

N O V E M B E R 2 0 1 6

# Educational Psychology Society

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## November Supply Drive!



During the month of November, the EPS will be holding its annual supply drive for the Greeley Transitional House. This organization provides emergency shelter and comprehensive support to families in crisis. Please help us help them!

You can place needed supplied in the decorated boxes located on each floor of McKee. Please take a moment to review the most needed items from the list below. Please note: Clothes are *not* a severe need for the Greeley Transitional House.

- *Baby Items*
  - Food
  - Diapers
  - Wipes
- *Personal Care Items*
  - Shampoo/Conditioner
  - Soap
  - Deodorant
  - Toothpaste/Toothbrush
- *Household Cleaning Items*
  - Laundry Detergent
  - Disinfectants
  - General Cleaning Products
- *Housewares (Gently used is okay!)*
  - Linens
  - Towels
- *Pillows*
  - Lamps
- *Kitchenware & Small Appliances*
  - Dishes
  - Glasses
  - Pots and pans
- *Toys for children*
- *Canned food*
- *First-Aid Supplies*



# Professional Development Workshop

Join us on **Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 3:30**  
**McKee 20**

Our very own Amanda Jacobs will be leading a workshop titled:

## **Academic Job Search: The Hiring Process from the Other Side**



**This workshop will focus on:**

- **How search committees are formed and what they do**
- **What applicants should be prepared for**
- **Some suggestions on how to prepare for interviews**
- **Insight into what search committees are looking for**

## Mally Younis, Ph.D. Student, Ed Psych EPS Webmaster

Hey you! I am a first year PhD student in the Ed Psych Program. I am from Cairo, Egypt, the land of Pharos, and Yes, I have seen the Pyramids, many times! I also grew up by the Nile River which explains my zeal towards adventures in nature.

My background is in Applied Linguistics and Second Language Education. I earned my BA in linguistics from Cairo University and TEFL certificate from California Santa Cruz University. I have been working as an educator for the last 14 years, in classrooms and beyond. during these years, I developed a particular passion towards educational assessment and evaluation. I moved to the United States as a Fulbright Student to pursue an MA degree in Educational Psychology with concentration on measurement and assessment at UNCO which I recently obtained.



My research focus is on Dynamic assessment in Math and Statistics. Dynamic assessment is an interactive assessment model that provides students with support during taking exams when they need it. My interest in this evaluation model is driven by my firm belief in the uniqueness of the human learning experience that cannot be standardized. To assess such uniqueness, a more interactive and innovative methods are needed to reflect a true picture of the students' potentials and performance especially in diverse societies like USA.

In my free time I enjoy doing a lot of activities. On the top of the list would be reading, cooking, dining out, watching movies and meeting new people. I also enjoy swimming, snorkeling and recently, hiking ☺. I am currently learning how to play Tambourine which is so much fun. A fun fact about me: I have a wonderful younger sister who happens to share the same birthdate with me. People usually think that we are twins as we almost look like each other! So, we call ourselves” The quasi- twin sisters”!



## Rena Kirkland, Ph.D. Assistant Professor EPS Faculty Sponsor

I hope this introduction helps you to feel like I'm not a complete stranger. I grew up in southern California and received my undergraduate degree in psychology at University of California at San Diego (UCSD). After graduating from UCSD I moved to Colorado for a year of snowboarding in the Western slopes; I quickly feel in love with the mountains and one year turned into 18. I have been married 11 years and we have two boys. As a family we love to spend time outdoors, playing sports, and learning together. I detest television and for the life of me can't understand why so many people find time for TV but not for things like working out, cooking, or volunteering. Other than when my husband occasionally watches University of Oregon sports, we never have the TV on (though I do admit my boys love video games and they are allowed to play a small amount on the weekends). Here is one of my favorite quotes from an unknown author that I find is both ironic and true: "TV will never be a serious competitor for radio because people must sit and keep their eyes glued on a screen; the average American family hasn't time for it", from *New York Times*, 1939. I realize that my opinion about TV is unusual, and that when it comes to television I'm completely uncultured.



Above: This was taken last August in the Austrian Alps. Actually, it was in Sölden Austria where a scene from the last James Bond movie was filmed (Spectre). This picture was taken at the top of the gonadal near the restaurant in the movie. We paid 100 Euro just to take the gonadal to the top, only to get there and have terrible visibility and it was snowing! Right: This was the building from the movie where my husband had a James Bond martini.

Prior to becoming a full-time academic I worked in the fitness industry for 15 years. I was a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist through the National Strength and Conditioning Association and a continuing education instructor for the American Council on Exercise and International Sports Sciences Association. Even though I enjoyed educating individuals about health and fitness, I have always identified more strongly as a scholar than fitness professional. Now, instead of teaching people the mechanics of a correct squat, I enjoy teaching topics related to positive psychology, such as how thinking processes have a profound effect on the body's immune system and aging process. I am also interested in the emotional and cognitive benefits of physical activity. However, I am most interested in measurement, psychometrics and applied educational research. (continued)



I graduated with my doctoral degree in Educational Psychology from UNC in 2013 and I am thrilled to no longer be working two jobs! My current research includes: increasing capacity for public engagement in public school districts; a cross-sequential study examining the correlation between parenting practices and the grit that children and adolescents display; the development of two online instruments measuring factors associated with productive teams as well as cognitive, emotional, physical and financial fitness; reliability generalization and Rasch analysis of The Reading the Mind in the Eyes Test; a study examining military veterans transition and retention in civilian workforce, and a meta-analysis examining hot and cool executive functioning in developmental samples. Other areas of research interests include examining how individual differences, such as non-cognitive traits and intelligence, influence learning outcomes and adult development.

In summarizing my personal and academic philosophy, I believe that human development is maximized when people are challenged and face their fears. Just as physical fitness improves with exercise, mental and emotional health improves with consistent work and effort.

I am honored to be the Faculty Mentor of the Educational Psychology Society. I admire all the graduate students in the program who are working hard to follow their dreams, and who will shape future educators and students to reap the benefits of citizenship and education.

“Never give up, never give in, and never stop believing in yourself!” –Earl Simmons

GO BEARS!!!!



**Congratulations to Dr. Pulos on his retirement!**