

# Sycarah D. Fisher, PhD NCSP

## *Curriculum Vitae*

University of Kentucky  
School Psychology  
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Lexington, KY 40506

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### EDUCATION

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- Ph.D. 2009      **Michigan State University** – East Lansing, MI  
Concentration: School Psychology (APA, NASP accredited)  
 Dissertation Topic: *The Minority Report: White Students in Urban Schools*
- M.A. 2005      **Michigan State University** – East Lansing, MI  
Concentration: School Psychology (APA, NASP accredited)  
 Thesis Topic: *The Protective Effects of Adaptability, Study Skills, and Social Skills on Externalizing Students' Teacher Relationships*
- B.A. 2003      **Hampton University** – Hampton, VA  
Concentration: Psychology

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### ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

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- 8/2013 – Present      **Assistant Professor, School Psychology Program, University of Kentucky**  
 • Courses Taught: Parent and Child Counseling, Supervision of School Psychologists, Personality Assessment, Interventions for Academic Problems
- 8/2012 – 5/2013      **Director, School Psychology Programs, Howard University, Washington, DC**  
 • Produced program reports, manage data  
 • Coordinated program faculty  
 • Prepared program for APA and NASP accreditation
- 1/2012 – 5/2013      **Assistant Professor of School Psychology, Howard University, Washington, DC**  
 • Courses taught: Culturally Competent Consultation, Psychoeducational Assessment, Practicum, Response to Intervention  
 • Faculty Advisor for the Student Affiliates in School Psychology  
 • Director of Field Placements

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 GRANTS
 

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## FUNDED

- 2014 – 2016 Co-Investigator (\$155,000).** Research Supplement to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research, received investigator level support for a project investigating the use of mindfulness as an intervention for substance users with high levels of negative urgency (5P50DA005312 PI: Michael Bardo). Funded through the National Institute of Health (NIH) – National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) on 7-1-2014 through 6-30- 2016.
- 2013 Principal Investigator (\$10,000),** The Pre-Referral Process in Urban Charter Schools, Howard University
- 2006 Principal Investigator (\$12,000),** Spencer Research Training Grant: The context of schooling and its effect on the ethnic identity and academic achievement of African American students
- 2005 Principal Investigator (\$3,500),** Research Enhancement Grant: Externalizing students' developmental strengths and their effect on teacher relationships
- 2004 Co-Investigator (\$12,000),** Doctoral Leadership Grant: Evidence based interventions for children exhibiting disruptive behaviors

## NOT FUNDED

- 2015 Principal Investigator.** "Targeted Risk Related Drug Abuse Interventions for Adolescents" *Center for Clinical and Translational Science Junior Investigator Award.*
- 2014 Co-Investigator (\$35,000).** "Factors Predictive of math and science achievement of students who receive special education services: A longitudinal Investigation. *American Educational Research Association.*
- 2013 Principal Investigator (\$100,000).** Substance Abuse among Urban Youth with Externalizing Behavior Disorders. *Robert Wood Johnson Foundation*
- 2013 Co-Principal Investigator (\$1,500,000).** Enhancing the Motivation and Achievement of African American Students by Changing Teacher Knowledge and Beliefs, Pedagogy, and Classroom Climate: Innovations from Psychological Science. *Institute of Education Sciences*

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 FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS
 

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- 2015 Selected as a Teacher who made a Difference

- 2015 Selected to participate in the American Psychological Association Minority Fellowship Program Psychology Summer Institute
- 2015 Selected to participate in the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), Office of Diversity and Health Disparities (ODHD) Diversity Scholars Network
- 2015 Selected to participate in the National Institute on Drug Abuse Diversity Supplement Training Program
- 2012 Selected as a Society for the Study of School Psychology Research Fellow
- 2012 Selected as an Emerging Scholars Interdisciplinary Network Fellow to participate in the Institute for Social Research Summer Training program at the University of Michigan
- 2004 Received a university graduate recruiting fellowship from Michigan State University

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#### SCHOLARSHIP

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\* denotes student collaborations

#### PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

1. Knighton, J., Stevens-Watkins, D., Oser, C., **Fisher, S.**, Crowell, C. Leukefeld, C. (In Press). Perceived risk of HIV infection among drug-using African American male prisoners: one year after community re-entry. *Substance Use and Misuse*.
2. Zapolski, T., **Fisher, S.**, & Hsu, W. (In Press). What can parents do? Examining the role of parental support on the negative relationship between racial discrimination, depression, and drug use among African American youth. *Clinical Psychological Science*.
3. \*Stevens-Watkins, D., Knighton, J., Allen, K., **Fisher, S.**, Crowell, C., Mahaffey, C., Leukefeld, C., Oser, C. (In Press). Cultural correlates of treatment participation among drug-using African American women. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*.
4. Tyler, K.M., Thompson, F.A., Burriss, J., Love, K., & **Fisher, S.** (In Press). Believing the hype: Examining the association between internalized stereotypes and academic self-handicapping among African American male high school students. *Negro Educational Review*.
5. Al'Uqdah, S.N., **Fisher, S.**, Malone, C., McGee, T., & Toldson, I. (2016). Urban parenting: community violence's impact on children and parent outcomes. *Journal of Negro Education*.
6. Malone, C.M., Briggs, C., Ricks, E., Middleton, K., & **Fisher, S.**, Connell, J. (2015). Development and Initial Examination of the School Psychology Multicultural Competence Scale. *Contemporary School Psychology* 1-10.

7. \***Fisher, S.**, Reynolds, J., & Sheehan, C. (2015). The Protective Effects of Adaptability, Study Skills, and Social Skills on Externalizing Students' Teacher Relationships. *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders*, 24(2). DOI: 10.1177/1063426615598767
8. **Fisher, S.**, Middleton, K., Ricks, E., Malone, C., & Barnes, J (2015). Not Just Black and White: peer victimization and the intersectionality of school diversity and race. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 44(6).
9. **Fisher, S.**, Reynolds, J., Hsu, W., Barnes, J., & Tyler, K. (2014). Examining Multiracial Youth in Context: Ethnic Identity and Mental Health Outcomes. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 43 (10), 1688-1699. doi: 10.1007/s10964-014-0163-2
10. Reynolds, J., **Fisher, S.** (2014). Multiple Consultee Consultation to Modify Behaviors in a Student with Autism Spectrum Disorder. *Contemporary School Psychology*, 1-8. Doi 10.1007/s40688-014-0017-7
11. Reynolds, J., **Fisher, S.**, Morlock, L. (2014). SLD Eligibility Decisions: A Survey of School Psychology Training Programs. *Trainers' Forum*, 33, 48-65.
12. Morlock, L., Reynolds, J.L., **Grant-Fisher, S.** (2014). Video Modeling and word identification in adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder. *Child Language Teaching and Therapy*, 31 (1). Doi: 10.1177/0265659013517573
13. Middleton, K., Wright, P., **Grant, S.**, Ricks, E. (2013). Mathematics Learning Styles, Attitudes, and Relatability. *Institute for Learning Styles Journal*, 1. 1-15.  
<http://www.auburn.edu/academic/education/ilsrj/Journal%20Volumes/Fall%202013%20Vol%201%20PDFs/Fall%202013%20ILSRJ%20Issue.pdf>
14. **Grant, S.**, Oka, E., & Baker, J.A. (2009). The culturally relevant assessment of ebonics speaking youth. *Journal of Applied School Psychology*, 25 (2), 113-127. Doi: 10.1080/15377900802484588
15. Baker, J.A., **Grant, S.**, & Morlock, L. (2008). The teacher-student relationship as a developmental context for children with internalizing or externalizing behavior problems. *School Psychology Quarterly*, 23 (1), 3-15. Doi: 10.1037/1045-3830.23.1.3

#### BOOK CHAPTERS

1. **Grant, S.**, & Carlson, J. (2010). Crime in Schools. *Clauss-Ehlers Encyclopedia of Cross-Cultural School Psychology*, Springer.
2. Baker, J. A., Crowl, A. L., & **Grant, S.** (2009). Psychology of European-American Children. In E. C. Chang & C. A. Downey (Eds.), *Mental Health Across Racial Groups: Lifespan Perspectives*. New York, NY: Springer Publishing Co.

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

1. \***Fisher, S.**, Malone, C., & Sheehan, C. (Accepted). The case for integrated mental health and substance use interventions in secondary schools. *NASP Communique*.

2. Wright, P.E., **Grant-Fisher, S.**, Middleton, K., Ricks, E. (2013). DC Voice Ready Kids Project: The Readiness of our Young Children for Kindergarten. White paper developed for DC Voices.

#### MANUSCRIPTS CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW

1. \***Fisher, S.**, Hsu, W., Adams, Z., Sheehan, C., Milich, R. (under review). A Longitudinal Analysis of the effect of drinking motives on the impulsivity-substance use relationship. *Addictive Behaviors*
2. \*Harper, W., **Fisher, S.**, Barnes, J. (under review). An Ecological Approach to Examining Substance Use in African American and Caucasian American Middle School Students. *Journal of Adolescence*.
3. Briggs, C., Malone, C., Ricks, E, **Fisher, S.**, & Middleton, K. (Under Review). The Relationship Between the Outcomes for Children Placed in Teaching Family Homes and the Race/Ethnicity of their Caregivers. *Children and Youth Services Review*.
4. \***Fisher, S.**, Sheehan, C., Stevens-Watkins, D., & Crowell, C. (Under Review). Alcohol Related Disorders and Other Substance Use Disorders. In Handbook of DSM-5 Childhood Disorders.
5. **Fisher, S.**, Morlock, L., Reynolds, J. (Under Review). An Exploratory Investigation of Practitioner Perceptions of Tablet Use with Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder. *Journal of Special Education Technology*.
6. Graybill, E., Baker, C.N., Cloth, A., **Fisher, S.**, & Nastasi, B.K. (Under Review). An analysis of social justice research in school psychology. *Journal of Canadian School Psychology*.
7. Ricks, E., **Fisher, S.**, Middleton, K., Briggs, C., & Malone, C. (Under Review). Within-Group Variation: Perceptions of Mathematics Competence and Mathematics Achievement among African-American Third Grade Children. *Elementary School Journal*.

#### MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

1. \***Fisher, S.**, Al-Uqdah, S., Stevens-Watkins, D., Zapolski, T., Sheehan, C., & Barnes, J. (In preparation). Brief Report: Racial Marginalization in Schools and Adolescent Alcohol Use. *Journal of Adolescent Health*
2. \***Fisher, S.**, Carter Andrews, D., Sheehan, C., & Barnes-Najor, J (in preparation). School diversity, ethnic identity, and mental health outcomes for white adolescents. *Journal of Adolescence*.
3. Zapolski, T., **Fisher, S.**, Hsu, W.W (In preparation). The protective effect of ethnic identity on drug attitudes and drug use among African American and White high school students. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*.

## PEER REVIEWED PRESENTATIONS

1. Reynolds, J. L., Shrock, J., Kane, P., Cochrane, W. & **Fisher, S.** (Presented 02/2015). *Behavior specific praise statements as a tier 1 behavior intervention.* Poster presented at the National Association of School Psychologists, Orlando, FL.
2. \*Wong, W. H., **Fisher, S.**, & Yang, H. W. (2015, February). *Perceived safety, social problem solving skills, and the nature of bullying.* Poster presented at the annual meeting of the National Association of School Psychologists. Orlando, FL.
3. **Fisher, S.**, & Reynolds, J. (2015, February). *Does School Diversity Matter? An Examination of Bullying.* Poster presented at the annual meeting of the National Association of School Psychologists. Orlando, FL.
4. Graybill, E., Baker, C. N., Cloth, A., **Fisher, S.**, Nastasi, B. K. Miranda, A., Power, T. J., Shriberg, D., & Prilleltensky, I. (2015, February). *An analysis of social justice research in school psychology.* Symposium presented at the National Association for School Psychologists Annual Convention, Orlando, FL.
5. \*Taylor, L., Comerchero, V.A., Fenning, P., **Fisher, S.**, Miller, E., & Wilcox, G. (2014). Student and Faculty Perceptions of Using Technology in School Psychology Training: Past, Present, and Future. Poster presented at the annual conference of the Trainers of School Psychologists, Washington, DC.
6. \*White, D., & **Fisher, S.** (2014). Parent Involvement and School Engagement among African Americans. Poster presented at the annual conference of the National Association of School Psychologists, Washington, DC.
7. **Fisher, S.**, Reynolds, J. (2014). SLD Eligibility Decision: A Survey of School Psychology Practitioners. Poster presented at the annual conference of the National Association of School Psychologists, Washington, DC.
8. \***Grant-Fisher, S.**, Campbell, C., Matthew, A., Lewis, M. (2013). Parenting Practices and their Relationship to Neighborhood Safety and Childhood Aggression. Poster presented at the annual conference of the American Psychological Association, Honolulu, HI.
9. \***Grant-Fisher, S.**, Morlock, L., Reynolds, J. & Rankin, K. (2013). Tablet and application use with individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Poster presented at the annual conference of the National Association of School Psychologists, Seattle, WA.
10. Reynolds, J., **Grant-Fisher, S.**, Morlock, L. (2013). SLD Eligibility Decisions: A Survey of School Psychology Programs. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Association of School Psychologists, Seattle, WA.

11. Morlock, L., Reynolds, J., **Grant-Fisher, S.** (2013). The Effectiveness of Video Modeling in increasing Verbal Ability in Children with Autism. Poster presented at the annual conference of the National Association of School Psychologists, Seattle, WA.
12. **Grant, S.**, & Mathiason, J. (2008). The minority report: White students in urban schools. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Louisiana School Psychological Association.
13. Carter, D., & **Grant, S.** (2008). How race matters: The significance of race to achievement for African American students in urban and suburban schools. Paper presented at the annual conference of the American Educational Research Association. New York, NY.
14. **Grant, S.** & Baker, J. (2006). Externalizing students' developmental strengths and their effect on teacher relationships. Poster presented at the annual conference of the National Association of School Psychologists. Anaheim, CA.
15. Baker, J.A., Clark, T., **Grant, S.**, Morlock, L., Maier, K., Viger, S., & Ahn, S. (2006). Teacher interactions that promote adjustment of children with behavior problems. Poster presented at the annual conference of the American Psychological Association. New Orleans, LA.
16. Carlson, J. S., Brinkman, T., Pham, A., Tomac, R., Wigent, C., Wilkinson, A., Segool, N., **Grant, S.**, Crowl, A., & Clark, T. (2006). Exploring behavioral risk and protective factors in at-risk preschoolers. Poster presented at the annual conference of the American Psychological Association. New Orleans, LA.
17. **Grant, S.**, & Crowl, A. (2006). They just don't get it: cultural discontinuity in today's schools. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Association of School Psychologists. Anaheim, CA.
18. Carlson, J. S., Brinkman, T., Pham, A., Tomac, R., Wigent, C., Wilkinson, A. Segool, N., **Grant, S.**, Crowl, A., & Clark, T. (2006). Exploring behavioral risk and protective factors in at-risk preschoolers. Poster presented at the annual conference of the American Psychological Association. New Orleans, LA.
19. Carlson, J., Clark, T., Crowl, A., **Grant, S.**, Segool, N., Wilkinson, A., Baker, J., Oka, E., Mariage, T., & Mayer, M. (2005). Exploring behavioral risk and protective factors in at-risk preschoolers. Poster session presented at the annual conference of the American Psychological Association, Washington, DC.
20. Kruer, J. L., Ogg, J. A., Majewicz-Hefley, A., Segool, N., Mathiason, J. B., Lien, M. T., **Grant, S.** & Carlson, J. S. (2005). *Empirically-Supported Treatments for Conduct Disordered Children*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Student Affiliates in School Psychology, Washington, DC.
21. Baker, J., **Grant, S.**, & Morlock, L. (2005). Teacher student relationship among children with internalizing or externalizing behaviors. Poster presented at the annual conference of the National Association of School Psychologists, Atlanta, GA.

22. **Grant, S., & Gray, C. (2004).** Adolescent self-report of temperament and personality. Poster presented at the annual conference of the Society for Research on Adolescents, Baltimore, MD.
23. **Grant, S., & Baker, S. (2003).** Adolescent self-report of temperament and personality. Poster presented at the Hampton University Research Forum, Hampton, VA.

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#### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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- 8/2009 – 12/2011     **School Psychologist, Community Academy PCS, Washington, DC**
- Initiated and coordinated the development and implementation of Response to Intervention across five campuses
  - Provided counseling services for students identified through the special education process
  - Conducted individual cognitive and academic assessments to assist in the identification of students with special needs.
  - Provided leadership to other school mental health personnel for training and in-services
- 7/2008 – 8/2009     **School Psychology Intern, Recovery School District, New Orleans, LA**
- Team leader for the Response to Intervention Team and developed school-wide procedures for academic and behavioral referrals
  - Worked independently to administer multiple intellectual and achievement assessments
  - Team leader for the Positive Behavior Support Team, developed school-wide procedures for PBS
  - Supervisor: *Dr. Cherri Penton*
- 5/2008 – 8/2008     **Intern, DC Children & Youth Investment Corporation, Washington, DC**
- Developed a resource guide for CYITC grantees
  - Reviewed community organization grants and identified potential grantees
  - Conducted grantee site visits to determine quality and program implementation

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#### ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

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- Getting SMART about Adaptive Interventions - 2015
- Bioethics: responsible authorship, research misconduct, ethical issues in research administration, management of research data, ethics of using human subjects, the diversity factor– 2015
- Eliminating Health Disparities - 2015
- Public Health and Disease Prevention – 2014
- Mindfulness Fundamentals - 2014
- Stata – 2014



- Survey Research Methodology – 2014
- Applied Multilevel Modeling in Stata – 2014
- HLM using HLM 7 (ICPSR) – 2012
- Race and Ethnicity in Research (ICPSR) – 2012
- Regression (ICPSR) - 2012

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## SERVICE

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### INVITED SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

**Television Appearance (2014).** Mental Health and the African American Community. *Appeared on “Connections with Renee Shaw” on Kentucky Educational Television (KET).*

**Invited Panelist (2014).** Mental Health and African American Church. *Sponsored by the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)*

**Invited Lecturer (2012).** From Graduate Student to Faculty Member. *Preparing Future Faculty, Howard University*

**Invited Lecturer (2012).** What is School Psychology? *Human Development, Howard University*

### PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

**Editorial Advisory Board.** School Psychology Review

**Journal Reviewer.** Trainers of School Psychologists Journal

**Conference Proposal Reviewer.**

- Reviewer of conference proposals for Division 16 of the American Psychological Association
- National Council of Undergraduate Research
- Society for Prevention Research – Development and Testing of Interventions Theme Committee Reviewer

**Ad Hoc Reviewer.**

- School Psychology International
- Developmental Psychology
- Urban Education
- International Journal of Intercultural Relations
- European Journal of Psychology of Education

**Reviewer of Training Programs.** National Association of School Psychologists.

**Professional Organization Service**

- **(2014 – Present) Diversity Committee.** Kentucky Psychological Association
- **(2014 – Present) APA Division 16.** National Directory of Graduate Faculty Addressing Cultural and Diverse Issues in School Psychology
- **(2012 – 2013) Board Member.** Maryland Association of School Psychologists.

#### STUDENT COMMITTEE WORK

(2014 – Present) Dissertation Committee: Christina Boetler

(2014 – Present) Dissertation Committee: Laura Nagy

(2014 – Present) Dissertation Committee: Holly Brown (Member)

(2014 – Present) Dissertation Committee: Kirsten Scheil (Member)

(2014 – Present) Dissertation Committee: Chelsea Sheehan (Member)

(2014 - Present) Dissertation Committee: Cydney Jackson (Member)

(2014) Dissertation Committee, External Reviewer: Joanne Estes (Member)

(2012-2013) Dissertation Committee: Desiree Bindus (Chair)

#### UNIVERSITY SERVICE

(2014 – Present) Faculty Advisor. Student Affiliates in School Psychology, University of Kentucky

(2012-2013) Faculty Advisor. Student Affiliates in School Psychology, *Howard University.*

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#### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS/MEMBERSHIPS

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- Society for Prevention Research
- National Association of School Psychologists
- American Psychological Association
- Text and Academic Authors Association
- Trainers of School Psychologists
- National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity