

Eliot-Pearson Newsletter

Department of Child Study and Human Development

Issue No. 3-November 2018



Class of 2018 Master's Students

Letter from the Chair

In the aftermath of the anti-Semitic deadly shooting at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh, in which eleven people were murdered while praying, and the shooting at the Borderline Bar & Grill in Thousand Oak, CA, in which twelve people were killed during 'College Night,' I recall the words of Holocaust survival and Nobel Laureate, Elie Wiesel. Through his

We educate members of the wider community who participate in our seminars and workshops and we educate each other as faculty and staff who are active participants in a learning community. Education is a way to protest. It provides intellectual tools and the needed knowledge and skills to make the world a better place.

At Eliot-Pearson, we focus on both research and

writing, Wiesel reminded the world of the dangers of indifference and hate and the importance of speaking up against injustice and intolerance:

"There may be times when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest."

At Eliot-Pearson, our way to protest is through education. We educate undergraduate and graduate students, we educate young children who attend our lab school--the Eliot-Pearson Children's School, and we educate their families.

practice. We understand and we intervene. We analyze and we make suggestions. We collect data and propose change. We design and we implement. Our protest becomes scholarly work, practices, and policies that have an impact on the future generations of children, youth, and families.

At this time, more than ever, we believe in education.

Marina Bers,



Professor and Department Chair

Featured Story

Part of the [Eliot-Pearson](#) mission is to provide students with a vibrant, interdisciplinary community dedicated to applied research. One way that the department accomplishes this goal is through the capstone internships it provides students with the [Applied Track of the CSHD Master's program](#). The Leadership in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities Program (LEND) Fellowship is perhaps one of Eliot-Pearson's most unique internship opportunities. Within this program, fellows engage in a series of weekly seminars and courses that focus on public health, cultural competence, clinical discussions, disability policy, and evidence-based research. Students also partner with community-based organizations and complete community visits to families in the Boston area. We asked the two Eliot-Pearson

"The Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disorders (LEND) Fellowship at Boston Children's Hospital provides training to professionals from a variety of disciplines. I am honored to be representing one of the graduate students in the current LEND cohort. LEND training consists of leadership seminars, readings, discussion, presentations, hospital clinic visits, family home visits, a Title V Program visit, a disability policy conference in Washington D.C. and working with community-based organizations. Through these trainings, I am gaining knowledge on many different kinds of disciplines, disorders, family-centered approaches to medical care, policies for individuals who have a disability and ways to help families who have a child with a disability, advocate for services they are entitled to. I have especially enjoyed learning about the innovative practice models that are used in the hospital to

students currently participating in the LEND Fellowship to reflect on their experiences thus far. Here is what they had to say:

"My LEND journey has been highly invigorating, both spiritually, as well as academically. Each of the LEND fellows have so much in common with regard to community inclusion, yet we all bring with us extremely unique perspectives. Each Friday, I sense myself developing a deeper understanding of common neurodevelopmental conditions, particularly autism. My experience parenting an ASD child, coupled with studying Child Development at Tufts, has helped me appreciate the developmental challenges and strengths associated with autism. Through LEND I envision myself learning more about autism from medical, policy, and advocacy perspectives. This would ultimately empower me to garner a strong voice for my son and others like him."

---Isha Fahad, 2nd year Master's candidate

provide a family-centered approach to care.

---Angela Venini, 2nd year Master's Candidate



Eliot-Pearson Seminar Series

Members of the community gathered to welcome [Dr. Betsy Hoza](#) for another meeting of the [Eliot-Pearson Seminar Series](#). Dr. Hoza is one of the original founders of the [Children and Teachers on the Move](#) physical activity curriculum. After 25 years of studying traditional evidence-based treatments for children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Dr. Hoza's work with families made her more cognizant of the need for a lifestyle management approach to ADHD treatment.

During the presentation, [Dr. Hoza](#) spoke about her research regarding the use of physical activity as a tool to manage ADHD symptoms. Her current research now views physical activity as beneficial, for not only children with ADHD, but typically developing individuals as well. Those in attendance were made aware of the ways in which exercise can assist in the circumvention and management of childhood behavior and mental health problems.

Publications

Newman, S.J. & [Leventhal, T.](#) (2018). The Housing and Children's Healthy Development Study. *Cityscape: A Journal of Policy Development and Research*, 20(3) 237-244.

[Leventhal, T.](#) (2018). Neighborhood context and children's development: When do neighborhoods matter most. *Child Development Perspectives*, 12(4), 258-263.

Awards

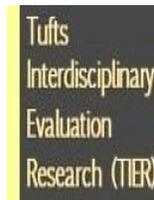
The [KIBO](#) robot, developed by the [DevTech](#) research group directed by [Professor Marina Umaschi Bers](#) and commercialized by [KinderLab Robotics](#), was named a winner in the Technology/Preschool category of the inaugural [Seriously STEM Awards](#).



Eliot-Pearson Community News



This November, members of [DevTech](#) participated in several exciting events. [Hannah Riehl](#) and Cathey Cowell presented at [SPLASH \(Systems, Programming, Languages, and Applications: Software for Humanity\)](#) on [KIBO](#) and [ScratchJr](#). On November 10th, Ph.D. candidate [Amanda Strawhacker](#) presented at [TEDxYouth](#) on her research introducing young children to bioengineering through [CRISPEE](#), a tangible, developmentally-appropriate tool that allows students to play with gene programs. In addition, several [DevTech](#) members travelled to Norfolk, VA to train teachers on implementing the [Coding as Literacy](#) curriculum.



[Tufts Interdisciplinary Evaluation Research \(TIER\)](#) received funding to continue their role as evaluator for the [Massachusetts Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting \(MA MIECHV\) program](#) run by the [Massachusetts Department of Public Health](#). For this round of funding, they will examine the impacts of home visiting programs on maternal and infant health and development outcomes and linkages to Early Intervention (EI) services. The evaluation will use existing secondary data from home visiting programs, electronic birth certificates (EBC), healthcare claims data, and EI program data.



[The Child Health Equity Research Lab \(CHER\)](#) recently hosted a community event at [Brookview House](#) for the [Social Justice for Health project](#). The Social Justice for Health project is a five-week activity-based curriculum that teaches 11-13-year-olds *critical health literacy skills* (the ability to use health information to engage in personal behavior change or take social action on a health issue). The program culminates in a Photovoice Project, in which youth are asked to take photos of things they consider healthy and unhealthy in their community. At a community event, program participants share their photos with neighborhood residents, parents, and peers and discuss what they would change in their community regarding health.



Drama and Dance faculty member and [Children's Television Project \(CTV\)](#) partner, [Jennifer Burton](#), received a Diversity Fund grant to bring filmmaker, [Amy Adrion](#), to campus on [November 13th](#). Amy Adrion's new film, "[Half the Picture](#)," which screened at Sundance, is about representation in filmmaking. The event, co-sponsored by the [Eliot-Pearson Department of Child Study and Human Development](#), featured a lunch talk with filmmaker, [Amy Adrion](#), a Q & A session, dinner with the filmmaker, and a screening of the film.



[The Child Development Association \(CDA\)](#) successfully hosted [Pancakes with Professors](#) this past Thursday (11/8). A special thank you to [Eliot-Pearson faculty](#), [Calvin \(Chip\) Gidney](#) and [Kerri Modry-Mandell](#) who shared stories of their own experiences in the field of [Child Study and Human Development](#). And of course, there were pancakes!

Congratulations



[Mariah Contreras](#), Ph.D., an alumna of the [Eliot-](#)



Senior lecturer, [Julie Dobrow's](#) new book [After Emily; Two Remarkable Women and the Legacy of America's Greatest Poet](#) was published. The biography weaves together the stories of poet Emily Dickinson and the mother-daughter duo that brought her poetry to the world and crafted the image of the poet we know today.

[Pearson doctoral program \(and currently a part-time lecturer in the department\)](#), has been nominated to serve on the [Ethnic and Racial Issue Committee of the Society for Research in Child Development](#).



[Tufts Interdisciplinary Evaluation Research \(TIER\) member, Melissa Colón](#), successfully defended her doctoral dissertation entitled "We are Beautiful People:" The Schooling Experiences of Puerto Rican School-Age Mothers (committee members: Chair, [Jayanthi Mistry](#), [Ellen Pinderhughes](#), [Sabina Vaught](#), and External Examiner, Sonia Nieto, University of Massachusetts, Amherst).

Alumni News

Thrive Global, Arianna Huffington's new wellness platform, recently published an article written by Eliot-Pearson alum, [Rebecca Skolnick](#). The article, [Helping Your Child Cope with a Chronically Ill Parent](#) is written with consideration to both the child and parent perspective in cases of chronic illness.

[The Association of Child Life Professional's](#) quarterly peer-reviewed publication, [The ACLP Bulletin](#) is seeking original research, commentaries, and theoretical papers from the Eliot-Pearson community. The current executive editor, [Kathryn Cantrell](#), PhD, CCLS, is an adjunct faculty member and alumna of Eliot-Pearson and encourages you to join the many students, faculty, and alumni who have previously shared their voices in the publication.

Announcements

[Reminder to Students](#)

Registration for Spring 2019 courses
ends Friday, **November 23, 2018**

Job opportunities for students

[Eliot-Pearson](#) is now partnering with the [Career Center at Tufts](#) to post employment opportunities for students through the platform,  **handshake**

When: Effective November 9th

How will you find these CSHD opportunities?

Visit the E-P website-<https://ase.tufts.edu/epcshd/about/careers.htm> for more information and instructions for using [“Handshake.”](#)

Upcoming Events

Career Night

Sponsored by the Child Development Association (CDA)

Wednesday, November 29th

7:00 pm

[Eliot-Pearson Library, Room 157](#)

The event will begin with a panel of alumni speakers in various fields including clinical psychology, children's media, research, education, medicine, and more. After the panel, there will be a general Q&A session followed by refreshments and a chance to ask individual questions. All undergraduate and graduate CSHD students are invited to attend.

The Queering Childhood Fair

Tuesday, December 4th

6:00 pm-7:15 pm

Crane Room

Eliot-Pearson has contributed funding to an upcoming event hosted by the Tufts Experimental College. The Queering Childhood Fair will be a community celebration and share-back to mark the end of the class, Queering Childhood. First-year students will shed light on the emerging field of critical childhood studies by sharing their final projects on prison abolition, healing justice, systems of intersecting power and children's liberation.

Information Seminar via Webinar

If you or someone you know are interested in a graduate degree in applied child development, please tune in!

Wednesday, December 14th

6:00 pm-6:45 pm

For more information,

visit us at: <http://ase.tufts.edu/epcshd/> **or email** Bruce.Johnson@tufts.edu

Eliot-Pearson
Department of Child Study
and Human Development



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Please click on one of the links below to make a donation to Eliot-Pearson

[Eliot-Pearson's Greatest Needs Fund](#)

[Eliot-Pearson Children's School Scholarship Fund](#)