



ECPN Connections

The newsletter of
the Early Career Preventionists Network
of the Society for Prevention Research
<http://preventionscience.org/ecpn-mission/>

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Thanks to those who contributed to this newsletter, especially (in alphabetical order): MeLisa Creamer, Katrina Debnam, Natalie Golaszewski, Alexandra Oliveira Paiva, Keryn Pasch, Brittany Rhoades Cooper, Jeff Temple, and Marie-Hélène Véronneau.

A Note from the Steering Committee Chair

Welcome to the Fall 2012 issue of *ECPN Connections*! I'm very excited to introduce this issue as we highlight the ECPN award winners from the May 2012 SPR conference. I would like to congratulate Eric Rice on receiving the *ECPN John B. Reid Early Career Award* and Michael Hecht on receiving the *Friend of ECPN Award*. I would also like to congratulate the winners of the *ECPN Student Poster Contest*. Each year we are very impressed by the high quality of the student poster submissions to the contest.

As always, the newsletter presents the accomplishments of our ECPN members. As you can see from the sampling of publications and grants, we are a very productive group, researching many diverse areas. We also continue to help you discover who are the new ECPN members. We hope that through the newsletter we

can continue to develop our ECPN community and foster connections between ECPN members.

We are excited to highlight Washington State University's new PhD program in Prevention Science on page 5. It is great to see Prevention Science formalized into a PhD degree program! Finally, towards the end of the issue, we present a summary of one of the 2012 ECPN sessions, *Obtaining Foundation Funding: Surviving in a Tight Funding Climate*.

I would like to thank each of the ECPN steering committee members for the dedication and hard work putting together each of the three ECPN sessions at the meeting, staffing the ECPN table, and participating in the ECPN Social / Steering Committee Meeting. Our 2012-2013 Steering Committee is already working hard developing ideas for the 2013 conference, and I think we

are going to have some great sessions this year! I am lucky to serve in a group with such outstanding people. I look forward to introducing all of the ECPN plans for the conference in the Spring newsletter.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the newsletter. I would like to thank Marie-Hélène Véronneau, MeLisa Creamer, Natalie Golaszewski, Katrina Debnam, and all other collaborators who have done an excellent job putting it together!!

Keryn Pasch
kpasch@austin.utexas.edu



Mark your Calendars!
SPR 21th Annual Meeting
The Science of Prevention:
Building a Comprehensive National
Strategy for Well-Being
May 28 - 31, 2013
Preconference Workshops
May 28, 2013
Hyatt Regency San Francisco,
San Francisco, CA

Members of the ECPN Steering Committee

David Acevedo, Crystal Barksdale, Sharon Brenner, Jessica Duncan Cance, Sara Champlin, Sarah Chilenski, Brittany Rhoades Cooper, MeLisa Creamer, Max Crowley, Katrina Debnam, Nadine Finigan, Natalie Golaszewski, Kerry Green, Sarah Lindstrom Johnson, Brandi Martell, John Monopoli, Keryn Pasch, Kelly Rulison, Valerie Shapiro, Amanda Sisselman, Jeff Temple, Marie-Hélène Véronneau.

We would love to hear from you!

If you have comments or ideas about the newsletter, or if you would like to share good news (publications, grants, new position), contact Marie-Hélène Véronneau at: veronneau.marie-helene@uqam.ca. The next issue of the newsletter will come out in Spring 2013, a few weeks before the annual meeting.

News from ECPN Members

Recent Publications

Dishion, T. J., Ha, T., & Véronneau, M.-H. (2012). An ecological analysis of the effects of deviant peer clustering on sexual promiscuity, problem behavior, and childbearing from early adolescence to adulthood: An enhancement of the life history framework. *Developmental Psychology*, 48(3), 703-717.

Lindstrom Johnson, S., Burke, J.G., & Gielen, A.C. (2012). Students' perceptions of the school environment's influence on school violence. *Children and Schools*, 34(2), 92-102. Retrieved at:

<http://cs.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2012/08/24/cs.cds016.full?keytype=ref&ijkey=ZHz5M6PWQoHTNOj>

Lindstrom Johnson, S., Tandon, S.D., Trent, M., Jones, V., & Cheng, T.L. (2012). Use of technology with healthcare providers: Perspectives from urban youth. *The Journal of Pediatrics*, 160(6), 997-1002.

Monopoli, W.J. & Kingston, S. (2012). The relationships among language ability, emotion regulation, and social competence in second-grade students. *International Journal of Behavioral Development*, 36 (5), 398-405.

Piehler, T. F., Véronneau, M.-H., & Dishion, T. J. (2012). Substance use progression from adolescence to early adulthood: Effortful control in the context of friendship influence and early-onset use. *Journal of Abnormal Child Psychology*, 40, 1045-1058.

Véronneau, M.-H., Cance, J. D., & Ridenour, T. A. (2012). Mentoring early-career preventionists: Current views from mentors and protégés. *Prevention Science*, 13 (5), 493-503.

Distinctions

The seventh annual SPR Sloboda-Bukoski Cup competition was held during the 2012 meeting. The award went to the *Cohort Effect* team (Penn State University), which included the following members: Charles Beekman, Jacqueline Cox, Alexis Harris, Violet Xu, and Kathleen Zadzora. Congratulations to the winners! We encourage all eligible ECPN members to participate in the 2013 competition.

New Grants

Michelle Birkett was awarded an R03 grant from the National Institute of Drug Abuse for her project "The Development and Analysis of a Macro-Network of Vulnerable Young Men". She will use this grant to create and examine epidemiological data on the acquisition and transmission of HIV among the drug, sexual, and social networks of young men who have sex with men.

Sarah Chilenski was awarded an implementation evaluation grant from the Annie E. Casey Foundation for the pilot of Evidence2Success, a new prevention system that combines systems change and community mobilization in order to improve youth behavioral, academic, emotional/mental health, physical, and relationship outcomes in urban areas.

Evidence2Success is being developed in partnership between the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the Social Development Research Group at the University of Washington School of Social Work, the Social Research Unit (Dartington, UK), and Mainspring Consulting.

For more information, visit: <http://prevention.psu.edu/people/Evidence2Success.html>, and <http://www.aecf.org/Majorinitiatives/Evidence2Success.aspx>

Jessica Duncan Cance was awarded an R03 grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse for her project "Examining the relations of cigarette and alcohol across emerging adulthood".

Jeff Temple was recently awarded a \$750,000 grant from the National Institute of Justice to extend his study on teen dating violence.

Mark Van Ryzin, research associate at the Oregon Social Learning Center, was awarded an R03 grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse for his project, "Meta-Analysis of Family-Based Prevention Programs for Adolescent Substance Abuse".



Please look for the **ECPN 2013 Awards Call for Nominations in December 2012**. If you know of someone who would be a good candidate for either of these awards, please contact Crystal Barksdale: crystal.barksdale@gmail.com.

ECPN Awards

Each year at the Annual Meeting, ECPN awards the *Friend of ECPN Award* and the newly named *ECPN John B. Reid Early Career Award* to two members of SPR.

The *Friend of ECPN Award* is presented to a mid-career or senior preventionist who has supported and encouraged early career prevention scientists or issues. Persons who receive the *Friend of ECPN Award* have actively supported early career activities through helping the ECPN organization or encouraging the early career preventionists in their work.

In 2012, the *Friend of ECPN Award* was presented to Dr. Michael Hecht. Dr. Hecht has mentored many students,



post-docs, and Dr. Michael Hecht junior prevention scientists. In the words of his nominator, Dr. Hecht's mentorship incredibly supports yet challenges students to become better scholars, and his work ethic greatly inspires students to become professional and productive prevention scholars like him.

The *ECPN John B. Reid Early Career Award* was previously named the *ECPN Early Career Award* and has been renamed in honor of John B. Reid (1940 - 2012). This award is given in recognition of a person early in his or her career in prevention who has shown a commitment to prevention science through outstanding contributions to research, policy, or practice.



Dr. Eric Rice

The *ECPN John B. Reid Early Career Award* was presented to Dr. Eric Rice. His commitment to prevention research, his leadership abilities, and his forward thinking surrounding issues of social network science and social media applications to prevention science make him exceptionally well qualified for the award.

Congratulations to the Winners of the 2012 ECPN Poster Contest

Contest Winners

Ana Maria del Rio – *Factorial Structure of Health-Risk Behaviors Among Adolescents in Bogota, Colombia*

I am a third-year doctoral student in the Applied Social Psychology program at The George Washington University. My research focuses on the relationship between psychosocial factors (e.g., attitudes, self-efficacy, time perspective) and risk-taking behaviors (e.g., unprotected sex, substance use) during adolescence and young adulthood. I am also interested in the application of diverse methodologies (i.e., quantitative, qualitative and mixed) to research questions regarding health behaviors and outcomes. I am currently investigating the role of descriptive and injunctive social norms in the early onset of sexual activity among Colombian youth.



Lindsey Varvil-Weld – *Using Latent Transition Analysis to Assess the Effects of PBI Timing and Dosage on Changes in Student Drinking from PreCollege to the End of the First Semester of College*

I am a doctoral candidate in Biobehavioral Health and the Prevention Research Center at Penn State University. I am interested in parental influences on risk behaviors during adolescence and emerging adulthood. I work on several projects in Dr. Rob Turriss's lab investigating parents' influences on college student alcohol use. I have examined how parents' orientations toward alcohol affect college students' drinking and consequences. I received an NRSA fellowship to extend this work to Latino families and explore how parents' and students' cultural orientations affect college student drinking among Latino students.

Sarah Siodmok Dermody – *An Investigation of the Mediating Role of Sleep in the Relation between Alcohol Problems and Depressive Symptoms*

I am a doctoral student in the joint Clinical and Biological/Health Psychology Doctoral Programs at the University of Pittsburgh. My research interests include the behavioral mechanisms underlying heavy and problematic drinking across the lifespan and corresponding individual differences, particularly gender and sexual orientation. I am involved in a multi-site randomized clinical trial examining how reduced nicotine content cigarettes impact smoking behavior. For my dissertation, I will investigate the effect of smoking reduced nicotine content cigarettes on alcohol use and binge drinking over time, and will explore potential mechanisms in a mediation framework.



Honorable Mentions

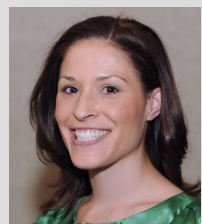


Sharon Wolf – *Barriers to Education in Developing Countries: Empirical Evidence from a Ghanaian School Sample*

I am a doctoral candidate in Applied Psychology at New York University. My work applies psychological theories and research to understand how families and schools affect children with the goal of informing policy. I conduct research related to improving schools in Kenya and Ghana. I also work on the Opportunity NYC-Family Rewards evaluation, studying how conditional cash transfer programs can alleviate poverty, increase parents' investment in their children, and improve academic achievement. In my dissertation, I am studying how the schools and neighborhoods of Family Rewards participants affected program impacts.

Youngju Shin – *Identifying Subgroups of Mexican-Heritage Youth Alcohol Use and Their Relationships to Parent-Child Communication and Parental Monitoring*

I am now an assistant professor in the Department of Communication Studies at Indiana University—Purdue University Indianapolis. My research explores health, culture, and prevention research. My dissertation examined social processes promoting youth substance use prevention by considering media and parents as anti-drug socialization agents. During my doctoral program at Penn State University, I worked on the NIH funded school-based youth substance use prevention research project. My colleagues and I are working on a paper investigating the latent transition analysis of Mexican-heritage youth alcohol use behaviors and parental influences and on a book chapter on public health interventions in multicultural communities.



Meghan M. Garvey – *The Influence of Hispanic Parent Cultural Values on Adolescent Drug Use Intentions*

I am a doctoral student in the Clinical Psychology program at Arizona State University and a Fellow of the National Hispanic Science Network (NHSN). I worked as a graduate research assistant on *Familias and Bridges/Puentes*, two family-focused preventive interventions for Mexican American adolescents. My research focuses on the development and assessment of culturally grounded drug prevention interventions for Hispanic adolescents. My thesis examined the influence of parent cultural values on drug use among Mexican heritage adolescents. I am interested in extending this research in an effort to improve family-based interventions aimed at reducing adolescent drug use and improving family functioning.

Interested in participating in the next edition of the ECPN Poster Contest?

Students who have submitted posters for presentation at the 2013 SPR meeting will be contacted by email and invited to participate. For more information, you may contact Jessica Duncan Cance at jdcance@austin.utexas.edu.

Postdoctoral Training Opportunities

Postdoctoral fellowship openings in the Prevention and Methodology Training (PAMT) Program at Penn State University

PAMT's mission is to produce scientists trained in the integration of prevention science and statistical methodology. This program presents a unique opportunity for pre- and postdoctoral researchers to receive training from some of the top prevention scientists and methodologists in the country. Funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, PAMT is a collaboration between the Prevention Research Center and the Methodology Center, two well-established and dynamic research centers at Penn State.

One opening at the postdoctoral level is available for Spring 2013. Start date is flexible. Review of applications will start on **November 15, 2012**.

Another opening is anticipated in Summer or Fall 2013; review of applications will start on **March 15, 2013**.

For more information, visit this website:

<http://methodology.psu.edu/pamt/home>

Postdoctoral Training Research at Arizona State University

The ASU Program for Prevention Research anticipates openings in their NIMH-funded postdoctoral training program in prevention science. Training is delivered through individually-tailored programs of coursework and mentored research experience. Trainees select multiple mentors from a large and interdisciplinary faculty whose work includes interventions with children of divorce, bereaved children, and inner city ethnic minority children and families. Emphases include preventive interventions in natural service delivery settings and quantitative methods in prevention science. Training is for a two-year period. Interested candidates should send (electronically) a vita, statement of research and training goals, and three letters of recommendation to: laurie.chassin@asu.edu. Review of all applications will begin on **December 15, 2012** and will continue reviewing until the positions are filled. For more information, visit this website:

<http://psychology.clas.asu.edu/lab/prevention-research-center-prc/training>

The ECPN Steering Committee is working hard behind the scenes. Students, postdocs, and new faculty members and researchers collaborate on a variety of projects (like this newsletter and the ECPN-sponsored presentations at the annual meeting).

In this issue, we highlight the contribution of an early career professor who has proved to be a valuable member of our network.



Meet Jeff Temple

Jeff R. Temple is an assistant professor and psychologist at the University of Texas Medical Branch, where he also serves as the Director of the Behavioral Health and Research Program. He received his PhD from the University of North Texas (2006) and completed his predoctoral internship and postdoctoral research fellowship in clinical psychology at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University (2007).

Jeff's research is focused on the

etiology, classification, assessment, prevention, and treatment of interpersonal violence and substance use, with a particular focus on teen dating violence (TDV). He is currently in the process of translating the longitudinal information he has gathered on TDV risk and protective factors from over 1000 diverse high school students into an empirically-informed dating violence prevention program.

His research has been funded through NIH, NIJ, and several state and foundation grants. He has published over 60 scholarly articles in a variety of journals, including high-impact publications like *JAMA*, *Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine*, *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*, and

the *Journal of Adolescent Health*. Jeff is an associate editor for the *Journal of Primary Prevention*, and is on the editorial boards of *Violence Against Women*, *Partner Abuse*, *Substance Abuse: Research and Treatment*, and the *Journal of Clinical Psychology in Medical Settings*.

Jeff strongly believes in applying his expertise to the community, where he serves as a trustee on the Galveston Independent School District board. Despite his busy schedule, Jeff says that he takes the most pride in his role as husband and father to two perfect kids – his 9-year-old daughter Quinn and 7-year-old son Asher.

To learn more about Jeff's research, you may contact him at jetemple@utmb.edu.

New Doctoral Program in Prevention Science at Washington State University

by Brittany Rhoades Cooper



Fall 2012 marked the beginning of a decade long dream for faculty and students in the Department of Human Development at Washington State University—the first semester of their PhD program in Prevention Science. Although there are several Masters programs in Prevention Science and other prevention-related PhD programs across the country, Washington State University (WSU) is the first university in the U.S. to offer a PhD specifically in Prevention Science.

In line with the *Standards of Knowledge for the Science of Prevention*

published by SPR, the WSU program emphasizes training in both the *generation* of research-based knowledge and its *translation* into effective programs and policies that positively impact the well-being of children, families and communities. The WSU program integrates theories and methodology from the disciplines of human development, psychology, economics, communications, evaluation, epidemiology, and public policy.

Asked about the impetus for the new PhD, program director Tom Power noted, "Through our work with faculty in other departments and with our community partners, we saw the need for interdisciplinary training in this area." In fact, the PhD in Prevention Science is one of only a few interdisciplinary PhD programs at WSU—program faculty are from Human Development, Health Communication, Educational Psychology, Community Nursing, and WSU Extension, and PhD

students take classes and work with faculty in at least two of these departments.

When asked about why she applied to the new program, Jaimie Jeffords said, "I saw it as not only a good fit to my interests in psychology and human communication, but also as an opportunity to be involved in a unique curriculum that would allow me to simultaneously master a breadth of knowledge of human behavior and gain skills to prevent harm from coming to others. No other program could allow me to pursue my interest with the depth I can here."

To learn more about the Prevention Science PhD program at WSU (including information on how to apply—application deadline for Fall 2013 is February 2013), please visit the website at:

<http://hd.wsu.edu/gradstudies/index.htm>

or email Tom Power at:

tompower@wsu.edu

Obtaining Foundation Funding: Surviving in a Tight Funding Climate

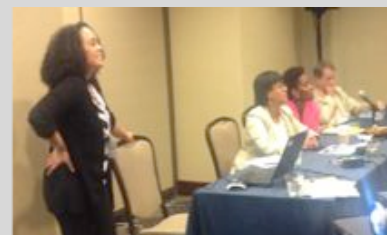
ECPN Session held at the 2012 SPR meeting by Jessica Duncan Cance and Sarah Lindstrom Johnson

"Try as many avenues as possible." This was the advice from Kim Patton, of The Foundation Center, an organization devoted to assisting individuals and organizations identify sources for foundation funding. Ms. Patton also spent some time defining and describing foundations. Foundations are organizations with missions to support specific causes or social change. Fortunately for prevention scientists the three largest foundation funding streams are education, health, and social services. To locate a foundation visit The Foundation Center's searchable database of foundations on their website, thefoundationcenter.org. It does require a paid subscription, but free access is available at many community locations. Check out the website to locate these locations.

The session also highlighted three different foundations with funding interests relevant to prevention scientists: The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, and the William T. Grant Foundation. A common piece of advice from each of the foundations was to check out their website for information! Foundation funding processes differ from NIH funding processes and vary from foundation to foundation. For example, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation puts out calls for proposals, the Annie E. Casey Foundation continuously accepts investigator-initiated proposals, and the William T. Grant Foundation accepts investigator-initiated proposals at specific times.

Each of these foundations also offers specific supports for early

career scientists which range from fellowships, to travel funding, to career development funding opportunities. In this time of shrinking budgets it is important for early career scientists to be aware of all possible avenues to advance their research and careers.



Standing is Brenda Henry from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Sitting at the table from left to right are: Kim Patton from The Foundation Center, Yanique Redwood from the Annie E. Casey Foundation, and Ed Seidman from the William T. Grant Foundation.