

EPSA Newsletter

Here's to celebrating our successes!!
-Well done everyone-



January & February 2017

Upcoming Events

Feb. 21st EPSA Happy Hour!
 Location TBA

End of Next Newsletter
March

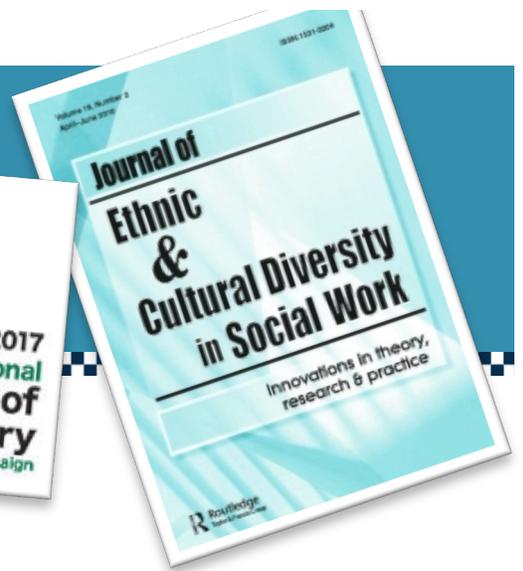
What are you up to?

Dr. Tony Tan

Dr. Tan is working on testing a “goodness-of-fit” hypothesis with a longitudinal dataset that he obtained from the University of Oregon. He is hoping to determine whether adopted children who are genetically and temperamentally similar to the adoptive mothers would demonstrate more favorable developmental outcomes. Several researchers from different universities will be co-authoring this paper with him.

An accomplishment Dr. Tan is happy to share is that on January 13th, 2017, he served as the first opponent of a dissertation defense at the University of Bergen, Norway. The first opponent is one of two researchers outside of the candidate’s committee. His role was to question the candidate on various aspects of her thesis. It was a great learning experience about how dissertation defense works in a different country. To the left is a photo of the event.





Rica Ramírez

Rica will have finished her second wave of data collection for her dissertation this month. Her dissertation is examining maternal responsiveness and it's impact on bilingual language development in 2-year-old children. The top left picture is a flyer for her dissertation.

She will then start conducting preliminary data analysis after the second wave is completed.

Rica had a Zoom interview (similar to Skype) with the University of Texas at San Antonio for an Assistant

Professor position of Early Childhood Education on February 1st.

Emily Mahoney

Emily is continuing to enjoy teaching EDP 3273 and EDF 3228.

She is working on her autoethnography about an interview gone wrong, which she plans to springboard off into another work about resiliency and what predicts success/completion in a program.

Emily and Travis submitted a

paper titled, "Congruency in the Black-White Biracial's Understanding of their Identity: Explicit Racial Preference" to the *Journal of Ethnic & Cultural Diversity in Social Work*. They got a Revise and Resubmit! Congratulations!

Travis Marn

Four of Travis' paper proposals have been accepted to the ICQI conference in collaboration with Rica, Dr. Agosto, Dr. Wolgemuth, Lesley Noel, Sujay Sabnis, Jason Lover, and Geoffrey West. Phew! That's a lot of collaborations! Travis has

a book review that was accepted for publication in the journal *Educational Philosophy & Theory*. He also received a revise and resubmit for another paper with the journal *Qualitative Inquiry* in collaboration with Dr. Wolgemuth, Dr. Ruatio, Dr. Koro-Ljunberg, Dr. Nordstrom,

and Adam Clark. Well done Travis ☺

Katie Jansen

Katie has some big news! She is pregnant and due in June ☺ Congratulations Katie! We're thrilled for you!

She is also putting together a



study of teacher beliefs about cognitive development and the need for supportive teaching.

Educational Psychology Student Association 2017



Jessica Rice

An article that Dr. Tan and Jessica have been working on was recently accepted and published in *Children and Youth Services Review*. The article explores the precipitating factors that youth describe as contributing to their inpatient psychiatric hospitalizations. Jessica is hoping that her dissertation will be an extension of this research and some of their findings. She is planning to propose her dissertation at the end of April! How exciting!! ☺

Dr. Lisa Lopez

Dr. Lopez is currently on sabbatical for the spring semester. Dr. Lopez was chosen as a mentor for the Millennium Scholars Program at SRCD and is also running for chair-elect of the SRCD Latino Caucus. She is part of an expert panel chosen by the state to revise the Florida Early Learning and Development Standards. She is currently working on a book with Dr. Mariela Paez at Boston

College focused on DLLs in early childhood settings.

Dr. Sarah Kiefer

Dr. Kiefer gave two keynote speeches for the College Board's Florida Partnership for Minority and Underrepresented Students. She gave the first keynote address at their Middle Level Colloquium in spring of 2016 titled, '*How can middle level educators engage and motivate minority and underrepresented students as they transition into high school?*'. She also gave the second keynote address at their District Leadership Training Meeting in the summer of 2016 titled, '*Moving beyond the achievement gap: Addressing transitional issues and social emotional factors.*'

Dr. Kiefer developed and is currently teaching an undergraduate course on innovative and creative thinking for the Honors College. She is co-teaching the course with Drs. Michael Cross (Instructor at the Honors College and Interim Director of the USF Office of Undergraduate Research) and Kim Macuare (Manager of USF's

Institute for Advanced Discovery & Innovation and Assistant Editor of *Technology and Innovation*). It's been a very rewarding experience for her, as many of the innovators who are faculty in the Institute speak in their class

(<http://www.usf.edu/research-innovation/institute-advanced-discovery/institute-faculty.aspx>).

She is also a PI on a research project examining the extent to which students' innovative and creative thinking changes



compared to two control courses.

Dr. Kiefer had her third experience serving as an External Accreditation Reviewer (and her first time serving as team leader!) for the Ministry of Education in the United Arab Emirates in spring of 2016.

FULBRIGHT

Dr. Darlene DeMarie

Dr. DeMarie's research looks at "Human Development in a Global Context." She recently returned from a sabbatical leave trip to South Africa. She visited the child care center she co-created on her Fulbright CORE Scholar Award to South Africa from 2007 to 2009 and is working to complete a commissioned report for the University of Limpopo on what the child development center means to the children, families, and university. She also interviewed alumni parents to learn the center's impact on their children's school success. Being back at the child care center was an amazing opportunity, and she discovered that many of the alumni children were performing in the top 10 of multiple grades (1st through 7th grades) at 5 different elementary schools (private, Christian, and public) in that region. She collected lots of interview data and gave presentations to the Management Team and the parents about why the approach the teachers were using worked well for their children. She shared research that showed the importance of play with adult scaffolding and meaningful, context-based learning for young children. The teachers were getting pressure to give the 2- to 6-year old children workbooks to practice skills in isolation (sound familiar?) for future school "success," and they needed documentation about alumni children's success to support their approach.

Darlene is conducting other research that includes: 1) the impact of a preschool music program on young children's executive functions, which is a collaboration with Dr. Jennifer Bugos in Music Education and funded by an NEA grant; 2) using autophotography to look at schools through children's eyes; and 3) the impact of Fulbright Awards on faculty members' personal and professional development. She currently is analyzing the data for #3 with a collaboration





Your work and
accomplishments are
inspiring!
-Keep up the good work-

Thank you to those who participated. Please let me know if there is anything you need to make your time in our program the best experience!

Look out for our next newsletter at the end of March.
Can't wait to hear what you've done next 😊

EPSA

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