

EMORY DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES KUDOS  
JUNE 2020

**REMEMBER**

**Please send me your accomplishments and personal updates for the July 2020 Kudos**

**SAVE THE DATES**

**LEADERSHIP CONSULTATIONS**

The next leadership consultation will be held at a time TBD when the shelter-in-place recommendations are over. These peer consultations are valuable to any faculty member in a leadership role or aspiring to such roles.

**FACULTY DEVELOPMENT SEMINARS**

Below is the information on the faculty development seminars for 2020. We are sending all the information in advance in hopes that people can clear their schedules. All seminars are from 9:00-10:30am and will be virtual this year.

- July 22, 2020 - The road to harmful supervision is paved with good intentions – Nadine Kaslow, Rachel Ammirati, Nori Lim, Andrea Crowell
- September 30, 2020 - Erotic Transference – Stefanie Speanburg, Lauren Schmidt, Patrick Amar, Negar Fani
- December 9, 2020 – How to Get Promoted: Service Portfolio – Nadine Kaslow, Andrew Furman, Marianne Celano

**WRITING GROUPS: UPCOMING**

The Writing Group is the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month from 8:00-9:00am at EP12 in Room 554 (unless noted otherwise). The next meeting is Wednesday July 1, 2020 and will be on Zoom - <https://zoom.us/j/6213030759>

**CE WORKSHOP SCHEDULE**

TBD

**SUPPORTING OUR EMPLOYEES**

**Emory Together Hardship Fund**

The [Emory Together Hardship Fund](#) for Staff and Faculty was created to assist university staff and faculty members who are experiencing a temporary financial hardship. The information below applies only to staff and faculty. If you are an Emory student looking for financial assistance, please apply on the Student [Emory Together Fund website](#).

**Employee Emergency Fund**

Grady's created an Employee Emergency Fund to provide financial support when our employees face serious and unexpected challenges. As a result of COVID-19, we have

temporarily updated the policy, including waiving the 90-day waiting period for new employee eligibility. Qualifying COVID-19 related hardships include childcare, caring for a sick family member, and paying for groceries or rent. [View the temporary addendum to the policy here](#). All applications are confidential. PLEASE NOTE: applications may take up to one week to process. If you wish to contribute the employee emergency fund, please visit <https://www.gradyhealthfoundation.org/employee>.

Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund

[The Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund](#) (FEEA) is the only independent, nonprofit 501c3 organization devoted solely to providing emergency financial assistance and scholarships to our dedicated civilian federal and postal public servants and their families. FEEA also has a for-profit subsidiary, FEEA Childcare Services, which administers childcare subsidy programs on behalf of a number of federal agencies.

### **RACIAL ETHNIC AND CULTURAL MINORITY SUBCOMMITTEE**

None reported

### **DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION SUBCOMMITTEE**

None reported

### **SPOTLIGHTS**

#### **FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: Michelle Casimir, PsyD**

Michelle Casimir serves as a clinical psychologist at Atlanta VA and assistant professor at Emory, as well as a staff psychologist at the Atlanta Domiciliary, a 24/7 residential program housing Veterans who present with mental health challenges and substance use disorders, chronic medical conditions and significant psychosocial stressors such as homelessness and legal issues. Michelle provides culturally informed evidenced-based treatments for individual and group therapy including: 2017 – completing VA training and became certified in Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT); 2017 – selected to attend VA funded Behavioral Family Therapy for Serious Psychiatric Disorders training; and March 2018 - Competitively secured funds from Faculty Development to attend Beck Institute and was trained in CBT for Schizophrenia. She collaborates with other disciplines in program evaluation and development, and recently, co-created and implemented a virtual care program for the domiciliary during COVID-19 protocols at the VA to ensure Veterans received continuity of care. Michelle is involved in supervision and training, a member of the Psychology Training Committee, oversees the practicum program at the domiciliary, and also supervises interns and psychiatry fellows, conducts the Multicultural Supervision and Consultation seminar series for VA postdocs. Michelle is also coordinator of Measurement-Based Care at the domiciliary, which focuses on screening and ongoing symptom monitoring in order to guide evidenced-based interventions and modify treatment/programming to improve health outcomes in Veterans. Other committees she serves on includes Faculty Development Committee, Family Intervention Team, Diversity Education Committee for Psychology Training and ABHA.

Outside of Emory, Michelle's roles and responsibilities include chair of the Early Career Psychologist Committee at the Georgia Psychological Association where she created GPAGS, the graduate student committee. She also just completed a role as co-chair of the GPA and won the Outstanding Service Award for contribution and the conference had its highest number of attendees in history (virtual), while serving on the editorial board for Professional Psychology: Research and Practice.

What Michelle most enjoys about her work is the diversity of her tasks and being able to contribute meaningfully to her program in multiple areas to deliver the best care and strengthen programming. She is dedicated to supervision and training, has always supported and advocated for students and helped them in their professional development as future leaders in the profession. She is passionate about her work with Veterans who present with severe mental illnesses such as schizophrenia and helping them improve the quality of their life.

Key highlights from Michelle's career trajectory so far include earning her ABPP in Clinical Psychology in 2019 and earning the APA Early Career Achievement Award based on achievements and demonstration of leadership in the field of psychology. She has also created practicum programs in the General Mental Health program and the Domiciliary that led to increased access to psychological testing and individual therapy for Veterans. In 2016, she received the VA I-CARE Certificate of Excellence Award for work in the General Mental Health program, and in 2018 received the ECP Delegate for APA Practice leadership conference. She completed her Bachelor's degree in Psychology at University of the West Indies (Trinidad), then moved to Great Britain where she attended the University of Wales and obtained a Master's degree in Clinical Psychology and completed doctorate at Georgia School of Professional Psychology.

Michelle's goals and plans for the future include helping with continued growth at the Domiciliary and Psychology Training Committee, future work with my local state association in a leadership role and more traveling (she wants to visit Thailand, Bali and South Africa).

Michelle is married and has a dog named Leo and two cats named Lily and Lia. Her and her husband often take Leo to local nature reserves and lakes as he loves to hunt for sticks and swims. Michelle loves to travel, especially back home to Trinidad and Tobago to visit her parents and sister. She enjoys cooking Trinidadian foods such as pelau, curried goat, roti and stewed chicken for friends and family and also listening to soca music (a form of calypso). Michelle also loves trying new restaurants and going to the movies with her friends. She is a big movie buff and enjoy films from Marvel, Star Wars and a horror movie or two.

### **ADJUNCT FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: Ndiya Nkongho, PhD**

Ndiya Nkongho is an adjunct associate professor in the department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences. She has been supervising Emory residents through OTP for several years. Most years, she has also done a presentation to the PGY-4 class about interpersonal psychology with her esteemed colleague Debbara Dingman.

No matter the individual resident's training background or professional goals, Ndiya always finds residents to be receptive to deepening their understanding of the art and science of psychotherapy. As Ndiya values curiosity around how the self-of-the-therapist impacts clinical work, she commits to modeling this type of inquiry as a part of supervision. Each year, she enjoys the fresh perspectives of the resident(s) and invited to further clarify and deepen her own understanding of psychotherapy.

Ndiya's professional life is a fulfilling, adventuresome mix of direct client care, training (supervision and mentorship) and teaching. Most often, Ndiya works with clients on navigating the nuances of identity, coping and resilience in the face of trauma and loss.

Ndiya is a passionate competitive athlete, and has enjoyed participating in sports from baseball and lacrosse to track and field and Olympic weightlifting in different seasons of life.

### **TRAINEE SPOTLIGHT: Aniket Malhotra, MBBS**

Aniket Malhotra is currently rotating at Wesley Woods on the Geriatric Inpatient service under Dr. Tune. Apart from the wonderful experience working with the geriatric population, this rotation also involves working on the ECT service which is a great learning opportunity. He is also the co-chair of recruitment for the next recruitment season. Under the current unusual circumstances, the entire recruitment process will be conducted online making it extra challenging. The recruitment team and others in the department are working hard in coming up with new and innovative ways to make this process fruitful for both the program and the applicants. Some of the ideas include increasing the social media presence of the program and creating videos for the applicants. Aniket just finished working on an orientation video for 13-A (Psychiatry Inpatient Unit) for the incoming interns using a stock animation video software called "Powtoon." He is glad the program could see value in applications of this format of presentation and able to fund the software subscription. This was also a great opportunity for him to connect with all the people in the program who helped him create this by providing their valuable feedback. The next project includes creating a video on "scheduling in our program for different PGY levels" for recruitment purpose using the same software and then work on videos on orientation of other units including PES and some educational videos.

Aniket's wife is a second-year resident in Emory Anesthesia and usually busier than he is, so he tries to take care of her as much as he can. They moved to the US for the residency less than two years ago and most of his family are still in India. However, they have found many friends in Atlanta both in and outside of Emory and some of them have become like family in this short amount of time. They are hoping to stay in Atlanta and currently trying to buy a house.

The part of work Aniket enjoys most is the opportunity to interact with so many interesting people, especially his patients. Knowing he is privy to a lot of information about their personal lives and the responsibility that comes along with it is very

important to him. All the work put in is extremely gratifying when seeing patients making progress and getting better.

Key highlights of Aniket's career trajectory to date include after finishing medical school in India, he trained in Pediatrics and worked briefly as an attending. During that training he developed an interest in Child Psychiatry. Before joining Emory for Psychiatry residency, he did several clinical rotations in the US in Child Psychiatry including five weeks at Seattle Children's Autism Center, Seattle, Washington and four weeks at MetroHealth Medical Center in Cleveland, Ohio. He also presented a Clinical Case Conference on "Cyber-bullying" at the 64th annual meeting of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry in October 2017 in Washington DC.

One of the big reasons for Aniket moving to the US was to train in Child Psychiatry. He is currently in the process of applying for a pre-match at Emory CAP fellowship program. He feels Emory has a great program which offers so many learning and career development opportunities. He and his wife are in love with everything about Atlanta, and hope to continue his relationship with Emory for many years to come. He has also developed a keen interest in psychotherapy, and has applied and interviewed for the Core program at the Emory Psychoanalytic Institute. If he gets selected, he will start the program in the fall.

Outside of work, Aniket has always been an avid photographer. He loves shooting portraits, especially kids. He also enjoys street and nature photography. Aniket enjoys hiking with his co-residents and Atlanta is the best city to do this. He also likes to draw cartoons and lately has been doing a little bit of psychiatry related cartoons and displaying them on the units he has worked on. There is one on 13-A, one in the Grady consult office and one in the residents' office at the VA. He is also working on one for Wesley Woods. Aniket has always wanted to learn music, and is currently trying to learn guitar.

## **FACULTY COMINGS AND GOINGS**

### **WELCOME NEW FACULTY**

**Stephen Dudley** – Stephen Dudley is leaving Emory to go into private practice as an independent contractor. During his time at Emory he served as a psychiatrist for the Intensive Outpatient Program at Wesley Woods, as well as a general Psychiatry Outpatient practitioner. Stephen also taught Fellows in the Addiction Psychiatry Fellowship Program. He was a PI with Dr. Bremner, researching "Non-Invasive Vagal Nerve Stimulation in Patients with Opioid Use disorders." A highlight for Stephen during his time at Emory was being featured on NPR in a story titled [Trump Heads to Rx Drug Abuse and Heroin Summit](#). He will continue to underserved refugees at the Clarkston Community Health Center. Most importantly, Stephen would like to think of himself as one who loves people, the planet and animals.

### **THANK YOU TO FACULTY WHO ARE LEAVING**

None reported

## **FACULTY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE UPDATES**

None reported

## **DIVERSITY CORNER**

None reported

## **WELLNESS CORNER**

### **Wellness during the COVID-19 Pandemic:**

None reported

## **FACULTY KUDOS**

### **Major Leadership Appointments, Activities and Achievements**

Heather Greenspan will be taking on the role of Director of Psychiatric Consultation Liaison Services for Emory University Hospital effective July 1st, 2020.

### **Education**

None reported

### **Research**

Au J, Martinez de Andino A, Mekawi Y, Silverstein MW, & Lamis DA. (in press). Latent class analysis of bipolar disorder symptoms and suicidal ideation and behaviors. *Bipolar Disorders*

Kaslow NJ, Friis-Healy EA, Cattie JE, Cook SC, Crowell AL, Cullum KA, del Rio C, Marshall-Lee ED, LoPilato AM, VanderBroek-Stice L, Ward MC, White DT, & Farber EW. (2020, June 15). Flattening the Emotional Distress Curve: A Behavioral Health Pandemic Response. Strategy for COVID-19. *American Psychologist*. Advance online publication. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/amp0000694>

Novacek, DM, Hampton-Anderson, JN, Ebor, MT, Loeb, TB, & Wyatt, GE. (2020). Mental health ramifications of the COVID-19 pandemic for Black Americans: Clinical and research recommendations. *Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice, and Policy*. In press.

Peterson-Dana C, Palanci J. Incentivizing Is Not Coercing: A Reply. *Psychiatr Serv*. 2020;71(5):526-527. doi:10.1176/appi.ps.71404

Powell AL, Hinger C, Marshall-Lee, ED, Miller-Roberts T, Phillips K. Implementing Coordinated Specialty Care for First Episode Psychosis: A Review of Barriers and Solutions. *Community Mental Health Journal*. 29 May 2020. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10597-020-00644-1>.

Rauch SAM, Simon NM, Rothbaum BO. Rising tide: Responding to the mental health impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. *Depress Anxiety*. 2020;37(6):505-509. doi:10.1002/da.23058

Shelton RC, Parikh SV, Law RA, Rothschild AJ, Thase ME, Dunlop BW, DeBattista C, Conway CR, Forester BP, Macaluso M, Hain DT, Aguilar AL, Brown K, Lewis DJ, Jablonski MR, Greden JF. Combinatorial Pharmacogenomic Algorithm Is Predictive of Citalopram and Escitalopram Metabolism in Patients with Major Depressive Disorder. *Psychiatry Research*. 17 May 2020. DOI: [10.1016/j.psychres.2020.113017](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.psychres.2020.113017)

Tao R, Jiang F, Min K, Liu T, Liu Y, Xia L, Wang J, Liu H, Tang YL. Alcohol Use Among Mental Health Professionals In China: A Nationwide Cross-Sectional Survey. *Alcohol and Alcoholism*, 2020, in press, doi: 10.1093/alcalc/agaa065

### **Honors, Awards, Rankings**

Jennifer Felger won the Shariatzadehand/Sanei Award for Innovative Research in Mood Disorders for her proposal entitled “Immunometabolic Pathways to Anhedonia and Motor Slowing in Depression as Revealed by Single-Cell Genomics Technology.”

Rickey Gillespie has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences effective September 1, 2020.

Michael Morrier has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences effective September 1, 2020.

### **Presentations**

Telsie Davis presented an online webinar “Black Lives Matter: An Ethical Call to Action for Clinicians” via The Knowledge Tree.

Monika Stojek served as moderator for a BIRCWH Leadership Webinar titled “Sex/Gender Differences in COVID-19.”

Ray Young participated in the Academy of Consultation Liaison Psychiatry Webinar Series: Applying to C-L Fellowship During COVID-19 and served as one of six panelist (during the Q+A session) answering questions for those participating in the webinar.

### **Quality and Safety Initiatives and Capital Campaign Initiatives**

None reported

### **Community Benefit Programs and Activities**

None reported

### **Facilities**

None reported

### **Emory in the Media**

Marianne Celano (1) Psychology Today – [It's Because You are White](#).

Patrice Harris (1) NBC - [We Can't Lose Sight of the Pandemic's Hidden Crisis: Domestic Abuse, Says AMA President](#).

Regina Koepp (1) Psychology Today – [Are You Working with African-American Seniors?](#).

### **Other Accomplishments**

None reported

### **ADJUNCT FACULTY KUDOS**

None reported

### **TRAINEE KUDOS**

Philip Bowers was named a House Staff Organization Professionalism Excellence Award winner.

Elizabeth McCord was named a House Staff Organization Professionalism Excellence Award winner.

Mekawi Y, Lewis CB, Watson-Singleton NN, Jatta IF, Ander I, Lamis D, Dunn SE, & Kaslow NJ. (2020). Racial Identity Profiles Among Suicidal Black Women: A Replication and Extension Study. *Journal of Black Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0021934720935601>

Novacek DM, Hampton-Anderson JN, Ebor MT, Loeb TB, & Wyatt GE. (2020, June 11). Mental Health Ramifications of the COVID-19 Pandemic for Black Americans: Clinical and Research Recommendations. *Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice, and Policy*. Advance online publication. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/tra0000796>

Gaby Ritfeld has been selected for the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Pilot Research Award for Junior Faculty and Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellows for her proposal entitled, “Neurobehavioral and Physical Health Outcomes in Offspring of Individuals with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders.”

### **STAFF KUDOS**

None reported

### **PERSONAL UPDATES**

Allison LoPilato and family welcomed a son, Jack Carole LoPilato, on Thursday, June 18. Mother and baby are both doing well.