

***Dale Lynn Cusumano, Ph.D. NCSP***  
**National Implementation Research Network**  
Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute  
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## EDUCATION

**Doctor of Philosophy**, School Psychology/Curriculum Based Measures Assessment and Intervention  
University of South Florida, Tampa, May 2005

Dissertation: *Early Learning Experiences: Education with Coaching and the Effects on the Acquisition of Literacy Skills in Preschool Children*

Co-Chairs: George Batsche, Ed.D. and Kathy Bradley Klug, Ph.D.

**Education Specialist**, School Psychology/Curriculum and Instruction

University of South Florida, Tampa, August 2000

Thesis: *Development of the Multidimensional Sociocultural Influence of Media Scale for Pre-Adolescents*

Co-Chairs: J. Kevin Thompson, Ph.D. and Howard Knoff, Ph.D.

**Bachelor of Arts**, Psychology – University and Psychology Honors Program

University of South Florida, Tampa, May 1996

Honors Thesis: *The Relationship Between Body Image and Exposure to Body Shape Ideals in Magazines*

Co-Chairs: J. Kevin Thompson, Ph.D. and Judith Becker Bryant, Ph.D.

## CURRENT POSITION

**Senior Implementation Specialist:** National Implementation Research Network, Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute at UNC-Chapel Hill University of North Carolina  
February 2016 to present

*Responsibilities:* Serve as a project leader on funded research project(s) in the National Implementation Research Network at the Frank Porter Graham (FPG) Child Development Institute at UNC-Chapel Hill; direct and conduct implementation research; deliver a range of implementation supports to support effective implementation and scaling of evidence-based programs and innovations; and provide leadership on project(s) by chairing team meetings, leading conferences and calls, budget and personnel management, and serving as lead liaison to the funding agency(ies) or foundation(s).

## ACADEMIC AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

**Research Associate:** University of North Carolina at Charlotte  
August 2013 to February 2016

*Responsibilities:* Project Coordinator for federally funded Team-Initiated Problem Solving (TIPS II) grant with tasks that include facilitating professional development activities related to the TIPS II grant (problem solving team trainings and training in data collection procedures); data collection; development and evaluation of data collection procedures including the Decision Observation, & Recording Analysis (DORA II) instrument; development of multi-media resources and materials to support skills addressed in TIPS II training; dissemination of TIPS II activities through presentations at national conferences and in professional literature; and development of web-based training materials and information for dissemination of TIPS research and professional development project ([www.TIPS2Info.blgospot.com](http://www.TIPS2Info.blgospot.com)).

**Adjunct Professor:** University of North Carolina at Charlotte  
August 2010 to December 2015

*Classes Taught:* RSCH 6101 Research Methods (currently teaching); SPED 5135 Diagnostic Assessment.

**Research Associate:** University of North Carolina at Charlotte  
June 2012 to February 2013

*Responsibilities:* Team-Initiated Problem Solving II (TIPS II) federally funded grant: Facilitating professional development (TIPS II Meeting Minutes, Decision Observation, Recording & Analysis [DORA] data collection) and data collection to evaluate impact of randomized controlled trial.

**Certified School Psychologist:** *Pinellas County Schools*, St. Petersburg, Florida (August 1999 to June 2006); *Cabarrus County Schools*, Concord, North Carolina (August 2008 to June 2012); *Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools*, Charlotte, North Carolina (August 2008 to June 2009; February 2013 to June 2013).

*Responsibilities:* Participating in building level and student-based problem-solving consultation with teachers, parents, and staff; Creating vision and infrastructure development for innovating RtI as a school improvement model; Facilitating implementation of Problem Solving and Responsiveness to Intervention (RtI) processes for addressing problem solutions for student learning and behavior concerns; Developing and providing trainings for school-based teams transitioning to Problem Solving and RtI approaches; Providing psychoeducational assessment to align student academic and social/emotional needs with available resources; Auditing special education files for compliance to federal and state guidelines; Monitoring student progress against academic and behavior goals; Facilitating the development of Functional Behavior Assessment/Behavior Improvement Plans; Developing and providing trainings for administering and scoring academic measures for monitoring student academic progress.

**Visiting Assistant Professor:** School Psychology Program, University of South Florida  
August 2006 to July 2007

*Responsibilities:* Taught curriculum based measurement and observational methods aligned within the problem identification, analysis, and evaluation components of a problem solving model; co-facilitated a supervision seminar for second year practicum students; taught instructional design course that highlighted the alignment between curriculum, instruction, and assessment at the district, state, and national level; taught behavior theory and classroom learning course; served as a faculty mentor to incoming first year students; engaged in scholarly research.

**Program Evaluator:** Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute, University of South Florida  
January 2004 to July 2005

*Responsibilities:* Evaluated the outcomes of an early literacy and learning grant implemented in over 100 early childhood classrooms in Pinellas County, Florida; Development and design of program evaluation component; Statistical analysis and interpretation of outcome measures.

## SCHOLARSHIP

### Abbreviated List of Publications

- Horner, R. H., Newton, J. S., Todd, A. W., Algozzine, B., Algozzine, A., **Cusumano, D. L.**, & **Preston, A. I.** (2016) A Randomized Wait-List Controlled Analysis of Problem Solving Training. Manuscript submitted for publication.
- Russell, C., **Ward, C.**, Harms, A., St. Martin, K., Cusumano, D., Fixsen, D. Levy, R. & LeVesseur, C. (2016). District Capacity Assessment Technical Manual. National Implementation Research Network, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. <http://implementation.fpg.unc.edu>
- Algozzine, B., Horner, R. H., Todd, A. W., Newton, J. S., Algozzine, K., & **Cusumano, D.** (2016). Measuring the process and outcomes of team problem solving. *Journal of Psychoeducational Assessment*, 34, 211-229. doi: 10.1177/0734282915592535
- Preston, A., **Cusumano, D.**, & Todd, A. (2015). *PBIS Forum in Brief: Team-Initiated Problem Solving*. U. S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs: National Technical Assistance Center on Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports. Retrieved

from [www.pbis.org](http://www.pbis.org)

- McCamish, C, Reynolds, H., Algozzine, R., & **Cusumano, D. L.** (2015). An investigation of skills, time, and leadership style of district PBIS coach/coordinators. *Journal of Applied Educational and Policy Research, 1*, 15-34.
- Cusumano, D. L.**, Algozzine, K., & Algozzine, B. (2014). Multi-tiered system of supports for effective inclusion in elementary schools. In J. McLesky, N. L. Waldon, F. Spooner, & B. Algozzine (Eds.) *Handbook of research and practice for inclusive schools* (pp. 197-209). New York: Routledge Taylor and Francis Group.
- Newton, J. S., Todd, A. W., Algozzine, R., Algozzine, K., Horner, R., & **Cusumano, D. L.** (2014). Supporting team problem solving in inclusive schools. In J. McLesky, N. L. Waldon, F. Spooner, & R. Algozzine (Eds.) *Handbook of research and practice for inclusive schools* (pp. 275-291). New York: Routledge Taylor and Francis Group.
- Newton, J. S., Todd, A. W., Horner, R. H., Algozzine, R., Algozzine, K., & **Cusumano, D. L.** (2012). *Decision observation, recording, and analysis II: DORA II. Training manual vignettes*. Unpublished instrument. Educational and Community Supports, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon.
- Armstrong, K., **Cusumano, D. L.**, Todd, M. & Cohen, R. (2008) Literacy Training for Early Childhood Providers: Changes in Knowledge, Beliefs and Instructional Practices. *Journal of Early Childhood Teacher Education, 29*, 297-308.
- Cusumano, D. L.** (2007). Is it working?: An overview of curriculum based measurement and its uses for assessing instructional, intervention, or program effectiveness. *Behavior Analyst Today*.
- Cusumano, D. L.**, Armstrong, K., Cohen, R., & Todd, M. (2006). Indirect impact: How early childhood educator training and coaching impacted the acquisition of literacy skills in preschool children. *Journal of Early Childhood Teacher Education, 27*, 363-377.
- Raffaele Mendez, L. M., Young, E. L., Mihalas, S. T., **Cusumano, D. L.**, & Hoffmann, L. L. (2006, November). Hidden stressors for girls in middle school: What teachers can do to help. *Middle School Journal, 13-22*.
- Armstrong, K., **Cusumano, D. L.**, Cohen, R., & Todd, M. (2005). *Early learning opportunities act: An evaluation of program effectiveness with early childhood educators and preschool children*. Tampa, FL: FMHI.
- Raffaele, L., Young, E. L., & **Cusumano, D. L.** (2002). Understanding the gender-related challenges facing adolescent girls: A consideration of the issues for middle school educators. *Communique*. Bethesda, MD: National Association of School Psychologists.
- Cusumano, D. L.**, & Thompson, J. K. (2001). Media influence and body image in 8-11-year old boys and girls: A preliminary report on the Multidimensional Media Influence Scale. *International Journal of Eating Disorders, 29*, 37-44.
- Cusumano, D. L.**, & Thompson, J. K. (1997). Body image and body shape ideals in magazines: Exposure, awareness, and internalization. *Sex Roles, 37*, 701-721.

## WORKSHOPS FOR STATE/DISTRICT LEVEL EDUCATORS

- Cusumano, D. L.** & Preston, A. (2015, October). *Updates on the Team-Initiated Problem Solving (TIPS) Training and Coaching*. Full Day workshop for TIPS Implementers at the PBIS Leadership Forum in Chicago, Illinois.
- Cusumano, D. L.** & Preston, A. (2015, September). *Problem Solving with the Team-Initiated Problem Solving (TIPS) Model: Team, Coaching, and Trainers Workshop*. Three-Day training workshop for Hillsborough County School District (Tampa, Florida) MTSS Coordinators and Coaches.
- Cusumano, D. L.** & Preston, A. (2015, May). *Problem Solving with the Team-Initiated Problem Solving (TIPS) Model: Team and Advanced Data Training*. Two-Day training workshop for

state and district level MTSS implementers for the Virginia Tiered Systems of Support (VTSS) Department of Education MTSS implementers.

- Cusumano, D. L.,** Preston, A. I., & Olsen, J. (2015, March). *Using Team-Initiated Problem Solving in Data-Based Decision Making: A Mini Skills Workshop*. Pre-conference workshop at the Association for Positive Behavior Supports conference for state and district level implementers in Boston, MASS.
- Cusumano, D. L.** (2014, November). *Using Team-Initiated Problem Solving in an MTSS Structure: Building Implementation from the Team, Coaching, and District Perspectives*. Two-Day training for district level implementers in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (Charlotte, North Carolina).
- Cusumano, D. L.** & Preston, A. (2014, October). *Updates on the Team-Initiated Problem Solving (TIPS) Model*. Full Day workshop for TIPS Implementers at the PBIS Leadership Forum in Chicago, Illinois.
- Cusumano, D. L.,** Todd, A. W., & LaMaster, D. (2014, March). *Team-Initiated Problem Solving (TIPS) Team Training*. Full day workshop for state and district level staff at the Association of Positive Behavior Supports conference in Chicago, Illinois.
- Cusumano, D. L.,** & Algozzine, K. (2013, February). *Using TIPS Meeting Minutes forms to Structure Problem-Solving*. Training presented to the special education department of Berkley County Schools, Moncks Corner, South Carolina.

#### **PRESENTATIONS AT STATE/NATIONAL CONFERENCES (Abbreviated)**

- Cusumano, D. L.** (2016, October). *Thoughtful and Purposeful Implementation*. Two Day workshop for California Probation Research Network. Orange County, California.
- Cusumano, D.L.,** Preston, A. I. (2016, March). *Effective Problem Solving in Schools*. Half Day Workshop facilitated at Association for Positive Behavior Supports conference in San Francisco, CA.
- Cusumano, D.L.,** Preston, A. I., & Todd, A.W. (2016, March). *Summarizing our Work on Team-Initiated Problem Solving*. Invited Session presented at Association for Positive Behavior Supports conference in San Francisco, CA.
- Cusumano, D.L.,** & Preston, A. I. (2015, October). *Using Team-Initiated Problem Solving for Effective Problem Solving in Schools*. Presented at the RtI Best Practices conference, Wrightsville Beach, NC.
- Cusumano, D.L.,** & Preston, A. I. (2015, October). *Interpreting Data from Graphs*. Presented at the RtI Best Practices conference, Wrightsville Beach, NC.
- Todd, A. W., **Cusumano, D.L.,** & Preston, A. I. (2015, October). *Building Effective and Efficient Problem Solving Teams*. Presented at the Positive Behavior Support Leadership Forum, Chicago, Illinois.
- Todd, A. W. & **Cusumano, D.L.** (2015, October). *Roundtable Discussion on Effective and Efficient Problem Solving*. Facilitated at the Positive Behavior Support Leadership Forum, Chicago, Illinois.
- Cusumano, D. L.** & Preston, A. (2015, April). *Team-Initiated Problem Solving (TIPS) Model*. Presentation at APBS conference in Boston, MASS.
- Cusumano, D. L.,** Preston, A., & Olsen, J. (2015, February). *Defining Academic and Behavior Problems with Precision using the Team-Initiated Problem Solving (TIPS) Model*. Mini-Skills session at National Association of School Psychologists conference in Orlando, FL.
- Cusumano, D. L.,** Preston, A., & Olsen, J. (2015, February). *Evaluating Problem Solving: A Randomized Control Trial Evaluating the Team-Initiated Problem Solving (TIPS) Model*. Research presentation at National Association of School Psychologists conference in Orlando, FL.

- Cusumano, D.L.**, (2014, November). *Team-Initiated Problem Solving (TIPS) Overview*. Presentation at Tennessee Association of Positive Behavior Support Annual Conference in Nashville, Tennessee.
- Cusumano, D.L.**, (2014, March). *Team-Initiated Problem Solving (TIPS) Overview*. Presentation at Association of Positive Behavior Supports conference in Chicago, Illinois.
- Todd, A. W., & **Cusumano, D. L.**, (2013, October). *Updates on the Team-Initiated Problem Solving (TIPS) Model*. Presentation at PBIS Leadership conference in Chicago, Illinois.
- Cusumano, D. L.**, (2013, October). *Team-Initiated Problem Solving (TIPS) Overview*. Presentation at Responsiveness to Instruction Best Practices conference in Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina.
- Todd, A. W., & **Cusumano, D.L.**, (2012, November). *Using, Scoring and Interpreting Data from the Decision Observation, Recording, Analysis II (DORA II)*. Training presented to Research/IES grant team at University of Wisconsin, Kratchowill, T. (PI), Madison, Wisconsin.
- Todd, A. W., & **Cusumano, D.L.**, (2012, October). *Team-Initiated Problem Solving (TIPS) Overview*. Presented at the Positive Behavior Support Leadership Forum, Chicago, Illinois.
- Cusumano, D.L.**, (2012, October). *Team-Initiated Problem Solving (TIPS) Overview*. Presented at the North Carolina School Psychologists Annual Conference, Sunset Beach, North Carolina.
- Cusumano, D.L.**, & Jablonski, A. (2012, October). *It's All About Problem Solving*. Presented at the North Carolina School Psychologists Annual Conference, Sunset Beach, North Carolina.
- Cusumano, D.L.**, & Jablonski, A. (2011, July). *Creating Your Own Interventionists: Training in the Academic Interventionist Certification Curriculum*. Presented as a week-long training at the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction Summer Institute, Greensboro, North Carolina.
- Jablonski, A., & **Cusumano, D. L.** (2010, November) *Growing Your Own: Training and Evaluation of Academic Interventionists in Cabarrus County Schools*. Presented at the North Carolina Department of Instruction Exceptional Children Annual Conference, Greensboro, North Carolina.
- Jablonski, A., & **Cusumano, D. L.** (2010, October). *Rollout and Evaluation of Responsiveness to Instruction (RtI) in Cabarrus County Schools*. Presented at the North Carolina School Psychologists Annual Conference, Asheville, North Carolina.

## **AWARDS**

- Outstanding Faculty Award 2011-2012 from the Office of Disability Services, UNC at Charlotte, May 2012
- Honorable Mention for Outstanding Article that Contributed to the Field of Early Childhood, November 2007
- Outstanding Graduate Student Nomination, Fall 1998

## **PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS/LICENSURES**

- Certified SWIS/CICO/ISIS facilitator
- Nationally Certified School Psychologist
- Certified Trainer for Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS)
- Certified in Early Childhood Indicators assessment administration and interpretation
- Florida and North Carolina Teacher Certification K-12