

RESEARCH AND EVALUATION BUREAU



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Fall 2019 Newsletter

HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

Institute for Multi-Sensory Education/Orton-Gillingham Project

The Institute for Multi-Sensory Education (IMSE) has contracted with the Research and Evaluation Bureau to conduct research on the impact of the Orton-Gillingham (OG) teaching approach on early elementary school reading in a Michigan school district. The research design conforms to the established evidence standards and procedures of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

The OG method incorporates multi-sensory teaching strategies within systematic, sequential lessons to teach connections between letters and sounds to address the individual needs of each child. The IMSE – OG research was designed by the Bureau to be replicated in multiple diverse settings and conditions to identify the effectiveness of the OG teacher training, as taught by IMSE.

The project's quasi-experimental research design includes two school buildings in the same district, and compares first and second grade treatment group students taught by teachers trained in IMSE – OG with first and second grade control group students taught by teachers who have not received this training. Research outcomes will be explored using hierarchical linear modeling (HLM) to account for the clustered structure of the data at the student, teacher, and school levels. The resulting research findings will assist the IMSE team in exploring the strengths and challenges of the IMSE – OG teaching model, allowing the organization to maximize their effectiveness relative to the thousands of clients they serve across the United States.

May 4th Visitors Center

The Research and Evaluation Bureau has joined Dr. Jason McGlothlin, Associate Professor in Counselor Education and Supervision, and the May 4th Visitors Center to explore the meanings and understandings that people attribute to the May

4, 1970, shootings at Kent State University. Kent State faculty and students, along with visitors to the May 4th Visitors Center, will have the opportunity to participate in an online survey designed to gain an understanding of the experiences, lessons learned, and meanings derived from individuals exposed to this event. The outcomes gathered during this research will be used to inform a 50th Anniversary Commemoration exhibit at the university, exploring this period of university, local, and national history, while honoring those affected by the experience.

Six District Educational Compact



The Research
and
Evaluation
Bureau and
the Portage

and Summit County Six District Educational Compact are collaborating to assess the usability and impact of the Compact's upcoming entrepreneurial website for high school teachers. The Compact provides educational opportunities for high school students in the Cuyahoga Falls, Hudson, Kent, Stow-Munroe Falls, Tallmadge, and Woodridge school districts. In this program, students can choose from many different college and/or technical preparatory programs, all rigorously designed to provide project-based training to prepare graduates for college and careers. Through support from the Burton D. Morgan Foundation, the entrepreneurial pathway will be added to the Compact's list of initiatives, along with the development of a website that provides relevant resources and assists teachers in enhancing students' entrepreneurial skills. The Bureau's evaluation findings will inform the Compact's leadership team of the extent to which the website development process was implemented as intended and will document the impact of website use on participating stakeholders (e.g., teachers and students).

Website Design

The Bureau Team worked diligently with EHHS Marketing Team members to create a new, easy-to-navigate website design. We are excited about the improvements including a new navigation bar, updated descriptions of services and contact information, and photos of the team. Please visit our website at <https://www.kent.edu/ehhs/offices/reb>.

Data Lab Renovations

We are making improvements to our data lab! This summer, it was a goal to make the data lab a more comfortable and welcoming environment. We are currently in the process of getting a fresh coat of paint and new carpet. We also reconfigured the workspace by removing a large computer

desk, adding a new whiteboard, and rearranging the furniture in efforts to utilize the space to its full potential.

Data Entry and Transcription Requests

We are currently soliciting transcription and data entry work. Please contact the data lab coordinator at reb.bureau.ksu@gmail.com for any questions regarding transcription or data entry services.

Also, find out more about services that we offer EHHS graduate students, faculty members, and external clients on page 3.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT AND NEW HIRES



Fred Nyangaresi, MPA

Fred is a graduate of Bowling Green State University (MPA, 2016) and the Catholic University of Eastern Africa (Finance, 2013). Currently, he is pursuing a Ph.D. in the Evaluation and Measurement program at Kent State University. Since starting the program in 2017, Fred has worked at the Research and Evaluation Bureau as a research assistant. In addition to participating in various Bureau evaluation projects, Fred also provides consultation services to EHHS graduate students at thesis or dissertation stage.

With all of his family back in Kenya, Fred has been able to form relationships at the Bureau that come close to filling the void of not having his family around. He is passionate about the role of evaluation in social programs and hopes to apply his expertise in ways that impact the community positively. He is also passionate about lending a helping hand to those in need. Last spring, he organized three fundraisers that raised over \$1,000. The money was used to pay tuition fees for students in Kenya, in addition to a church project. In the same semester, he also solicited his classmates to donate laptops, which were sent to college students in Kenya.

Fred's research interest is in school climate, a construct that is yet to be explored fully in Africa. He is projected to graduate in the summer of 2021.

Fun Fact:

Growing up he had a German shepherd dog named Simba.

New Data Lab Personnel

Elizabeth Wood

Class Standing: Senior
Major: Special Education

Tia Bodenschatz

Class Standing: Senior
Major: Nursing

OUR SERVICES



College Services

(Available at no cost to qualified clientele)

Consultation Services

- Research design
- Statistical design
- Survey development (online and paper)
- Database development
- Quantitative data analysis
- Development of evaluation designs for grant proposals

Data Lab Services

- Transcriptions
- Quantitative and qualitative data entry
- Paper-and-pencil survey design and lay-out

Qualified Clientele

- Doctoral students in dissertation level
- Masters students in thesis level
- EHHS faculty doing non-funded research



External Services

Comprehensive Evaluation

- Surveys
- Interviews
- Focus groups
- Site Observations
- Analysis of primary and secondary data
- Analysis of achievement/assessment data
- Development of evaluation designs for grant proposals

Additional Services

- Transcriptions (\$10/hour)
- Data entry (\$10/hour)
- Complete research assistance
- Survey development/data collection

Clientele

- School systems
- Universities and colleges
- Health and human service organizations

SERVICES FAQS

Q. How many hours of college-supported Bureau services am I entitled to as a graduate student?

A. EHHS graduate students can receive up to 40 hours of Bureau consultation service and an additional 40 hours of data lab service. These hours may not be interchanged. A nominal fee is charged for additional hours of service.

Q. Do my tapes/files need to be in a particular format in order to be transcribed?

A. Yes, acceptable file formats include .mp3, .wma, and .mp4. The Bureau does not transcribe video tapes. Please check with the IRC to convert files to these formats, if your files are not currently one of these file types.

Q. How long does it take to transcribe my tape/file?

A. It typically takes between six to eight hours of transcription labor to transcribe one hour of audio. Therefore, to accommodate all requests, the Bureau works on a first come, first served basis.

For more information, please visit our website at <https://www.kent.edu/ehhs/offices/reb> or contact one of our staff members.

STAFF DIRECTORY

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Data Lab Staff

Natalie Ettinger
Tia Bodenschatz
Elizabeth Wood



Thank You!

REB and EHHS Grants
Administration staff successfully
'escaped' the Cyber Security
Awareness Escape Room during
KSU's October Cyber Security Month.

From Left: Pam Ferguson, Debbie Roeder,
Michelle Hoversten, Kelsey Klatka, Anthony
Shreffler, Chelsea Heim, Elizabeth Wood, and
Jordan Pastor