



Bi-Monthly Newsletter

JULY 2023 - SPECIAL EDITION



IN THIS ISSUE:

- A Note from the Chair
- May '22 June '23 Recap
- Announcements & Events
- Community Resources
- Climate Corner
- Department Updates
- In The Media
- Faculty Appointments & Promotions

Welcome to this *very special* edition of the Department of Psychiatry newsletter, covering a number of events, updates, faculty and staff contributions since our last newsletter released in spring of 2022. We are delighted to restart this truly meaningful tradition.

Notice anything missing that you would like to share with your colleagues? Moving forward, we will begin soliciting items from the department once again so that all exciting news and updates can be included. Please be on the lookout for further updates that will come in the next few weeks.

While this list is certainly far from all-encompassing, we sincerely hope you enjoy this look back into some of the many wonderful moments that have made up the last 14 months!

TABLE OF CONTENTS

A Note from the Chair	3
May '22 - June '23 Recap	4
Announcements & Events	36
Community Resources	39
Climate Corner	40
Department Updates	42
In The Media	53
Faculty Appointments & Promotions	54

We are rewriting healthcare, together

At BMC, healthcare means more. From cutting-edge treatments to rooftop farms, we provide innovative and equitable care that empowers all patients to truly thrive.

Learn more about us →

BMC, 2023

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR AND CHIEF

Welcome back to the Boston Medical Center and Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry *new and improved* bi-monthly newsletter. It has been some time since our last newsletter went out and, as you will see, there has been tremendous growth, development, and acknowledgments in our department. The newsletter, however, gives only a glimpse of the individual, group and departmental accomplishments. We, and our patients and colleagues, are so fortunate to have an incredibly talented, committed, and compassionate team who work together to move our clinical services, education programs, and research well beyond what we thought was possible.

As you read through the newsletter, please take the time to congratulate yourselves and your colleagues on the important contributions that have been made. As we continue to grow to meet the needs of our patients, you are needed more than ever.

Again, I thank and appreciate everyone in the department as every person has contributed to our progress.

Dave C. Henderson, MD Chair and Chief of Psychiatry



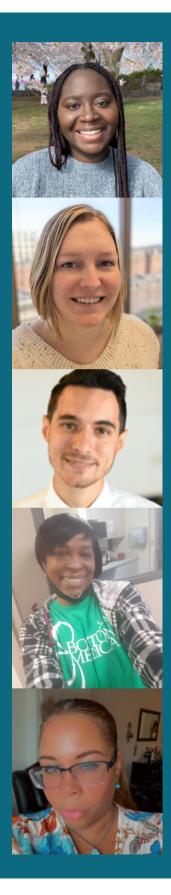
Hannah Brown, MD was promoted to Vice Chair of Research

Sarah Valentine, PhD was promoted to Associate Director, T32 Global Mental Health Research Fellowship, and Director, RESTORE Center

Amy Yule, MD was promoted to Vice Chair of Addiction Psychiatry

Jessica Lewczyk, MSN was promoted to Ambulatory Chief APRN

Alison Duncan, MD stepped into the role of Youth CBHC Medical Director



Linda Asare, MHA was promoted to Project Management Specialist

Lynne Rose, BS was promoted to Operations and Administrative Support for Consultation-Liaison (CL) and Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES)

Richy Villa, LICSW was promoted to Director of Training and Social Work Development

Maud Paul-Honore, BSW was promoted to Resource Navigation Supervisor, Dowling Adult Outpatient Psychiatry Clinic

Sandra Rodriguez was promoted to Team Lead, Dowling Outpatient Psychiatry Clinic



Zoie Wong was promoted to Finance & Grants Accountant II, Psychiatry Finance and Research



Jaime Shorten, LMHC was promoted to Clinical Director of Crisis Services



Roopa Mathur, DO was promoted to Medical Director, Integrated Behavioral Health



Lucinda Shotts, BS was promoted to BOAT Program Coordinator



Alexander Chang, MD joined as Assistant Director for Medical Student Education

Brittany Gouse, MD, MPH joined as Psychiatry Faculty in Wellness and Recovery After Psychosis (WRAP) and Consultation-Liaison (CL) Services

Sofia Vivoni-Corominas, MD joined as Psychiatry Faculty in the Immigrant and Refugee Health Center (IRHC) and Consultation-Liaison (CL) Services

Katherine Thayer, MSW, LICSW, MBA joined as Clinical Director of
Dowling Outpatient Psychiatry

Ajay Mehta, MD joined as Medical Director of BMC Brockton Behavioral Health Center



Paul Hammerness, MD joined as Executive Vice Chair of Psychiatry

Laura Prager, MD joined as Vice Chair, Chief of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry

Maithri Ameresekere, MD, MSc, PMH-C joined as Director of the BMC Women's Mental Health Program

Nkechi Conteh, MD, MPH joined as Director of the Psychiatry Residency Training Program

Rachel Oblath, PhD joined as Director of Methodology



Maria Prom, MD joined as Director of the Global & Local Center for Mental Health Disparities

Anna Katharina Trede, MD joined as Senior Medical Director, CBHC and Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES)

Christopher Lim, MD joined as the Assistant Medical Director of Population Health Services

Lawrence Were, PhD joined as Director of Research, Global & Local Center for Mental Health Disparities

Ana Maria Rivas-Grajales, MD, MSc stepped into the role of Director of the Neuropsychiatry and Neuromodulation Program



Yves Marcelin-Henry, MS joined as Executive Assistant

Pemi Benson, BS joined as Faculty Support Coordinator

Sharifa Green joined as Administrative Coordinator

Brittaney Cameron, MEd joined as Team Coordinator, Dowling Outpatient Psychiatry

Stephanie Martinez, BS, EMT-B joined as GME Program Administrator

We are delighted to welcome the following psychiatry interns

We Welcome Our Psychiatry Interns!







Juan Correa Rubianes University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine



Isaac de La Bruere University of Vermont College of Medicine



Isabelle Doan Van Tufts University School of Medicine



Boston University School of Medicine

Annie Heyman



University of Connecticut School of Medicine

Anisha Lewis



Aashima Sarin

Medicine

Central Michigan University College of



Wright State University Boonshoft

School of

Medicine

Laurie Thomas



Rayah Touma Sawaya American University of Beirut

2023-2024 Post-Doctoral Fellows



Nickki Dawes CMTP Child & Family Community Fellowship



Karina Fundora

CMTP Child and Family Community Fellowship



Johanna Milord

CMTP Child and Family Community Fellowship

2023-2024 LMHC Students



Ateeb Asim Boston University



Ana Frausto Boston University

We are delighted to welcome the following psychiatry interns

Department of Psychiatry Addiction Fellows



Pooja Sarkar, DO



Siddhi Bhivandkar, MD



Daniel Augustadt, MD

Department of Psychiatry Consult-Liaison Fellow



Brianna Gutowski, DO

We are delighted to welcome the following psychiatry interns

The Center for Multicultural Training in Psychology 2023-2024 Intern Class



Jaylan Abd-Elrahman Northeastern University



Donica Harper Fielding Graduate University



Ellen Ijebor New Mexico State University



Tracie Liu University of Houston



Sushmita Oruganti Denver University



Razzan Quran George Washington University



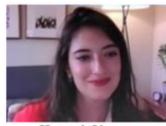
Aleesia Renta-Ramirez Palo Alto University



Breanna Smith Pepperdine University



Andres Vega Ramos Carlos Albizu University



Hannah Young George Washington University



Jin Zhao Syracuse University

Antony Gonzales, DO
was awarded the 2022 Arnold P. Gold Foundation
Humanism & Excellence in Teaching Award!



Dr. Antony Gonzales was nominated for induction into the BUSM **Robert Russell, MD Chapter of the Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS)**, a national society recognizing and supporting humanistic exemplars in medicine!

Antony was also nominated to receive the **Arnold P. Gold Foundation Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Award** based on their commitment to teaching and compassionate treatment of patients, families, students, and colleagues. Antony was one of six residents to receive this award.

Congratulations, Dr. Gonzales!

Brandon Ilechukwu, DO, MS
was awarded the 2023 Arnold P. Gold Foundation
Humanism & Excellence in Teaching Award!



Dr. Brandon Ilechukwu was awarded the Arnold P. Gold Foundation Teaching and Excellence in Humanism Award (HETA) at Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine!

This award recognizes outstanding humanistic teaching residents as identified by third-year medical students based on their exceptional teaching skills and commitment to the compassionate treatment of patients and families, students, and colleagues.

Congratulations, Dr. Ilechukwu!

Temitope Ogundare, MBBS, MPH

was awarded the Nyapati Rao & Francis Lu International Medical Graduate Fellowship from the American Association of Directors of Psychiatry Residency Training (AADPRT)!



International Medical Graduates (IMGs) are a substantial portion of the psychiatric workforce and occupy a significant percentage of residency positions in psychiatry. While IMGs often have extensive medical experience in their home countries, many are new to the U.S. graduate and post-graduate medical education systems, the U.S. medical culture, and to the diverse cultural groups represented in the U.S. As a result, they are faced with the intersecting challenges of professional, personal, and family acculturation. Over the years, many IMGs have made major contributions to research, administration, and clinical service, and now serve in the highest levels of organized and academic psychiatry. This fellowship program is designed to promote the professional growth of exceptional IMG psychiatry residents/fellows with leadership potential, particularly those interested in resident education.

Congratulations to the following residents on their APA Fellowship Awards!



Temitope Ogundare, MBBS, MPH *APA Public Psychiatry Fellowship*



BreeOna Namukowa, MD, MSPH

APA SAMHSA Minority Fellowship



Gabriela Cintron, MD, MS *APA Child Psychiatry Fellowship*



Chevaughn Wellington, MD, MS

APA SAMHSA Minority Fellowship

Marcus Alexis,
BEST Co-Responder,
was awarded the
BPD Commissioner's
Commendation!



The Boston Emergency Services Team, known as the BEST Team, is a 24-hour team of psychiatrists, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, master's level clinicians, mental health workers, family partners and certified peer specialists. Through the Boston Medical Center, they provide a 24-hour response to adults and youths in need of crisis intervention for mental health and substance use concerns. **Marcus Alexis** has been assigned to District B-2 for a year and a half. Marcus shows his concern and empathy for people in crisis every day. He has proven an invaluable friend for police officers and has been able to defuse, deescalate, and mediate

potentially hostile individuals and provide the mental health care they may need. He routinely goes further with thorough follow up on individuals. The amount of mental health calls over the years have increased greatly. Having Marcus available with his skill, passion and desire to provide aid to those in need has become the norm now. In addition to his mental health experience and training, he often takes the opportunity to go above and beyond by making time to try and find housing for the many homeless individuals on the district. Marcus Alexis has shown his personal commitment to providing quality and caring mental health services "on the spot" to people in crisis. Marcus is a great reflection on the BMC staff and the BPD's efforts to modify our response to people in crisis. Marcus and the BEST Team are truly exceptional people with the care and effort they provide the most vulnerable residents of the City of Boston.

Kevin Donnelly-Boylen, MD was named Distinguished BU Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine Faculty of the Month, May 2023!



As shared first by <u>BU Chobanian & Avedisian School</u> <u>of Medicine</u>, **Dr. Donnelly-Boylen** has been a member of our BU & BMC community since 2017. He received his MD from Georgetown University School of Medicine, Washington, D.C., completed an internship in medicine/psychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital, residency in psychiatry at Mass General Hospital/McClean Hospital, and fellowships at Boston Psychoanalytic Society and Institute and Brigham & Women's Hospital.

His nominators say Kevin, "wears many different hats on the clinical service and yet he ensures that every clinical encounter is educational for the entire team and always finds clinical 'pearls' to pass on to medical students, residents and fellows."

"He consistently meets learners where they are at, both in terms of their interests as well as their level of experience."

"He is intensely humane, thoughtful and caring, and the kindest, most patient teacher."

Please accept our many congratulations on your well-deserved award!

Congratulations, Dave C. Henderson, MD!

Dr. Dave Henderson, Professor, Chief, and Chair of Psychiatry, was awarded the **American Psychiatric Association's 2023 Distinguished Service Award** and the **American College of Psychiatrists' 2024 Stanley Dean Award**!





The American Psychiatric Association's **Distinguished Service Award** honors individuals that have contributed exceptional meritorious service to American psychiatry. Dr. Henderson was recognized at the American Psychiatric Association (APA) Annual Conference in May 2023 in San Francisco, CA (*above*).

The American College of Psychiatrists' **Stanley Dean Award** recognizes outstanding contributions to the understanding and treatment of schizophrenia. Dr. Henderson will be recognized at The College's Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA in February 2024

John Renner, MD

stepped down as Addiction

Psychiatry Fellowship Program

Director after 25 years!



Dr. John A. Renner has been the Director of the Addiction Psychiatry Fellowship since 1997. He will continue as the associate program director for the fellowship. His expertise, passion, dedication and enthusiasm for the fellowship has attracted trainees to the program for over two decades. He has been instrumental in integrating substance use training within the general psychiatry residency program, a unique aspect of the general psychiatry program nationally. He has mentored and supervised countless trainees and has won numerous teaching awards. Dr. Renner is Professor of Psychiatry, Associate Director of the joint Boston University/VA Boston Addiction Psychiatry Fellowship and Associate Director of the Boston University Medical Center General Psychiatry Residency Program.

He is past President of the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry, former Chair of the American Psychiatric Association Council on Addiction Psychiatry, and is currently AAAP liaison to the Council. Dr. Renner graduated from Yale University and Case University School of Medicine. Following his psychiatry training, he served for two years in the US Navy and was Chief of Neuropsychiatry at the Naval Hospital, USS Repose, RVN. Since 1979 he has worked at the VA Boston Healthcare System where he currently directs the outpatient addiction psychiatry training program at the VA Jamacia Plain campus. Dr. Renner has written and lectured extensively on the treatment of alcoholism and drug addiction. He is senior editor of the American Psychiatric Association Publishing's Handbook on Office-Based Buprenorphine Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder. He is a member of the Data Safety Monitoring Board for the Clinical Trials Network of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, a Consultant to the Department of Psychiatry, Massachusetts General Hospital, and director of the Massachusetts Psychiatric Society Interest Group on the Addiction. He is also former medical director of the SAMHSA funded Physicians Clinical Support System-Buprenorphine.

Michael Dawes, MD has assumed the role of Addiction Psychiatry Fellowship Program Director!

Addiction Psychiatry Fellowship Director. He has served as Associate Program Director for the Addiction Psychiatry fellowship for the past 2 years and has been core faculty for the Addition Psychiatry fellowship for the past 3 years. Over the past 3 years, he has mentored Addiction Psychiatry faculty and precepted and mentored Addiction Psychiatry Fellows. Over his career, he has mentored and supervised Psychiatry residents, Advanced Fellows, and other trainees who have career interests in Addiction Psychiatry, Addiction Medicine, and clinical research in populations with substance use disorders. Dr. Dawes earned undergraduate and medical degrees from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



He is board certified in Adult Psychiatry, Addiction Psychiatry, and Addiction Medicine, and have training and experience in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. He has been the recipient of a Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Award from the National Institute on Drug Abuse examining developmental trajectories for children at high risk for developing substance use disorders. He has been PI and Co-Investigator on numerous clinical studies and prospective studies funded by the National Institutes of Health, examining the relationships among impulsivity, substance use disorders, and suicidal behavior in adolescents and adults. He has research interests and experience in conducting clinical trials in substance-abusing adolescents and adults. Dr. Dawes has strong interest and experience in designing and implementing numerous continuous quality improvement and systems redesign projects in the Veterans Healthcare Administration.

David C. Henderson, MD,
Hannah E. Brown, MD,
and Michelle P. Durham, MD, MPH,
named among Boston Magazine's Top Docs of 2023!

Drs. Brown, Durham, and Henderson are among 116 BMC Providers to make the list.









Looking for a new doctor? Each year, *Boston* Magazine partners with healthcare researcher <u>Castle Connolly Medical Ltd.</u> to create a definitive list of the best doctors in Boston, including hundreds of experts in fields such as dermatology, cardiology, orthopedics, pediatrics and more. Find a doctor near you using our carefully curated list to discover a life-changing (or life-saving) doctor in Boston. Plus, check out *Boston* magazine's 2023 <u>Health Experts</u> from our February issue now!

Click here for the full list and for more information!

The Roundhouse Team won a 2022 Be Exceptional award from BMC!

This award was granted to the Roundhouse Team for the incredible work done standing up and operating 891 Massachusetts Avenue. These awards are presented annually to outstanding BMC employees, providers, and teams who demonstrate exceptional performance and fulfill BMC's mission. The award goes to everyone involved in opening and running the program - from IT, Legal, Facilities, and other teams who got us to "golive" to our harm reductionists and case managers helping guests and patients today.

Included in this team from the Department of Psychiatry are **Tasha Ferguson, LMHC**, and **Tracey Weeden, LICSW**.

Congratulations to all!



Olorunfemi Adetoro, Staff Chaplain, won a 2022 Be Exceptional award from BMC!









Chaplain **Femi Adetoro** received a 2022 BMC Be Exceptional Award and was honored during a reception held in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) Staff Lounge on June 16, 2022!

These awards are presented annually to outstanding BMC employees, providers, and teams who demonstrate exceptional performance and fulfill BMC's mission. Winners are nominated by their peers and selected by a committee of employees from across BMC.

Congratulations, Chaplain Femi!

The Center for Multicultural Training in Psychology (CMTP) celebrated 50 years!



Keynotes



Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley



Marylou Sudders, MSW, ACSW

CMTP celebrated their 50
year history with a
symposium featuring
remarks by Massachusetts
State Officials, Kate Walsh,
BMC Representatives, APA
Presidents, panels by CMTP
Faculty and Alumni, and
reflections by CMTP Interns.

BMC Brockton Behavioral Health Center opened its doors for inpatient care!



As part of BMC's mission to provide comprehensive, holistic care, and to help fill an important unmet need in Massachusetts, BMC Brockton Behavioral Health Center provides innovative care to people with substance use disorders and mental illness.

The Center provides specialized, culturally competent care to patients in two acute inpatient psychiatric units and one clinical stabilization service, delivered by an expert team reflecting the makeup of the communities we serve.

We offer our services to all eligible patients regardless of ability to pay.

Patients in the Center are primarily referred from other providers, including Emergency

Departments. Our psychiatric units serve patients aged 16 and up who pose an imminent risk to themselves or others. In addition, they can address co-occurring substance use disorder needs.

The clinical stabilization service provides an important step-down role from detox or inpatient care, with extensive 24-hour care.

Our facility has had net-zero carbon emissions from day one, an important part of BMC's goal to be carbon-neutral by 2030 and help prepare the hospital to thrive well into the future.

BMC Department of Psychiatry is now a State Community Behavioral Health Center!

On January 3, 2023, BMC's Department of Psychiatry became a State Community Behavioral Health Center (CBHC) for Boston. CBHCs are designed to serve MassHealth and MassHealth contracted Managed Care Entity (MCEs) members. MassHealth patients will enter through one front door for Behavioral Health services and will receive prioritized care within specified timelines, including same day access for initial assessments

BMC **already provides a significant portion** of the services required by the CBHC contract with the State, including Mobile Crisis Intervention (**BEST**) for Youth and Adults and **Adult CCS**.

The CBHC contract will expand community based services to include **Youth CCS**

We hope to see the following positive outcomes for the department and our patient population:	
\bigcirc	An enhancement of how BH services are provided for at-risk patient population with urgent needs
\bigcirc	Improved access to behavioral health care and coordination
\bigcirc	Reduced ED volume due to increase community-based alternatives
\bigcirc	Expansion of integrated care and wrap around services
\bigcirc	Support BMC's Mission and promote engagement at all levels of the hospital

We said goodbye and good luck to **Christina P.C. Borba, PhD, MPH,** Vice Chair of Research, Director, BMC Global and Local Center for Mental Health Disparities.



Dr. Borba stepped into a new and exciting role as Director of Office for Disparities Research and Workforce Diversity (ODWD) at the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). In her role, Dr. Borba leads the development and implementation of scientific policies and research initiatives aimed at reducing mental health disparities and advancing equity in mental health interventions, services, and outcomes. Her work also focuses on increasing workforce diversity and scientific attention to mental health disparities experienced by women and people living in rural areas.

According to Dr. Borba, the ODWD director position will enable her to develop and implement a plan to actualize the worthy mission and vision of ODWD. This includes fostering funding initiatives that will reduce mental health disparities across populations and focus on developing scientific workforce diversity programs that include groups underrepresented in the biomedical, clinical, and social sciences.

We said goodbye and good luck to **Andrea Spencer, MD**, Director of Pediatric Integrated Behavioral Health, and child, adolescent, and adult psychiatrist.



After 6 years of service to BU/BMC, Dr. Spencer stepped into her new role of Vice Chair for Research in the Pritzker Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago.

Dr. Spencer is a clinician and researcher who is passionate about improving mental health care for disadvantaged children - in particular reducing disparities in care for Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) related to race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status. She is an approved bilingual provider (Spanish/English). Dr. Spencer's clinical research program, REACH for ADHD (Revolutionizing Equal Access to Care and Health for ADHD), focused on developing and testing innovative methods to improve and reduce disparities in ADHD treatment. Her research has been supported by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, the Charles H. Hood Foundation, and the National Institute of Mental Health.

We said goodbye and good luck to **Michelle P. Durham, MD, MPH**, Vice Chair of Education, Pediatric and Adult Psychiatrist, and Associate Director, Global and Local Center for Mental Health Disparities.



Dr. Durham moved to Houston as the Chief Behavioral Health Officer for the Ibn Sina Foundation, who has established community clinics for underresourced and underinsured communities for over a decade. She will be working with them to build a new mental health center, and will also be partnering with a local policy center to fund a 5 year grant initiative to understand the child mental health system and ways to improve it from a policy perspective. Dr. Durham's hope is that folks have equitable access to great mental health treatment who otherwise could not access or afford it.

In honor of Dr. Durham's commitment and service to the department and community, especially for her dedication to communities of color and children's mental health, the Department has named a \$22,500 student loan repayment scholarship in her name. This scholarship, the Michelle Durham Scholar Award, is awarded to social workers, mental health counselors, and psychologists who identify as clinicians of color and work primarily with children or adolescents.

We said goodbye and good luck to **Micaela Owusu, MD, MSc**, Director of Psychiatry Residency Training.



Dr. Owusu is starting a new and exciting role as a Staff Psychiatrist in the Student Mental Health and Counseling Division at MIT Medical. She is looking forward to engaging in more psychotherapy with patients and using her child and adolescent psychiatry skills with transitional age youth and young adults. At BU and BMC, Dr. Owusu has served as Training Director for the adult psychiatry residency program and the US-based Associate Training Director for Liberia's first psychiatry training program where she has led curricular development. Dr. Owusu's interests in

medical education, global mental health equity, and cultural psychiatry have led to her focus on medical students and post-graduate physician education in psychiatry in West Africa. Dr. Owusu has led nationwide trainings on physician resilience and authored multiple book chapters and curricula on mind body medicine, resilience, and sociocultural psychiatry.

When reflecting back on her time at BU and BMC, Dr. Owusu writes, "I am going to miss the BMC Psychiatry Residency like no other. The folks who come to this program are a VERY SPECIAL group with a deep commitment towards understanding the practice of medicine within the context of the patients that we see and the world in which we live. They have inspired me every day that I work with them and I look forward to continuing these relationships. Deep thank you to my colleagues - I've loved sharing patients, sharing a commitment to the residency, and developing friendships. Those can never be replaced! Thank you to Dr. Henderson for believing in me. I've gone places (literally and metaphorically) I never would have imagined under his mentorship."



Congratulations to our newly-graduated class of Psychiatry Residents, who celebrated their graduations during the week of June 12th!

General Psychiatry Residency Training Program

Dr. Maanasa Bandla

Dr. Haley Euting

Dr. Chizelle Onochie

Dr. Natasha Nazari

Dr. Edom Seyoum

Dr. Charles Ventriglia

Dr. Jessica Kabrt (PGY 3)

Dr. German Velez (PGY 3)

Family Medicine-Psychiatry Residency Training Program

Dr. Eduardo Garza Dr. Saikrishna Kugabalasooriar

Addiction Psychiatry Fellowship Training Program

Dr. Wasim Muhammad

Consultation-Liaison Fellowship Training Program

Dr. Erik Levinsohn

Transitional Age Youth with Autism Fellowship Training Program

Dr. Maanasa Bandla





6TH AGMHI CONFERENCE IN SOUTH AFRICA



18-19 NOVEMBER 2023

MARRIOT HOTEL
CRYSTAL TOWERS
CAPE TOWN, SOUTH
AFRICA

6TH ANNUAL AFRICAN DIASPORA GLOBAL MENTAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

MENTAL HEALTH
IMPACT OF CLIMATE
CHANGE AND
ENVIRONMENTAL
STRESSORS

REGISTER NOW







AGMHI@UKZN.AC.ZA

GLOBAL MENTAL HEALTH CONFERENCE



The <u>National Institute of Mental Health</u>, <u>Grand Challenges Canada</u>, <u>Wellcome</u>, and the <u>International Alliance of Mental Health Research Funders</u> are cosponsoring the **12th Global Mental Health Research without Borders Conference**. This event will bring together researchers, innovators, and other scholars from around the globe to highlight findings from cutting-edge science and explore new opportunities for groundbreaking research

Seven research tracks will include:

Precision Psychiatry/stratification in mental health research
Climate change and mental health
Youth mental health and wellbeing
Data science, data sharing, common data elements
Decolonization of global mental health
Suicide prevention
Innovations in implementation science

Dates: October 30 - November 1 **Location**: Bethesda, MD and Online

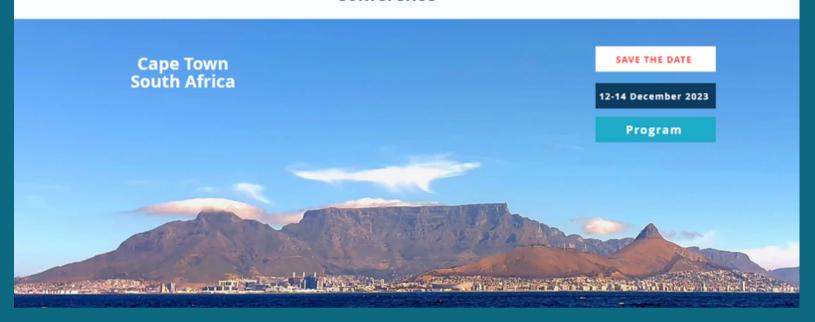
For more information and to register, please visit the conference website.

FIRST ANNUAL GC-TS CONFERENCE

GC-TS 2023

First Global Collaboration on Traumatic Stress Conference





The first **Global Collaboration on Traumatic Stress Conference** will be held in Cape Town, South Africa this December! The conference will cover all <u>GC-TS themes</u>, including (cross-cultural) assessment, prevention and treatment of traumatic stress, and will feature renowned international speakers such as Prof. Dr. Debra Kaysen, Prof. Dr. Monique Pfalz, Dr. Rachel Langevin, Prof. Dr. Denise Hien, Prof. Dr. Ulrich Schnyder and Prof. Dr. Miranda Olff, as well as speakers from the region.

Date: December 12 - 14

Location: Cape Town, South Africa

For more information, and to register, please visit the conference website.

STAFF AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Did you know that BMC has a list of community resources for patients and staff? Please visit the **BMC Community Resources** page <u>here</u>.

BMC Chaplains are available to support patients, staff, and loved ones at BMC. If you would like to speak with a Chaplain, please call 617-414-4299. Chaplains provide spiritual companionship for those of all traditions and those with no religious affiliation.

BMC Healing Pups can be requested for a "Ruff-eral" by calling Patient Advocacy (617-414-4970) or by emailing DG-PatientAdvocacy. Requests can generally be fulfilled within 24 hours although, on occasion, it can take longer.

The **BMC Rooftop Farmers Market** is back! The <u>BMC Rooftop Farm</u> hosts a weekly Farmers Market in the Shapiro Lobby (725 Albany Street). The market runs every Tuesday from noon to 1pm, June through October. All produce is harvested fresh from the rooftop farm and offered at an affordable subsidized price. Cash and card are accepted. Come early as things sell out fast!

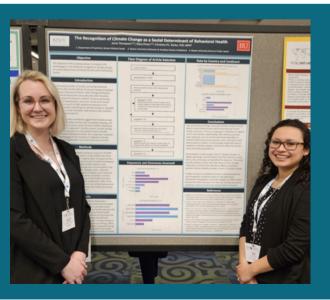
Want to share any local initiatives or community resources? Please email Anne Thompson to have them added to the bi-monthly newsletter.



CLIMATE CORNER



Do you have an interest in climate and mental health? Please visit the **BUSPH Center for Climate and Health** website to learn about ongoing research projects, action, and more, including current projects on the impacts of climate change on mental health outcomes.



Anne Thompson, MPH and **Daisy Perez, MPH** presented preliminary findings from their ongoing research project at the <u>Consortium of Universities</u> <u>for Global Health</u> Conference in Washington, D.C.

Their ongoing project, mentored by **Christina P.C. Borba, PhD, MPH**, is a large-scale scoping review aimed at recognizing climate change as a determinant of behavioral health.

CLIMATE CORNER

Recent Media featuring Boston University Medical Campus and Faculty

What Wildfire Smoke Does to the Human Body, Jennifer Stowell How Long Does Wildfire Last and Is It Dangerous?, Pat Kinney Hospitals are Carbon Bombs. Some are Trying to Change, BMC

A Nationwide Issue: The Surprising Link between Warm Days and Gun Violence in America,

Jonathan Jay, Gregory Wellenius

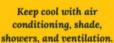


BEAT THE HEAT

Information for Everyone









Know the signs of heat exhaustion: heavy sweating, cool and clammy skin, dizziness, nausea, muscle aches.



Stay hydrated, avoid strenuous activity, and use sunscreen.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Everyone is at risk of extreme heat. A single hot day can lead to health problems, but multiple hot days in a row bring the most risk.
- Some areas in the city are hotter due to elevation, limited shade from trees, and heat-retaining structures such as buildings and roads.
- Extreme heat and prolonged sun exposure can be dangerous, especially as bodies become dehydrated or sunburned. Sunburn raises body temperature and makes it more difficult to cool down.
- Bodies can lose a lot of water on hot days. You may need to drink more water than
 usual to stay hydrated.
- Heat affects people unequally. Individuals who are over 65 years old, have chronic medical conditions or disabilities, work outdoors, experience homelessness, use substances, or live in areas with less tree coverage are more at risk.

RESOURCES

Stay cool. Find public pools, parks, beaches, public cooling centers, and Boston Public Libraries. (2)

Get emergency notices via text, email or phone from AlertBoston. Under certain conditions, utilities cannot be shut off for non-payment.

For more information on these resources, call 3-1-1 or visit boston.gov/heat



Evidence shows a positive
association between
ambient heat and risk of
emergency mental health
service utilization

Also impact toxicity of psychiatric medications, including interference with the body's ability to regulate temperature. Stay tuned for more information on this topic in future newsletters as we work to develop educational resources for clinicians and staff.



Sarah Valentine, PhD was awarded Editor's Choice selection for her paper, "Considerations and complexities of accurate PTSD assessment among transgender and gender diverse adults" in *Psychological Assessment*.



Lin Piwowarczyk, MD, MPH was awarded the Sarah B. Ignatius Award for Excellence in Law by the Political Asylum/Immigration Representation Project for her work with asylum seekers at their June 2022 Gala.



Rayah Touma Sawaya, MD, MPH graduated with her Master of Public Health from Boston University School of Public Health with a functional certificate in Global Health Program Design, Monitoring, and Evaluation and a context certificate in Mental Health & Substance Use.



Anne Thompson, MPH graduated with her Master of Public Health from Boston University School of Public Health with a functional certificate in Environmental Health and a context certificate in Global Health.



Jada Gibbs, BA was accepted to medical school and is currently pursuing her MD at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School.



Joanna Kramer, BA will be attending Fordham University beginning this fall to pursue her PhD in Clinical Psychology.



Laura Godfrey, BS will be attending Hofstra University beginning this fall to pursue her PhD in Clinical Psychology.



Jennifer Sikov, MA graduated with her Master of Psychology from Boston University Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences, and is currently a PhD Candidate in Clinical Psychology at Florida International University.



Lucy Curell, BA is currently pursuing her MA in Counseling through Bridgewater State University.



Ellie Reagan, BS is currently pursuing her Masters in Clinical Social Work part-time through BU's online MSW program in the Human Service Experience (HSE) track.



Imme Kobayashi, MPH will be attending Grossman School of Medicine/NYU Langone this fall to pursue her PhD in Population Health



Heather Thibeau, BA will be attending Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine's Department of Graduate Medical Sciences this fall to pursue her Master of Science in Clinical Research.







Brittany Gouse, MD, MPH has been awarded the 2023-2025 institutional KL2 award through Boston University Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI). Under the mentorship of Drs. **Hannah Brown**, Janice Weinberg, and **David Henderson**, she will study the individual and neighborhood level predictors of disengagement from early psychosis care.

Dr. Gouse has also been selected as the 2023-2025 American Psychiatric Association Research Fellow! Using national Medicaid and Medicare claims data, she will explore the prognostic impact of use of long-acting antipsychotic medications within the first two years of psychotic illness. In July 2022, she was selected as Chair of the Public Sector committee within the Massachusetts Psychiatric Society.



Lawrence Were, PhD, presented his project "'Health Insurance Deserts' & Disparities in Healthcare Coverage: A Spatiotemporal Analysis of Population Level Household Data in Kenya" at Consortium of Universities for Global Health Conference (CUGH) 2023 in Washington, DC.



Michael Galvin, PhD, MPH presented his projects, "Depression, Anxiety, and Associated Risk Factors Among Adults at Two Psychiatric Facilities in Johannesburg, South Africa," and, "Examining the Relationship between ACEs, Adult Trauma, and Mental Illness in Johannesburg, South Africa" at Consortium of Universities for Global Health Conference (CUGH) 2023 in Washington, DC.





Drs. Galvin and Were at the CUGH Conference in Washington, DC (April 2023)

Emily Kline, PhD published her first book, <u>The School of Hard Talks:</u> <u>How to Have Real Conversations with Your (Almost Grown) Kids</u>. Find your copy <u>here!</u>



Dr. Kline's <u>randomized clinical trial</u> of brief communication skills training for family caregivers of psychosis patients is newly published in the journal *Schizophrenia Research*. She and her team found that just 5 sessions of communication skills coaching significantly reduced family conflict and caregiver burnout, relative to a control condition. Families were followed for 12 weeks after the intervention, during which time these factors continued to improve for caregivers who completed the training.

Dr. Kline also published her clinical trial results in *Early Intervention in Psychiatry* for her study, "<u>The School of Hard Talks: A telehealth parent training group for caregivers of adolescents and young adults</u>."



Hannah Brown, MD and former Department of Psychiatry members, Lucy Lan, MD, MBA, Jennifer Sikov, MA, Julia Lejeune, BA, and Andrea Spencer, MD published their paper, "A Systematic Review of using Virtual and Augmented Reality for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Psychotic Disorders," in Current Treatment Options in Psychiatry.





Lovern Moseley, PhD, participated in the webinar, "<u>Collateral Damage:</u> <u>How the Opioid Crisis Devastates Families</u>," with USC's Center for Health Journalism in March 2023.

Dr. Moseley also led a Virtual Parent Management Training workshop presented at the Bahamas Psychological Association's monthly meeting and a Virtual Mental Health Workshop presented at the New Hope Baptist Church (Boston, MA), both in September 2022.

Additionally, Dr. Moseley is one of the content experts for the newly-launched <u>Our Bodies Ourselves Today</u>, which is an online resource for health and sexuality that provides women, girls, and gender-expansive people trustworthy resources and holistic information about their bodies. In an increasingly harrowing environment for women, girls, and gender-expansive people, Our Bodies Ourselves Today is committed to providing an up-to-date platform with feminist, intersectional, accurate resources covering: Abortion and contraception, gender-based violence, growing older, heart health, menstruation through menopause, mental health, pregnancy and childbirth, sexual anatomy, and sexuality.



Carryl Navalta, PhD, published a treatment manual entitled, "Trauma-Informed Parenting Program: TIPs for Clinicians to Train Parents of Children Impacted by Trauma and Adversity." This manual is an essential handbook for clinicians planning to involve the parents of trauma-impacted children in the treatment process. You can find your copy here!



Devin Cromartie, MD, MPH received seed funding from the BMC Health Equity Accelerator for her project entitled, "Facilitating Stewardship: Intervention Mapping with Black Churches for Mental Health."









Sandra Mattar, PsyD, Bediha Ipecki, PhD, Elizabeth Louis, PhD, and Joelle Taknint, PhD published their paper, "Training Considerations for Providers Engaged in Refugee Mental Health Care," in *International Perspectives in Psychology; Research, Practice, Consultation*.



Michael Dawes, MD published an article entitled, "Alcohol use disorder pharmacotherapy and treatment in primary care (ADaPT-PC) trial: Impact on identified barriers to implementation" in *Substance Abuse*.



Kalo Sokoto, MA published an article entitled, "<u>Vaccination</u> <u>Intention and Uptake Within the Black Community in Appalachia</u>," in *Health Psychology*.







Nandini Agarwal, MPH presented her project "Violence and Sleep Quality among Pregnant and Postpartum Women: A Scoping Review" at the Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) Forum in Cancun, Mexico.

The Wellness and Recovery After Psychosis (WRAP)'s research program is excited to announce the creation of "ACCESS: Advancing Coordinated Care Through Epidemiologic Studies in Schizophrenia" initiative under Drs. Brittany Gouse and Hannah Brown. Through ACCESS, WRAP has created a repository of electronic medical record data linked to geocoding data, state and national claims data. The overarching goal of our epidemiologic work is to reduce racial/ethnic and socioeconomic disparities in outcomes in early psychosis and to expand access to evidenced-based specialty psychosis care.

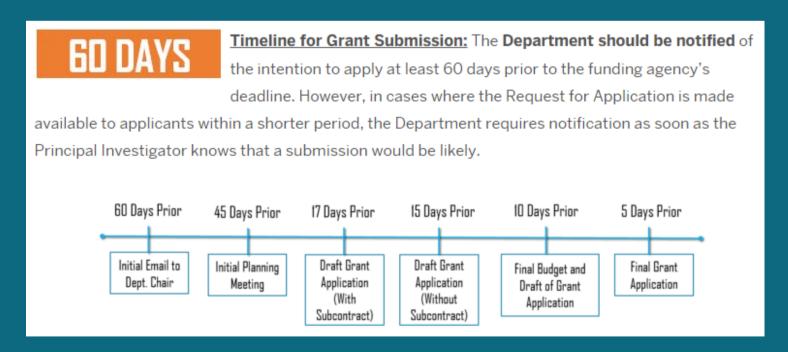
To learn more about ACCESS and WRAP research, visit their website <u>here</u>, and see recent publications below:

- Gouse, BM, Schwarz AG, Gibbs JS, Weinberg JM, Yue H, Chava A, Brown HE. Demographic predictors of lack of current mental health treatment among university students with a schizophrenia spectrum disorder. *Early Interv Psychiatry*. 2023 Apr 20. PMID: 37081818.
- **Gouse, BM**, Boliver EE, **Oblath R**, **Camacho L**, **Brown HE**. Cannabis use among patients presenting to the emergency department for psychosis: Associations with restraint use, medication administration, psychiatric hospitalization, and repeat visits. *Psychiatry Res.* 2023 Mar 17; 323:115151. PMID: 36934468.
- Gouse BM, Kline ER. Clinical Insights: Preventing psychosis treatment disengagement. *Schizophr Res.* 2023 Feb; 252:64-66. PMID: 36628870.
- **Kline ER**, **Depestre S**. Promoting implementation of deployment-ready psychosocial interventions. *Schizophr Res*. 2023 Feb; 252:146-157. PMID: 36645933
- **Gouse BM**, **Brown HE**. Improving Outcomes in Schizophrenia A Case for Initiation of Long-Acting Antipsychotics in Early-Phase Illness. *JAMA Netw Open*. 2022 Jul 01; 5(7):e2224172. PMID: 35900769.

Are you interested in applying for grant funding? Did you know that the Department of Psychiatry has its own Grants Administration Team, currently managing over 70 grant portfolios?

If interested, please complete the quick <u>Grant Application Questionnaire</u>. The hyperlink will route you to our Grant Application Questionnaire webpage where you can login with your BU credentials. Once completed, your answers will be routed to **Hannah Brown, MD**, **Larysa Malinouskaya, MSAS, CRA**, **Ufuoma Akpotaire, LLM, CRA**, and **Daisy Perez, MPH**. They will then review the responses to determine next steps for planning your grant submission.

For any questions, and for further information, please contact our two outstanding Directors of Grants and Contracts, **Larysa Malinouskaya**, **MSAS, CRA**, and **Ufuoma Akpotaire, LLM, CRA**. We also encourage you to visit the <u>Grants Administration website</u> where you can find useful information, including timelines, requirements, and contact information.



GRANTS & AWARDS RECEIVED JAN-JUNE 2023

Hannah Brown, MD – Antipsychotic Response to Clozapine in B-SNIP Biotype -1 (Clozapine) Amount Awarded: \$112,702	This is a three-year project (May 1, 2023-April 30, 2026), and is a sub-contract on Beth Israel's R01 NIH grant.
Hannah Brown, MD - Comparative effectiveness of cognitive enhancement therapy vs. social skills training in serious mental illness (SMI) Amount Awarded: \$61,488/year	This is a subcontract from Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center for their project sponsored by PCORI. The goal of this project is to compare the impact of Cognitive Enhancement Therapy (CET) and Social Skills Training (SST) for schizophrenia-spectrum disorders (SZ) in community settings.
Tasha Ferguson, LMHC – Pediatric Behavioral Health Urgent Care Initiative for Students Amount Awarded: \$467,500 (\$170,000/year)	This will be a 2.75 year project funded by Massachusetts Association for Mental Health. CBHC leadership will work with Up Academy Dorchester to create a pathway for students to be identified and referred to the CBHC to initiate ambulatory behavioral healthcare.
Sarah Valentine, PhD, Devin Cromartie Bodrick, MD, MPH, and Nuha Alshabani, PhD – Adaptation and Dissemination of a Race-based Stress, Trauma, and Empowerment Class for Community Churches Amount Awarded: \$50,000	This project is awarded by Blue Cross Blue Shield of MA Foundation and aims to culturally adapt and disseminate the Race-Based Stress/Trauma and Empowerment group (RBSTED) to community churches.
Amy Yule, MD – Addiction Psychiatry Treatment Program, Office Based Addiction Treatment (OBAT) Expansion Amount Awarded: Up to \$890,019	Awarded by Massachusetts Dept. of Public Health (DPH), this program will provide a stepwise approach to treating co-occurring substance use disorders (SUD) and MHC that encourages medication management for both the SUD and MHC, as well as behavioral therapy.
Brittany Gouse, MD, MPH – Individual and Neighborhood Level Sociodemographic Predictors of Disengagement in Early Psychosis Care Amount Awarded: \$324,295	This Career Development Award (KL2) is funded through BU CTSI. It will use a mixed- methods approach to investigate the impact of both patient sociodemographic and area socioeconomic factors on the risk of disengagement in early psychosis care.
Brittany Gouse, MD, MPH – The Sociodemographic and Clinical Predictors of Suicide in Early Psychosis Amount Awarded: \$90,000	Dr. Gouse was selected to be the 2023-2025 American Psychiatric Association (APA) Research Fellow. This fellowship project, funded by the APA, will utilize national insurance claims data to (1) explore the demographic predictors of suicide within the first two year of psychotic illness (2) explore the impact of early long-acting antipsychotic use on risk of suicide in early psychosis.
Resham Gellatly, PhD, Sarah Kimball, MD, Nuha Alshabani, PhD – Vicarious Trauma in Hospital Interpreters: Understanding and Meeting Needs	This study aims to characterize the experiences of interpreters serving BMC patients who have been forcibly displaced in order to understand how VT, CF, and BO impact interpreter well-being and provision of care. The goal is to inform the development of systems of support (e.g., trainings, process groups) to meet interpreters' needs. The specific aims of the proposed study are to (a) confirm our understanding of how the emotional demands of interpreters' work impact their well-being, (b) identify interpreters' needs regarding VT, CF, and BO, and (c) engage stakeholders to develop systemic interventions to meet interpreter needs.
Rachel Oblath, PhD, Alison Duncan, MD, Amruta Nori-Sarma, PhD, Kate Burrows, PhD – Understanding the Connections between Extreme Heat and Psychiatric Emergencies	The investigators are conducting a survey with patients in the Psychiatric ED focused on patients' adaptability and coping capacities related to extreme heat. This study will inform future grant applications to develop interventions and policy to alleviate the impacts of extreme heat events on those with psychiatric disorders. A secondary aim of this study is to evaluate strategies and modalities for conducting survey research in the Psychiatric ED. The investigators hope to identify methods that interfere minimally with clinical workflow and yield the highest response rates.

IN THE MEDIA

In the last year, we have had **over 70 mentions** of BU/BMC Psychiatry faculty and staff in various media outlets!

Please visit the <u>BUMC Department of Psychiatry website</u> for a complete list of all media features.









Tai Mustafa, MD was appointed as Instructor

Olivia Moorehead-Slaughter, PhD was appointed as Clinical Associate Professor

Haley Carroll, PhD was appointed as Assistant Professor

Stephanie Grossman, PhD was appointed as Assistant Professor

Richy Villa, LICSW was appointed as Instructor







CONGRATULATIONS

Seungbin Oh, PhD was appointed as Assistant Professor

Talya Shahal, MD was appointed as Adjunct Instructor

Brian Smith, PhD was promoted to Associate Professor

Erika Wolf, PhD was promoted to Professor

Joelle Taknint, PhD was appointed as Assistant Professor















CONGRATULATIONS

Alexander Chang, MD was appointed as Assistant Professor

Cara Herbitter, PhD was appointed as Instructor

Elizabeth Alpert, PhD was appointed as Instructor

Sofia Vivoni-Corominas, MD was appointed as Assistant Professor

Ana Maria Rivas-Grajales, MD, MSc was appointed as Assistant Professor









Bediha Ipekci, PhD was appointed as Assistant Professor

Rachel Zelkowitz, PhD was appointed as Assistant Professor

David Topor, PhD was promoted to Adjunct Associate Professor

Christopher Lim, MD was appointed as Assistant Professor

Elvis Espero, MD was appointed as Assistant Professor







CONGRATULATIONS

Kelly Harper, PhD was appointed as Instructor

Travis Evans, PhD was appointed as Instructor

Michael Crowe, PhD was appointed as Instructor

Joseph Carpenter, PhD was promoted to Assistant Professor

Amy Silberbogen, PhD was promoted to Clinical Associate Professor









Colleen Sloan, PhD was promoted to Clinical Associate Professor

Audreyana Jagger-Rickels, PhD was appointed as Assistant Professor

Francesca Fortenbaugh, PhD was appointed as Adjunct Assistant Professor

David Hensley, PhD was appointed as Instructor

Kelsey Serier, PhD was appointed as Instructor







CONGRATULATIONS

Maria Yerstein, MD was appointed as Instructor

Eric Brown, PhD was appointed as Assistant Professor

Tithi Baul, MPH was appointed as Assistant Professor

Linda Piwowarczyk, MD, MPH was promoted to Clinical Associate Professor

Shamaila Khan, PhD was promoted to Clinical Associate Professor









Isidore Berenbaum, MD was promoted to Clinical Associate Professor

Lewina Lee, PhD was promoted to Associate Professor

Erica Fasano, MD was appointed as Instructor

Travis Slesinski, PhD was appointed as Instructor

Abigail Martin, PsyD was appointed as Assistant Professor









Ajay Mehta, MD was appointed as Instructor

Elizabeth Welch Donlon, MD was appointed as Adjunct Assistant Professor

Rachel Daws, LICSW was appointed as Assistant Professor

Arielle Horenstein, PhD was appointed as Assistant Professor

Jacqueline Lutz, PhD was appointed as Assistant Professor









CONGRATULATIONS

Maria Prom de Illanes, MD was appointed as Assistant Professor

Anna Katharina Trede, MD was appointed as Assistant Professor

Susan Warren, MD was appointed as Assistant Professor

Martha Zajac, PhD was appointed as Assistant Professor

Subha Baisyat, MD was appointed as Instructor









Sana Muqqadus, DNP was appointed as Instructor

Tara Galovski, PhD was promoted to Professor

Resham Gellatly, PhD was appointed as Assistant Professor

Senait Ghebrehiwet, MPH, PMP was appointed as Assistant Professor

Samantha Lamartine, PsyD was appointed as Assistant Professor









Rachel Oblath, PhD was appointed as Assistant Professor

Daisy Perez, MPH was appointed as Assistant Professor

Katherine Ruiz-Mellott, MD was promoted to Assistant Professor

Josephine Hwang Koo, PhD was appointed as Assistant Professor

Alexandra Pinkerson, MD was appointed as Adjunct Assistant Professor









Want to see your program, news, or updates featured in our bi-monthly newsletter?

Contact Sharifa Green or Anne Thompson, MPH to find out more! Please include your name, title, and program in your message.

We look forward to hearing from you!