

EMORY DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES KUDOS  
April 2019

**REMEMBER**

**Please send me your accomplishments and personal updates for the May 2019 Kudos**

**SAVE THE DATES**

**LEADERSHIP WORKSHOPS**

The next leadership consultation is scheduled for Wednesday May 22, 2019 from 9:00-10:30am at EP12 1<sup>st</sup> floor training room.

**FACULTY DEVELOPMENT SEMINARS**

We have scheduled all of the 2019 seminars so that people can save the dates. These all will be held at EP12 in the 1<sup>st</sup> floor training room, Room 2.

- September 18, 2019, 9:00-10:30am - Erotic Transference and Countertransference
- December 5, 2019, 9:00-10:30am - Harmful Supervision

**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. The next Writing Group is May 1.

**SPOTLIGHTS**

We will now spotlight a faculty member, staff member, and trainee each month. We welcome suggestions about people to highlight.

**FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: Devon LoParo, PhD**

Devon LoParo, PhD is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences with a primary placement in the Child and Adolescent Mood Program (CAMP). Within his role at CAMP, Devon provides individual psychotherapy to adolescents and young adults to primarily treat mood and anxiety disorders. He also supervises psychology interns and participates in research training and support at CAMP, with a particular focus on statistical methods. He is also currently involved in collaborative research across several fields, including longitudinal development of anxiety and depression throughout childhood and adolescence, analysis of data from the Predictors of Remission in Depression to Individual and Combined Treatments (PRedICT) Study, and genetic etiology of childhood externalizing behavior, among other collaborations. He serves on the Faculty Development Committee and is also a member of the Atlanta Trauma Alliance.

Outside of Emory, Devon recently was selected as a winner of the 2019 Alies Muskin Career Development Leadership Program through the Anxiety and Depression Association of America, and is an active member of several organizations, including the

Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, the American Psychological Association, and the Behavior Genetics Association.

What Devon most enjoys in his work is seeing the positive alteration of trajectories in those he works with, as a clinician, supervisor and researcher. He is fascinated by determining etiological factors influencing the development of psychopathology, particularly those that may distinguish between comorbid and non-comorbid forms of psychopathology. He is also passionate about using interventions combining empirical support and empathic attunement to alter the trajectory of young people in the critical period of adolescence and young adulthood to set up functional and satisfying life paths for his patients. As a supervisor, he truly enjoys seeing his supervisees develop confidence, competence and professional identities over the course of their training.

Devon has been at Emory since 2010 as a graduate student, predoctoral intern, postdoctoral resident, and faculty member. Highlights of his career trajectory include rewarding collaborations with many department members who have been supervisors, mentors and colleagues to him, while continuing to guide and inspire him. He is in the process of applying for federal funding to support his growth as a researcher and plans to craft a career using etiological and longitudinal research to determine predictive, risk and protective factors for comorbid psychopathology that ultimately inform treatment selection to prevent the development of comorbid psychopathology in youth at the earliest possible point.

Outside of work, Devon is passionate about his family, including his wife, almost-three-year-old daughter and son due in May. He has always enjoyed exploring new points of view through film, travel and food, and he has enjoyed how becoming a parent has allowed him to see the world in a new light and watch his daughter have new experiences for the first time. He is also an avid sports fan, and rarely missed a Duke basketball game since he was an undergraduate there.

### **STAFF SPOTLIGHT: Dan Hoke**

Dan Hoke is the IT Director for the Brain Health Center, and he and his team provide technology support and solutions to the Center and its departments. Since the creation of the Brain Health Center, Dan has most enjoyed the opportunity to learn more about the healthcare side of our operations, as well as supporting the frontline clinical teams and patient care through EHR optimization and customization.

Dan's career at Emory started with Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences in 1999 when he was hired to provide desktop support to the department. Since then, he has had the opportunity to work with Neurology, Neurosurgery, Rehab Medicine and the Sleep Center in various capacities. Many exciting opportunities have arisen over the years, including helping establish the Emory Healthcare Veterans Program and, more recently, the Georgia Memory Net.

Dan is currently enrolled in the Rollins School of Public Health's Executive MPH program. The program has an Applied Public Health Informatics (APHI) track, and its

goal is to address the growing need for understanding the domains of both public health practice and technology. The APHI coursework has been a perfect fit for him, and he's on schedule to graduate in August of 2020.

Away from work, Dan's primary hobby is photography. He enjoys the mathematical component of aperture and shutter speed, while being a great creative outlet.

### **TRAINEE SPOTLIGHT: Sarah Roane, PhD**

Sarah Roane, PhD is a Psychology Postdoctoral Resident at Emory School of Medicine and works at Grady Health System. Sarah spends half of her time on the psychiatric inpatient unit and the crisis stabilization unit at Grady Hospital where she runs groups, sees individuals for brief interventions and helps with diagnostic clarification and behavior management plans. The other half of her time is spent at Grady's Adult Outpatient Clinic where she assists Dorian Lamis with the Bipolar Clinic groups and research, sees individual patients, conducts diagnostic assessments and supervises practicum students.

Sarah has been the Chair of the Georgia Psychological Association for Graduate Students (GPAGS) for the past 1.5 years. She is the first-ever chair for this newly formed group within the Georgia Psychological Association (GPA), which allows her to build from the ground up. Under her leadership, the organization has developed a social media presence, bi-monthly newsletter and raised over \$1200 for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. The group recently began selling t-shirts to fund the inaugural student awards to support Georgia psychology students attending GPA's annual conference and already raised close to \$1000. She is very proud of the work done with GPAGS and looks forward to continuing to grow and develop as a leader.

Sarah loves her day-to-day clinical work, and really enjoys working with individuals with Serious and Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI), while connecting with patients who may be considered "difficult." She also appreciates the opportunities afforded to be a leader, supervisor and social justice advocate. Sarah is inspired every day by her colleagues, and the commitment and passion of the people she works with is one of her favorite things about working at Grady.

Although Sarah obtained her PhD in 2018, her journey in the field of psychology started in 2003 when she left a job at Goldman Sachs to start a master's program in Counseling Psychology at Northwestern University. She graduated in 2006 and practiced as a master's-level clinician for eight years before returning to school. Sarah decided to return for her PhD in order to further develop as a scientist-practitioner and leader. She has practiced, trained and taught in Illinois, Nebraska, Kentucky and now Georgia and is grateful for all the experiences shaping her as a clinician, supervisor and researcher.

Outside of work, Sarah's favorite activities are reading and running. She tries to make time for both while balancing work and being a mom. Sarah has three elementary-school-aged children and finds herself spending more and more time helping with homework (and letting the school know research does not support giving homework in

elementary school)! Sarah and her husband also love to watch cooking competitions (our favorites are Top Chef and the Great British Bake Off).

Starting this fall, Sarah will be a Psychologist and Assistant Professor at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center/Dartmouth Geisel School of Medicine. She will be teaching, supervising, researching and engaging in clinical work focused on mood disorders. She is thrilled to have accepted this position and her family is looking forward to exploring New Hampshire's Upper Valley, but it is bittersweet to leave the wonderful city of Atlanta and the amazing community she has found here.

## **FACULTY COMINGS AND GOINGS**

### **WELCOME NEW FACULTY**

None reported

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

None reported

## **DIVERSITY CORNER**

None reported

## **WELLNESS CORNER**

Hope everyone is enjoying the Move More Challenge!

<https://hr.emory.edu/eu/wellness/healthy-emory-connect/index.html>

Check out free fitness on the Beltline

<https://beltline.org/atlanta-beltline-programs/health-and-fitness>

Here is a great resource for fruit and vegetable ideas

<https://eatrightatlanta.com/>

Helpful stress management webinars are available @HealthyEmory

<https://www.hr.emory.edu/eu/wellness/webinars/index.html>

Free Yoga option at Ponce City Market

<https://poncecitymarket.com/event/shed-stretch-2>

Free classes

<https://www.colonysquaremidtown.com/events/>

## **FACULTY KUDOS**

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

Jordan Cattie has been invited to serve as a member of the Emory School of Medicine Task Force on Combating Sexual Harassment in Academic Medicine.

Jennifer Felger has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor.

Jeffrey Rakofsky has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor.

### **Education**

Allison LoPilato and Edward Craighead gave a workshop at the Anxiety and Depression Association of America (ADAA) annual meeting in Chicago titled "Behavioral Activation for Adolescent Depression."

Allison LoPilato and Joya Hampton gave a workshop at the annual Georgia Psychological Meeting titled "Improving Parental Well-Being & Effectiveness: A DBT-Informed Approach."

### **Research**

Cramer, R.J., Ireland, J.L., Long, M.M., Hartley, V., & Lamis, D.A. (2019). Initial Validation of the Suicide Competency Assessment Form among Behavioral Health Staff in the National Health Services (NHS) Trust. *Archives of Suicide Research*. doi: 10.1080/13811118.2019.1577194

Giupponi, G., Thoma, H. Lamis, D. A., Forte, A., Pompili, M., & Kapfhammer, H. (2019). Post-traumatic stress reactions of underground drivers after suicides by jumping to arriving trains. *Journal of Trauma and Dissociation*. doi: 10.1080/15299732.2019.1597810

Howell BR, Ahn M, Shi Y, Godfrey JR, Hu X, Zhu H, Styner M, Sanchez MM. (in press) Disentangling the Effects of Early Caregiving Experience and Heritable Factors on Brain White Matter Development in Rhesus Monkeys. *NeuroImage*.

Jiang F, Zhou H, Rakofsky J, Hu L, Liu H, Liu T, Wu S, Liu H, Liu Y\*, Tang Y\*. (2019). Intention to leave among psychiatric nurses in China: a nation-wide cross-sectional study. *International Journal of Nursing Studies*. doi: 10.1016/j.ijnurstu.2019.03.013

Klibert, J. J., Aftab, S., Tarantino, N., Miceli, M., & Lamis, D. A. (2019). Suicide proneness moderates the link between depression and suicidal behaviors: Findings from the United States and Pakistan. *Omega: Journal of Death and Dying*. doi: 10.1177/0030222819843029

Knowles KA, Sripada RJ, Defever M & Rauch SAM. (2018). Comorbid Mood and Anxiety Disorders and Severity of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Symptoms in Treatment-Seeking Veterans. *Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice, and Policy*. 10.1037/tra0000383.

LoPilato, A., Goines, K., Addington, J., Bearden, C., Cadenhead, K., Cannon, T., ...Walker, E. (epub ahead of print 2019). Impact of childhood adversity on corticolimbic

volumes in youth at clinical-risk for psychosis. *Schizophrenia Research*. doi: 10.1016/j.schres.2019.01.048.

Morin EL, Howell BR, Meyer JS, Sanchez MM. (in press) Effects of early maternal care on adolescent attention bias to threat in nonhuman primates. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience*.

Sexton MB, Davis AK, Buchholz KR, Winters JJ, Rauch SAM, Yzquibell M, Bonar EE, Friday S & Chermack ST. (2018). Veterans with Recent Substance Use and Aggression: PTSD, Substance Use, and Social Network Behaviors. *Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice, and Policy*. doi: 10.1037/tra0000367.

Starr, L. R., Hershenberg, R., Shaw, Z. A., Li, Y. I., & Santee, A. C. (in press). The Perils of Murky Emotions: Emotion Differentiation Moderates the Prospective Relationship between Naturalistic Stress Exposure and Adolescent Depression. *Emotion*.

Venkataraman A, Brody N, Reddi P, Guo J, Rainnie D, Dias BG. Modulation of fear generalization by the zona incerta. (EPub available ahead of print, April 9, 2019) *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA* [EPub ahead of print]. April 9, 2019. doi: 10.1073/pnas.1820541116

Waford, R. & Iati, C. (2019). Psychosis. In S. Hupp (Ed.), *Pseudoscience in child and adolescent Psychotherapy: A Skeptical Field Guild*. United Kingdom, New York: Cambridge University Press (Forward by Scott Lillienfeld.)

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

David Goldsmith's poster "Inflammatory markers are associated with psychomotor slowing in patients with schizophrenia compared to healthy controls" was awarded the npj: Schizophrenia Poster Award at the 2019 Congress of the Schizophrenia International Research Society.

Jennifer Holton was accepted into the Georgia Physicians Leadership Academy

Andrew Miller was selected as the 2019 recipient of the Psychiatric Foundation of North Carolina's V. Sagar Sethi, MD Mental Health Research Award that honors his pioneering work in the development of immunotherapeutic interventions for the treatment of psychiatric disorders.

Sheila Rauch was selected for Emory's Academic Leadership Program.

Mar Sanchez received a two-year R21 grant from the National Institute of Child Development for her study "Effects of Stress and Obesity on Longitudinal Epigenetic Programming."

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

None reported

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

Allison LoPilato was an invited speaker at Heard Elementary School's "Helping Kids Manage Anxiety & Stress" event.

### **Facilities**

None reported

### **Emory in the Media**

Patrice Harris (1) Atlanta Journal Constitution: [Atlanta Psychiatrist Set to Take Reins of American Medical Association](#).

Nadine Kaslow (1) Vice: [Sometimes Depression Means Not Feeling Anything at All](#). (2) News10 Albany: [Kids with Suicidal Thoughts Going to the ER Doubles](#). (3) WSFA12 Montgomery: [CDC: Number of Youth Committing Suicide on the Rise](#).

Barbara Rothbaum (1) Kaiser Health News: [Mourning Paradise: Collective Trauma in a Town Destroyed](#).

### **Other Accomplishments**

The Atlanta Trauma Alliance recently completed its first successful presentation at the ADAA with the following: (1) A Powers (Chair, April 2019): Identifying Effective Treatments for Traumatized Individuals from Underserved Populations. Symposium conducted for the annual meeting of the Anxiety and Depression Association of America. Chicago, IL. (2) Powers, A. Brief Mindfulness Intervention for Chronically Traumatized Women with PTSD and Depression Symptoms. (3) Cattie, J. Gentle Chair-based Yoga Intervention Administered in an Outpatient Public Hospital Setting. (4) Fani, N. Vibroacoustically-augmented Breath-focused Mindfulness Meditation for Dissociative Traumatized People (5) Maples-Keller, J. Psychophysiological Mechanisms of Treatment Response within Prolonged Exposure Therapy for PTSD.

Mark Ackerman presented a talk entitled "Cultural Competency" at the American College of Forensic Psychology 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium.

### **ADJUNCT FACULTY KUDOS**

Alex Sawicki graduated from the Adult Psychoanalytic Training Program at the Emory University Psychoanalytic Institute.

Beverly Stoute was: (1) a panel moderator at the American Psychoanalytic Association Annual Meeting for Screening Racism: Get Out, Artists-in-Residence and University Race Form: Racism in America III and presenter on Applying Historical and Social Factors in Clinical Psychoanalysis; (2) an Invited Presenter at The New York Psychoanalytic Institute's Advanced Child and Adolescent Psychoanalysis Lecture Series; (3) a grand rounds participant at the Payne Whitney Clinic-New York

Presbyterian Hospital Cornell Medical Center and leader of a grand rounds workshop for psychiatry residents on recognizing how race and racism emerge as issues in psychotherapy in cross racial dyads; (4) invited panelist presenter at the William Alanson White Institute Multi-Institute Conference: Changing the Conversation: Political and Clinical Issues of Race and Ethnicity in Psychoanalytic Institutes, Intra and Inter-Institutional Considerations; (5) presenter of her award-winning paper "*Racial Socialization and Thwarted Mentalization: Reflections of a psychoanalyst from the lived experience of James Baldwin's America*" to grand rounds at the NYU Child Study Center, as well as the Yale Child Study Center Grand Rounds as the Samuel and Lucille Ritvo Memorial Lecturer; (6) workshop leader at the Yale University Schools of Medicine and Yale University Child Study Center for General Psychiatry residents and Child and Adolescent Psychiatry fellows on issues of race, diversity and social justice for trainee clinicians in a university clinic patient population; and (7) presenter at Western New England Psychoanalytic Institute on Supervising Trainees on the Implications of Race and Structural Racism Treating Patients of Color and Gender Diversity in a University Clinic.

Ren Massey helped Sanjay Shah prep for testimony against conversion therapy and then shared the thoughts for the GPA Newsletter: Through GPA's Public Interest Review Committee (PIRC) Procedures, GPA had voted to support a bill opposing "conversion therapy" of LGBT youth on the grounds of research and APA position papers finding these practices harmful and unethical. As a member of the PIRC, Sanjay Shah, Ph.D., J.D. testified before a Special Subcommittee of the Regulated Industries Committee in the Georgia House of Representatives on March 19, 2019. The following are from the Nelson-Mullins (GPA's legislative consulting team) newsletter and from Dr. Shah. He briefly describes his experience, which encourages all of us to use psychological research and expertise to inform public policy-makers.

- From Nelson Mullins report on the Georgia House Regulated Industries - Special Subcommittee: Chairman Alan Powell called the subcommittee to order to hold a hearing on HB 580, known as the "Youth Mental Health Protection Act" and would outlaw the practice of conversion therapy. Rep. Matthew Wilson (D-Brookhaven) spoke to the bill and explained both his motives in bringing the bill along with what it aims to accomplish. He noted that Georgia has a conversion therapy crisis which he said significantly increases the risk of suicide in LGBTQ youth. Rep. Wilson further enumerated the number of national and statewide organizations, both medical and civil rights groups, that oppose conversion therapy. Lastly, Rep. Wilson explained that the bill's scope only applies to licensed mental health practitioners. Roland Behm, from the Georgia Chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, explained why his organization is in support of this bill. Specifically, he noted the correlation between individuals receiving conversion therapy and suicide. Peter Nunn, a private citizen who has undergone conversion therapy, provided testimony in favor of the bill. He described his experiences with conversion therapy and explained to the committee why he believes it was detrimental to his development and mental



health. Dr. Sanjay Shah, a licensed psychologist, spoke about the negative clinical aspects of conversion therapy.

- In Dr. Shah's words: *"I had the privilege of testifying on behalf of the Georgia Psychological Association in favor of a bill to prohibit mental health professionals in Georgia from providing conversion therapy to minors. GPA is among 28 organizations that form a coalition in favor of this bill. I prepared a five-minute statement and answered two to three questions at the end. As this was my first time testifying in this setting, I had little knowledge of what to expect and was a little nervous. However, the legislators were attentive and seemed eager to learn more, which helped me settle into the task of conveying information about this public policy concern. I found that it would be most effective to take an educational mindset and to succinctly cover just two to three main points because of the limited time. Overall, to take a small part in attempting to further very meaningful legislation in the state was a highly rewarding experience."*

#### **TRAINEE KUDOS**

Mina Boazak was selected as an inductee to the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society at Emory University School of Medicine.

Sarah Roane received the Outstanding Graduate Student Award from the Georgia Psychological Association.

#### **STAFF KUDOS**

Danielle Belva was appointed to an Adjunct Faculty Instructor at the Emory Nursing School.

Gabby Harper was promoted to Preschool Coordinator at the Early Emory Center for Child Development and Enrichment.

Carolyn Knight was honored at the SOM Class of 2019 Banquet with the Best Clerkship Coordinator Award.

Chandler Wentz passed her exam to become a Board Certified Behavior Analyst.

#### **PERSONAL UPDATES**

None reported