

*Curriculum Vitae*

**Julianna Casella**

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**EDUCATION**

Doctor of Philosophy, Combined Program in Counseling Psychology & School Psychology  
(APA Accredited) May 2025 [anticipated]

*University at Buffalo, The State University of New York, Buffalo, NY*

Dissertation Title: "School Psychologists' Roles and Experiences with Crisis Prevention and Perceptions of Safety"

Master of Education, Education Studies June 2023

*University at Buffalo, The State University of New York, Buffalo, NY*

Bachelor of Science, Majors: Biology and Psychology, Minor: Writing & Rhetoric May 2020

*Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY*

Magna Cum Laude, Dean's List, Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) Honors

**CLINICAL EXPERIENCE**

**Graduate Fellow (20 hrs/week)** August 2020-Present  
20 hours per week

Supervisor: Amanda Nickerson, Ph.D., NCSP

*Alberti Center for Bullying Abuse Prevention, University at Buffalo*

- Collect, analyze and disseminate information on bullying abuse, prevention and intervention in schools and various community locations
- Lead 8-session bullying prevention and bystander intervention training afterschool program at two Buffalo Public Schools through Belle Center for students in grades 5-8
- Facilitate bystander intervention trainings and focus groups for NAB IT! (Norms And Bystander Intervention Training) an IES funded intervention to promote peer intervention during instances of bullying and sexual harassment

**Advanced Practicum Student (15 hrs/week)** August 2023- Present

Supervisor: Joy Parrish, Ph.D., ABBP-CN

*UBMD Physicians' Group Neurology*

- Administer and score neuropsychological assessments for pediatric patients (ages 5-18) with variety of clinical concerns, including Traumatic Brain Injury; Epilepsy; Autism Spectrum Disorder; Demyelinating Disorders; Head Injury; Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder; Learning Disabilities; Intellectual Disabilities; Memory impairment second to cancer treatment

- Administer cognitive, academic achievement, sensorimotor, visual-spatial, attention, executive function, language, social perception, learning and memory assessments

**Research Clinical Intern and Team Leader (40 hrs/week)**

June-August 2023

Supervisor: Marcus Thomeer, Ph.D.

*summerMAX Psychosocial Treatment Program, Institute for Autism Research (IAR), Canisius University, Buffalo, NY*

- Served as a research-clinical intern for empirically validated summerMAX psychosocial treatment program (see Lopata et al., 2013; Thomeer et al., 2016; Thomeer et al., 2012) for 8-10 year old autistic children without intellectual disabilities (ID)
- Completed 40 hours of training prior to the program (passed mandatory written exam [score of 100%] and demonstrated proficiency with >90% fidelity)
- Implemented the manualized active treatment components including instruction of social skills, interpretation of non-literal language, and face-emotion recognition for 12 autistic children without ID
- Facilitated social skills groups, lead cooperative and therapeutic groups, instituted an intensive response-cost structured behavioral program and implemented an individualized daily note
- Collected daily behavioral data on each child's response to the program elements and entered the data into a database
- Completed pre- and post-test protocols for child participants including the Adaptive Behavior Assessment System 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (ABAS-3), the Behavior Assessment System for Children-3 Teacher Rating Scale (BASC-3 TRS-C), Social Responsiveness Scale-2 (SRS-2), Grit Scale, Big Five Inventory-2 (BFI-2), Self-Concept Clarity (SCC), Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale, and Domain-Specific Impulsivity Scale for Children (DSIS-C)
- Responsible for managing team activities and treatment and meeting with parents daily to update them on their children's progress

**Pediatric Hematology-Oncology Psychology Practicum Student (14 hrs/week)** August 2022-May 2023

Supervisor: Cate Flanagan-Priore, Ph.D.

*Oishei Children's Hospital and Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Buffalo, NY*

- Provided supportive counseling to children and adolescents diagnosed with cancer, sickle cell or other hematological disorders and their families, inpatient at Oishei Children's Hospital and outpatient at Roswell Park Cancer Institute Clinic
- Consulted with medical and psychosocial team regarding patient care and needs
- Coordinated educational services during child's treatment
- Trained in BrightIDEAS Problem Solving Skills Intervention in Oncology and the Psychosocial Assessment Tool
- Attended professional development lectures regarding pediatric psychology and psycho-oncology

**School Psychology Advanced Assessment and Teaching Practicum (10 hrs/week)** August 2022-May 2023

Supervisor: Rebecca Vujnovic, Ph.D.

*University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY*

- Supervised first year school psychology students administering the Brigance, Early Childhood Screening to Universal Preschool students
- Graded students' protocols and reviewed results with students (WISC, WJ COG, WJ ACH, WIAT, WASI)

**School Psychology Practicum Student (14 hrs/week)**

August 2021-May 2022

Supervisor: Marc Renzoni, M.A.

*Waterfront Elementary School, Buffalo Public School District, Buffalo, NY*

Supervisor: Emily Krezmien, M.A., NCSP

*Mill Middle School, Williamsville Central School District, Williamsville, NY*

- Administered cognitive, behavioral and achievement assessments to students in grades PK-8
- Conducted functional behavior assessments
- Developed and implemented behavior intervention plans
- Consulted with teaching staff and parents/guardians regarding academic and behavioral issues within the classroom
- Presented student evaluation and reevaluation results at Committee on Special Education (CSE) meetings
- Led small group psychoeducational sessions with fifth and sixth grade students in Life Skill NYSAA class, covering social-emotional topics
- Led groups with 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students promoting social-emotional well-being, including self-compassion, interpersonal skills and confidence building
- Developed and implemented academic interventions for reading fluency for third grade students

**Universal Pre-Kindergarten Screening**

August 2020-April 2021

Supervisor: Rebecca Vujnovic, Ph.D.

*University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY*

- Administered the Brigance, Early Childhood Screening to students in universal pre-kindergarten programs within the Williamsville School District

**Say Yes Tutor**

July 2020-August 2020

Supervisor: Katherine Pesscow

*University at Buffalo and Community Canvases*

- Participated and provided additional support (in the form of small group or 1-on-1 time) during instructional times

**Special Education Aide and Lunch Monitor**

May 2018-June 2021

*North Merrick Union Free School District*

- Assisted with teaching students with various disabilities, grades K-6, one-on-one in a classroom setting to complete classwork and manage behaviors
- Supervised classes of children, grades K-6, while at lunch and recess

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Course Instructor** Fall 2023

CEP 411: Special Topics in Counseling Psychology: Introduction to School Psychology, 3-credits

*Graduate School of Education, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY*

- Designed and taught course curriculum for 35 undergraduate students as an overview to the profession of school psychology

**Teaching Assistant**

CEP 640: Introduction to School Psychology Fall 2022

CEP 590: Psychological Measurement and Intellectual Assessment Fall 2022

CEP 592: Psychoeducational Assessment of Children & Adolescents Spring 2023

CEP 694: Academic Interventions Spring 2023

Supervisor: Rebecca Vujnovic, Ph.D.

*Graduate School of Education, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY*

- Graded assessment related assignments, including protocols and reports
- Held weekly office hours
- Held 2 guest lectures “Committee for Special Education (CSE) Basics for Going to Practicum” and “Promoting Social Justice and Equity in School Psychology”

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

**Graduate Assistant**

Supervisor: Amanda Nickerson, Ph.D., NCSP August 2020-Present

*Alberti Center for Bullying Abuse Prevention, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY*

- Assist in the development of the Norms and Bystander Intervention Training (NAB IT!) Program, including developing NAB IT! Bystander Intervention Training Facilitator’s guide, cofacilitating bystander intervention training for high school students, facilitating focus groups of school faculty, administering surveys, designing infographics and drafting consent and assent forms
- Assist in the development and implementation of “Building Youth Resiliency and School Capacity to Identify and Respond to Violent Behavior Through Bystander Intervention Training” a DHS funded grant project aimed to prevent bullying, sexual harassment and targeted acts of violence through bystander intervention trainings for high school students, faculty and staff, including grant writing, drafting pre- and post-test surveys, and drafting recruitment material

- Worked in partnership with Safe and Sound Schools to develop an online training curriculum for the Texas School Safety Center on Pathways to School Violence Prevention and Multi-tiered Systems of Support
- Assist in literature reviews, editing and drafting of manuscripts for articles relating to school crisis prevention and intervention, school violence and bullying interventions
- Assisted with compiling data for report to local school district on students' and teachers' wellbeing during the COVID-19 Pandemic

### **Research Assistant**

Supervisor: Roman Kotov, Ph.D.

June 2019-June 2020

*World Trade Center Personality & Health Study, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY*

- Longitudinal CDC-funded project investigating the relationship between personality traits and psychological and physical health in responders to the World Trade Center 9/11 attacks
- Interviewed participants using the Range of Impaired Functioning Tool (RIFT) and Stressful Life Events Schedule (SLES) to assess stress and functioning levels.
- Led weekly consensus meetings with the team to determine the objective threat and dependency of each stressful event to derive final ratings.
- Conducted blood processing of samples to be used to determine gene expression and protein levels

### **Research Assistant**

Supervisor: Howard Sirotkin, Ph.D.

January 2018-June 2019

*Neurobiology and Behavior, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY*

- Analyzed the *grin* gene family in zebrafish in order to model a gene mutation linked with epilepsy
- Performed various molecular biology techniques such as gel electrophoresis, PCR, and DNA extraction
- Conducted and analyzed behavioral testing on zebrafish

### **Research Team Leader**

Supervisor: Peter Gergen, Ph.D.

January 2017-November 2017

*Stony Brook University iGEM Team, Stony Brook, NY*

- Led a team of other undergraduates to design and execute a synthetic biology project titled "Bacterioassasins"
- Investigated how to use novel, hybrid proteins secreted from bacterial cells as an alternative treatment for MRSA
- Organized outreach events with elementary school children to educate about synthetic biology
- Learn more at: [http://2017.igem.org/Team:Stony\\_Brook#](http://2017.igem.org/Team:Stony_Brook#)

### **Student Researcher**

Supervisor: Maen Alkhader, Ph.D.

June 2014-August 2015

*Mechanical Engineering, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY*

- Designed and executed two independent research projects *The Strength and Flexibility of Varying Hexagonal Composites of Polylactic Acid* and *Carbon Fiber Ballistic Shield: Protecting Children from School Shootings and Violence*
- Performed various lab techniques such as 3D printing and creating carbon fiber composites
- Presented at JVLISF and Long Island Science Congress for high school students

## REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

Nickerson, A. B., Manges, M. E., **Casella, J.**, Huang, Y., Bellavia, G. M., Livingston, J., Jenkins, L. N., & Feeley, T. H. (in press). Bystander intervention in bullying and sexual harassment training: Mixed-method evaluation. *Journal of Prevention and Health Promotion*.

**Casella, J.**, Nickerson, A.B., & Fredrick, S.S. (2022). Social Support, Student Engagement and Internalizing Symptoms Related to Modes of Instructional Style During the COVID-19 Pandemic. [Submitted for Initial Review].

Harrison D.S., Jenkins, L.N., Nickerson A.B., **Casella, J.N.**, & Bellavia, G.M. (2022). Why Do Some Bullying Victims Perpetrate or Defend? The Moderating Effect of Empathy. [Revised manuscript under review].

Heidelburg, K., Parker, J.S., **Casella, J.**, Kozlowski, K., & Purvis, L.N. (2022). Using Technology to Develop Novice School Psychology Consultants' Multicultural School Consultation Skills. [Revise and Resubmit].

## PUBLICATIONS FOR PRACTITIONERS

**Casella, J.** & Margiotta, K. (2023, March/April). Using practicum and internship to better understand crisis prevention and intervention. *NASP Communique*. 51(6), 35.

**Casella, J.** (2022-2023,). [Review of the presentation] *Reimagining school psychologists as healers* by Malone, C.M. *The New York School Psychologist*. 41(2).

**Casella, J. N.**, Manges, M. E., & Nickerson, A. B. (2022, July). *InBalance*. <https://newsletter.sccap53.org/in-focus-understanding-preventing-and-responding-to-school-violence/>.

Nickerson, A. B., **Casella, J.**, & Huang, Y. (2021). *Introduction to Pathways for Prevention of School Violence®: Multi-tiered Systems of Support for Safer School Communities*. Texas School Safety Center and Safe and Sound Schools.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

**Casella, J.**, & Nickerson, A. (2024, February). *School climate and bystander intervention: Perceptions of minoritized groups* [Poster accepted for presentation]. National Association of School Psychologist 2024 Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA.

\***Casella, J.**, Nickerson, A., Bellavia, G., Huang, K., Manges, M., Livingston, J., & Feeley, T. (2023, August). *Identifying key predictors of change in a social norms campaign to*

*reduce bullying and sexual harassment* [Poster presentation]. American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Washington, D.C.

**\*Blue Ribbon Student Poster Award Winner**

Harrison, D., & **Casella, J.** (2023, May). *Empathy as a moderator in the relation between bullying victimization and perpetration and defending* [Poster presentation]. Society for Prevention Research 31st Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.

Huang, Y., Nickerson, A.B., Manges, M., **Casella, J.**, Jenkins, L.N., & Feeley, T.H. (2023, May). *Impact of bystander intervention training for bullying and sexual harassment prevention in high school*. [Poster presentation]. Society for Prevention Research 31st Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.

**Casella, J.N.**, & Nickerson, A.B. (2023, April). *Bullying and social norms relationship with perceptions of school climate* [Poster presentation]. Celebration of Student Academic Excellence Student Showcase, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY.

**Casella, J.**, & Huang, K. (2023, April). *Identifying predictors of change in a social norms campaign to reduce bullying and sexual harassment in high school students* [Paper presentation]. 30th Annual Graduate School of Education Student Research Symposium, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY.

Harrison, D., & **Casella, J.** (2023, April). *Empathy as a moderator in the relation between bullying victimization and perpetration and defending* [Paper presentation]. 30th Annual Graduate School of Education Student Research Symposium, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY.

**Casella, J.N.**, & Nickerson, A.B. (2023, February). *Bullying and social norms relationship with perceptions of school climate* [Poster presentation]. National Association of School Psychologist 2023 Annual Convention, Denver, CO.

Sun, L., **Casella, J.N.**, Harrison, D.S., Nickerson, A.B., & Manges, M.E. (2023, February). *Sexual harassment experiences based on gender and ethnicity in adolescents* [Poster presentation]. National Association of School Psychologist 2023 Annual Convention, Denver, CO.

**Casella, J.**, Nickerson, A., & Fredrick, S.S. (2022, September). *Social support, student engagement and internalizing symptoms related to modes of instructional style during the COVID-19 pandemic* [Paper presentation]. New York Association of School Psychologists Annual Conference, Uniondale, NY.

**Casella, J.**, Manges, M. E., Huang, K., Harrison, D., & Sun, L. (2022, March). Student and Teacher Impressions of Using Social Norms to Reduce Bullying and Sexual Harassment. In A.B. Nickerson (Chair), *Norms and Bystander Intervention Training (NAB IT!) for bullying and sexual harassment prevention in high school* [Symposium]. 29th Annual Graduate School of Education Student Research Symposium, University at Buffalo, Virtual.

Balkundi, S., Sun, L., **Casella, J.N.** & Fredrick, S.S. (2022, February). *Educator well-being and social support during COVID-19* [Poster presentation]. National Association of School Psychologist 2022 Annual Convention, Boston, MA.

**Casella, J.,** Savino, C., Yang, G., Darby, Y., Kazi, T., Maqsood, F., Miguel, C., Raquib, R., Roig, N., Schiesser, M., Sooknanan, C., Suh, L., & Thomas, J. (2017, November) *Developing hybrid bacteriocins to target methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus* [Paper presentation]. iGEM Giant Jamboree Conference, Boston, MA.

**Casella, J.,** Roig, N., Savino, C., Yang, G., Darby, T., Kazi, T., Maqsood, F., Miguel, C., Raquib, R., Schiesser, M., Sooknanan, C., Suh, L., Thomas, J., and Gergen, J. P.. (2017, November). *Developing hybrid bacteriocins to target methicillin resistant Staphylococcus aureus* [Poster presentation]. iGEM Giant Jamboree Conference/Boston, MA.

## COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS

**Casella, J.** (2022, October). *Bullying: How you can make a difference*. Presented to an undergraduate class at the University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY.

**Casella, J. & Balkundi, S.** (2023, March). *Identifying and Intervening with bullying, harassment, and microaggressions*. Presented to North Tonawanda City School District, Tonawanda, NY.

**Casella, J. & King, J.** (2021, November). *Bullying: How you can make a difference*. Presented to an undergraduate class at the University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY.

## LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE EXPERIENCE

**President and Treasurer** September 2021-Present  
*Counseling, School and Educational Psychology Graduate Student Association, University at Buffalo*

- Lead monthly meetings to support graduate students, provide information about funding, and connect the faculty and students within the department
- Facilitate department wide survey of students' needs, mental health, and suggestions for the department to communicate areas in need of support to faculty
- Manage funds and submit reimbursements for students attending academic conferences
- Work with other executive board members as a liaison between the students and faculty within the department

**Student Representative** September 2023-Present  
*Graduate School Executive Committee, Graduate School of Education, University at Buffalo*

- Represent the student body in monthly meetings with the Graduate School of Education's Dean and other committee members regarding policy, evaluation and implementation
- Provide student input regarding standards and academic integrity of programs within the Graduate School and other matters regarding conduct of the Graduate School affairs

**Board of Directors Representative** January 2021-Present  
*Graduate Student Association, University at Buffalo*



- Participate in monthly meetings for the University at Buffalo's Graduate Student Association as the representative for the Counseling, School and Educational Psychology Graduate Student Association
- Vote on matters regarding funding, programming and university-wide concerns

**Co-Chair** September 2022-Present  
*Future Faculty Interest Group, National Association of School Psychologists*

- Write and edit monthly posts to the interest groups' community board to provide relevant information to interest group members
- Coordinate with co-chairs to facilitate networking session at the NASP Annual Convention

**Board Member** February 2023-Present  
*Community Canvases, Buffalo, NY*

- Work with other board members and a team of volunteers to organize and execute community events around the mission of facilitating community engagement through the arts

**Vice President** September 2020- May 2022  
*Student Association of School Psychology, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY*

- Facilitated monthly meetings and discussions with fellow school psychology students about relevant topics to the field to foster a sense of community among School Psychology students
- Promoted School Psychology at the University of Buffalo during School Psychology Awareness Week
- Managed the group's social media account to provide relevant information to members

**Team Leader** April 2021-May 2021  
*VaxWNY, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY*

- Led a multidisciplinary team of graduate and undergraduate students presenting on how to identify homebound populations and overcome barriers in order to inform COVID-19 vaccination efforts in Western New York

**Committee Member** October 2020-March 2021  
*Graduate School of Education (GSE) Symposium Steering Committee, University at Buffalo*

- Attended weekly meetings to assist in planning of the GSE 2021 Student Research Symposium "Springing Back and Moving Forward: Resiliency and Innovation in Education"
- Reviewed proposals for papers and posters to be presented at the symposium

**External Vice President** March 2018-May 2020  
*Project Sunshine, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY*

- National non-profit organization that provides free educational, recreational and social programming to children in the hospital facing medical challenges and their families
- Volunteered weekly at Stony Brook Children's Hospital playing and reading to patients in playrooms or at bedsides, cleaning and sanitizing toys, and monitoring playroom and toy usage
- Coordinated all on campus events and fundraisers, including Sending Sunshines, where craft kits are made to be sent out to hospitals all over the nation
- Collaborated with other on-campus organizations to assist in their events

**Camp Counselor**

June 2020

*Camp Kesem, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY*

- Assisted in facilitating a weeklong, free, virtual camp for children whose parents have cancer to provide support and ensure each child that they are not alone
- Led and participated in programing to engage and entertain campers

**Writing and Editor Intern**

Aug 2018- May 2020

*Humanology Project, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY*

- Served as a writing intern (Aug 2018-2019), authored articles about psychological and neurological disorders based on scientific literature to make the information more accessible to the public
- Served as an editor intern (Aug 2019-May 2020), working with a team of writers to ensure that their articles are grammatically correct and fitting within the theme of the organization
- Completed training for proper communication of mental health in the media

**AWARDS AND RECOGNITION**

Graduate Presidential Fellowship

Fall 2020- Present

*University at Buffalo*

Blue Ribbon Student Presentation Award Session Winner

August 2023

*American Psychological Association Division 16*

2020 Academic Achievement Award

May 2020

*Stony Brook University*

Student Commencement Speaker

May 2020

*Stony Brook University*

Psi Chi Honor Society

Spring 2019-May 2020

*Stony Brook University*

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**QPR Gatekeeper Training for Suicide Prevention**

April 2020

*University at Buffalo Counseling Services, Online Training*

2 training hours

**Identification and Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect** December 2020  
*New York State Education Department*  
2 training hours

**SAVE Training** December 2020  
*New York State Education Department*  
2 training hours

**Introduction to the Incident Command System in Schools** October 2020  
*FEMA Emergency Management Institute, Online training*  
2 training hours

**Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) Training** October 2020  
*Daemen College, Online training*  
6 training hours

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

National Association of School Psychologists (Student Member) September 2020-Present

American Psychological Association (Student Affiliate) December 2021-Present

New York Association of School Psychologists (Student Member) August 2022- Present