ALBERTI CENTER MISSION

The mission of the Alberti Center is to reduce bullying abuse in schools and in the community by contributing knowledge and providing evidence-based tools to effectively change the language, attitudes, and behaviors of educators, parents, students, and society. The center will be a national resource on the prevention of bullying and other antisocial behaviors among school children, as well as provide research and information that address these behaviors.

HISTORY OF THE CENTER

A generous gift from Graduate School of Education alumna Jean M. Alberti (Ph.D. ’70, Educational Psychology) established the Dr. Jean M. Alberti Center for the Prevention of Bullying Abuse and School Violence (Alberti Center for Bullying Abuse Prevention) at the University at Buffalo. The center was introduced to the public on April 27, 2010, through its symposium, "Prevention of Bullying Abuse and School Violence," and was officially launched in July of 2011, when Amanda Nickerson, Ph.D., became the inaugural director.
STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND IMPACT

It has been a busy and exciting year as we work to fulfill our important mission. This annual report highlights our activities as they relate to the mission and vision of the Alberti Center for Bullying Abuse Prevention, the Graduate School of Education (GSE), and the University at Buffalo, the State University of New York. We showcase our partners, including faculty affiliates, advisory council members, research collaborators, funders, sponsors, award winners, and community members throughout this report. These collaborative partnerships remain as the cornerstone of our work.

In relation to our mission of contributing knowledge, the Alberti Center affiliated faculty have published their work in peer refereed journals in various fields and presented at a number of professional conferences. Faculty members have been very active in pursuing and securing external funding for research and evaluation projects and have received honors and appointments in recognition of their scholarship. Finally, the Alberti Center has supported the contributions of exceptional early career scholars in the field of bullying abuse prevention through its annual award.

Our engagement, through interprofessional collaboration and providing evidence-based tools to our schools and communities for a better quality of life, continues to be a critical part of the mission of the Alberti Center, the GSE, and UB. In this report, we recognize our advisory council, consisting of internationally renowned scholars, and pillars of the Western New York community representing the fields of law, education, and human services. We also note the multiple presentations we have conducted in schools and communities. Our various sponsored events, including our annual conference, colloquium series, BAND Against Bullying performing arts competition for area high schools, and many others, are highlighted in this report.

The Alberti Center actively supports the GSE’s pedagogy of inquiry, engagement, and impact. Our contributions in this area have benefitted both UB students as well as practitioners through the Center for Continuing and Professional Education and as a New York State Education Department approved provider of the Dignity for All Students Act training. It is an honor to be able to collaborate with such talented and generous partners in working to reduce bullying abuse in our schools and communities.
Peer Refereed Journal Articles


Journal Articles (other)


Book

Book Chapters


Articles for Practitioners (Peer Refereed)


Professional Presentations


Nickerson, A. B. (2015, August). *How can schools prepare for and respond to crisis events?* In M.J. Mayer (Chair), *How safe are our schools?* Symposium presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada.


**Invited Professional Presentations:**


Ostrov, J. M. (2015, October). Keynote address on relational bullying and discussion panels delivered at a conference on developmental and relationship implications for bullying and bullying prevention at St. John’s University (Queens, NY).

**Funded Research**


Grant Proposals Submitted

**Amanda Nickerson** and Shane Jimerson (Multiple PI). “Impact of comprehensive school safety training on preparedness, interdisciplinary collaboration, and school climate.” Institute of Education Science ($2,419,168).

Sharon Raimondi, Lynn Shanahan, **Amanda Nickerson**, Bridget Hier, Elisabeth Etopio (Multiple PI). “TeachLive: Enhancing pedagogical practice within a stimulated environment.” University at Buffalo Graduate School of Education Teaching Grant ($10,000).

Lyndsay Jenkins (PI); **Amanda Nickerson (mentor)**. “Forms of defending victims of bullying: Concurrent, longitudinal, and classroom predictors.” Society for the Study of School Psychology ($14,759).

Honors and Appointments

**Kishel, B.** | Community Advisory Committee, Center for Disabilities Studies at UB
Executive Board, Disability Education and Advocacy Network (DEAN) of WNY
Advisory Committee Member, BAND Against Bullying (11/14-present)

**Nickerson, A. B.** | Fellow, American Psychological Association (Division 16)
Advisory Member, Long Island School Practitioner Action Network (1/15-present)
Advisory Committee Member, BAND Against Bullying (11/12-present)
Reviewer of the Year, *Journal of School Psychology*, 2015

**Reynolds, A.** | Fellow, American Psychological Association Div. 17 (Society of Counseling Psychology)

**Treadway, D. C.** | Founding Fellow, U.S. Academy on Workplace Bullying, Mobbing, and Abuse

Alberti Center Early Career Award (2015)

**RECIPIENT—Chad A. Rose, Ph.D.,** Assistant Professor | Department of Special Education | University of Missouri

This award recognizes Dr. Rose as an individual who has made exemplary scholarly contributions to the field of bullying abuse prevention and conducted research that has the potential to influence practice and policy.

**RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS**


RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS (continued)


ENGAGING: INTERPROFESSIONAL COLLABORATIONS AND EVENTS

Advisory Council

Lana D. Benatovich, President | National Federation for Just Communities of WNY
Vito Borrello, Executive Director | National Association for Family, School, & Community Engagement
Anna R. Cieri, Ph.D., Assist. Superintendent, Exceptional Education and Student Services | Williamsville Central School District
Dewey G. Cornell, Ph.D., Professor and Endowed Chair, Education | University of Virginia
Janice L. DeLucia, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Counseling, School, & Educational Psychology | University at Buffalo
Dorothy L. Espelage, Ph.D., Professor, Education Psychology | University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Bruce Goldstein, Special Counsel | Kenney, Shelton, Liptak, Nowak, LLP
Jamie M. Ostrov, Ph.D., Professor, Psychology | University at Buffalo
Kevin Penberthy, LCSW, Deputy Director, Regional Office | New York State OPWDD
Debra Pepler, Ph.D., Distinguished Research Professor | York University
Amy L. Reynolds, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Counseling, School, & Educational Psychology | University at Buffalo
Reed Stewart, LCSW-R, Program Director, Beacon Health Strategies
Susan M. Swearer, Ph.D., Professor, School Psychology | University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Faculty Affiliates

Ariel Aloe, Ph.D., Research Scientist, Graduate School of Education | University at Buffalo & Assistant Professor | University of Iowa
Laura Anderson, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, School of Nursing | University at Buffalo
Catherine P. Cook-Cottone, PhD., Associate Professor, Counseling, School, & Educational Psychology | University at Buffalo
Janice L. DeLucia, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Counseling, School, & Educational Psychology and Program Director, School Counseling | University at Buffalo
Rina D. Eiden, Ph.D., Senior Research Scientist, Research Institute on Addictions | University at Buffalo
Jennifer Livingston, Ph.D., Research Scientist, Research Institute on Addictions | University at Buffalo
Jamie M. Ostrov, Ph.D., Professor, Psychology | University at Buffalo
Amy L. Reynolds, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Counseling, School, & Educational Psychology | University at Buffalo
Darren Treadway, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Organization and HR | University at Buffalo
Presentations in the Community


**Toni Torchia**, Immaculata Academy. *Quality of Relationships: From peers to partners*. Sponsored by Zonta Club of Hamburg/Orchard Park. 1 hour. 150 attendees (students, staff, Zonta members).

**Amanda Nickerson**, Bullying prevention and intervention, Niagara University school counseling course, April 4, 2016. 1 hour, 10 attendees.

**Amanda Nickerson**, PREPaRE workshop 1: Crisis Prevention and Preparedness, Orchard Park Central School District. March 18, 2016. 6.5 contact hours, 28 attendees (school-based mental health professionals, administrators).

**Toni Torchia**, Western New York Children’s Psychiatric Center. (March 2016). *Cyberbullying and You*. 1 hour. 50 attendees (staff and students).

**Toni Torchia**, 2 Presentations at Smallwood Elementary School *Making the Most of Our Differences* presented to grades 3-5 and *Embracing Our Differences* presented to grades K-2. February 2016. 2 hours. Total of 150 attendees in grades K-5.

**Toni Torchia**, 2 Presentations for grades 5-6 and 7-8 at West Seneca East Middle School. January 2016. Total of 900 attendees.

**Toni Torchia**, Unity Day with Lancaster High School’s Gay Straight Alliance. 1 hour. October 2016. 30 attendees (grades 9-12).

**Toni Torchia**, Workshop at The Hub in Hamburg. October 2015. 18 attendees (students in grades 9-12) and DASA coordinators.

**Melissa Dudley and Courtney Santasero**, UB South Campus “Day of the Girl” event sponsored by Empower Girls Buffalo. 2 hours. 120 attendees.

**Toni Torchia**, *What You Need to Know About Bullying in High School and College*. Upward Bound program summer speaker series. (July, 2015). 1 contact hour, 35 attendees (grades 9-12).
2015-2016 Colloquium Series

**September, 2015 – Amanda Nickerson, Ph.D.**  
Director, Alberti Center for Bullying Abuse Prevention  
Professor of Counseling, School, and Educational Psychology | University at Buffalo  

*Bystanders in Bullying: What We Know and Where To Go*  
50 Attendees

**November, 2014 – Timothy Servoss, Ph.D.**  
Assistant Professor, Educational Psychology | Canisius College  

**Jeremy Finn, Ph.D.**  
Distinguished Professor, Graduate School of Education | University at Buffalo  

*Security Measures in American Schools: Are Schools Safer?*  
30 Attendees

**February, 2016 - Rina D. Eiden, Ph.D.**  
Senior Research Scientist | Research Institute on Addictions | University at Buffalo  

*Children of Substance Using Parents: Pathways to Risk and Resilience*  
55 Attendees

**March, 2016 – Julie C. Bowker, Ph.D.**  
Associate Professor of Psychology | University at Buffalo  

*The Significance of Friendship and Peer Difficulties During Early Adolescence*  
35 Attendees
Alberti Center Annual Conference - October 19, 2015

Morning Keynote Presentation:

*Ending Bullying, Harassment, and Intimidation in our Schools: The Hard Steps Not Yet Taken*

**Maurice Elias, Ph.D.**  
Professor of Psychology  
Director, Rutgers Social-Emotional Learning Lab  
Co-Director, SEL Academy (SELinSchools.org) | Rutgers University

Panel Discussion:

*Best Practices and Real World Issues from Preschool through High School*

**Tracey Banks**, Early Childhood Direction Center  
**Leslie Barr**, Amherst School District  
**Robert Coniglio**, Clarence High School  
**Maurice Elias, Ph.D.**, Rutgers University  
**Jennifer Greif Green, Ph.D.**, Boston University

Afternoon Keynote Presentation:

*Transitioning to College: The Experience of First-Year Students with a History of Childhood Bullying*  
sponsored by embraceWNY

**Jennifer Greif Green, Ph.D**  
Assistant Professor of Special Education | Boston University  
Recipient of the 2014 Early Career Award
2015 Conference Sponsors

Platinum Sponsor
embraceWNY

Gold Sponsors
Buffalo Teachers Federation
Child and Family Services
Hodgson Russ
National Federation for Just Communities of WNY, Inc.
NY Association of School Psychologists
UB Graduate School of Education
UB Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Co-Sponsored Events

Several local schools participate in BAND Against Bullying by integrating the arts into a theatrical, dance or musical performance related to the theme of Dignity. The acts are evaluated by a panel of judges on their illustration of dignity awareness. All participating schools perform at the University at Buffalo Center for the Arts. It is an eventful evening, including valuable information on bullying awareness, exceptional talent and collaboration among students, and an opportunity to raise money for the prevention of bullying in schools. Proceeds benefit each participating school, and the continued development of the program.

BAND Against Bullying IV (April 2016) Presented by Hodgson Russ, M&T Band, Kiss 98.5, University at Buffalo

UB 13th annual Safe Schools Seminar (March 2016) Preventing and Responding to Violent Threats: Tools for Schools and Law Enforcement, 900+ attendees (school personnel, law enforcement, etc.)

Alberti Center Presence at Other Events/Venues

Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day (May 2016)

“Embrace the Difference” Giveback Day (April 2016)

“Spread the Word to End the Word” (March 2016)

Dr. Seuss’s Birthday Celebration. Reading of “The Sneetches” (March 2016)

“UB Adopt-a-Family” for Christmas event (December 2015)

Queen of Heaven School’s “Run, Walk, Roll Against Bullying 5K” (October 2015)

Media Coverage & Press Releases

Anti-bullying presentation given at academy - 5/19/16

Focus group seeks to help communication about sexual abuse - 5/3/16

UB Researchers to study gun violence among youths - 2/24/16

Talking to kids about deadly events - 11/4/15

Queen of Heaven School race to help combat bullying - 10/7/15

UB Alberti Center for Bullying Abuse Prevention Hosting Annual Conference - 10/6/15
Bullying Abuse Prevention in Buffalo - 10/1/15

RIA, Bullying Center Partner on Grant - 8/20/15

RIA partners with Alberti Bullying Center for $3.4 million grant on high-risk youth - 8/19/15

Free2Luv Teams Up with the Alberti Center - 8/6/15

Social Media Efforts/Center Reach

511 Followers

528 Followers

1115 Contacts

83 Members
Pedagogy of Inquiry, Engagement, and Impact

Center for Continuing and Professional Education (CCPE) Courses

**CEP 752 - Bullying Prevention and Intervention (online)**

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**CEP 754 - School Crisis Prevention and Preparedness**
PREPaRE Workshop 1: Crisis Prevention and Preparedness: Comprehensive School Safety Planning

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**CEP 756 - School Crisis Intervention and Recovery**
PREPaRE Workshop 2: Crisis Intervention and Recovery: The Roles of School-Based Mental Health Professionals

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**Total participants in Fall 2015 semester CCPE courses:** 28 Students

NYSED Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) Training for Certification

![Graph showing DASA Participants from July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016](image)

**DASA Participants from July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016**

**Total number of registrants:** 366 students
Financial Report

Beginning balance of IFR  $45,797.59
Beginning balance of UBF  $67,104.18
Beginning Operating Budget  $12,000.00

REVENUES

Gifts/Donations/Sponsorship:  $31,221.33
Annual Conference Registration:  $3,905.00
Presentation Fees:  $225.00
Teaching (Course Materials):  $4,025.00
DASA Training:  $19,444.50
NASP (GA Sponsorship):  $12,672.00
Grants (Salary Recovery):  $5,919.00
Total:  $77,411.83

OPERATING EXPENSES

Program Services:
Annual Conference:  $7,319.38
Early Career Award:  $1,105.00
Hospitality (Airlines/Hotels/Meeting):  $2,518.42
DASA Training:  $16,500.00
Resource/Teaching Materials:  $1,612.90

Facilities and Administrative:
GUSF & Epay Fees:  $4,633.56
Personnel:  $27,325.00
Staff Travel & Registrations:  $989.88

Other Expenses:
Office Supplies/printing:  $2,037.99
Equipment/Software:  $1,986.53
Sponsorships:  $1,270.00
Marketing:  $396.23
Total:  $67,694.89

YEAR END BALANCES

State Operating Funds (Dean’s Office) – 0.00
UBF Account – $77,060.37
IFR Account – $62,727.51