

Volume 14, issue 1, 2019

Southeastern Journal of Psychology

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

**Fourteenth Annual Meeting
Georgia Psychological Society
Valdosta State University
Valdosta, Georgia**

Welcome to the

Georgia Psychological Society



Your conference registration provides the 2019 membership to the Georgia Psychological Society. The GPS was founded on the great need for professional communication and sharing among college faculty, professionals, and students of our region. Collaboration, communication, and mentorship are important to our mission to share Psychology with both members and non-members. As part of this mission, these proceedings and all articles published by the Georgia Psychological Society are freely available electronically in our Southeastern Journal of Psychology.

Conference and Membership Registration Rates for 2019:

- ◆ Regular member (Ph.D., Psy.D., Ed.D.) \$35.00*
- ◆ Professional member (M.A., M.S., Ed.S.) \$35.00*
- ◆ Students (graduate or undergraduate) \$25.00*

For more information, go to <http://gpsonline2017.weebly.com>

Contact information for conference committee:

Jennifer Andrews: Jennifer.Andrews@morehouse.edu
Christopher Downing: cdowning@valdosta.edu
Heather Kelley: hkelley@valdosta.edu
Charles Talor: crtalor@valdosta.edu
Dan Webster: dwebster@georgiasouthern.edu

*Conference and membership rates are discounted for early bird registration.

SOUTHEASTERN JOURNAL OF PSYCHOLOGY

A publication of the Georgia Psychological Society

Georgia Psychological Society

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2019 Conference Coordinators

Coordinator.....Jennifer Andrews, PhD, *Department of Psychology, Morehouse College*
Coordinator.....Christopher Downing, PhD, *Department of Psychology, Counseling, and Family Therapy, Valdosta State University*
Coordinator.....Heather Kelley, PhD, *Department of Psychology, Counseling, and Family Therapy, Valdosta State University*
Coordinator.....Charles R. Talor, PhD, *Department of Psychology, Counseling, and Family Therapy, Valdosta State University*
Coordinator.....Dan Webster, PhD, *Department of Psychology, Georgia Southern University*

Regional Representatives

Northern Georgia Region, Katherine Wiegand, kwiegand@gmail.com, *North Georgia Region*.^{*}
East Central Georgia, Daniel Webster at dwebster@georgiasouthern.edu, *Georgia Southern University*^{*}
Southwest Georgia, Mark Thomas, mark.thomas@asurams.edu, *Albany State University*^{**}
South Georgia, Christopher Downing at cdowning@valdosta.edu, *Valdosta State University*^{**}

GPS Psi Chi Coordinator

Heather Kelley, hkelley@valdosta.edu, *Valdosta State University*^{*}

Current terms:

^{*}2018-2020

^{**}2019-2021

REGISTRATION

Registrations will be taken in the main lobby of the STEAM CENTER, Valdosta State University, Valdosta, Georgia, from 8:00 am to 10:00 am Saturday, April 27, 2019. Conference registrations include 2019 membership in the Georgia Psychological Society for \$35.00* for faculty (doctoral level) and professionals (master's level), and \$25.00* for students (undergraduate and graduate levels).

* Early registration is discounted to \$30.00 for faculty and professionals, and \$20.00 for students.

GENERAL INFORMATION

A campus map showing the STEAM CENTER Building and parking areas are shown on page iv. Driving directions and map to Valdosta State University are also shown on page iv. Lunch is provided with conference registration. Lunch will be catered. Registration nametags are required for lunch and participation in the conference. Non-students, spouses and relatives (up to four people) of a registered conference attendee may register for a special rate of \$10.00 (each person) for talks, and access to snacks, coffee, and lunch.

INTEREST GROUPS

The Georgia Psychological Society sponsors Special Interest Groups to facilitate member discussion and collaboration. The interest groups and their missions are:

- (A) **Psi Chi and Honors Societies.** The Psi Chi and Honors group is intended to facilitate interactions among faculty and students throughout the year, including planning for the annual conference, making connections, and collaborations on projects. Main highlight of the interest group's activities is the annual conference and the Psi Chi Poster Session and Psi Chi sponsored talks. Interest group lead is Heather Kelley, hkelley@valdosta.edu
- (B) **Teaching of Psychology.** The Teaching of Psychology group is for those who teach undergraduate and graduate-level courses in psychology. Interest area topics include teaching techniques, research on student outcomes, and teaching learning strategies. Interest group lead is currently open.
- (C) **Identity and Career Development.** The Identity and Career Development group is interested in career interest choices of young adults, including declaring a major in college and recreational interests such as fandom in sports. Interest group lead is Charles Talor, crtalor@valdosta.edu
- (D) **Informal groups.** The Georgia Psychological Society encourages members to form collaborations in research, teaching and service. When a group develops enough interest, it can form a formal interest group. Currently, interest groups need a chairperson plus 5 members to form.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Georgia Psychological Society is pleased to acknowledge the following universities, colleges and members and their affiliations in their support for our organization and for our 13th annual meeting.

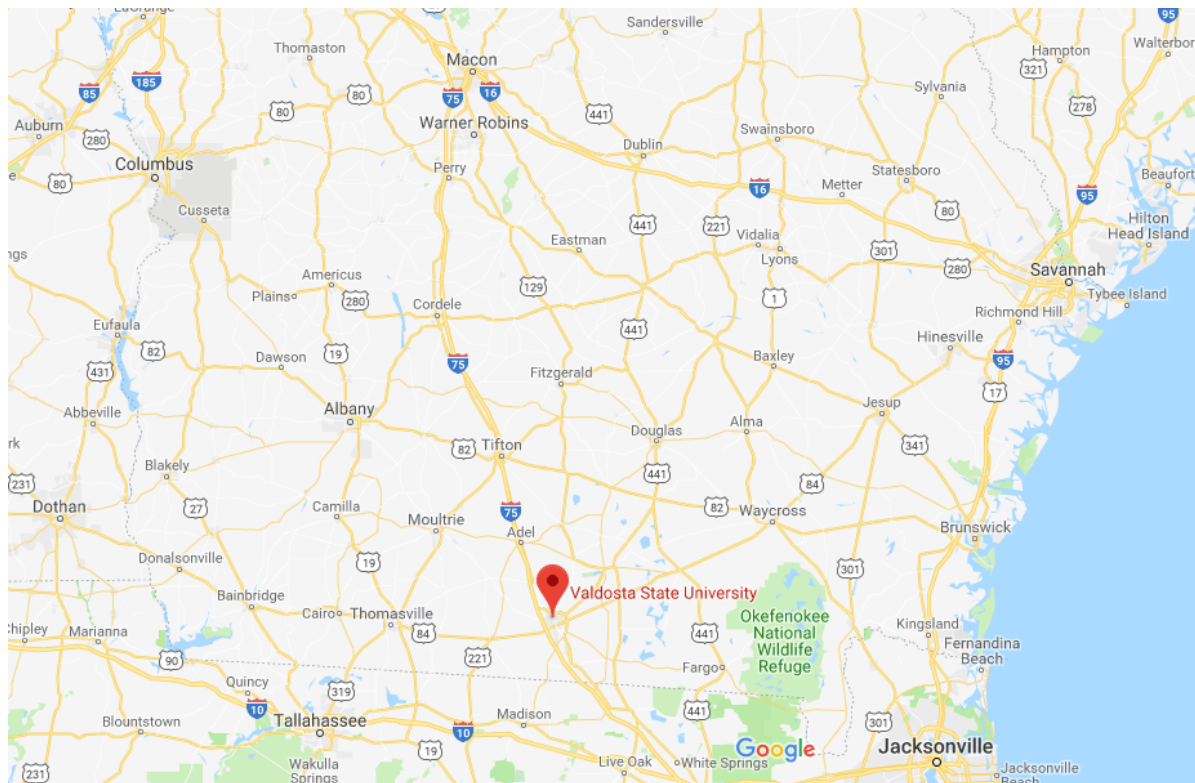
1. Valdosta State University, host of the 14th annual meeting
2. Department of Psychology, Counseling and Family Therapy, Valdosta State University, host of the 14th annual meeting
3. Department of Psychology, Counseling, and Family Therapy, Valdosta State University
4. College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Valdosta State University
5. Honors College, Valdosta State University.
6. Dan Webster, PhD, reviewer and conference co-coordinator, Department of Psychology, Georgia Southern University
7. Jennifer Andrews, PhD, reviewer and conference co-coordinator, Department of Psychology, Morehouse College.
8. Heather Kelley, reviewer and conference co-coordinator, Department of Psychology, Counseling, and Family Therapy, Valdosta State University
9. Charles R. Talor, PhD, reviewer and conference co-coordinator, Department of Psychology, Counseling, and Family Therapy, Valdosta State University
10. And 3 anonymous reviewers

Thank you.

Campus of Valdosta State University



The fourteenth annual meeting of the Georgia Psychological Society will be held in the on the campus of Valdosta State University in Valdosta , Georgia. Meetings will be held at the STEAM CENTER , and lunch will be catered. Free parking is available behind the STEAM CENTER.



14th annual meeting of the Georgia Psychological Society

Saturday, April 27, 2019

Valdosta State University, Valdosta Georgia

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Proceedings of the Fourteenth Annual Meeting of the Georgia Psychological Society April 27, 2019

Onsite Registration

8:00 am—10:00 am

STEAM CENTER

Main Lobby

*Complimentary coffee and donuts to
10:30 am*

General Poster Session

8:45 — 9:45 am

STEAM CENTER

Main Lobby

Setup begins at 8:30 am

DePaola, R. P., DePaola, S., Pike, B., & Gray, A.
Thomas University, Pragmatic Speech Acts:
Condoling Using Social Media

Vocabulary, syntax, and culture govern speech acts to achieve a specific interactive purpose. Condolences represent a type of speech act that requires a speaker to express sorry over a loss to a listener. However, social media provides a new platform upon which to offer condolences. This study seeks to understand the pragmatic strategies used by Twitter users after a national tragedy to determine if those who post condolences use different methods of condoling than interlocutors

Pike, B., Gray, A., DePaola, S., & DePaola, R.
Thomas University LGBT Characterization: A
Content Analysis of Feature Films

Attitudes toward the LGBT community have change significantly over the last decade; While

some changes have occurred, main line media continues to represent LGBT characters in stereotypical ways. Several studies have examined the characterization of LGBT in prime-time television programming, but few have focused on how LGBT characters are portrayed in major featured films. The purpose of this study is to examine LGBT characterization in four award winning films released between 2015 and 2018.

Smith, A. J., Francois, B. L., Jackson, R. M., Whatley, M. A., Wasieleski, D. T., & Briehl, D. S. *Valdosta State University* Preliminary Validation of the Transgender Identity Attitudes Scale

Despite ample media attention directed toward the transgender community, scant research exists regarding others' attitudes toward diverse expressions of gender identity. We developed a 13-item transgender identity attitudes that exhibited outstanding internal consistency and a coefficient of variation considerably higher than similar scales. Concurrent validity was established through correlational analyses. Comparisons revealed females held more positive attitudes toward transgender identity compared to males. Further research investigating the construct validity of the scale is warranted.

Brown, P. P., Lovett, T., & Bennett, C. R. *Albany State University*. Skill Building Activities to Enhance Student Learning & Engagement in Introductory Classes.

Many students begin their higher educational journey lacking the necessary skills to navigate the college learning environment. This Poster presentation will introduce two creative skill building activities (Library Scavenger Hunt, In the News) or presentation modules (How Do I Do This?) currently being used in introductory psychology and sociology courses. The activities have been constructed for use within an online or in face-to-face class, and work toward promoting a more equitable educational experience for students.

Talor, C. R., & Kelley, H. M. *Valdosta State University*. Texting during lecture as a function of college student age.

At the conclusion of lecture, college students completed surveys on cell phone use, including the last time they sent and received a text message. Participants were 102 students ranging in age from 18 to 40 years of age. Young and moderate aged adults sent and received significantly more text messages during class than older students (more than 24 years of age). Texting during lecture is known to be disruptive to learning. Implications will be discussed.

Ray, A. V., & Yankovskyy, S. *Valdosta State University*. The emotional aftermath of sexual harassment and assault.

This paper examines the emotional impact women face following their experience with sexual harassment and assault. Original research was conducted in the spring of 2019 using a mixed methods approach. Social media was used as a vehicle to locate women to participate in an online survey, with some participants completing follow up structured interviews. These women came from diverse ethnic backgrounds, ages, and social classes. Participants were asked questions about their experiences, as well as the impact these experiences have had on their lives. The goal of this research is to better understand how sexual harassment and assault can leave emotional scarring long after the initial experience”

Everett, M., & LaPlant, J. *Valdosta State University*. Mass incarceration in the United States: What factors predict the incarceration rate across the 50 states?

This study examines the demographic, economic, and political predictors of the incarceration rate across the 50 states. The rising rate of incarceration across the United States has captured the attention of the public as well as politicians. Given the cost to society and taxpayers, states are looking at a variety of prison reform proposals to alleviate high incarceration rates. However, with the reform proposals and movements, prisons are still over capacitated. This study analysed six independent variables: region, percentage of the population within each state that has attained a bachelor's degree, per capita income, unemployment rates, the support for President Trump in each state, and the violent crime rate. The relationships between these variables and incarceration rates were analyzed through regression and

analysis of variance. Out of the six independent variables, all were statistically significant.

Percentage bachelor's degree and per capita income had a negative relationship with incarceration rates, while unemployment rates, support for President Trump, and violent crime rate had a positive relationship. Region revealed that the South has a much higher incarceration rate, and the North East has the lowest. The results of this study highlight the key predictors of incarceration rates which can inform public policy debates for how to address mass incarceration rates in the United States.

Marciano, D. L. *Valdosta State University*. Reduce stress with a picture book and a simple App.

Teaching is one of the most stressful professions. This is not a phenomenon unique to one country or grade level, as demonstrated by recent research specific to teacher stress and its impact on students conducted in public universities and/or with teachers in Pakistan, Greece, Canada, Romania, and the United States.

Stress, unfortunately, comes from a myriad of sources; preparation, the quality of our students' work, countless meetings and additional responsibilities outside of the classroom. Since the future of education is in our hands, we have a moral obligation to be excellent teachers. That also means protecting ourselves and our students from the harmful effects of excessive and continuous stress. Studies present suggestions to increase mindfulness and stress reduction techniques. Following the reading of a children's picture book, *Quiet*, readers may feel a peaceful awareness of presence. Following the read aloud, I introduced the app, *ChatterPix**,. This technology tool can be customized for teachers and students at any age level on any mobile device.

Eichler, K., & Talor, C. R. *Valdosta State University*. Five-factor theory and ratings of people who attend Cosplay events

Psychological aspects of the motivations and interests of people who participate in fan activities has been studied for decades (e.g. McCardle, 2003; Pearson, 2010; Rosenberg & Letamendi, 2013), though there are relatively few scientific studies of how the general public view such fans. The present study was con-

ducted to assess personality factors and Cosplay participants.

Oliveira, A., Eichler, K., Min, J., Allen, M., & Talor, C. R. *Valdosta State University*, Variations in endorsement of learning styles by college faculty.

Fleming and Mills (1992) proposed a VARK model of human learning, in which people can most easily acquire knowledge in primarily one of four domains of Visual modes, Aural modes, Read/Write modes, and Kinesthetic modes. The main idea was to maximize student learning by matching a learners' optimal mode of learning to information presented in faculty lectures and course materials. The present study surveyed and interviewed 36 randomly selected faculty on whether they used or endorsed learning styles in their college teaching. There was a substantial variation in college faculty endorsement. Issues concerning learning styles will be discussed.

Snider, D. S., Henderson, J. C., Rodefer, N. K., & Rodefer, J. S. *Valdosta State University*. Effects of caffeine and nicotine on exploratory behavior in domestic house crickets.

These experiments assessed whether crickets might serve as a model organism for the study of drug administration on behavior. Domestic house crickets (*Acheta domestica*) served as subjects in a series of experiments. We examined the effects of caffeine and nicotine, across a range of doses, on locomotor and learning behavior. Both drugs produced dose-dependent changes on behavior suggesting that crickets may be a suitable model organism for behavioral neuroscience experiments.

GRE WORKSHOP

Room 1013

GRE test preparation 9:00–10:00 am

Browning, C. & Kelley, H. M. *Valdosta State University*. GRE preparation assessment

This workshop provides a practice test for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) for both verbal and quantitative sections. This workshop is for students interested in getting some guidance on GRE test and feedback before paying the fees and taking the actual examination. The workshop consists of a brief overview of the test and actual test. Results of the practice testing will be graded and scores given back to participants at 2:15 pm meeting on preparation for graduate school workshop.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Room 1019

**Dr.
rell**



**Dar-
L.
Ross**

10:00–10:45 am

Darrell L. Ross, PhD, *Valdosta State University*, *Keynote Speaker*. Examining Perceptions and Misperceptions of Police Officers in Deadly Force Virtual Simulator Scenarios.

Darrell L. Ross, Ph.D., is a professor and department head for the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice at Valdosta State University, and is the Director of the Center of Applied Social Sciences (CASS). He obtained his doctorate degree at Michigan State University. Dr. Ross has been in higher education since 1985 teaching and being an administrator at four universities.

From 1973 to 1985 he worked for the MI Department of Corrections, working as a correction officer, Unit Manager/Supervisor of a psychiatric cell block confin-

ing 500 mentally impaired prisoners, worked as a probation officer, and worked as an academy instructor for the DOC.

Dr. Ross has performed research and has published over 100 journal articles, book chapters, and monographs, and 5 books on the police use of force, arrest related deaths, human factors and officer perceptions on using lethal force, investigating officer involved shootings and arrest-related deaths, and civil liability issues in criminal justice.

Dr. Ross regularly provides training to police and correction officers, military personnel, instructors, and command personnel on the use of force and human factors issues, arrest-related deaths and deaths in custody, use of force investigations, and civil liability. He routinely provides consulting services and expert witness testimony in civil and criminal courts on these topics.

Selected Publications

- Ross, D.L. (2018, May). *Civil Liability Issues in Criminal Justice*, 7th ed. Routledge Publishers, NY.
- Ross, D.L. (2018, March). Assessing deadly force liability decisions and human factors research. *ILEETA Journal*, 8 (1): 35-38.
- Ross, D.L. & Vilke, G.M. (2017, July). *Guidelines for investigating, officer involved shootings, arrest related deaths and custodial deaths*. Taylor & Francis/Routledge Publisher, NY.
- Sergevnin, V. & Ross D. L. (2016). Prevention and Training. In Eds. M. J. Palmiotto, *Police Use of Force: Important Issues Facing the Police and the Communities They Serve*, (Chapter 10: 169-184), CRC Press, Taylor and Francis Publisher, NY.
- Ross, D.L. (2013). Assessing Lethal Force Liability Decisions and Human Factors Research, *Journal of Law Enforcement Executive Forum*, 13: 85-107.
- Sergevnin, V. & Ross D.L (2012). Best Practices in Police Use of Force Training, *Journal of Law Enforcement Executive Forum*, 2: 146-157.
- Ross D.L., Murphy R. L. & Hazlett M.H. (2012). Analyzing Perceptions and Misperceptions of Police Officers in Lethal Force Virtual Simulator Scenarios. *Journal of Law Enforcement Executive Forum*, 3: 53-73.
- Murphy R.L. & Ross D. L. (2009). Virtual Training Systems and Survival Humanistic Factors Research Study. Proceedings, *Interservice/Industry Training Simulation and Education Conference*, 1-10.
- Ross D.L. & Siddle B.K. (2003). The Impact of Survival Stress in Police Use of Force Encounters. *Journal of Law Enforcement Executive Forum*, 3: 9-25.

Paper Session 1 **10:55 am—11:25 am**

SYMPOSIUM **Voluntary Segregation**

Room 1019

Aiello, T. *Valdosta State University*. A history of segregation in the United States.

Talor, C. R. *Valdosta State University*. Voluntary segregation on campus is related to crowded seating.

Talor, C. R. *Valdosta State University*. Reasons for seating in a common cafeteria area on a college campus.

Voluntary segregation is the nonrandom assortment of people into groups based on member characteristics, such as race, gender and age. Observed by sociologists and psychologists over the decades a number of different explanations have been proposed as a mechanism driving this behavior. This symposium explores the history of voluntary segregation followed by two studies exploring this phenomena on a college campus.

Paper Session 2 **11:35 am—12:15 pm**

Applied Processes **Room 1019**

Webster, D. G., & Klibert, J. *Georgia Southern University*. Using SOSA to assess self-discrepancy.

Participants used SOSA to provide objective data about self-discrepancies in four domains (Family, Work, Social and Academic) through recording Actual and Ought self-distances from Ideal self. Results suggest SOSA may be a valid measure to assess discrepancies among the self. Specifically, different discrepancies (i.e., actual vs. ideal) were positively related to all four domains of suicide, consistent with theory.

DePaola, S., DePaola, R., Pike, B., Gray, A., Lamb, M., Lamb, J., Jones, L., & Jones, C. *Thomas University*. Hidden victims of domestic abuse.

The importance of domestic violence in older women in the United States has been overlooked in the research literature. Researchers and advocates perceive domestic violence to be a problem for younger woman in our society. Bornstein (2006) argues that research clearly indicates that the frequency of partner abuse declines in middle and later adulthood. In fact, current research suggests that domestic violence

does not stop as these women grow older; however, it has been less visible. In the United States research indicates that more than 13,000 women over age 55 report cases of domestic violence. The purpose of this paper is to review existing research on older women of domestic violence, identify relevant social variables, and to discuss future directions for research.

Catered Lunch

STEAM CENTER MAIN LOBBY

Please present your name tag at the counter

12:15 – 1:15 pm

PSI CHI POSTER SESSION

Main Lobby Steam Center

Scott, A. R., & Thomas, M. D. *Albany State University*. The relationship between police officer uniform color and friendliness.

An officer's friendliness, or appearance of friendliness, may encourage or discourage approaching that officer. Police officer uniform color may contribute to an observer's perception of officer friendliness, which could affect approachability. The stimuli used were photographs of police officers wearing different colored uniforms (black, light blue, & tan), as well as photographs of different colored uniforms without people. It was assumed that light blue uniforms would be the friendliest uniform color among participant selection

Rubio, K. R., Salas, J., & Talor, C. R. *Valdosta State University*. Political affiliations and event participation.

Political affiliation and seeking information about a mix of liberal and conservative organizations and events (e.g. LGBTQ+ Pride, Gun ownership) was studied in 130 college students. Overall, individuals identified as liberal sought more information than moderate and conservative students, especially for liberal organizations and events. This may have been related to going to school in a conservative area of the state where there is a dearth of information and events for liberally oriented students.

Petrillo, S. G., & Talor, C. R. *Valdosta State University*. Dietary attitudes of college students: Relationships with race

This study measured the amount of general information students knew about a variety of diets such as the vegetarian, paleo, Mediterranean, and omnivorous diets, while also gauging attitudes toward said diets. Dietary habits form a complex array of motives and interests. For some, a restricted diet could be healthy, yet an over-restrictive diet could indicate an eating disorder or other Psychological issues, including depression.

Paper Session 3

1:55–2:25 pm

Military Families

Room 1019

Arrastia-Chisholm, M., Highsmith, J. W., Patel, K. S., & Mixon, K., *Valdosta State University*. Deployments to diplomas: Self-determination theory and military dependents.

Using self-determination theory, the academic motivation of college students from military families was examined. Interviews with 12 students were transcribed and coded using a theory-driven rubric to identify their needs for autonomy, competence, and relatedness. In addition, each case was analyzed for regulatory style (external, introjected, integrated, or identified). The need for relatedness was the most prevalent in the data and the majority of cases exhibited regulatory styles consistent with introjected motivation.

GRE WORKSHOP AND GRADUATE SCHOOL PREPARATION

GRE Workshop

Room 1013

Downing, C., & Kelley, H. M. *Valdosta State University*. GRE workshop findings and preparation for graduate school.

Results of morning testing are presented to participants for evaluation. A discussion on how to prepare for graduate school, obtaining letters of recommendation, and the importance of the GRE, grades and experiences in your application.

At a glance schedule of the fourteenth annual meeting of the Georgia Psychological Society, Valdosta, GA.

Saturday, April 27, 2019

Meeting locations: STEAM CENTER, Valdosta State University

8:30–10:30 am	Registration <i>Complimentary Coffee and donuts</i>	Main Lobby
8:45 –9:45 am	General Poster Session (set up begins 8:30 am)	Main Lobby
9:00–10:00 am	Undergraduate Workshop: Graduate Record Examination (GRE) practice test	Room 1013
10:00–10:45 am	KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Russell Ross, PhD, Examining Perceptions and Misperceptions of Police Officers in Deadly Force Virtual Simulator Scenarios.	Room 1019
10-45 –10:55 am	Transition	
10:55–11:25 am	Paper Session 1: Voluntary Segregation in American Society	Room 1019
11:25–11:35 am	Transition	
11:30–12:15	Paper Session 2: Social Processes	Room 1019
12:15 – 1:15 pm	LUNCH at STEAM CENTER catered	
1:15–1:45 pm	Psi Chi Poster Session	Main Lobby
1:55 – 2:25 pm	Paper Session 3: Military Family Processes	Room 1019
2:25 – 2:55 pm	Interpretation of Graduate Record Examination test scores and Preparing the Application for Graduate School	Room 1013
2:25 – 2:55 pm	Ice Cream Social	Main Lobby/Room 1013
3:00 – 3:30 pm	Executive Council and Representative planning meeting for 2020	Room 1013

Georgia Psychological Society Contacts:

Charles R. Talor, PhD
1500 N Patterson St
c/o Department of Psychology, Counseling, and
Family Therapy
Web site: <http://gpsonline2017.weebly.com/>

Membership and Registration fees 2018*

Faculty (Ph.D., Ed.D, Psy.D, M.A., M.S.):	\$35.00
Professional (M.A., M.S.):	\$35.00
Student (grad or undergraduate):	\$25.00

* Discounts provided for early renewal/registration