



Winners of the 2019 Dr. Michael Sullivan Diversity Scholarship are... Alena Borgatti, Kyle Simon and C. Nicole White

The Michael Sullivan Diversity Scholarship Fund committee has selected three winners for 2019. They are Alena Borgatti of the University of Alabama, Kyle Simon of the University of Kentucky and C. Nicole White of the University of South Carolina.

ALENA BORGATTI'S research investigates whether social networks are implicated in differential response to weight loss treatment among African American and Caucasian participants with obesity. Social Network Analysis (SNA) will be assessed across four predominantly African-American weight loss groups at eight weeks, six months, and one year into treatment to assess whether group social ties can improve attendance and weight loss. This study is theoretically and clinically innovative in several ways, as it will be the first to a) compare networks of in-group social support between African American and Caucasian participants in regards to weight loss, b) examine social networks in a behavioral weight loss program for adults, and c) evaluate the impact of social networks on racial disparities in behavioral weight loss treatment outcomes.

Borgatti is a first year student at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.



KYLE SIMON'S project is to conduct a confirmatory factor analysis on the Conceptual Future Parent Grief (CFPG) for LGBTQ+ individuals scale, a measure designed to assess conceptual grief that LGBTQ+ individuals may experience based on loss of a future parent identity. The CFPG scale has been found to show relationships with LGBTQ+ identity authenticity, depression, and perceived as well as enacted stigma, important preliminary evidence of conceptual future parent grief as a construct for LGBTQ+ individuals.

Additionally, Simon works on the "Stories and Experiences of LGBTQ+ Families from Youth" Project (SELY) led by faculty adviser Dr. Rachel H. Farr, and has two ongoing collaborations: the first is with Drs. Bos (University of Amsterdam) and Tornello (Penn State) as part of the Intended Parenthood Study, and the second with Drs. Russell and Mernitz (University of Texas at Austin) investigates how LGB individuals conceptualize the meaning of kinship, family, and parenthood.

Simon is a third year student at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, Kentucky.



C. NICOLE WHITE'S prior research found that Black female college students were less likely to seek help after experiencing a sexual assault than their white peers. White's aim is to discover whether Black female college students' self-endorsement of Strong Black Woman mediates the relationship between experiencing traumatic life events and help-seeking in response to those events. This study represents an important step in better understanding the mechanisms of the Strong Black Woman image and its outcomes for Black women. This will be the first study to connect self-endorsement of Strong Black Woman to actual help-seeking behavior in response to a wide range of traumatic life events. The results from this study will inform future research on Strong Black Woman and how the stereotype may contribute to both positive and negative outcomes for Black women, in addition to further explaining the low rates of help-seeking for Black women following traumatic events.

White is a fourth year student at the University of South Carolina.



About the Dr. Michael Sullivan Diversity Scholarship Fund

This scholarship supports research/training and community projects in the area of diversity/multiculturalism. Awards up to \$500 per recipient are granted once a year, and the winner(s) are announced in March. Grants support or assist applicants in covering expenses related to their projects or research. The deadline for submission is the second Friday in January. The award application must be submitted electronically to the chair of the review committee by 4:30 p.m. on the day of the deadline.

The Dr. Michael Sullivan Diversity Scholarship Fund is supported by generous gifts, grants and contributions from individuals and organizations who seek to honor Dr. Sullivan and advance diversity initiatives or research in states, provinces and territories.

This is the twelfth year for the Michael Sullivan Diversity Scholarship. Past winners are:

- 2018 Anna Abate, Sam Houston State University & Kathleen Collins, University of Massachusetts
- 2017 Liz Weber Ollen, Clark University & Madison Silverstein of Auburn University
- 2016 Stacy Ko, Iowa State University & Chassitty Whitman, City University of New York
- 2015 Caitlin Cavanagh, The University of California, Irvine & Barbara Wood Roberts, Idaho State University
- 2014 Calia A. Torres, University of Alabama & Jeremy J. Eggleston, Fordham University
- 2013 Jin Kim, University of California-Davis & David Lick, University of California-Los Angeles
- 2012 Marisa Franco & Anahi Collado-Rodriguez, University of Maryland
- 2011 Ana Fernandez, Long Island University/Brooklyn Campus
- 2010 Ariz Rojas, University of South Florida
- 2009 Sangetta Parikshak, University of Kansas
- 2008 Janelle Hines of University of Cincinnati

Your Donation Supports the Michael Sullivan Diversity Scholarship

The Michael Sullivan Diversity Scholarship Fund was created to provide financial assistance to support graduate student research projects in honor of Dr. Sullivan's work with the American Psychological Association, state, provincial and territorial psychological associations and his commitment to diversity and inclusion. It has been funded by gifts, grants, contributions and bequests made in honor of Dr. Sullivan over the years since he retired from the American Psychological Association.

Dr. Michael Sullivan served as the Assistant Executive Director for State Advocacy at the American Psychological Association. In this position, he managed the Practice Directorate's program of making resources available to 60 affiliated psychological associations in every state and several Canadian provinces and U.S. territories. A fellow of APA, Dr. Sullivan has been a strong supporter of state psychological association involvement as a means of promoting diverse and multicultural leadership in psychology and positively impacting communities.

Additional information about the scholarship is available at ohpsych.org/MichaelSullivanDiversityScholarship.

Call for applications for the 2020 Scholarships begin in the fall of 2019.

Donation Form: Support the Michael Sullivan Diversity Scholarship Today!

Online donations can be made at ohpsych.org/MichaelSullivanDiversityScholarship, or complete and return this form to:
THE MICHAEL SULLIVAN DIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP FUND | 395 E. Broad St., #310, Columbus, OH 43215 | Fax (614) 224-2059

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