

# PGSA Fall 2018 Newsletter

December 2018

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Department of  
Psychology

## Welcome, New Faculty!

Our department welcomed four new faculty this fall: Dr. Susan White, Dr. Jeanne Cundiff, Dr. Bradley White, and Dr. Matthew Cribbet. Read below to find out a little bit more about our new faculty and some of their suggestions for current graduate students.



### Dr. Susan White: Clinical Child

#### 1. Broadly, what are your research interests?

Developmental psychopathology, particular emphasis on treatment research/RCTs and neurodevelopmental disorders.

#### 2. Where were you before coming to the University of Alabama?

Virginia Tech.

#### 3. What is the most exciting part of your new job at Alabama?

Renovating and expanding the Center for the Prevention of Youth Behavior Problems.

#### 4. Looking back on your career so far, what advice would you give current graduate students in our program?

Follow projects through completion even when they get hard.

## Dr. Jenny Cundiff: Clinical Health

### 1. Broadly, what are your research interests?

Broadly, I research how social contexts (e.g., socioeconomic status, social marginalization) and social relationships (e.g., marriage) influence health, primarily cardiovascular disease.

### 2. Where were you before coming to the University of Alabama?

I was an Assistant Professor at Texas Tech University for two years and before that was a research post-doc in Cardiovascular Behavioral Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh for two years.

### 3. What is the most exciting part of your new job at Alabama?

One of the most exciting parts for me is joining a program with a specific focus on Clinical Health Psychology and it's always exciting and generative to get to know new colleagues and new lines of research. I'm also excited about the geographic location because it's a great place to learn more about what contributes to racial and socioeconomic differences in cardiovascular health and what we might be able to do to help.

### 4. Looking back on your career so far, what advice would you give current graduate students in our program?

Do a post-doc! I would also say try to trust the process of learning and not get too focused on products, especially in the beginning. The often slower process of building a really strong foundation in your knowledge of the literature and methodological and statistical tools for answering questions well will pay off.

## Dr. Matthew Cribbet: Clinical Health

### 1. Broadly, what are your research interests?

I am interested in stress and sleep as determinants of cardiovascular disease risk. Recently, I have become interested in sleep as a pathway linking early life adverse experiences (childhood abuse and neglect) with physical health in adulthood. Finally, I study sleep in the context of close relationships such as marriage.

### 2. Where were you before coming to the University of Alabama?

Prior to coming to the University of Alabama, I was an Assistant Professor of Psychological Sciences at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas.

**3. What is the most exciting part of your new job at Alabama?**

The most exciting part of my new job is interacting with students and faculty.

**4. Looking back on your career so far, what advice would you give current graduate students in our program?**

I would tell current graduate students to enjoy the process of learning and learn as much as you can while in graduate school.

**Dr. Bradley White: Clinical Child**

**1. Broadly, what are your research interests?**

Development, impacts, and interventions for disruptive behavior disorders from early childhood through early adulthood.

**2. Where were you before coming to the University of Alabama?**

I was an Assistant Professor in Psychology at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA. Prior to that, I worked full time as a practicing psychologist in forensic settings.

**3. What is the most exciting part of your new job at Alabama?**

Everything! But to be more specific, I love that there are others who share my interests and are eager to collaborate, and that folks are welcoming, supportive, and collegial.

**4. Looking back on your career so far, what advice would you give current graduate students in our program?**

Be proactive, plan ahead, pursue your particular scholarly passions while reading and learning broadly, develop good writing habits and prioritize regular sacred writing times (read Paul Silvia's *How to Write a Lot*), appreciate rather than complain, embrace opportunities to network (e.g., by volunteering in a student leadership role in a good organization like ABCT, APS, etc.), accept and learn from mistakes, act upon what is under your control rather than worry, and beware of overly simplistic advice!



## New Staff Spotlight: Inge Archer



1. **Job Title:** Accounting Assistant
2. **Where is your hometown?** Tuscaloosa, Alabama has to be home because I grew up being an Army brat.
3. **What is your favorite thing about Tuscaloosa?** The RISE program where my youngest grandbaby gets to attend. Without the RISE Program she wouldn't be developing as well as she is.
4. **What do you like most about your job?** The staff and faculty have made me feel so welcomed to the department. The flexibility that they have offered me can't be measured.
5. **If you had to choose one food to eat for the rest of your life, what would it be?** Chocolate Milk and Cheese

## Meet the Transfer Students

We are so excited that with some of our new faculty members came transfer students from Virginia Tech. They have definitely integrated well into our program and we are glad they are here!



Grace Lee Simmons



Breanna Dede



Meagan Heilman



Nicole Capriola-Hall



## Meet the First Years

As with any new school year, we have an exciting new batch of first year students!



**Alexis Brewe**



**Ashley Peck**



**Betty Mendez**



**Candice Reel**



**Hillary Irwin**



**Chris Breeden**



**Chris Wendel**



**Haley Potts**



**Hannah Lind**



**Julia Loup**



**Katie Cheesman**



**Kristina Baggett**



**Mikenzie Bradfield**



**Rebecca Bauer**



**Stephanie Masters**



**Teairra Evans**



**Toni Rebaldo**

## What do the first years like best about UA so far?

Being around people passionate about critical thought –Chris B.

The community! being around people like you -Alexis and Julia

My advisor! Also great classes and great opportunities - Rebecca

Getting to know my cohort and their research interests –Teaira

How approachable and helpful the professors are - Candice

Amazing faculty and students. Also being part of the legendary Crimson Tide! -Hillary

## PGSA Members

**The 2018-2019 Psychology Graduate Student Association is working hard to promote student interests and provide opportunities for socializing and professional development for graduate students. Thank you to this year's representatives for working so hard!**



Back Row: Trent Robinson (Cognitive), Sophie Eldred (Clinical VP), Andrea Newman (GSA Senator), Keisha Carden (President), Carmen Brown (Developmental), James Rankin (Child), Alex McDiarmid (Experimental VP)

Front Row: Ricardo Wilhelm (Social), Deanna Dragan (Gero), Marissa Stanziani (Psych Law), Katie Kouchi (Health), Stephanie Doran (GSA Senator)



## Graduate Student News

### Published Papers by Student Authors:

Booker, J.A., Capriola-Hall, N.N., Dunsmore, J., Greene, R., & Ollendick, T.H. (2018). Change in maternal stress for families in treatment for their children with Oppositional Defiant Disorder. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 28, 2552-2561. doi: 10.1007/s10826-018-1089-1

Booker, J.A., Capriola-Hall, N.N., & Ollendick, T.H. (2018). Parental influences and child internalizing outcomes across multiple generations. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 27, 2217-2231. doi: 10.1007/s10826-018-1067-7

Brewe, A.M., Reisinger, D.L., Adlof, S.M., Roberts, J.E. (2018). Initiating Joint Attention in Infants with Fragile X and those at Familial High-Risk for ASD. *Journal of Intellectual Disability Research*, 62(10): 842-853.

Capriola-Hall, N.N., Wieckowski, A.T., Ollendick, T.H., & White, S.W. (2018). The influence of social communication impairments on gaze in adolescents with Social Anxiety Disorder. *Child Psychiatry and Human Development*, 49, 672-679. doi: 10.1007/s10578-018-0782-z

Dunlap, S.T., Barth, J.M., & Chappetta, K. (2018). Gender Roles in the Romantic Relationships of Women in STEM and Female-Dominated Majors: A Study of Heterosexual Couples. Accepted for publication in *Gender Issues*.

Ollendick, T.H., Ryan, S.M., Capriola-Hall, N.N., Salazar, I., Caballo, V. (In press). Evaluation of the reliability and validity of the Social Anxiety Questionnaire for Children in Adolescents with Social Anxiety Disorder. *Journal of Psychopathology and Behavioral Assessment*.

Ollendick, T.H., White, S.W., Richey, J.A., Kim-Spoon, J., Ryan, S.M., Wieckowski, A.T., Coffman, M.C., Elias, R.E., Strega, M.V., Capriola-Hall, N.N., & Smith, M. (In press). Attention bias modification treatment for adolescents with Social Anxiety Disorder. *Behavior Therapy*. doi: 10.1016/j.beth.2018.04.002

Ollendick, T.H., Ryan, S., Capriola-Hall, N. N., Austin, K., & Fraire, M. (2018). Have phobias, will travel: Addressing one barrier to the delivery of evidence-based treatment. *Behavior Therapy*, 49, 594-603.

Wieckowski, A.T., Capriola-Hall, N.N., Elias, R.E., Ollendick, T.H., & White, S.W. (In press). Brief article: Variability of attention bias in socially anxious adolescents: Differences in fixation duration toward adult and adolescent face stimuli. *Cognition and Emotion*. doi: 10.1080/02699931.2018.1476322

White, S.W., Abbott, A.L., Wieckowski, A.T., Capriola-Hall, N. N., Aly, S., & Youssef, A. (2018). Feasibility of automated training for facial emotion expression and recognition in autism. *Behavior Therapy*, 49, 881-888.

### Personal News:

Congratulations to Hylton Molzoff on her marriage to Austin Lenox!



Congratulation for Carmen Brown on her marriage to Thomas Farrell!



## Conference Presentations

Students attended the American Psychological Association (APA), Society for Psychophysiological Research (SPR), and the Alabama Psychological Association (aPA) conferences, just to name a few.





## Football games and other social events in Summer/Fall!



## Things to do in Tuscaloosa

- 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Dickens Downtown:  
Victorian holiday celebration in  
downtown Northport  
*December 4 from 5 – 8 PM*
- The Nutcracker presented by the  
Tuscaloosa Community Dancers at  
the Bama Theatre  
*December 13-16*
- Holidays on the River: ice skating at  
the Tuscaloosa Amphitheater  
*Open until January 21*  
*New this year – Very Merry Market!*
- 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual West Alabama Christmas Parade  
Downtown Tuscaloosa  
*December 3 at 6:30 PM*
- Holiday Open House  
University of Alabama Museums  
*December 9 from 2-5:30 PM*
- Home For the Holidays  
Moody Music Building  
*December 17 at 7 PM*