

EMORY DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES KUDOS
MAY 2023

REMEMBER

Please send me your accomplishments and personal updates for the June 2023 Kudos

SAVE THE DATES

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT SEMINARS

Upcoming faculty development seminars, which will be held from 9:00-10:30a, [Zoom](#) link:

- Wednesday June 28, 2023 – Powerpoint: From Basics to Innovation

WRITING GROUPS: UPCOMING

The Writing Group is the 1st Wednesday of every month from 8:00-9:00am. These meetings are on [Zoom](#).

SPOTLIGHTS

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: Samantha Patton, PhD

Samantha (Sam) Patton is in her second year as an Assistant Professor within the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Emory University School of Medicine. In her primary role as a clinical psychologist within the Addiction Alliance of GA (AAG), she provides individual outpatient services to teens and adults with substance use and co-occurring disorders. She specializes in co-occurring PTSD and anxiety disorders. Sam is also the clinical director of the AAG Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) in partnership with the Hazelden Betty Ford. In this role, she helps shape the IOP clinical programming and procedures in collaboration with Dr. Santosh Patel, and the Hazelden team. She also trains and supervises addiction counselors running the IOP groups, supervises graduate practicum students from surrounding PhD programs, and will be supervising medical residents in the future. Her research involvement includes collaborations with Emory faculty within the Emory Healthcare Veterans Program and Grady Trauma Project, and with the Hazelden Butler Center for Research. In addition, Sam is an active member of the Atlanta Behavioral Health Advocates and Women Faculty Subcommittee.

What Sam most enjoys about her work is using evidence-based practice to help patients build lives that are meaningful, rewarding, and driven by their values rather than substance use. Sam believes strongly in the integration of research and practice and has also enjoyed the challenge of program development.

Outside of work Sam enjoys spending time with her partner, Chris, and their two dogs. You may see them on a hiking trail or at the dog park when the weather is nice. Sam also enjoys new food adventures, cooking, live music, creating and enjoying art and hopes to travel more.

Ultimately, Sam would like to help expand dual diagnosis programming and related research efforts within the clinic. She is actively involved in creating a standardized procedure to increase use of measurement-based care within both the AAG IOP and outpatient clinic. Resulting data are expected to improve clinical care and allow the opportunity for program development, as well as create a structure for future research endeavors. She is also in the process of obtaining board certification in Behavioral and Cognitive Psychology.

ADJUNCT FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: Kristin Weinschenk, MD

Kristin Weinschenk is a Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist, and the medical director for the Consultation Liaison Psychiatry service at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. She is passionate about providing quality mental health care to Georgia's kids. Kristin is committed to providing equitable care and believes a child's socioeconomic status should have no impact on the quality of services available to them. She loves advocating for Georgia's children and working to improve our state's pediatric mental health system.

Kristin has the honor of training all the Emory Child and Adolescent Psychiatry fellows during their first year of fellowship. The fellows are key team members on service during their four-month rotation. They are exposed to a wide array of challenging pediatric cases, and hospital team dynamics. It is not an easy rotation, so it's very important to Kristin the fellows get adequate support, supervision and education on each shift. It's very rewarding to see their professional confidence and clinical expertise grow throughout the year. She is incredibly proud the entire 2023 graduating fellowship class will be coming on board at Children's as attendings. She is thrilled to call them her colleagues.

In the past year, Kristin has also worked with Jeffrey Rakofsky to have their consult service serve as a core rotation site for the MS3 psychiatry clerkship. They now welcome an Emory medical student for six weeks at a time. Her hope is by increasing exposure to Child and Adolescent Psychiatry early on in training, they can increase interest in their specialty and grow the pipeline of physicians entering the field. It's really great having learners with them- their questions keep her team and her on their toes.

Kristin's favorite part of being an adjunct faculty is working with the students, fellows and the Emory teams that lead them. She trained at Emory for both residency and fellowship, and value the ongoing relationships with Emory's psychiatrists.

Kristin loves hiking, being outdoors and vacationing in places with no cell service. She believes you should never ever work on your birthday, and you're never too old to enjoy acting like a child.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT: Kameelah Moon

Kameelah Moon is the business office manager for Emory Autism Center (EAC). In her role at the Autism Center she provides support for financial related obligations to all

programs within EAC, as well as oversees the front desk and several operational facets within the center.

Outside of Emory, Kameelah co-hosts a Saturday night podcast on Fuzion radio. This includes planning the show, researching the topic under discussion, sketching out questions for guests and working with advertisers to produce lead-in copies.

Kameelah has thoroughly enjoyed her time at EAC. For her, it feels good coming to work and feeling appreciated, but most of all she loves the community served at EAC and working alongside amazing colleagues especially Matt Segall, Amanda Platner and Holli Abernathy. She has great compassion for the client/family population at EAC.

Kameelah came to EAC as the Financial Administrative Assistant, and not long after working at EAC was promoted to finance accounting specialist and again to the business office manager. During the beginning of COVID, she found herself as the only person in the building for the period of one year helping to make operations and finance flow as normally as possible during a national pandemic.

Kameelah is a native of Atlanta and a panelist for a women's empowerment group. Her hobbies include reading criminal, employment and political law books, as well as enjoying aquatic aerobics and her absolute favorite is spin exercise bike workouts.

TRAINEE SPOTLIGHT: Gemariah Valencia, PhD

Gemariah Valencia is a postdoctoral resident with the Nia Project and Bipolar Clinic Research Program (BCRP). In both roles, she provides individual and group psychotherapy services, and supervises graduate-level practicum students. In the Nia project, she assists with community outreach and fundraising initiatives. In the BCRP, Gemariah coordinates recruitment of participants and group treatments for bipolar disorders. She is also a member of the Diversity, Inclusion, and Social Justice Committee (DISC) and Atlanta Behavioral Health Advocates (ABHA). She has been involved with planning the cultural case presentation with DISC, and co-writing an ABHA blog.

Prior to starting as a postdoc, Gemariah was most recently the intern representative for the California Psychological Association Div 2 (Teaching and Education). She was also a small group leader in church. Her current roles outside of Emory are wife, student studying for the licensing exams and Boba connoisseur.

Gemariah enjoys entering into her patients' lives and empowering them to identify the changes they would like to make and aspects of themselves they would like to learn to accept. It is a privilege to know she gets to be part of people's life stories. She finds personal meaning and fulfillment in being part of the shift from surviving in life to thriving/flourishing.

One key highlight in Gemariah's career trajectory is being able to provide clinical services abroad in Thailand. She never imagined she would be able to serve native

English speakers (adults and children) abroad, and be able to learn how to adapt and apply her skills in a cross-cultural setting. Another highlight is being able to influence church leadership in the local church she was part of in California and continue to reinforce a psychologically-minded approach to spiritual formation and relationship-building within the church.

Gemariah's interests outside of the workplace include spiritual formation in the Christian faith, member care with missionaries, traveling to different countries, fan/ARMY of BTS (KPOP group), doing fitness challenges (e.g., 30-day squat challenge), watching Jeopardy daily, watching Korean and Japanese dramas and drinking bubble tea/boba.

Gemariah's goals for the future are to continue working with individuals who have experienced various traumatic events, especially with women and marginalized populations, increase appropriate mental health awareness and care in the church, as well as increase her involvement in local advocacy and global/cross-cultural psychology work.

DISC COMMITTEE

Easter – Anita Hendricks, MA- Easter – “He is not here; he has risen, just as he said”. – Matthew 28:6 NIV. Easter is the most important holiday on the Christian Church calendar. It celebrates Jesus Christ's resurrection from the dead after he was crucified for the sins of the world. His resurrection brought renewed life, forgiveness, hope and the power to overcome. Its account can be found within the New Testament portion of the Bible (Matthew 28; John 20). Historically, Easter, also called Pascha (Greek, Latin or Aramaic) is celebrated on Resurrection Sunday or as coined in the black church as “Gettin Up Sunday” occurred three days after Jesus was crucified by Roman Soldiers at a place called the skull or Calvary around 30 A.D. Easter celebration begins with Lent – a 40-day period of fasting, prayer and sacrifice with Holy Week.

By biblical account, its story presents two women who were led by hope and faith to prepare Jesus body for burial only to find that he was not there but had risen just as he said he would. Personally, I have always been inquisitive to search for things I've sensed in my heart just as these women did. The power of the resurrection offers us the assurance and conviction that God is always faithful to keep his promises for those who trust in him. The promises we hope for, which are often held within our hearts. Easter commemorates a promised fulfilled; and serves as a foundation for belief, sacrifice and hope.

If Christ died and rose again as celebrated, then where can one find him today? The answer is simple, within one's heart. The place where hope and love are logged. In 1933, a writer named Alfred Ackley wrote a song titled “He Lives”. The verses tell of a personal conviction of why we celebrate Easter today. No matter what you or I face, we can rest assured the resurrected one is always near to help us along the way. Our hope and faith are strengthened because he lives within our hearts, and as the song says:

“He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and talks with me along life’s narrow way. He lives, He lives, salvation to impart! You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart.” Happy Easter...

WELLNESS COMMITTEE

Wellness Resources:

Healthy Emory is bringing back the [Eat Smart, Move More, Weigh Less](#) program in September.

Challenges with Healthy Emory are ongoing - the Sharecare app is the platform and incentive dollars are available!

[Operation Eat Right](#) encourages you to improve your nutrition and boost your well-being using Healthy Emory Connect!

Resources from Healthy Emory and a link below to the ACPH.

- [Benefits](#)
- [Rewards](#)
- [Career](#)
- [Learning](#)
- [Wellness](#)
- [Work Life](#)
- [Employee Assistance](#)
- [Employee Assistance – Physician Wellbeing Conference](#)

Healthy Emory resources including the Sharecare platform for Move More, Refresh from Stress and more! Open to University and Healthcare Employees

[Healthy Emory Connect | Emory University | Atlanta GA](#)

Wellbeing and mental health support for Emory University Employees [Faculty Staff Assistance Program](#) and for [Emory Healthcare Employees](#) username EHC (800 327 2251)

Graduate Medical Education Well-being [Resident Well Being | Emory School of Medicine](#)

International Conference on Physician Health (alternates years with American Conference) [International Conference on Physician Health™ | American Medical Association \(ama-assn.org\)](#)

[Dr. Lorna Breen Heroes Foundation | Dedicated to Protecting the Well-Being of Physicians and Health Care Professionals \(drlornabreen.org\)](#)

Office of Well- Being established for Woodruff Health Sciences

[Emory’s Woodruff Health Sciences Center establishes Office of Well-Being | Emory University | Atlanta GA](#)

FACULTY KUDOS

Major Leadership Appointments, Activities and Achievements

The Atlanta VA Health Care System has achieved a three-year Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) accreditation through May 31, 2026. The CARF reaccreditation survey conducted on March 15-17, 2023, identified no recommendations. This accomplishment is achieved on only three (3) percent of CARF surveys. Monique Hunter and Bethany Ketchen took the lead on this blended program accreditation which was six years in the making.

John Constantino was appointed as Professor with tenure.

Tomina Schwenke graduated in May with a Juris Master (JM) degree from Emory Law.

Research

Chen P, Cai H, Bai W, Zhang Q, Su Z, Tang YL, Ungvari GS, Ng CH, Xiang YT. [Global prevalence of mild cognitive impairment among older adults living in nursing homes: a meta-analysis and systematic review of epidemiological surveys.](#) *Translational Psychiatry*, 2023, 13(1): 88.

Florez IA, Watson-Singleton NN, Hershenberg R, Smack AJ, Dunn SE, & Kaslow NJ. (2023). Life stress, depression, and religious coping among low-income African American women. *Journal of African American Studies*. doi: 10.1007/s12111-023-09622-9

Kaslow NJ, Lewis PC, Cheong YF, & Yount KM. (2023). Longitudinal study of COVID-19 stay-at-home orders' impact on deaths of despair in the United States, January 2019 to December 20. *Journal of Public Health*. doi: 10.1093/pubmed/fdad052

Lathan EC, Guelfo A, La Barrie DL, Teer AP, Powers A, Siegle GJ, Fani N. (in press, *Journal of Psychiatric Research*). Differing associations of depersonalization with skin conductance response during rest and breath-focused mindfulness in a trauma-exposed female population.

Lin Y, Cai H, Liu HH, Su XJ, Zhou CY, Li J, Tang YL, Jackson T, Xiang YT. Prevalence of depression and its association with quality of life in patients after pacemaker implantation during the COVID-19 pandemic: a network analysis. *Frontiers in Psychiatry*, 2023, 14: 1084792. Doi: 10.3389/fpsy.2023.1084792

Mayberg HS, & Dunlop BW. (2022). Balancing the beautiful and the good in pursuit of biomarkers for depression. *World Psychiatry*, 22 (2), 265-266.

Schwenke, T. (2023, April 7). [Burnout and Work Engagement: Lessons Learned at the 2022 ADARA Conference, ADARA UPDATE: Professionals Networking for](#)

[Excellence in Service Delivery with Individuals who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing](#), 2023 (Issue 2), p. 13-16.

van Rooij, S.J.H., Arulpragasam, A.R., McDonald, W.M., & Philip, N.S. (2023). Accelerated TMS- Moving quickly into the future of depression treatment. *Neuropsychopharmacology*. doi: 10.1038/s41386-023-01599-z

Wang P, Tang YL, Chen Y, He Y, Li L, Han X, Liu Y, Liu T, Liu H, Jiang F, Zhu J. [Mental health status of mental health nurses in China: results from a national survey](#). *International Journal of Mental Health Nursing*, 2022.

Honors, Awards, Rankings

Ed Craighead received the Anxiety and Depression Association of American award entitled, "Member of Distinction" for over a decade as a leader of their clinical science leg of the Career Development and Leadership

Melina Collins received the Clinical Distinction designation of Senior Physician.

Andrea Crowell received the Clinical Distinction designation of Senior Physician.

Katie Cullum was appointed as the President of OCD Georgia.

Karen Drexler was recognized by the School of Medicine on Educator Appreciation Day.

Michael Epstein was recognized by the School of Medicine on Educator Appreciation Day.

Joya Hampton-Anderson was awarded internal funding in support of her program, "Developing a Culturally Informed Anxiety Intervention Program for Black Youth" by Emory's Office of the Provost.

Rachel Hershenberg received the Clinical Distinction designation of Senior Psychologist.

Jennifer Holton received the Clinical Distinction designation of Distinguished Physician.

Nadine Kaslow was honored as a 2023 Distinguished Alumnus of the University of Houston.

Dorian Lamis and Brian Bauervat from UGA received grant funding from CTSA for "Examining Changes in Suicidality as a Result of Long COVID in Individuals from Underrepresented Populations."

Erica Marshall Lee was recognized by the School of Medicine on Educator Appreciation Day.

Abigail Powers Lott was recognized by the School of Medicine on Educator Appreciation Day.

Vasiliki Michopoulos was recognized by the School of Medicine on Educator Appreciation Day.

Stella Nelms became a Fellow of the Georgia Psychological Association.

Viorica Pencea received the Clinical Distinction designation of Distinguished Physician.

Patricio Riva Posse received the Clinical Distinction designation of Distinguished Physician.

Tomina Schwenke received the Clinical Distinction designation of Senior Psychologist.

Sanjay Shah received the Clinical Distinction designation of Distinguished Physician.

Jennifer Stevens was honored as the Junior Faculty recipient of the 2023 Albert E. Levy Award for Scientific Research.

Yilang Tang was recognized by the School of Medicine on Educator Appreciation Day.

Fani N, Treadway MT. Focal temporal interference deep brain stimulation to modulate attentional control in adults. Emory University School of Medicine Imagine, Innovate and Impact (I3) Medical Technology Research Award.

Rebecca Woo was recognized by the School of Medicine on Educator Appreciation Day.

Presentations

Michelle Casimir gave her Presidential Address at the Georgia Psychological Association Annual Business Meeting in Athens, GA.

Telsie Davis gave the Keynote Address for the Georgia Psychological Association's Annual Meeting, which was entitled "What we do is who we are: How to practice psychology so all clients can thrive." She also presented a workshop entitled "The model of cultural equity: A new framework for multicultural training in psychology."

Karen Drexler moderated a webinar for the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry entitled "Psychedelics in the Treatment of Substance Use Disorders: What Clinicians Need to Know."

Joya Hampton-Anderson, Chanda Graves and Erica Marshall-Lee gave a workshop entitled “Psychological support for the workforce: Coping, communication and resources” for the Georgia Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation Annual Conference.

Erica Marshall-Lee gave her President Elect Address, Georgia Psychological Association Annual Business Meeting in Athens, GA.

Erica Marshall-Lee, Desiree Frain, Suzanne Lawley and Anne Werkheiser provided a workshop at the Georgia Psychological Association’s Annual Meeting entitled “Reflective practice: Building tools for social justice in clinical supervision, training, and practice.”

Rebecca Schneider and Allison LoPilato presented a workshop for the ACT and OCD Special Topics Series through the ACBS OCD SIG entitled “Misuse of ACT skills in exposures.”

Community

Rebecca Woo presented at GPB’s Maternal Mental Health Training on the topic of Psychopharmacology in Pregnancy, which was held in Macon.

Media

Nadine Kaslow (1) Rough Draft Atlanta – [Seniors being treated for mental and emotional post-COVID problems](#) (2) The Hill – [More women attempt suicide. More men die by suicide.](#)

Brandon Kitay (1) Emory News – [Emory Collaborates with NeuroFlow to Increase Access to Behavioral Health Services.](#)

William McDonald (1) HIT Consultant – [Emory Taps NeuroFlow to Scale Collaborative Care Model.](#)

ADJUNCT FACULTY KUDOS

Adrianna Flores became a Fellow of the Georgia Psychological Association.

Betsy Gard – **Appointments** (1) Set to become the incoming Secretary and on the Executive Board of the Georgia Psychological Foundation (2) The Nefesh Committee Chair, which is the Mental Health Committee for Temple Sinai. **Media** (1) [Interview with Dr. Sophia Chaudhary](#), a national expert on child and youth gun safety.

Presentations (1) Utilizing a Psychological Foundation for Engaging Psychologists in Research and Producing Social Media, has been accepted by Division 31 - State, Provincial and Territorial Psychological Association Affairs.

Kisha Holden – **Presentations** (1) Charting a Path Forward to Advance Health Equity: Embedding Mental Health Equity Indicators into the #988 National Crisis Hotline, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA), Washington, DC. (2) Why Health Equity Indicators Matter for the #988 National Crisis Hotline,

National Alliance of Mental Illness (NAMI)-Minnesota, MN. (3) Strengthening Community-Academic Partnerships, Dartmouth College, Geisel School of Medicine, Hanover, New Hampshire. **Publications** (1) Co-editor of Academic Book (2) Holden, K. and Jones, C. (2023). *Black Women and Resilience: Power, Perseverance, and Public Health*, New York: State University of New York (SUNY) Press.

Deb Simkin co-edited with L Eugene Arnold a special issue of *Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Clinics of North America*, 32 (2), entitled "Complementary and integrative medicine: Part 1: By diagnosis. They have an upcoming co-edited textbook in the *Clinics of North America* on complementary and integrative medicine interventions.

TRAINEE KUDOS

Hinojosa CA, Liew A, An X, Stevens JS, Basu A, van Rooij SJH, House SL, Beaudoin FL, Zeng D, Neylan TC, Clifford GD, Jovanovic T, Linnstaedt SD, Germine LT, Rauch SL, Haran JP, Storrow AB, Lewandowski C, Musey PI, Hendry PL, Sheikh S, Jones CW, Panches BE, Kurz MC, Swor RA, Hudak LA, Pascual JL, Seamon MJ, Datner EM, Chang AM, Pearson C, Peak DA, Merchant RC, Domeier RM, Rathley NK, Sergot P, Sanchez LD, Bruce SE, Miller MW, Pietrzak RH, Joorman J, Pizzagalli DA, Sheridan JF, Harte SE, Elliott JM, Kessler RC, Koenen KC, McLean SA, Ressler KJ, Fani N. (in press). Associations of alcohol and cannabis use with change in posttraumatic stress disorder and depression symptoms over time in recently trauma-exposed individuals. *Psychological Medicine*.