**Clewiston D. Challenger, Ph.D., NCC**

Montclair State University

College of Community Health

Counseling Department

School Counseling Program

1 Normal Ave Office Phone: 973-655-7205 (ext: 7205)

University Hall, Room 2161

Montclair, NJ 07043 Email: challenger2@.edu

**EDUCATION**

**Ph.D.**  **2017** **Pennsylvania State University**

University Park, PA

Counselor Education and Supervision

Dissertation: *Perception of College Adjustment and Institutional Attachment Among Student-Athletes of Color at Predominately White Institutions and its Relation to Academic Motivation*

**M.A. 2008 University of Connecticut**

Storrs, CT

Educational Psychology, School Counseling focus

**B.A. 2003 University of Connecticut**

Storrs, CT

Psychology (major), Criminal Justice (minor)

**CERTIFICATIONS**

Nationally Certified Counselor (NCC) by the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC) NCC #238626

Certified School Counselor, (New York) Provisional Status

Certificate Number: 2325970

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Montclair State University, Montclair, NJ August 2023-present

Assistant Professor (tenure track), School Counseling Program

School of Community Health, Counseling Department

* Teach master’s level courses in school counseling and other counseling related courses
* Assist in maintaining CACREP accreditation
* Advise master’s students
* Conduct research, scholarship, and grant-seeking work
* Assist in the coordination of the admissions process

Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ August 2021-June 2023

Associate Professor of Professional Practice, School Counseling and Counseling Psychology

CACREP Liaison (2021-2022)

Practicum Coordinator

Admissions Co-Coordinator

* Teach master’s level courses in school counseling
* Maintain CACREP accreditation
* Coordinator of the school counseling program practicum experience
* Advise master’s students
* Conduct research, scholarship, and grant-seeking work
* Assist in the coordination of the admissions process

University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT August 2020-August 2021  
Assistant Professor In-Residence, Counselor Education

University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT August 2017-August 2020  
Assistant Professor Tenure-Track, Counselor Education

* Teach master’s level course in the Counselor Education –School Counseling program
* Teach students counseling theories and counseling skills with multicultural competency
* Undergo scholarly research, writing, and publication
* Seek grants to fund studies
* Practicum Coordinator
* Admissions Coordinator

**COURSES TAUGHT**

**Montclair State University**

* COUN 584: Group Counseling Theory and Practice
* COUN 586: Counseling in Schools II
* COUN 588: Counseling Techniques
* COUN 595: Multicultural Counseling and Development

**Rutgers University**

* 15:297:507:90: Multicultural Issues
* 15:297:501:90: Introduction to Counseling and Interviewing Skills
* 15:297:508:90: Family Systems Development
* 15:297:505:01: Group Counseling Theory and Practice
* 15:297:604:01: Professional Ethics
* 15:297:627:01: School Based Practicum

**University of Connecticut**

* EPSY 5301: Group Counseling Process
* EPSY 5307: Professional Orientation for School Counselors
* EPSY 5308: Theories and Practice
* EPSY 5315: Advanced Counseling Skills
* EPSY 5316: Cross Cultural Counseling Skills
* EPSY 5317: Fieldwork in School Counseling: Practicum

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

* College Adjustment
* Sense of Belonging
* Student-Athletes, Student-Athletes of Color
* Self-Efficacy
* Academic Motivation and Buoyancy
* Boys and Males of Color
* School Attachment
* School Involvement

**ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Academic Advisor for Student-Athletes, University Park, PA 2014-2017

The Morgan Academic Center for Student Athletes, Penn State University

School Counselor, Grades 6-9, Harlem 2012-2013

The Opportunity Charter School, New York City

Upper Academy School Counselor, Grades 7-9, The Bronx 2010-2012

The Bronx Lighthouse Charter School, New York City, NY

Personal/Sports Fitness Trainer, Manhattan, NY 2008-2010

E3 Sports & Equinox Luxury Fitness Club, New York City, NY

School Counselor Intern, Grades 6-8, Hartford 2007-2008

Batchelder Middle School, Connecticut

Student Assistance Center Intern, Grades 9-10, East Hartford 2006-2007

East Hartford High School, Connecticut

**MANUSCRIPT PUBLICATIONS**

Lombardi, A. R., Wu, R., Loken, E., Rifenbark, G. G., **Challenger, C.,** Taconet, A., Langdon, S., & Shogren, K. (2023). Revisiting Economic Hardship in a National Sample of Adolescents with and Without Disabilities: A Conceptual Replication. Exceptional Children, 90(1), 11-26. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00144029221141044>

Duquette, K., **Challenger, C. D.,** & Eng, T. (2023). The Adolescent Cultural, Racial, and Ethnic Support (ACRES) Model: A Conceptual Framework for Guiding Adolescent Students of Color in Their Cultural, Racial, and Ethnic Identity Development. *Professional School Counseling*, *27*(1). <https://doi.org/10.1177/2156759X231161509>

Lombardi, A. R., Rifenbark, G. G., Hicks, T. A., Taconet, A., & Challenger, C. (2022). College and career readiness support for youth with and without disabilities based on the National Longitudinal Transition Study 2012. *Exceptional Children, 89,*5-21. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00144029221088940>

Lombardi, A., Wu, R., Loken, E., Rifenbark, G., **Challenger, C.,** Taconet, A. V., … Shogren, K. (2022, June 17). *Revisiting Economic Hardship in a National Sample of Adolescents with and without Disabilities: A Conceptual Replication*. <https://doi.org/10.31219/osf.io/df65g>

**Challenger, C. D.,** Duquette, K., & Mason, I., (2022). School Counseling for College and Career Readiness Using Existential Theory model: A humanistic approach to counseling students of color in urban school settings. *The Journal of Humanistic Counseling*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/johc.12184>

**Challenger, C. D.,** & Duquette, K. (2021). College Transition Program for Student-Athletes (CTPSA): A Psychoeducational Group for Boys of Color. *Professional School Counseling*, *25.* <https://doi.org/10.1177/2156759X211040038>

**Challenger, C. D.,** Duquette, K., & Pascascio, D. (2020). “Black Boys: Invisible to Visible”: A Psychoeducational Group Fostering Self-Efficacy, Empowerment, and Sense of Belonging for African American Boys. *The Journal for Specialists in Group Work*, *45*(3), 257-271. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01933922.2020.1797444>

O’Neil, J. M., **Challenger, C.**,Renzulli, S., Crapser, B., & Webster, E. (2013). The boy’s forum: An evaluation of a brief intervention to empower middle-school urban boys. *The Journal of Men’s Studies, 21*, 191-205. <https://doi.org/10.3149/jms.2102.191>

**NEWSPAPER**

**Challenger. C.,** (2020, December 17). College financial aid application down 16% this year*.* *The CT Mirrir.org*. https://ctmirror.org/2020/12/11/college-financial-aid-applications-down-16-this-school-year/

**Challenger. C.,** (2018, October 9). UConn athletic department makes strides in mental health care; participating in mental health awareness week*,* *Hartford Courant*.

**MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS**

**Challenger, C.,** Duquette, K., & Bowen, R. (2023, in review): “No Walls. Bridges to Higher Education”: A schoolwide college readiness guidance curriculum for undocumented high school students. Anticipated submission to the *Journal of College Access*.

**MANUSCRIPTS SUBMITTED**

**Challenger, C.,** Lombardi, A., Duquette, K., Esposito, C., and DeJesus, J., (2023), School counselors and Transition Specialist collaborating to provide college and career readiness services to students with disabilities. Anticipated submission to the *Professional School Counseling* journal.

**Challenger, C.,** Duquette, K., & DeJesus, J., (2023). Centralizing the counseling, community, academic, and medical supports (CCAMS) in post-pandemic school settings: A leadership role for school counselors. Anticipated submission to the *Journal of School-Based Counseling.*

**BOOK CHAPTERS**

Vereen, L., **Challenger, C.,** Hill, N. (2020, in review). I did my part. Textbook chapter in *Critical incidents in counselor education: Teaching, supervision, research, and leadership and advocacy*.

**Challenger, C.,** Eng, T. (2020). Chapter 3: Challenges mostly unique to African Americans*.* Textbook chapter in *African Americans and mental health: Practical and strategic solutions to barriers, needs, and challenges.* Springer Nature. Switzerland

**OPINION EDITORIAL**

**Challenger, C.** (2019, October 23). Teaching soft skills or college readiness. *Education Week*, 20.

**WEBINARS**

Lombardi, A., & **Challenger, C.,** (2023, December). *School counselor and special educator partnerships: improving college and career readiness for youth With Disabilities.* Radford University/Virginia Tech professional development webinar for postsecondary transition specialists (school counselors and transition coordinators-SPED). Virginia Training & Technical Assistance Center for Professional Development. Virginia

Lombardi, A., & **Challenger, C.,** (2023, March 9). *School Counselor and Transition Specialist Partnerships to Support Youth.* 2023 National Technical Assistance Center on Transition: The Collaborative (NTACT: C). Portland State University

**Challenger, C.,** & Lombardi, A., (2022, July 26). *2022 ASCA Webinar: College and Career Support for Students with Disabilities.* American School Counselor Association (ASCA)

**Challenger, C.,** Brenick, A. (2021). *Making Voices Heard: Diversity, disadvantage, and discrimination in educational settings.* https://chhd.uconn.edu/making-voices-heard/

**PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS**

**NATIONAL**

Esposito, C., Lombardi, A., **Challenger, C.** (2023, October 20). *School Counselor and Transition Specialist Partnerships to Support Youth.* Annual International Division on Career Development and Transition (DCDT) Conference. Reno, NV

Lombardi, A., **Challenger, C.,** (2023, March 03). *School Counselor and Transition Specialist Partnerships to Support Youth.* Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Conference. Louisville, KY

Lombardi, A., **Challenger, C.,** Taconet, A., & Langdon, S. (2022, November 02). *Exploring Relationships between College and Career Readiness, Self-Determination, and Transition Planning among Adolescents with and without Disabilities.* Annual International Division on Career Development and Transition (DCDT) Conference. Little Rock, AR

**Challenger, C.** (2020, March 20). *Easing the transition to college for boys of color who are student-athletes: A program and group design.* Evidence Based School Counseling Conference.University of Central Florida, Boca Raton, FL

**Challenger, C.** (2017, March 18). *The culturally competent career counselor: effective assessment strategies and skill development for work with minority populations.* American Counseling Association (ACA), San Francisco, CA

**Challenger, C.** (2015, October 11). *Counseling the minority athlete: Strategies for a successful transition from high school to college.* Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES), Philadelphia, PA.

**REGIONAL**

**Challenger, C.,** Lombardi, A., & Esposito, C. (2023, November). *School counselors and transition coordinators teaming up: Collaborative CCR planning for students with disabilities.* New York State School Counselor Association (NYSSCA) Conference. Albany, NY

**Challenger, C.,** & Lombardi, A., (2022, April 5). *Exploring Relationships between College and Career Readiness, Self-Determination, and Transition Planning among Adolescents with and without Disabilities.* Connecticut School Counselors Association (CSCA), Hartford CT

**Challenger, C.,** Cooper, J., Dougherty, S., & Newton, A. (2020, March 27). *A Mixed Methods Exploratory Study of American Athletic Conference (AAC) Student-Athletes’ Adjustment to College, Sense of Belonging, and Mental Health.* American Athletic Conference Symposium.University of South Florida, Tampa, FL

**Challenger, C.** (2018, April 12). *Is this school a fit? The importance of college adjustment, institutional attachment, self-efficacy, and academic buoyancy in young men of color and how it influences their motivation towards academics and degree attainment.* Men of Color Summit.Clemson University, Greenville, SC

**Challenger, C.** (2019, November 7). *Thriving or surviving: The importance of meeting our client’s non-cognitive needs so they can find their sense of meaning and purpose.* Illinois Counselor Association 71st Conference.Skokie, IL

Carnevale, K. & **Challenger, C**. (2016, March). *Career counseling black college students at predominantly white institutions.* Pennsylvania Black Conference on Higher Education (PBCOHE), Harrisburg, PA

Carnevale, K. & **Challenger, C.** (2016, February). *Predominantly white institutions and career counseling with black college students.* University of Maryland, Maryland Student Affairs Conference (MSAC), College Park, MD

Carnevale, K. & **Challenger, C.** (2015, December). *Mistrust and misunderstanding: Career counseling with black college students at predominantly white institutions.* Mid-Atlantic Career Counseling Association (MACCA), Lancaster, PA

Carnevale, K. & **Challenger, C.** (2015, November). *Mistrust and misunderstanding: Career counseling with black college students at predominantly white institutions.* Pennsylvania Counselor Association (PCA), State College, PA

**Challenger, C.** (2015, March). *Black gladiator: Strategies to successfully transition the male athlete from high school into college.* The Pennsylvania Black Conference of Higher Education (PBCOHE), Harrisburg, PA.

**Challenger, C,** & Clarke, E. S. (2014, November). *Counseling the minority athlete: Strategies for a successful transition from high school to college.* Pennsylvania Counselors Association (PCA) Conference, State College, PA.

**Challenger, C,** & Clarke, E. S. (2014, November). *Counseling the minority athlete: Strategies for a successful transition from high school to college.* Michigan School Counselors Association (NSCA) Conference, All Michigan Counselors Conference (AMCC), Pontiac, MI.

**Challenger, C,** & Clarke, E. S. (2014, November). *Counseling the minority athlete: Strategies for a successful transition from high school to college.* New York State School Counselors Association (NYSSCA) Conference, Albany, NY.

**Challenger, C,** & Clarke, E. S. (2014, October). *Counseling the minority athlete: Strategies for a successful transition from high school to college.* North Central Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (NCACES) Conference, St. Louis, MO.

**Challenger, C,** & Clarke, E. S. (2014, October—Accepted). *Counseling the minority athlete: Strategies for a successful transition from high school to college*. Sponsored by Florida School Counselors Association (FSCA) Conference, Orlando, FL.

**Challenger, C,** & Clarke, E. S. (2014, April). *Counseling the minority athlete: Strategies for a successful transition from high school to college.* Sponsored by Chi Sigma Iota (Penn State Chapter) Pennsylvania Statewide Conference, University Park, PA.

**STATE**

**Challenger, C.**, Esposito, C., & Lombardi, A. (2024, January). *School Counselors Collaborating with Transition Specialists: A Multi-tiered Approach to College and Career Readiness for Students with Disabilities*. Frist Annual New Jersey School Counselor Association Winter Conference at Rowan University. Glassboro, NJ

**KEYNOTE SPEAKERSHIP**

Challenger, C. (2019, November 7). *Letting the light back in: Connecting personal development to effective client care.* Illinois Counselor Association 71st Conference. Skokie, IL

**INVITED TALKS**

**REGIONAL**

Challenger, C. (2019, May 1). *Coaching the millennial student-athlete workshop: Tips, strategies, and techniques.* UConn Men’s Soccer Coaching Staff. University of Connecticut. Storrs, CT

Challenger, C. (July, 2016). *Broadening our perspectives for understanding and respecting the needs of african american/black students.* New York Institute of Technology (NYIT), Department of School Counseling, New York City, NY

Challenger, C. (June, 2016). *The culturally competent career counselor: effective assessment strategies and skill development for work with minority populations.* Middle Atlantic Career Counseling Association (MACCA), Lancaster, PA

Challenger, C. (July, 2017). *Broadening our perspectives for understanding and respecting the needs of african american/black students.* New York Institute of Technology (NYIT), Department of School Counseling, New York City, NY

Challenger, C. (July, 2015). *Broadening our perspectives for understanding and respecting the needs of african american/black students*. New York Institute of Technology (NYIT), Department of School Counseling, New York City, NY.

Challenger, C. (June, 2015—Accepted)*. Strategies to successfully transition the male athlete from high school into college.* American School Counselor Association (ASCA), Phoenix, AZ.

Challenger, C. (April, 2015—Accepted). *Strategies to successfully transition the male athlete from high school into college.* The University of Akron, Black Male Summit, Akron, OH.

Challenger, C. (June, 2013). *Broadening our perspectives for understanding and respecting the needs of african american/black students.* Sponsored by New York Institute of Technology (NYIT), Department of School Counseling, New York City, NY.

Challenger, C. (June, 2012). *Broadening our perspectives for understanding and respecting the needs of african american/black students*. Sponsored by New York Institute of Technology (NYIT), Department of School Counseling, New York City, NY.

**STATE**

Challenger, C. (2018, July 9). *BMT: Breathe. move. talk, mindfulness meditation.* Young Scholars Senior Summit Program, Jack Kent Cook Grant, Storrs, CT

Challenger, C. (2018, February 20). *Retaining students of color: How college adjustment, self-efficacy, buoyancy, and institutional attachment play important roles in student academic motivation and degree commitment*. African American Faculty and Staff Organization, Storrs, CT

Challenger, C. (2017, November 1). *The importance of college adjustment and institutional attachment in the retention of millennial students*. Eastern Connecticut State University, Willimantic, CT

**CAMPUS**

Challenger, C. (2020, August 27). *“Will I fit in?”*. Student Support Services *GRIT* Retreat. University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

Challenger, C. (2020, February 22). *College to Career Transition, “What’s Next?”: Navigating the job hunt process and understanding your role as a black male in the workplace.* Black Male Enterprise Summit. University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

Challenger, C. (2019, November 20). *The Un-Masking: Discussion on masculinity, mental health, & sense of belonging.* El Camino Club. Puerto Rican and Latin American Cultural Center. University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

**PODCAST**

Singleton II, P., & Lester III, L. (Producers/ Hosts). (2020, March 1). Thoughts from a counselor. Episode 5: Grief, love and reflection: How do we cope with losing someone [Audio podcast]. Retrieved from https://open.spotify.com/episode/35II4BtVVx3UHZpGdWIEWs?si=Hx0ymRYiQxuwK-w5qt39Bg

Challenger, C (Producer, Host). (2020). The Submarine Way presents Frankly Speaking with Curtis Challenger. Episode 4.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

**Montclair State University**

* Coordinator of Curriculum Coordinators (2024-present)

**Rutgers University**

* Rules of Procedure (2023)
* GSE Resources Committee (2021-2023)

**University of Connecticut**

* University Senate Diversity Committee (2020-2021)
* Social and Behavioral Workgroup Committee (UConn COVID response and re-opening subcommittee)- (Summer 2020)
* Neag School of Education Assessment Committee- (2018-2019)

**DOCTORAL ADVISORY ROLE**

**Rutgers University**

**Committee member-**

* Kyra Clemmons, doctoral candidate in the Design for Learning Environments (EdD; DLE) program
* Kevin Ewell, doctoral candidate in the Education, Culture and Society (EdD; ECS) program

**University of Connecticut**

**Dissertation Committee Chair**

* Paul Singleton II; Current PhD student in Educational Psychology with a focus in Counselor Education (Chair 2018-2021)
  + Dissertation title: *A Qualitative Approach to a Psychoeducational Group on College and Career Readiness for African American Males*

**Dissertation Committee Member**

* Charles McCauly (graduated May 2021)
* Kimberly Traverso
* Bobbi-Jo Whaten
* Polly Marston, (graduated December 2019)
  + Dissertation title: *The Experience of Gender Role Conflict in School Shooters: A Qualitative Study*
* Emmanuel Ihemedu (graduated May 2018)
  + Dissertation title: *Parenting Style, Adolescent Suicidal Behavior and Self-disclosure in a Sample of Saint Lucian Adolescents*

**SERVICE**

**Montclair State University**

* African American Caucus (2023-present)
* African American Studies Advisory Board (2023-present)

**Rutgers University**

* GSE Educational Psychology Department Faculty Union Representative (October 2022-present)
* GSE Educational Psychology, NTT-Faculty Union Representative (April 2022-October 2022)
* Faculty Mentor, Faculty Mentoring Program for Student Athletes (2022-present)

**University of Connecticut**

* UConn Mentor for First-Gen Underrepresented PhD students (August 2020-present)
* Guest Speaker for Westfield State University counseling program, (2020, July 20). Presentation titled, *“Counseling the Culturally Diverse”.* Presentation made to counseling master’s students at Westfield State University in Westfield, MA
* Assistant football coach, New Britain High School, New Britain, CT (2017-present), Coach the defensive line for the varsity football program. Coordinate the college readiness and postsecondary planning for the boys/players
* Student Support Services *GRIT Retreat* (2020, August 27), presentation to students of color and transfer students on college adjustment and college involvement titled *“Will I fit in?”* University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT
* Career Day (2020, February 14). Unity Prep School, Williamsburg, Brooklyn NYC
* Career Day (March 2019). East Hartford Middle School, grades 7 & 8, East Hartford, CT
* Mentor (2018-2019). HuskyLeads, Student Development Mentorship Program. Student Athlete Success Program (SASP). UConn Athletic Department, Storrs, CT

**Community Service**

* Unity Preparatory Charter School of Brooklyn, Advisory Committee Member (2024-present)
* Unity Preparatory Charter School of Brooklyn, Career Fair (2022, March), Guest speaker

**FACULTY AFFILIATIONS**

**University of Connecticut**

* Center for the Study of Culture, Health, and Human Development (CHHD)—Faculty Affiliate (since 2020)
* Institute for Collaboration on Health, Intervention, and Policy (InCHIP)- Faculty Affiliate (since 2017)
* UConn Collaboratory on School and Child Health (CSCH)—Faculty Affiliate (2018-present)

**REVIEW AND EDITORIAL ADITORIAL ACTIVITIES**

* **Guest Reviewer:** Psychology of Men and Masculinities

**GRANTS AWARDED**

* (2023). University of Connecticut, College of Language Arts and Sciences, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Initiatives Grant (10,000). *Educators’ Perceptions of Challenges and Competence in Working with Students of Color: A Research Proposal for the UConn CLAS Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Initiatives*. Principal Investigator, Sara Harkness (Professor of Human Development and Family Studies; HDFS, and the Director of the Center for the Study of Culture, Healthy, and Human Development; CHHD) with Co-Principal Investigators Charles Super (Professor of Human Development and Family Studies and Co-Director of the CHHD), Caroline Mavridis (Assistant Research Professor and Assistant Director of the CHHD), and **Clewiston Challenger** (Assistant Professor of School Counseling, Montclair State University). ($7,940) (Awarded).
* (2023). National Associate for Campus Activities (NACA) Research Grant ($2,500). *New Member Hazing Experience Scale (NMHES): Design, Development, and Pilot of a Hazing Scale.* Principal Investigator, Adam McCready (Assistant Professor in Residence, University of Connection, Neag School of Education, Educational Psychology Department, Higher Education and Student Affairs program) along with Co-Principal Investigators **Clewiston Challenger** (Assistant Professor, Montclair State University, College of Community Health, Counseling Department), and Laura Dahl (Research Professor, The Ohio State University). Grant submission through Dr. Adam McCready at UConn. ($2,000) (Awarded).
* (2022). Deans Research Incentive Award Grant (DRIA) ($10,000) in the Neag School of Education at the University of Connecticut. *Student Organization Newcomer Experiences Scale (SONES).* Principal Investigator, Adam McCready (Assistant Professor in Residence, University of Connection, Neag School of Education, Educational Psychology Department, Higher Education and Student Affairs program) along with Co-Principal Investigators **Clewiston Challenger** (Associate Professor of Practice, Rutgers Graduate School of Education, Educational Psychology Department, School Counseling Program), ($10,000) (Awarded)
* (2021). Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education, through GrantR324A210245 ($300,000). College and Career Readiness Support for Youth with and without Disabilities based on the National Longitudinal Transition Study 2012. Principal investigator, Allison Lombardi (University of Connecticut), with Co-Principal Investigators Graham G. Rifenbark, Ashley Taconet, Eric Loken, Rongxiu Wu, Shannon Langdon from the University of Connecticut, Tyler Hicksand Kerrie Shogren from the University of Kansas, and **Clewiston Challenger**from Rutgers University. (Awarded)
* (2020). University of Connecticut President’s Commitment to Community Initiative Award ($5,000). [*Making voices heard: Diversity, disadvantage, and discrimination in educational settings.*](https://chhd.uconn.edu/making-voices-heard/)Principal Investigator, Sara Harkness with Co-Principal Investigators **Clewiston Challenger**, Alaina Brenick, Charles Super, Caroline Mavridis from UConn, and Saskia van Schaik from the Radbound University in the Netherlands. (Awarded).
* (2019). American Athletic Conference (AAC) Research Grant Program ($10,00). *A mixed methods exploratory study of American athletic conference (AAC) student-athletes’ adjustment to college, sense of belonging, and mental health.* Principal Investigator, **Clewiston Challenger** with Co-Principal Investigators Joseph Cooper (UConn Assistant Professor in Education Leadership, Sports Management), Ajhanai Newton (UConn doctoral student, Sports Management). (Awarded).
* (2019). Deans Research Incentive Award Grant (DRIA) ($10,000). *Dr. Challenger’s Transition to College Program for Student-Athletes (CTCPSA).* Principal Investigator, **Clewiston Challenger** along with Co-Principal Investigators Joseph Cooper (Assistant Professor in Education Leadership, Sports Management), Erik Hines (Associate Professor in Education, Counseling Education and Counseling Psychology). ($10,000) (Awarded)
* (2018). Office for Vice President for Research Scholarship Facilitation Fund (SSF). *Dr. Challenger’s College Transition Program for Student-Athletes (CTCPSA).* Principal Investigator, **Clewiston Challenger***.* ($2,000) (Awarded).

**GRANTS SUBMITTED**

* (2022). Clinical Research and Innovation Seed Program (CRISP). Office of the Vice President for Research, University of Connecticut (UCONN) ($60,000). *An Examination of the Relationship of Hazing in High School Athletics and Performing Arts and the Behavioral Health of High School Students.* Principal Investigator, Adam McCready (Assistant Professor in Residence, University of Connection, Neag School of Education, Educational Psychology Department, Higher Education and Student Affairs program) along with Co-Principal Investigators **Clewiston Challenger** (Associate Professor of Practice, Rutgers Graduate School of Education, Educational Psychology Department, School Counseling Program), Julian D. Ford (Professor of Psychiatry and Law, UConn), Rocio Chang (Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, UConn) . ($60,000) (Not Awarded).
* (2022). National Federation of State High School Associations; NFHS Foundation Grants ($191,436). *A Longitudinal Examination of Hazing in High School Athletics and Performing Arts: Understanding Hazing to Inform Prevention and Save Lives*. Principal investigator, Adam McCready and **Clewiston D. Challenger** as the Co-Principal Investigator. (Not Awarded).
* (2018). Institute for Collaboration on Health, Intervention, and Policy (InCHIP) Faculty Seed Grant ($11,000). *A study of the relation of demographic factors, psychological assessment, self-efficacy, academic buoyancy, adjustment to college, and academic motivation among student-athletes who seek mental health services.* Principal Investigator along with Co-Principal Investigator Dawn Shadron (Director of Student-Athlete Counseling and Mental Health Services, UConn). (Not Awarded).
* (2018). Deans Research Incentive Award Grant (DRIA) ($10,000). *Dr. Challenger’s Transition to College Program for Student-Athletes (CTCPSA).* Principal Investigator along with Co- Principal Investigators Joseph Cooper (Assistant Professor in Education Leadership, Sports Management), Frank Staples (Director of Guidance, East Hartford Public School System), Trisha-Anne Hawthorne-Noble (Director of Student-Athlete Development, UConn Athletics). (Not Awarded).
* (2018). Aetna Foundation Grant ($100,000). *Hartford Health-lete Ambassadors.* Principal Investigator and consultants. (Not Awarded).
* (2017). American Athletic Conference (AAC) Research Grant Program ($10,000). Principal Investigator. *Self-Efficacy and academic buoyancy: influential factors in college adjustment and academic motivation in student-athletes.* (Not Awarded).

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

* New Jersey School Counselor Association (NJSCA; 2023-present)
* American School Counseling Association (2008-present)
* North Atlantic Region Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (NARACES; 2017-present)
* Connecticut School Counseling Association (2008, 2017-present)
* American Counseling Association (2013-present)
* Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (2013-present)
* National Board of Certified Counselors (2008-2022)