James D. Persinger, Ph.D.

OVERVIEW

- Exceptionally experienced school psychologist and trainer, whose leadership, commitment to service, and impact in the field has been recognized with the designation of Distinguished Professor, and a Lifetime Achievement Award.
- 25 years of practice in prevention science and universal screening, readying educators to reduce risk factors and enhance protective factors to improve the psychological well-being of K-12 youth, particularly in the areas of trauma mitigation, and suicide prevention.
- Consultant to dozens of school districts, universities, and state education agencies in Kansas, Missouri, Texas and Oklahoma on crisis response and recovery, often in the aftermath of profound loss. Prolific trainer of School Safety Teams and School Crisis Teams.
- Developed initiatives which corrected critical shortages of school psychologists in the state, including pioneering a respecialization approach later embraced nationally.
- Deeply service-oriented, with an emphasis on activities that increase psychological well-being and resilience and improve mental health outcomes.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Emporia State University

- Interim Chair, Counselor Education, 2022-present
- Chair, Department of Psychology, Learning Science, and Instructional Design and Technology, 2021-present
- Chair, Department of Psychology, 2015-present
- Director, School Psychology Program, 2002-2019
- Professor, 2012-present; Associate Professor, 2006-2012; Assistant Professor 2000-2006

U.S.D. 383, Manhattan/Ogden Schools

- School Psychologist, 1993-2000
- Autism Teacher, Applied Behavior Analyst, and Autism Program Developer, 1996-2000
- Part B / Preschool Coordinator, 1994-2000
- Chair, Executive Board of Infant-Toddler Services Network of Riley County, 1995- 1999

Educational Consultant, Trainer, and Mental Health Provider

- Red Cross General Volunteer: DRO Trainee/Operational, DRO Disaster Mental Health Service Associate, DCS Disaster Mental Health Team Member. 2009, 2021-present.
- Clinical Director, National Athletic Trainers' Association, Region 5 (Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, Oklahoma, North Dakota, South Dakota) ATs Care Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Team Program, 2020-present
- Consultant, trainer and responder to schools in crisis - Trauma mitigation, CISM, Planning, and Crisis Response and Recovery, 2005-present. Recent sites/clients include:
    - Oklahoma Department of Education
    - Moore High School, Oklahoma City OK
    - Indian Capital Tech Center,Muskogee OK
    - Hazelwood School District, St. Louis, Missouri
    - U.S.D. 253 Olathe KS
    - ESSDACK, Hutchinson KS
    - Greenbush, Lawrence KS

  - Keystone Learning Services
  - Central Kansas Cooperative in Education, Salina KS
  - U.S.D 475 Junction City KS
  - Emporia State University
- Autism Programming Consultant, 1998-2008
- Adjunct Instructor, Kansas State University, 1996-1999
- Program Evaluator/Data Specialist, 1990-1996
- Graduate Teaching Assistant / Consultation Practicum Supervisor, University of Kansas, 1990-1993
- Graduate Research Assistant, Emporia State University, 1988-1990
- Teaching Parent for 12 adjudicated "Child in Need of Care" (Level 4 facility), The Farm, Emporia, KS, 1988-1989
- Tutor / Advocate, Project Challenge, Emporia State University, 1987-1988

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. School Psychology/Counseling Psychology, University of Kansas, 1999
- Ed.S. School Psychology, University of Kansas, 1993
- M.S. Experimental Psychology, Emporia State University, 1990
- B.A. Psychology/Sociology, Emporia State University, 1988

LICENSURE / CREDENTIALS

- Nationally Certified School Psychologist, Certification #36557
- Kansas State Department of Education License #5265135529 School Psychologist EC-12
- Red Cross ID #17695704, b) DRO: Trainee/Operational c) DRO: Disaster Mental Health Service Associate, d) DCS: Disaster Mental Health Team Member
- PREPaRE School Crisis Prevention and Intervention (1st, 2nd, and 3rd ed.) Trainer of Trainers for "Comprehensive School Safety Planning: Prevention Through Recovery" and "Mental Health Crisis Interventions: Responding to an Acute Traumatic Stressor in Schools"
- Certified Youth Mental Health First Aid Trainer
- GLSEN certified Safe Space Trainer of Trainers
- ICISF: Group Interventions / Individual Interventions; Advanced Group Interventions / Advanced Individual Interventions
- Still Quiet Place 10-week Practicum for K-12 Educators and Allied Professionals

NOTABLE AWARDS/HONORS

- National Association of School Psychologists, Outstanding Advocate Award (GLSEN-GKC), 2016
- Kansas Association of School Psychologists, Lifetime Achievement Award, 2016
- Emporia State University
  - Outstanding Academic Advisor of the Year, 2020-21
  - Roe R. Cross Distinguished Professor, 2015
  - Ervay Family Award for Applied Scholarship, 2017
  - The Teachers College Faculty Recognition Award

        - Service, 2021
        - Service, 2014
        - Scholarship, 2008
- Buros Center for Testing, Instructional Module Award, 2020

SAMPLE LEADERSHIP INITIATIVES

- School Mental Health Awareness Day Co-Founder
    - In 2007, with Sharon Karr and Regina Kimbrel, co-founded the annual School Mental Health Awareness Day at the Kansas State Capitol. Originally conceived of as a celebration of National School Psychology Week with Kansas lawmakers, this is now a partnership of the Kansas Association of School Psychologists, Kansas School Counselor Association, and Kansas School Social Worker Association, with purpose to focus legislators on youth mental health needs in the state.
- Respecialization Program Pioneer
    - To address critical shortages of school psychologists in the state, in summer 2001 launched what appears to be the first school psychology respecialization program, which retrofits a working professional with an M.S. in a related field to attain an Ed.S. degree and licensure in as little as 18 months. This led ESU's licensure program, which historically had typical (n=5) program completer rates, to 24-28 completers a year. The respecialization program has been the primary source of new practitioners in Kansas since 2008, and a significant source of Missouri practitioners as well. At Delegate Assembly in 2015, the use of respecialization programs became the #1 strategic priority of the National Association of School Psychologists to address critical shortages.
- Work Authorization Program Co-Creator
    - With KASP President Kyle Carlin, led the creation of the Kansas Work Authorization Program with KSDE, to address personnel shortages. This program allows respecialization candidates to be paid a full professional salary prior to finishing their degree programs. From its launch in 2019 through its anticipated sunsetting in 2023 due to its success, the program has allowed candidates to receive more than $1 million in salary they would not otherwise have been eligible for.
- LGBTQ+ Youth Advocate Virtual Professional Development
    - As a volunteer and board member of our region's chapter of GLSEN, the leading organization advocating for LGBTQ+ youth in K-12 education, launched the first GLSEN virtual professional development with the technical assistance of ESU M.S. candidates in the Instructional Design and Technology program. This was first developed as a pilot project in 2020, then variations customized to data specific to Kansas and Missouri schools. These portals currently supplement, rather than replace, most face-to-face trainings.

SELECTED SERVICE

National

- Red Cross General Volunteer: DRO Trainee/Operational, DRO Disaster Mental Health Service Associate, DCS Disaster Mental Health Team Member. 2009, 2021-present.
- National Athletic Trainers' Association, Region 5 (Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, Oklahoma, North Dakota, South Dakota) Clinical Director, ATs Care Critical Incident Stress Management Team Program, 2020-present
- National Association of School Psychologists, State Credentialing Resource Specialist, 2008-present; Kansas Delegate, 2015 –2018 (disrupted due to medical)
- Manuscript Referee/Reviewer for Psi Chi: Journal of Undergraduate Research 2000- 2021
- GLSEN, Research Ethics Review Committee, 2019-present
- Contributor to national standardization and/or content validation studies for nine of the most widely used assessment tools in school psychology, including the Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales, Stanford-Binet Intelligence Scales, Developmental Indicators for the Assessment of Learning, Bender-Gestalt, Social Skills Rating System (later renamed the SSIS), Oral and Written Language Scales, Auditory Skills Assessment, Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test, and Expressive Vocabulary Test
- Consultant on textbook prospectus, pre-revision reviewer, and/or pre-publication reviewer for the most widely used textbooks in educational psychology (e.g., Santrock, Ormrod, Slavin, Jennings & Moreno, Bohlin, O'Donnell, Smith & Reed, Burvikovs, Fetsco & McClure, Leong & Bodrova), as well as assessment (i.e., Venn), and exceptionality (i.e., Kirk, Gallagher, & Anastasiow) textbooks
- Advisory Board: GD Goenka Journal of Applied Psychology, 2014-2016
- Council for Educational Diagnostic Services (CEDS): content validation of the CEC Knowledge and Skill Base for Educational Diagnosticians, 2008

State/Regional

- Chair, School Psychology Licensure Standards Revision Committee, Kansas State Department of Education, 2005-06; 2019-21
- Chair, KSDE Higher Education Program Reviewer, 2021
- Chair, Cultural Awareness Subgroup, Kansas Blue Ribbon Taskforce on Bullying, 2019-2020
- Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services, KCTC SOGI demographic consultant, 2020 – 2022
- GLSEN Greater Kansas City Chapter: Volunteer 2012-present, Board Member (Fundraising / Grant Writing), 2014- present; Professional Development team member, 2014-present
- Kansas Association of School Psychologists: NASP Delegate 2015-2018, Webmaster 2006-15, Trainers Representative 2019-20/2014-15/2010-11/2004-2005), Work Authorization Committee 2017-present, Assistant to States representative 2017-19, Nationally-Certified School Psychologist Committee 2007-present, Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Coordinator 2009 – present, Chair, PREPaRE Crisis Intervention Committee 2009-present, Past-President 2009, President 2008, President-

Elect 2006-07, Publications Officer - Editor 2002-03, Publications Officer - Associate Editor 2000-01

- Association for Psychological and Educational Research in Kansas: Past President 2019, President 2017-18, Chair paper competition 2002-05, 2018, President-elect 2016, Webmaster 2004-08, Past President 2005, President 2004, Treasurer 2004-05, President-elect 2003

University

- Independent evaluator and consultant to Office of Disability Services / Student Accessibility and Support Services, conducting pro-bono evaluations for ESU candidates in need of disability eligibility-determination for accommodation services, 2001-2022
- LGBTQ+ Advisory Committee, 2018-2022
- Search Committee, Executive Director of Strategic Student Success, 2022
- Full Year Course Schedule Workgroup, 2019-2020
- Ruth Schillinger Award Committee, 2019-20
- Judge, 1863 Essay Contest, 2018-present
- Criterion 4 Subgroup Chair, Higher Learning Commission Writing Team, 2017-18
- Ombudsman, 2008-13
- Council on Teacher Education, 2008-14
- Academic Grievance Committee, 2003-04, 2008-09, 2013-14, 2014-15

Teachers College

- Academic Leadership Committee, 2014-present
- Search Committee, Associate Dean, 2022
- Jones Institute for Educational Excellence Strategic Planning Committee, Chair, 2021
- CAEP (formerly NCATE) Committee, 2008-15
    - Chair, Standard Three Field Experiences Subcommittee, 2010-13
    - Chair, CAEP Standard 2 Clinical Partnerships and Practices Subcommittee, 2013-14
    - Curriculum Review Committee, 2013-14
- Vision Committee, 2012-15

RECENT SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES

- Persinger, J. (2022) - Invited Address, "My Route to Being a Psychologist," Kansas City Kansas Community College inaugural Psi Beta/Psychology Club Luncheon, November 3, 2022.
- Persinger, J. (2022) – The Role of the Athletic Trainer and Coach in Mitigating Traumatic Stressors. National Athletic Trainers Association Region 5 Workshop, October 31 – November 1, 2022, Emporia State University.
- Persinger, J. (2022) - SPARK submission to Kansas Health and Education Advisory Panel: $1.5 million. Pending.
- Persinger, J. (2022). Neighbor Assist Grant – State Farm. $25,000. Not funded.
- Persinger, J. (2022). Evergy Hometown Grant. $25,000. Not funded.
- Kansas Communities that Care (KCTC) Roundtable Discussion for SOGI Demographic Representation. 2/2/2022, Greenbush Girard (virtual).
- Persinger, J. & Persinger, K. (2021). Comprehensive School Safety Planning: Prevention Through Recovery. Day-long NASP workshop presented at
    - Muskogee, OK, October 7, 2021
    - Greenbush Lawrence, November 15, 2021
- Persinger, J. & Persinger, K. (2021, 2022). Mental Health Crisis Interventions: Responding to an Acute Traumatic Stressor in Schools. Two-day NASP workshop presented at
    - Emporia State University, July 21-22, 2021
    - Moore, OK September 20-21, 2021
    - Greenbush Lawrence, October 21-22, 2021
    - Muskogee, OK, October 12-13, 2021
    - ESSDACK, Hutchinson January 10-11, 2022
    - Emporia State University, January 18 & January 21, 2022
    - Emporia State University, March 7-8, 2022
    - Olathe U.S.D. 233, Sept 2 and Sept 6, 2022
- 2021 - Contributor to SPARK submission for Behavioral Health: Mental Health and Psychological First Aid - $230,000; Increase Mental and Behavioral Health Capacity for Kansas - $885,000, – not funded.
- Persinger, J. (2021). FY22 GLSEN Chapter Accreditation Application, GLSEN Greater Kansas City Chapter.
- Persinger, J. (2021). Educator School Safety Team Training using the PREPaRE Model. Kathrine K. White Faculty Incentive Grant Program, $2000. Funded.
- Persinger, J. (2021). Effective K-12 Suicide Prevention Programs. Kansas Association of School Boards School Safety Institute, virtual, June 8-9.
- Persinger, J. (2021). K-12 Educator Crisis Team Training. Grant submitted to the Kansas Health Foundation's Impact and Capacity Grants Initiative, $23,610 – Funded, 7/1/21.
- Persinger, J. (2020). The PREPaRE Initiative. Grant submitted to the Kansas Health Foundation's Impact and Capacity Grants Initiative, $24,300. Not funded.
- Persinger, J., Kessler, B., Hayes, K., Paris, D., & Gerleman, M. (2020). The Tricounty PAIR Initiative. Grant submitted to the Jones Foundation and Trust, $2,179,602. Under review.
- Persinger, J. (2019). University Training Supervisors Breakout. Topeka, KS: Kansas Association of School Psychologists, October 4, 2019.
- Persinger, J. & Persinger, K. (2019). PREPaRE Crisis Intervention and Recovery: The roles

of school-based mental health professionals. Two- day NASP workshop presented at Keystone Learning Services, June 10-11, Emporia, KS.

- Persinger, J. (2019). Improving LGBTQ+ Inclusivity in Teacher Education. Kathrine K. White Faculty Incentive Grant Program, $1558. Funded.
- Persinger, J. (2019). LGBTQ+ Gifted. Workshop presented at the annual GLSEN Chapter Leadership Institute, Los Angeles, CA. July 17-21.
- Persinger, J. (2018). Self-care for helpers. Workshop presented at the annual GLSEN Chapter Leadership Institute, Austin, TX. July 26-29.
- Cordle, D., Kord, J. et al. (2018). Emporia State University Higher Learning Commission Report, 2018.
- Persinger, J. (2018). Gifted and LGBTQ. Emporia, KS: Kansas Association of Gifted, Talented and Creative annual conference, October 15, 2018.
- Persinger, J. (2018). A self care framework for school psychologists. Wichita, KS: Kansas Association of School Psychologists annual convention, October 4-5, 2018.
- Persinger, J. (2018). Self-care for givers: How to be compassionate without wearing yourself down. Paper presented at the GLSEN Greater Kansas City Youth Summit, Overland Park, KS. June 23, 2018.
- Persinger, J. (2017). Grant writing basics. Workshop presented at the annual GLSEN Chapter Leadership Institute, Austin, TX. July 27-30.
- Persinger, J. and Hamor, L. (2017). GLSENing Across Kansas: A Capacity-Building Initiative. Grant submitted to the Kansas Health Foundation, $24,969. Funded, 11/15/17.
- Persinger, J. (2017) The LGBTQ-Inclusive Schools Initiative. Grant submitted to the Kansas Health Foundation, $47,296. Funded, 6/1/17.
- Persinger, J. (2017) National Association of School Psychologists Program Approval Folio – Emporia State University. Full submission 3/15/17.
- Persinger, J. (2016) The Kansas Inclusive School Coalition. Grant submitted to the Kansas Health Foundation, $287,910.48. Not funded.
- Persinger, J. (2016) The Kansas School Alliance. Grant submitted to the Kansas Health Foundation, $22,990. Not funded.
- Persinger, J. Alonzo, L.D., and Connor, D. (2015). Be aware: The schools experience of LGBT Youth and its effects. 17 presentations/workshops at Kansas State University, 3/29-4/3/15.
- Persinger, J. (2014) The Kansas Safe Space Initiative. Grant submitted to the Kansas Health Foundation, $10,850. Received, 5/1/14.
- Persinger, J., Daniels, C., and Kimbrel, R. (2013). PREPaRE Crisis Intervention and Recovery: The roles of school-based mental health professionals. Two-day NASP workshop presented at Central Kansas Cooperative in Education, July 29-30, 2013.
- Adams, R. and Persinger, J. (2013). School support and same-sex parents. *Communique*, 42(2). 1, 10-13.
- Persinger, J. (2013). The amazing early history of the Kansas Association of School Psychologists. Wichita, KS: Kansas Association of School Psychologists annual convention, Oct. 17-8..
- Persinger, J. & Titzman, J. (2012). Mindfulness and self compassion training: Practices for helping children find peace in a difficult world (Workshop I). Lawrence, KS: Kansas Association of School Psychologists annual convention, Oct. 11-12
- Persinger, J. & Titzman, J. (2012). Mindfulness and self compassion training: Practices for helping children find peace in a difficult world (Workshop II). Lawrence, KS: Kansas Association of School Psychologists annual convention, Oct. 11-12

- Persinger, J. & Daniels, C. (2012). Who works nicely? Who plays nicely? Who would make you happy if they weren't in school today? Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Missouri Council for Exceptional Children. Four Seasons, MO., March 10.
- Persinger, J. (2012). An alternative to self-esteem: Fostering self- compassion in youth. *Communique*, 40(5), 20-23.
- Persinger, J. (2011) National Association of School Psychologists Program Approval Folio – Emporia State University. Submitted 9/15/11, Approved Spring 2012.
- Persinger, J. (2011). Screening social and behavioral needs using computerized sociometrics: A demonstration. Workshop presented at the annual meeting of the Kansas Association of School Psychologists, Manhattan, KS. October 6-7, 2011.
- Persinger, J. (2011). Preventing and responding to self-injurious behavior: What school psychologists should know about contemporary service delivery. Workshop presented at the annual meeting of the Kansas Association of School Psychologists, Manhattan, KS. October 6-7, 2011.
- Leeds, B., Trabuc, B., Kimbrel, R., Persinger, J., Lucas, C., Carter, M., Alfson, A., Swett, M., & Jones, A. (2011). Student Lunch Panel "Burning Questions Answered. Panel presented at the annual meeting of the Kansas Association of School Psychologists, Wichita, KS. Manhattan, KS. October 6-7, 2011.