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**American School Counselor Association Awards Grants to Support
Comprehensive School Counseling Research**

ALEXANDRIA, VA. – The American School Counselor Association (ASCA) recently announced the recipients of its 2017 research grants for projects that examine the effectiveness of comprehensive school counseling programs, particularly the ASCA National Model, in improving student outcomes. Specifically, ASCA sought research proposals that investigate the optimal student-to-school-counselor ratio(s) and ASCA National Model program outcomes compared with non-model program outcomes. ACT provided funding support for the grants.

“With the support of ASCA’s 2017 grants, these research projects will provide vital data and analysis to support the mission and work of school counselors across the nation,” said Kwok-Sze Wong, Ed.D., ASCA executive director.

Grant proposals were reviewed by a panel of school counseling professionals appointed by ASCA. Based on evaluations by the review panel, ASCA selected the following proposals for a total of nearly \$50,000 in funding.

A Study to Measure the Impact of School Counselor Ratios on Student Outcomes

- Principal researcher Jennifer Parzych, Ph.D., Southern Connecticut State University
- Peg Donohue, Ph.D., Central Connecticut State University
- Amy Gaesser Ph.D., SUNY Brockport

The School Counselor Ratio and Student Success

- Principal researcher Patrick Akos, Ph.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Thurston Domina, Ph.D., UNC Chapel Hill
- Kevin Bastian, Ph.D., UNC Chapel Hill

Exploring the Career and College Readiness of K-12 Students Serviced by RAMP and Non-RAMP School Counseling Programs

- Principal researcher Shenika Jones, Ph.D., University of North Carolina at Pembroke
- Jeffrey M. Warren, Ph.D., UNC Pembroke
- Gary W. Mauk, Ph.D., UNC Pembroke
- Jonathan Ricks, Ph.D., UNC Pembroke

A Meta-Analysis of the ASCA National Model

- Principal researcher Elizabeth Villares, Ph.D., Florida Atlantic University
- Carey Dimmitt, Ph.D., Ronald H. Frederickson Center for School Counseling Outcome Research and Evaluation (CSCORE)

An Examination of RAMP programs and student outcomes in Greenville County Elementary Schools

- Principal researcher Amy Milsom, Ed.D., Clemson University
- Claudia Salazar, Clemson University

Do RAMP Schools Promote More Informed College Decision Making Than Non-RAMP Schools?

- Principal researcher Richard Lapan, Ph.D., University of Massachusetts—Amherst
- Timothy Poynton, Ph.D., UMass-Boston
- Rick Balkin, Ph.D., University of Louisville
- Robert Nakosteen, Ph.D., UMass-Amherst

The ASCA grants program supports research projects that enhance school counseling practices and advance the school counseling profession.

About the American School Counselor Association

The American School Counselor Association (ASCA) is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) professional organization based in Alexandria, Va. ASCA promotes student success by expanding the image and influence of school counseling through leadership, advocacy, collaboration and systemic change. ASCA helps school counselors guide their students toward academic achievement, career planning and social/emotional

development to help today's students become tomorrow's productive, contributing members of society. Founded in 1952, ASCA, the school counseling division of the American Counseling Association, has a network of 50 state associations and a membership of nearly 33,000 school counseling professionals. For additional information on the American School Counselor Association, visit www.schoolcounselor.org.

- 30 -

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