Meet GSPP’s Board of Friends

GSPP’s vision for the future is ambitious, and this group of community leaders and mental health experts will help us achieve our goals. In this issue, learn about why now was the perfect time to develop this Board.

GSPP continues to produce well-trained practitioners who use psychology to advance the public good. Enrollment numbers are strong, our students are graduating and finding meaningful work, and the faculty consistently make significant contributions through their scholarship, mentorship, and leadership. Additionally, existing programs continue to be innovative and we are venturing into specialty areas that are highly responsive to current needs.

All of this important work has prompted GSPP leadership to look for ways to increase the School’s visibility and expand our impact. This exploration indicates that we are ready to create a Board of Friends to support, celebrate, and publicize our good work. We have spent the past several months looking at Board models and structures, and held a visioning retreat in July to examine the potential work of the Board. We have selected a dynamic group of individuals who will serve as our inaugural Board, and who will help us develop a sustainable process and membership. Our work will focus on supporting

“We have selected a dynamic group of individuals who will serve as our inaugural Board, and who will help us develop a sustainable process and membership.”
Recent Events & Happenings

Internship Selection Party
May 16, 2015

Spring Graduation
June 5, 2015

Summer Graduation
August 14, 2015
Dear Alumni,

2016 marks the Graduate School of Professional Psychology’s 40th anniversary. In those 40 years, we have been utilizing psychology to improve the human condition. You come from a GSPP family who is committed to transforming the lives of clients, and through this work we continuously transform our students and faculty. We are a lively intellectual community that values hope, health, and healing. We celebrate individual and cultural differences, and we are skilled in collaborating to solve problems. We are so proud to have you as an alum.

Over the years, we have created exemplary training programs that simultaneously build a competent workforce and serve the public good. Our students have been and still are passionate about working with underserved populations in the community. We look forward to continuing this service into the future.

All of our programs integrate research, service, and training seamlessly throughout the academic experience. These efforts take place in the classroom, in our own training clinics, and in partnership with over 140 agencies in the Denver community. As an alum, you have seen how each unique program adheres to this model while serving their respective populations. Each of you contributed to this vision. Your experiences here in Denver helped shape the School’s path over the past 40 years.

GSPP faculty members— still mentors to many of you— continue to train the next generation of creative and collaborative psychologists. They are world-renowned experts in their fields who work from the practitioner-scholar model. They engaged you and continue to engage our current students in the creation and dissemination of applied psychological knowledge. They practice what they publish and teach.

Throughout your time at GSPP, you received exceptional mentorship from licensed supervisors, which we hope allowed you to feel supported and gain meaningful feedback as you cultivated your own voice as a clinician or consultant. Many of you have stayed connected by becoming supervisors and contributing to our community through that valuable service. Thank you for this relationship.

While continuing to provide the highest quality training in professional psychology, GSPP has also grown and changed in response to community needs. As a part of this continued responsibility, we are working to increase our visibility and expand our local partnerships in ways that will extend our impact; this growth will benefit future and current students, as well as you, our alumni. We hope you share our GSPP pride and very much look forward to the upcoming anniversary year. Please stay tuned for upcoming alumni events, cohort social hours, continuing education opportunities, and information about our 40th Anniversary Reunion while APA is in Denver next August.

To show your support for GSPP’s past and future, please consider giving a gift to the newly created Dean’s Innovation Fund. This fund supports innovation, new programs, curriculum development, faculty research and support, student financial aid and student-life activities. Will you give $40 for our 40th?

Again, thank you for being a member of our family. I look forward to seeing you in the coming year!

Warm Wishes,
Shelly Smith-Acuña
Dean, Graduate School of Professional Psychology

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**Alumni Profiles**

Beginning in January 2016, GSPP will begin highlighting 40 GSPP Alumni. We’re proud of our alumni and can’t wait to share these profiles with you!

Want us to highlight you? Want to nominate a fellow alumni for us to highlight? Send Lindsay an email for more information - Lindsay.Anderson@du.edu

**Alumni Events**

We’re planning a range of alumni events from Continuing Education Programming and Workshops to DU basketball and hockey games. We’ll also be taking advantage of having APA in Denver next August! Come to APA this year for targeted GSPP programming and an all-class reunion!

Stay tuned as we plan these events & share your ideas with Lindsay - Lindsay.Anderson@du.edu

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**What we’re already planning...**

**Cohort Social Hours**

We want you all to reconnect with each other! Throughout 2016, we’ll be hosting cohort social hours for our alumni.

We’ll bring you back to Ammi Hyde and show you what’s changed since you’ve been gone. All you need to do is come prepared to catch up and have a great time with old friends!

**Dean Visits in Your Town**

Our Dean, Shelly Smith-Acuña, will be making stops in cities all over the country. When Shelly visits a new city, we’ll reach out to those of you who are currently living there - Shelly loves hosting alumni for breakfasts, lunches, or dinners to hear about what you’ve been doing since graduation.

Keep a look out for a list of Shelly’s travels!

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**We want to hear from you...**

Do you have ideas or suggestions for GSPP’s 40th anniversary year? Does your cohort stay in touch and want to host an alumni gathering? Do you want to serve as an Alumni Representative for your cohort? We need your input - after all - YOU are GSPP and this anniversary year celebrates each of your lives as Psychologists! Help us make the 40th anniversary year the best year yet!

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*GSPP is turning 40*

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*Warm Wishes,*

*Shelly Smith-Acuña*

*Dean, Graduate School of Professional Psychology*
CSharp - MHCD Evaluation Grant

GSPP Faculty Members, Tom Barrett (IDP) & Laura Meyer (Forensic, PsyD) have been awarded a grant to conduct an evaluation of MHCD’s Colorado Second Chance Housing and Reentry Program (C-SCHARP). C-SCHARP takes a comprehensive approach to prison reentry that increases the chances of recovery for adults ex-offenders with co-occurring substance abuse and mental health disorders.

International Journal for Psychoanalytic Self Psychology

Faculty Member and Dean Emeritus, Peter Buirski, & Alumna, Risa Muchnick (PsyD ’14), recently published “Social media as organizing but not transforming self experience.”

MASPP Publishes in The Sport Psychologist

MASPP Director & Faculty, Mark Aoyagi, and SPP Alumni, Michael Mosley, Desiree Frierson, and Yihan Cheng recently published “Spirituality & Sport: Consulting the Christian Athlete.”

MAIDP Student Publishes in Psychotherapy

2nd Year MAIDP Student, Chantal Bushelle, recently published “Personal Reflection on Suicidal Ideation Within Psychotherapy.”

Announcements

Assessment Tools For Sale

Alumna Chaney Givens (PsyD ’01) is selling assessment tools - Contact her at drchaneygivens@gmail.com for a list of items and prices.

PsyD Alumna to speak at The Denver Psychoanalytic Society

Lena Ehrlich (PsyD ’85) will present a lecture entitled Engaging Patients Who Need Intensive Treatment: Challenges and Opportunities on Friday, October 23, 2015 from 7:00-8:30pm. The lecture is free and open to all who are interested. For more information visit: denverpsychoanalytic.org

International Psychosocial Oncology Society Presentation

Faculty, Nicole Taylor, and PsyD Student, Emily (Newman) Markley presented in August at the International Psychosocial Oncology Society Presentation.

Faculty, Student, & Alumni Publications & Awards

Art Therapy and Trauma

Faculty and Alumna, Gwen Mitchell (PsyD ’04) has been selected by USAID as an international expert in torture and trauma treatment to advise the government of Nigeria as they create a plan to deal with recently released detainees from Boko Haram. Gwen recently published on Art Therapy and Trauma based on her work in 2005 in Nigeria. Read here (pgs 14-20): www.colorado.edu/hazards/o/archives/2015/jul15_observerweb.pdf

GSPP in Toronto

APA 2015

GSPP Faculty Members, Laura Meyer, Kim Gorgens, Jamie Shapiro, Lavita Nadkarni, Neil Gowensmith, & Tom Barrett

GSPP Faculty Members

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Upcoming Events at GSPP and Around Campus - Will you be there?

**Thursday, Sept. 24, 2015 4:30-6:30PM**

**Latino Psychology Specialty Fall Junta**, Ammi Hyde Building, Rm. 133
RSVP Online at www.du.edu/gspp/news-events

Join GSPP for quarterly Junta happy hour events – Latino Psychology Director, Melanie Heto, provides updates on the specialty track, we’ll hear from students about their work in the community, and will learn more about Latino Psychology work in the community from key members.

**Friday & Saturday, Sept. 24 & 25, 2015**

**Pioneer Symposium**, University of Denver
Get More Information Online at www.du.edu/alumni/traditionsevents/symposium

Two days of free public lectures, panels, and keynote speakers presented by DU students and faculty—something for everyone! Featuring GSPP faculty: Neil Gowensmith, Artur Poczwardowski, Brian Gearing, and Shelly Smith-Acuña.

**Wednesday, October 21, 2015**

**Adaptive Sports Fundraiser**, University of Denver
Hosted by GSPP’s Center for Performance Excellence & Colorado Adaptive Sports Foundation
Get More Information Online at coloradoadapтивесportes.org/events/-fall-mixer

Join us for a night of sled hockey demonstrations by CASF athletes, a silent auction, and sport psychology presentations as we promote this exciting partnership between our consultants and CASF!

**Friday, October 23, 2015**

**Expert Witness Bootcamp**, University of Denver

Presented by Denver FIRST (Forensic Institute for Research, Service, and Training), in partnership with Sturm College of Law. Mental Health Professionals! Improve your testimony skills and reduce courtroom anxiety at this one-day workshop led by Denver FIRST Director, Neil Gowensmit.

**Friday, November 6, 2015**

**APA Division 43 Social Hour**, Ammi Hyde Building, University of Denver
More Information to be Announced Online at www.du.edu/gspp/news-events

**Wednesday, November 11, 2015**

**Veteran’s Day Event**, University of Denver
More Information to be Announced Online at www.du.edu/gspp/news-events
What Are Your Ideas?
2016 is quickly approaching!

Would you like to see something special for our upcoming 40th anniversary? Do you have ideas that will make the 40th anniversary more meaningful to you as an alum? Send your ideas to Lindsay Anderson (Lindsay.Anderson@du.edu). Please be sure to visit our website often for updates on events and news & spread the word to other GSPP alumni who we may not be reaching!

NEXT ISSUE:

STURM MILITARY & VETERANS CLINIC & STURM SPECIALTY FOR MILITARY PSYCHOLOGY UPDATES
In the next alumni newsletter, you'll meet the new Clinic Director and Faculty Director for GSPP's newest specialty.

40 ANNIVERSARY KICKS OFF
Read about upcoming 40th anniversary events and GSPP alumni profiles!