



**Dear BRNET Members and Friends of BRNET:**

Thank you for being a part of the Bullying Research Network! In our October newsletter, you will find updates from the network.

Be sure to check out our website at <http://cehs.unl.edu/BRNET/> for additional resources and announcements.

**Featured Spotlight—Dr. Meredith J. Martin**

**Meredith J. Martin, Ph.D.**, is an assistant professor of Development and Learning Sciences in the Department of Educational Psychology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She earned her doctoral degree in Developmental Psychology from the University of Rochester in 2014. Dr. Martin's research is built on the premise that feeling safe in one's social environment is a fundamental human need and the foundation for healthy development. With this in mind, her research is designed to better understand individual differences in the strategies children and adolescents adopt to maintain a sense of safety (i.e., emotional security) when faced with repeated exposure to interpersonal conflict, aggression, and victimization across both family and peer contexts.

Much of Dr. Martin's previous work has focused on understanding adolescents' coping with family conflict. Collaborations with former advisors Drs. Patrick Davies and Melissa Sturge-Apple from the Rochester Center for Research on Children and Families have led to a greater understanding of the nature of emotional insecurity in the family and its cascading developmental consequences for youth mental health and school adjustment, as well as the role family insecurity plays in heightening adolescents' vulnerability to agonistic peer relationships. Her current work seeks to apply this framework to understanding individual differences in youth's coping with peer victimization and bullying as another salient source of interpersonal threat. Towards this goal, Dr. Martin recently completed data collection on *The Secure Students/Safe Schools Project (S<sup>4</sup>P)*. Funded by The University of Nebraska Foundation, this project involved the development and validation of explicit and implicit assessments of emotional security in the context of peer victimization for youth aged 10-16. Looking forward, Dr. Martin seeks to further bridge existing knowledge of adolescent development across family and peer contexts. She is just beginning data collection on a new, multi-method study comparing the efficacy of various parental support strategies in promoting resiliency for youth who've experienced peer victimization and bullying. In addition to identifying the most effective forms of parental support for victimized youth, this study will

examine the impact of parental support on adolescents' security in the peer group as a central mediating factor and explore how parents negotiate differing opinions regarding the best approach for dealing with their child's victimization experiences.

Dr. Martin leads the developmental arm of the Nebraska Bullying Prevention and Intervention Initiative (<https://cehs.unl.edu/empowerment/>) founded by Dr. Susan Swearer. This group brings together researchers studying bullying and victimization from a variety of both basic (e.g., developmental, neuroscience) and applied approaches in order to inform prevention and intervention.

#### Selected Publications

- Davies, P. T., Martin, M. J., & Cummings, E. M., & Cicchetti, D. (2018). Interparental conflict and children's social problems: Insecurity and friendship affiliation as cascading mediators. *Developmental Psychology, 54*, 83-97.
- Martin, M. J., Davies, P. T., Cummings, E. M., & Cicchetti, D. (2017). The mediating roles of cortisol reactivity and executive functioning difficulties in the pathways between childhood histories of emotional insecurity and adolescence school problems. *Development and Psychopathology, 29*, 1483-1498.
- Meyers, Z. R., Swearer, S. M., Martin, M. J., Palacios, R. (2017). Cyberbullying and traditional bullying: The experiences of poly-victimization among diverse youth. *International Journal of Technoethics, 8*, 42-60.
- Martin, M. J., Sturge-Apple, M. L., Davies, P. T., Romero, C. V., & Buckholz, A. (2017). A process model of the implications of spillover from coparenting conflicts into the parent-child attachment relationship in adolescence. *Development and Psychopathology, 29*, 417-431.
- Martin, M. J., Davies, P. T., & Cummings, E. M. (2017). Distinguishing attachment and affiliation in early adolescents' narrative descriptions of their best friendship. *Journal of Research on Adolescence, 27*, 644-660.
- Swearer, S. M., Martin, M. J., Brackett, M., & Palacios, R. A. (2016). Bullying intervention in adolescence: The intersection of legislation, policies, and behavioral change. *Adolescent Research Review, 4*, 1-13.
- Davies, P. T., Martin, M. J., & Sturge-Apple, M. L. (2016). Emotional security theory and developmental psychopathology. In D. Cicchetti (Ed.), *Developmental psychopathology: Theory and method* (3rd ed., Vol. 1, pp. 199-264). New York, NY: Wiley.
- Martin, M. J., Davies, P. T., & MacNeill, L. A. (2014). Social defense: An evolutionary-developmental model of children's strategies for coping with threat in the peer group. *Evolutionary Psychology, 12*, 364-385.

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### **BRNET New Members!**

BRNET has a current total of 204 members! Welcome to the BRNET, **Dr. Brunstein Klomek!**

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Please send recommendations for potential BRNET members (i.e., faculty, researchers, and clinicians who are conducting research on bullying or related topics) to Drs. Shelley Hymel, Susan Swearer, or to [bullyresearchnet@gmail.com](mailto:bullyresearchnet@gmail.com).

If you have recently joined BRNET and have not yet provided your information, please send the following to [bullyresearchnet@gmail.com](mailto:bullyresearchnet@gmail.com).

- 1) contact information that can be posted on the website;
  - 2) a brief biography of you and your work;
  - 3) a list of current/ongoing projects in this area;
  - 4) an annotated bibliography of your work in this area (i.e., full reference plus a few sentences about the work), and;
  - 5) relevant web-based links you would like to share.
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## Friends of BRNET

Friends of BRNET is a group of graduate students, administrators, parents, and individuals who are interested in learning more about the Bullying Research Network. Friends of BRNET receive our monthly e-newsletter. If you are interested in becoming a Friend of BRNET or want to refer someone to Friends of BRNET, please email Alia Noetzel, the BRNET Coordinator, at [bullyresearchnet@gmail.com](mailto:bullyresearchnet@gmail.com) with the following information: name, title, address, and email address.

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## BRNET Member Grant/Funding Announcements

Receipt of funding facilitates the BRNET mission to conduct interdisciplinary research related to bullying and aggression, with particular attention being paid to the link between basic and applied research. Thus, the BRNET directors are excited to offer members a new opportunity to share grants (and other sources of funding) they have received for their research projects.

Funding varies across countries and is not limited to federal grants. If you are interested in sharing your grants or funding with other BRNET members, please send an abstract of the research funding along with the funding source to [bullyresearchnet@gmail.com](mailto:bullyresearchnet@gmail.com) and we will post the information on our website.

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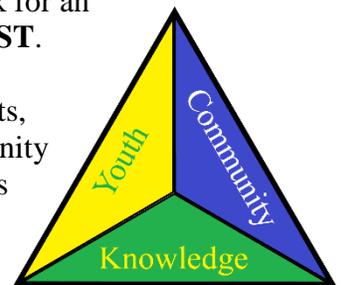
## BRNET MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

### (1) Alliance for Positive Youth Development (APYD) & BRNET Twitter Chat

Join the Alliance for Positive Youth Development and the Bullying Research Network for an interactive Twitter chat on bullying prevention on **October 11<sup>th</sup>** from **4:00-5:00pm EST**.



This Twitter chat is an opportunity for parents, educators, public policy leaders, and community members to come together to raise awareness about school bullying and share interventions and resources.



The Alliance for Positive Youth Development

The Alliance for Positive Youth Development will be moderating the conversation from [@ideas4youth](https://twitter.com/ideas4youth), and the Bullying Research Network will be joining the chat from [@BULLY\\_RESEARCH](https://twitter.com/BULLY_RESEARCH).

We hope you'll engage with us as we talk about how we can prevent bullying and create safe learning environments. Use the hashtag [#APYDCHAT](https://twitter.com/APYDCHAT) to follow the conversation!

## (2) Paper of Interest by Dr. Runions

A recently published paper providing insight into differential drivers of bullying between 'pure' bullies and bully/victims, with a role for revenge motives, and important questions about the reactive-proactive distinction.

Runions KC, Salmivalli C, Shaw T, Burns S, & Cross D. (2018). Beyond the reactive-proactive dichotomy: rage, revenge, reward, and recreational aggression predict early high school bully and bully/victim status. *Aggressive Behavior*, 44, 501-511.

## (3) Paper of Interest by Dr. deLara

A paper about childhood bullying, mental health, and relationships was recently published and you might find it interesting:

deLara, E. W. (2018). Consequences of childhood bullying on mental health and relationships for young adults. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 1-11. doi: 10.1007/s10826-018-1197-y  
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10826-018-1197-y>

## (4) World Anti-Bullying Forum in Dublin, Ireland

The second World Anti-Bullying Forum will take place in Dublin, Ireland on June 4-6th 2019. This is an international peer-review conference with a particular focus on bullying among children and adolescents. Opening of abstract submission starts on **June 2018 and the closing date of abstract submission is November 30, 2018**. See the website of the conference: <http://wabf2019.com>. BRNET co-founders, Dr. Susan Swearer and Dr. Shelley Hymel, are among the keynote speakers.

**REGISTRATION OPEN**



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Thank you for your involvement in the Bullying Research Network! If you have any news, information, research, suggestions for new members, or other materials that our members would find useful, please do not hesitate to email us at [bullyresearchnet@gmail.com](mailto:bullyresearchnet@gmail.com) and we will include it in our newsletter and/or on our website.

Most sincerely,



Dr. Shelley Hymel  
University of British Columbia  
BRNET Co-Director



Dr. Susan Swearer  
University of Nebraska - Lincoln  
BRNET Co-Director