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Director of Graduate Studies
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RESEARCH AGENDA

Dr. Smith is a developmental psychologist with expertise in school-based prevention in middle and high schools. Her primary research interests lie at the intersection of schools and juvenile justice systems - the school-to-prison pipeline, juvenile justice, restorative justice, and access to mental health resources. Her research is concerned with maximizing youth and young adult potential through the use of evidence-based research. Most recently, Dr. Smith has been awarded a large grant to collaborate with Utah's public institutions of higher education to develop student-led coalitions to improve mental health and decrease substance misuse among college students.

Professionally, she is a Board Member for the National Prevention Science Coalition. Dr. Smith advocates for socially just and equitable policies and practices in PK-12 schools and other youth-serving agencies.

KEY WORDS: school-based prevention, prevention research, juvenile justice, risk and protective factors, restorative justice

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Jan 2024-present	Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Educational Leadership & Policy, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT
July 2009-present	Associate Professor, Department of Educational Leadership & Policy, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT
Aug 2018 – Jun 2020	Interim Associate Vice President, Office of Equity and Diversity, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT
July 2010-Jun 2013	Chair, Department of Educational Leadership & Policy, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT
July 2007-Jun 2013	Executive Director, Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Center for Community of Caring
July 2007-Jun 2009	Associate Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning, College of Education, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT
July 2007	Associate Professor, Family & Consumer Studies Department, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT

- Aug 99 – Jun 2007 Assistant Professor, Family and Consumer Studies Department,
University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT
- Mar - Aug 1999 National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA) Post-Doctoral Research
Associate. Health Research & Policy Centers, University of Illinois
at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois. PI: Brian Flay, D.Phil.

EDUCATION

- May 1999 Ph.D., Developmental Psychology
The University of Illinois Chicago, Illinois
Minor Area: Educational Psychology
Thesis: Parental influences for youth violence involvement
Chair: Roger P. Weissberg, Ph.D.
- May 1995 M.A., Developmental Psychology
The University of Illinois Chicago, Illinois
Thesis: Toward an ecologically valid stress scale for urban, low-income
African-American children.
Chair: Robert J. Jagers, Ph.D.
- June 1988 M.A., Organizational Psychology
The University of Chicago Chicago, Illinois
Thesis: Expectancy Theory: A theoretical model with potential for the
inculcation of corporate success in minorities
Chair: John Humpal, Ph.D.
- May 1987 B.S., Human Development and Family Studies
Cornell University Ithaca, NY
Research Advisor: Urie Bronfenbrenner, Ph.D.

SCIENTIFIC AND ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

Debnam, K. J., Rodgers, C. R. R., & **Smith, P.** (2024). Guest Editors, Special Issue:
Advancing Health Equity among Black Communities, *Prevention Science*, 25(1).

Committee Member, National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, & Medicine. *Blueprint
for a National Prevention Infrastructure for Behavioral Health Disorders.* (Dec
2023-present).

PUBLICATIONS

Publications in Refereed Journals

Krull, M., Smith, W. A., Hung, M., Leer, J., & **Smith, P.** (forthcoming). The impact of racial battle fatigue on school principals: Examining the stress-related disparities between White and Black leaders. *Journal for Minority Achievement, Creativity, and Leadership*.

Debnam, K.J., Rodgers, C.R.R. & **Smith, P.** (2024). Introduction to special issue on advancing health equity among Black communities. *Prevention Science*, 25(1), 1–5, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11121-023-01622-1>

Summers-Gabr, N.M., Sato, M., Chilenski, S.M., Villarruel, F., **Smith, P.**, Henderson, C., Newell, J., Wilson, H., & Craig, A. (2024). Discriminatory experiences among Black youth: How encounters and expectations explain emotional well-being. *Prevention Science*, 25(1), 31–43. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11121-023-01540-2>

Smith, P. (2019). A qualitative examination of the self-medicating hypothesis among female juvenile offenders. *Women & Criminal Justice*, 29(1), 14-31, doi: 10.1080/08974454.2017.1377673.

Smith, P. (2017). Girls in traditional and gender responsive juvenile justice placements. *Women & Criminal Justice*, 27(5), 302-326. doi:10.1080/08974454.2016.1250699.

Kumpfer, K. L., **Smith, P.**, & Franklin Summerhays, J.* (2008). A wake-up call to the prevention field: Are prevention programs for substance use effective for girls? *Substance Use and Misuse*, 43(8-9), 978–1001. *student

Smith, P. & Smith, W. A. (2005). Experiencing community through the eyes of young female offenders. *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice*, 21(4), 364-385.

Eddy, J. M., **Smith, P.**, Brown, C. H., & Reid, J. B. (2005). A survey of prevention science training: Implications for educating the next generation. *Prevention Science*, 6(1), 59-71.

Kumpfer, K. L., Alvarado, R., **Smith, P.**, & Bellamy, N.* (2002). Cultural sensitivity and adaptation in family-based prevention interventions. *Prevention Science*, 3(3), 239-244. *student

Eddy, J. M., Martinez, C., Morgan-Lopez, A., **Smith, P.**, & Fisher, P. (2002). Diversifying the ranks of prevention scientists through a community collaborative approach to education. *Prevention and Treatment*, Vol. 5, Article3.

Smith, P., Flay, B. R., Bell, C. C., & Weissberg, R. P. (2001). The protective influence of parents and peers in violence avoidance among African-American youth. *Maternal and Child Health Journal*, 5(4), 245-252.

Jagers, R. J., **Smith, P.**, Mock, L. O., & Dill, E. (1997). An Afro-cultural social ethos: Component orientations and some social implications. *Journal of Black Psychology*, 23(4), 328-343.

Jagers, R. J., & **Smith, P.** (1996). A further examination of the spirituality scale. *Journal of Black Psychology*, 22(4), 429-442.

Policy Briefs

Terrell, S. *, & **Smith, P.** (2021, February) School resource officers and racial disparities in school discipline and juvenile justice referrals. Prepared for the National Prevention Science Coalition to Improve Lives. *student
<https://www.npscoalition.org/post/school-resource-officers-and-racial-disparities-in-school-discipline-and-juvenile-justice-referrals>

Smith, P. Larson, J., & Scott, T.* (2017, February) *High quality early childhood education: Good for children, good for the economy*. Prepared for Senator Lamar Alexander (R-TN). *student
<https://www.npscoalition.org/post/high-quality-early-education-good-for-children-good-for-the-economy>

Book Chapter Publications

Smith, P. (forthcoming). My experiences with doctoral socialization and a challenge to future mentors of diverse doctoral students. In Eddy, J. M. & Haggerty, K. P. (Eds.) *Handbook of Professional Youth Mentoring*. Springer Nature.

Smith, P. & Brown, A. M. (2022). Leading restorative justice efforts for equity in secondary schools. In R. Shankar Brown (Ed.), *Re-Envisioning Education: Affirming Diversity and Advancing Justice* (pp.99-122). Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing.

Pasupathi, M., & **Smith, P.** (2021). Revenge, Justice Systems, and Institutional Trust in Schools: Narrative Considerations. In H. Recchia & C. Wainryb (Eds.), *Revenge across Childhood and Adolescence* (pp. 218-246). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi:10.1017/978108776684.009

Kumpfer, K.L., & **Smith, P.** (2010). Prevention methods: School, family, community, media and public policy approaches. In N. S. Miller & M. S. Gold (Eds.), *Addictive Disorders in Medical Populations* (pp. 73-95). West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.

Smith, P. (2007). The Case of Nathaniel Brazil. In L.L. Finley (Ed.). *Encyclopedia of Juvenile Violence* (pp. 22-24). Westport, CT: Greenwood Publishing Group.

Kumpfer, K., **Smith, P.**, & Alvarado, R. (2005). Drug abuse prevention: Tools and programs. In R.H. Coombs (Ed.), *Addiction Counseling Review* (pp. 467-486). Mahwah, New Jersey: Erlbaum Associates.

Smith, P. (2004). Violence prevention. In N. B. Anderson (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Health and Behavior* (pp. 807-809). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Research and Evaluation Reports

Smith, P. (2018). Evaluation of iChamps: A program engaging K-8th grade youth and police officers in relationship building through physical activity.

Smith, P. & Loebach, P.* (2011). *Youth violence and positive youth outcomes*. Report commissioned by the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *student

Smith, P. & Smith, W. A. (2006). *Planned Parenthood Association of Utah: Men's Health Initiative*. Commissioned by PPAU to improve their understanding and outreach efforts to teen, young adult, racially diverse, and gay/bisexual men in Utah.

Op-Ed Publications

Smith, P. (2019, November 17). Utah's mental health needs include more for prevention. <https://www.sltrib.com/opinion/commentary/2019/11/17/paula-smith-utahs-mental/>

Invited Presentations

Smith, P. (2022, October 18). Primary prevention, cross-agency collaboration, and the role of public-private partnerships to promote youth mental health. Presented at the National Governor's Association Chair's Initiative: Strengthening Youth Mental Health. Salt Lake City, UT.

Smith, P. (2022, September 12). Partners, Prevention, and Progress. Presented at the Principles of Prevention Conference. St. George, UT

Selected Refereed Presentations

Smith, P., Prospero, M., Knight, M., Hood, A., Andreasen, R., Thorn, L., Jenkins, C., Rees, D., Withers, M. & Dangerfield, R. (2021, October). Youth suicide prevention: A collaborative effort between state education, health, school districts, and a University evaluation team. Presented at the 2021 Annual Conference on Advancing School Mental Health.

Acosta, C., Jones, B., MacKay, B., Mekrut, C., Nguyen, C. & **Smith, P.** (2021, March).

- Restorative justice collaborative of Utah (RJCUC): Advocacy for juvenile and criminal justice involved individuals: Opportunities and barriers. Refereed presentation at Utah Council on Conflict Resolution, Salt Lake City, UT.
- Acosta, C., MacKay, B., Mekrut, C., Ross, C., & **Smith, P.** (2019, September). Implementation of restorative justice in juvenile and criminal justice settings: Opportunities and barriers. Refereed presentation at Utah Criminal Justice Conference, Salt Lake City, UT.
- Smith, P.** & Bosworth, L. K. (2019, May). Prevention in High Schools Dialogue: Leadership, Restorative Justice, PBIS, Student Assistance Programs, and Others. Facilitated Dialogue at the Society for Prevention Research Annual Conference in San Francisco, CA.
- Smith, P.**, Smith, W. A., & Parker, L. (2019, April). Black graduate education in a “post-truth” era: Preliminary results of a multifaceted initiative for African American doctoral students. Presented at the American Educational Research Association conference, Toronto, Canada.
- Smith, P.** (2016, May). Female juvenile offenders in traditional and gender responsive programming. Presented at the Society for Prevention Research Conference, San Francisco, CA.
- Smith, P.** (2006, November). Developing a female-specific risk assessment tool. Presentation at the American Society of Criminology Annual Conference. Los Angeles, CA.
- Smith, P.** (chair), Leve, L. D., Russell, C. M., & Miller-Johnson, S. (2005, May). Girls and the Juvenile Justice System: Examining mental health, education and treatment issues. Symposium presented at the Thirteenth Annual Conference of the Society for Prevention Research. Washington, D.C.
- Smith, P.** (2004, March). Female juvenile offenders: Risk and resiliency. Presented at the Tenth Biennial Conference of the Society for Research on Adolescence. Baltimore, MD.
- Smith, P.** (2003, June). Female juvenile offenders: Etiology and treatment. Presented at the Eleventh Annual Conference of the Society for Prevention Research. Washington, D.C.
- Smith, P.** & Flay, B. R. (2003, June). Normative sexual development of African-American youth. Poster presentation at the Eleventh Annual Conference of the Society for Prevention Research. Washington, D.C.

Kumpfer, K. L., **Smith, P.** & Alvarado, R. (2001, October). A wake-up call to the prevention field: Are prevention programs working for girls? Paper presented at the American Psychological Association's Women's Conference.

Smith, P. (2001, May). Complexities of the female juvenile offender. Presented at the Ninth Annual Conference of the Society for Prevention Research. Washington, D.C.

GRANT ACTIVITIES

Recent Awarded Grants/Contracts

Smith, P. (PI). Communities that Care (CTC) Prevention Coalitions in Public Higher Education in Utah. (July 2023-September 2025) Implementing and evaluating the Communities that Care model in Utah's public higher education institutions. \$910,000 direct costs – 10% IDC.

Smith, P. (PI). Communities that Care (CTC) Prevention Coalitions in Public Higher Education in Utah. (2022) Developing the higher education infrastructure for prevention in the state of Utah. \$750,000 direct costs – 10% IDC.

Smith, P. (PI). Strategic prevention research in Utah. (2021) Disparities in prevention for underserved populations. \$40,000 direct costs.

Smith, P. (PI). Evaluation of a mental health intervention in 3 school districts. (2019-2023). \$500,000 direct costs – 6% IDC.

Smith, P. (PI), Smith, W. A., & Parker, L. (co-PIs). African American Doctoral Scholars Initiative (2018-2021). \$247,500 direct costs); \$75,000 in-kind salary for coordinator.

Smith, P. (PI), Parker, L., & Smith, W. A. (co-PIs). Eccles Foundation (2015-2018). African American Doctoral Scholars Pipeline Initiative. \$70,000 (direct costs); \$50,000 in-kind salary for post-doctoral scholar (College of Education).

REVIEWER ACTIVITIES

Peer-Reviewed Journals

2018-present	Review of Educational Research
2016-present	Women & Criminal Justice
2014-present	American Educational Research Journal
1999-present	Prevention Science
2000-2010	American Journal of Public Health
2001-2007	Maternal and Child Health Journal
2002-2008	Journal of Health and Social Behavior
2005-2007	Child Development

2005-2009 Feminist Criminology
2008-2009 Sociological Forum

Conferences

1998-present Annual Meeting of the Society for Prevention Research

Grant Proposals

2018-present WT Grant Foundation
2019-2022 Ford Foundation Diversity Fellowships
2001-2009 University Research Committee, University of Utah
2005-2007 Ford Foundation Diversity Pre-Doctoral Fellowships

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

MASTER'S AND DOCTORAL LEVEL COURSES

Master's Level: Professional Learning Communities, F14-17, F20-21, F23
University of Utah, Department of Educational Leadership & Policy
Master's Level: Systems of Student Support, F20, F21
University of Utah, Department of Educational Leadership & Policy
Master's Level: Comm. Engaged Partnerships, S16, Su16, S16, S17, S18
University of Utah, Department of Educational Leadership & Policy
Master's Level: Organizational Change, S15, S16, S17, F17
University of Utah, Department of Educational Leadership & Policy
Doctoral Level: Restorative Justice in PK-12 Schools, S18, F20
University of Utah, Department of Educational Leadership & Policy
Doctoral Level: Advanced Qualitative Research Methods, S22
University of Utah, Department of Educational Leadership & Policy
Doctoral Level: Community Engaged Partnerships, Su16
University of Utah, Department of Educational Leadership & Policy
Doctoral Level: Organizational Change, F17
University of Utah, Department of Educational Leadership & Policy

STUDENT COMMITTEES

<u>ROLE</u>	<u>STUDENT</u>	<u>LEVEL</u>	<u>DATE COMPLETED</u>
Chair	J. Janell Cerva	Doctoral Thesis	
Chair	Cathy Davis	Doctoral Thesis	
Chair	Cuong Nguyen	Doctoral Thesis	
Chair	Celina Poppe	Ed. D. Capstone	
Member	Tiffany Tuck	Ed.D. Capstone	
Member	Marjean Nielsen	Qualifying Exam	
Chair	Shenrui Yang	Doctoral Thesis	2023
Member	Misty McIntyre	Doctoral Thesis (Soc Work)	2023
Chair	Angela Choberka	Ed.D. Capstone	DNF
Chair	Mariana Ramiro Gomez	Qualifying Exam	On-Leave
Chair	Sydney Phillips	Ed.D. Capstone	2021
Chair	Shenrui Yang	Qualifying Exam	2021
Member	Michaela Mozley	Doctoral Thesis (Psych)	2021
Chair	Willie Chen	Qualifying Exam	2021
Member	Jessica Duquette	Capstone (Occ Therapy)	2021
Member	R. Shawn Coon	Doctoral Thesis	2021
Member	April Reynolds	Ed.D. Capstone	2020
Member	Vanessa Jordan	Ed.D. Capstone	2020
Member	Matt Watts & MacKay Robinson	Joint Ed.D. Capstone	2020
Member	Lucybel Mendez	Qualifying Exam	2020
Member	Guy Johnson	Ed.D. Capstone	2020
Member	R. Shawn Coon	Qualifying Exam	2020
Chair	Jamie Leite	Ed.D. Capstone	2019
Chair	Lauren VandenBirge	Ed.D. Capstone	2019
Member	Jill Landes-Lee	Ed.D. Capstone	2019
Member	Shawn Healey	Ed.D. Capstone	2019
Member	Ana Rodriguez	Ed.D. Capstone	2019
Member	Claustina Mahon Reynolds	Ed.D. Capstone	2019
Member	Brenda Staples	Ed.D. Capstone	2019
Member	Marni Davis	Ed.D. Capstone	2018
Member	Michaela Mozley	Qualifying Exam (Psych)	2018
Chair	J. Janell Fluckiger	Qualifying Exam	2018
Chair	Sonia Parker	Ed.D. Capstone	2016
Member	Kathleen Christy	Doctoral Thesis (ECS)	2016
Member	Ashley McKinney	Doctoral Thesis	2015
Member	Kyle Bybee	Ed.D. Capstone	2014
Chair	Sandra Buendia	Ed.D. Capstone	2013
Member	Jaime Lee Hinsz	Capstone Project (MPA)	2013
Chair	Greg Hudnall	Ed.D. Capstone	2012
Chair	Taran Chun	Ed.D. Capstone	2012
Member	Jennifer Allie	Doctoral Thesis	2012

Member	Thomas Quinn	Master's Thesis (Psych)	2012
Chair	Norma Jean Remington	Ed.D. Capstone	2011
Member	Julie Swaner	Doctoral Thesis	2011
Member	JoEllen Shaeffer	Ed.D. Capstone	2010
Member	Rosemary Capps	Doctoral Thesis	2010
Chair	Laurie Ramirez	Doctoral Thesis (TL)	2009
Chair	Matthew Hollibush	Doctoral Thesis (TL)	2009
Chair	Katherine Fife	Master's Thesis (FCS)	2007
Member	Julie Carmalt	Master's Thesis (FCS)	2004

HONORS AND AWARDS

2023	Service to SPR Award, Society for Prevention Research
2023	Founder's Award, Black Faculty & Staff Association, Univ of Utah
2021	Superior Service Award, College of Education
2021	Maya Angelou Award for Innovation, Black Faculty & Staff Association University of Utah
2021	Excellence in Service, Black Cultural Center, University of Utah
2018	Excellence in Service to the Black Student Community, Black Student Union, University of Utah
2015	Community Servant Award, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.
2007	Excellence in Early Career Teaching Award, University of Utah
2006	Excellence in Teaching Award, Kappa Omicron Nu Honor Society

SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Professional Service

2023-present	Senator, Faculty Senate University of Utah
2021-present	Utah State Board of Education, Youth Drug Prevention Taskforce
2018-present	Member, Restorative Justice Collaborative of Utah
2018-present	Advisory Board, Utah Prison Education Project
2018-present	Board Member, National Prevention Science Coalition (non-partisan policy outreach)
2016-present	Member, National Prevention Science Coalition (non-partisan policy outreach)
2016-present	Black Faculty & Staff Association, University of Utah (faculty co-chair, 2020-2022)
2010-present	Member, Diversity Network Committee, Society for Prevention Research (Founding Member; Past-Chair, Membership, Diversity Symposium, & Scholarships)
2020-2023	Board Member, Society for Prevention Research
2021-2023	Chair, Advocacy Committee Society for Prevention Research
2017-2021	Chair, Utah Prevention Research Group

2016-2019 Member, Evidence-Based Workgroup, Division of Mental Health and Substance Use, State of Utah

2017-2018 Member, College Executive Committee

2016-2018 Member, Utah Opportunity Scholars Scholarship Committee

2016-2018 Member, College Awards Committee, College of Education

Spring 2016 Co-Chair, Search Committee Student Equity and Diversity Retention Coordinator

2015-2017 Chair, College of Education Retention, Promotion and Tenure Committee

2014-2016 Member, Salt Lake City School District College and Career Readiness Taskforce

2014-2015 Chair, Teaching and Mentoring Committee for Auxiliary Faculty

2014-2015 Member, Grad Nation Education Summit (Chair, Youth Track)

2014-2015 Member, Search Committee, College of Education (IT Manager)

2012-2015 Primary Advisor, University of Utah Sigma Omicron Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

2010-2013 Member, College of Education Curriculum Committee

2010-2011 Member, Faculty Advisory Committee on Teacher Education (FACTE)

2007-2013 Member, College Leadership Team, College of Education

2008-2010 Member, Academic Senate, University of Utah

2009-2010 Chair, Retention, Promotion, and Tenure Committee, Department of Educational Leadership & Policy

2009-2010 Member, Search Committee, Educational Leadership & Policy

2008-2010 Member, Excellence in Teaching Committee, University of Utah

2008-2010 Member, College Executive Committee, College of Education

2007-2010 Member, Retention, Promotion, and Tenure Committee, College of Education

2004-2010 Member, Salt Lake City Mayor's Drug, Alcohol & Tobacco Coalition

2004-2010 Chair, Minority Scholarship Committee, Society for Prevention Research

2002-2004 Chair, Early Career Prevention Network (ECPN)

2002-2004 Board Member, ECPN Representative for Society for Prevention Research

Community Service

2009-present Troop Leader, Girl Scouts of Utah, Troop #2490

2005-2008 Parent Volunteer, Girl Scouts of Utah, Troop #2308

2004-2007 Presenter and Workshop Leader, Delta GEMS (young girls aged 14-18), Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

1998-2010 Member, Board of Regents. The Mercersburg Academy.

ASSOCIATIONS/MEMBERSHIPS

- 2009-present American Educational Research Association, Division E;
Social and Emotional Learning SIG; School Climate; Research on
Black Education SIGs
- 2007-present Association for School and Curriculum Development
- 2004-present Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Greater Salt Lake Alumnae
Chapter. (*Current: Voter Registration Lead; Physical and Mental
Health Committee Member; Scholarship Committee Member*).
Prior Positions: Economic Development Chair; Scholarship Chair;
Internal Audit Committee Chair; 1st Vice President; Collegiate
Advisor; Membership Intake Leader (2x); Financial Secretary;
Website Manager; Risk Management Coordinator; Delta Academy
& GEMS leader; Fundraising Chair)
- 1998-present Society for Prevention Research (Board Member, 2002-04; 20-23)
- 1994-2010 Early Career Prevention Network, Society for Prevention Research
(Co-Founder & Past-Chair 2002-2004)