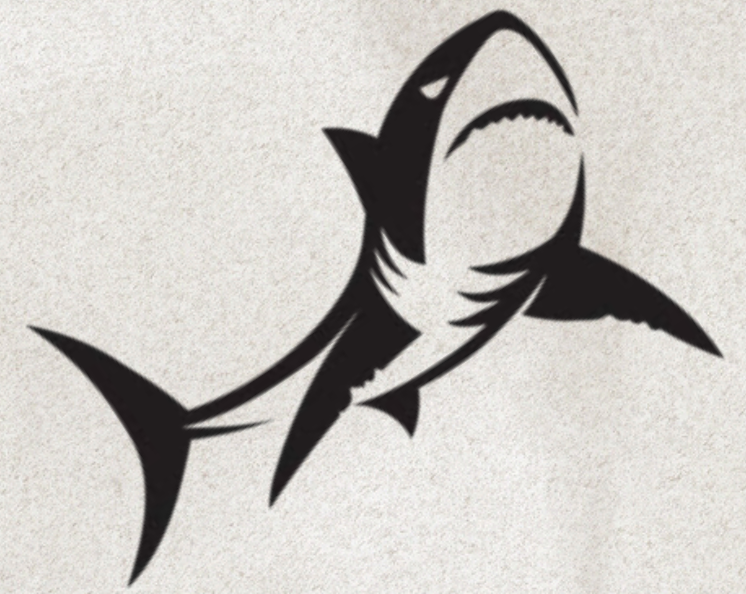




THE GrASP GAZETTE



DEAR READER...

The Graduate Association of School Psychology (GrASP) is committed to educating, inspiring, and creating opportunities for graduate psychology students through research, advocacy, and assessment. We hope to ultimately deepen graduate students' educational processes and the mental health needs of children and adolescents. Our board members are excited to present the Winter 2025 edition of the GrASP Gazette!

We commend and congratulate you on your hard work and dedicated effort this semester! We hope the Winter 2025 semester was one of growth and success! Please enjoy this new issue of the GrASP Gazette!

Best Regards,

Daniela Di Carlo, Public Relations

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ENJOY!

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Meet the Board
- Community Impact
- Student Spotlight
- Faculty Spotlight
- Social Events
- How to Save Money in Graduate School

For More Information...

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Meet the Board

Chairs

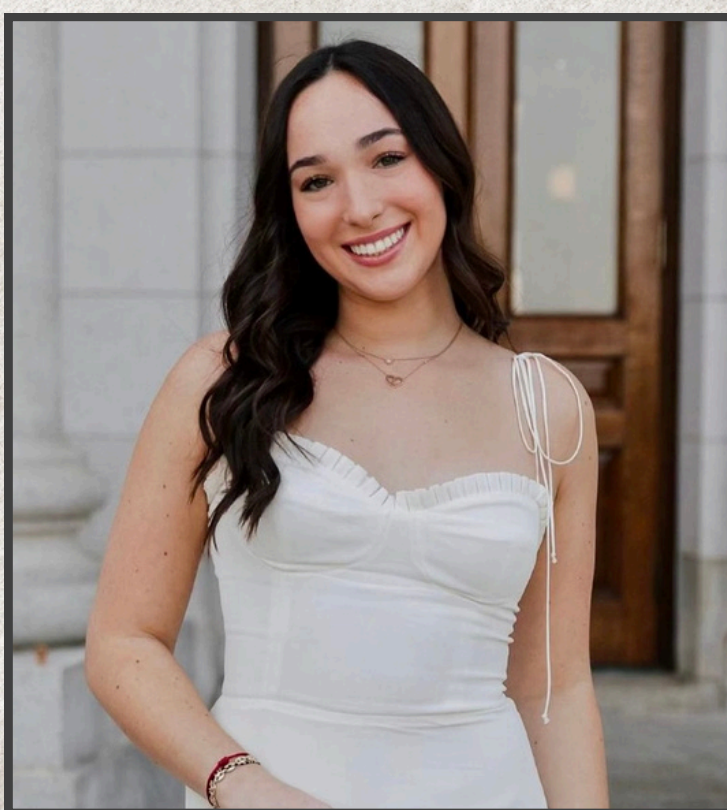


Michaela Michener



Brianna Borge

Vice Chair



Dylan Monfried

Treasurer



Jalen Drzewiecki

Public Relations



Daniela Di Carlo

Mentorship



Kristen Wright
Doctoral



Jaclyn Wroe
Specialist

Meet the Board

Social Chair



Isabella Musa

Fundraising



Moshe Stuart

Philanthropy



Sam Mckay-Corkum

Diversity & Social Justice



Jeff Blake



Lena Rojas

Public Policy



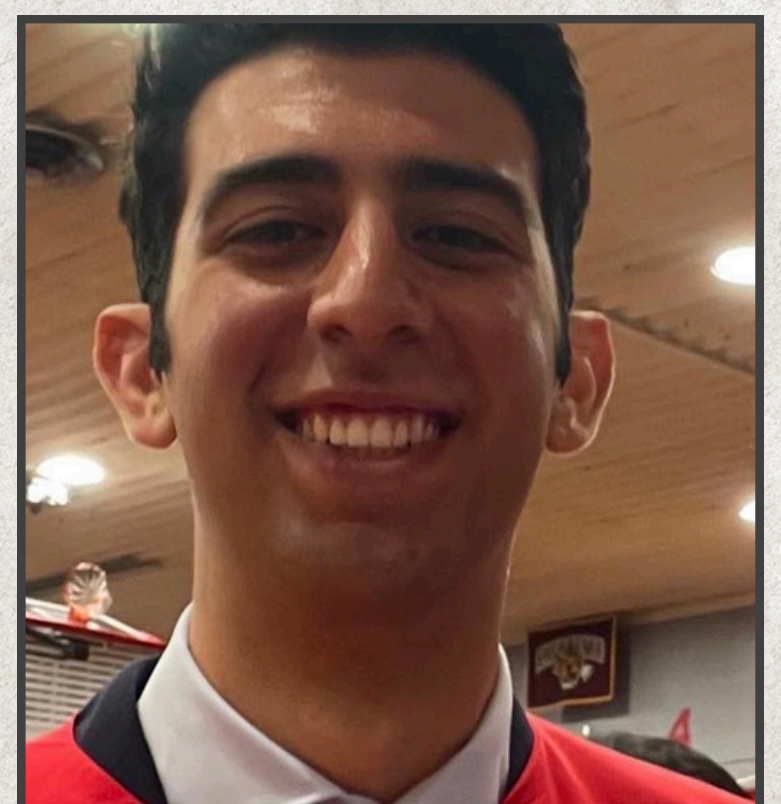
*Sherryann
Dawkins Major*

Wellness



Angelica Rodrigues

First-Year Representative



Shai

GrASP Community Impact

GrASP actively created and participated in numerous exciting events across campus during the Fall 2024 and Winter 2025 semesters!

During the Fall 2024 semester, GrASP organized several impactful initiatives aimed at supporting the community and fostering engagement among members. The organization hosted a clothing drive to provide foster students with business casual attire for job interviews and professional settings. Additionally, a food drive was launched to aid Florida's hurricane relief efforts, ensuring essential resources reached those in need. To promote social connection and mentorship, GrASP hosted a Halloween Potluck Picnic, providing a relaxed outdoor setting where mentors and mentees could build meaningful relationships and students could engage with one another.

In Winter 2025, GrASP continued its efforts with a focus on professional development and student support. The Alumni Showcase highlighted the diverse, non-traditional career paths available to school psychologists, providing valuable insights for current students. To assist students preparing for their internships, the organization held a Bowling Fundraiser, raising funds to support their transition. Additionally, a Bake Sale was organized as part of GrASP's ongoing fundraising efforts, further contributing to student resources. To end the Winter 2025 semester on a high note, GrASP celebrated with Dr. Cash's infamous Karaoke Night, bringing students and faculty together for a fun-filled evening of music, laughter, and community bonding.

GrASP remains committed to brainstorming and organizing events that positively impact both the greater community and the NSU environment!





Student Spotlight

ANDJELA VULOVIC

What is your name, year in school, and what track are you on? My name is Andjela Vulovic. I'm a third-year student in the four-year School Psychology Psy.S. track.

What drew you to the field of school psychology? From a young age, I knew I wanted to work with children with disabilities. I've always been interested in how school systems can serve as a foundation for support, or, unfortunately, the absence of it. When I was a child in Serbia, I had a close friend on the Autism Spectrum who did not receive the care and advocacy he deserved. Witnessing the consequences of that lack of support had a profound impact on me. Sadly, my friend never received the support he needed, and he has since passed away. If I can advocate for even one child the way he needed someone to, then I feel I am honoring his legacy and our friendship in some way.

What do you like most about the program? There are many things I truly enjoy about this program: the well-structured coursework, the meaningful practicum experiences, and the overall organization. But what stands out the most are the people. My professors have been not only knowledgeable and insightful, but also compassionate, approachable, and genuinely inspiring. Their guidance has expanded my love for psychology and reinforced why I chose this path.

What areas within the field of school psychology interest you/future plans? I've always had a deep interest in working with students on the Autism spectrum, ever since my childhood. That passion has stayed with me, and I hope to continue learning and growing in this area. After graduating, I plan to work as a school psychologist in a district setting and give my full heart to the role. However, I would love to pursue a doctorate simultaneously as I would love to teach. If I can have even a fraction of the impact on students that my professors have had on me, I'll consider that a success.

How do you practice self-care? Spending time with my family and my dog brings me peace and joy. I enjoy taking long walks, going camping, and intentionally unplugging by setting aside phone-free or phone-limited days to reconnect with the world around me.

What advice would you give to students joining the program? Be organized, work hard, and don't hesitate to ask for help. Make self-care a ritual, not just a reward. Pacing yourself, nurturing your well-being, and building a strong support system will carry you far - remember graduate school is a marathon, not a sprint. Oh! Also, save ALL of the resources your professors share with you.

Student Stoplight



DYLAN MONFRIED

What is your name, year in school, and what track are you on? Dylan Monfried, School Psychology Psy.D. Program

What drew you to the field of school psychology? I have always been fascinated by child and adolescent development. School psychology combines assessment, diagnosis, and intervention to provide meaningful and practical support for children and families. I am drawn to the preventative nature of this field because it addresses challenges early to promote long-term success. What excites me most is the opportunity to help children thrive academically, socially and emotionally.

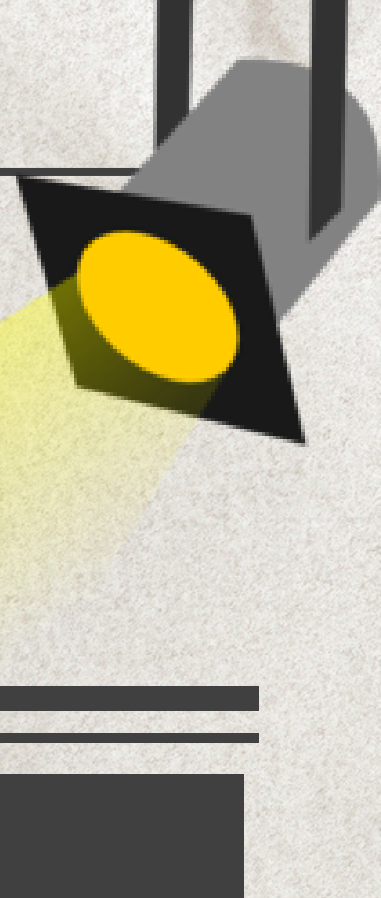
What do you like most about the program? I really value the strong sense of community within our cohort and program, as well as the genuine support from our faculty. Coming from an undergraduate program with large lecture halls of 300 students, I appreciate the smaller class sizes and individualized attention this program provides. The faculty is invested in our growth, both personally and professionally, and consistently encourage us to explore our specific interests and develop our identities as future psychologists.

What areas within the field of school psychology interest you/future plans? My interests include parenting, attachment styles, and Disruptive Behavior Disorders, as well as the overlap between psychology and medicine. I am really interested in how these two fields connect to influence children's behavior, learning, and emotional growth. What I love most about school psychology is the full-circle approach and getting to be part of the entire process from assessment to intervention and seeing the progress over time. After completing my internship and post-doc, I hope to work in a school or medical setting where I can provide comprehensive evaluations, collaborate with interdisciplinary teams, and use evidence-based strategies to help children and families.

How do you practice self-care? I make time for activities that help me recharge, like going on walks, listening to audiobooks, and spending time outdoors. I love traveling and visiting friends who live in other states, and I try to take advantage of all the exciting things South Florida has to offer. Staying active, social, and connected helps me maintain balance and perspective throughout the program.

What advice would you give to students joining the program? Be confident, open, and flexible. This program will challenge you, but it will also shape you in ways you can not anticipate. Every semester brings new opportunities to learn more about yourself and the profession. Stay curious, put in the effort, and trust that you are building the foundation to make a real difference in children's lives.

Faculty Stoplight



DR. RALPH CASH

Dr. Ralph Cash is the Director of the Psy.D. program in School Psychology at Nova Southeastern University. Before stepping into this role, he served for an impressive 19 years as the Director of the School-related Psychological Assessment and Clinical Interventions (SPACI) center, formerly known as SPACC. Dr. Cash also continues to serve as a professor in the School Psychology program and a supervisor for clinical students. Over the years, he has worn many hats at NSU, all dedicated to fostering the growth of future school psychologists.

When asked what he enjoys most about working at NSU, Dr. Cash didn't hesitate: "The students." He finds them bright, capable, and deeply interesting—often becoming a source of insight and learning for him. Their vitality, he says, helps keep him young. He also values the people he works with, especially within the School Psychology department. From his fellow faculty members to the staff around campus, he says, "I genuinely enjoy everyone here—from the dean down to the wonderful ladies who clean."

Dr. Cash also appreciates the opportunities NSU offers to advance his career—opportunities he notes wouldn't be available in private practice. "Through my research, publications, and the sharing of ideas with colleagues, I can have a lasting impact. Through teaching, I can leave behind a kind of professional immortality—the things I teach will help generations to come."

His personal journey has profoundly shaped his career. Growing up in a family deeply impacted by anxiety and loss—he lost three brothers prematurely due to suicide, substance abuse, and cancer—Dr. Cash developed a personal mission to foster resilience, prevent substance abuse, and promote healthy family dynamics. These experiences fueled his desire to better understand the development of psychological issues and how to effectively treat them. His passion lies in exploring and sharing ideas about how people grow, how pathology emerges, and the science behind intervention.

Faculty Stoplight

DR. RALPH CASH

In his current role as Director of the doctoral program, his responsibilities have shifted significantly from his previous clinic leadership. “There’s a lot more paperwork and data,” he laughs. He’s now deeply involved in tracking program functioning—analyzing how students are progressing, mastering competencies, and what they’re doing after graduation. He also continues to teach several courses and shape the academic journey of future psychologists.

Outside the classroom, Dr. Cash loves to travel. Having visited nearly every corner of the globe, he proudly shares that he’s been to Antarctica—his seventh continent. He also enjoys hosting gatherings for students and faculty, singing karaoke, and simply soaking in the ocean view and city lights from his condo. China stands out as a favorite destination—he traveled there with an educational focus to observe schools and clinics and was deeply moved by the country’s long history and vibrant culture. If he had to describe himself in three words, Dr. Cash would choose: intelligent, capable, and caring. To his younger self, he’d say: “The anxiety will go away. Lighten up and enjoy life.” When it comes to self-care, Dr. Cash keeps it simple but effective. He exercises regularly, eats one meal a day, and ensures he gets at least 6 ½ hours of sleep. He surrounds himself with energetic, vital people—a key to staying young at heart. In addition, when asked what superpower he’d choose, he answered without hesitation: the ability to fly. And his advice to students? “Don’t wait until graduation to live. Life is a journey—enjoy the ride.”

He believes school psychology is a beautiful profession when approached with both a scientific mind and an artistic heart. “When you blend the two, it becomes something truly special.”

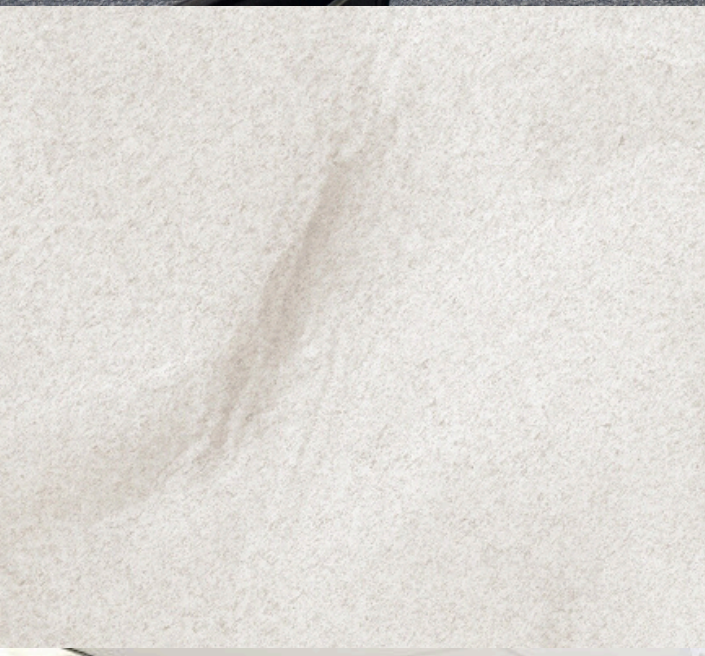
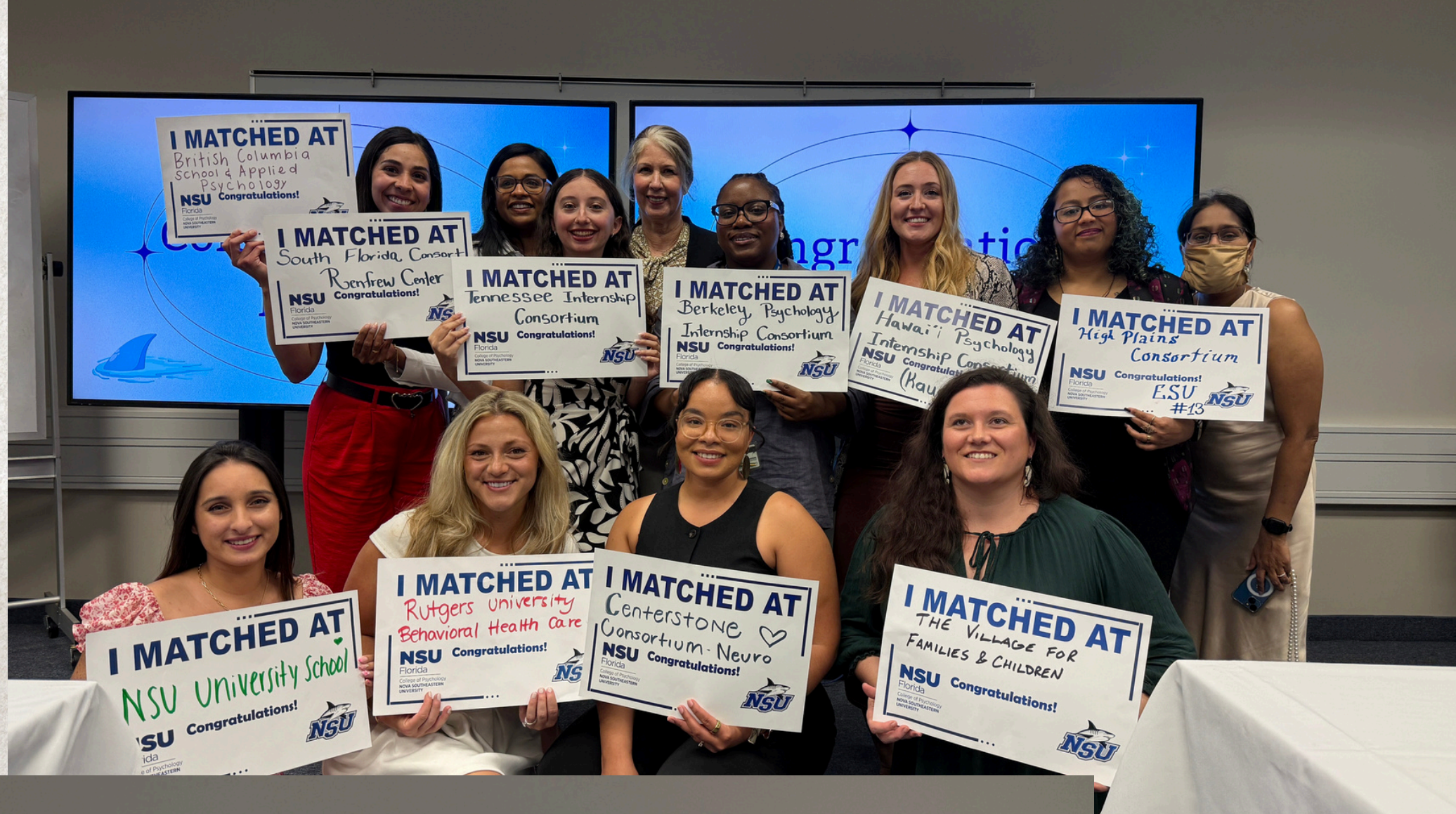
A MESSAGE TO THE STUDENTS

“Thank you. Without you, I wouldn’t have a job or a career.”





A Glimpse into Our Social Events...



A Glimpse into Our Social Events...

Saving Money in Graduate School!



Utilize Student Discounts at Local Eateries

Many local restaurants offer discounts to students with a valid student ID:

1

- Fresh Kitchen: 10% off with NSU ID
- Blaze Pizza: 15% off in-restaurant with NSU ID
- Shin Ju Japanese Buffet: 15% off with SharkCard
- Ye Olde Falcon Pub: 15% off with SharkCard

2

Take Advantage of Free and Discounted Transportation

- Shark Shuttle: Free for NSU students, providing transportation around campus and to nearby locations
- Tri-Rail: Offers a 50% discount on fares with a student EASY Card
- Broward County Transit (BCT): Provides a 31-day college bus pass for \$50 with valid student ID

3

Find Affordable Housing Options

Explore student-friendly housing near campus:

- University Pointe: Offers co-living spaces tailored for students
- Courtyards at Davie: Student apartments with various floor plans
- Solle Davie Luxury Apartments: Offers special rates for students

Saving Money in Graduate School!



Utilize Campus Health and Wellness Services

4

- NSU Health Clinics: Provide medical, dental, and psychological services at reduced rates for students
- Campus Fitness Centers: Free access to gym facilities and fitness classes

Access Free Campus Resources

5

- Alvin Sherman Library: Offers free access to books, study spaces, and events

Apply for On-Campus Employment

6

- Graduate Assistantships: Offer stipends and tuition waivers
- Campus Jobs: Flexible part-time positions in various departments

Scan QR Codes for More Student Discounts:

