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THANK YOU TO ALL THE FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENTS WHO MADE THIS YEAR’S GATHERING A SUCCESS.

WE WELCOME OUR NEW AND RETURNING STUDENTS AND HOPE YOU HAVE A PRODUCTIVE YEAR!

THIS YEAR THE VIRGINIA CONSORTIUM WELCOME BACK PARTY WAS HELD ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 AT THE GREAT BRIDGE LOCK PARK IN CHESAPEAKE, VA.

IMPORTANT DATES

- FEBRUARY 9TH & 12TH, 2024: ADMISSIONS DAY & SOCIAL
- APRIL 19TH, 2024: CE WORKSHOP
- APRIL 26TH, 2024: END OF YEAR PARTY
- MAY 10TH, 2024: CONSULTATION WORKSHOP
- AUGUST 12TH, 2024: NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION
- AUGUST 12TH, 2024: PROGRAM WIDE MEETING
- SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2024: WELCOME BACK PARTY
- OCTOBER 18TH, 2024: FACULTY RETREAT
- OCTOBER 18TH, 2024: RESEARCH DAY
- NOVEMBER 15TH, 2024: ORAL COMP EXAMS
From: Brooklyn, NY
Research Interest: Risk and protective factors for suicidal and self-injurious behaviors, especially among sexual and gender minority youth.
Dream Destination: Has always wanted to visit New Zealand and Australia.
Favorite Holiday: Christmas! She loves the coziness, decorations, and the holiday spirit.
TAYLOR KLIBBAN

From: Philadelphia, PA
Research Interest: Biological mechanisms associated with PTSD.
Dream Destination: Finland
Favorite Holiday: Halloween

MADISON (MADDY) MILLER

From: Warrenton, VA
Research Interest: Perinatal Mental Health.
Dream Destination: New Zealand
Favorite Holiday: Hanukkah & Christmas.

Hey!

You and Camille should plan a trip to New Zealand. Be sure to enlist Christina as your tour guide; she used to live there.
From Sandy Spring, MD

Research Interest: Parent-child interactions, family dysfunction, families, and trauma.

Dream Destination: Japan

Favorite Holiday: Passover
Dr. Erica R. Russell is a Licensed Psychologist and Associate Professor of Psychology at Norfolk State University. Her research and clinical interests center a focus on understanding, amplifying, and supporting the holistic wellness and development of populations that have been traditionally marginalized and placed at risk. Currently, she teaches African American Psychology, Developmental Psychology, and Careers in Psychology. She is a Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College Senior Faculty Fellow and the creator and coordinator of the FACE IT Scholars Learning Community.

Dr. Russell is a mentor and coach to undergraduate psychology students and integrates her passion for mentoring, mental health awareness, and culturally relevant pedagogy into the delivery of her FACE IT Initiative. Prior to her work in higher education, she enjoyed a diversity of professional experiences in varied settings (i.e., community agency, practice, school). Her undergraduate studies were completed at Old Dominion University where she majored in psychology and minored in African American Studies and Criminal Justice. She earned the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Counseling Psychology, with a clinical child and family subspecialty focus from the Howard University. Her pre-doctoral internship was completed at Applewood Centers in Cleveland, OH and involved extensive training in differential diagnosis and participation in clinical research through the Case Western Reserve University. Her postdoctoral clinical residency was completed at Accotink Academy, a private therapeutic day school in northern Virginia.

Dr. Russell was a first-generation college student, and she is a proud native of Hampton Roads, Virginia. She values the use of self as a change agent and believes that relevance is key to engagement. She enjoys time spent with family and close friends. In work and life in general, she seeks to answer the call to “leave things better than she found them.”
The overarching theme of Dr. Yarish research is how social and psychological factors shape and influence physical activity behaviors and cardiovascular disease. She focuses on developing and implementing physical activity promotion interventions to improve cardiovascular health, measurement of physical activity (psychometrics and wearable devices), and examining social connectedness factors related to physical activity and cardiovascular health. Her research draws from training in behavioral science, social psychology, and public health. Dr. Yarish doctoral training from The University of Texas at Austin’s health behavior and health education program provided her with foundations in behavior change theory, developing and managing a large physical activity intervention, and a strong, diverse methodological and statistical analysis skill set. Currently, she is the PI for a NIH/NHLBI (K01HL159348-01: Reducing social isolation and loneliness through physical activity to lower cardiovascular disease risk among military women and men reintegrating into civilian life). A funded project that focuses on co-designing and pilot testing a group-based physical activity intervention that incorporates social connection to reduce social isolation and loneliness for veterans transitioning or reintegrating to civilian life. Ultimately, she believes that designing physical activity interventions where individuals feel a sense of belonging and an associated identity will support lifelong physical activity behaviors.

Dr. Yarish is a faculty member in the School of Community & Environmental Health at Old Dominion University. She is also affiliated with the Psychology Department in the College of Sciences, specifically the Health Psychology and Clinical Psychology programs at Old Dominion University.

She has spent most of her free time running, climbing, surfing, hiking, and fly-fishing with her husband and their two dogs, and loves gluten-free baking and cooking.

To see her most recent publications via Google Scholar, click here (or the following link: https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=fgYd7HEAAAAJ&hl=en&oi=ao)
I'm thrilled to introduce myself as the new Program Administrator for the VCPCP at ODU. Hailing from the lively streets of Brooklyn, NY, I've been calling Virginia home since 2006, where I've been orchestrating life's adventures ever since. Balancing the roles of wife and blessed mother of three, my heart belongs not only to my family but also to the idea of a future beach house in tropical paradise.

While my childhood dreams of becoming a professional singer may only echo through the praise and worship sessions at church these days, my passion for creativity has found diverse outlets. A creative spirit at heart, I spent nearly a decade running my own custom cake business, turning sugar and flour into edible masterpieces. I have a passion for arts and crafts, decorating, and coordinating both birthday celebrations and women's empowerment events.

My professional journey is a testament to my love for numbers, organization, and being the glue that holds things together. From the front office of a fitness gym to the title companies' intricacies, and the legal realms of Real Estate Law, I've navigated diverse roles with unwavering success.

A career journey that spans roles from Customer Service Supervisor at the City of Chesapeake Treasurer's Office to Post Closing and Policy Production Manager at a title company, I take pride in being a reliable team player. Making people feel loved and appreciated is not just a job for me; it's a way of life. “Love your neighbor as yourself” (Mark 12:31)

In my downtime, you'll likely find me embracing my inner beach bum or watching reruns of Criminal Minds while enjoying quality time with my family. From cozy movie nights on the couch, to a shopping spree with a bite to eat, or a spontaneous road trip, I cherish every moment spent with my loved ones. Like the sun, every day I rise and set with a grateful heart.

I'm excited to bring my passion for organization, creativity, and teamwork to the VCPCP family.

Let's make this academic year one for the books!
DIRECTOR & ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF
CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

CHRISTINA RODRIGUEZ
DIRECTOR ~ ODU

From: Miami, FL
Hobbies: Home remodeling, outdoors.
Favorite Food: Anything chocolate
Favorite Holiday: MLK Day
Dream Destination: Iguazu Falls
Best Country Visited and Why?: Africa, met the kindest people in the world and fascinating environment.
If not Psychology, then?: Interior Design

ANDREW FRANKLIN
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR ~ NSU

From: Baltimore, MD
Hobbies: Playing piano, and being a girl-dad.
Favorite Food: Pasta-lover ALL day
Favorite Holiday: Thanksgiving (food and fellowship); what is there NOT to love?
Dream Destination: Key West, FL... again
Best Country Visited, and Why?: Haven’t been to another country yet; best island/British territory visited was Grand Turk.
If not Psychology, then?: Probably a pastor in church of 5 people in the worst neighborhood I can find... A shaggy beard, eyes of resolve, love for people. My breath would smell like grape juice and crackers. I would hug slimy germy kids, kiss wrinkled faces, and clutch a tattered book - just for appearances because it would be memorized.
Greetings from the Diversity Committee!

The last year was another fun and active year for the Diversity Committee, with new directions in terms of community outreach, and the return of events that have become popular favorites. Given the disparate impact of climate change on historically marginalized communities, this year the committee has increased activity focused on climate action (shoutout to first-year student Sunday Hull for the recommendation!). The committee recently partnered with the Elizabeth River Project (ERP) to help clean-up the wetlands around Harbor Park. As a group, 391 lbs. of litter were collected in just one and a half hours, and we had fun doing it! We look forward to ongoing collaboration with the ERP and attending future events focused on respecting and protecting our community. Additionally, we held two “Mingling with Mentors” events in the last year, during which students were able to cycle through small group meetings with faculty to discuss identities, experiences, and interests. This event consistently provides an opportunity for community-building as it allows both faculty and students to connect, and introduces the incoming cohort of students to students in older cohorts with whom they may not often interact. This well-loved event will be brought back in Fall of 2024. In addition, we have continued to host Discussion Clubs, focused on building tolerance and empathy through discourse. Most recently, in light of the recent, devastating escalation of the conflict in the Middle East, we met to share resources and discuss acting as effective clinicians to individuals who may be impacted by the crisis while perhaps being impacted ourselves. The Committee also continues to be actively involved with the Bridge Psychology Network, which fosters efforts to increase diversity and inclusion within graduate education programs in psychology. Check out some of our upcoming events below, and links to the associated media (articles link to the Sharepoint)!
As always, we welcome any ideas, interests, questions, resources and DEI-related activity suggestions you might have to share! Also, the Elizabeth River Project will facilitate the organization of custom clean-up efforts, so let us know if there is an area you love that is in need of some attention!

We can make a difference! Please reach out to VCPCPDiversity@odu.edu

Check out our webpage! If you would like to contribute a spotlight on your diversity-related research, clinical work, or personal journey in psychology, let us know and we’d love to feature you!

Did you know? Climate change is a diversity concern! The consequences of climate disasters, such as floods, wildfires, severe drought and temperatures in some areas, excess precipitation and rising sea levels in others, disproportionately impact both low-income countries and lower socioeconomic communities in higher-income countries. Click here to read more!

Save the Dates!

- February 23, 2024, 3-4pm: Discussion club will focus on Diversifying Clinical Psychology
  - Real Change or Performative Anti Racism Clinical Psychology Programs Efforts to Recruit and Retain BIPOC Scholars.pdf
  - Diversifying Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology A Change Gonna Come.pdf

- March 29, 2024, 3-4pm: Discussion club will focus on decolonizing research practices (video not yet posted, but should be available at the link below soon!)
  - An Introduction to QuantCrit: Overview and Application of QuantCrit Principles, presented by Christen Priddie, PhD, and Wendy Castillo, PhD
  - https://www.apa.org/science/programs/training-sessions
CONSORTIUM GRADUATES OF 2023

REGINA L. ALEXANDER

Primary Advisor: James Paulson
Post-Doc Employment: is currently a Pediatric Acute Treatment Postdoctoral Psychology Fellow at Nationwide Children’s Hospital in Columbus, OH.

RACHEL L. DAVIES

Primary Advisor: Michelle Kelley
Dissertation: The Mediation Effects of Adaptive Blindness Strategies on the Relation between Institutional Betrayal from Military Sexual Assault and Mental Health Symptoms
Post-Doc Employment: is currently at the Cheyenne VAMC in the Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program (RRTP) for veterans with severe PTSD and/or severe substance use. She’s also assisting with internship: applications, interviews, and eventually will train interns that are interested in RRTP.
CONSORTIUM GRADUATES OF 2023

CHARLOTTE A. DAWSON

Primary Advisor: Kristin Heron & Robin Lewis
Post-Doc Employment: is a Postdoctoral Fellow in Clinical Health Psychology at Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine.

NATHAN M. HAGER

Primary Advisor: Cassie Glenn & Matt Judah
Dissertation: An Electrophysiological Examination of Attentional Biases to Emotional Faces in Depression and Social Anxiety.
Post-Doc Employment: This September, he started a NIDA T32 Postdoc Fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. In this position, he researches the neural and cognitive mechanisms of opioid use disorder, cocaine use disorder, and comorbid depression and will test pharmacological (e.g., psychedelics) and cognitive-behavioral interventions.
CONSORTIUM GRADUATES OF 2023

JAMIE M. MACCHIA
EVMS

Primary Advisor: Jennifer Flaherty
Dissertation: The Influence of Minority Stress, Coping, and a Pandemic on the Relationship Between Sexual Orientation and Mental Health: A Mixed Methods Study.
Post-Doc Employment: is currently a sport psychology postdoc at Rutgers University! He conducts research here in addition to providing psychotherapy and psychological assessment among NCAA Division I athletes, coaches, and staff.

KELLY A. ROMANO
ODU

Primary Advisor: Kristin Heron
Dissertation: Affect, Mind-Body Factors, and Disordered and Intuitive Eating Behaviors: Examining Naturalistic Associations Among Young Women with Elevated Eating Disorder Symptoms
Post-Doc Employment: currently completing a T32 (T32 MH082761) entitled the Midwest Regional Postdoctoral Program in Eating Disorder Research, which is an eating disorders research consortium through the University of Minnesota, the University of Chicago, and Sanford Research Institute.
Dissertation: The Impact of Mandatory Substance Abuse Counselor Reporting Requirements on Child Maltreatment Reporting Outcomes
Congratulations to Cassidy for being this year’s recipient of the Candace M. Shorter Distinguished Student Award. This award is given to a distinguished student from a group of students who will be on internship the following year. The criteria for this award includes excellence in all areas of the program (academic, research, and clinical training). As the recipient, she received a plaque and a cash award and is now included on the list plaque of award recipients in the VCPCP Program Office.

In June of 2023, Cassidy also received the Hampton Roads Pride Scholarship which is a merit-based scholarship awarded to those who identify as LGBTQ+, with an affiliated community, or as an LGBTQ+ ally. *Applications are accepted in the Spring, with distributions in June during Pride month. If you’re interested in more information on how you can apply for the scholarship please visit the link below:

https://hamptonroadspride.org/scholarship/
Congratulations to Kinjal for being the recipient of the Old Dominion University Alumni Association’s Outstanding Scholar Fellowship Award, and the Student Engagement and Enrollment Services Graduate Travel Award.

In addition to this, Kinjal was also awarded a Professional Development Award from the Society for Child Clinical and Adolescent Psychology (Division 53 of the American Psychological Association). This award provided Kinjal funding for her first-author poster presentation at the Association for Psychological Sciences Convention in May 2023.

LAURA KENNEALLY
ODU

Congratulations to Laura for being this year’s recipient of the Eileen O’Neil Outstanding Consortium Service Award. This award is given to an outstanding consortium student who made significant contributions to the program. The student receives a plaque and a cash award and is included on the list plaque of award recipients in the VCPCP program office.

EMMA TRIERWEILER & KATELYN HASCHKE
NSU

Congratulations to Emma for receiving 2nd place at the 4th Annual Norfolk State University 3MT Competition for her presentation on the impact of religious coping on mental health.

Congratulations to Kate for being this year’s NSU recipient of the Outstanding Graduate Research Student Award.


STUDENT RECENT PUBLICATIONS


Haschke, K.J. (October, 2023). Give yourself a break: Mindfulness and self-care for parents. Workshop presented to the Norfolk Public Schools Parent Resource Center for Special Education Families, Norfolk, VA.


Romano, K. A., Sandoval, C. M., & Heron, K. E. (2023, April). Relationship functioning and disordered eating behaviors in the daily lives of sexual minority women in same-sex relationships. Paper session presented at the annual meeting of the Society of Behavioral Medicine, Phoenix, AZ.
Sandoval, C. M., & Heron, K. E. (2023, April). Body dissatisfaction’s association with excess gestational weight gain. Paper session presented at the annual meeting of the Society of Behavioral Medicine, Phoenix, AZ.

STUDENT RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS


Trierweiler, E. J., McKan, T., & Franklin, A. S. (2023, April). “People see, people do”: Exploring the role of credible examples on religious identity. Poster presentation at the 2023 annual conference of the Undergraduate and Graduate Student Research Innovation Symposium Exhibition, Norfolk, VA.

Congratulations to Phoebe who recently accepted a position as an assistant professor within the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Eastern Virginia Medical School starting January 2024. She will be working with the interdisciplinary team in the Emergency Department at Sentara Norfolk General Hospital seeing discharged ED patients in the outpatient clinic and will also teach and supervise the psychiatry residents.
EMU LNY NEWS

EMILY O. KOSTELNIK

Emily recently moved to New Jersey last year; her husband is stationed at Joint Base McGuire/Dix/Lakehurst for the next few years. She launched a virtual PSYPACT private practice called The Vestibular Psychologist, and works exclusively with patients who live with chronic dizziness. Emily runs the business alongside her educational company (virtual courses), Rooted Behavioral Education. You can learn more at rootedbehavioraleducation.com (@rootedbehavioraleducation on Instagram) and thevestibularpsychologist.com.


In November, the second-year Cohorts gathered to celebrate Tiana McKan and the impending arrival of her little one. We send our best wishes for a smooth and healthy delivery and eagerly anticipate seeing pictures of her joyful and thriving baby boy!

2022 Cohorts Pictured from Left to Right:
Kayla Pitchford, Danielle De Lucia, Hannah Sliman, Tiana McKan, Alicia Moulder, and Meredith Turner.

The 2019 Cohorts enjoyed one last beach day together before heading off to internship, June 2023.

2019 Cohorts Pictured from Left to Right:
Brooke Puharic, Alicia Milam, Thomas Augustin, Laura Kenneally, Douglas Glenn, Emily Junkin, Kenneth Ayers, and Cassidy Sandoval.
Congratulations to Yasmine and her team for raising $995.00 this November at the Walk2End Alzheimer’s, and being added to the champions list. What an accomplishment for a great cause!

Fundraising Team: Laura Kenneally, Raksha Kandlur, Yasmine Nabulsi (VCPCP students), and Chad.

HaBiT Lab Members at the 2023 SBM Annual Meeting in Phoenix, AZ this past April.

Pictured from Left to Right (starting in the center): Cassidy Sandoval, Kristin Heron, Kelly Romano, Meredith Turner, Kayla Pitchford, and Charlotte Dawson.
STUDENT NEWS

Lab picture of Douglas Glenn, Emily Junkin, and three undergraduate research assistants at the APA conference 2023.

Thank you for dedicating time to connect with us. We trust that you found value in the positive updates we shared. If you are committed to enhancing the well-being of our students and the community and would like to contribute to the VCPCP through donations, please visit:

https://sci.odu.edu/vcpcp/alum.html

Giving, not getting, is the way. Generosity begets generosity