

EMORY DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES KUDOS
OCTOBER 2024

REMEMBER

Please send me your accomplishments, program/team activities, and personal updates for the November 2024 Kudos

SAVE THE DATES

UPCOMING FACULTY DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR

The next Faculty Development Seminar is:

- Wednesday November 20 from 9-10:30am – Publishing for Faculty Focused on Teaching and/or Service

WRITING GROUPS: UPCOMING

The Faculty Writing Group is the first Wednesday of every month from 8:00-9:00am. However, there will not be a writing group in September. These meetings are on [Zoom](#). This group is for faculty including adjunct faculty.

SPOTLIGHTS

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: John Deppe, MD

John Deppe's clinical work is at Grady on the Med-Psych Unit (MPU), which recently celebrated its first anniversary. Outside of clinical work, he has been involved with the Psychiatry Global Mental Health Track, Global Health Residency Scholar Program (GHRSP) and GLOBE program within the School of Medicine. He is also involved with the national Med-Psych organization, AMP, especially with the Global Health committee. Outside of Emory, he interviews applicants for his undergraduate alma mater Georgetown University.

John feels lucky to come to work every day and join a group of people who find solutions where other teams might see no options. He thinks truly listening to each other and instilling a culture of curiosity and respect allows everyone to better care for patients. At work, the moments of joy and wins with patients, families and the team keep him going. Working with students and learners adds questions and new perspectives keeping treatment plans current and cutting edge.

Looking forward, John is grateful to have the chance to put down roots in Atlanta. The city seems to be growing and changing with people moving from all over the country and world – what an exciting place to be!

Outside of work, John enjoys spending time with family. He and his wife recently welcomed their first child and eagerly awaiting him becoming a participatory member of society and household chores – alas pincer grasping might be a more appropriate near-term goal. John also enjoys hiking in the mountains and kayaking. Travel and exploring new places and cultures whether near or far is important to him.

ADJUNCT FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: Gemariah Valencia, PhD

Gemariah Valencia is currently a clinical psychologist and team lead at the Atlanta VA Fort McPherson community-based outpatient clinic working with mostly trauma and stressor-related issues, anxiety, depression and chronic pain. She primarily provides psychotherapy that aids in building up an individual's sense of self, coping abilities and emotional resilience. She integrates various techniques and interventions from cognitive-behavioral and psychodynamic approaches. Gemariah also started a private practice (Catalyst Psych Services, LLC) where she primarily sees individuals dealing with trauma, acculturation stress, relationship struggles, intimate partner violence, anxiety related to performance and work and spirituality/religious concerns. She also has a special interest in working with women, Asian Americans, immigrants and third culture individuals. Her [practice](#) is located in Midtown, and provides in person and virtual psychotherapy to individuals, couples, and families.

In addition, Gemariah recently became an EUPF 2024-25 fellow. She continues to deepen her knowledge and understanding of psychoanalytic theories and interventions through this fellowship. Her hope is to continue incorporating this knowledge into her work in private practice.

Gemariah joined as an adjunct faculty member last November 2024 shortly after finishing her post-doctoral fellowship. Her primary involvement has been providing group supervision to clinical trainees at the Nia Project. She has supervised post-doctoral psychology fellows and a psychiatry resident in group therapy. She has also been involved in providing guidance and encouragement to psychology students as they navigate internship applications, post-doctoral fellowship applications and the GA licensing process. In addition, she is also a member of the Refugee and Immigrant mental health group and the Diversity, Inclusion and Social Justice Committee.

Gemariah enjoys teaching and supervising different levels of learners. She gains a lot from explaining clinical concepts and therapeutic processes in more digestible ways. She also learns from the learners when it comes to their perspectives and past training experiences. Furthermore, she enjoys the opportunities to connect with other psychologists, work on outreach and research projects, be involved in conferences and professional organizations (e.g., APA and GPA).

People would be surprised to learn Gemariah would rather binge watch an Asian drama series or a string of YouTube videos for two hours than watch one movie. She enjoys shorter episodes/videos that give her an option to end or keep watching rather than sitting for two hours straight to witness a movie's resolution.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT: Barbara Vaughan

Barbara Vaughan serves as an Addiction Counselor at Emory University Healthcare Addiction Center, part of the Addiction Alliance of Georgia. In this role, she provides specialized addiction and mental health counseling to patients in the Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP), Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP) and Outpatient

Program. Her responsibilities include developing and implementing individualized treatment plans, facilitating group and individual therapy sessions and supporting patients through their recovery journey. She is committed to advancing her expertise and pursuing a PhD in Psychology. Her goal is to leverage her extensive experience and advanced education to contribute to the success of Emory Healthcare Addiction Center and support patients' well-being and recovery.

Outside of Barbara's involvement at Emory, she has participated in various volunteer activities, including food drives, breast cancer runs, United Way initiatives and the Boy Scouts. She is also engaged in projects promoting work-life balance, explicitly addressing employers with employees with co-occurring disorders and how these issues impact job performance. This reflects her commitment to this field.

Working with patients in the Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP), Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP), and Outpatient Program is deeply fulfilling for Barbara. Witnessing patients' progress in recovery journeys is rewarding, as each small step represents a significant victory. Helping individuals develop coping strategies and resilience is empowering. Seeing them gain strength and confidence is inspiring. The relationships built on trust and empathy create a supportive environment where patients feel valued. These programs allow for a holistic approach to healing, addressing both symptoms and underlying issues, which can lead to more sustainable recovery. Each patient's unique story offers opportunities for professional growth. Being part of a dedicated team of therapists, psychologists and medical professionals fosters a sense of community and shared purpose. Ultimately, it's fulfilling to know your work positively impacts individuals' lives, helping them reclaim their health and well-being.

Barbara has achieved several significant milestones in her career that have shaped her professional journey. She holds a bachelor's in business management, where she became interested in organizational psychology and earned two master's degrees in counseling psychology and human services. She is also a Licensed Professional Counselor, Certified Clinical Alcohol and Drug Counselor and Certified Professional Counselor Supervisor. Over the past 15 years, Barbara has gained extensive experience in mental health and addiction services and is pursuing a PhD in Psychology to enhance her expertise further. Her career experience includes community development, program coordinator and crisis management. Her desire to move her career in the direction of leadership. She is committed to continuous professional growth and passionate about positively impacting addiction counseling and being a liaison for mental health wellness.

Looking to the future, Barbara is very committed to her role as an addiction counselor and eager to continue developing her skills here. In the future, she hopes to take on more responsibilities within the department, such as leading projects or mentoring new staff. She aspires to grow into a leadership position where she can contribute to the department's strategic goals and help drive the mission forward. She is also open to exploring opportunities that align with her skills and interests within the organization.

Outside of work, Barbara has been involved in various volunteer activities such as food drives, breast cancer runs, United Way and Boy Scouts. These experiences have strengthened her commitment to community service and helping others. Although her current workload has limited her recent involvement, she is interested in participating in disaster relief efforts in the future, as she believes it aligns with her passion for helping those in crisis. Barbara also enjoys traveling, which allows her to gain a broader understanding of different cultures and perspectives, enhancing her ability to connect with clients from diverse backgrounds.

TRAINEE SPOTLIGHT: Najeah Okashah, MD, PhD

Najeah Okashah is currently a PGY-3 Psychiatry Research Track Resident conducting research with Dr. Aliza Wingo, as well as the research track co-chief. She is also the Emory psychiatry residency education chair, Grady Diversity Seminar Series committee member, PES night float workgroup and [Connectogen](#) clinical research outreach director. Outside of Emory, she serves as a Psychsign mentor.

What Najeah most enjoys about her work is the opportunity to constantly learn and use what she learns to contribute to advancing medical knowledge. Alongside that, she values the chance to teach and mentor. It is rewarding to watch students grow and grasp new material. Najeah takes pride in working to help improve things within the department to make processes run more smoothly for future residents. Lastly, her patient interactions are a reminder of why she choose to pursue psychiatry and continues to drive advocacy efforts she is involved in.

Prior to residency, highlights of Najeah's career include her graduate school research on GPCR-G protein selectivity, funded by an F30 award, led to publications in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences and Nature Communications. More recent highlights of her career have been the opportunity to take on leadership roles as research track co-chief and psychiatry residency education chair, which have allowed me to support resident research and education and receiving the National Institute of Mental Health's "Outstanding Resident Award."

Looking to the future, Najeah is planning to apply for a career development award in PGY-4. After completing residency, she hopes to join the Emory faculty and continue her education and research efforts.

Outside of work, Najeah is active in the local Muslim community. She enjoys cooking, hiking and reading in her free time.

MENTOR SPOTLIGHT: Vas Michopoulos, PhD, MSc *(written by Mari Rocha)*

Vas Michopoulos' mentorship style is approachable, encouraging and holistic. Her positive and supportive attitude has been essential to helping her mentees stay motivated when facing challenges and setbacks. Something that makes her an exceptional mentor is her ability to tailor her mentorship approach to each individual's academic and career goals. Vas is highly invested in the personal and professional growth of her mentees, regularly checking in, uplifting them and providing the resources

and connections they need to succeed. her approach to mentorship creates a strong sense of community, making her mentees feel supported as researchers but also cared for as individuals.

As a mentor, Vas strikes the perfect balance between providing hands-on guidance and allowing her mentees the freedom to explore their own ideas. She encourages independence while remaining present and offering thoughtful, constructive feedback. Vas is also an inspiring role model, exemplifying how to achieve a healthy work-life balance while accomplishing significant professional success. What makes her mentorship especially unique is she approaches it as a mutual learning experience—she is always eager to learn alongside and from her mentees. Despite her busy schedule, Vas is incredibly dedicated and accessible, ensuring her mentees always feel supported and valued.

Vas' mentorship has had a profound impact on my ability to balance academic responsibilities and professional goals with my personal life. She has taught me the value of work-life balance, ensuring I take time to care for myself while also making steady progress in my research. One key lesson I have learned from her is the importance of collaboration and teamwork. By emphasizing the benefits of team science, she has helped me become a better collaborator, which will be invaluable in my future career. Vas' unwavering support and continued guidance, even beyond graduation, have cemented her as a mentor for life.

One of the most important pieces of advice Vas has given me is to remember you are not only a student or a researcher but also a person who needs to rest and recharge. It's essential to take breaks and reset when necessary, and not overextend yourself for work. This advice has helped me maintain a healthier perspective on my academic journey. Vas has also encouraged me to take on new opportunities, even when I do not feel completely ready, which has helped me grow and become more confident in my abilities.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: Peace for Moms *(written by Toby Goldsmith, MD)*

PEACE for Moms (P4M) is Georgia's Perinatal Mental Health Access Program, operating under the aegis of the Emory Women's Mental Health Program. P4M is tasked with expanding the perinatal psychiatric capacity of clinicians throughout the state of Georgia. While the Emory Women's Mental Health Clinic works directly with patients, P4M works directly with clinicians seeking consultation regarding their pregnant, postpartum or preconception patient. Our psychiatrists typically return a call from a physician, NP, nurse midwife or physician assistant within 15 minutes and provide answers to questions regarding a patient. While most questions are regarding psychopharmacology, we also assist with screening, diagnostic clarification and treatment planning. If deemed appropriate, we offer a one-time virtual consultation with the patient.

The P4M program was developed in reaction to several significant issues in our state:

- More than half of the counties in GA have neither a psychiatrist nor an obstetrician

- 1 in 5 patients experience depression or anxiety while pregnant or postpartum
- Financially, many patients are unable to afford a visit with a psychiatrist and/or a therapist who are not credentialed with insurance companies or Medicaid/Medicare.
- Due to the shortage of mental health professionals in the state, patients may wait months before a first appointment.
- Of Georgia's 159 counties, 24 have fewer than 10,000 residents and 50 counties had fewer than 25,000. Patients living in rural communities may have to commute for hours to reach a qualified mental health professional.

After over 500 consultations, we proudly have assisted in the care of pregnant and postpartum individuals who were uninsured, living in obstetric and psychiatric deserts, as young as 13 and as old as 50 years of age.

There are 35 perinatal access programs across the US, each of which is unique. Not all are housed in academic institutions as we are, nor are they all staffed with perinatal psychiatrists. What truly makes us stand out is we are the only program that offers [Mothers and Babies](#), an evidence-based intervention for pregnant and postpartum women. The program, developed at Northwestern University, is recognized by the US Preventive Task Force as a means of preventing postpartum depression and managing stress. A review of data (EPDS scores before and after the group) demonstrated that the women who complete our program are improving; several who have completed the pregnancy group request entry into the group for those who are postpartum.

P4M is very collaborative and collegial. Toby Goldsmith (medical director) and Rebecca Woo serve as the perinatal psychiatrists. Whitney Adams, who recently celebrated her fifth year with Emory, serves as our organization's therapist and manages the Mothers and Babies program. Many staff and faculty recognize Arica Washington who worked the EP12 third floor front desk for two-and-a-half years before joining P4M in 2020. Jill Mast, RN is an integral part of our team, assisting with Mothers and Babies and outreach. Michaela Kitchen, MPH and Mekia Blackmon, MPH, serve as our community advisors, answering calls and performing administrative tasks. We who staff P4M tout we are Four F—but in a good way. We are fast (answering calls typically within 15 minutes), focused, friendly and most importantly FREE. We are supported by the Georgia Department of Public Health, which allows us to offer our consultations and other services at no cost to the clinician or patient.

As knowledge of P4M grows alongside the community's passion to address maternal mortality and morbidity, colleagues at Emory have increasingly interacted with our team. We have ongoing relationships with the departments of OB-GYN and Primary Care, Rollins Schools of Public Health and Grady Trauma Project.

P4M is immensely proud of its [website](#), which provides information about the program, screening tools, and educational materials for clinicians and patients and their families. Readers may be surprised to learn many of our handouts for patients were written by medical students. As part of their elective "A survey of Women's Mental Health,"

students from Emory and other institutions are asked to develop a document based on a topic of interest to them. All these documents are available for printing.

The website is one way to learn more about P4M, but you can communicate with us via [email](#) or by phone at 470-9PEACE.

NEW FACULTY

None reported.

DISC GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Monique Hunter, PhD, ABPP – Monique Hunter stands as a beacon of resilience and diversity within the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. As an African American woman and an Adjunct Professor at Emory School of Medicine, Monique embodies the richness of her heritage, drawing strength from a lineage of "Strong Black Women." This legacy, rooted in generational oppression, has shaped her identity and work.

Monique and her husband, both African American, are proud parents of two energetic ten-year-olds. Their family journey includes the beautiful experience of transracial adoption, having welcomed their son into the fold while Monique was pregnant with their daughter. This dynamic creates a vivid tapestry of identity in their household: their daughter, with her striking brown skin, thick hair, and hazel eyes, mirrors her father, while their son, with his fair skin, red hair, and blue eyes, brings a different narrative to the family. The unique blend of backgrounds has opened doors for growth and dialogue, fostering understanding both within their family and in the wider community.

Rooted in tradition, Monique cherishes the memories of her family's annual "Homecoming" in rural Mississippi, a gathering steeped in love and connection rather than the more formalized family reunions others might expect. Each Memorial Day weekend, relatives would converge from across the country, creating a vibrant celebration of their shared history and identity.

Throughout her career, Monique has navigated the complexities of professional environments as a member of a marginalized group. Early on, she felt the need to modify her mannerisms and appearance to fit into spaces dominated by those with power. Though she now feels less pressure to conform, she acknowledges the exhaustion that comes with such adaptations—a reflection of a broader struggle many people of color face.

Her commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion is evident in her clinical work, where she emphasizes the importance of addressing identity differences with her patients. Monique sees this work not just as a professional responsibility but as a personal mission, driven by her own experiences and the recognition of how cultural dynamics impact mental health.

Monique's journey is marked by the understanding the legacy of strength she inherits is both a source of pride and a call to action. As she continues to champion the needs of those often overlooked—particularly Black women and girls—she stands as a reminder of the power of community, resilience and importance of sharing one's story.

Aparna Das, MD – Aparna Das serves as an Assistant Professor and Psychiatrist at Grady Behavioral Outpatient Clinic, working with programs such as Project Arrow, PSTAR and Youth & Family Tree. Aparna's connection to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) stems from her roots in India, a country known for its immense cultural and linguistic diversity. "I grew up in Delhi, one of the most populous cities in the world," she explains. "My mother is from the middle part of India, and my father is from the northern part of the country. India has over 19,500 dialects and 121 languages, making it the most multilingual country in the world, although only 22 languages are officially recognized by the government. English is widely spoken, but it's the cultural and religious diversity that really defines India. The eight major religions of the world—Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Judaism, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism and Zoroastrianism—all have significant populations in India. Growing up in such an environment gave me a deep appreciation for diversity."

When reflecting on celebrations that are important to her, Aparna describes the significance of Diwali, the festival of lights. "Diwali is a major celebration for Hindus in India, and I've witnessed it every year since childhood. The festival has a deep spiritual meaning, symbolizing the victory of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance. For me, the message of Diwali—keeping goodness alive in humanity—remains deeply relevant and inspiring."

Aparna also recalls an experience with microaggressions, particularly during a frustrating encounter at the DMV while living in Arkansas in 2020. "It was the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, and I needed to renew my driver's license. My visa had been renewed, but the DMV agent wasn't convinced by the documentation I provided, and they didn't make any effort to check their own rules or procedures. I went to three different DMV offices before someone finally took the time to understand my situation and issued my license. The whole experience left me feeling alienated, but it also highlighted the importance of persistence and the need for better awareness and training in dealing with diverse populations."

Her perspective on the world is shaped by her background, particularly as a woman from India. "Growing up, I was taught that being soft-spoken was part of being well-mannered. But when I moved to the U.S., my soft voice and accent made it difficult for others to understand me. It took time to adjust my speech patterns, but I've learned being soft-spoken is a cultural trait I take pride in, not a sign of low confidence or knowledge. It's important to recognize that different communication styles stem from cultural backgrounds."

Aparna's diversity has had a significant influence on her professional work as well. "Being accepted for my differences has made me more empathetic and open to others. I

strive to foster an inclusive environment because I believe that diversity helps build stronger teams, encourages creative problem-solving and ultimately makes the world a better place."

In closing, she acknowledges how these experiences have helped her develop resilience. "My diverse background has allowed me to appreciate the strength that comes from inclusion, and it has helped me navigate challenges with an open heart and a positive outlook."

You can reach her via [email](#).

WELLNESS COMMITTEE

The Wellness Committee is recruiting members!

If you have an interest in helping others make better lifestyle choices and create a culture of wellness, we need you! We're looking for members in the Department who are available to meet at least once a month.

Contact [Elizabeth McCord](#) and [Charlotte Van Hale](#) if interested.

FACULTY KUDOS

Research

Aberizk K, Addington JM, Bearden CE, Cadenhead KS, Cannon TD, Cornblatt BA, Keshavan M, Mathalon DH, Perkins DO, Stone WS, Tsuang MT, Woods SW, Walker EF, Ku BS. Relations of Lifetime Perceived Stress and Basal Cortisol With Hippocampal Volume Among Healthy Adolescents and Those at Clinical High Risk for Psychosis: A Structural Equation Modeling Approach. *Biol Psychiatry*. 2024 Sep 1;96(5):401-411

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Coles CD, Shapiro ZR, Kable JA, Ritfeld GJ, Stoner SA, Grant, TM and the CIFASD (2024) Prenatal alcohol exposure and health at midlife: Self-reported health outcomes in two cohorts. *Alcohol: Clinical and Experimental Research*

Fluyau D, Kailasam VK, & Revadigar N. (2024). Rapid and Prolonged Antidepressant and Antianxiety Effects of Psychedelics and 3, 4-Methylenedioxy-methamphetamine—A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. *Psychoactives*, 3(4), 476-490. October 4, 2024.

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Korobkova L, Morin EL, Aoued H, Sannigrahi S, Garza KM, Siebert ER, Walum H, Cabeen RP, Sanchez MM, Dias BG. (2023). RNA in extracellular vesicles during adolescence reveal immune, energetic and microbial imprints of early life adversity. *BioRxiv*. 2023 Feb 24. doi: 10.1101/2023.02.23.529808. PubMed PMID: 36865138. PMCID: PMC9980043.

Kovacs-Balint ZA, Sanchez MM, Wang A, Feczko E, Earl E, Styner M, Fair D, Bachevalier J (2024). The development of socially directed attention: an fMRI study in infant monkeys. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*. In Press.

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Wakeford AGP, Nye JA, Morin EL, Mun J, Meyer JS, Goodman M, Howell LL, Sanchez MM. (2024). Alterations in Adolescent Brain Serotonin (5HT)_{1A}, 5HT_{2A}, and Dopamine (D₂) Receptor Systems in a Nonhuman Primate Model of Early Life Adversity. *Neuropsychopharmacology*. In Press.

Williams K, French A, Jackson N, McMickens CL, White D, Vinson SY. Mental Health Crisis Responses and (In)Justice: Intrasystem and Intersystem Implications. *Psychiatr Clin North Am*. 2024 Sep;47(3):445-456.

Honors, Awards, Rankings

The following faculty were recognized at the SOM Annual Celebration of Faculty Eminence:

Rachel Ammirati – Senior Psychologist

Anjan Bhattacharyya – Hidden Gem

Bekh Bradley-Davino – Milli Pub Club for Association of FKBP5 Polymorphisms and Childhood Abuse with Risk of Posttraumatic Stress Disorders Symptoms in Adults

Robert Cotes – promoted to Professor

Boadie Dunlop – Eminent Physician

Rickey Gillespie – Milli Pub Club for Association of FKBP5 Polymorphisms and Childhood Abuse with Risk of Posttraumatic Stress Disorders Symptoms in Adults

David Goldsmith – promoted to Associate Professor and Milli Pub Club for A Meta-Analysis of Blood Cytokine Network Alterations in Psychiatric Patients: Comparisons between Schizophrenia, Bipolar Disorder and Depression

Rachel Hershenberg – promoted to Associate Professor

Jennifer Holton – promoted to Associate Professor

Kallio Hunnicutt – Senior Psychologist

Julie Kable – promoted to Professor and The Henry Rossett Award, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Study Group

Brandon Kitay – Innovation in Clinical Care Award

Jessica Maples-Keller – promoted to Associate Professor

Elizabeth McCord – Emory Clinic 99th Percentile Press Ganey Patient Satisfaction

Vasiliki Michopoulos – granted tenure at the rank of Associate Professor

Andrew Miller – Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science

Justin Palanci – Senior Physician

Jeffrey Rakofsky – promoted to Professor

Sheila Rauch – 2024 Jerilyn Ross Clinician Advocate Award, Anxiety and Depression Association of America (ADAA)

Barbara Rothbaum – Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science
Ann Schwartz – Milli Pub Club for Association of FKBP5 Polymorphisms and Childhood Abuse with Risk of Posttraumatic Stress Disorders Symptoms in Adults
Jennifer Stevens – 2024 Mid-Career Innovation Award, International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (ISTSS)
Yilang Tang – Milli Pub Club for Association of FKBP5 Polymorphisms and Childhood Abuse with Risk of Posttraumatic Stress Disorders Symptoms in Adults
Naadira Upshaw – Senior Psychologist
DeJuan White – promoted to Associate Professor

Psychiatry Top Box Providers past 6 months > 95% likelihood to recommend provider (greater than 20 surveys)

- Danielle Belva, EAC
- Rachel Hershenberg, Geri
- Laura Loucks, EVP
- Milena Armani, Child
- Adriana Hermida, Geri
- Andrew Furman, Adult
- Joe Vinson, Adult
- Andrea Crowell, Adult
- Joe Mathias, Addiction
- Ebrahim Haroon, Adult
- Wendy Baer, HemOnc CL
- Ellie Santy, Geri

The following faculty members received Faculty Development Funds support:

- Wendy Baer
- Devon LoParo
- Jessica Maples-Keller
- Charlotte Van Hale

Michelle Casimir was highlighted in the Fall Edition Spotlight of the APA's Division 31 newsletter [Focus 31](#).

Lauren Gensler won the Roger Kathol Award, an annual award given to an outstanding physician who demonstrates excellence in integrated care.

Erica Marshall-Lee will serve as the 2024-26 Serious Mental Illness Specialty Council representative for the American Psychological Association's Division 18, Psychologists in Public Service.

Education

Boadie Dunlop and Phil Ninan are facilitating a journal club on Brain-Mind issues. It occurs the fourth Thursday of each month from September until June (excluding December) from 6:30-8:30pm via Zoom. Content for the club is one or two journal article

readings for each session for discussion. Participants include psychiatry residents and fellows, psychology graduate students and post-docs, medical students and junior faculty. If you would like more information, please contact Boadie or Phil.

Presentations

Claire Coles and Miguel del Campo organized a plenary session for the 7th European FASD Alliance Conference entitled, FASD in Midlife Prenatal Alcohol Exposure in Adulthood and presented a paper as part of the symposium, entitled, Prenatal Alcohol Exposure and Physical and Mental Health at Midlife. A Survey of Adults in Two Longitudinal Cohorts”, Claire Coles and Susan Stoner, authors.

Lauren Gensler presented a talk at the Association of Medicine and Psychiatry conference entitled “Updates in Med/Psych: Neuroimaging in First Episode Psychosis.”

Jed Mangal presented a talk at the Association of Medicine and Psychiatry conference entitled “Updates in Med/Psych: What’s New with NMDA-Receptor Encephalitis.”

Liz McCord presented a talk at the Association of Medicine and Psychiatry conference entitled “Phenobarbital for Alcohol Withdrawal: Clinical Insights and Applications.”

Liz McCord, Lauren Gensler and Douglas Flanagan presented a poster at the Association of Medicine and Psychiatry conference entitled “In a BIND: A Case of Benzodiazepine-Induced Neurologic Dysfunction.”

Mar Sanchez: Keynote Speaker, International Society for Developmental Psychobiology (ISDP), 57th Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL. Oct 2024.

ADJUNCT FACULTY KUDOS

Zhang S, Awachie T, Clarke A, Lasile OT, Bradshaw J, Williams GT-W, Dunn SE, Wooten JP, & Kaslow NJ. (online 16 October, 2024). Reasons for living mediate between Africultural coping and suicide resilience. *African American Studies*. doi: 10.1007/s12111-024-09674-5

TRAINEE KUDOS

Catherine Bennett was a finalist in the resident clinical vignette competition and presented a vignette entitled “Fresh to a Fault” at the Association of Medicine and Psychiatry conference. She won first place in the competition. Nathan Scheiner, an Emory Med/Psych graduate, current MPU and PES attending, and previous winner of the competition was her faculty advisor.

Jordan Hildenbrand presented a poster at the Association of Medicine and Psychiatry conference entitled “Mania Unmasked: A Complex Case of Mania and Hyperthyroidism.”

Charmaine Mora-Ozuna received the 2024 Latinx Student Scholar Award presented by the American Psychological Association (APA)'s Division 35 and the 2024 Outstanding

Dissertation Award presented by the National Latinx Psychological Association (NLPA). At the 2024 NLPA conference, she co-presented two workshops: (1) Use of *Mujerista* Psychology as a key intervention in liberation work and scholarship, (2) Bilingual Training Guidelines for Health Service Psychologists.

Zoe Pollock presented a poster at the Association of Medicine and Psychiatry conference entitled "From Graft to Grandiose: A Case of Tacrolimus-Induced Mania."