

# IDEA *Summer* Newsletter



## PSYCHOLOGY



### **Shout Out And Thank you!**

Thank you to everyone who donates to the clothing/jacket drive for the Mississippi State Hospital! Together we raised about 10-11 loads of laundry for a BIG washing machine!



*July 2023*

Have an upcoming event or want to give a shout out to someone for an accomplishment? Please email us and we can add it to our next newsletter!

Email:  
[hld166@msstate.edu](mailto:hld166@msstate.edu)



# IDEA Subcommittees

## Interested in getting involved?

## Here is a list of subcommittees!

### 1. Kudos/Newsletter subcommittee

- This committee puts together three newsletters a year (one in the fall, spring, and summer semesters) using Canva. Tasks include collecting submissions for the IDEA/Research spotlight, gathering DEI calendar days, and sending final draft to the IDEA committee for review before the president of the IDEA committee sends it out to the department. This is all done remotely.

### 2. Clinical Program subcommittee

- This committee focuses on improving the recruitment and retention process for the clinical psychology program.

### 3. Mentorship Program subcommittee

- The IDEA committee recently received a small grant to start a mentorship program for the undergraduate psychology students. We will be recruiting help to get the program up and running this year.

### 4. Undergraduate Subcommittee

- This subcommittee focuses on increasing undergraduate connection and assisting in getting folks into graduate programs.

### 5. Service Subcommittee

- This subcommittee focuses on new ways to provide assistance to various groups and organizations, both locally and internationally.

If interested in joining a subcommittee,  
Contact Ty Stafford at  
[tw37@msstate.edu](mailto:tw37@msstate.edu)



# IDEA Research Spotlight

## Dr. Ben Porter investigates belongingness in military/veteran college students.

Previous research has demonstrated that military and veterans reported reduced belongingness relative to civilian students on college campuses. We are in the process of writing up a study that combined datasets with contextual information (i.e., political climate and veteran-specific resources at schools) to a large dataset of college students' well-being.



while these contextual effects were associated with the proportion of military/veteran students enrolled, they were not associated with belongingness. Therefore, we believe that the reduced belongingness of military/veteran students on campus is not due to political friction or lack of support but rather due to demographic differences between military/veteran students and civilian students. Elizabeth A. Olson and Kevin Merideth are co-authors on this study.

Ben received his PhD from University of Houston in social psychology. He then went on to study military health, particularly through the use of archival and public use datasets. He has lived in Starkville for 4 years and is a fan of daffodils, crawfish, and three-pound cannonballs of edam cheese.

# Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Observances

## **July 2023 - French-American Heritage Month**

- July 4 - Independence Day
- July 18 - International Nelson Mandela Day
- July 19 - Muharram Islamic New Year
- July 26 - National Disability Independence Day



## **August 2023 - National Civility Month**

- August 7 - Purple Heart Day
- August 9 - International Day of the World's Indigenous People
- August 13 - Left-Handers' Day
- August 21 - Senior Citizens Day
- August 26 - Women's Equality Day



## **September 2023 - Hispanic Heritage Month**

## **September 2023 - Suicide Prevention Month**

- September 15 - Rosh Hashanah begins
- September 16 - Mexican Independence Day
- September 22 - National Native American Day

## **October 2023 - Domestic Violence Awareness Month**

## **October 2023 - LGBTQ History Month**

- October 10 - World Mental Health Day
- October 11 - National Coming Out Day
- October 15 - Havrati begins

