

# RESEARCH AND EVALUATION BUREAU



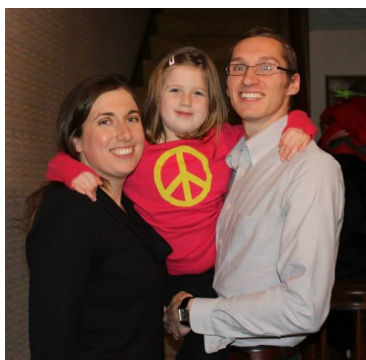
Spring Semester Newsletter

## SPOTLIGHT STAFF MEMBERS

### The Bureau Welcomes a New Evaluator

January 2016  
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#### Anthony Shreffler



*Anthony and his family*

Anthony began working as the Research and Evaluation Bureau's newest evaluator in November 2015. Anthony received his Bachelor's Degree from Kent State University in 2008 in business management and his Master's Degree from Kent State in 2013 in evaluation and measurement. "I really love Kent

State's campus and its community, and I'm very excited to be back," Anthony added. "I'm looking forward to working with everyone and contributing to the great work performed by the Bureau."

During his graduate program, Anthony was a graduate assistant in the Bureau where he had the opportunity to directly apply what he was learning in the classroom to real-world evaluation projects. Some evaluations on which Anthony worked during his assistantship included Akron After School, Akron Race to the Top, and School Improvement Grant. Anthony also worked with faculty and graduate students from EHHS, mainly assisting with survey development and analysis.

Upon his graduation in 2013, Anthony worked as the data and evaluation specialist for a non-profit organization in Cleveland whose mission is to provide services to youth from Cuyahoga county and put them on the path to economic self-sufficiency. In an effort to move the organization toward a culture of data-informed decision-making, he was responsible for developing, maintaining, and training staff on a new web-based performance management system.

Anthony lives in Chagrin Falls with his family. He loves sports and enjoys attending football and basketball games at his local high school, but he is "first-and-foremost" a Browns fan.

### REB Graduate Assistants and Newsletter Editors to Graduate in May

#### Leanna Lostoski



Leanna has been working at the Bureau for over five years—three years as an undergraduate student in the Data Lab, and currently in her third year as a graduate assistant. Leanna is a Kent native, and she received her B.A. in English from KSU. She is currently working on her M.A. in English, and she hopes to be admitted into a Ph.D. program in English on the East coast next fall to continue studying early 20th-century literature and ecocriticism. When she is not at the Bureau or in class, Leanna can be found working on her master's thesis in one of Kent's local coffee shops. She also enjoys weightlifting and relaxing with one of her two cats—Petey and Jasper—on her lap.

#### Rachel Piskos



Rachel has been a graduate assistant in the Bureau for two and a half years, after working as a data entry specialist for one semester. She is a master's student studying clinical mental health counseling and is currently an intern at Child Guidance & Family Solutions. "My hope is to continue working with children and families after graduation," stated Rachel. She is originally from Westlake, Ohio and received her bachelor's degree in psychology and economics-management from Ohio Wesleyan University. In her spare time, Rachel enjoys baking, traveling, and catching up with friends and family. She also enjoys cuddling up with her cat Moscato.

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# REB PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

## National Alliance for Grieving Children

REB Research Team: Pamela Freeman, Deepa Shanadi & Leanna Lostoski  
EHHS Faculty Team: Susan Maxymiv & Rhonda Richardson

Pamela Freeman and Susan Maxymiv presented at the National Bereavement Camp Conference on November 17 in Washington, D.C. The title of their presentation was “Bereavement Camps as Positive Developmental Settings: Youth Camper Perceptions and Adult Alumni Reflections.”

Dr. Rhonda Richardson presented at the National Council on Family Relations on November 12 in Vancouver, British Columbia. The title of her poster was “Violently Bereaved Children and Adolescents: Family Systems and Resilience.”



**ATTENTION  
EHHS FACULTY  
AND GRADUATE  
STUDENTS!!**



Remember the Bureau for  
your next research project!

Read about the services we  
provide on page 3.

## IN THE DATA LAB

### Introducing Our New Lab Workers



The Bureau welcomes five new data lab workers this year. Melanie is a freshman Zoology major from Akron and a performer in an independent winter guard group called Artistry in Blue. Abby is a sophomore Art History and Digital Media Production major who grew up in Kent. Peter is also from Kent. He is majoring Visual Com-

munication Design and enjoys drawing. Our senior worker, Justin, is a dog lover and Psychology major from Bascom, Ohio. Our graduate student worker, Morgan, is from Medina, Ohio and is in the Speech-Language Pathology program. Please join us in welcoming these new lab workers!

Introduce yourself to these students by bringing your transcription and data entry projects to the REB. The data lab also accepts file transfers through our secure file sharing program, Accellion. Please email our data lab coordinator, Danielle Rupperecht, at [drupprec@kent.edu](mailto:drupprec@kent.edu) with any questions about this process.



*Student workers at the REB’s annual holiday party.*

*Pictured left to right: Morgan Sizler, Danielle Rupperecht, Rachel Piskos, Katrina Holt, Leanna Lostoski, Peter Kratcoski, & Abby Hermosilla.*

# INTERESTED IN RESEARCH SERVICES?

## What We Do:

### Consultation Services

- Research design
- Statistical design

### Data Analysis

- SPSS database development
- Quantitative data analysis in SPSS
- Explanation of SPSS output

### Survey Development

- Consultation in the use of online surveys, including Qualtrics and SurveyMonkey
- Survey layout and design (online and paper and pencil)



### Data Lab Services

- Transcriptions from mp3 files, standard-size cassette tapes, or Accellion
- Data entry of hard-copy survey responses into SPSS, both quantitative and qualitative data

*We have recently received a large number of inquiries about granting access to Listservs. This is not something that the Bureau has access to or regulates.*

# EHHS FACULTY AND GRAD STUDENTS

## For Unfunded Research:

### Services for Faculty

EHHS faculty receive an unlimited number of hours of college-supported REB consultation services on unfunded projects and an unlimited number of college-supported hours of Bureau Data Lab services for unfunded projects.

### Services for Graduate Students

Doctoral students at dissertation level and Master's students at thesis level receive 40 hours of college-supported consultation services as well as 40 hours of Data Lab services (not to be interchanged with the 40-hour allotment for consultation services).

## For Funded Research:

We provide the same services at cost.

# NEED HELP WITH GRANT EVALUATION?

- The Bureau provides comprehensive multi-methods program evaluation services based on your project needs and specifications.
- The Bureau's highly skilled staff has extensive experience delivering high quality, evidence-driven evaluations of international, national, state, and local programs in health, human services, and education.
- We serve as an active member of your grant writing team by providing expertise for the evaluation component of your grant application.
- We are always interested in partnering with individuals or organizations to provide evaluation and assessment services.
- Please contact us to discuss your specific research and evaluation needs. We look forward to hearing from you.



# OVERVIEW

## Contact Us

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The Research and Evaluation Bureau offers comprehensive research, evaluation, and assessment services to schools, medical and health related institutions, human services agencies, community organizations, businesses, faculty, graduate students, and other individuals. The mission of the Bureau is to provide research and evaluation services that assist in enhancing education, health, and human service outcomes worldwide.

In addition, we work with you to develop and write a project evaluation and/or research plan, with the understanding that if the project is funded, the Bureau will be the project's evaluation team. In most cases, the Bureau is considered by funding agencies (including NSF) to be *external evaluators*.

## Meet the Staff

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Peter Kratcoski  
Justin Leiter  
Morgan Sizler

**Newsletter Editors**  
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Leanna Lostoski

