

Alanna Lipinski, Ph.D.

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EDUCATION

University at Buffalo, SUNY, Buffalo, New York May 2016
Ph.D., Counseling Psychology and School Psychology
Dissertation: Feasibility and Initial Efficacy of an Outpatient Comprehensive
Psychosocial Treatment for Children with HFASD: An Open-Trial

Canisius College, Buffalo, New York May 2011
Bachelor of Arts: Psychology

RELEVANT CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Licensed Psychologist

The Summit Center, Amherst, NY

September 2017 - Current

- Provide individual and family psychotherapy to clients ages 3-21
- Conduct comprehensive diagnostic evaluations

Psychology Post-Doctoral Fellow

The Summit Center, Getzville, NY

August 2016-August 2017

- Provided individual psychotherapy to clients ages 3-21 with a wide variety of presenting concerns (i.e., autism, ADHD, disruptive behaviors, anxiety, depression) using a cognitive-behavioral orientation
- Conducted comprehensive diagnostic evaluations to assess for autism, ADHD, disruptive behaviors, anxiety disorders, and depressive disorders
- Provided behavioral parent training to families
- Consulted with various school districts throughout Western New York regarding assessment, behavioral support, and intervention
- Conducted cognitive assessments for bilingual preschool students

Psychology Doctoral Intern

Institute for Autism Research, Canisius College, Buffalo, NY

August 2015-June 2016

- Instructed SPE 690 *Learning and Behavior Disabilities: Etiology and Research-Based Interventions* in the Fall 2015 semester
- Consulted with several school districts and professional staff around the Western New York area regarding behavior support and intervention
- Collaborated with Autism Services, Inc. on behavior monitoring and social skills program development
- Lead clinical consultant for schoolMAX; supervised graduate assistants and research assistants

Graduate Assistant

August 2013-June 2014; August 2014-June 2015

SchoolMAX – comprehensive school based intervention for students with HFASDs

- Supervised undergraduate and graduate consultants in an elementary school grades K-4
- Consulted with teachers, principals, and other school personnel on implementing a social skills curriculum with children with HFASD

- Collaborated with program directors to establish behavior plans and crisis intervention
- Monitored treatment fidelity and provided clinical feedback to treatment facilitators
- Participated and ran weekly supervision meetings for all clinical consultants

School Psychology Advanced Practicum Student

August 2014-May 2015

Western New York Children's Psychiatric Center, West Seneca, NY

Supervisor: David Pratt, Ph.D.

- Treatment team member for the adolescent unit at an inpatient, semi-acute children's psychiatric hospital; children serviced had clinically significant mental health difficulties, behavioral disorders, and/or history of trauma and abuse
- Conducted cognitive and psychodiagnostic evaluations using the WASI-II, MMPI-A, and the Rorschach Inkblot Test
- Conducted CBT for individuals and groups and co-conducted family therapy sessions
- Completed discharge summaries, progress notes, and evaluations using a computerized medical record.

Program Coordinator

Autism Services, Inc., Buffalo, NY.

June 2014-August 2014; June 2015-August 2015

- Monitored all program components of a Phase IV community effectiveness trial of the summerMAX program
- Provided training and supervision for all staff
- Provided weekly parent training sessions on a variety of topics including behavior management and parental stress

School Psychology Advanced Practicum Student

August 2013-June 2014

The Summit Center, Getzville, NY

Supervisor: Jennifer A. Toomey, Ph.D.

- Assisted with an agency wide research study targeting increased classroom achievement
- Conducted cognitive and achievement assessments with students with autism, ranging from mild to severe, with ages ranging from 4-21
- Conducted language and speech assessments with both verbal and nonverbal students with developmental disabilities
- Assisted with behavior plan design, implementation, and progress monitoring for students 17-21 years old at Creekside Vocational Training Center

Clinical Coordinator

June 2013-August 2013

SummerMAX – intensive summer psychosocial treatment program for 7-12 year-olds with HFASDs

Institute for Autism Research, Canisius College, Buffalo, NY

- Assessed treatment proficiency of research clinicians prior to and throughout the 5-week program
- Supervised clinicians and provided feedback on adherence to the manualized treatment and clinical skills daily
- Consulted with team leaders to create and monitor behavioral plans
- Collaborated with the program directors, research clinicians, and parents to establish behavioral reinforcement plans for all child participants

School Psychology Practicum Student

January 2013-May 2013

West Seneca West Middle and High School, West Seneca Central School District, NY

Supervisor: Randall Zakrzewski, M.A.

- Completed a 200-hour practicum placement providing a range of psychological services to children in grades 7-12
- Assisted with a school wide intervention targeting increased academic success among low-middle achieving students
- Planned and conducted a weekly study skills group for middle school students
- Provided as needed individual counseling
- Participated in Committee on Special Education and Responsive to Intervention Team meetings
- Conducted psycho-educational assessments and completed comprehensive reports at the middle school and high school level

School Psychology Practicum Student

September 2012-December 2012

West Seneca East and Clinton Street Elementary, West Seneca Central School District, NY

Supervisor: Lauren Wastchak, M.A./A.C.

- Completed a 200-hour practicum placement providing a range of psychological services to children in grades K-6
- Conducted psycho-educational assessments and completed reports
- Participated in Committee on Special Education, Committee on Preschool Special Education, and Response to Intervention Team meetings
- Conducted functional behavioral assessments and implemented behavior intervention plans
- Implemented a classroom wide tier one intervention (*Second Step*)
- Planned and conducted a social skills counseling group

Clinician/Research Assistant

June 2011-May 2012

Institute for Autism Research, Canisius College, Buffalo, NY

- Research assistant/clinician for a grant funded randomized clinical trial evaluating the efficacy of *Mindreading* and in vivo rehearsal on the emotion recognition and ASD symptoms of children with high functioning autism spectrum disorders (2011 Organization for Autism Research – Applied Research Competition)
- Responsible for session preparation, facilitating *Mindreading* lessons, instituting a response cost behavioral system and in vivo rehearsal trials, providing performance feedback, data collection, and leading group sessions

Research Clinician

June 2010-August 2010

Summer Preparation Program (Connections: Summer Social Development Program for Children with High-Functioning Autism Spectrum Disorders)

Institute for Autism Research, Canisius College, Buffalo NY

University at Buffalo SUNY, Buffalo, NY

Summit Educational Resources, Getzville, NY

- Responsible for facilitating cognitive-behavioral social skills groups, instituting an intensive response-cost structured behavioral program, data collection, and leading therapeutic groups
- Implemented active treatment components including instruction in social skills, interpretation of non-literal language and the multiple meanings of language, face-emotion recognition (including *Mindreading* computer software instruction), interest expansion, and an individual daily note

RELEVANT RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Field Examiner

May 2013-February 2016

Pearson PLC

- Assisted with the standardization of Behavior Assessment System for Children – Third Edition, Beta – Fourth Edition, Raven’s Progressive Matrices 2.0, Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children – Fifth Edition, Wechsler Memory Scale – Fifth Edition, Wide Range Achievement Test 5, and Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales – Third Edition.

Study Coordinator

Dec 2012-May 2013; Dec 2013-May 2014; Nov 2014-April 2015

Max Out – after school psychosocial treatment program for 7-12 year-olds with HFASDs

Institute for Autism Research, Canisius College, Buffalo, NY

- Reviewed records to ensure acceptance into the program
- Performed diagnostic screening assessments for research requirements using the Autism Diagnostic – Revised (ADI-R)
- Trained research clinicians and assistants on all aspects of the program, including social skills instruction, and the administration and scoring of various outcome measures
- Provided daily feedback to research clinicians to ensure correct program implementation
- Consulted regularly with parents regarding child progress
- Oversaw data collection, scoring, and data entry for all study measures

Research Coordinator

June 2012-August 2012

Summer Max – intensive summer psychosocial treatment program for 7-12 year-olds with HFASDs

Institute for Autism Research, Canisius College, Buffalo, NY

- Created databases and procedures for data management
- Oversaw data collection, scoring, and data entry for all study measures
- Supervised research assistants in the administration and scoring of psychological measures
- Administered a range of screening and treatment outcome measures for children with HFASDs
- Trained research assistants for all study tasks, including fidelity observations, treatment implementation, and administration and scoring of various test/measures
- Met with parents regularly to ensure the quality of parent-provided ratings and feedback

Research Assistant

June 2011-August 2011

Community Connections, an evidence-based summer program for 7-12 year-olds with HFASDs

Institute for Autism Research, Canisius College, Buffalo, NY

Summit Educational Resources, Getzville, NY

- Research assistant for a phase 4 community effectiveness trial investigating the efficacy of a comprehensive psychosocial treatment program for children with HFASDs administered by a community agency

Research Assistant/Clinical Consultant

September 2010-June 2011

University at Buffalo SUNY, Buffalo, NY

Institute for Autism Research, Canisius College, Buffalo, NY

- Research assistant/clinical consultant for a federally-funded development study of a comprehensive school-based intervention for children with HFASDs (Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education; R324A080136)
- Assisted with adaptation of the summer social development program; for use in schools with elementary students with HFASDs (active treatment components included *Skillstreaming* social

skills groups, therapeutic activities, facial and voice emotion recognition computer instruction [*Mindreading*], individual daily note [IDN; behavior contract], and staff consultation)

MERITS/CERTIFICATIONS/TRAININGS

Licensed Psychologist #022434	October 2016
Strategies for Crisis Intervention and Prevention – Revised (SCIP-R)	September 2016
CPR Certification – American Heart Association	September 2015
Trainers of School Psychology Graduate Student Scholarship	February 2015
Preventing and Managing Crisis Situations (PMCS)	August 2014
Training in Harassment, Bullying, Cyberbullying, and Discrimination in Schools: Prevention and Intervention (DASA Training)	September 2013
New York State Mandated Reporter Training	June 2012
New York State Safe Schools Against Violence in Education (SAVE) Training	October 2010

PUBLICATIONS

- Lopata, C., **Lipinski, A. M.**, Thomeer, M. L., Rodgers, J. D., Donnelly, J. P., McDonald, C. A., & Volker, M. A. (2016). Open-trial pilot study of a comprehensive outpatient psychosocial treatment for high-functioning children with ASD. *Autism*. doi: 10.1177/1362361316630201.
- Lopata, C., Thomeer, M. L., **Lipinski, A. M.**, Donnelly, J. P., Nelson, A. T., Smith, R. A., Booth, A. J., Rodgers, J. D., & Volker, M. A. (2015). RCT examining the effect of treatment intensity for a psychosocial treatment for high-functioning children with ASD. *Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders*, 17, 52-63. doi:10.1016/j.rasd.2015.06.002
- Lopata, C., Toomey, J. A., Thomeer, M. L., McDonald, C. A., Fox, J. D., Smith, R. A., Meichenbaum, D. L., Volker, M. A., Lee, G. K., & **Lipinski, A. M.** (2015). Community trial of a comprehensive psychosocial treatment for HFASDs. *Focus on Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities*, 30(2), 115-125. doi:10.1177/1088357614525662
- Thomeer, M. L., Smith, R. A., Lopata, C., Volker, M. A., **Lipinski, A. M.**, Rodgers, J. D., McDonald, C. A., & Lee, G. K. (2015). RCT of *Mind Reading* and in vivo rehearsal for high-functioning children with ASD. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 45(7), 2115-2127. doi:10.1007/s10803-015-2374-0
- McDonald, C. A., Volker, M. A., Lopata, C., Thomeer, M. L., Lee, G. K., **Lipinski, A. M.**, Dua, E. H., Schiavo, A. M., Bain, F., & Nelson, A. T. (2014). VMI-VI and BG-II KOPPITZ-2 for youth with HFASDs and typical youth. *Journal of Psychoeducational Assessment*, 32(5), 379-389. doi:10.1177/0734282913514351
- Lopata, C., Thomeer, M. L., Volker, M. A., Lee, G. K., Smith, T. H., Smith, R. A., McDonald, C. A., Rodgers, J. D., **Lipinski, A. M.**, & Toomey, J. A. (2012). Feasibility and initial efficacy of a comprehensive school-based intervention for high-functioning autism spectrum disorders. *Psychology in the Schools*, 49(10), 963-974. doi:10.1002/pits.21649

PRESENTATIONS

- Lipinski, A.,** Toomey, J., Jordan, A., Gender differences in autism spectrum disorder on teacher ratings of the restricted behavior scale – revised (RBS-R) and the aberrant behavior checklist – community (ABC-C). Poster presented at the 2017 annual International Meeting for Autism Research, San Francisco, CA.
- Lipinski, A.,** Nasca, B., Nelson, A., Biscotto, A., Thomeer, M., Bassanello, K., Lenz, M., & Mesches, G. Treatment Intensity in a Psychosocial Intervention for Children with HFASD. Poster presented at the National Association of School Psychology 2015 Annual Conference.
- Biscotto, A., **Lipinski, A.,** Darrow, A., Szyszkowski, A., Thomeer, M., & Mesches, G. Outpatient Comprehensive Psychosocial Treatment for Children with HFASD. Poster presented at the National Association of School Psychology 2015 Annual Conference.
- McDonald, C., Thomeer, M., Lopata, C., Fox, J., Rodgers, J., **Lipinski, A.,** Szyszkowski, A., & Smith, R. VABS-2 Ratings and predictors of adaptive behaviors in children with high-functioning ASD. Poster presented at the 2014 Geneva Centre for Autism-International Symposium, Toronto, ON (Canada).
- Thomeer, M., Lopata, C., Volker, M., Lee G., Smith, R., **Lipinski, A.,** Bassanello, K., Nelson, A., Bain, F., & Dua, E. Maximizing social competencies: Comprehensive interventions for children with High-Functioning Autism Spectrum Disorders. Paper presented at the 2012 annual conference of the New York Association of School Psychologists, Niagara Falls, NY.
- Lopata, C., Thomeer, M., Smith, R., **Lipinski, A.,** McDonald, C., Volker, M., Lee, G., Fox, J., Carinduff, K., Frank, R., Aihie, P., Zawalski, C., Johnson, L., Biscotto, A., Nelson, D., & Tang, V. Effect of treatment intensity on feasibility and outcomes for a comprehensive psychosocial treatment for children with HFASDs: Preliminary findings. Poster presented at the 2012 Geneva Centre for Autism-International Symposium, Toronto, ON (Canada).
- Lopata, C., Thomeer, M., Volker, M., Lee, G., Smith, T., Smith, R., McDonald, C., Rodgers, J., **Lipinski, A.,** & Toomey, J. Feasibility and initial efficacy of a comprehensive school-based intervention for children with HFASDs. Poster presented at the 2012 Geneva Centre for Autism-International Symposium, Toronto, ON (Canada).
- Lopata, C., Toomey, J., Thomeer, M., Fox, J., Meichenbaum, D., Volker, M., Lee, G., **Lipinski, A.,** McDonald, C., Smith, R., & Schmidt, D. Phase IV-community effectiveness trial of a psychosocial treatment for children with HFASDs. Poster presented at the 2012 International Meeting for Autism Research (IMFAR) Conference, Toronto, ON (Canada).
- Lopata, C., Putnam, S., Fox, J., Thomeer, M., Rodgers, J., Volker, M., Lee, G., Neilans, E., Werth, J., McDonald, C., Smith, R., Schmidt, D., & **Lipinski, A.** Comparison of cortisol collection methods in high-functioning autism spectrum disorders. Poster presented at the 2012 annual conference of the New York Association of School Psychologists, Philadelphia, PA.
- Smith, R., Lopata, C., Fox, J., Kessel, C., Volker, M., Thomeer, M., Lee, G., McDonald, C., **Lipinski, A.,** & Schmidt, D. ABAS-II ratings and correlates of adaptive behavior in children with HFASDs. Poster presented at the 2012 annual conference of the New York Association of School Psychologists, Philadelphia, PA.