 5 years).
- Consulted with educators and medical professionals to determine the need for a comprehensive Pre-K evaluation.
- Consulted with parents regarding the implementation of strategies at home and within the community settings.

University of South Florida Early Intervention Program 2004

- Collaborated with developmental pediatricians and family service coordinators at the University of South Florida as a multidisciplinary team member to assess and meet the needs of young children (birth to three) exhibiting developmental delays and disabilities.
- Assisted with the development of Individual Family Service Plans for young children.

Pre-K Assessment Team Member – Hillsborough County Public Schools 2004

- Collaborated with social workers, speech language pathologists, and parents to evaluate the developmental skill level of young children (ages 3 through 5 years).
- Consulted with team members to determine eligibility for special education and/or related services.

SERVICE

College of Education (COE) Graduate Committee Member

Professional service has been fulfilled through graduate committee membership for students exploring a variety of field-related research topics within USF's College of Education (7 Ed.S.) and the College of Community and Behavioral Sciences (1 Ph.D.). Additional professional service activities are listed below:

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COE Diversity Committee Member	Fall 2019 – present
School Psychology Program Graduate Admissions	Spring 2020 – present
Moderator: International Student Experiences Panel	January 2020
COE Interview: Meeting the Social & Emotional Needs of Your Child	March 2020
COE Panelist: Real Talk: Systemic Racism and the Murder of George Floyd	June 2020
LA Times Interview: Social & Emotional Impacts on Distance Learning	July 2020
ABC Action News Interview: Call Me MiSTER Program	February 2021
COE 3-Minute Thesis Competition Judge	November 2022
COE Graduate Policy Council Member	Fall 2022 – present
Florida Assoc. of School Psychologists (FASP) Research Committee Member	Fall 2022 - present
COE Graduate Admissions Recruiter Committee Member	March 2023

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Emotional Rescue: Using Emotions to Maintain Student Engagement (CITL)	2023
Building (Synchronous Online) Classroom Community (ATLE)	2021
Red Cross Disaster Mental Health Training (NASP)	2020
Reading Assessment K-5	2017
Fostering Resilience	2017
Motivational Interviewing with Progress Monitoring	2017
Suicide Prevention Training for Student Services Personnel	2017
Working with Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students	2017
Leading from the Classroom – Training for Administrative Leaders	2016
MTSS-RtI for Behavior	2016
Youth Mental Health First Aid for Administrators	2015
Team Initiated Problem Solving (TIPS-II)	2015
Consultation for School Psychologists	2015
Social Emotional Tools to Inform & Progress Monitor Intervention	2015
MTSS: Mental Health Intervention, Tier 2 Considerations	2014
MTSS: Behavioral Intervention, Tier 2	2014
Peer Evaluation Rubric Training	2013
Psychology Peers Professional Development	2013
Motivating Black Males to Achieve in School and in Life	2013
Internship and Practicum Supervision of School Psychology Students	2011-2012
Crisis Intervention Team Training	2011
Master Trainer Training	2010

LICENSURE

Department of Health (DOH)	
Florida School Psychology License SS 1646	2022 – present

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI)	2022 – present
National Association of School Psychologists (NASP)	2019 – present
Florida Association of School Psychologists (FASP)	2019 – present

RECOGNITION

Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning – ‘Thank A Professor’	Fall 2022
Ida S. Baker Diversity Educator – Belle Witter Elementary, HCPS	Fall 2018
Ida S. Baker Diversity Educator – Belle Witter Elementary, HCPS	Fall 2005