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New Faculty Member Joins ECU Psychology Department

GREENVILLE, N.C. (Oct. 16, 2012) — A new faculty member has joined East Carolina University’s Department of Psychology, housed in the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences. The department welcomes Dr. Nathaniel P. von der Embse, assistant professor in the pediatric school psychology program.

Professor von der Embse’s research is organized around social justice, advocacy and the leadership development of school psychologists to ensure equitable academic and socio-emotional outcomes. He examines the consequences of high-stakes testing and educational accountability; the development of responsive test anxiety tools; and the creation and evaluation of anxiety prevention and test skill-building curriculum. Recently, von der Embse was interviewed by Time magazine for a story on test anxiety and high stakes testing.

Prior to coming to ECU, von der Embse provided school psychological and mental health services in Nebraska, Michigan and Ohio. Currently, he is a member of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) Government and Professional Relations workgroup and strategic planning committee. He is a past co-chair of the NASP Social Justice Interest Group and chair of the NASP Student Development workgroup. He recently was awarded the NASP presidential honor for outstanding professional contribution.

Dr. von der Embse received his Ph.D. in school psychology from Michigan State University and completed an APA approved, APPIC predoctoral internship at Boys Town Center for Behavioral Health through the Nebraska Internship for Professional Psychology. He completed his master’s and educational specialist degrees in school psychology from Miami University.

Dr. von der Embse and his wife Meghan live in Greenville with their 10-month-old son, Quintin.

For additional information, contact von der Embse at vonderembsen@ecu.edu.