A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy Spring 2019 everyone! We are deep in the weeds now. First years, I suspect you are feeling the adrenaline kick in like a marathon runner in the first leg of the race. Keep pushing, you will only get smarter and more efficient about your work. Second years, we all felt the midway runners wall a few miles back, but our goal now is to sprint towards the last leg of our race: internship! This past year as your SASP president has been such an incredible honor, working alongside people who lift each other up, and are constantly working towards improving themselves. What an inspiration! Nelson Mandela once said, “Education is the most powerful weapon which we can use to change the world,” a quote that rings true to us as school psychology students. Be proud of all your efforts and know that you are a very special cog in that educational machine. So, continue studying long nights and crossing out items from your to-do list, because with the help of our new fearless leader, coordinator of our school psychology program, Dr. Lyndsay Jenkins, I expect for each and every one of us to surpass what we previously thought was our limit.

Kathleen A. Cuéllar

A FIRST YEAR’S PERSPECTIVE

Ashley Clark

“Starting graduate school can be a daunting task. Undergraduate life swiftly passes and you are thrust into a totally new endeavor of uncharted territory. Thankfully, in my experience, I have had the help of a support system that is unlike my experience as an undergrad. Alongside ten other individuals in my cohort, we learned to lean on each other and work together in ways that none of us could imagine. Even after one semester together, we have learned that, though individually gifted in different areas, using each other as resources and utilizing each other’s strengths is much more powerful when working together. Our success as a cohort wouldn’t be possible without the support of our second-year students and the wonderful faculty and staff who continuously shape our futures. Though new experiences as a graduate student at Florida State await, I am confident in the support we have and look forward to the future and the semesters to come! Go ‘Noles (from a former Gator)!”
A SECOND YEAR’S PERSPECTIVE

Christopher Cabezas

“My journey here at Florida State University has been one full of amazing experiences. In my second year in this program, I finally feel like I truly have a grasp of what it means to be a school psychologist and work within a school system. From classes that have provided more support in my role as a school practitioner to my applied immersion into working at schools with practicum, my second year feels like all the pieces are falling into place. I am very ready to start my interviews for internship and a new adventure as a third year in this wonderful program.”

CURRENT INTERNS: A REFLECTION

“My internship experience in Palm Beach County has been amazing! I’ve been exposed to many diverse populations and experiences. I have really expanded all of my skills. The supervisors are so experienced and make sure you have the best internship possible!” – Megan Hahn

“I am thoroughly enjoying my internship with Pinellas County Schools! So far, the hardest part of internship has been learning about policies specific to the district; however, everyone at my school and within Psychological services has been so helpful in teaching me! My favorite part so far has been counseling and getting to know my students. I’ve also enjoyed learning about the tier 3 process and my role within it.” – Kathryn Goldstein
SASP SOCIAL HAPPENINGS

1. THE 2018–2019 EXECUTIVE BOARD
2. THE EXECUTIVE BOARD PRESENTING WITH DR. JENKINS AT THE 2018 FASP CONVENTION
3. THE CLASS OF 2020 WITH DR. KRACH
4. MEETING PRESIDENT THRASHER AT THE BIG EVENT
5 & 6. THE 2019 NEDA WALK, SASP PLACED 9TH IN FUNDRAISING
Dr. Steven Pfeiffer is a professor in the Department of Educational Psychology and Learning Systems and has been with us since 2003!

What do you like to do for fun?
“For many years, a group of friends each winter would head out to Park City, Utah and challenge ourselves and each other skiing the Black Diamond runs. I also enjoyed, in my younger years, trail and mountain biking, hiking and camping, scuba diving, and mountain climbing. I’ve cut-back on the higher risk fun activities. And I most enjoy spending time with my three adult kids and, now 5 grandkids.”

What is your favorite memory as a professor at FSU?
“I’ve particularly enjoyed interacting with students, socially off campus and at conferences, such as FASP, NASP and APA.

This past fall, the going away party that the second-year school psychology cohort threw for me was a real special event. I’ll always remember and treasure the very touching and meaningful notes that the school psychology students wrote on the large poster card that they created! It remains in my University office to this day!”

What is one memory in your career as a School Psychologist that stands out?
“It is almost hard to believe that I graduated in 1977 and started work in 1978! It is so difficult to think of just one particularly special memory. If I had to pick just one, it would be the time that I was invited to testify at the White House! This was in June 1993. The Clinton presidency was rolling-out their nationwide healthcare initiative, and I was invited to testify on the unmet needs of students with developmental disabilities. It was a high-anxiety, but super-exciting experience. I got to meet Vice President Al Gore’s wife, who was advocating for the mental health needs of America’s children. And I got to meet, and actually spend some quality, one-on-one time with Theodore Sorensen, who was a senior advisor and speechwriter for President John F. Kennedy!”

What is the best advice you have for future School Psychologists?
“Be open—truly open, to learn, grow, challenge yourself. And be open to graciously and sincerely accept feedback. And remember that becoming a super-competent, ‘expert’ School Psychologist takes many years of experience, supervision, in-service training, reading and consultation- after you graduate from FSU!”
Dr. Lyndsay Jenkins is the program coordinator of the M.S./Ed.S. program in School Psychology and the faculty sponsor for the FSU chapter of the Student Affiliates in School Psychology. She conducts research on bullying and school violence, particularly the role bystanders play in preventing bullying. Dr. Jenkins moved to Florida with her husband and three daughters, ages 10, 8, and 4 years. She is devoted to training future school psychologists to make ethical data-based decisions and advocate for children. She enjoys cooking and exercising. Dr. Jenkins’ tips for graduate students include ask questions, get involved in nonrequired activities such as research and presenting opportunities, and do not procrastinate!

Dr. Kathleen Krach is a core faculty member in the M.S./Ed.S. School Psychology program as well as in the Ph.D. Combined School and Counseling Psychology program. She teaches content in the areas of assessment, diagnostics, diversity, and school-based intervention. Dr. Krach is married with one daughter and two cats. When not working, she enjoys spending time with her family and traveling. Dr. Krach’s main tip for graduate school is to be prepared to take advantage of any learning or mentorship opportunity available. Remember, the faculty and more advanced students are here to help you learn, develop, and grow. Enjoy your time with us here at FSU. We are glad that you are here.