

MELISSA S. BUQUO, Ph.D.

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(904) 803-3011

Education

Doctor of Philosophy
May 2025
Regent University
Virginia Beach, Virginia

Counselor Education and Supervision
School of Psychology and Counseling
CACREP Accredited

Master of Arts in Education
May 2015
University of North Florida
Jacksonville, Florida

School Counseling & Guidance
Counselor Education Program
CACREP Accredited

Bachelor of Arts
May 2007
University of North Florida
Jacksonville, Florida

Major: Education
Emphasis on Exceptional Student Education

Certifications

Guidance and Counseling (PK-12)
July 2015 – Present

State of Florida: 1056292
State Board of Education

Exceptional Student Education (K-12)
July 2007 – Present

State of Florida: 1056292
State Board of Education

General Science (5-9)
August 2010 – Present

State of Florida: 1056292
State Board of Education

Middle Grades Integrated (5-9)
July 2007 – Present

State of Florida: 1056292
State Board of Education

English for Speakers of Other Languages
(Endorsement)
July 2007 – Present

State of Florida: 1056292
State Board of Education

Counseling Experience

Q. I. Roberts Jr. – Sr. High School
Putnam County School District

Professional School Counselor (7 – 12 Grades)
July 2019 – June 2024

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Florahome, Florida	Develop a comprehensive school counseling program providing individual and group counseling and mental health resources to 500+ student caseload, work collaboratively with administration on leadership team to support teachers and staff, collaborate with community members to provide resources to students and their families
C. H. Price Middle School Putnam County School District Interlachen, Florida	Professional School Counselor (6 – 8 Grades) February 2016 – July 2019 Provide individual and group counseling to 300+ student caseload, work in tandem with deans and administration on leadership team to support teachers and staff, coordinate MTSS program
Mandarin Middle School Duval County Public Schools Jacksonville, Florida	Professional School Counselor (6 – 8 Grades) August 2015 – February 2016 Provide individual and group counseling, implement the Comprehensive School Counseling Program, and regularly teach classroom guidance lessons for 500+ student case load
Baldwin Middle-Senior High School Duval County Public Schools Jacksonville, Florida	School Counselor / Intern (6 – 8 Grades) August 2014 – June 2015 Provide individual and group counseling, implement the Comprehensive School Counseling Program, and regularly teach classroom guidance lessons for 350+ student case load.

Teaching Experience

Indiana Wesleyan University Online Instructor with the Division of Graduate Counseling School of Integrated Health Marion, Indiana	Assistant Professor July 2024 – Present Counselor Preparation Program Courses: Practicum in School Counseling, Child & Adolescent Development and Treatment, Theories and Techniques of the Helping Relationship, Group Counseling, Career Counseling
Indiana Wesleyan University Online Instructor with the Division of Graduate Counseling Marion, Indiana	Online Adjunct Faculty August 2020 – June 2024 Master's Level Education Courses: Practicum in School Counseling, Child & Adolescent Development and

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Treatment, Theories and Techniques of the
Helping Relationship

Ukraine Cross-Cultural Supervision Project
Children's Counseling Certificate Program
International Mental Health Consultants
Kyiv, Ukraine

Faculty
January 2019 – January 2021
Post-Bachelor's Education Program

Professional Organizations Membership

American Counseling Association
2018 - Present

American School Counseling Association
2013 - Present

Florida School Counseling Association
2013 - Present

Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (Division of ACA)
2018 - Present

Association for Spiritual, Ethical and Religious Values in Counseling (Division of ACA)
2018 – Present

Association for Child & Adolescent Counseling (Division of ACA)
2019 – Present

Association for Creativity in Counseling
2019 – Present

First Coast Counselor Association
2013 - 2016

Publications

Peer Reviewed Publications

Suggs, B. G., Robins, L. B., Kerrigan, R., Cannedy, M. & **Buquo, M.** (Under Review). "There Were Some Reservations": A Qualitative Exploration of Mental Health Services Utilization among African American Emerging Adults. Submitted to *The Professional Counselor*.

Suggs, B. G., Robins, L. B., Kerrigan, R., Cannedy, M., **Buquo, M.**, & Savinsky, D. (2021). Barriers Unearthed: Thematic Views of Help-Seeking and Services Utilization among African American Emerging Adults. *Journal of human services*.

Newsletter Articles

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Suggs, B. G., Robins, L. B., Kerrigan, R. Cannedy, M., & **Buquo, M.** (2021). Barriers to Breakthrough: A Qualitative Investigation of Mental Health Services Utilization among African American Emerging Adults. *Virginia Association of Counselor Education and Supervision [VACES] Newsletter*.

Buquo, M. (2020). Abroad: Great Things with the Ukraine Project. *Faith in Action: Regent Counseling Department Newsletter*. v5,1

Presentations

State Conference Presentations

Bruce, M. & Ansley, P. Ward v. Board of Regents of Eastern Michigan University. *Florida School Counselor Association Annual Fall Conference*. Poster Presentation. Orlando, Florida, October 2014.

Buquo, M. & Kelley, B. (2023, October). Collaborating: Mental Health Professionals Unite. Presented at the Florida School Counselor Association (FSCA) Annual Convention.

National Conference Presentations

Suggs, B.G., Robins, L.B., Kerrigan, R., Cannedy, M., & **Buquo, M.** (2021, June). Barriers Unearthed: Thematic Views of African American Emerging Adults. Poster presented at the Association for Humanistic Counseling (AHC) Annual Conference.

Leadership and Service Positions

State & Local Board Service

Florida School Counselor Association Jacksonville, Florida	Emerging Leader July 2020 – June 2021 Participate in leadership development training, Serve on committees dedicated to the professional development and support of Florida's School Counseling Professionals
Florida School Counselor Association Jacksonville, Florida	Volunteer & Advocacy Team Member October 2015 – February 2016 Provide support during annual fall conference, participate in and communicate advocacy in district
First Coast Counselor Association Jacksonville, Florida	Graduate Student Representative August 2014 – August 2015 Provide information and support to fellow Graduate Students regarding the mission of the association,

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voice concerns and advocate for Graduate Students during Board meetings, assist in planning Board events

Honors & Awards

Regent University
August 2018 – May 2025

Doctoral Student Merit Scholarship

University of North Florida
May 2007

Graduated Summa Cum Laude

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society
March 2015

Membership Induction

National Society of Leadership and Success Induction in Sigma Alpha Pi
March 2015