

Student Chapter: So You Want to Create, Sustain or Maintain a Student Chapter?

Panel Presented by Faculty and Student Chapter Representatives from Alliant University, Adler University, USUHS and the National Student Chapter

IN COLLABORATION WITH:



**THE SOCIETY FOR
MILITARY PSYCHOLOGY**

**Alliant International University (AIU)
California School of Professional Psychology (CSPP)
Student Association for Military Psychology (SAMP)
San Diego Campus**

**Dr. Steven Thorp, Ph.D., ABPP
SAMP Faculty Advisor**

**Darcy Richardson, M.A.
SAMP President**

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Disclaimer

We do not have any conflicts of interest to disclose. We do not have a financial interest in APA Division 19, the 2022 Military Psychology Summit, or in the AIU SAMP Chapter.



Faculty Sponsor/Advisor Role

- My experience in the VA (Director of PTSD and MST programs)
- Supporting all campus activities that support military careers for psychologists and research (such as dissertations) about military issues
- Sharing resources, including research articles and upcoming trainings or events (e.g., CAPS, CPT, Stand Down)
- Discussing HPSP scholarships and writing letters of support
- Providing coursework and trainings that support students who are interested in military issues (e.g., CBT, Diversity and Trauma, and Prolonged Exposure Therapy for PTSD CE training)
- Attend SAMP Events



AIU CSPP SAMP Chapter History

- Three AIU CSPP PsyD students founded our SAMP Chapter in 2016 to discuss research relevant to military psychology
- CSPP San Diego SAMP Chapter won APA Division 19
2019 Outstanding Chapter of the Year Award
- Current membership: 51 AIU CSPP students across 6 campuses
- Outreach to PsyD, PhD, Couples & Family Therapy programs
- Outreach to greater APA Division 19 community via flyers about upcoming virtual speaker events
- CSPP San Diego SAMP Chapter won APA Division 19
2022 Outstanding Chapter of the Year Award



AIU CSPP SAMP Officer Team

The Officer Team includes seven members who collaborate monthly to plan events and strategize ways to increase membership and attendance at events:

President

Vice-President

Secretary

Treasurer

Community Engagement Officer

Marketing Officer

Military Fitness Officer

SAMP Virtual Speaker Series

- Monthly speaker events during the academic year related to military psychology with 8 events per academic year
- Continuing Education available for selected events, such as Prolonged Exposure Therapy with Dr. Steven Thorp (over 150 attendees)



PTSD and Prolonged Exposure Therapy (PE)
Presented by Steven Thorp, PhD



SAMP Virtual Speaker Series

- Other training topics included: Military Sexual Trauma with Dr. Carolyn Allard, Confidentiality in Military Psychology with Dr. Ian Lynch (USA, Ret.), SIT-NORCAL with Dr. Sarah Jackson





Military Fitness Events

- In-person military fitness events and virtual circuit workouts emailed to SAMP membership every month
- Carry Forward Wounded Warrior 5K:
Top Fundraiser 2021 Award
- Military Sexual Assault Awareness 5K
- Trot for the Troops 5K
- Fitness events also supported our SAMP Chapter's Community Service Events

2021-2022 SAMP Fitness Events



APA Military Internship Prep Panels

- Students who applied to military internships and were completing their academic requirements discussed the APA process
- Current interns who were accepted to military pre-doctoral internships during the past application cycle spoke about their experiences while on internship



**MILITARY
PSYCHOLOGY
SUMMIT**

**Adler University
Military Psychology Student Organization (MPSO)
Chicago Campus**

**Dr. Joseph Troiani, Ph.D.
Rebecca Hans, M.A.
MPSO Faculty Advisor
MPSO President**

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Society for Military Psychology (APA Division 19)

- Membership is free for the first year!
- Membership in APA is not required to join Division 19
- Access to research and professional development grants, travel awards, and network of diverse psychologists
- For more information and to join, visit www.militarypsych.org



Dr. Joseph Troiani Intro & Background

- Dr. Troiani is the Founding Director of Military Psychology at Adler University.
- There he developed and implemented the Military Clinical Psychology Emphasis in the Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology (APA Approved Program), and the Masters in Psychology - Military Psychology Online Degree Program.
- These programs are going into their 12th year and since their start have been recognized with the “Innovative Program of the Year Award” from the Mental Health Association of Illinois, and the “Heroes Military Award” from the American Red Cross of Illinois.
- Commander Troiani, USN (retired) served 32 years in the Reserves.



Adler University's History with Division 19

- Soon after the establishment of the military psychology student organization (MPSO) its leadership reached out to Division 19's student organization.
- Years later D-19 recognized the chapter (MPSO) for its activity and engagement with the division and other D19 student chapters.



Adler University's History with Regional Research Symposium

- The Military Psychology Programs and the military psychology student organization (MPSO) have successfully carried out three Regional Research Symposiums to date.
- May of 2019 – In person and Virtual
- September of 2020 – Virtual
- September 2021 – Virtual
- September 2022 – Virtual
- The 2022 RRS is scheduled for September 29th and 30th



Adler University's History with HPSP

- Going back to 2008 Adler University has had a number of students apply and awarded the health care professional scholarships (HPSP) from the United States, Army, Navy, and Air Force.
- There are currently seven HPSP scholarship students:
 - Five Army
 - One Navy
 - One Air Force



Rebecca Hans, MA Intro & Background

- Clinical Psychology Doctoral Candidate with practicums at Captain James A. Lovell FHCC & Jesse Brown VA Medical Center
- President of Military Psychology Student Organization (MPSO)
 - Oversee all events, including anything Division 19 related
 - Discuss Division-19 news during meetings
- On the RRS planning committee



Sustaining Student & Community Engagement

- MPSO meetings and events
 - 9/11, Veteran's Day, Toys for Tots, Care packages to service members, networking events
- HPSP connection and network
- Mentor younger members



Suggestions for Growth & Development

- More HPSP support, guidance, mentorship, and education about the process
- Better national connections with other military psychology student organizations
- Networking events with Division 19 professionals

**MILITARY
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Uniformed Services University (USU)

USU



Uniformed
Services
University

**LTJG Shannon L. Exley, M.S., MSC USN
She/Her
USU Div 19 Chapter Representative**

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The opinions and assertions expressed herein are those of the presenter and are not to be construed as reflecting the views of USU or the U.S. Department of Defense.



LTJG Shannon Exley, M.S.

Background

- Rising 3rd year clinical psychology doctoral student at USU
- Campus Representative of USU Div 19 Chapter
- Current practicum: Children's National Medical Center, Washington DC
 - Past practicums: Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, U.S. Naval Academy



USU Chapter History & Purpose

- This chapter was created in December, 2020. The purpose of the D19 USU student chapter is to connect the USU student-body with resources and professional opportunities provided by the American Psychological Association's Society for Military Psychology (APA Division 19)
- This student chapter intends to support the development of USUHS students in pursuit of professional goals in military psychology
- 23 student members to date
- 2022 Chapter of the Year Award



USU Officer Team

President

Campus Representative

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Public Affairs Officer

+ Faculty Representative

Faculty Advisor



USU Chapter Webinars

- Forensic Psychology in the Military
- Responding to Critical Trauma + Approach from CID
- A Review on PTSD and Sleep Problems
- Military Psychologists & Theoretical Orientations
- A Discussion on USAF Embedded and Operational Experiences
- A Discussion on Internship Featuring USU Alumni
- Combat and Operational Stress Control (COSC) and Mental Health Operations in Deployed Settings
- Caring for Transgender Service Members



USU Resources & In-Progress Sponsorship/ Mentorship Program

- Created chapter website with resources for student members
 - For example, including resources distributed by our webinar speakers
- Compiling list of active duty psychologists willing to sponsor/mentor USU student D19 chapter members
 - To hopefully provide opportunities for shadowing, observing, and for some, clinical opportunities

**MILITARY
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National Student Chapter

**Nicholas Swansburg
National Student Representative (NSR)**

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National Student Chapter

- The National Student Chapter fall under the Student Affairs Committee (SAC).
- The National chapter was created to help student members of Division 19 who's schools did not have a campus chapter have a place to network, engage with others, share experiences and ideas, share research topics and progress, etc.
- The National Chapter has quarterly meetings which can range from webinars to guest speakers to discussing current topics and more.



National Student Chapter

- The role of the NSR is to serve as the liaison between the SAC and the campus chapter networks.
- Assist campus representatives plan and implement events on their campus, answer any questions the reps have, assure campus representatives abide by the Division 19 Mission Statement and Bylaws.
- Host a meeting/webinar/event during each quarter.
- Help the SAC with things needed to be completed.



National Student Chapter

- The National chapter helps support campus chapters and have created a chapter of the year award that all campus chapters can and should apply for.
- The National Chapter has created a google document to help support campus chapters.
- Things the National Chapter has had challenges with is difficulty engaging students to attend the meetings.
- All campuses wanting to have a chapter would need to go to our website and apply as long as all requirements are met. All current chapters/campus representatives need to reapply for the upcoming school years to stay active.