See Inside for:

- Introduction to new psychology trainees and updates on last year’s training class
- Description of training programs and of Kansas City
- Photos of our psychology group

INTRODUCING THE 23RD CHILDREN’S MERCY TRAINING CLASS!

We welcome the 2018-2019 intern class to the Children’s Mercy Section of Psychology!

MEET THE INTERNS

Carolyn Bates, MA, joins us from the child and family sub-specialty of the Clinical Psychology program at Loyola University Chicago. Her dissertation examined the influence of family entropy on child obesity and obesogenic behaviors. Her clinical interests involve pediatric psychology and treating youth with acute and chronic health conditions. She enjoys working with children, their families, and medical teams to promote positive psychosocial and physical health outcomes in the context of medical treatment. Outside of work, Carolyn enjoys running and plans to participate in the KC marathon this fall. She also likes to explore restaurants and live music around Kansas City.

Caroline Pittard, MEd, comes to us from the Counseling Psychology program at the University of Louisville. Her dissertation topic involves the conceptualization of the positive cognitive triad and associations with depressive symptoms in adolescents. Her clinical interests include the treatment of childhood psychopathology using cognitive and/or behavioral approaches and empowering families in support of their children. In addition, she has a special interest in the assessment and treatment of children and adolescents with developmental disabilities. Beyond the workplace, she enjoys trying new restaurants and spending time with her partner and cat. She also loves listening to true crime and historical podcasts, as well as watching Carolina basketball.

Jon Poquiz, MA attends the Clinical Child Psychology program at the University of Kansas. His dissertation focuses on the examination of the role of social factors in the stability of proactive and reactive aggression. His clinical interests include systemic-based interventions. He enjoys working with high-risk adolescents and their families; yet he is also looking forward to gaining more experience working with younger kiddos. Reflective of his love for music, Jon minored in musical theory, plays the piano, and is considering learning the cello. He has a border collie/Australian shepherd mix dog named Bo, who is incredibly smart and goofy. He loves to unwind with Lego sets consisting of overwhelming amounts of pieces. Most importantly, he likes a good suspense/thriller or romantic fiction novel, as he is currently enjoying the Crazy Rich Asians trilogy.

MEET THE FELLOWS

Ali Calkins-Smith, PhD, graduated from the Clinical Psychology program at the University of Kansas. She recently completed her internship on the pediatric track at Children’s Mercy Kansas City. Her dissertation focused on adherence behaviors on youth following the completion of an intensive interdisciplinary pain rehabilitation program. Her clinical interests are broadly within both inpatient and outpatient work in pediatric psychology. She has specialized interests within pediatric pain, orthopedic/sports medicine, and cardiology. Outside of work, Ali enjoys spending time with her husband and their two cats, Lars and Remy. They enjoy going to KC sporting events, eating delicious food at new restaurants, and spending time with family and friends.

Ayanda Chakawa, PhD, graduated from the Clinical Psychology program at Auburn University and recently completed her internship on the clinical track at Children’s Mercy Kansas City. Her dissertation focused on the impact of mental health literacy on treatment seeking intentions across specific disorders accounting for race and ethnicity. Her clinical interests include cultural competence in mental health treatment, clinical assessment, and program development. Beyond work, Ayanda enjoys spending time with friends and family, traveling, shopping, baking, and catching up on her favorite television shows.

Our Interns from 2017-2018:

Ali Calkins-Smith, PhD, graduated from the University of Kansas. She remained at Children’s Mercy for fellowship which will be focused in pain management, orthopedics and cardiology.

Ayanda Chakawa, PhD, graduated from Auburn University. She continues her fellowship training at Children’s Mercy with plans to focus on pediatric psychology, primary care consultation services, and Operation Breakthrough.

Casey Lawless, PhD, graduated from the University of Florida. She is completing fellowship at Children’s National in DC to further specialize in pediatric psychology, primarily working with youth with Cystic Fibrosis.

Our Fellows from 2017-2018:

Natalie Brei, PhD, completed her internship and fellowship at Children’s Mercy. She is working to develop and establish an integrated behavioral health program in a primary care clinic through Catholic Social Services in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Gillian Mayersohn, PsyD, completed fellowship at Children’s Mercy. She accepted a pediatric psychology position at St. Louis Children’s Hospital specializing in liver, kidney, heart, and lung transplant.

Jenna Oppenheim, PsyD, completed fellowship at Children’s Mercy. Jenna accepted a faculty position at Children’s Medical Center of Dallas where she specializes in pediatric psychology providing hematology and oncology services.

In addition to psychology interns and postdoctoral fellows, our division includes ten one-year practicum students who emphasize clinical and research experiences. The trainees join us from area universities including the University of Kansas (Clinical Psychology, Clinical Child, Counseling Psychology, and Applied Behavior Analysis programs), and the University of Missouri-Kansas City (Clinical Psychology and Counseling Psychology programs). The current practicum students and experiences for the 2018-19 academic year are:

Luke Allen-- Gender Pathways Research
Carolina Bejarano-- Eating Disorders
Erin Bojanek-- Special Needs/ Autism
Toni Crouse-- Neuropsychology
Kelsey Dachman-- Behavioral Pediatrics
Tiffany Kitchline-- Pain Management and GI Research
Arwen Marker-- Clinical Child/Pediatrics

Alexandra Monzon-- Weight Management
Victoria Perko-- Eating Disorder Research
Brianne Richson-- Eating Disorders

In addition, the Division of Developmental and Behavioral Sciences provides fellowship training in Developmental Behavioral Medicine! Our current D&B fellows are:

Michael Slogic, MD
Grace Winningham, MD

Our psychiatry team provides training for Child Psychiatry Fellows from KU, who complete a 3-month rotation including experience with inpatient consults and outpatient clinics.

We also host Pediatric Residents for one half-month rotations, and these residents spend time with our Psychiatrists, Developmental/Behavioral Pediatricians, and Psychologists in a variety of clinical settings.
THE CHILD PSYCHOLOGY INTERNSHIP AT CMH

The psychology internship at Children’s Mercy provides intensive training in psychological assessment, treatment, and interdisciplinary collaboration in the context of a dedicated pediatric academic health care environment. By providing the highest-quality supervision and training, the program aims to facilitate a well-balanced set of clinical and professional skills to prepare interns for successful careers as psychologists.

The internship is accredited by the American Psychological Association, and is a member of the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (AAPIC).

Both the Clinical Child and Pediatric Psychology tracks aim to provide interns with:

(A) a variety of depth and breadth of experience within a pediatric academic medical center,
(B) opportunities for interprofessional development and collaboration through integration into pediatric subspecialty clinics, and
(C) knowledge of successful integration of research into clinical practice.

CLINICAL CHILD TRACK

A year-long outpatient clinical child experience as well as three, 4-month long (2 days per week) specialty rotations. Interns may choose concentrated experiences in 3 out of 5 rotation options: ADHD/Behavioral Pediatrics, Eating Disorders, Feeding and Elimination, or Special Needs. Training also includes didactics and opportunity for research. The clinical child track emphasize experiences that build skills that will prepare interns to be competitive for fellowships in clinical child psychology and for careers in academic medical centers, primary care clinics, private practice, and a variety of settings.

PEDIATRIC PSYCHOLOGY TRACK

A full year of experience in inpatient consultation/liaison and outpatient child psychology clinic as well as three 4-month long rotations in medical specialty clinics, neuropsychology, and pain management. Training also includes didactics and opportunities for research. The pediatric psychology track emphasize experiences that build skills that will promote interns being competitive for pediatric fellowships and being successful in careers as pediatric psychologists.

SEE WEBSITE AND APPIC DOCUMENTS FOR FULL DESCRIPTIONS OF THE INTERNSHIP AND TRACKS!

http://www.childrensmercy.org/APA/

INTRODUCING OUR PSYCHOLOGISTS...

The remainder of this newsletter includes information about the psychologists who are members of our Division. Each of the faculty interact with interns. Some may be primary supervisors or mentors, others may supervise during a major clinic rotation or “mini” medical rotation, and others provide didactics. All, though, are interested in helping interns to have the best experience possible during their year at Children’s Mercy.

Our Staff have provided this information to help you get to know us and what Children’s Mercy has to offer. These are obviously very abbreviated descriptions; for more information, you can find a biosketch and/or full CV on the website for all our Medical Staff.

Psychologists are organized by the primary track in which they would likely interact with interns, although some interact with interns across both tracks. It’s also worth noting that our 52 psychologists work on multidisciplinary inpatient and outpatient teams throughout the entire hospital!
Clinical Child Specialists

Brian Belden, PhD
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Attention Deficit Disorders, Parenting, Pediatric Psychology, Learning Disabilities, Psychological Testing, Developmental Disorders

Edward R. Christophersen, PhD, ABPP
Professor of Pediatrics (Emeritus Faculty)
Specialties: ADHD; Toileting Problems; Anxiety Disorders in Young Children; Parenting Issues

David H. Bennett, PhD
Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Attention Deficit Disorders, Learning Disabilities, School-Related Anxieties and Difficulties, Psychological Testing

Vincent J. Barone, PhD
Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Common Childhood and Adolescent Behavior Disorders; School Problems; Parenting Issues; Externalizing Disorders; Behavioral Treatments for Pervasive Developmental Disorders; Applied Behavior Analysis; Injury Prevention Strategies

Rochelle L. Harris, PhD, ABPP
Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Learning Disabilities, Attention Deficit Disorders, Adjustment and Behavioral Problems, Autism Spectrum Disorders
Clinical Child Specialists

Julia E. Thompson, PhD
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Child Clinical Psychology; Trauma Psychology

Christy A. Kleinsorge, PhD
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Chronic Illness, Parenting Issues, Psychological Testing, Feeding

Kerry Prout, PhD
Specialties: Behavior problems, Mood and Anxiety Disorders, Developmental Disorders, Adjustment Concerns, Early Childhood Concerns, Behavioral Sleep Concerns

Christine Moser, PsyD
Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Psychological Testing; Gender Dysphoria; Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy; Suicide Risk and Resilience in Adolescence
**Megan Bolch, PhD**  
Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics  
**Specialties:** Evaluation and treatment of ADHD, learning disorders, internalizing disorders, including anxiety and depression, and adjustment disorder, such as grief/loss, and divorce.

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**Leslee T. Belzer, PhD**  
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics  
**Specialties:** Psychological services in Primary Care for children with medical complexity, siblings and parents; Psycho-

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**Girwan Khadka, PhD**  
Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics  
**Specialties:** Child and Adolescent Mental Health; Coordinating care with Psychiatry

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**Timothy Apodaca, PhD**  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics  
**Specialties:** Adolescent Mental Health; Substance Abuse; Mood Disorders
Victoria C. Little, PhD
Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Evaluation of Autism Spectrum Disorder and Developmental Disorders in children age 12 months to 5 years

Cynthia R. Call, PsyD
Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Autism Assessment and Social Development, School Problems, Affective Disorders, Child Trauma and Maltreatment

Cy B. Nadler, PhD
Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Disruptive and Severe Behavioral Problems;

Melissa Campbell, PsyD
Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Autism Spectrum Disorders, Developmental Delays, and Behavioral Prob-
Eating Disorders

Kathryn B. Pieper, PhD
Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Eating Disorders; Adolescent Psychotherapy

Sara R. Gould, PhD, ABPP
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Eating Disorders; Adolescent Development and Mental Health;

Joanna Wiese, PhD
Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Eating Disorders, military psychology; anxiety and trauma-related disorders.
Carla Allan, PhD
Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: ADHD; Disruptive Behavior Disorders; Anxiety Disorders

Simone Moody, PhD
Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: ADHD; Disruptive Behavior Disorders; Behavioral Pediatrics

Trista Perez-Crawford, PhD
Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: ADHD; Autism; Developmental Disabilities; Behavioral Interventions and Diagnostic Assessment for Spanish Speaking and Underserved Populations
John “Josh” Hall, PhD
*Associate Professor of Pediatrics*

**Specialties:** Neuropsychological Assessment, Outcomes of Epilepsy, Surgery, Congenital Heart Surgery, Tic Disorder, Learning Disorders

Maria D. Korth, PhD
*Assistant Professor of Pediatrics*

**Specialties:** Neuropsychology, Rehabilitation, Concussion Management, Traumatic Brain Injury and Spina Bifida

Paul Glasier, PhD, ABPP
*Associate Professor of Pediatrics*

**Specialties:** Neuropsychological Assessment, Epilepsy, Epilepsy Surgery, Hematological/Oncological Disorders, Cardiac Disease

Elizabeth J. Willen, PhD
*Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics*

**Specialties:** Neuropsychological Assessment, Congenital Heart Defects, Neurocognitive Outcomes in Infants and Toddlers
Hematology/Oncology

Lynne M. Covitz, PhD, ABPP
Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Chronic Illness with Dedicated Services to Hematology/Oncology, Psychology Training, Ethics

Rachel M. Moore, PhD
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Chronic Illness and Treatment Adherence; Pediatric Hematology/Oncology; Pediatric Nephrology (Dialysis/Kidney Transplantation)

Gail Robertson, PhD
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Chronic Illness with Dedicated Services to Rheumatology, Hematology (Sickle Cell disease), and Dermatology

Weight Management

Meredith L. Dreyer Gillette, PhD
Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Childhood Obesity;Treating Children with Special Needs (ASD, Down Syndrome, Developmental Disabilities) and Obesity; Type 2 Diabetes

Amy R. Beck, PhD, RYT 200
Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Pediatric Obesity, Weight Bias and Stigma, Psychological Trauma, Integration of Yoga
Consultation/Liaison & Chronic Pain

Janelle Mentrikoski, PhD
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Inpatient Consultation/Liaison; Pain Management

Klanci M. McCabe, PhD
Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Inpatient Consultation/Liaison; Pain Management; Biofeedback

Sarah Beals-Erickson, PhD
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Pain Management; Pediatric Pain Rehabilitation; Pediatric sleep disorders

Dustin P. Wallace, PhD
Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Pain Management; Pediatric Pain Rehabilitation; Acceptance-Based Treatment

Mark A. Connelly, PhD
Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Chronic and Acute Pain; Somatization Disorders; Adjustment Disorders
Jennifer V. Schurman, PhD, ABPP
Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Childhood Chronic Illness; Functional Abdominal Pain; Biopsychosocial Interactions; Pain Prevention; Volitional Nonadherence

Amanda D. Deacy, PhD
Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Pediatric Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders, Internalizing Disorders, and Acceptance-Based Intervention

Michele H. Maddux, PhD
Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Pediatric Inflammatory Bowel Disease; Adherence to Treatment Regimen; Transition from Pediatric to Adult-Focused Care

Laura E. Slosky, PhD
Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Gastroenterology; Feeding Disorders; Elimination Disorders

Christina Low Kapalu, PhD
Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Behavioral management of constipation and fecal incontinence; consultation with multidisciplinary clinics for chronic medication conditions, mood, anxiety, and behavioral conditions.

Jamie L. Ryan, PhD
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Pediatric liver disease and transplant; Adherence; Family Allocation of Treatment Responsibility; Adjustment to Pediatric Chronic Illness
Other Specialty Teams

Anna M. Egan, PhD, ABPP
Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Endocrine/Diabetes, Disorders of Sexual Development, Gender Incongruence, Adjustment to Diagnosis/Chronic Illness, Nonadherence to Medical Treatment

Jami N. Gross-Toalson, PhD
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Treatment Adherence; Transition to Adult Health Care; Pediatric Cardiology and Transplant

Rebecca J. Johnson, PhD, ABPP
Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Kidney Dialysis and Transplant; Intestinal Rehabilitation; Cystic Fibrosis; Adherence

Kevin C. Smith, PhD
Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Pediatric Sleep Disorders

Tiffany Willis, PsyD
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Specialties: Infant Mental Health; Attachment; Special Healthcare Needs; Minority and Underserved Populations
D&B LEADERSHIP

Division Director
Sarah Soden, MD, FAAP

Psychology Section Chief
Lynne Covitz, PhD, ABPP

Clinical Child Psychol. Lead
Brian Belden, PhD
Megan Bolch (starting 1/01/2018)

Pediatric Psychology Lead
Rebecca Johnson, PhD, ABPP

Psychology Training Director
Anna Egan, PhD, ABPP

Assoc. Training Directors
Cynthia Call, PsyD (Postdocs)
Christy Kleinsorge, PhD (Clin track)
Maria Korth, PhD (Peds track)
Rachel Moore., PhD (Practicum)

Psychologists
Carla Allan, PhD
Tim Apodoca, PhD
Vincent Barone, PhD
Sarah Beals-Erickson, PhD
Amy Beck, PhD
Brian Belden, PhD
Leslee Belzer, PhD
Dave Bennett, PhD
Megan Bolch, PhD
Cynthia Call, PsyD
Melissa Campbell, PsyD
Ed Christophersen, PhD, ABPP
(Emiratus Faculty)
Mark Connelly, PhD
Lynne Covitz, PhD, ABPP
Amanda D. Deacy, PhD
Meredith Dreyer Gillette, PhD
Anna Egan, PhD, ABPP
Paul Glasier, PhD, ABPP
Sara Gould, PhD, ABPP
Jami Gross-Toalson, PhD
Josh Hall, PhD, ABPdN
Rochelle Harris, PhD, ABPP
Natalie Haultain, PsyD
Rebecca Johnson, PhD, ABPP
Michele Maddux, PhD
Klanci McCabe, PhD
Janelle Mentiroskoski, PhD
Simone Moody, PhD
Rachel Moore., PhD
Christine Moser, PsyD
Cy Nadler, PhD
Trista Perez- Crawford, PhD
Kathryn Pieper, PhD
Kerry Prout, PhD
Gail Robertson, PhD
Jamie Ryan, PhD
Brenda Salley, PhD
Jennifer Schurman, PhD, ABPP
Laura Slosky, PhD
Kevin Smith, PhD
Julia Thompson, PhD
Dustin P. Wallace, PhD
Joanna Wiese, PhD
Elizabeth Willen, PhD
Tiffany Willis, PsyD
Bo Youngblood, PhD

Psychiatrists
Bob Batterson, MD, FAACAP, Section Chief
Ram Chettiar, DO
Bridget Clark, DO
Catherine Madden, MD, FAACAP
Shayla Sullivant, MD, FAACAP
Lindsay Tobler, MD, FAACAP
Debra Willse, DO, FAACAP

Developmental Pediatricians
Benjamin Black, MD
Lisa Campbell, MD, FAAP
Elizabeth Hastings, MD
July Jean, MD
Tarah Kruger, MD
Libby Milkovich, MD
Sarah Nyp, MD, FAAP
Sarah Soden, MD, FAAP

Newsletter Editor
Cynthia Call, PsyD