

Antoinette J. Waller, M.S.

College Park, MD | Ajwaller@umd.edu

EDUCATION

2020 – 2024	Ph. D Education Policy and Leadership University of Maryland College Park, MD
2018 – 2020	M.S. Family, Youth, and Community Sciences University of Florida Gainesville, FL Thesis: <i>Prevention Programs in Florida Public Schools: Administrators Top Concerns, Priorities, and Barriers to Implementation</i>
2013 – 2017	B. S. Psychology; B. S. Criminal Justice Virginia Commonwealth University Richmond, VA

RESEARCH FOCUS

My research focuses on race, culture, and education policy. I examine minoritized students identity processes and educational trajectories, and redressing inequities in educational access and outcomes.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

MARC Program Graduate Research Assistant University of Maryland College Park, MD	<i>Sept 2023 – Present</i>
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- Assists in leading the NIH-funded inaugural Maximizing Access to Research Careers (MARC) program within the Fischell Department of Bioengineering. This educational program aims to break down barriers for students traditionally underrepresented in STEM.
- Work with course instructor to deliver course content to students, developed and maintains the MARC program website and social media, and identifies programs and resources at the university to better support students.
- Develops and administers assessments to evaluate program success and student experience, manages applications submissions and solicitation for applications, and facilitates communication between student and MARC program leadership and mentors.
- Coordinates travel for students to conferences, organizes the annual retreat, and fields inquiries about the MARC program.

Spencer Graduate Research Assistant University of Maryland College Park, MD	<i>May 2021 – Present</i>
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- Assists on a meta-analysis research project funded by the Spencer Foundation by reviewing hundreds of research articles utilizing randomized control trials (RCTs) to examine the effectiveness of educational interventions on Black, Latino/x, and low-income students.
- Supports team by coding articles that meet criteria, cleaning data, calculating study effect sizes, and assisting in training new research assistants on meta-analysis processes.

P-12 Policy & Research Doctoral Intern*August 2021 – July 2023*

The Education Trust | Washington, D.C.

- Conducted research on effective policies to engage students and families of color and from low-income backgrounds, collected and reviewed literature to inform team projects and policy recommendations, and supported the P-12 and higher education teams through research synthesis and policy analyses in their content areas to advance and refine policy priorities.
- Lead a case study evaluating family engagement in schools by recruiting and interviewing teachers, school leaders, and parents, analyzing national survey data, analyzing interview data, and writing quarterly research briefs and reports.
- Set up and lead meetings with school district leaders, assisted in organizing webinars for educators, policymakers, and state advocates, and packaged research and data for multiple audiences in the form of presentations, briefs/reports, blogs, grant applications, and the website.

Graduate Research Assistant*August 2020 – May 2023*

University of Maryland | College Park, MD

- Led the evaluation of a university-school partnership in Baltimore County and its impact on college student volunteers by collecting data, coding and analyzing interviews, and writing up results to publish and provide recommendations for program improvement.

Graduate Research Assistant*Aug 2018 – May 2020*

University of Florida | Gainesville, FL

- Led the development of a project manual/codebook and assisted with cleaning and organizing survey data for a study examining the effectiveness of a prevention program implemented in Florida public schools.
- Created participant recruitment materials and developed a survey to determine how the Florida agricultural industries have been impacted by opioid abuse particularly as they relate to employees health, safety, and family life.
- Analyzed quantitative survey data to share results with relevant stakeholders as well as information regarding resource needs and strategies for program development.

Research Specialist I*August 2017 – June 2018*

University of Virginia | Charlottesville, VA

- Assisted on a study that aimed to uncover school factors that create and sustain children's success from preschool to third grade, by conducting daily classroom observations to rate teacher-student interactions and giving individual student assessments at the beginning and end of the school year to measure students academic progress.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE**Instructor** | University of Maryland

- Foundations of Education Spring 2021; Spring 2022; Fall 2022

Graduate Teaching Assistant | University of Maryland

- Foundations of Education Fall 2020

Graduate Teaching Assistant | University of Florida

- Principles of Family Youth and Community Sciences Fall 2018; Spring 2019
- Foundations of Youth Development Fall 2018
- Applied Social Research Methods Spring 2019
- Principles of Family Youth and Community Sciences Summer 2019
- Contemporary Youth Problems and Solutions Fall 2019
- Introduction to Personal and Family Financial Planning Fall 2019

- Organizational Leadership for Nonprofits Spring 2020
- Family, Youth, and Community Sciences Professional Development Spring 2020

PUBLICATIONS

Research / Policy Reports & Blog Posts

1. Gillespie, G., & **Waller, A. J.** (2022, February 27). Want Economic Growth? Start by Investing in Child Care. EdTrust. <https://edtrust.org/the-equity-line/want-economic-growth-start-by-investing-in-child-care/>
2. Montague, G., **Waller, A. J.**, Williams, B. (2022, December 19). Lack of Access to Child Care Subsidies is a Barrier to Student-Parent Completion & Success. EdTrust. <https://edtrust.org/resource/lack-of-access-to-child-care-subsidies-is-a-barrier-to-student-parent-completion-success/>
3. Williams, B., Bitar, J., Polk, P., Nguyen, A., Montague, G., Gillespie, G., Waller, A. J., Tadess, A., Elliott, K. C. (2022). For student-parents, the biggest hurdles to a higher education are cost and finding childcare. The Education Trust. <https://edtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/For-Student-Parents-The-Biggest-Hurdles-to-a-Higher-Education-Are-Cost-and-Finding-Child-Care-August-2022.pdf>

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

1. Song, D., **Waller, A. J.**, Carson, N. (2023, November 9-11). Recent Efforts of RCT Research to Improve Educational Opportunities for Black, Latino/x, and Low-income Students [Poster Session]. 2023 APPAM Fall Research Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, United States
2. **Waller, A. J.** (2023, April 13-16). "Academia just isn't equipped to handle the multiplicity of our identities:" Exploring the Experiences of Black Women in Doctoral Programs [Paper Presentation]. 2023 AERA Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, United States.
3. Carson, N., **Waller, A. J.**, Song, D. (2023, March 23-25). Recent Efforts of RCT Research to Improve Educational Opportunities for Minoritized Students" [Poster Session]. AEFPP 2023 Annual Conference, Denver, CO, United States
4. Williams, B., Bitar, J., Polk, P., Nguyen, A., Montague, G., Gillespie, G., **Waller, A. J.**, Tadess, A., Elliott, K. C. (2022, Sept 12-14). For student-parents the biggest hurdles to a higher education are cost and finding childcare. the biggest hurdles to a higher. [Conference Presentation]. NCAN 2022, Atlanta, GA, United States.
5. **Waller A. J.**, Galindo, C., Mejia, N., & Sonnenschein, S. (2022, April 21-26). Service-Learning through School-University Partnerships: Undergraduate Student Volunteers' Motivations and Experiences. [Roundtable session]. 2022 AERA Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, United States
6. **Waller, A. J.**, Mejia, N., & Sariol-Clough, M. (2022, April 21-26). Experiences with School Discipline: Minoritized Girls' Sense of Belonging and "Staying Out of Trouble." [Paper session]. 2022 AERA Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, United States
7. **Waller, A. J.**, & Lynne, S. D. (2020, May 9-15). Changes in prevention concerns among school district administrators following a high school shooting. [Poster session]. Society for Prevention Research, Washington, D.C., United States (Conference cancelled)

8. Radunovich, H.L., Court, C., Berry, M., **Waller, A. J.**, & Abraham, C. (2019, August). How are agricultural industries impacted by opioids, and what roles do pain, depression, and stress play? Poster presented at the National Association for Rural Mental Health annual conference, Santa Fe, NM.

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

Secretary/Historian AERA Graduate Student Council	2022 – 2024
Vice President College of Education Graduate Student Organization	2022 – 2023
Departmental Rep College of Education Graduate Student Organization	2021 – 2022
Diversity and Inclusion Committee Graduate Student Government	2021 – 2022
Senate Executive Committee Member University of Maryland Senate	2021 – 2022
Graduate Student Senator University of Maryland Senate	2021 – 2022
Treasurer FYCS Graduate Association at the University of Florida	2018 – 2020
Mentor Health Sciences Academy at Virginia Commonwealth University	2016 – 2017
Mentor Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Richmond	2014 – 2015

AWARDS & PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

College of Education Deans Fellowship (2020 – 2023)
Just Education Policy Institute Summer 2022 Fellow
American Educational Research Association (AERA) Member
Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP) Member