



**Dear BRNET Members and Friends of BRNET:**

Thank you for being a part of the Bullying Research Network! In our November newsletter, you will find updates from the network.

Be sure to check out our website at <http://cehs.unl.edu/BRNET/> for additional resources and announcements.

**Researcher Spotlight—Dr. Chiaki Konishi**

**Chiaki Konishi, Ph.D.**, is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Educational and Counselling Psychology at McGill University, specializing in the area of social-emotional learning (SEL) and development. She completed her doctorate degree in the program of Human Development, Learning and Culture within the Department of Educational and Counselling Psychology, and Special Education at the University of British Columbia.

Most of Chiaki's work has been conducted through collaborative partnerships with local schools and community agencies, aiming at optimizing the social-emotional development of children and youth as well as learning environments/school climate. Her current focus has been the application of social and ecological perspectives to understand developmental processes, with emphasis on multilevel and growth modeling techniques, as well as marginalized populations of youth, including sexual and racial minorities, especially in relation to their stigmatizing experiences of being bullied. She has been an active member of PREVNet, Canada's national organization for Promoting Relationships and Eliminating Violence Network. She has taught a unique graduate-level practicum course in SEL, the first of its kind in Canada initiated by Drs. Kimberly Schonert-Reichl and Shelley Hymel, providing opportunities for teacher candidates to develop a deep understanding of embedding SEL in educational settings.

Currently, Chiaki is the principal investigator (PI) of a project funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council and Fonds de recherche Société et culture, which closely examines the roles of school climate in mobilizing bystanders' responses to bullying situations in reducing bullying, using a comprehensive measure of school climate. A primary aim of this project is to develop and evaluate a school climate measure both conceptually and methodologically, as well as both from the students' and researcher's perspectives. In particular, this study places values on the importance of including students as informants to develop a reliable instrument. She has also been part of the PREVNet's national project (PI: Dr. Wendy Craig) on teen dating violence to address, reduce, and educate the country about youth dating violence.

As a researcher and educator, Chiaki values her role as a mentor of new scholars and educators. In this capacity, she supports the students' professional development and in following their journey and growth, is able to reflect on her own practice. She is committed to fostering the development of the next generation of research scientist practitioners that can learn about the ways in which science can inform practice and how practice can inform theory and research. Her students who are also core members of her research group (SED-RG: <http://sedrg.ca/>) are always active, constantly thinking of research ideas and activities to empower people to take actions for promoting caring learning environments. They also enjoy collaborative work. The SED-RG room has been a secure base for my students to study together and share joys and intellectual challenges (in a positive manner). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, recent use of the room has been limited, however, the SED-RG team has been fully engaged and has maintained their collaboration by connecting through virtual means and maintaining their collaboration! The senior students have been mentoring the junior students including volunteers for their analytical and conceptual learning, and the junior students have been cherishing this learning.

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### **NEW BRNET Article Sharing Policy**

BRNET has very recently changed our policy regarding sharing BRNET members' articles in our newsletters. Due to the lack of consistency across publishers regarding the permissibility of sharing full articles via email (e.g., [Elsevier's Policy](#), [APA's Policy](#)), we are now opting to share our members' citations (including the DOI link, if possible) and the article abstracts.

We appreciate how willing BRNET members have been in sharing their important research; we would like to continue this communication. If you would like to share research articles to be highlighted in our monthly newsletters, please email Alia Noetzel at [bullyresearchnet@gmail.com](mailto:bullyresearchnet@gmail.com) with the following information:

- Your article citation (with a link to the DOI, if possible)
- Your article abstract
- Your email (so individuals who receive our newsletter can request further information, if desired)

Please let us know if you have any questions!

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### **BRNET New Members!**

BRNET has a current total of 245 members from 25 countries! Welcome to the BRNET, **Dr. Marín-López!**

### **New Friends of BRNET!**

BRNET has a current total of 87 Friends from 6 countries!' Welcome **Hannah Brett, Cara White, & Yasemine Erdogan!**

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Please send recommendations for potential BRNET members (i.e., faculty, researchers, and clinicians who are conducting research on bullying or related topics) to Drs. Shelley Hymel, Susan Swearer, or to [bullyresearchnet@gmail.com](mailto:bullyresearchnet@gmail.com).

*If you have recently joined BRNET and have not yet provided your information, please send the following to [bullyresearchnet@gmail.com](mailto:bullyresearchnet@gmail.com).*

- 1) contact information that can be posted on the website;
  - 2) a brief biography of you and your work;
  - 3) a list of current/ongoing projects in this area;
  - 4) an annotated bibliography of your work in this area (i.e., full reference plus a few sentences about the work), and;
  - 5) relevant web-based links you would like to share.
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### **Friends of BRNET**

Friends of BRNET is a group of graduate students, administrators, parents, and individuals who are interested in learning more about the Bullying Research Network. Friends of BRNET receive our monthly e-newsletter. If you are interested in becoming a Friend of BRNET or want to refer someone to Friends of BRNET, please email Alia Noetzel, the BRNET Coordinator, at [bullyresearchnet@gmail.com](mailto:bullyresearchnet@gmail.com) with the following information: name, title, address, and email address.

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### **BRNET Member Grant/Funding Announcements**

Receipt of funding facilitates the BRNET mission to conduct interdisciplinary research related to bullying and aggression, with particular attention being paid to the link between basic and applied research. Thus, the BRNET directors are excited to offer members a new opportunity to share grants (and other sources of funding) they have received for their research projects.

Funding varies across countries and is not limited to federal grants. If you are interested in sharing your grants or funding with other BRNET members, please send an abstract of the research funding along with the funding source to [bullyresearchnet@gmail.com](mailto:bullyresearchnet@gmail.com) and we will post the information on our website.

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### **BRNET MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **(1) Opportunity to Collaborate on Integrated Data Analysis Grant Submission**

We are planning a grant submission that will entail integrating data across multiple projects focused on bullying/peer victimization to examine prevalence/rates of subgroups of youth involved in bullying experiences and examine individual-level and contextual-level factors that influence subgroup membership. We are looking for researchers interested in collaborating with us and sharing data from existing studies for this project. The inclusion criteria for datasets are as follows:

1. Includes measure of bullying/aggression AND peer victimization
  - a. More than 1-item about bullying and about victimization
  - b. If possible, ability to look at the forms/modalities (i.e., physical, verbal, relational, cyber)
2. Uses self-report measures
3. Includes some focus on K-12 youth
4. Information available on individual-level demographics (sex, race/ethnicity), access to data on gender identity a plus
5. If intervention study, will want to use baseline data for initial harmonization
6. Includes some measure of contextual factors (particularly school climate)
7. Ability to access school-level characteristics (e.g., racial/ethnic composition of the school, urbanicity, etc.)

8. Data must be nested within schools and must be more than 1 school
9. Total student sample size must be  $N \geq 700$

We are also asking researchers who agree to contribute data to this effort to be part of a steering committee for the grant. This steering committee will meet approximately twice a year via video conferencing to discuss the status and direction of the current project as well as have the authority to approve of concepts for future studies that are beyond the scope of the current grant. If interested in discussing collaboration, please contact Amie Bettencourt, Ph.D. at [abetten3@jhu.edu](mailto:abetten3@jhu.edu).

## **(2) European Young Researchers Network on Teachers' Role in School Bullying**

Four researchers (Saskia Fischer, Eleonora Marucci, Antonia Paljakka, Danelien van Aalst) working at universities in three European countries (Austria, Germany, and the Netherlands) are currently researching teachers' role in the preventing, recognizing, and intervention in school bullying among students at primary and secondary schools. They are creating a platform specifically for young researchers (including postdoc-phase) with related research, by founding a digital platform where they can connect and find each other easily, share research and information, and support each other in networking and collaborating.

Please see attached PDF for further information.

## **(3) Author Exchange—BRNET Member Publications**

Dr. Kennedy recently published a paper in the *Children and Youth Services Review*. Please see attached PDF and citation below. Additionally, please contact Dr. Kennedy at [rxk5442@psu.edu](mailto:rxk5442@psu.edu) for additional information.

Kennedy, R. S. (2020). Gender Differences in Outcomes of Bullying Prevention Programs: A Meta-Analysis. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 105506.

## **(4) Call for Papers: The Use of Artificial Intelligence to Address Online Bullying and Abuse**

The International Journal of Bullying Prevention is seeking a variety of submissions from a range of disciplines that examine various aspects of AI applications to address abuse for their special issue. Abstracts (max 500 words) should be submitted by October 31, 2020 to Tijana Milosevic at [tijana.milosevic@dcu.ie](mailto:tijana.milosevic@dcu.ie). Full manuscripts (typical length between 6,000 and 9,000 words—please seek permission in advance if you need to submit a shorter or longer manuscript) to be submitted by **December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020**. The issue is planned for **June 2021**. Please refer to the following website for additional information: <https://www.springer.com/journal/42380/updates/18127164>.

## **(5) Save the Date—Bullying Research Symposium 2020 ONLINE**

Due to the ongoing severe impact of the COVID-19 crisis on our daily lives that includes heavy restrictions on international travel and the necessity to maintain physical distance, the organizers have decided to change the Bullying Research Symposium Vienna 2020 to an **ONLINE conference** for the already set dates (November 6-7, 2020).

The Bullying Research Symposium (BRS) addresses scholars on all career stages whose research focuses on school bullying. The aim of the Symposium is to intensify exchange about current research and to establish closer networks between the individual researchers and research teams.

We are very proud to present Prof. Sheri Bauman (University of Arizona, USA) and Prof. Yuichi Toda (Osaka Kyoiku University, Japan) as keynote speakers, who will provide input from an international perspective. Besides the keynotes the program will include presentations, symposia and a poster session. The thematic focus is set around teachers and school bullying.

For more information visit: <https://bullyingresearchsymposium.univie.ac.at/>

The registration is still open and the fees for the online participation have been reduced!

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Thank you for your involvement in the Bullying Research Network! If you have any news, information, research, suggestions for new members, or other materials that our members would find useful, please do not hesitate to email us at [bullyresearchnet@gmail.com](mailto:bullyresearchnet@gmail.com) and we will include it in our newsletter and/or on our website.

Most sincerely,



Dr. Shelley Hymel  
University of British Columbia  
BRNET Co-Director



Dr. Susan Swearer  
University of Nebraska - Lincoln  
BRNET Co-Director