

The School Psychology Research Collaboration Conference (SPRCC) Call for 2024 Early Career Scholar Participants

We are excited to invite applications for the 2024 School Psychology Research Collaboration Conference (SPRCC), an opportunity for emerging scholars to build collaborative relationships with fellow early career colleagues and receive mentorship from advanced scholars in the field of school psychology. Sponsored by the Society for the Study of School Psychology (SSSP), the SPRCC is a mechanism to actively support the efforts of early career researchers who conduct psychological research relevant to education and the practice of psychology in the schools. Such collaboration among early career and advanced scholars is designed to facilitate scholarship that addresses complex and important problems relevant to schools, students, and their communities.

In 2022, the SPRCC was re-envisioned and transformed to better support early career scholars in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and the persistent, systemic, and relational inequities for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) scholars. The 2024 SPRCC will maintain its emphasis on promoting equity and social justice and creating an inclusive space for participants with marginalized identities.

- The 2024 SPRCC will be held February 17-18, 2024, after the annual convention of the National Association of School Psychologists in New Orleans, LA.
- Based on applicants' reports of their needs and interests (see application information below), we expect to organize two types of groups: (a) research area interest group, and (b) research process problem-solving group to facilitate a community of colleagues and mentors that leads to meaningful scholarship and active support. Groups will engage in collaborative scholarship and problem-solving with one another and advanced scholars throughout the 2023-2024 academic year.
- Catalyst scholars (i.e., advanced researchers in the field of school psychology) will be nominated by early career scholars and provided with ongoing support to facilitate their active mentorship, and to utilize best practices in mentoring, particularly across race and ethnicity and gender.
- At the 2024 SPRCC, early career scholars and catalyst scholars, who will have been working together remotely since Fall 2023, will have dedicated time for collaborative work and shared problem-solving and support related to research. We will also facilitate time for cross-group collaboration, support, and active brainstorming about school psychology scholarship.
- Early career scholar participants will receive a reimbursement of their expenses (up to \$875) to facilitate their travel to and attendance at the 2024 SPRCC. Participants can also request up to \$350 in reimbursement for childcare costs incurred during their attendance at the SPRCC.

Eligibility

Potential early career scholars should be professionals in their first 10 years after receiving a doctorate (i.e., no earlier than December 2013). We will also consider applications from those who received their doctorate outside of this window, but have recently taken a position focused on scholarship (e.g., assistant professor). Scholars within the 10-year window who have already attended SPRCC but who believe they would benefit from additional mentoring or collaboration given unique circumstances (e.g., impact of COVID, change of position) may apply to attend this conference and should use their application materials to explain their interest in attending again.

Potential early career scholars should communicate their strong interest in contributing to psychological research relevant to education and the practice of psychology in the schools. Relatedly, potential early career scholars should have time to actively engage in research activities and contribute to collaborative research activities. Applicants can illustrate that they meet this eligibility criteria by sharing information about their position (e.g., faculty appointment with expectation of research; postdoctoral appointment that includes time for independent scholarship, school-based position with sufficient time for research or applicant history of contributing to research while in this role). As needed, based on the number of applicants, the SPRCC committee will prioritize pre-tenure faculty in school psychology in reviewing applications.

Application

To be considered for the SPRCC, please submit an application that includes (a) the applicants' most recent curriculum vitae and (b) a cover letter (< 3 pages) that addresses the following topics:

- A description of the applicant's area(s) of research interest and the importance of these area(s) to advancing school psychology research and practice;
- A summary of the applicant's planned research efforts within the near future (i.e., 1-3 years);
- A summary of the applicant's prior experience in and support to conduct research (e.g., prior coursework, prior work on grant-funded project, limited structural support);
- A description of their interest in participating in SPRCC including at least two explicit goals for themselves related to advancing their scholarship, collaborating with fellow early career scholars, receiving mentorship, engaging in problem-solving support for research efforts, or other areas;
- An indication that they have sufficient time to actively engage in scholarship in their current role (e.g., faculty appointment with expectation of research; postdoctoral appointment that includes time for independent scholarship, school-based position with sufficient time for research or applicant history of contributing to research while in this role);

- If the applicant attended a previous SPRCC, list which one was attended and describe how the applicant would benefit from the opportunity to attend the 2024 SPRCC;
- List of three keywords that captures the applicant's research agenda and three keywords that capture areas of research problem-solving support; and
- List of at least three advanced researchers in school psychology (i.e., researchers with a history of scholarship that contributes to psychological research relevant to education and the practice of psychology in the schools) who the applicant would be interested in working with to advance their future research efforts.

Applicants can email their materials to sssp.sprcc@gmail.com. The deadline for the emailed submission of the above materials is March 15, 2023. Late applications cannot be accepted given planning timelines.

More Information

Please direct questions regarding the conference, eligibility, or application to the 2024 SPRCC Planning Committee at sssp.sprcc@gmail.com.

2024 SPRCC Planning Committee

Stacy-Ann A. January, Chair

Chunyan Yang, Co-Chair

Sally Grapin, Committee Member

Stephanie D'Costa, Committee Member

Sherrie Proctor, SSSP Committee Member

Randy Floyd, SSSP Committee Member

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