2027-2028

UCSD/VA PSYCHOLOGY INTERNSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM

Department of Psychiatry University of California, San Diego VA San Diego Healthcare System

Co-Directors
Christina Wierenga, Ph.D.
Elizabeth Wrape, Ph.D.

Applicant Manual

Last Updated August 2026

Dear Prospective Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the UCSD/VA Psychology Internship Training Program. In the following pages, you will find detailed information about our Internship, including clinical training, didactic experiences, research opportunities, our faculty, and application instructions.

Our program is based on the scientist-practitioner model. As such, we seek competitive applicants interested and experienced in both research and clinical practice, particularly those interested in academic careers. Clinical training and didactic experiences integrate cutting-edge evidence-based techniques with a foundation of established empirically-supported treatments and assessment. We also recognize the importance of diversity represented by our trainees and faculty, as well as in our patients. We encourage those of diverse backgrounds, in all the many ways that diversity is defined, to apply to our program.

Our full-time Internship has been accredited by APA since 1986 (Further information about accreditation of this program can be found at: Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation, American Psychological Association, 750 First Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20002-4242, Phone: (202) 336-5979, Fax: (202) 336-5978, Email: apaaccred@apa.org, Web: www.apa.org/ed/accreditation). For the 2027-2028 year, stipend level will be dependent on the Intern site rotation. VA-based Interns will earn an annual stipend of **$40,080**. UCSD-based Interns will earn **$52,200**. This difference in stipend is due to the discrepancy in governing bodies (e.g., federal vs state). This consortium strives for parity in all other domains. Our competitive benefits, both for UCSD and for the VA, include health insurance, paid leave days, and paid holidays.

Training: The 2027-2028 Internship year will involve onsite, in-person patient care and training/supervision; virtual visits may occur but the Intern will deliver this care from onsite. We follow our institutional guidance regarding COVID-19 health and safety and adjust our training environment as needed. Interns are required to be "fully vaccinated" or have an approved exemption per the UC vaccination policy.

Recruitment: Recruitment for the class of 2027-2028 will be strictly virtual. Our faculty will create virtual overviews for each rotation or in some cases cluster of rotations, i.e., trauma, addictions, specialty mental health, behavioral medicine, neuropsychology and child as well as a virtual overview of the program, in general. Faculty will meet with selected applicants in scheduled individual zoom interviews during interview week (**January 4-8, 2027**). Current Interns will also be available during interview week for zoom meetings.

Hiring: In accordance with regulations established by the federal government, certain criteria must be met by applicants who are interested in applying to those Positions within our Internship that are exclusively housed within the VA. Please see Section 3 for a list of the all-VA Positions. **The criteria for VA applicants are as follows**:

1. U.S. citizenship. The VA is unable to consider applications from anyone who is not currently a U.S. citizen. Verification of citizenship is required following selection. All Interns must complete a Certification of Citizenship in the United States prior to the start of training within the VA.
2. U.S. citizens who are completing APA-, CPA- and PCSAS-accredited doctoral programs are eligible for appointment for VA Psychology Doctoral Internships.
3. Male applicants born after 12/31/1959 must have registered for the draft by age 26 to be eligible for any US government employment, including selection as a paid VA trainee. Male applicants must sign a pre-appointment Certification Statement for Selective Service Registration before they can be processed into a training program. Exceptions can be granted only by the US Office of Personnel Management; exceptions are very rarely granted. Male, for this purpose, is any individual born male on their birth certificate regardless of current gender.
4. Interns are subject to fingerprinting and background checks. Match result and selection decisions are contingent on passing these screens.
5. The VA conducts drug screening exams on randomly selected personnel as well as new employees. Interns are not required to be tested prior to beginning work, but once on staff they are subject to random selection for testing as are other employees. Detailed information about this policy can be found here: VA Drug-Free Workplace Program Guide for Veterans Health Administration Health Professions Trainees
6. To comply with federal and VA rules and provide Interns with liability protection, a current and valid Affiliation Agreement between the VA and the sponsoring doctoral program must be on file before an Intern can be appointed. While most APA-accredited doctoral programs already have an agreement on file, it is important that you confirm with your doctoral program, before application, that a valid affiliation agreement has been established. More information is available at: http://www.va.gov/oaa/agreements.asp (see section on psychology Internships).
7. A Trainee Qualifications and Credential Verification Letter (TQCVL) from the Intern's home institution is also required. More information on the specific requirements within the TQCVL can be found at: https://www.va.gov/oaa/TQCVL.asp

Those applicants applying for Positions housed exclusively within UCSD and affiliated clinics

(Rady Children's Hospital) must also meet employment criteria. Please see Section 3 for a list of all-UCSD Positions. **The criteria for UCSD/Rady Children's Hospital applicants are**:

1. Interns are subject to fingerprinting and background checks and drug screening exams. Individuals with convictions related to job duties are at particular risk of not passing the background check. Individuals with a positive drug screen will undergo further review by the Medical Review Office. Match result and selection decisions are contingent on passing these screens.
2. Interns must pass a physical exam and show proof of TB testing. Positive TB tests undergo further review by the Center for Occupational and Environmental Medicine to determine the course of action.

Positions: Each of our 17 Positions is comprised of **two half-time, year-long placements**. **Each Position has a separate APPIC match number.** The list of these 17 Positions, the placements associated with them, and the corresponding APPIC match number is below, and detailed descriptions of each placement and the supervising faculty can be found in Section 3. Please note that 12 Positions are all-VA, i.e., each half of the position is in a clinic located with the VA and falls under VA hiring/HR, and 5 positions are all-UCSD, i.e., each half of the position is in a clinic located within UCSD and falls under UCSD hiring/HR. When an applicant matches to the UCSD/VA Psychology Internship, he/she/they will match into a specific Position. **Placement combinations are fixed and cannot be changed from what is listed here.**

While you do not need to have extensive experience in both placements of the Position(s) to which you apply, we do value goodness-of-fit with at least one of the placements within a given Position when selecting applicants for interviews. All applications must be submitted via the APPIC portal. While the portal permits applicants to choose Positions of interest, **please clearly indicate in your cover letter and your APPIC application no more than three Positions for which you would like to be considered.** This will help ensure that the appropriate faculty review relevant applications.

POSITIONS FOR THE 2027-2028 TRAINING YEAR

		Placement A	Placement B	
Match #		**VA Positions**		**Description**
112536	1	VA Community Living Center Rehab Psychology (Condon/Maye)	VA Spinal Cord Injuries and Disorders Center Rehab Psychology (Clark)	Pg. 29
112523	2	VA PTSD Clinical Team (Luciano)	VA General Behavioral Medicine: Diabetes and Pain Psychology (Wooldridge/Herbert)	Pg. 32
112515	3	VA PTSD Clinical Team (Kleinsasser)	VA Alcohol and Drug Treatment Program (ADTP) (Hemmy-Asamsama)	Pg. 38
112532	4	VA PTSD Clinical Team (Pearlstein)	Dual Diagnosis Recovery Program (DDRP) (McDonald)	Pg. 39
112537	5	VA Substance Abuse Rehabilitation and Recovery Treatment Program (SARRTP) (Stagnaro)	VA Behavioral Health Interdisciplinary Program (BHIP) La Jolla (Castriotta)	Pg. 41
112527	6	VA Family Mental Health Community of Practice (Wrape)	VA Behavioral Health Interdisciplinary Program (BHIP) Kearny Mesa (Kassab)	Pg. 44
112530	7	VA Center of Recovery Education (McGovern/Jenson)	VA Neuromodulation Program (Perivoliotis/ Bismark)	Pg. 47
112535	8	VA Kearny Mesa Geriatric Neuropsychology (Eppig)	VA Geriatric Mental Health Clinic La Jolla (Mayes)	Pg. 51
112524	9	VA Neuropsychological Assessment Unit (Bangen/Delano-Wood/Thomas)	VA Primary Care Mental Health Integration (PCMHI) (Savin)	Pg. 54
112534	10	VA Neuropsychological Assessment Unit (Bangen/Delano-Wood/Thomas)	VA TBI Cognitive Rehabilitation Clinic/ VA Neuropsychological Assessment Unit (Bangen/Maye)	Pg. 58
112520	11	VA Neuropsychological Assessment Unit (Bangen/Delano-Wood/Thomas)	VA Inpatient Psychiatry (Bismark)	Pg. 59
112521	12	VA PTSD EBP Outpatient (Poizner)	VA PTSD EBP Residential (Borders)	Pg. 60
		UCSD Positions		
112512	13	UCSD Adult/Adolescent Eating Disorders Clinic (Anderson/Karam/Wierenga)	UCSD Center for Pain Medicine (Serdarevic)	Pg. 63
112513	14	UCSD Adult/Adolescent Eating Disorders Clinic (Anderson/Karam/Wierenga)	UCSD Center for Healthy Eating and Activity Research (CHEAR) (Eichen)	Pg. 67
112538	15	UCSD Adult/Adolescent Eating Disorders Clinic (Anderson/Karam/Wierenga)	Rady Medical Behavioral Unit (MBU) (Maginot)	Pg. 68
112511	16	Rady Child Outpatient Psychiatry (Williams/Loyola)	UCSD Peds/Adolescent Eating Disorders Clinic (Ramirez/Karam)	Pg. 70
112519	17	Rady Child Outpatient Psychiatry (Williams/Loyola)	Rady Pediatric-Medical Psych (Nguyen)	Pg. 73

Application Procedures: The Internship year begins on July 1, 2027. The application deadline is November 1, 2026. By December 15, a select number of applicants will be invited for interviews scheduled in January. **Recruitment for the 2027-2028 Internship Class will be entirely remote/virtual.**

Applicants will complete and submit the AAPI Online to Internship programs of interest. The AAPI can be completed at http://www.appic.org. In addition, the usual

application packet (cover letter, CV, letters of recommendation, DCT verification of AAPI, graduate transcripts) will all be submitted through the online application portal.

Applicants are asked to **indicate up to three Positions** that define their primary interests and for which they wish to apply (see table above for the list of Positions). **Please clearly list the top 3 Positions of Interest in your cover letter and in the application portal**.

If you have questions about the application procedures, please call or email Sabrina Angkiangco, our program coordinator.

Phone: 858-642-3228
Email: Sabrina.Angkiangco@va.gov

Or email the Co-Directors:
Dr. Christina Wierenga cwierenga@health.ucsd.edu
Dr. Elizabeth Wrape Elizabeth.Wrape2@va.gov

For more information, please see our website at https://psychiatry.ucsd.edu/education-training/psychology-programs/internship.html or feel free to contact us with questions. We wish you luck in the application process!

Sincerely,

Drs. Christina Wierenga and Elizabeth Wrape
Co-Directors, UCSD/VA Psychology Internship Training Program

Internship Admissions, Support, and Initial Placement Data

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM TABLES

Date Program Tables are updated: July 22, 2026

Program Disclosures

As articulated in Standard I.B.2, programs may have "admission and employment policies that directly relate to affiliation of purpose" that may be faith-based or secular in nature. However, such policies and practices must be disclosed to the public. Therefore, programs are asked to respond to the following question.

Program Disclosures

Does the program or institution require students, trainees, and/or staff (faculty) to comply with specific policies or practices related to the institution's affiliation or purpose? Such policies or practices may include, but are not limited to, admissions, hiring, retention policies, and/or requirements for completion that express mission and values?	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**
If yes, provide website link (or content from brochure) where this specific information is presented:	

Internship Program Admissions

Briefly describe in narrative form important information to assist potential applicants in assessing their likely fit with your program. This description must be consistent with the program's policies on iselection and practicum and academic preparation requirements:
Our Internship Program trains doctoral candidates to function as autonomous psychologists in healthcare settings that place a strong emphasis on teaching and research, using the Boulder, Scientist-Practitioner Model. As such, we attempt to recruit students with balanced experiences in both clinical and research domains rather than students with a predominantly clinical professional focus. The majority of our Interns develop careers that include a research component.

Does the program require that applicants have received a minimum number of hours of the following at time of application? If Yes, indicate how many:			
Total Direct Contact Intervention Hours	YES	NO	Amount: N/A
Total Direct Contact Assessment Hours	YES	NO	Amount: N/A

Describe any other required minimum criteria used to screen applicants:
Interns are expected to have completed at least three years of doctoral study before beginning the Internship year, including at least 1,000 clinical practicum hours (includes all hours, direct, support, etc.); applicants must be on track to complete this requirement. Applicants should also have proposed their dissertation before applying to this Internship. Only students who have completed their department's practicum requirements and whose department indicates that the student is ready for a doctoral Internship should apply. Only applicants from APA or CPA accredited doctoral programs in clinical or counseling psychology will be considered.

Financial and Other Benefit Support for Upcoming Training Year*

Annual Stipend/Salary for Full-time Interns- UCSD site	$52,200	
Annual Stipend/Salary for Full-time Interns- VA site	$40,080	
Annual Stipend/Salary for Half-time Interns	N/A	
Program provides access to medical insurance for Intern?	☒ Yes	☐ No
If access to medical insurance is provided:		
Trainee contribution to cost required?	☒ Yes	☐ No
Coverage of family member(s) available?	☒ Yes	☐ No
Coverage of legally married partner available?	☒ Yes	☐ No
Coverage of domestic partner available?	☒ Yes	☐ No
Hours of Annual Paid Personal Time Off (PTO and/or Vacation)	13-20 days	
Hours of Annual Paid Sick Leave	8-12 days	
In the event of medical conditions and/or family needs that require extended leave, does the program allow reasonable unpaid leave to Interns/residents in excess of personal time off and sick leave?	☒ Yes	☐ No
Other Benefits (please describe): Please see our brochure for full benefits/leave policies.		

* Note. Programs are not required by the Commission on Accreditation to provide all benefits listed in this table

Initial Post-Internship Positions

(Provide an Aggregated Tally for the Preceding 3 Cohorts)

	2022-2025	
Total # of Interns who were in the 3 cohorts	56	
Total # of Interns who did not seek employment because they returned to their doctoral program/are completing doctoral degree	3	
	PD	**ED**
Academic teaching		
Community mental health center	1	
Consortium		
University Counseling Center		
Hospital/Medical Center	25	
Veterans Affairs Health Care System	25	
Psychiatric facility		
Correctional facility		
Health maintenance organization		
School district/system		
Independent practice setting	2	
Other		

Note: "PD" = Post-doctoral residency position; "EP" = Employed Position. Each individual represented in this table should be counted only one time. For former trainees working in more than one setting, select the setting that represents their primary position.

Table of Contents

General Overview 12
Administration and Faculty 14
Objectives, Goals, and Core Competencies 18
Competencies 18
Clinical Activities 19
Psychological Assessment 20
Seminars 20
Supervision 23
Research 23
Internship Sites 25
The VA San Diego Healthcare System (VASDHS) 25
UC San Diego Health 27
Rady Children's Hospital 28
Rotation Descriptions 29
Position 1 29
Position 2 32
Position 3 38
Position 4 39
Position 5 41
Position 6 44
Position 7 47
Position 8 51
Position 9 54
Position 10 58

Position 11 59
Position 12 60
Position 13 63
Position 14 67
Position 15 68
Position 16 70
Position 17 73
Internship Policies and Procedures 76
Qualification Standards 76
Application Procedures 77
Faculty Supervisors and Supervision 77
Training Methods 78
Competency Model of Evaluation 79
Office Hours and Vacation, Holiday, and Leave Policies 80
Use of Artificial Intelligence 82
Benefits 83
Requirements for the Completion of Internship 84
Resources 86
Commitment to Cultural Responsiveness 86
Academic Resources 87
Transit and Parking 88
Housing 88
Preparing for Licensure 88
APPENDIX A 90

Section 1

General Overview

The University of California, San Diego (UCSD) School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry (DOP), and the Psychology Service, VA San Diego Healthcare System (VASDHS), in cooperation with UC San Diego Health and Rady Children's Hospital offers a 12-month, full-time, APA-Accredited psychology Internship in clinical psychology for 2080 hours of training. (Further information about accreditation of this program can be found at: Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation, American Psychological Association, 750 First Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20002-4242, Phone: (202) 336-5979, Fax: (202) 336-5978, Email: apaaccred@apa.org, Web: https://accreditation.apa.org/).

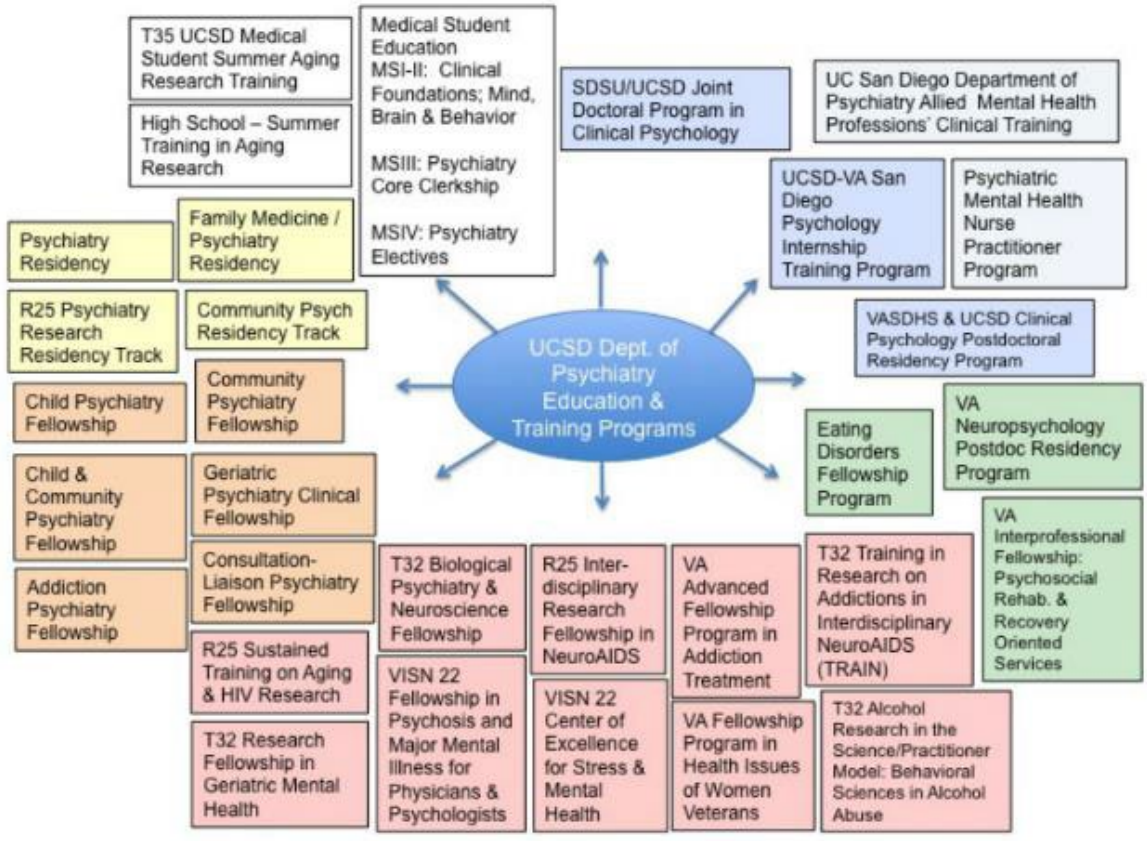
- **17 Intern Positions**
- **Each Position is comprised of two, year-long half-time rotations.**
- **On each rotation, Interns have one primary supervisor**
- **Training is largely grouped into six clusters: Substance Use, Behavioral Medicine, Child, Neuropsychology, Specialty Mental Health, and Trauma**
- **The program begins each year on July 1.**
- **For the 2027-2028 year, VA Interns will earn a stipend of $40,080. UCSD based Interns will earn a stipend of $52,200.**

Our program trains doctoral candidates to function as autonomous professionals in a variety of health care settings, with particular emphasis on the role of the psychologist in a sophisticated university-affiliated teaching and research hospital, adult or child outpatient, and inpatient child, adolescent, and adult psychiatric settings. The UCSD/VA Psychology Internship provides a solid grounding in basic clinical skills within a rich array of selective experiences for developing special expertise.

The program emphasizes the Boulder, scientist-practitioner model of training in psychology and, therefore, accepts applicants who are oriented more toward research and clinical interests (i.e., academic careers) than those interested in professional psychology.

Since its inception in 1969, the Department of Psychiatry at UCSD has developed into one of the most innovative and vigorous of the academic departments of psychiatry in the country. The department has a strong commitment to the basic neurosciences and to biological psychiatry, but this is balanced by an equally strong commitment to the understanding of an individual's present feelings, thoughts and behaviors, the interpersonal relationships among family members and significant others, and empirically-validated psychotherapy interventions.

The relationships between the UC San Diego School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry, the VASDHS, UC San Diego Health, and Rady Children's Hospital, have long been characterized by a high degree of interdependence in synergistic collaboration.



In addition to our Psychology Internship program, many successful joint programs are currently in operation under the umbrella of the UC San Diego Department of Psychiatry. Noteworthy among these programs is a three-year residency in general psychiatry, psychiatric fellowships in geropsychiatry, child and adolescent

psychiatry, alcohol and substance abuse treatment, and affective disorders, and the UCSD/SDSU Joint Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology.

See also: https://psychiatry.ucsd.edu/education-training/index.html

Administration and Faculty

Primary supervisors in the UCSD/VA Psychology Internship Program have academic appointments (or are in progress) in the UC San Diego Department of Psychiatry, and many hold joint appointments with the VA San Diego Healthcare System. The Chair of the Department of Psychiatry, UC San Diego School of Medicine and the Chief, Psychology Service VASDHS, have jointly appointed two Co-Directors of Clinical Training (DCT) to administer and coordinate the various psychology training activities of the Internship. The DCTs interface with the Psychology Internship Training Committee (PITC) to carry out policies and procedures in the various clinical settings across the Internship. The administrative office of the Training Program is housed in the Psychology Service at the VASDHS.

The PITC consists of all of the primary supervisors for the UCSD/VA Psychology Internship Program. The PITC is involved with the details of Interns' clinical training plans, evaluations, curricula, seminars, and workshops, requests for special training experiences, grievances, probation decisions, major policy decisions and changes to training procedures. This committee meets approximately quarterly throughout the year to conduct appropriate business and participate in the program's planning, implementation and self-study evaluation. By serving on this committee, supervisors participate actively in these activities.

In addition to the Training Directors and the PITC, educational activities for Interns in the Department of Psychiatry are overseen by the Psychiatry Education and Training Council (PET). The PET Council is a multidisciplinary group of faculty and training directors that has been charged with the oversight of all training programs in the Department of Psychiatry. Among its many functions, PET acts as an advocacy group for trainees. Trainee representatives from all training programs are also members of PET.

- **Each year one or more Interns are chosen to represent their class on the training committee.**

The Internship Faculty

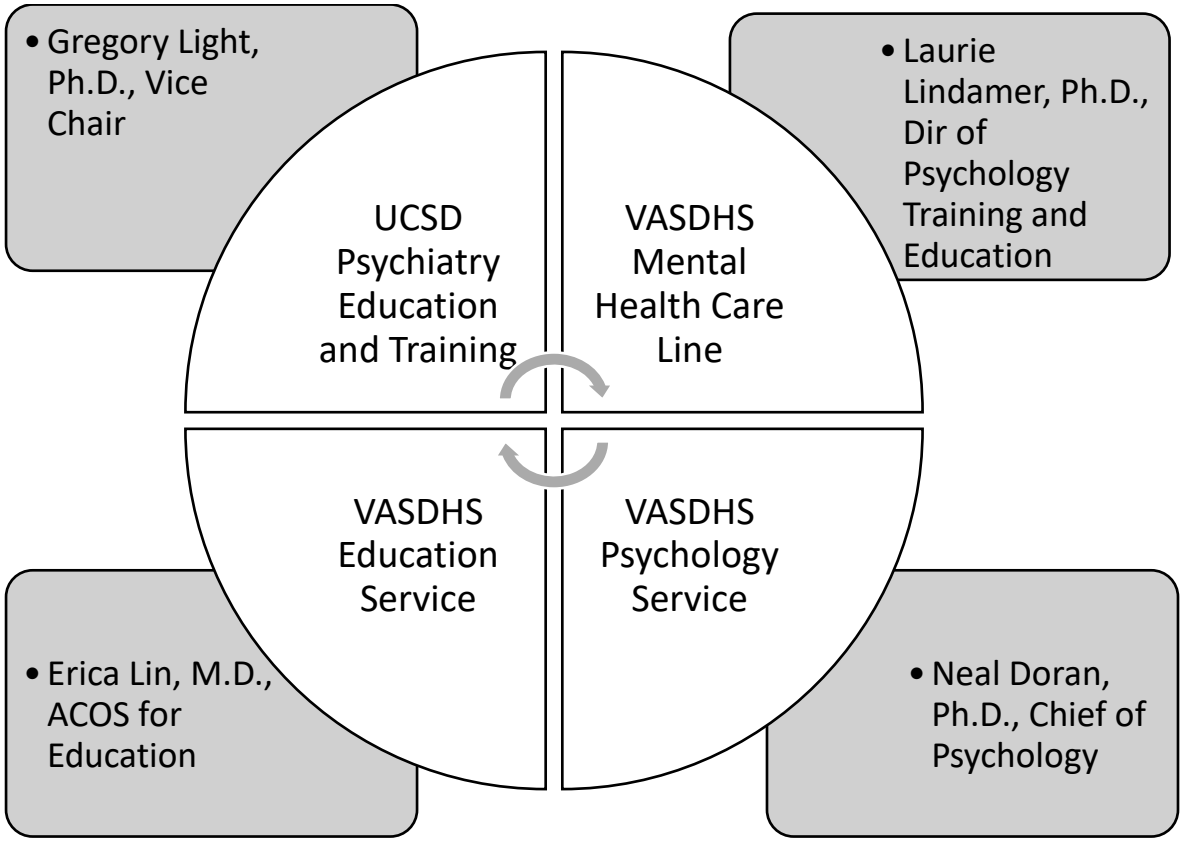
Brief bios for each of the approximately 40 doctoral level psychologists who are part of the PITC are also provided in Section 3. Psychologists in all settings are engaged in patient care, professional training, and program evaluation or clinical research. Collectively, the faculty has many ongoing research grants and has published a great

number of articles, books, and book chapters.

UCSD PSYCHIATRY and VASDHS TRAINING LEADERSHIP

Zafiris (Jeff) Daskalakis, M.D.
Chair, Department of Psychiatry

James Pittman, PhD, LCSW
Associate Chief of Staff, Mental Health



PSYCHOLOGY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Christina Wierenga, Ph.D.
Co-Director of Internship Training

Elizabeth Wrape Ph.D.
Co-Director of Internship Training

PSYCHOLOGY INTERNSHIP TRAINING COMMITTEE (PITC)

Leslie Anderson, Ph.D.
Katherine Bangen, Ph.D.
Lauren Blau, Ph.D.
Andrew Bismark, Ph.D.
*Mark Bondi, Ph.D.
Adrienne Borders, Ph.D.
Natalie Castriotta, Ph.D
Jillian Clark, Ph.D.
Shelley Condon, Ph.D.
Lisa Delano-Wood, Ph.D.
*Colin Depp, Ph.D.
Neal Doran, Ph.D.
Dawn Eichen, Ph.D.
Joel Eppig, Ph.D.
Octaviana Hemmy-Asamsama, Psy.D.
Matt Herbert, Ph.D.
Nani Jenson, Psy.D.
Anna Karam Jones, Ph.D.
Veronica Kassab, Ph.D.
Anne Kleinsasser, Psy.D.
Matthew Luciano, Ph.D.
Tamara Maginot, Ph.D.
Jaqueline Maye, Ph.D.
Tina Mayes, Ph.D.
James McDonald, Ph.D.
Jessica McGovern, Ph.D.
*Ben McKenna, Ph.D.
Eve Nguyen, Ph.D.
*Sonya Norman, Ph.D.
Sarah Pearlstein, Ph.D.
Dimitri Perivoliotis, Ph.D.
Jeffrey Poizner, Psy.D.
Ana Ramirez, Ph.D.
Kimberly Savin, Ph.D.
Mirsad Serdarevic, Ph.D.
Elizabeth Loyola, Psy.D.
Claire Stagnaro, Ph.D.
Kelsey Thomas, Ph.D.
Christina Wierenga, Ph.D.
Katherine Nguyen Williams, Ph.D.
Jennalee Wooldridge, Ph.D.
Elizabeth Wrape, Ph.D

*research faculty

Our Internship Coordinator is Sabrina Angkiangco
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Our UCSD Training Liaison is Jennifer Hickey-Hinojosa
Program Manager, Education & Training Services
Department of Psychiatry, UCSD
Phone: (858) 534-2909
Email: jhickey@health.ucsd.edu

Section 2

Objectives, Goals, and Core Competencies

The fundamental objective of our program is to facilitate the development of competent professional psychologists who are ready to assume the responsibilities of an entry level doctoral psychologist position. Our Internship training is directed towards developing nine basic core professional competencies expected of an entry level doctoral level psychologist.

Competencies

1. **Assessment and Diagnosis:** Competency in conducting clinical interview-based assessment and in administering and interpreting basic psychological tests in the areas of intellectual assessment, basic cognitive assessment, and personality assessment; familiarity with the prevailing diagnostic procedures, e.g., ability to assign appropriate diagnoses to individual patients; ability to communicate findings and recommendations orally and in writing in a clear and concise manner.
2. **Intervention and Treatment:** Competency in conducting individual and group counseling/psychotherapy across a variety of problems and populations; familiarity with empirical findings concerning the efficacy of psychotherapy; an understanding and knowledge of empirically supported therapeutic approaches for specific mental disorders.
3. **Supervision:** Familiarity with and understanding of methods and theories of supervision; Competency in supervising other trainees under the supervision of members of the psychology faculty.
4. **Professional values, attitudes and behaviors:** Demonstration of sound professional clinical judgment and behavior in the application of assessment and intervention procedures with individuals; timely completion of work, on-time attendance at required meetings, sessions, seminars, supervision, etc.
5. **Ethical and Legal Standards:** Familiarity with and understanding of professional and legal standards in professional psychology; a thorough working understanding of

APA ethical standards, understanding of and adherence to one's scope of practice; patient risk management and confidentiality.

6. **Individual and Cultural Diversity:** Demonstration of understanding of and sensitivity to individual human differences in the practice of psychology; familiarity with empirical findings pertaining to diversity issues in assessment and diagnosis, tests and measurement, psychopathology, interventions and treatment; awareness of one's own cultural and ethnic background and its impact on therapeutic relationships.
7. **Research/Scholarly Inquiry and Application of Scientific Knowledge:** Demonstration of understanding and knowledge of strategies of scholarly inquiry; awareness of current empirical studies in major professional practice journals; competency in reviewing and integrating relevant scholarly literature to assist in clinical problem solving; independent ability to critically evaluate and disseminate research (e.g., case conference, scientific conference presentation, and/or publication), locally, regionally, or nationally.
8. **Consultation and Interprofessional/interdisciplinary skills:** demonstration of ability to facilitate patient care or exchange of scientific, psychological, or professional information within an interdisciplinary team or professional setting.
9. **Communication and interpersonal skills:** demonstration of both professional and interpersonal communication skills.

The Internship experience involves training that extends and integrates the Intern's basic academic program with the core competencies identified above. Interns have a shared responsibility in designing and planning the Internship experience in collaboration with their primary supervisors, Program Co-Directors, and the PITC. This process is intended to ensure that the Intern's training plan is cohesively aligned with the Intern's overall graduate or professional school training plan, and that the Internship provides a coherent progression from the basic knowledge and practical clinical skill competencies achieved in the academic program to the core practice competencies that are to be acquired in the Internship. Upon completion of the Internship, Interns are prepared to assume an entry level doctoral psychology position in inpatient and outpatient adult and child medical, psychiatric and mental health settings.

Clinical Activities

The 12-month training year begins with clinic-specific orientations that introduce Interns to their assigned training sites. During the orientation period, faculty advisors begin to evaluate the Intern's strengths and growth areas with respect to psychological assessment and psychotherapy and the competencies described above. This evaluation involves a review of

previous clinical experience and training recommendations from the Interns' home university, if available. Results of the evaluation period are used by faculty and Interns to determine which training activities to emphasize during the year and lead to development of appropriate and personalized training goals.

Opportunities for the Interns range from diagnostic evaluations and neuropsychological assessments to brief crisis-oriented therapy to individual and group evidenced-based psychotherapy. Training is available in a variety of therapeutic modalities, including individual, couple, family, and group. Our program emphasizes empirically based psychotherapies, and supervision is available in many theoretical orientations, including cognitive-behavioral interventions, motivational interviewing, several trauma focused interventions (e.g., Prolonged Exposure, Cognitive Processing Therapy) and third wave interventions (e.g., Acceptance and Commitment Therapy, Dialectical Behavior Therapy, mindfulness). Assessment opportunities also vary depending on site and supervisor, from a strong emphasis on neuropsychology at the VASDHS and UCSD, to a greater emphasis on developmental and general cognitive factors at the outpatient child facilities. Please see Internship Sites and Rotation Descriptions for more details related to opportunities involved in each clinic.

Psychological Assessment

Psychological assessment plays an integral role in the services of a clinical psychologist. Most of the rotations offered by the Internship involve a significant amount of psychological assessment using a variety of population-specific test instruments. Interns will obtain supervised psychodiagnostic assessment experience.

- **Interns will aim to complete a minimum of eight integrated written assessment reports during the training year.**
- **An integrated psychological testing report includes a written integration of the review of history, results of an interview and at least two psychological tests from one or more of the following categories: personality measures, symptom report measures, intellectual tests, cognitive tests, and neuropsychological tests.**
- **Assessments/reports that are to be included in this requirement must be completed by May 31 of the training year.**

Seminars

Seminars provided as part of the Internship training program serve several functions. First, the seminars provide an opportunity for the Intern to acquire a specialized body of knowledge pertaining to their professional interest(s). Second, they allow the Interns to expand their knowledge within a specific domain, such as serious mental illness. Seminars also

contribute to development of core competencies. While a significant variety of required and optional lectures are given each week throughout the program, Interns should expect to spend three to four hours per week in didactic activities. There are a number of seminars available to the Intern during the course of the year.

- **All the Interns are required to attend the weekly Psychology Internship Seminar Series. This seminar is a broad-based survey of topics applicable to psychology trainees at the Internship level of training (see Appendix A for the schedule and individual lecture description). It includes both expert and interactive lectures as well as opportunities for socialization of the Intern cohort. It also includes an Intern case presentation series.**
    - **Each Intern will present at least one empirically informed case at this seminar during the course of the year. Case presentations are approximately 45 minutes in duration, can be focused on an intervention or assessment case, and will also include a discussant (typically a supervisor, group co-leader, etc.). The oral presentation will also include PowerPoint slides detailing the case as well as empirical literature supporting and informing treatment or assessment decisions. This presentation is a requirement for successful completion of the Internship.**

Many other seminars are available and may be elective or required depending on the rotation and setting in which the Intern is assigned. A sampling of these seminars is listed below and rotation supervisors will let each Intern know what seminars they are required to attend.

- **UCSD Psychiatry Education and Training (PET) Professional Development Series** meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month from noon to 1pm and is attended by trainees throughout the UCSD Dept of Psychiatry. Topics include: Self-Promotion, Networking, and Disseminating Your Work to a Broader Audience; How to be an Anti-Racist Clinician-Researcher; Strategies for Job Searching Within and Outside of Academia; Work Life Balance / When and How to Say "No"; Enhancing Your Contributions to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Private Practice; How to Give a Job Talk; Consulting and Collaborating with Industry (e.g., pharma, tech); How to Build Mentorship Skills as a Junior Researcher (e.g., mentoring undergraduate, master's level, doctoral students); and Integrating Personal Identity into Professional Life.
- **UCSD Psychiatry Grand Rounds** take place on the 4th Thursday of the month from noon to 1:00pm followed by a trainee discussion from 1:00-1:30pm.
- **Psychosomatic Medicine Consultation Group** meets weekly and is attended by

interprofessional faculty and their supervised trainees (psychiatry, pharmacy, psychology) from the Consult-Liaison Service, Primary Care-Mental Health Integration, Behavioral Medicine, Psycho-Oncology and Mental Health Pharmacy teams. Attendees present cases and receive consultation from others to enhance interprofessional practice and utilize biopsychosocial case formulations to guide assessment and treatment. Discussions and information shared include case-driven guidance around workup/assessment/differential diagnoses, evidence-based practices, relevant scholarly articles, clinical or community resources, and tailored communication for patients, family members or referring providers. Additionally, as a complement to the consultation group, trainees are encouraged to attend the Psychosomatic Interprofessional Seminar Series, which meets twice monthly, and is focused on interprofessional education activities that allow trainees to learn with and from other professions through structured interaction and discussion.

- **Evidenced-Based Psychotherapy Seminar:** This seminar is multi-disciplinary and includes psychologists, social workers, psychiatrists, pharmacists, peer support staff, and nursing. The focus of the seminar is on "mini-pearls" regarding topics related to mental health care in mood disorders in a team environment. The seminar involves trainee participation in leading didactics after a core curriculum from faculty on the assessment, pharmacologic, and psychotherapeutic management of mood disorders is completed.
- **Clinical Neuropsychology Seminar (CNS):** This weekly seminar is for neuropsychology trainees at any level. It is designed to meet the American Board of Clinical Neuropsychology and Houston Conference recommendations for neuropsychological training. Weekly lectures are provided by faculty experts on a wide range of topics (e.g., Various types of Dementia, Movement Disorders, Pharmacology in Dementia, Epilepsy, Neurology, TBI, Board Certification). All CNS speakers are asked to address diversity in their presentations, in accordance with the AACN 2050 Guidelines. In addition, the CNS includes a monthly Neuropsychology Diversity Series to directly address health disparities and other cultural considerations related to neuropsychology.
- **Substance Use Disorders Seminar:** Beginning in the fall, there is a 15-week didactic series with presentations and trainings in diverse substance use disorders topics, i.e., co-occurring conditions, behavioral addictions, pharmacotherapy, medicinal cannabis, etc. These lectures are given by experts in SUD research and treatment from the VA, UCSD, Scripps, and the community. The course is designed to meet California pre-licensure education requirements for psychologists.
- **Eating Disorder Seminar:** Weekly didactics are taught by in-house and visiting experts on topics relevant to treating eating disorder patients.
- **PTSD Training Seminar:** This seminar is for psychology trainees and covers a

range of topics related to the assessment and treatment of PTSD and its comorbidities, with faculty presentations covering both relevant research and clinical perspectives. The seminar also typically includes case presentations from trainees.

- **Child Psychiatry Seminar:** This seminar is designed to address issues related to the assessment and treatment of children with psychopathology. The seminar is attended by psychology Interns, residents in Psychiatry, Fellows in child and adolescent psychiatry, as well as by child-focused faculty. This seminar is supplemented by a monthly Child and Adolescent Grand Rounds series which is devoted to pediatric psychology and psychiatry.

Supervision

Quality supervision is a particular point of emphasis in our program.

- **All Interns receive at least one hour of individual, face-to-face supervision each week in each rotation (for a minimum of two hours of individual supervision weekly).**
- **In both of their rotations, Interns will also receive at least one additional hour of supervision, often in the context of group supervisions and/or team meetings where additional training occurs.**

All supervision is an interactive educational experience between the Intern and the supervisor and is evaluative, hierarchical, extends over time, and has the simultaneous purposes of enhancing the professional functioning of the more junior person. Supervision includes monitoring the quality of professional services offered to the clients that the Intern sees and serves a gatekeeper function for those who are to enter the particular profession (Bernard & Goodyear, 2009). All Interns will receive direct observation from their supervisor as a component of supervision. Depending on the capabilities of the specific clinics, supervision will include review of video recorded therapy/assessment sessions, co-therapy with faculty or other senior therapists, or live observation to allow for in vivo supervision. Use of review of audio recorded sessions can also supplement, but not replace, live/video supervision.

Research

The integration of clinical practice and research is an important emphasis of the program and **Interns may elect to spend up to four hours per week engaged in research activities**. Time is protected in the Intern's schedule for this effort. Interns opting to engage in research are encouraged to utilize the protected research time to complete their dissertation, initially. Once defended, research hours may be allotted to work on their own research projects

or those of the faculty, including analyzing pre-existing data, preparing and submitting manuscripts, engaging in program development and quality improvement projects, writing grants for future research, building/expanding their research network, and/or participating in other approved research activities. In order to promote their ongoing professional clinical and research development, Interns will work with their clinical mentors to identify an appropriate research mentor from the PITC faculty or the UCSD Department of Psychiatry and/or VASDHS faculty more broadly.

- **Interns must provide a summary of their research efforts and tangible outcomes on the mid-year and end of year Intern Competency Rating Form.**
- **Each Intern will also present an empirically informed case conference presentation within the seminar series (see Seminars, above).**
- **Interns are required to attend the annual UCSD Department of Psychiatry Judd Symposium (typically in the Spring each year) and present their research at this symposium. Submission of an abstract (and presentation if accepted) and attendance at the Symposium is a requirement for successful completion of the Internship.**

This symposium is named after Lewis L. Judd, M.D. who served as the second Chair of the UC San Diego Department of Psychiatry from 1977-2014. While encouraging the strong research portfolio of the Department, Dr. Judd was passionate also about educating the next generation of scholars and clinicians. He wished to create an environment where clinician scholars could interact with basic science trainees and faculty to enhance intellectual cross-fertilization. In recognition of Dr. Judd's foresight and passion for research education, this symposium was named in his honor in 2014.

Section 3

Internship Sites

Each of the Internship sites has its own unique set of opportunities and responsibilities. A description of each site follows. Please note that an Intern cannot possibly participate in all the options at each site. However, the Intern plays a fundamental role in formulating his or her training program. A unique strength of the UCSD/VA Psychology Internship Program is its commitment to providing the Intern with a well-rounded clinical experience while remaining flexible with regard to the Intern's specific needs and interests. Because of the diversity of available experiences, there is no "typical" schedule for an Intern. However, Interns are expected to maintain a case load in each rotation that aims to **provide 10-12 hours of direct service each week (for 20-24 hours of direct service across both rotations).** The remaining hours involve supervision, didactics, professional development, preparation for patients, documentation, and research.

Below is a description of each of the Internship training sites. For a detailed description of the placements according to six emphasis areas: Addictions, Behavioral Medicine, Child, Neuropsychology, Specialty Mental Health, and Trauma, please see the Applicant Manual. Appendix A provides a list of Positions and corresponding training sites.

The VA San Diego Healthcare System (VASDHS)

VASDHS, now the Jennifer Moreno Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, is a modern 300 bed general medical and surgical medical center situated adjacent to the University of California at San Diego and is closely affiliated with the UC San Diego School of Medicine. The VASDHS is located 10 miles north of downtown San Diego and just one mile inland from the community of La Jolla on the Pacific Ocean. On March 14, 2022, VASDHS was renamed the Jennifer Moreno Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center. 1st Lt. Jennifer Moreno, a San Diego native and Army nurse, was deployed as part of a special operations Cultural Support Team and gave her life during combat operations in Afghanistan. During a raid on October 6, 2013, at a compound thought to have a high-value military target, one of the residents detonated an improvised explosive device and wounded several of Moreno's team members. She rushed to provide medical aid and was killed when another IED was detonated. Moreno is buried at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery on Point Loma. For

her bravery, she was awarded the Bronze Star with a "V" device for valor and promoted posthumously to Captain.

The VASDHS has approved residency training programs in medicine, surgery, anesthesia, neurology, pathology, psychiatry, radiology, and audiology. The medical staff is augmented by outstanding physicians, dentists, nurses, consultants, research investigators, and medical attendings in various specialties. There are over 2,500 full- and part-time professional and administrative staff members.

The VASDHS Mental Health Care Line has extensive inpatient and outpatient mental health facilities located in the main hospital in La Jolla. The entire second floor of the VA Medical Center La Jolla medical center is almost exclusively inhabited by mental health (psychology, psychiatry, social work, nursing, and pharmacy) services. Veterans with a wide range of mental and behavioral health conditions are offered care at the VASDHS, including those with serious mental illness, such as schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, other mood disorders, psychiatric problems stemming from medical illnesses, posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), substance use disorders, sexual trauma, interpersonal trauma, neurocognitive disorders, personality disorders, and a wide range of family and interpersonal problems. There are 28 acute care psychiatry beds, including 14 psychiatric intensive care beds and 10 beds assigned to the Neurobehavioral Assessment Unit. In addition, there is a Substance Abuse Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program (SARRTP) and comprehensive aftercare program for veterans with substance use disorders and their families. There is a 20 bed Spinal Cord Injury Unit, offering inpatient and outpatient services. Patient care activities in the mental health outpatient programs include psychiatric admissions, crisis intervention services, medication clinics, and individual, couple, family, and group therapies. The outpatient mental health clinic, staffed by multi-disciplinary treatment teams, provides over 50,000 outpatient visits per year. Patient care activities in the outpatient programs include same-day emergent services, diagnosis, specific medication clinics, neuropsychological assessment, and individual, couple, family, and group therapies, with an emphasis on empirically supported treatments. And, within primary care clinics, there is also a strong Psychology presence.

The Psychology Service at the VASDHS represents one of the most academically oriented staffs in the Department of Veterans Affairs hospital system. Graduates of our Internship and/or PITC faculty at the VA San Diego accounted for just over $3 million dollars in VA funding last year (https://www.research.va.gov/about/funded-projects.cfm) and the majority of psychologists with VA research funding at VASDHS are or have been affiliated with our Internship. Currently, the service is staffed by clinical psychologists, along with psychology technicians, vocational rehabilitation specialists, peer specialists, and

administrative support staff. Many of the major sub-specialties of professional psychology are represented on the staff, including clinical psychology, neuropsychology, geropsychology, couple and family therapy, addiction treatment, behavioral medicine, trauma specialists, specialists in treating serious mental illness, psychology/primary care integration, and related psychology research. There are complete facilities at the VA for computer-assisted psychological testing and all medical records charting is done electronically.

Interns may also train in VA Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs) in Kearny Mesa, or Mission Valley Rio Clinic, all located within easy driving (or VA shuttle) distance from the main hospital. The CBOCs house outpatient care including behavioral medicine, primary care/mental health integration, the Family Mental Health Community of Practice, behavioral health interdisciplinary program (BHIP) and trauma programs. Interns have the opportunity to work in rotations at both the main hospital and the CBOC locations. The VA ASPIRE Center is also a training site for Interns. This 40-bed residential treatment facility serves Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans and is located in the Old Town neighborhood of San Diego. The Telemental Health Program (VA PTSD EBP Outpatient rotation) is also located in the same facility.

UC San Diego Health

The UC San Diego Health System is San Diego's only academic medical center. It maintains two professional schools: UC San Diego School of Medicine and Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences with over 1500 faculty members, 2,370 students, postdoctoral fellows, residents and over $800 million in faculty research awards. UC San Diego more broadly earned $1.68 billion in sponsored research funding (FY2026). The UC San Diego Department of Psychiatry is 4th nationally in NIH funding among other psychiatry departments (https://brimr.org/brimr-rankings-of-nih-funding-in-2023/). Graduates of our Internship and/or PITC faculty accounted for approximately 25% of our department's NIH $103.8 million in funding last year.

The system maintains a multi-campus operation, integrating research, teaching and clinical care at locations in La Jolla, East Campus, and Hillcrest. Each medical complex supports acute in-patient care and a spectrum of outpatient primary and specialty medical and surgical services, including ambulatory and emergency patient care. The combined capacity of the UC San Diego Medical Center in Hillcrest (390 beds), the Jacobs Medical Center in La Jolla (364 beds), and Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center (54 beds) is over 800 beds. UC San Diego Medical Center in Hillcrest, established in 1966. It houses several specialty care centers that allow the urban campus to serve as a major tertiary and quaternary referral center

for San Diego, Riverside, and Imperial counties. These care centers include the area's only Regional Burn Center, a Comprehensive Stroke Center, the region's most comprehensive multi-organ transplant program, and one of only two Level I Trauma Centers in the county. The La Jolla campus, is home to Jacobs Medical Center, which opened in 2016, and Moores Cancer Center (https://moorescancercenter.ucsd.edu/), the primary site for outpatient oncology care and the region's only National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Care Center, with nearly 350 medical and radiation oncologists, surgeons, and researchers. The UC San Diego Eating Disorders Center for Treatment and Research (https://eatingdisorders.ucsd.edu/) is located at the Chancellor Park Outpatient Clinic, approximately 5 minutes by car from the main UCSD campus and the VASDHS. The program provides day treatment and intensive outpatient treatment for adolescents and adults with eating disorders. It is staffed by a multidisciplinary treatment team consisting of psychologists, social workers, psychiatrists, marriage and family therapists, nurses, and dieticians. In addition to clinical treatment of individuals with eating disorders, there is an active research program including FMRI and genetics research, and treatment development and outcomes research.

Rady Children's Hospital

Rady Children's Hospital and Health Center is the major comprehensive pediatric health care facility for San Diego County and a core site of practice for the UCSD Division of Child Psychiatry. Rady Children's Hospital has had a long-standing relationship as a teaching facility for the Child Psychiatry division of UCSD Department of Psychiatry. It is located about nine miles southeast of the UC San Diego Health La Jolla and VA Medical Centers in La Jolla. There are 200 beds at Rady Children's Hospital for acutely ill inpatients as well as extensive outpatient services in more than 37 specialized clinics. As part of the affiliated divisions of Rady Children's Hospital and Health Center, the Children's Outpatient Psychiatry Clinic serves the diverse needs of children and their families from San Diego and Imperial Counties. The clinic is the largest provider of county funded outpatient services for youth and also serves as a teaching facility for clinical psychology training, general psychiatry residents, fellows in Child Psychiatry, and graduate students in social work and counseling. The rotations at Rady's provide opportunities to learn intervention strategies as well as specialized assessment techniques. It is a rich training environment through which doctoral Interns, practicum students in clinical psychology, fellows in child psychiatry, residents in adult psychiatry, and medical students electing rotations in child and adolescent psychiatry rotate. The multidisciplinary treatment team includes

psychiatrists, psychologists, psychology Interns, pediatricians, and fellows in child/adolescent psychiatry, social workers, nurses, and pharmacists.

Rotation Descriptions

Position 1

VA Community Living Center

Overview: The VA San Diego Healthcare Community Living Center (CLC) is a soon-to-be 33-bed inpatient unit that provides rehabilitative care to Veterans recovering from medical events, procedures (e.g., surgeries, amputations), and infections, with an average length of stay of 6 weeks to 3 months. Some Veterans present with previous psychiatric histories (e.g., depression, anxiety, PTSD), and many face new mental health concerns associated with adjustment to their current health condition. The role of CLC Psychology is to assess and treat Veterans' mental health needs, with a focus on autonomy, well-being, coping skills, resilience, and engagement with other disciplines toward discharge. Given the older population, cognitive assessment and treatment are also a major focus of this rotation. Trainees work under the supervision of a geropsychologist and a neuropsychologist, making this rotation a good fit for individuals with interests in the areas of gerontology, inpatient medical psychology, cognitive aging, and rehabilitation.

Supervision: Individual supervision (to include both direct observation and narrative) as well as at least one hour weekly of group supervision and team meetings.

Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: The Intern will conduct psychological assessments (e.g., initial psychology intakes and continued measurement-based care) as well as cognitive assessments (e.g., brief screenings and opportunities for more in-depth neuropsychological testing) of inpatient Veterans in the CLC. The Intern will also provide individual psychotherapy (e.g., brief evidence-based treatments drawing from elements of CBT, ACT, PST, mindfulness, and MI) and deliver sessions of cognitive rehabilitation according to treatment focus. Consultation and collaboration with other interdisciplinary team members is an important aspect of this setting, which the Intern will have the opportunity to do on the unit, in team meetings, or in co-treating. Opportunities exist to co-facilitate group psychotherapy sessions, provide psychoeducation to the team on pertinent mental health issues, facilitate VA 'My Life My Story' sessions, and gain experience with end-of-life care on the Palliative Care unit within the CLC.

Didactics/Team Meetings: The Intern will attend weekly CLC inpatient interdisciplinary healthcare team meetings where they will provide updates and discuss assessment and treatment recommendations. There are monthly CLC mental health team meetings, SCI/CLC team meetings, Palliative Care interdisciplinary team meetings, Geropsychology Community of Practice meetings, and Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) meetings the Intern may attend

according to interest and training goals.
Research Opportunities: Interns are welcome to collaborate with VA faculty on ongoing research projects.
Primary Location: La Jolla VA Medical Center
Patient Population: Veterans are typically older (often in their 70s) and medically complex, with most recently having sustained and injury or undergone a serious medical procedure that requires skilled nursing for rehabilitation and recovery. Veterans with previous psychiatric histories, current psychotropic medication prescriptions, and/or recent development of health-related adjustment and mental health concerns encompass most of the Veterans seen by CLC Psychology.
Number of Staff in Clinic: Approximately 4o, including care team members from the following disciplines: physicians/geriatricians, rotating medical residents, nurse practitioners, nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, recreational therapists, pharmacists, psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, and chaplains.
Number of Trainees in Clinic: 1 Intern
Primary Supervisors: Shelley Condon, Ph.D. and Jacqueline Maye, Ph.D.

Dr. Condon received her PhD in Clinical Geropsychology from the University of Alabama, where her research and clinical work focused on promoting quality of life among older adults living with chronic pain or other age-related challenges by utilizing age-related strengths and positive psychological interventions. She completed her predoctoral Internship at VA Salt Lake City, where she gained generalist training in psychotherapy and assessment with Veterans, then returned home to San Diego to complete her geropsychology-focused fellowship in Home-Based Primary Care at VA San Diego through the VASDHS/UCSD Clinical Psychology Fellowship Program. During fellowship, Dr. Condon helped roll out VA's My Life, My Story program at VASDHS among HBPC Veterans, and she is continuing this effort in her current position as a Clinical Psychologist in the Community Living Center and Palliative Care inpatient units. Her primary duties include assessment, individual psychotherapy, and consultation and collaboration with interdisciplinary team members to promote Veteran-centered care and enhance quality of life for Veterans.
https://profiles.ucsd.edu/shelley.condon

Dr. Maye is an inpatient neuropsychologist and research scientist at VASDHS. She earned her doctorate in Clinical & Health Psychology with a specialization in neuropsychology from the University of Florida and completed both her clinical Internship and post-doctoral fellowship in the VASDHS/UCSD programs. Dr. Maye's clinical and research interests focus on older adult brain health, intersections between stress-related disorders and neurocognition, and the use of cognitive rehabilitation to optimize thinking skills, functional independence, and quality of life for aging Veterans. Dr. Maye currently works in the Community Living Center and Neuropsychological Assessment Unit, providing inpatient assessment, individual psychotherapy, and cognitive intervention services to San Diego area Veterans.

https://profiles.ucsd.edu/jacqueline.maye

VA Spinal Cord Injuries and Disorders Center

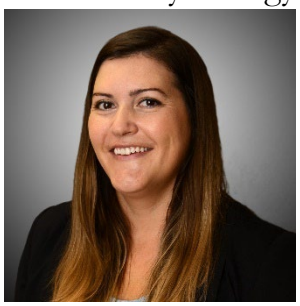
Overview: The VA San Diego Healthcare System Spinal Cord Injuries and Disorders (SCI/D) Center is a VA SCI/D System of Care hub site that provides inpatient and outpatient multidisciplinary healthcare services to Veterans who have SCI/D, including spinal cord injuries, multiple sclerosis, and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. The Intern works with inpatients in the 30-bed SCI/D Unit. Duties include: (1) psychological assessment, (2) interventions and provision of support for Veterans and their families coping with physical injuries, chronic medical diagnoses, and associated treatment, and (3) providing recommendations to multidisciplinary staff. The Intern will learn about spinal cord injuries and disorders including management of psychiatric disorders and behavioral health needs within this population. Opportunities to hone assessment, brief intervention, and consultation skills in a face-paced medical setting are prevalent.

Potential Additional Opportunities: Depending on the training goals of the Intern and availability of clinic offerings, additional training opportunities may be considered (e.g., comprehensive neuropsychological assessment relevant to SCI/D population in inpatient setting; we anticipate the opening of a 20-bed SCI/D Long Term Care unit in the near future and the Intern would have opportunities to provide mental healthcare services within that unit once opened.)

Supervision: Individual supervision (to include both direct observation, review of audio-recorded sessions and narrative) as well as group supervision.

Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: Intern will conduct psychological assessments consistent with formulating a biopsychosocial conceptualization of cases and will develop skills in reviewing medical, diagnostic and treatment histories. Psychological assessment incorporates brief cognitive and symptom screens. Short-term inpatient psychotherapy services are provided and may include treatment for Veterans presenting with symptoms of depression, anxiety, adjustment concerns, and pain, among others, using techniques from

CBT, mindfulness, MI, and ACT.
Didactics/Team Meetings: The Intern attends SCI/D inpatient healthcare team meetings to discuss assessment and treatment recommendations. Didactic seminars will also be discussed with the Intern to support their training interests.
Research Opportunities: Interns are welcome to collaborate with VA faculty on ongoing research projects.
Primary Location: La Jolla VA Medical Center
Patient Population: Adult Veterans receiving healthcare services through the VASDHS SCI/D Center.
Number of Staff in Clinic: Over 30, including attending physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses, occupational therapists, physical therapists, recreation therapists, social workers, psychologists, psychiatrist, pharmacists, dieticians, and others.
Number of Trainees in Clinic: 1 Intern
Primary Supervisor: Jillian Clark, PhD.



Dr. Clark received her Ph.D. in Psychology with an emphasis in Clinical Health Psychology from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. She completed her predoctoral Internship in the UCSD/VA Psychology Internship Training Program and continued at VASDHS/UCSD completing an Advanced Fellowship in Mental Health Research and Treatment through the VA Center of Excellence for Stress and Mental Health. Her research aims to elucidate complex biological, psychological, and social experiences across the lifespan in order to maximize functional outcomes among individuals with SCI/D and other traumatic or chronic health conditions. Dr. Clark's clinical work is primarily focused upon providing psychological assessment and therapeutic interventions to Veterans with SCI/D. She is a psychologist at the VASDHS SCI/D Center, where her duties include psychological assessment, pain management, psychotherapy, and consultation for Veterans with SCI/D. Dr. Clark primarily uses cognitive and behavioral therapies in her practice.
https://profiles.ucsd.edu/jillian.clark

Position 2

VA PTSD Clinical Team

Overview: The VA IU6 South County PTSD Clinic is one of the highest volume PTSD clinics (in terms of number of Veterans receiving care) across the entire VA system nationwide. It serves Veterans of all service eras (e.g., Vietnam, Korea, Persian Gulf, Iraq, Afghanistan, Global War on Terror) with PTSD due to all trauma types, e.g., combat/military trauma, military sexual trauma, interpersonal trauma, civilian trauma, childhood trauma. The

multidisciplinary VA IU6 South County PTSD Clinical Team meets weekly and consists of psychology, psychiatry, nursing, social work, and peer support providers who deliver treatment at various locations across IU6 South County (Rio, Chula Vista, and Kearny Mesa clinics).
Supervision: Interns will receive one hour of individual supervision with their primary supervisor each week, in addition to group supervision via team meetings. Supervision may include direct/live observation during group therapy or audio/video recording of sessions depending on supervisory preference.
Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: Interns will learn to provide empirically supported individual psychotherapy for PTSD, primarily prolonged exposure (PE) and cognitive processing therapy (CPT). Other potential opportunities include: Written Exposure Therapy (WET), Trauma-informed guilt reduction therapy (TrIGR; available primarily with Dr. Luciano), Cognitive behavioral therapy for insomnia (CBT-I), Skills training in Affective and Interpersonal Regulation (STAIR), and other empirically-based cognitive behavioral-, ACT-, or DBT-focused interventions for posttraumatic emotion dysregulation, anxiety, anger, guilt, complex trauma, and comorbid conditions (particularly substance use disorders and TBI-related cognitive difficulties). The Intern will be expected to maintain a caseload of approximately 5-8 individual therapy clients per week. Interns also have the opportunity to co-facilitate groups (e.g., CBT-I, WET, Present Centered Therapy, mindfulness skills) with supervisors. Some assessment opportunities will be arranged with the primary supervisor, and may include learning and administration of the Clinician Administered PTSD Scale (CAPS) with a focus on differential diagnosis, and/or comprehensive assessments in collaboration with the facility's outpatient assessment team.
Didactics/Team Meetings: 1) weekly Complex Trauma Consultation meeting; 2) weekly multidisciplinary IU6 South County PTSD Clinical Team meeting; 3) regular clinical huddles. Interns will also attend the following weekly seminars: PTSD Seminar, Substance Use Seminar, and Intern Seminar. There may be opportunities for separate CPT or PE consultation meetings as part of this rotation, including participating in the national CPT rollout program.
Research Opportunities: Interns may conduct program evaluation by identifying a clinical question and collecting data within the clinic. Additionally, interested Interns have previously collaborated on manuscripts and participated in active research projects (e.g., as a research study therapist) under the guidance of VA/UCSD staff.
Primary Locations: Kearny Mesa VA clinic (located in the Kearny Mesa area of San Diego) or the Rio VA Clinic (located in the Mission Valley area of San Diego)
Patient Population: Veterans from all service eras with diversity in terms of race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, and sexual orientation, representative of the broader San Diego veteran population
Number of Staff in Clinic: 15
Primary Supervisors: Matt Luciano, Ph.D.; Anne Kleinsasser, Psy.D., Sarah Pearlstein, Ph.D.

Dr. Luciano received his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from The University of Memphis in 2020. He completed his Internship at the UCSD/San Diego VA Consortium and his postdoctoral fellowship with the NIAAA T32 Training Program at San Diego State University. Dr. Luciano is a staff psychologist at VASDHS within the Kearny Mesa PTSD Clinical Team (PCT). He is also an Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at UCSD and an adjunct professor at the University of San Diego. Clinically, he has expertise in trauma-focused EBPs for PTSD (e.g., Cognitive Processing Therapy; Prolonged Exposure; Written Exposure), integrated treatment approaches for comorbid PTSD and AUD (e.g., COPE), psychotherapy for insomnia (i.e., CBT-I), and emerging transdiagnostic approaches for trauma-related guilt (TrIGR). In addition to his clinical responsibilities, Dr. Luciano also conducts research to better understand the relationship between PTSD and harmful alcohol use, the mechanisms of evidence-based PTSD treatments, and the outcomes of novel and integrated trauma treatments. He currently has active roles on three research projects including: (1) a noninferiority study of CPT vs. TrIGR, (2) a noninferiority study of group vs. individual WET, and (3) a randomized trial of a mantrum repetition program for Veterans with PTSD and chronic pain. Dr. Luciano is the sole supervisor for the PTSD side of rotation 2.

https://profiles.ucsd.edu/matthew.luciano

Dr. Kleinsasser received her Psy.D. from Baylor University in 2021 after completing her predoctoral Internship at the VA Atlanta Healthcare System. She completed her postdoctoral training in clinical psychology with the South County PTSD Clinical Team (PCT) at VA San Diego. Dr. Kleinsasser is currently a staff psychologist with the South County PCT and an Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at UCSD (non-salaried). She coleads the PTSD Seminar for psychology trainees. Her clinical interests include treatment of PTSD with evidence-based psychotherapies, treatment of anxiety- and related disorders, and addressing perseverative cognition as a maintenance factor for posttraumatic stress symptoms.

Dr. Pearlstein received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the San Diego State University/University of California San Diego Joint Doctoral Program (JDP) in 2020. She completed a postdoctoral fellowship focusing on evidence-based assessment and treatment of PTSD (largely PE and CPT) with minor emphases in DBT and clinical applications of DEI at the VA New York Harbor, Manhattan Campus. She completed a predoctoral Internship at VA Long Beach. Dr. Pearlstein is currently a staff psychologist at VASDHS within the Kearny Mesa PTSD Clinical Team (PCT) and is an Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at UCSD (non-salaried). She previously served on the LGBTQ+ clinical subcommittee of the facility's mental health Diversity Action Committee. Her clinical interests include delivering evidence-based psychotherapies for PTSD; delivering evidence-based treatment for insomnia (i.e., CBT-I); delivering novel mindfulness-based treatment for anxiety and PTSD; and the roles of gender minority-, sexual orientation-, and race-based stress and trauma on case conceptualization in PTSD.
https://profiles.ucsd.edu/sarah.pearlstein

VA General Behavioral Medicine: Diabetes and Pain Psychology

Overview: This position comprises diverse training opportunities across general behavioral medicine and specialty behavioral medicine clinics at the La Jolla VA Medical Center and Kearny Mesa Outpatient Clinic. The Intern provides assessment and evidence-based psychotherapy for Veterans presenting with comorbid medical and mental health symptoms referred from primary care and specialty medical clinics. There is special focus on **diabetes and pain** psychology in this rotation.
Supervision: A minimum of one hour of individual supervision and one hour of group supervision weekly. Weekly one-hour individual supervision includes direct observation, review of audio-recorded sessions, and narrative review of sessions. Rich discussions on the cultural influences on interpersonal dynamics and interdisciplinary teamwork, role of psychology in advocacy for underrepresented populations, and gaps in culturally responsive care will be provided through supervision.
Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: *VA Diabetes Psychology (Wooldridge)*: Intern will provide treatment to Veterans with type 1 and type 2 diabetes referred though primary care and an endocrinology diabetes clinic. Veterans with diabetes present to Behavioral Medicine with a range of concerns including diabetes distress, difficulty with behavioral self-management, and fear of hypoglycemia. Intern will learn how to incorporate data generated from diabetes technology including insulin pumps and continuous glucose monitors into psychological treatments. Intern will also have opportunity to treat a range of behavioral medicine presenting concerns referred from clinics across the health care system (e.g., cardiovascular conditions, GI concerns, stroke). There are opportunities for 1:1 and group

treatment. In terms of assessment Interns may complete mental health pre-transplant evaluations for solid organ transplant candidates.

VA Pain Psychology (Herbert): Intern provides group-based treatment for chronic pain in conjunction with a physical therapist using CBT, ACT, and mindfulness-based principles. Intern provides pain psychology assessment and treatments integrated within an interdisciplinary chronic pain treatment team. Intern collaborates with health care professionals from primary care, physical therapy, pain pharmacy, whole health, and social work.

Didactics/Team Meetings:

Behavioral Medicine/ PCMHI Group Supervision meets weekly and is attended by psychology trainees at the practicum, Intern, and post-doctoral level and staff psychologists with varying specialties. This supervision includes didactic presentations covering basics of several Behavioral Medicine and PCHMI presenting concerns, common ethical issues, and VA resources and referral options. Trainees have the opportunity to present cases to the group to aid in case conceptualization and treatment planning.

Diabetes Specialty Care Access Network–Extension for Community Health Outcomes (SCAN-ECHO) is attended weekly by healthcare professionals from behavioral medicine, primary care, pharmacy, endocrinology, and social work. Attendees present and provide recommendations for management of complex diabetes cases. Didactic presentations are shared from different disciplines. Interns will prepare one 20-30 minute presentation on a behavioral medicine topic during the training year. This opportunity is optional if the Intern schedule permits.

The Psychosomatic Medicine Consultation group meets weekly and is attended by interprofessional faculty and their supervised trainees (psychiatry, pharmacy, psychology) from the Consult-Liaison Service, Primary Care-Mental Health Integration, Behavioral Medicine, Psycho-Oncology and Mental Health Pharmacy teams. Attendees present cases and receive consultation from others to enhance interprofessional practice and utilize biopsychosocial case formulations to guide assessment and treatment. Discussions and information shared include case-driven guidance around workup/assessment/differential diagnoses, evidence-based practices, relevant scholarly articles, clinical or community resources, and tailored communication for patients, family members or referring providers.

The Interprofessional Seminar Series, which meets twice monthly, is focused on interprofessional education activities that allow trainees to learn with and from other professions through structured interaction and discussion. Some seminar topics include exploration of similarities and differences in professions roles/responsibilities, team-based case formulations, how to approach challenging patients, and burnout and resilience. This opportunity is optional if the Intern schedule permits.

Research Opportunities: Secondary data analyses of supervisors' existing data sets and clinic-based quality improvement projects. Interns opting into research time are encouraged to lead a manuscript in collaboration with a supervisor.

Primary Location: Kearny Mesa Outpatient Clinic
Patient Population: Male and female Veterans (18 through 80+) receiving medical services through primary care or specialty medicine clinics. Special emphasis on Veterans with diabetes and chronic pain.
Number of Staff in Clinic: Varies across training experiences and interdisciplinary collaboration is emphasized.
Trainees in Clinic: 1-3
Several optional training opportunities are available across both rotations in this position depending on availability, trainee interests, and supervisor approval, including tobacco cessation, women's behavioral health, and insomnia.
Primary Supervisors: Jennalee Wooldridge, Ph.D., CDCES; Matthew Herbert, Ph.D.

Dr. Wooldridge is a clinical health psychologist and certified diabetes care and education specialist. She completed her predoctoral Internship at VA Palo Alto Health Care System in Behavioral Medicine and postdoctoral training at the UCSD/VASDHS in Clinical Research. She serves as a staff psychologist at the VASDHS in Behavioral Medicine and holds a faculty position in the Psychiatry department at UCSD. Her clinical interests are focused on health behavior change and adjustment to chronic illnesses. She has a specialty focus on diabetes which includes assessment and treatment of diabetes distress, integrating psychology into diabetes care, and incorporating data from diabetes technology into behavioral medicine treatments. She uses evidence-based approaches such as Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Acceptance and Commitment Therapy, and Motivational Interviewing. Dr. Wooldridge also maintains an active program of research and currently holds a VA career development grant focused on using intensive longitudinal assessment to understand daily functioning in Veterans with type 2 diabetes.
https://profiles.ucsd.edu/jennalee.wooldridge

Dr. Herbert is a Staff Psychologist at the VA San Diego Healthcare System (VASDHS) and Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at UC San Diego. Dr. Herbert is the pain psychologist on the Complex Pain Team at VASDHS where he helps conduct multidisciplinary comprehensive pain intakes, facilitates the Active Management of Pain program along with the Integrative Pain Team's physical therapist, and treats individual clients managing complex pain conditions. Dr. Herbert also runs an active program of research that includes the development and examination of mindfulness-based treatments for chronic pain and the use of ecological momentary assessment and passive data collected from wearables to develop N-of-1 models of pain variability.

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Position 3

VA PTSD Clinical Team - see description above in Position 2

VA Alcohol Drug Treatment Program (ADTP)

Overview: The VASDHS Alcohol Drug Treatment Program (ADTP) provides empirically-supported assessment and therapy for Veterans with Substance Use Disorders (SUDs). A large proportion of ADTP patients have concomitant medical conditions and psychiatric and/or personality disorders. ADTP consists of **four levels of care**: Residential (SARRTP), Intensive Outpatient (IOP), Outpatient (OP), and Dual Diagnosis Recovery Program (DDRP). Assignment of patients is guided by the American Society of Addiction Medicine Guidelines and a shared-decision making model that incorporates Veteran-identified treatment goals and priorities, co-morbid psychopathology, functional assets of the Veteran, psychosocial circumstances, and expertise from the multidisciplinary ADTP Treatment Team. Psychologists and psychology trainees provide clinical services at all four levels of ADTP.
Supervision: Interns will receive weekly individual and group supervision that includes direct observation during the provision of services by either the primary or secondary supervisor and audio recordings of clinical encounters.
Opportunities for Interns to provide layered supervision of junior trainees may be available.
Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: Interns will learn how to administer and interpret both structured and unstructured intake interviews, a suite of self- report symptom questionnaires, and occasional breathalyzer/urine toxicology results. Opportunities for additional cognitive and personality testing may be available if clinically indicated. Interns will also participate in measurement-based care and the completion of treatment plans and treatment plan updates for Veterans in the outpatient program. Interns will learn evidence based individual and group psychotherapies for SUDs, including Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy for Substance Use Disorders (CBT-SUD), Mindfulness-Based Relapse Prevention (MBRP), Contingency Management (CM) and Motivational Enhancement Therapy (MET). Additional training opportunities tailored to Interns' goals include learning Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT), Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy for Insomnia (CBT-I), trauma-focused therapies such as Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT) and early-recovery skills/psychoeducation group training. Other training opportunities include couple treatment using Integrative Behavioral Couples Therapy (IBCT) and health psychology interventions for individuals with comorbid chronic health conditions.
Didactics/Team Meetings: Interns in the ADTP placement will attend the weekly SUD Seminar, which includes presentations and trainings by experts in assessment, treatment, and co-occurring conditions associated with SUDs. A portion of this seminar will be devoted to a 16-week didactic course on addictions that is designed to meet pre-licensure requirements with

the California Board of Psychology. Interns will also be expected to occasionally attend ADTP Treatment Team meetings to present intakes that they complete. This meeting occurs 5 days a week, is multidisciplinary in nature, and involves a review of consults to the service that have been completed and Veterans who have been referred for further evaluation. There is also an optional weekly national HIV and Liver Disease seminar series available for those who are interested in harm reduction and/or chronic disease management.
Research Opportunities: Mentoring and consultation in secondary data analysis and manuscript publication will be available to the Intern, if desired, pending successful defense of their dissertation.
Primary Location: La Jolla VA Medical Center
Patient Population: Primarily male veterans with a wide age range.
Number of Staff in Clinic: 3 Psychiatrists, 3 Psychologists, 1 Nurse Manager, 3 Social Workers, 2 Registered Nurses, 12 Addiction Therapists, 1 Recreational Therapist, and 1 Clerk. Number of Trainees in Clinic: 1-2
Primary supervisor: Octaviana Hemmy Asamsama, PsyD, DrPH
Dr. Hemmy received her dual doctorate in Clinical Psychology (PsyD) and Public Health, Preventive Care (DrPH) from Loma Linda University in 2014. She also has a masters degree in marriage and family therapy. Dr. Hemmy completed her clinical Internship at the Cincinnati VAMC and completed her postdoctoral fellowship in HIV and Liver Disease at the Washington DC, VAMC, where she transitioned as a PC-MHI psychologist. She later returned to Cincinnati VAMC to serve as a psychologist in the residential and outpatient substance use treatment programs. Dr. Hemmy has served in various leadership roles including Cincinnati VAMC's DEI Special Emphasis Program Manager (Asian), VISN SUD lead, Division Director of Substance Use Program, and her current role as the Section Chief of Addiction Services at VASDHS. In addition to her clinical and administrative roles, Dr. Hemmy has been actively involved in supervision for over 15years and was the National Coordinator of HIV and Liver Disease Fellowship for 10 years. Dr. Hemmy's research interest include harm reduction, chronic health management, and substance use disorders in Veteran populations.

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Position 4

VA PTSD Clinical Team - see description above in Position 2

VA Dual Diagnosis Recovery Program (DDRP)

Overview: The VA San Diego Dual Diagnosis Recovery Program (DDRP) provides assessment and evidence-based psychotherapy for Veterans with co-occurring substance use

and psychiatric disorders (e.g., depression, PTSD, anxiety, insomnia). This interprofessional team operates as a specialty clinic in Mental Health Impact Unit 2, and the staff consists of providers from psychology, psychiatry, and social work.

Supervision: During initial training, the Intern will first observe clinical staff and then be observed and given feedback prior to seeing Veterans independently. The Intern will have 1 hour/week of individual supervision with Dr. McDonald incorporating case note reviews, role-play simulations, feedback from direct observation, professional development, and support. This supervision is supplemented by feedback in both the DDRP interprofessional team meeting and the Substance Use Disorder seminar for addiction trainees, as well as informal supervisor planning and feedback before and/or after therapy sessions. As needed, supervision can be conducted virtually over secure video platforms.

Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: This placement offers a wide range of clinical opportunities, with a focus on group therapy and psychological assessment with dually diagnosed Veterans. The Intern will learn how to administer and interpret psychosocial/diagnostic interviews and will complete one intake assessment for the clinic per week. The Intern will serve as a co-facilitator for treatment groups that integrate evidence-based interventions (i.e., CBT, ACT, DBT, MI, RP, etc.) for veterans at varying levels of recovery from substance use and psychiatric disorders. The Intern will carry an individual therapy caseload tailored to their interests and training goals, which may include CBT-SUD, CBT for Insomnia, EBPs for PTSD, CBT or ACT for psychosis, or a health psychology-oriented intervention. The Intern may choose to provide informal, "umbrella" clinical supervision in the later stages of training (via structured format and feedback sessions with graduate student therapists) when available.

Didactics/Team Meetings: Interns attend the weekly DDRP interprofessional team meeting and the weekly Substance Use Disorder seminar (which includes a 16-week didactic course on addictions designed to meet state pre-licensure requirements).

Research Opportunities: Research opportunities focused on clinical program development and quality improvement initiatives, including publication opportunities, are available within the DDRP clinic and ADTP teams. Additional research opportunities may be available with faculty at VASDHS/UCSD upon dissertation completion.

Primary Location: La Jolla VA Medical Center

Patient Population: Veterans with co-occurring substance use, psychiatric, and medical diagnoses, ranging in age from 20s to 60s, primarily cis-gender male, ethnically diverse.

Number of Staff in Clinic: 6

Number of Trainees in Clinic: 1 psychology graduate student; 1 psychology Intern; 1-2 social work Interns

Primary supervisor: James E. McDonald, Ph.D.

Dr. McDonald received his Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from Marquette University in 2021. In addition to his role as primary supervisor in the Dual Diagnosis Recovery Program, he also maintains appointments as a Health Sciences Assistant Clinical Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at UC San Diego and as an Adjunct Professor at Marquette University. He matched for his pre-doctoral clinical Internship at the William S. Middleton VA in Madison Wisconsin, where he completed rotations in the Addictive Disorders Treatment Program, Mental Health Clinic, Health Psychology, Behavioral Sleep Medicine, and PTSD Clinical Teams. Dr. McDonald went on to graduate from the VA Interprofessional Advanced Fellowship in Addiction Treatment. Dr. McDonald is certified in Cognitive Processing Therapy for PTSD and has strong interests in antiracist practice, clinical supervision, functional-contextualism, harm-reduction, and strengths-based approaches to research and clinical work. Dr. McDonald received recognition as the UC San Diego Department of Psychiatry Supervisor of the Year, 2023-2024. He is also the recipient of the 2024 American Psychological Association Psychologists in Public Service Outstanding Paper Award, for an article published in *Psychological Services* titled, "Navigating Barriers to Antiracist Supervision within the Veterans Affairs Healthcare System: Reflections on 2020 and a Call to Action."

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Position 5

VA Substance Abuse Rehabilitation and Recovery Program: (SARRTP) PTSD Track

Overview: The VA Substance Abuse Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program (SARRTP)'s PTSD Track provides evidence-based PTSD treatment and assessment for Veterans currently undergoing residential substance use disorder (SUD) treatment. Interns will experience what it is like to work on a residential unit and participate in multi-disciplinary teamwork. This position is primarily for the PTSD track within the residential SUD unit.

Supervision: Interns will receive individual supervision with a licensed psychologist as well as group supervision. Layered supervision with a SARRTP postdoctoral fellow is also possible.

Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: *SARRTP*: In addition to co-facilitating a group (i.e., in vivo exposure or trauma-focused CBT), Interns will deliver individual PTSD/SUD treatment in an accelerated format (3x weekly), allowing most Veterans to complete PTSD treatment protocols prior to discharge from SARRTP. This format takes advantage of the safety and structure of the residential setting in order to promote treatment engagement and completion. The residential setting (i.e., minimizing no-shows) and accelerated treatment approach afford a unique opportunity to establish strong competency implementing evidence-based PTSD treatment with a complex and very diverse population. Prolonged Exposure, Cognitive Processing Therapy, COPE (integrated prolonged exposure and relapse prevention)

and Trauma-Informed Guilt Reduction Treatment (TrIGR) are most heavily utilized. Opportunities for Motivational Interviewing and CBT for SUD are also available. Interns will also conduct PTSD- focused intake assessments.

Tobacco and Nicotine Treatment Program: In addition, Interns will be involved in the Tobacco and Nicotine Treatment (TNT) Program that includes a weekly group supervision meeting providing structured training in elements of tobacco treatment. Trainees will receive tobacco and nicotine treatment training consisting of 1 hour of group treatment and/or 1 hour of consultation clinic experience (assessment and treatment engagement) along with attending the Group Supervision weekly. Key training opportunities include 1) evidence-based counseling in group settings and 2) assessment, MI-based treatment engagement and time limited brief telephone intervention for patients referred to the TNT consult clinic. The VASD TNT consultation clinic receives approximately 1,000 referrals annually representing a broad range of patients including a substantial proportion of veterans with mental illness, chronic pain, sleep disorders and SUD's. All supervision, oversight and documentation would be managed by tobacco clinic staff.

Didactics/Team Meetings: Interns in the SARRTP placement will attend a weekly Addiction Seminar, which includes a 16-week didactic course on addictions designed to meet state pre-licensure requirements. Interns will attend SARRTP treatment rounds with a multidisciplinary team of psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, nurses, chaplains, addiction therapists, and peer support specialists.

Research Opportunities: Interns are welcome to collaborate with VA faculty on ongoing research projects.

Primary Location: La Jolla VA Medical Center

Patient Population: Interns will work with Veterans with PTSD from all trauma types, including combat (all eras), military sexual trauma, and childhood trauma.

Number of Staff in Clinic: Approximately 25

Number of Trainees in Clinic: 1 psychology Intern, 1 postdoctoral fellow

Primary supervisors: Claire Stagnaro, Psy.D.

Dr. Stagnaro received her Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology from Azusa Pacific University in 2021 and completed a predoctoral Internship at the Southern Arizona Psychology Internship Center (SAPIC). She also completed a postdoctoral fellowship on SARRTP at VASDHS/UCSD. Dr. Stagnaro is currently a staff psychologist at VASDHS where she serves as the director of the SARRTP PTSD track, which provides evidence-based PTSD treatment to veterans currently engaging in residential substance use disorder (SUD) treatment. Dr. Stagnaro has specialized training the treatment of co-occurring PTSD/SUD and serves as the San Diego VA PTSD/SUD specialist. Outside of work, Dr. Stagnaro enjoys spending time with her husband, discovering new places to eat, and being outdoors with her dog.

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VA Behavioral Health Interdisciplinary Program (BHIP) (General Mental Health) La Jolla

Overview: The Behavioral Health Interdisciplinary Program (BHIP) is the VA's general mental health program and where the majority of Veterans receive their mental health care. The clinic is made up of an interdisciplinary team that works with a panel of Veterans experiencing a wide array of difficulties associated with trauma and PTSD, mood disorders, anxiety disorders, personality disorders, psychosis, and other areas of emotional and interpersonal functioning. The primary aim of BHIP is to provide comprehensive, interdisciplinary mental health care to Veterans that is grounded in research and theory. Interns within BHIP will learn trauma-focused therapies, third-wave Cognitive Behavioral Therapies (CBT), how to apply treatment in a transdiagnostic setting, and how to work within an interdisciplinary team. Specialty training in the newest exposure therapy procedures for all anxiety and OC spectrum disorders, and full model dialectical behavior therapy (DBT) are highlights of the rotation. An opportunity to tailor one's case load to specific clinical interests, diagnoses, and populations is another strong highlight.
Supervision: Supervision includes 1.5 hours of individual supervision, 1 hour of group supervision, team meetings, co-therapy during treatment groups, and didactics.
Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: BHIP offers the opportunity to train in many evidence based therapies, as well as the opportunity to treat a large variety of diagnoses, presenting problems, and comorbidities. Interns gain experience in: a) diagnostic assessment; b) individual therapy; c) group therapy; d) consultation with other disciplines; e) triage of new patients; f) and clinic management. There is a strong emphasis on the application of empirically supported treatments. The primary diagnoses treated within the clinic are PTSD (including military sexual trauma (MST), and interpersonal, childhood, and combat trauma), anxiety disorders (including obsessive-compulsive disorder, panic disorder, social anxiety disorder, generalized anxiety disorder), borderline personality disorder, mood disorders, insomnia, psychosis, and disorders related to interpersonal dysfunction. Our theoretical orientation centers on CBT with incorporation of 3rd wave CBT models. We provide Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT), Prolonged Exposure (PE), Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT), CBT for Insomnia (CBT-I), CBT for depression, and the newest forms of exposure therapy for anxiety disorders and obsessive compulsive disorders. Group therapies are manualized and structured, and Interns will learn to deliver interventions in a transdiagnostic setting that emphasizes common mechanisms underlying symptoms and functional difficulties. Individual therapy is guided by theoretically-grounded case conceptualization and individualized to each Veteran's unique needs. Heavy emphasis in supervision will be on tailoring packages of EBPs to unique patient presentations. The majority of Veterans in this clinic present with comorbid diagnoses and complex

presentations, so special attention is given to how to adapt our EBPs to meet these complex and overlapping needs.
Didactics /Team Meetings: 1 hour interdisciplinary team meeting
Research Opportunities: Ongoing program development/improvement projects, mostly related to exposure therapy and/or DBT.
Primary Location: La Jolla VA Medical Center
Patient Population: Veterans from all eras of services, about 50% racial/ethnic minorities; age range of approximately 20-70 years, with a large group of OEF/OIF/OND Veterans between the ages of 23 and 45.
Number of Staff in Clinic: 2 psychologists, 2 licensed clinical social workers, 1 psychiatrist, 2 nurse practitioners, 1 registered nurse, 1 licensed professional mental health counselor, and 1 peer support specialist
Number of Trainees in Clinic: 2 psychology trainees (1 Intern, 1 postdoctoral psychology fellow)
Primary Supervisor: Natalie Castriotta, Ph.D.

Dr. Castriotta received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) in 2013 after completing a predoctoral Internship in clinical psychology at the VA Long Beach. She completed postdoctoral fellowships within both the VA San Diego/UCSD Postdoctoral Residency Program and the UCLA Anxiety and Depression Research Center, where she specialized in the development of evidence-based treatment for anxiety and related disorders. Dr. Castriotta is a Staff Psychologist at the VA San Diego within the Behavioral Health Interdisciplinary Program (BHIP) as well as the Director of Training for the VA San Diego/UCSD Clinical Psychology Postdoctoral Residency Program. Dr. Castriotta's clinical interests center on the use of exposure and behavioral therapies (CBT, DBT, ACT, ERP) in the treatment of a wide range of anxiety, mood, trauma, and personality disorders and she offers particularly strong expertise on the treatment of anxiety and OC spectrum disorders as well as full model DBTDr. Castriotta's research interests include mechanisms of change following cognitive and behavioral treatments, strategies for optimizing the effectiveness of exposure-based therapies, and means of disseminating evidence-based treatments. Dr. Castriotta has a particular passion for clinical teaching, supervision, and training program development and teaches four seminars within the postdoctoral residency program as well as numerous workshops and lectures within other training programs.
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Position 6

VA Family Mental Health Community of Practice (FMHCP)

Overview: The VA San Diego Family Mental Health Community of Practice provides empirically-supported couple therapy services to Veteran couples. This community of practice includes four psychologists, a licensed marriage and family therapist, and a licensed professional mental health counselor, in addition to other staff members with interest and expertise in couple therapy. One postdoctoral fellow and one psychology Intern also make up the core members of the community of practice; psychiatry residents and/or psychology practicum students vary by year. The team meets twice weekly.
Supervision: Interns will receive weekly individual and group supervision. Some live supervision may occur using the VA Video Connect (VVC) program for use in telehealth sessions. Co-therapy is conducted with at least one case a year to supplement direct observation of the Intern.
Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: The focus is on developing empirically-based assessment and treatment skills in order to address relational problems in Veteran couples. Interns will learn to conduct multi-session, multi- modal assessment (interviews, self-report questionnaires, behavioral observation) to inform problem formulations and treatment plans consistent with Integrative Behavioral Couple Therapy (IBCT) and Emotionally-Focused Couple Therapy (EFT). Interns may have opportunities to act as co-therapists with other trainees as well as with more senior clinicians. Interns will also be able to gain experience using telemental health and triage/screening of referrals. The opportunity to lead multi-family groups may also be available.
Didactics/Team Meetings: Interns in the FMHCP placement will attend the weekly team seminar, which includes presentations and trainings in Emotionally-Focused. Couple Therapy, Integrative Behavioral Couple Therapy, and Cognitive- Behavioral Couple Therapy. Presentations include didactic components as well as experiential learning strategies (e.g., video review, role-playing). Didactic presentations on special topics in Couple/Family Psychology (e.g., intimate partner violence) are also offered, frequently by national experts.
Research Opportunities: VA San Diego has a long history of empirical research including couples. Current trials include partner inclusion in the treatment of PTSD, as well as innovative adjuncts (e.g. oxytocin, MDMA) to Cognitive Behavioral Conjoint Therapy for PTSD (CBCT for PTSD). While this research occurs outside of the FMHCP, previous Interns have been offered the opportunity to integrate with the lab conducting these trials. Program evaluation projects, as well as upcoming grant submissions may also be areas of research for Interns to explore.
Primary Location: Kearny Mesa VA clinic
Patient Population: Veterans and their significant others experiencing relational distress.
Number of Staff in Clinic: Approximately 7 (4 psychologists, 1 LMFT, 1 LPMHC)
Number of Trainees in Clinic: 3-4 (1 fellow, 1 Intern, 1 practicum student, and 1 psychiatry resident)
Primary supervisor: Elizabeth Wrape, Ph.D.

Dr. Wrape received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at the University of North Texas in 2015 following completion of her predoctoral Internship at VA North Texas Healthcare System. She completed her fellowship at VA Puget Sound- Seattle Division in the Family Therapy Program, providing couple and family therapy services with a range of presenting problems. Dr. Wrape is an Associate Professor of Psychiatry in the UCSD School of Medicine, a member of the Family Mental Health Community of Practice, and the Co-Director of Internship Training. She previously worked as a study therapist, supervisor, and consultant on the FMHP-adjunctive RCT working with couples experiencing PTSD. Her clinical duties include systemic interventions for relationship distress in- person and via telemental health; primary modalities used are Integrative Behavioral Couple Therapy (IBCT), Cognitive Behavioral Couple Therapy for PTSD (CBCT), and Structural Family Therapy. Dr. Wrape's research interests include supervision and training particularly in family-service delivery, as well as examining innovative ways to provide couple and family services. She is involved in continual performance improvement projects for the mental health care line and enjoys being a mentor for those interested in future leadership positions.

https://profiles.ucsd.edu/elizabeth.wrape

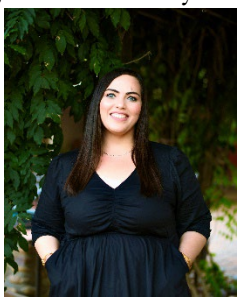
VA Behavioral Health Interdisciplinary Program (BHIP) (General Mental Health) Kearny Mesa

Overview: The Behavioral Health Interdisciplinary Program (BHIP) is a general mental health clinic. Our interdisciplinary team works with a panel of Veterans experiencing a wide array of difficulties associated with trauma, mood, and anxiety. Veterans served in BHIP often have recurrent, chronic, and/or comorbid conditions. The goal of BHIP is to provide comprehensive, interdisciplinary care to Veterans that is grounded in research and theory. Interns within BHIP will learn skills and theory in many evidence based treatments, how to apply treatment in a transdiagnostic setting, and how to work within an interdisciplinary team.

Supervision: Interns will receive one hour of individual supervision with their primary supervisor each week, in addition to group supervision via team meetings/huddles. Supervision may include direct/live observation of sessions or co-therapy, and audio or video recording of sessions. Opportunities for Interns to provide layered clinical supervision of more junior trainees may also be available.

Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: Interns have the opportunity to gain experience in: a) diagnostic assessment; b) individual therapy; c) group therapy; d) consultation with other disciplines. BHIP offers the opportunity to train in many evidence based psychotherapies and to treat a large variety of diagnoses. The primary theoretical orientation centers on cognitive behavioral approaches with opportunities to deliver many other treatments, including Interpersonal Psychotherapy, Cognitive Processing Therapy, Dialectic Behavior Therapy, Acceptance and Commitment Therapy, CBT for Insomnia, and Prolonged Exposure.

Didactics /Team Meetings: Weekly interdisciplinary team meeting and daily clinical huddles.
Research Opportunities: If interested, Interns may conduct program development and/or evaluation by identifying a clinical question and collecting data within the clinic.
Primary Location: Kearny Mesa Community Based Outpatient Clinic
Patient Population: Veterans from all eras of services with diversity in terms of race, ethnicity, gender identity, and sexual orientation. Age range of approximately 20-75 years.
Number of Staff in Clinic: Over 30 clinical staff. The clinical team consists of psychology, psychiatry, nursing, social work, pharmacy, peer support specialists, and care coordinators.
Number of Trainees in Clinic: 1 Intern, 2 postdoctoral fellows, 2-4 practicum students.
Primary Supervisor: Veronica Kassab, PhD



Dr. Kassab received her PhD in Clinical Psychology from Central Michigan University in 2014 after completing a predoctoral Internship at Western Youth Services. She completed a postdoctoral fellowship in HIV and liver disease at the John D. Dingell VA in Detroit, MI in 2015. Dr. Kassab is currently a section chief for outpatient mental south county clinics supervising staff on BHIP and PTSD Clinical Teams. She has been a staff psychologist with a VASDHS since 2016 and prior to that was a staff psychologist at the Aleda E. Lutz VA. Dr. Kassab is an Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at UCSD. Her clinical and research interests include application of EBPs in community settings and program development and evaluation to improve the accessibility and utilization of services.
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Position 7

VA Center of Recovery Education (CORE)

Overview: The Center Of Recovery Education (CORE) is the VA San Diego Healthcare System's CARF-accredited Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery Center (PRRC), which provides Veterans with recovery-oriented care that will inspire and assist them to reclaim their lives, instill hope, validate strengths, teach life skills, and facilitate community integration in meaningful self-determined roles. CORE provides evidence-based practices to Veterans with psychotic disorders to help them define and pursue personalized recovery goals.
Supervision: Weekly 1 hour of individual and 1-2 hours of group supervision. Supervision also includes direct/live observations of sessions, co-therapy, and/or audio- or video-recorded sessions.
Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: Group and individual psychotherapy using evidence-based practices for people with schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders and co-occurring diagnoses (CBT, SST, IMR, Dual-Diagnosis, Compensatory Cognitive Skills Training [CCST], DBT, ACT, CPT for PTSD, and more); psychodiagnostic intakes using

sections of the SCID or SIDP, brief cognitive screeners (e.g., MoCA, WRAT Word Reading, RBANS) and/or personality assessments (e.g., MMPI-2-RF, PAI); family interventions; manualized interventions in randomized psychotherapy clinical trials. All in the context of a Recovery Model.

Didactics/Team Meetings: 1 hour weekly interdisciplinary team meeting, 1 hour weekly CORE Psychosocial Rehabilitation (PSR) seminar, which includes presentations on various topics relevant to psychosocial rehabilitation, the recovery model, case conceptualizations, case consultation, intake presentations, as well as assessments and treatments for psychotic disorders.

Research Opportunities: Interns may have opportunities to participate in ongoing research as a study therapist in ongoing randomized clinical trials or contribute to other ongoing research projects, as available, or contribute to program evaluation or development.

Primary Location: Rio VA Clinic (located in the Mission Valley area of San Diego).

Patient Population: Veterans with psychotic disorders of all ages and diverse backgrounds.

Number of Staff in Clinic: Interprofessional team, including 3 psychologists, 1 psychiatrist, 2 social workers, 1 RN, and 1 supported employment specialist

Number of Trainees in Clinic: 1 psychology Intern, 1-4 interdisciplinary PSR advanced fellows, 1 practicum student

Primary Supervisors: Jessica McGovern, Ph.D. and Nani Jenson, Psy.D.

Dr. McGovern obtained her doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Louisiana State University in 2018 after completing her predoctoral Internship at VA Connecticut Healthcare System (West Haven). She completed her bachelor's degree at UCSD and a MIRECC postdoctoral fellowship at VA Greater Los Angeles in association with UCLA. Currently, Dr. McGovern is a staff psychologist at VASDHS within CORE, Associate Training Director of the Psychosocial Rehabilitation (PSR) Advanced Fellowship, and an Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at UCSD. Prior to working at CORE, she worked at VASDHS's Behavioral Health Interdisciplinary Program (BHIP) at the Kearny Mesa clinic. Her research background has involved elucidating biopsychosocial mechanisms underlying negative symptoms (especially avolition) and translating that work into improving functional outcomes for individuals with psychosis spectrum disorders. Clinically, she specializes in transdiagnostic case-formulation driven CBT and in the assessment and treatment of individuals with severe mental illness (SMI). She has expertise in evidence-based psychotherapies including ACT, CBT for Psychosis (CBTp), cognitive behavioral social skills training (CBSST), CPT, Compensatory Cognitive Skills Training, DBT, exposure-based anxiety disorder treatment, interpersonal and social rhythm therapy (IPSRT) for bipolar disorder, SST, transdiagnostic CBT, and culturally responsive care.

https://profiles.ucsd.edu/jessica.mcgovern

Dr. Jenson obtained her doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Alliant International University, San Diego. Dr. Jenson is currently a staff psychologist with CORE and a Health Sciences Assistant Clinical Professor within the Department of Psychiatry at UCSD. Prior to Dr. Jenson working in the VASDHS, she worked for the California Department of Corrections (CDCR) as a staff psychologist in their enhanced outpatient program, mental health crisis bed program, and administration segregation unit. As a post-doctoral fellow, Dr. Jenson worked for the Hawaii State Department of Health in their Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division, Family Court Liaison Branch as a Clinical Lead supervising the mental health operations of Hale Ho'omalu Juvenile Detention Facility. Dr. Jenson's areas of competency/interest are adult psychopathology, alcohol and substance use, justice involved adults/youth, trauma-related disorders, schizophrenia spectrum and other psychotic disorders/comorbidities, grief, evidence-based therapies (primarily cognitive-behavioral therapies), family therapy, crisis intervention and management, and culturally responsive care. https://profiles.ucsd.edu/nani.jenson

VA Neuromodulation Program

Overview: The Neuromodulation Program is a specialized, recovery-oriented, trauma-informed outpatient clinic providing ketamine treatment, transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS), and electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) to Veterans with treatment-resistant depression. Common comorbidities include complex PTSD, suicidality, chronic pain conditions, and personality disorders. The philosophy of this innovative program is that the integration of neuromodulation and psychedelic treatments with psychotherapies and complementary practices can result in a synergistic effect to promote Veterans' recovery from chronic mental health conditions. Trainees will gain valuable experience implementing these treatments in a VA setting, adapting evidence-based and promising psychotherapies in a flexible manner, and learning how to effectively work with patients in a non-ordinary state of consciousness induced by ketamine. Our ketamine treatment program is one of the largest in the VA network and several of our clinical staff are involved in cutting edge research in psychedelic medicine, neuromodulation treatments, and mood disorders. This rotation is ideal for trainees who value creativity, working with challenging clinical presentations, and are open to integrating different interventions in a personalized, trauma-informed manner.

Supervision: Supervision will take place in individual and group formats and will include co-therapy. Opportunities for providing layered clinical supervision of a psychology practicum student or psychiatry resident may also be available, as well as providing consultation to nursing and psychiatry staff on patient care issues.

Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: The Intern will mainly conduct clinical assessments

(e.g., symptoms, attitudes, suicide risk, values, recovery goals, psychotherapy needs) with possibilities for occasional formal psychodiagnostic testing, learn to present results to providers and the treatment team, and provide feedback to Veterans to guide their recovery planning. The Intern will learn about the delivery and mechanisms of ketamine treatment, TMS, and ECT and will have the opportunity to observe Veterans in these treatments. Training is provided in ketamine-assisted psychotherapy (KAP), an eclectic intervention drawing from principles of evidence-based and promising therapies and the psychedelic medicine tradition, designed to augment the neurobiological and psychological therapeutic effects of ketamine. The Intern will also facilitate individual and group psychotherapy and psychosocial rehabilitation services designed to promote recovery from chronic mental health conditions (e.g., CBT, ACT/mindfulness, DBT skills, compassion-focused therapy, recovery planning, Whole Health). There may also be opportunities to contribute to program development, including developing patient and provider education materials.

Didactics/Team Meetings: The Intern might attend weekly multidisciplinary treatment team meetings and occasional didactics focusing on neuromodulation treatments for people with treatment-resistant mental health conditions, if they occur during their rotation days. They will also be encouraged to make educational presentations to clinical staff at the unit.

Research Opportunities: As time and interest permits, the Intern may become involved in relevant clinical research opportunities or conduct program evaluation, utilizing program-collected e-screening measures or other means.

Primary Location: La Jolla VA Medical Center

Patient Population: Veterans with treatment-resistant depression and comorbid conditions including complex PTSD, personality disorders, and chronic pain.

Number of Staff in Clinic: Interprofessional team including 4 psychiatrists, 2 psychologists, 10 nursing staff, 1 potential psychology practicum student, and psychiatry residents.

Number of Trainees in Clinic: 1 psychology Intern (half-time), possibly 1 psychology practicum student (depends on recruitment outcome), and approx. 6-8 psychiatry residents.

Primary Supervisors: Dimitri Perivoliotis, Ph.D. and Andrew Bismark, Ph.D.

Dr. Perivoliotis is a Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at UCSD and staff psychologist at the VASDHS Neuromodulation Program. He received his Ph.D. in 2006 from the SDSU/UCSD Joint Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology after completing an Internship at the New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center. He then completed a postdoctoral fellowship with Aaron T. Beck at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, where he co-developed Recovery-Oriented Cognitive Therapy (CT-R) for serious mental illness. Dr. Perivoliotis previously managed the award-winning, CARF-accredited VASDHS Center of Recovery Education (CORE) Psychosocial Rehabilitation & Recovery Center and served as the training director of the Interprofessional Fellowship Program in PSR

and Recovery Oriented Services. He was previously Lead US Adherence Rater for the Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies (MAPS) Phase 3 trial of MDMA-assisted therapy for PTSD and is a co-investigator of VASDHS studies of MDMA-assisted evidence-based trauma-focused therapies for PTSD.
https://profiles.ucsd.edu/dimitri.perivoliotis

Dr. Bismark is an Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at UCSD and staff psychologist in the VASDHS Acute and Intensive Mental Health Service and Neuromodulation programs. Dr. Bismark received his Ph.D. in 2014 from the University of Arizona after completing his predoctoral Internship at the Boston Consortium in Clinical Psychology (VA Boston Healthcare System/Harvard University/Boston University). He completed a postdoctoral research fellowship at the VASDHS Mental Illness Research Educational and Clinical Center (MIRECC) with an emphasis on biomarkers of severe mental illness. He is also a co-investigator of a VASDHS study of MDMA-assisted CBCT for PTSD.

https://profiles.ucsd.edu/andrew.bismark

Position 8

VA Kearny Mesa Geriatric Neuropsychology

Overview: The VA Geriatric Neuropsychology team in Kearny Mesa (KM) provides neuropsychological services primarily for older adult veterans (typically ranging in age from upper 50s to 80s) who are receiving care at the Kearny Mesa Outpatient Clinic, which is the largest outpatient clinic within the VA San Diego Healthcare System. Services include both brief and comprehensive neuropsychological assessment, as well as intervention opportunities such as psychoeducation and behavior-change focused brain health groups and collaborative treatment planning. The Intern will work with a team of one to two neuropsychologists as primary supervisors, and also regularly interact with members of the KM PCMHI team who are involved in geriatric mental health care, including psychologists, geropsychiatrists, and associated psychiatry fellows (geriatric psychiatry and consult-liaison psychiatry fellows).
Supervision: The Intern will receive weekly individual supervision (both regularly scheduled, as well as ad-hoc prior to and after cases), along with possible opportunities for group supervision. Assignment of assessment cases could rotate between the KM neuropsychologists (subject to staffing), who individually supervise those cases.
Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: The Kearny Mesa Neuropsychology placement provides the Intern with the opportunity to conduct both comprehensive and brief neuropsychological evaluations, with a flexible testing approach tailored to the Veteran. The patient population tends to predominantly involve individuals over 60+ with a focus on various neurodegenerative illnesses and dementia, though there are also opportunities for

assessment of younger Veterans with a range of presentations and conditions (e.g., TBI, MS, stroke, mental health conditions, etc). Referrals come from across all disciplines in the hospital, though most often from primary care, psychiatry/geropsychiatry, neurology, and PM&R. Trainees will learn and hone their skills in all components of a neuropsychological evaluation, including preparation and chart review, clinical interview and neurobehavioral status exam, standardized test administration and scoring, interpretation and report writing, interactive patient and family feedback, and communicating with referring/treating providers to facilitate care.

The training in this rotation is designed to meet requirements for specialty education and training in clinical neuropsychology, including the former Houston Conference and recently updated Minnesota Conference Guidelines.

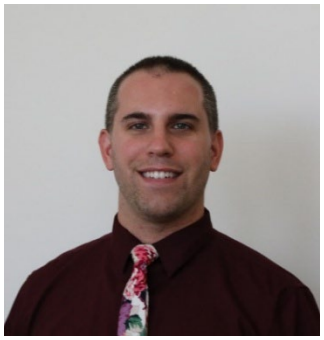
Mental Health Neuropsychology with Dr. Eppig: Older adults with cognitive concerns, representing a wide range of patient populations with neurological, medical and psychiatric conditions and co-morbidities. This consult-based service receives referrals from Neurology, Primary Care, Geropsychiatry, and other Mental Health teams from across the VASD hospital system, with a particular focus on serving Veterans who receive care in eastern and southern San Diego counties. Comprehensive neuropsychological assessments typically take 4-5 hours with the Veteran, followed by feedback at a later date.

PCMHI Neuropsychology (subject to staffing): Older adults with cognitive concerns that have been identified by their primary care provider or PCMHI mental health provider are referred for brief neuropsychological evaluation. Referral questions include new onset or unclear cognitive concerns that would benefit from a brief assessment to triage the veteran's cognitive status and needs, and those with advanced neurocognitive decline (i.e., likely in the dementia range). These assessments are typically 2.5 hours with administration of brief, quasi-flexible batteries, followed by later scheduled feedback. These evaluations also offer experience interacting with the PCMHI/PACT team to integrate the results of the assessments and implement recommendations, and opportunities to evaluate patients being monitored in PCMHI at approximately 12-month follow-up intervals. Optional intervention experiences can include a brain health and aging wellness psychoeducation group for older adults.

Didactics/Team Meetings: KM-based bi-weekly clinic team meeting involving both neuropsychologists/supervisors and members of the geriatric-focused team within PCMHI, including psychologists and psychiatry fellows. In this meeting we discuss cases in order to determine appropriateness for brief versus comprehensive neuropsychological assessment, and discuss treatment recommendations post-evaluation (e.g., adjustment to neurocognitive disorder diagnosis, implementation of recommendations). Intern will also attend weekly neuropsychology didactics through the VASD Clinical Neuropsychology Seminar.

Research Opportunities: Opportunities for research involvement include quality improvement projects relating to enhancing engagement of older adults in the primary care and outpatient clinic settings, as well as possibilities for collaboration and novel projects with other affiliated

VASD neuropsychology supervisors with active research programs.
Primary Location: Kearny Mesa VA Outpatient Clinic
Patient Population: Adult veterans typically ranging in age from upper 50s to 80s referred from many sources, including primary care, PCMHI, neurology, psychiatry, and other specialty clinics. Patients suspected of mild cognitive impairment, dementia, and a variety of other neurologic, medical and systemic disorders are typically referred for our assessment services.
Number of Staff in Clinic: 2 neuropsychology supervisors, plus several additional PCMHI staff members across multiple other disciplines (5 psychologists, 3 psychiatrists, 3 nurse care managers, 1 MH Social Worker)
Number of Trainees in Clinic: 1-2 Practicum Students, 1 Psychology Intern, 1-2 Postdoctoral Residents.
Primary Supervisor: Joel Eppig, Ph.D.



Joel Eppig, Ph.D. received his doctorate in Clinical Psychology, with an emphasis in neuropsychology, from the San Diego State University/UC San Diego Joint Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology. He completed his doctoral Internship followed by a two-year post-doctoral fellowship in clinical neuropsychology at the VA Puget Sound Healthcare System, Seattle Division. He currently serves as a staff neuropsychologist at the Kearny Mesa Outpatient Clinic within the VA San Diego Healthcare System, where provides clinical supervision for trainees in the practicum, Intern, and fellowship programs. He also holds an appointment as a Health Sciences Assistant Clinical Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at UC San Diego.
https://profiles.ucsd.edu/joel.eppig

VA Geriatric Mental Health Clinic La Jolla

Overview: The VA Geriatric Mental Health team in La Jolla Clinic provides mental health services for veterans over the age of 60 seen within a busy geriatric-focused setting. The Intern will work closely with a team of geriatric physicians, nurses, social workers, and psychologists to provide timely and efficient assessment, consultation, and psychotherapy services to older patients whose care is best served when delivered within a specialty care setting. The clinic provides treatment for older veterans who experience mild to severe symptoms associated with mood, anxiety, trauma, substance use, and life adjustment concerns relating to aging. The Intern will have the opportunity to do 1:1 psychotherapy with veterans they tested in the neuropsychiatric clinic.
Supervision: The Intern will receive individual supervision. Opportunities for review of audio taped sessions are available.
Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: Intern will interact with older veterans presenting with a broad array of mental health conditions including depression, anxiety, PTSD, and

personality disorders. Intern will conduct psychological assessments with veterans. Interns will also manage a caseload of individual psychotherapy patients. Group therapy options include Anger Management, CBT for Depression, CBT for Anxiety, STAIR, CBT-I, and general drop-in groups. Intern may have the opportunity to develop their own group if so inclined. Primary treatment approaches include CBT, ACT, IPT, and MI for mood disorders and CPT, PE, and STAIR for PTSD. Finally, Intern will regularly interact with the team, providing a range of consultation services, including helping to develop treatment plans, assisting with behavioral management of difficult patients, helping to manage patients in acute crises, and collaborating with other providers to help patients make health behavior changes.

Didactics/Team Meetings: Weekly clinic team meeting

Research Opportunities: Interns may participate in a variety of research opportunities including studies investigating PTSD and hoarding disorder.

Primary Location: La Jolla VA Outpatient Clinic, Jennifer Moreno Department of Veteran Affairs Medical Center

Patient Population: Adult veterans from all conflict eras and older adults over 65 years old

Number of Staff in Clinic: 2 psychologists, 1 nurse care manager, 3 psychiatrists, 1 MH Social Worker

Number of Trainees in Clinic:1-2 Practicum Students, 1 Psychology Intern, 1-2 Postdoctoral Resident, 1-3 Psychiatry Resident, 1-3 Psychiatry Fellow

Primary Supervisor: Tina Mayes, Ph.D.

Dr. Mayes received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Alliant International University. She completed her predoctoral Internship at the Central Alabama VA Healthcare System and her postdoctoral residency at VASDHS. She obtained specialized training in the delivery of evidenced-based interventions relating to older adults, anxiety disorders, and hoarding disorder. Dr. Mayes is a Volunteer Assistant Clinical Professor in the UCSD School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry, and a Section Chief for the La Jolla Outpatient Mental Health Clinics. Her clinical and research interests focus on the treatment outcomes of hoarding disorder and PTSD. Dr. Mayes is actively involved in training programs across the careline including practicum students and postdoctoral fellows.

https://profiles.ucsd.edu/tina.mayes

Position 9

VA Neuropsychological Assessment Unit

Overview: The VA San Diego Neuropsychological Assessment Unit provides hospital-wide consultation/liaison services to patients referred for comprehensive neuropsychological

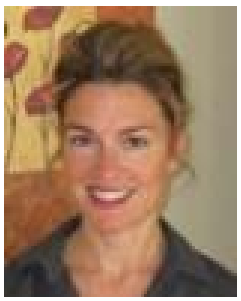
assessments of cognitive and emotional functioning.
Supervision: Supervision is provided in both group and individual settings. Interns are assigned an individual supervisor that rotates every three to four months as well as attend group supervisions of cases once weekly.
Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: The Neuropsychological Assessment Unit placement provides the Intern with the opportunity to conduct comprehensive neuropsychological evaluations on a wide range of patient populations. Referrals come from various services including primary care, psychiatry, neurology and rehabilitation settings. Patients present with a number of conditions and concerns including traumatic brain injury, psychiatric diagnoses, dementia, and movement disorders. Unit staff and trainees conduct complete neuropsychological assessments of patients, including chart review, clinical interview, standardized test administration and scoring, interpretation and report writing, and patient and family feedback. Trainees may also obtain some experience interacting with treatment and rehabilitation teams to integrate the results of the neuropsychological assessments into such programs. Interns are taught how to use the Boston process approach to interpret a wide range of assessment instruments (e.g., Boston Naming Test-2, Wechsler Memory Scale; California Verbal Learning Test - 3; Delis-Kaplan Executive Function System, etc.), to provide detailed feedback to patients and families, and to work with referring sources to integrate the results of our neuropsychological assessment procedures into treatment planning. While the vast majority of cases are seen in person, there are occasional opportunities for tele-assessment.
Didactics/Team Meetings: Interns attend the Clinical Neuropsychology Seminar series and have the opportunity to attend other team staff meetings throughout the year, to examine or present cases in a broader multidisciplinary diagnostic and treatment context.
Research Opportunities: There are many opportunities to integrate research projects with clinical service activities within our Unit as well as with affiliated research projects conducted by our primary supervisors. Many of our projects are at the forefront of neuropsychological, neuroimaging, genetic and other investigatory techniques into the causes and consequences of brain dysfunction.
Primary Location: La Jolla VA Medical Center, though opportunities to see cases in Kearny Mesa and/or Oceanside are also available.
Patient Population: As a hospital-wide consultation/liaison service, a wide range of patients are referred from many sources. Referrals come from services including primary care, psychiatry, neurology and rehabilitation settings. Patients present with a number of conditions and concerns including traumatic brain injury, psychiatric diagnoses, mild cognitive impairment, dementia, ADHD, stroke, movement disorders and a variety of other neurologic, medical and systemic disorders are typically referred for our assessment services.
Number of Staff in Clinic: Approximately 4 neuropsychologists supervisors
Number of Trainees in Clinic: Approximately 11-14 (3-5 postdoctoral fellows, 3 Interns, 4-6

doctoral practicum students).
Primary Supervisors: Katherine Bangen, Ph.D., ABPP, Lisa Delano-Wood, Ph.D., Kelsey Thomas, Ph.D.

Dr. Bangen earned her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology, with an emphasis in neuropsychology, from the San Diego State University/UC San Diego Joint Doctoral Program. She completed a predoctoral Internship at the UCLA Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior specializing in neuropsychological assessment. Dr. Bangen completed a NIH postdoctoral fellowship in geriatric mental health at UC San Diego School of Medicine as well as a fellowship in traumatic brain injury and cognitive rehabilitation at the VA San Diego Healthcare System. She is board certified in Clinical Neuropsychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology and is a Professor in the UCSD School of Medicine. Her research interests involve applying neuroimaging and neuropsychological tools to study cognitive and brain changes with normal aging, mild cognitive impairment and dementia, including Alzheimer's disease.

http://profiles.ucsd.edu/katherine.bangen

Dr. Delano-Wood is a Professor of Psychiatry within the School of Medicine at UCSD, clinical neuropsychologist at UCSD Center for Brain Health and Memory, and Staff Neuropsychologist at the Veterans Affairs San Diego Healthcare System. She received her doctorate in Clinical Psychology with a specialization in Neuropsychology from Michigan State University in 2005. She then completed a postdoctoral fellowship in Neuropsychology at the San Diego VA Healthcare System/UCSD from 2005-2006 and a National Institutes of Mental Health fellowship in Geropsychiatry at UCSD from 2006-2008.



http://profiles.ucsd.edu/Lisa.Delano-Wood

Dr. Kelsey Thomas is a Staff Neuropsychologist at VA San Diego as well as an Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the UCSD School of Medicine and Director of the UCSD Neuropsychological Services La Jolla clinic that focuses on movement disorders. She completed her PhD from the University of Florida and attended VA San Diego/UCSD for her clinical Internship and postdoctoral fellowship. Her research interests include early detection of subtle cognitive decline and cognitive phenotyping in AD/ADRD and applying ADRD biomarker, health, and psychological data to understand longitudinal trajectories of cognitive/functional decline and risk of progression to dementia.

https://profiles.ucsd.edu/kelsey.thomas

VA Primary Care Mental Health Integration (PCMHI) – Kearny Mesa Clinic

Overview: The VA San Diego Primary Care Mental Health Integration team in Kearny Mesa Clinic provides mental health services for Veterans seen within a busy primary care setting. Interns will work closely with a large team of physicians, nurses, and ancillary providers (e.g., clinical pharmacists, social workers, dieticians, etc.) to provide timely and efficient assessment, consultation, and brief psychotherapy services to patients whose care is best served when delivered within the primary care setting. The PCMHI model provides brief treatment for Veterans who experience mild to moderate symptoms associated with mood, anxiety, substance use, trauma/PTSD, sleep, chronic pain, and life adjustment concerns.
Supervision: Interns receive individual and group supervision. Opportunities for review of audio taped sessions are available. Groups are co-led with supervisors as well.
Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: Interns will interact with Veterans presenting with a broad array of mental health conditions. Interns will conduct brief (20-50 minute) psychological assessments with Veterans who are referred for evaluation mainly by their primary care providers, ideally occurring on the same day as the Veteran's scheduled primary care visit. Presenting concerns for same-day assessments are highly variable. Through these brief assessments, Interns will have the opportunity to become proficient in acute risk assessments. Interns will also manage a caseload of individual psychotherapy patients who fit the PCMHI model. Group therapy options vary depending on the clinic needs, but may include CBT-I, PAP Adherence for Sleep Apnea, PST, Anger Management, Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction, Behavioral Activation for Older Adults, Gero-Focused Everyday Wellness Skills, and CBT and ACT for Chronic Pain. Primary treatment approaches include CBT for anxiety/depression/insomnia, PST, ACT, WET, and MI. Finally, Interns will regularly interact with the primary care team, providing a range of consultation services, including helping develop treatment plans, assisting with behavioral management of patients with complex needs, helping to manage patients in acute crises, and collaborating with the provider to help patients make health behavior changes.
Didactics/Team Meetings: Interns will participate in weekly psychology trainee group didactic/supervision and weekly clinic team meetings.
Research Opportunities: Research opportunities dependent on training program.
Primary Location: Kearny Mesa VA Outpatient Clinic
Patient Population: Adult Veterans ages 18 or older, encompassing all genders, ethnicities, military branches, and backgrounds.
Number of Staff in Clinic: 10 (3 psychologists, 4 PCMHI nurse care managers, 2 psychiatrists, and 1 neuropsychologist).
Number of Trainees in Clinic: 2 Practicum Students, 1-2 Psychology Interns, 2 Postdoctoral Fellows, 1 Psychiatry Resident, 1 Psychiatry Fellow.
Primary Supervisor: Kimberly Savin, Ph.D., DBSM, M.P.H.

Dr. Savin received her Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the San Diego State University/University of California San Diego Joint Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology, with a major area of study in behavioral medicine and minor area of study in quantitative methods. She completed her psychology Internship at the University of California Los Angeles-Semel Institute and postdoctoral training at the VA Greater Los Angeles and VA San Diego. Her clinical background is in behavioral medicine, with specialized training in behavioral sleep medicine and diabetes psychology. She holds a Diplomate in Behavioral Sleep Medicine (DBSM) credential. Dr. Savin is currently engaged in a research study investigated the delivery of a mindfulness-based intervention within PCMHI and other QI projects related to the provision of mental health and sleep-related services.

Position 10

VA Neuropsychological Assessment Unit – see description above for Position 9

VA TBI Cognitive Rehabilitation Clinic/ VA Neuropsychological Assessment Unit

Overview: The Cognitive Rehabilitation Clinic provides neuropsychological assessment, feedback, and cognitive rehabilitation to Veterans with a history of traumatic brain injury (TBI) or other acquired brain injury (ABI; e.g., stroke). The Cognitive Rehabilitation Clinic serves all Veterans with a history of brain injury who have cognitive complaints, as well as Veterans with mild cognitive impairment. This clinic is a component of the larger TBI Polytrauma Treatment team, an interdisciplinary team consisting of rehabilitation physicians, neuropsychologists, social workers, nurse case managers, occupational therapists, physical therapists, audiologists, speech therapists, psychiatrists, and optometrists/low-vision specialists. This team meets weekly, as does the core Cognitive Rehabilitation clinic staff. Recently, the team expanded its goals to provide care for not only TBI but also other types of acquired brain injury, such as stroke or anoxic brain injury.
Supervision: Individual and group supervision.
Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: The focus is on using comprehensive neuropsychological assessment data to inform treatment. Interns will learn how to
1) provide structured compensatory cognitive rehabilitation in an individual format to address objective deficits noted on neuropsychological testing; 2) enhance neuropsychological feedback skills; 3) enhance clinical neuropsychological interviewing skills in individuals with a history of ABI, TBI, PTSD, and/or somatic complaints; and 4) broaden neuropsychological test interpretation and report writing skills in this population. Interns will also gain an appreciation of how neuropsychological assessment informs treatment decisions, including cognitive rehabilitation, and how neuropsychology and cognitive rehabilitation are integrated into a Veteran's larger, multidisciplinary treatment plan. Training in telehealth is also available.

Interns will also see cases in the Neuropsychological Assessment Unit (see above) to ensure a breadth of assessment experience.
Didactics/Team Meetings: Interns in the Cognitive Rehabilitation placement will attend the Clinical Neuropsychology Seminar series once a week, and the TBI Polytrauma weekly Treatment Team meeting.
Research Opportunities: Interns may participate in research examining archival clinical TBI data, data from an ongoing TBI/PTSD intervention trial, and/or co-authoring manuscripts.
Primary Location: La Jolla VA Medical Center
Patient Population: We serve a diverse Veteran population, where approximately 40% of our patients are from underrepresented minority groups.
Number of Staff in Clinic: 2
Number of Trainees in Clinic: typically 3-4: 1 Intern, 2 post-doctoral fellows.
Primary Supervisors: Katherine Bangen, Ph.D., ABPP and Jacqueline Maye, Ph.D.
Dr. Bangen– see description above for Position 9
Dr. Maye – see description above for Position 1

Position 11

VA Neuropsychological Assessment Unit – see description above for Position 9

VA Inpatient Psychiatry

Overview: VA inpatient psychiatry rotation provides brief neurocognitive screenings, more extensive neuropsychological assessments, and short-term treatment interventions for Veterans with acute mental health needs hospitalized on the VA Inpatient Psychiatry Unit, transitional outpatients recently discharged following inpatient hospitalization, and Veterans receiving Neuromodulation treatments such as ketamine infusions, Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS), or Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT). Psychological services in the inpatient milieu include 1) briefer neurocognitive and psychological assessments for diagnostic clarification and treatment planning purposes, and 2) implementation of evidence-based psychotherapies (individual and group modalities) utilizing short-term, evidence based protocols for Veterans with acute exacerbation of a wide range of serious mental illness presentations. Inpatient experiences also include participation in Inpatient Multidisciplinary Treatment Team rounds and didactics. Outpatient psychological services include provision of brief evidence-based psychotherapy protocols for individuals transitioning back into the community following inpatient psychiatric stabilization and treatment. Neuromodulation services include the provision of cognitive-based therapy protocols (both individuals and group) for Veterans receiving ketamine treatments for treatment resistant depression, PTSD, and/or chronic pain.
Supervision: Supervision includes individual supervision (supervision can include co-therapy).
Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: The assessment component combines a brief,

flexible neurocognitive screening battery with standardized, psychological assessment tools (MMPI2-RF, MCMI3, PAI, etc.). Training includes formulation of integrated reports, presentation of results to providers and treatment teams, and utilizing feedback sessions to implement recommendations and recovery planning with the Veteran directly prior to discharge. Assessment opportunities fluctuate throughout the year and can range from 1x/week to 1x/month, depending on Veteran needs. Presenting concerns vary widely for assessment cases but generally consistent of severe comorbid medical and psychiatric conditions. Training in treatment modalities takes place in a range of clinical settings and with diverse patient groups: inpatient treatment includes individual and group therapy focused on skills building utilizing evidence-based psychotherapies including CBT, ACT, MI, DBT, and mindfulness. Outpatient psychotherapy focuses on brief transitional care ("bridge care") for veterans recently discharged from inpatient psychiatry. Neuromodulation clinic opportunities will focus on the delivery of individual evidence-based psychotherapy to veterans receiving ketamine treatments (ketamine assisted psychotherapy (KAP)) for treatment resistant depression, comorbid PTSD, and chronic pain. Group treatment modalities and some brief cognitive assessment opportunities are available within the Neuromodulation clinic as well.
Didactics/Team Meetings: Trainees attend Inpatient Psychiatry Treatment Team meetings, group didactics, and Psychiatry Case Conferences w/ Didactics.
Research Opportunities: This rotation has clinical research opportunities including participating as a therapist in clinical trials or through collaborations with several investigators who can discuss ongoing research projects.
Primary Location: La Jolla VA Medical Center.
Patient Population: Veterans (all ages) with acute and/or severe mental illness, cognitive concerns, substance use disorders, personality pathology, and suicidality.
Number of Staff in Clinic: Large interprofessional team, including psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, a peer support specialist, occupational therapists, nursing, as well as psychology postdoctoral fellows, clinical psychology practicum trainees, psychiatric residents, and medical students.
Number of Trainees in Clinic: 1 Intern (half time), 2-3 practicum students, 1-2 postdoctoral fellows
Primary Supervisor: Andrew W. Bismark, Ph.D.
Dr. Bismark – see description above for Position 9

Position 12

VA PTSD EBP Outpatient

Overview: The VA PTSD EBP Outpatient rotation focuses on providing clinical training opportunities in treating Veterans with PTSD of all service eras. Developing skills and competency in providing Prolonged Exposure (PE) and Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT)

are especially emphasized, and there are opportunities for learning and providing additional EBPs if desired (e.g., STAIR, CBT for Insomnia). All sessions are provided via telehealth, and Interns are part of a multidisciplinary team of psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, and researchers, often providing care to Veterans in rural and underserved communities. Interns typically have an opportunity to participate in all aspects of the full CPT national Training Initiative, including intensive didactics followed by weekly case consultation with a national CPT consultant, and to be certification eligible by the end of the training year. They also receive individual supervision from a national trainer in the PE Training Initiative, ensuring they have consistent access to experienced trainers and clinicians for both CPT and PE.
Supervision: Weekly individual supervision.
Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: Initial psychological evaluation experience as well as training in evidence based practices for PTSD (Cognitive Processing Therapy and Prolonged Exposure Therapy). Training is also available for other EBPs (e.g., Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Insomnia) if desired.
Didactics/Team Meetings: Weekly staff meetings; bi-weekly case consultation and didactics
Research Opportunities: Current ongoing randomized clinical trials with telemental health and PTSD.
Primary Location: Old Town San Diego at the ASPIRE Center
Patient Population: Male and Female veterans; multiple war eras
Number of Staff in Clinic: The TMH team includes 8 psychologists, 2 social workers, 1 psychiatrist, administrative support staff, and several research psychologists Number of Trainees in Clinic: 1 psychology Intern, 1 psychology postdoctoral fellow, 1 social work Intern, 3 psychiatry residents
Primary Supervisor: Jeffrey Poizner, Psy.D.

Dr. Poizner is a Staff Psychologist at VA San Diego and Health Sciences Assistant Clinical Professor at UCSD, specializing in providing evidence-based treatments to veterans via Telemental Health. Dr. Poizner completed his pre-doctoral Internship at UCLA and post-doctoral fellowship at UCSD. He trains licensed clinicians nationwide in Prolonged Exposure (PE) and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Insomnia (CBT-I) as a Consultant in the VA National Training Initiatives for those treatments and is a National Trainer in the PE initiative. He also leads the weekly PE group consultation for all postdoctoral fellows and Interns in PTSD clinical rotations at VA San Diego. Clinical and research interests include reducing barriers and improving access to evidence-based treatments for veterans with PTSD.

https://profiles.ucsd.edu/jeffrey.poizner

VA PTSD EBP Residential

Overview: The ASPIRE Center is a 40-bed residential treatment facility focused on recovery from PTSD and in homeless/risk of homeless OEF/OIF/OND Veterans. Although symptom reduction is an important treatment goal of learning- based interventions for PTSD, intervention targets have expanded to include quality of life and functioning in social and instrumental role domains among patients with more complex psychosocial needs and comorbidities. As such, the focus of rehabilitation and recovery efforts at the ASPIRE Center is to ultimately improve real-world community functioning. The program model parallels that of a community college, in which Veterans design, through shared decisions, a treatment plan that maps onto their individualized recovery plan. The Center provides state-of-the-art interprofessional rehabilitation, and the trainee will collaborate with ASPIRE staff representing the full range of disciplines, including nursing, psychiatry, psychology, neuropsychology, social work, vocational rehabilitation, chaplaincy, addiction therapists, and OT.

Supervision: Intern will have one primary individual supervisor and will also interact regularly with other psychologists, a postdoctoral fellow and ASPIRE Center staff (e.g., psychiatrist, social work) through group supervision, team meetings and co-therapy. Opportunities for Interns to provide layered clinical supervision of psychology externs may also be available.

Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: Interns have the opportunity to gain hours in almost every category of clinical care, including: a) diagnostic assessment; b) individual therapy; c) group therapy; d) supervision and didactics. Interns will learn to deliver evidence-based interventions for PTSD (e.g., Cognitive Processing Therapy and Prolonged Exposure). In addition, Interns will learn to administer, score and interpret comprehensive psychodiagnositic assessments and provide feedback regarding test results. Students will gain from participating in a multidisciplinary training environment, which includes diverse clinicians and trainees and clinical and translational academic researchers.

Didactics/Team Meetings: Interns will participate in daily, interdepartmental treatment team meetings to orchestrate care; staff typically include psychiatry, pharmacy, social work, nursing, vocational rehabilitation, dietician, and chaplain. Interns will also attend the following weekly seminars: PTSD and Intern Seminar.

Research Opportunities: Interns may participate in research examining archival clinical data, performance improvement data, affiliate with research projects conducted by supervisors, and/or co-author manuscripts.

Primary Location: Old Town San Diego at the ASPIRE Center

Patient Population: Male and female Veterans who are younger (aged 20 to 40 is typical) and who have been diagnosed with PTSD and are unstably housed. There is also opportunity to work with a subset of the Veterans who have primary diagnoses of psychotic disorders, chronic pain, mood disorders, or anxiety disorders other than PTSD.

Number of Staff in Clinic: 26 full-time staff, including psychiatry, pharmacy, nursing, psychology, chaplain services, vocational rehabilitation, occupational therapy, health

education, recreation opportunities, dietary services, and yoga and mindfulness-based interventions.
Number of Trainees in Clinic: 1 psychology Intern, 1 postdoctoral fellow Primary Supervisors: Adrienne Borders, Ph. D.

Dr. Borders received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of New Mexico in 2019 after completing a predoctoral Internship in clinical psychology at the Southwest Consortium (New Mexico VA Healthcare System, University of New Mexico Hospital, and Indian Health Service). She then completed a postdoctoral fellowship within the VA San Diego/UCSD Postdoctoral Residency Program, where she specialized in evidence-based treatment for PTSD and co-occurring disorders at the ASPIRE Center. She has since served in staff psychologist positions within VASDHS and the San Diego Vet Center. Dr. Borders currently holds the position of staff psychologist at the ASPIRE Center and supervises trainees within this residential treatment setting. She is experienced in Prolonged Exposure and is a Cognitive Processing Therapy provider. Her primary clinical interests include delivery of evidence-based trauma treatment in accordance with Whole Health and recovery-based models of care.

Position 13

UC San Diego Health Eating Disorders Center for Treatment and Research (UCSD EDC): Adult/Adolescent

http://eatingdisorders.ucsd.edu/index.html

Overview: UCSD EDC provides day treatment and intensive outpatient treatment for children, adolescents and adults with anorexia nervosa (AN), bulimia nervosa (BN), avoidant/restrictive food intake disorder (ARFID), and Other Specified Feeding and Eating Disorders (OSFED; e.g., atypical AN, purging disorder). The Adolescent and Adult programs are located in our La Jolla outpatient clinic. The multidisciplinary treatment team consists of psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, marriage and family therapists, nurse practitioners, nurses, and dieticians.
Supervision: Interns participate in weekly individual and group supervision. Feedback on videotaped individual sessions is provided.
Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: Our Adult and Adolescent programs offer both Partial Hospital and Intensive Outpatient services. Our Adult clinic is run according to a dialectical behavior therapy (DBT) model, and we also offer CBT, ACT, cognitive processing therapy, and a variety of other types of therapy groups. Our Adolescent clinic is run according to a Maudsley (Family-Based Therapy) model, with DBT skills and principles integrated throughout the program. In both programs, Interns see individual patients, lead/co-lead patient groups, and will eat meals with patients in order to provide meal support. There are

also opportunities to get experience with family therapy/parent groups. Interns also have the opportunity to conduct brief neuropsychological assessments and write integrated reports to address referral questions from the treatment team.

Didactics/Team Meetings: We have weekly didactics, which are taught by in-house and visiting experts on topics relevant to treating patients with eating disorders. Multidisciplinary treatment team meets from 2-2.5 hours per week per program.

Research Opportunities: We have many research opportunities, including fMRI, neurocognitive, behavioral and genetics research, and treatment development and outcomes. Interns often stay on after Internship as clinical or research fellows.

Primary Location: Chancellor Park Outpatient Clinic La Jolla

Patient Population: Interns will gain experience working with Adolescents (ages 11-18) and Adults (18+, but the majority of adults are between 18 and 30). Most patients are Caucasian, but we also work with Latinx, Asian and African-American patients. Approximately ~90% of adolescent and adult patients are female.

Number of Staff in Clinic: ~100

Number of Trainees in Clinic: 4 psychology Interns, 6-8 MFT, PhD or PsyD practicum students, 6-8 postdoctoral fellows.

Primary Supervisors: Leslie Anderson, Ph.D., Anna Karam Jones, Ph.D., Christina Wierenga, Ph.D.

Dr. Anderson is a Clinical Associate Professor, Training Director at UCSD Eating Disorders Center, DBT- Linehan Board of Certification, Certified Clinician™, and trainer for Behavioral Tech. She has a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Kansas, and completed her clinical Internship at Duke University Medical Center. Before coming to UCSD, she held a clinical faculty appointment at the University of Washington, was a supervisor in Marsha Linehan's DBT training clinic, and was a staff psychologist at the DBT Center of Seattle. She currently oversees the training and clinical supervision of the UCSD EDC staff, and conducts individual, family and group therapy for anorexia, bulimia, binge eating disorder and EDNOS. Her research interests are in treatment development, evaluation, and outcomes, especially with regards to adaptations of DBT and FBT, and she has published many journal articles and two books in this area, including the Clinical Handbook of Complex and Atypical Eating Disorders. She frequently gives talks and workshops on DBT, eating disorders, suicidality, and related topics in the community and at national conferences. She has served in several leadership roles within the Academy of Eating Disorders, and is the co-editor of Eating Disorders: The Journal of Treatment and Prevention.

http://profiles.ucsd.edu/leslie.anderson

Dr. Karam Jones is a staff psychologist at the UC San Diego Health's (UCSDH) Eating Disorders Center for Treatment and Research (EDC). Dr. Karam Jones received her Bachelor's in Psychology and Women's and Gender Studies from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and received her PhD in Clinical Psychology from Washington University in St. Louis. Her predoctoral clinical Internship at UC San Diego was comprised of rotations at Rady Children's Hospital's Medical Behavioral Unit (i.e., an inpatient unit for the medical stabilization of eating disorders) as well as the EDC, where she worked in both the adolescent and adult programs. Dr. Karam Jones is an expert in the evidence-based treatment of psychological disorders including eating disorders, anxiety disorders, and mood disorders, with an emphasis in the areas of eating and weight-related disorders. Her research interests include examining predictors, moderators, and mediators/mechanisms of evidence-based treatment for eating disorders, as well as the best methods for dissemination and implementation of evidence-based treatments for eating disorders, with the ultimate goal to enhance and increase access to eating disorder care.

https://eatingdisorders.ucsd.edu/team/anna-karam-jones

Dr. Wierenga is a Professor of Psychiatry at UC San Diego. She is a Fellow of Division 40 (Neuropsychology) of the American Psychological Association (APA) and a Fellow of the Academy of Eating Disorders. She is the Director of Research for the UC San Diego Health (UCSDH) Eating Disorders Center for Treatment and Research (EDC) and is a Training Director for the Clinical Psychology Internship Program. Mentoring is one of the highlights of her career, and she has trained over 50 clinical and research graduate students, Interns, and postdoctoral fellows. She is an expert in the neurobiology of eating disorders. Her programmatic research utilizes neuropsychological, neuroimaging and computational neuroscience approaches to investigate cognitive, behavioral and brain mechanisms underlying eating disorders, including anorexia nervosa and bulimia nervosa, and guide development of neurobiologically-informed treatments. More specifically, she studies reward processing, inhibitory control, interoception, and learning to better characterize their role in altered motivation to eat and symptom expression in eating disorders. She is also a co-developer of Temperament Based Therapy with Support (TBT-S), an emerging neurobiologically-informed treatment for anorexia nervosa. She has published numerous journal articles and two books in this area, including the Handbook of the Neurobiology of Eating Disorders, has received grants from multiple agencies including the NIH, VA, and NEDA, and is the recipient of the Academy for Eating Disorders 2026 Leadership in Research Award.

http://profiles.ucsd.edu/Christina.Wierenga

UC San Diego Health Center for Pain Medicine

Overview: Faculty and trainees serve as behavioral medicine specialists in the multidisciplinary treatment team at the UCSD Center for Pain Medicine located at UC San Diego Health Medical Offices. The clinic operates under the auspices of the Department of Anesthesiology and serves a patient population representing a wide range of chronic pain diagnoses.
Supervision: Interns have weekly individual (narrative and audiotape) and group supervision. Group supervision is with other UCSD behavioral medicine trainees at all levels. The Intern will also obtain experience in supervising a practicum student.
Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: Interns will have the opportunity to conduct and interpret biopsychosocial assessments including: 1) Pre-procedure psychological evaluations of patients considered for invasive surgical techniques (including intrathecal pump and spinal cord stimulator procedures); 2) Chronic opiate psychological evaluations that inform treatment decisions made by pain physicians regarding use of opiates and other psychological factors that may impact response to treatment; 3) General psychological evaluations of patients with co-morbid psychiatric issues, prescription medication and illicit substance abuse problems, and other behavioral/coping-related problems. Trainees co- facilitate ongoing Pain Management psychotherapy groups, and provide short- term, individual psychotherapy using cognitive behavioral interventions, motivational and acceptance therapies, and mindfulness meditation practices.
Didactics/Team Meetings: The multidisciplinary treatment team meets once per month to review patient cases conducted by our service. Interns present information from the biopsychosocial evaluations to the Pain team including pain physicians, psychiatrists, and nurses, and participate in the discussion of relevant psychological and medical issues. Weekly group supervision/didactic seminars feature case presentations and lectures on topics relevant to behavioral medicine and the practice of psychology.
Research Opportunities: Interns will be connected with investigators performing research in their area of interest.
Primary Location: UC San Diego Health La Jolla Medical Offices
Patient Population: Primarily adults presenting with a wide range of chronic pain diagnoses.
Number of Staff in Clinic: Approximately 20 pain and psychology fellows and attending physicians, nurses, and administrative staff.
Number of Trainees in Clinic: Up to 5 psychology trainees (1 Intern, up to 4 practicum students).
Primary Supervisor: Mirsad Serdarevic, Ph.D.

Dr. Serdarevic earned his doctorate from the University of Oregon. He completed his pre-doctoral Internship at the University of Southern California Student Health Services APA - accredited Pre-Doctoral Psychology Internship Program, and his post-doctoral fellowship the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada where he worked with diverse groups of undergraduate and graduate students. Dr. Serdarevic also completed one year of VA Fellowship in Advanced Geriatrics at the Palo Alto VA where he worked within multidisciplinary treatment teams within the contexts of geriatrics outpatient clinic, palliative care and hospice psychological services. He joined the UCSD Health Sciences faculty in the Department of Psychiatry in August of 2022. He also serves as an Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry and an Attending Psychologist in the UC San Diego Center for Pain Medicine, Pain Psychology Clinic. Prior to joining UCSD Health, Dr. Serdarevic served in numerous roles including as an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at the Medical College of Georgia School of Medicine, Integrated Behavioral Health Clinical Psychologist at the Navy Medical Center of San Diego, Program Supervisor at the Center for Behavioral Health of the Palomar Health and more recently as an Associate Professor of Applied Clinical Psychology at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology. He has published on numerous topics including Motivational Interviewing and immigrant mental health.

https://profiles.ucsd.edu/mirsad.serdarevic

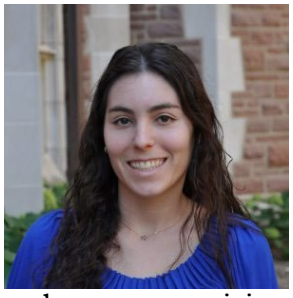
Position 14

UC San Diego Health Eating Disorders Center for Treatment and Research (UCSD EDC): Adult/Adolescent – see description above for Position 13

UC San Diego Health Center for Healthy Eating and Activity Research (CHEAR)

Overview: The UC San Diego Health CHEAR Clinic is an outpatient clinic that serves individuals through the lifespan with obesity and eating disorders. CHEAR has two levels of care: outpatient (OP) and intensive outpatient (IOP). Outpatient services include individual and group therapy for children, adolescents, adults and families with obesity, binge eating disorder, bulimia nervosa, anorexia nervosa, avoidant-restrictive food intake disorder, and emotional eating. The Intensive outpatient program is for adolescents and adults with Binge Eating Disorder and includes three hours of group per day, individual therapy, optional family therapy, individual appointments with a registered dietician, meal coaching, and exposure therapy. The primary treatments used in the clinic include cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT), dialectical behavior therapy (DBT), behavioral weight loss (BWL), family-based therapy (FBT), and regulation of cues (ROC).
Supervision: Individual and group supervision
Assessment and Treatment opportunities: The focus will be carrying a caseload of individual

therapy cases with diverse diagnoses as well as facilitating group and individual therapy as part of the intensive outpatient program. Interns will conduct intake interviews, develop treatment plans, implement treatment, and plan/implement treat termination.
Didactics/Team meetings: Interns at CHEAR will attend weekly treatment team meetings as well as didactic presentations through the UCSD Eating Disorders Center for Treatment and Research.
Research Opportunities: Interns have the opportunity to become involved in several ongoing grant-funded RCTs and will have access to existing data to support writing data-driven papers.
Primary Location: 3344 N Torrey Pines Ct La Jolla, CA 92037
Patient Population: Children, adolescents, adults and families with obesity or eating disorders.
Number of Staff in Clinic (7): 3 Licensed Clinical Psychologists, 1 Registered Dietician, 1 Post-doctoral PhD
Number of Trainees in clinic (4): 3-4 Practicum students
Primary Supervisor: Dawn Eichen, Ph.D.



Dr. Eichen is an Assistant Professor in the department of Pediatrics at the UC San Diego Center for Healthy Eating and Activity Research (CHEAR). She received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Temple University. She was a NHLBI T32 fellow at Washington University in St Louis Medical School Center for Healthy Weight and Wellness before coming to CHEAR. Dr. Eichen is a licensed Clinical Psychologist in the state of CA. She has conducted individual, family, and group therapy for binge eating and obesity at UC San Diego CHEAR. Dr. Eichen has training in FBT, CBT, DBT, Behavioral Weight Loss Treatment, and ROC Treatment. She has been supervising trainees in the clinic and in the research studies since 2015 at CHEAR. Her research interests include targeting executive function to improve eating behavior and weight. She developed a treatment program to enhance executive function for adults with binge eating disorder to be paired with CBT. She has published over 50 papers and chapters related to eating disorders, eating behaviors, and weight management. She has been funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIDDK) and the Brain Behavior Research Foundation.
https://profiles.ucsd.edu/dawn.eichen

Position 15

UC San Diego Health Eating Disorders Center for Treatment and Research (UCSD EDC): Adult/Adolescent – see description above for Position 13

Rady Medical Behavioral Unit (MBU)

Overview: Rady Children's Hospital San Diego's Medical Behavioral Unit offers medical stabilization for children, adolescents and young adults (up to age 30) with eating and feeding disorders. The unit is located on a medical floor at Rady Children's Hospital and the primary

focus is acute medical stabilization of malnutrition. The average length of stay for patients is two weeks, though varies widely based on age, nutrition status and level of care upon discharge.. Patients and their families receive daily psychological treatment including brief behavioral interventions, Family Based Treatment (FBT; Maudsley approach) as well as CBT and DBT skills training. Work with families also includes case management. Additionally, the psychology team provides consultation services to other medical specialties (e.g., gastroenterology, neurology, orthopedics, pain and nephrology) for children hospitalized at Rady Children's Hospital with feeding and eating issues, or more general psychological needs.
Supervision: Interns will participate in individual supervision on a weekly basis. Supervision will entail live observations.
Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: Interns have the opportunity to obtain the following: a) Family Based Treatment (FBT; Maudsley Approach); b) individual therapy; c) group and milieu therapy; d)consultation services with other medical specialties. Approach to treatment is evidence based therapy in the medical setting.
Didactics/Team Meetings: Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Grand Rounds; Eating Disorder Seminar; Multidisciplinary rounds
Research Opportunities: Opportunities are available to become involved in ongoing research projects at the Medical Behavioral Unit and in collaboration with investigators at the UCSD Eating Disorder Center.
Primary Location: Rady Children's Hospital San Diego
Patient Population: Interns will gain experience with a diverse patient population, ranging in age from elementary aged children through young adulthood (up to age 30) presenting to the hospital with a primary medical diagnosis. Interns will gain exposure to a variety of psychiatric diagnoses, including eating disorders, feeding disorders, obsessive compulsive disorder; conversion disorder; disruptive behavior disorders as well as mood and anxiety disorders. The patient population is diverse in terms of socio-economic status, race/ethnicity, and family composition.
Number of Staff on the Unit: Three adolescent medicine attending physicians, 2 Child Psychiatrists; 1-2 psychologists, 2 Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists, 1 dietitian, nursing.
Number of Trainees on the Unit: Rotating psychiatry fellows, 1 post-doctoral fellow; 1 psychology Intern, 1 psychology practicum student, 1 MFT trainee).
Primary Supervisor: Tamara "Tammy" Maginot, Ph.D.

Dr. Maginot works at the Medical Behavioral Unit at Rady Children's Hospital/ UCSD Eating Disorders Center for Treatment and Research Program. She is an Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at UCSD. Tammy earned her Ph.D. in clinical psychology with an emphasis in pediatric health from the California School of Professional Psychology. Tammy completed her clinical Internship at Sharp Healthcare in San Diego and completed her doctoral dissertation on the effect of weight on elementary school aged children's social competence. Tammy's clinical and research interests include working with children and adolescents managing chronic medical conditions, trauma-informed care, family-based treatment of obesity and eating disorders, and medical stabilization of eating disorders.

https://profiles.ucsd.edu/tamara.maginot

Position 16

Rady Children's Outpatient Psychiatry Clinic (COPS)

Overview: Rady Children's Outpatient Psychiatry Clinic serves the diverse mental health needs of children and their families from San Diego and Imperial Counties. The clinic is the largest provider of Medicaid-funded outpatient mental health services for children and adolescents in San Diego with a wide variety of psychiatric disorders. Client age range is 2-21 years old. There is a strong emphasis on implementation of evidence-based interventions. Interns' work with families and are supported by case managers, medical staff, and administrative support. There is a strong community collaboration, including interaction with child protective services, family or juvenile courts, other health care providers, and school systems.

Supervision: Interns will participate in individual and group supervision on a weekly basis. Supervision will include case conceptualization support, treatment and intervention planning, and didactics on evidence-based modalities. Opportunities for videotaped recordings review and live observations are available.

Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: Interns have the opportunity to obtain experience in the following: a) diagnostic assessment; b) individual psychotherapy; c) family psychotherapy; d) group therapy; e) psychological testing of children and adolescents; f) consultation (e.g., schools, psychiatrists), and g) providing clinical supervision to practicum trainees. Approach to treatment: evidence-based therapies in the context of developmental psychopathology.

Didactics/Team Meetings: Weekly Multidisciplinary Treatment Team Meetings, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Grand Rounds, Clinical Consultations, and In-Service Trainings.

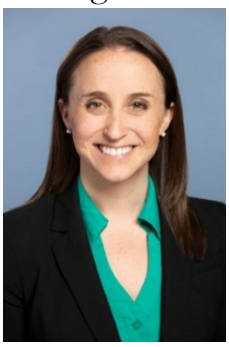
Optional Didactics: Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship Seminars/Courses (e.g., Forensic, Neuropsychology, Psychopharmacology), ADOS Trainings (psych testing), Autism

Seminars, Trauma Seminars, and Eating Disorder Seminars.
Research Opportunities: Opportunity to make connections with research investigators at the Child and Adolescent Services Research Center to discuss potential post-doctoral research opportunities and potential opportunities to participate as study therapist in community effectiveness trials.
Primary Location: Rady Children's Hospital
Patient Population: Interns will gain experience with a diverse patient population, ranging in age from young children through transition age youth and presenting with a variety of diagnoses, including mood disorders, disruptive disorders, anxiety, and developmental disorders. The patient population is also diverse in terms of socio-economic status, race/ethnicity, and family composition.
Number of Staff in Clinic: 14 (psychiatrists, psychologist, licensed marriage and family therapists, and licensed clinical social workers)
Number of Trainees in Clinic: 11-13 (4 psychiatry fellows, 2 psychology Interns, 1-3 psychology practicum students, 4 MFT trainees)
Primary Supervisor: Katherine Nguyen Williams, Ph.D. Secondary Supervisor: Elizabeth Solomon Loyola, Psy.D.

Dr. Nguyen Williams is a licensed child and adolescent psychologist, clinical professor of psychiatry at the University of California at San Diego, and the supervising psychologist at Rady Children's Hospital - San Diego, Department of Outpatient Psychiatry, as well as the Developmental Screening and Enhancement Program. She earned her undergraduate degree in Psychology at UCSD, master's degree in Clinical Psychology at Pepperdine University, and Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at Loma Linda University. She completed her doctoral Internship at the UCSD/VA Psychology Internship Training Program, and postdoctoral research fellowship at the Child & Adolescent Services Research Center. Dr. Williams has presented at Grand Rounds, conducted CEU clinical trainings, taught medical students/psychiatry fellows/psychology trainees, and co-authored books, articles, and research presentations nationally and internationally. Her clinical interests include modular approach to cognitive-behavioral therapy, as well as neuropsychological and comprehensive psychological assessment for children and adolescents. Her research interests focus on understanding factors that influence the fidelity and effective implementation of evidence-based practices in the treatment of childhood emotional and behavioral disorders. She is the author of the Psychology Today parenting blog, The Modern Child, which has been published in countries around the world. She is the host of Ask Dr. Kat, with topics spanning from common teen issues to racism/anti-racism. Dr. Nguyen Williams is the 2021 recipient of the Faculty Champion of Diversity Award. She was featured in the PBS documentary, You Know the Drill, a film about teen anxiety/depression and active school

shooter drills. She is also co-author of the mental health treatment manual, Modular CBT for Children and Adolescents with Depression: A Clinician's Guide to Individualized Treatment and the foundational textbook Child Psychopathology, 8th Edition. Dr. Nguyen Williams is a frequent public speaker with topics ranging from parenting strategies to global youth mental health crisis.
http://profiles.ucsd.edu/katherine.williams

Dr. Loyola is a child psychologist with specialized training and experience providing evidence-based treatments to youth ages 0-21. Dr. Loyola earned her Psy.D. from the PGSP-Stanford PsyD Consortium and completed a child and family focused fellowship at UC Davis Health. Dr. Loyola has particular expertise in treating childhood anxiety, obsessive compulsive disorders, trauma, neurodevelopmental disabilities, and challenging behaviors using a variety of evidence-based practices (i.e., CBT, TF-CBT, PCIT, PC-Care, ERP). She also has an interest in teaching, supervision, and training future psychologists and psychiatrists. Dr. Loyola has participated in and co-led workgroups and trainings on issues related to diversity, equity, and inclusion, particularly relating to women in academic psychiatry and psychology. She is the owner of the Child Psychology Center, a group practice with offices in San Diego and Sacramento. In addition to her Volunteer Faculty appointment with UCSD, Dr. Loyola is a Volunteer Clinical Professor with UC Davis Health, where she previously served as the Associate Training Director for their Doctoral Internship Program and the Postdoctoral Fellowship Program.



UC San Diego Health Peds/Adolescent Eating Disorders Clinic (Pediatric Program) – for Adolescent Program see description above in Position 13

Overview: UCSD EDC provides day treatment and intensive outpatient treatment for children, adolescents and adults with anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, avoidant/restrictive food intake disorder (ARFID), and OSFED. The **Pediatric program** is located in our La Jolla outpatient clinic. The multidisciplinary treatment team consists of psychologists, social workers, psychiatrists, marriage and family therapists, nurses, and dieticians.
Supervision: Interns participate in weekly individual and group supervision. Feedback on videotaped individual sessions is provided.
Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: Pediatric patients can be in the Partial Hospital (6 hrs a day) or Intensive Outpatient Programs (3 hrs a day). Our Pediatric clinic is run according to a Family-Based Therapy and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy model, with an emphasis on Exposure and Response Prevention in our ARFID treatment. Interns see individual patients, lead/co-lead patient and family groups, and will eat meals with patients in order to provide meal support. Interns also have the opportunity to conduct brief

neuropsychological assessments and write integrated reports to address referral questions from the treatment team.
Didactics/Team Meetings: We have weekly didactics, which are taught by in- house and visiting experts on topics relevant to treating eating disorder patients. Multidisciplinary treatment team meets from 1.5 hours per week per program.
Research Opportunities: We have many research opportunities, including fMRI, neurocognitive, behavioral and genetics research, and treatment development and outcomes. Interns often stay on after Internship as clinical or research fellows.
Primary Location: Chancellor Park Outpatient Clinic La Jolla
Patient Population: Interns will gain experience working with children ages 7-13 with anorexia nervosa (~50%) and avoidant restrictive food intake disorder (ARFID; ~50%). Most children are Caucasian, but we also work with Latinx, Asian and African-American patients. Approximately 50% of pediatric patients are female.
Number of Staff in Clinic: ~100 (~10 in Pediatric Program)
Number of Trainees in Clinic: 4 psychology Interns, 6-8 MFT, PhD or PsyD practicum students, 6-8 postdoctoral fellows.
Primary Supervisors: Ana Ramirez, Ph.D. Anna Karam Joes, Ph.D.
Dr. Ramirez is an Associate Clinical Professor and Director of Pediatric Services at the UC San Diego Health Eating Disorders Center for Treatment and Research. She received her Ph.D. from Texas A&M University in Clinical Psychology and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the EDC. In addition to overseeing the pediatric program, Dr. Ramirez provides clinical supervision and individual, family, and group therapy. She has training in family-based treatment, dialectical behavior therapy, cognitive behavioral therapy, and exposure response prevention. Her clinical experience includes treatment of eating disorders across the diagnostic spectrum and ages with a specialty focus on ARFID. Dr. Ramirez often participates in expert panels, provides trainings and workshops on the presentations of ARFID and its treatment for the community and at national conferences. Her research interests include eating disorder treatment development, evaluation, and outcomes, and the adaptation of available treatments for culturally diverse patient populations. Dr. Ramirez emigrated to the U.S. from Mexico and is fully bilingual. Her passion is working to ensure that ethnic minorities have equal access to evidence-based treatments. Dr. Ramirez provides therapy to Spanish-speaking patients and their families.

https://profiles.ucsd.edu/ana.ramirez
Anna Karam Jones, Ph.D. – see description above for Position 13

Position 17

Rady Children's Outpatient Psychiatry Clinic (COPS) - See description above for Position 16

Rady Children's Pediatric Medical Psychology Rotation

Overview: Rady Children's Pediatric Psychology rotation is embedded in the divisions of Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, Transplant, and Chronic Pain and serves youth with comorbid chronic medical conditions and mental health needs from San Diego, Imperial and Southern Riverside counties. Youth with chronic medical conditions (e.g., Type 1 diabetes mellitus, inflammatory bowel disease) are often impacted by unique challenges and are at increased risk for maladaptive behaviors (e.g., poor adherence), adjustment difficulties, functional impairments, psychosocial distress, and poor health outcomes. There is a strong emphasis on assessment of barriers to improve adherence to medical regimens and self-management, psychosocial adjustment, the developmental trajectory of coping with chronic medical conditions, and the delivery of evidence-based interventions to optimize functioning. Patients range in age from 2 to 21 years old.

Supervision: Interns will participate in individual supervision on a weekly basis. Individual psychotherapy supervision will focus on promoting patient/family- centered care with strong consideration of cultural factors under a theoretical framework of evidence-based assessment and intervention approaches. There will also be opportunities to provide umbrella supervision to clinical externs.

Assessment and Treatment Opportunities: Interns will have the opportunity to work closely with medical teams and provide specialized consultation in several medical clinics. Interns will develop assessment and targeted intervention skills focused on child and family adherence to medical regimens, symptom management and psychosocial adjustment to chronic medical conditions. In addition to clinic-based consultation, Interns will also provide short-term, targeted outpatient therapy to youth with chronic medical conditions and co-morbid mental health concerns. Interns will maintain an outpatient treatment caseload with referrals that include youth with difficulties secondary to chronic illness including adherence, functional symptoms, chronic pain, procedural anxiety, behavioral challenges, and issues related to coping and adjustment to illness. There is an emphasis on the use of evidence-based cognitive-behavioral and behavioral approaches. Interns may also co-lead groups for coping and adjustment to specific chronic conditions.

Didactics/Team Meetings: Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Grand Rounds, Clinical Consultations, Inter-disciplinary Treatment Team Meetings, and In- Service Trainings.

Research Opportunities: Opportunity to collaborate or participate in quality of life and transition readiness projects with clinical research investigators within each division.

Primary Location: Rady Children's Hospital- San Diego

Patient Population: Interns will gain experience with a diverse patient population, ranging in age from toddlers through young adults and presenting with a variety of medical conditions

and diagnoses, including mood disorders, disruptive disorders, anxiety, and developmental disorders. The patient population is also diverse in terms of socio-economic status, race/ethnicity, and family composition.
Number of Staff in Clinic: 20+ (attending physicians, dieticians, diabetes educators, nurse practitioners, social workers)
Number of Trainees in Clinic: 4-6 (including medical residents, division specific fellow physicians, clinical psychology externs)
Primary Supervisor: Eve Nguyen, Ph.D.

Dr. Nguyen is the manager of Pediatric Psychology Services within the Medical Practice Foundation at Rady Children's and embedded in the division of Endocrinology and oversees psychology across the Gastroenterology, Chronic Pain and Transplant Medicine services. She earned her Ph.D. in clinical psychology with an emphasis in pediatric psychology at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science. Dr. Nguyen completed her pre-doctoral clinical residency at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine / Kennedy Krieger Institute and completed her post-doctoral fellowship in pediatric psychology at Children's Hospital Orange County, where she joined as the attending psychologist in oncology. Her clinical and research interests focus on promoting adherence in youth with various chronic medical conditions and improving quality of life, psychosocial and health issues specific to adolescent and young adults (AYA) as well as engaging underserved communities to enhance and destigmatize mental health. Her work has been published in the Journal of Pediatric Psychology, among others, and she has presented her research on adherence, chronic medical conditions, and transition readiness at national conferences.
https://profiles.ucsd.edu/eve.nguyen

Section 4

Internship Policies and Procedures

Qualification Standards

Only applicants from APA-, CPA- or PCSAS-accredited doctoral programs in clinical or counseling psychology will be considered. Interns are expected to have completed at least three years of doctoral study before beginning the Internship year. 1,000 clinical practicum hours (includes face-to-face and virtual clinical hours, supervision, support hours, etc.) are aspirational but we will accept applications with fewer clinical hours as we understand hours accrued may be truncated due to COVID-19. Students should also have proposed their dissertation before applying to this Internship. Furthermore, only students who have completed their department's practicum requirements and whose department indicates that the student is ready for a pre-doctoral Internship should apply. Our Internship program trains doctoral candidates to function as autonomous psychologists in health care settings that place a strong emphasis on teaching and research, using the Boulder, scientist-practitioner model. As such, we attempt to recruit students with balanced experiences in both clinical and research domains rather than students with predominantly a clinical professional focus. The majority of our Interns develop careers that include a research component.

The Internship Program is accredited by APA. To confirm status contact APA CoA at the following address:

Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation American Psychological Association
750 First Street, N.E. Washington, DC 20002-4242
Phone: (202) 336-5979
Fax: (202) 336-5978
Email: apaaccred@apa.org
Web: https://accreditation.apa.org/

Application Procedures

The UCSD/VA Psychology Internship Training Program is a member of the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC). The Internship year begins on July 1, every year. The application deadline is November 1, 2026. Applicants will complete and submit the AAPI Online to Internship programs of interest. The AAPI can be completed at http://www.appic.org. In addition, the usual application packet (cover letter, CV, letters of recommendation, DCT verification of Internship readiness graduate transcripts, and program specific application) will all be submitted through the online application portal. By mid-December a select number of applicants will be invited for a full day of interviews in early January. All interviews will be conducted virtually. **Applicants are asked to rank order up to three positions that define their primary interests**. Offers are tendered to applicants through the APPIC National Computer Match process in strict compliance with APPIC policy regarding Internship offers and acceptances. Instructions for the APPIC-MATCH Procedures can be found on the APPIC Web Site at www.appic.org/match. This Internship site agrees to abide by the APPIC policy that no person at this training facility will solicit, accept or use any ranking-related information from any Intern applicant. Applicants are similarly expected to conform their behavior to the requirements of the AAPIC program. All participating agencies of the UCSD/VA Psychology Internship Program are Equal Opportunity Employers and we encourage minoritized applicants to apply.

Faculty Supervisors and Supervision

Interns enter training under the primary supervisor(s) outlined for their rotation combination (see previous section, *Rotation Descriptions*). These supervisors are responsible for the direct training of the Intern throughout the year. Responsibilities of the primary supervisors are to: (1) review the Intern's previous training, identifying areas of strength and weaknesses; (2) utilize this information in organizing Intern's training activities; (3) ensure that the Intern has a supervisor for every activity and that individual face-to-face and group supervision is occurring weekly; (4) meet with the Intern each week to review the progress of the Intern's training and provide individual, face-to-face supervision; (5) fulfill all other duties as needed. We encourage Interns to take initiative to confer regularly with their supervisors. In some instances, primary supervisors may be changed during the year if faculty leave the program or a change proves advantageous for the Intern.

In addition to the primary supervisors, each Intern may have other supervisors assigned to them during the course of the year including senior psychologists assigned to the unit on which the Intern is rotating or additional specialized supervision by psychologists who are active clinicians but are not directly assigned to the rotation unit.

Supervisors all assume direct responsibilities for teaching, instructing, observing, and

otherwise maintaining supervision for specific clinical training activities.

Training Methods

In helping Interns acquire proficiency in the core competency areas noted previously, a training approach is used in which Internship learning objectives are accomplished primarily through experiential clinical learning under the supervision and mentoring of licensed psychologists. All work performed by Interns during the Internship year must be under the supervision of a licensed psychologist. Interns work with and are supervised by psychologists who serve as consultants to medical staff members or who serve as members of multidisciplinary teams in treatment units or programs. As a consultant or team member under supervision, the Intern's core competencies are developed, and the Intern learns to gradually accept increasing professional responsibility. Interns are provided a wide range of experience in psychological treatment and assessment modalities offered by the service. The Internship is primarily learning oriented and training considerations take precedence over service delivery. Since Interns enter the program with varying levels of experience and knowledge, training experiences are tailored so that an Intern does not start out at too basic or too advanced a level. Generally, an Intern's training on a given rotation will follow a progression from observation to increasingly autonomous, albeit monitored and supervised, activity. This progression might typically include:

1. Observation of the supervisor performing assessments, intervention or consultation;
2. Simulated practice of specific skills;
3. Assessment or therapy conducted jointly by the Intern and supervisor;
4. Supervisor directly observing Intern performing assessment or intervention with patient;
5. Audio or video recording of Intern assessment or therapy sessions for subsequent review in supervision;
6. Intern gives written or verbal summaries of clinical activities in supervision.

Essentially, a developmental approach to experiential clinical learning and supervision is utilized. Interns receive a minimum of four hours of supervision each week: at least two hours of individual supervision and two hours of group supervision or additional individual supervision. An hour or more of individual supervision is provided by each of their major rotation supervisors and an hour or more of group supervision or treatment team meetings within each major rotation. Many Interns receive more supervision hours than this through

"drop in" supervision, etc. In addition to the core competency areas, supervisors also teach and provide supervision to Interns in specific methods of assessment and treatment approaches, depending on the particular rotation and particular supervisor. Complementing basic individual and group supervision, through the process of working closely with a number of different supervisors, Interns are also exposed to role modeling and mentoring on an ongoing basis.

Competency Model of Evaluation

The basic goal of our Internship program is to promote the professional development of Interns in each of the core competency areas so that Interns are ready to assume the responsibilities of a postdoctoral fellow or entry level doctoral psychologist position at the time of graduation. To assist in our Internship training and evaluation process, and to document the attainment of basic core competencies, overall competency ratings and specific objective ratings within each domain are completed for each of the following nine domains: (1) Assessment and Diagnosis, (2) Intervention and Treatment, (3) Supervision, (4) Professional values, attitudes and behaviors, (5) Ethical and Legal Standards, (6) Individual and Cultural Diversity, (7) Research/Scholarly Inquiry and Application of Scientific Knowledge, (8) Consultation and Interprofessional/interdisciplinary skill, and (9) Communication and interpersonal skills. Based on Falender and Shafranske (2004; Clinical Supervision: A Competency-Based Approach, Washington, DC: APA), the methodology we use to both evaluate and integrate competency into the curriculum consists of (a) clearly articulated training objectives that are defined by specific quantifiable descriptors of expectations for each developmental skill level for each of our nine core competency domains; (b) beginning, mid-, and end-of-the-year evaluations based on ratings tied to expected levels of competence; and (c) a training plan that lays out the specific training activities and expectations that address the specific training needs of each Intern. Interns also complete a self-assessment of the nine core competencies at the beginning of the training year. Strengths and weaknesses that emerge from this self-assessment are discussed with primary supervisors in developing a training plan for the Internship year. Interns complete self-evaluations and supervisors complete competency evaluations of Interns at mid- year and end-of-year points for each major and minor rotation. We use a competency-centered rating scale that is intended to reflect progression toward becoming an independent psychologist.

In addition to the ongoing feedback and evaluation that is a natural part of the supervision process, each Intern receives formal, written evaluation ratings from each of his/her primary supervisors at the midpoint and at the completion of each training year. The mid-point evaluations are intended to be a progress report for Interns to increase self-awareness and awareness of supervisor's perceptions, discrepancies between Intern self-ratings and supervisor ratings, and to help the Intern focus on specific goals and areas of work for the second part of the training year. Interns are asked to provide a written evaluation of each

supervisor upon completion of the rotation. This and the supervisor's evaluation of the Intern are discussed by the Intern and supervisor to facilitate mutual understanding and growth. Copies of the Intern's mid-year and final rotation evaluations are forwarded to the Training Directors as are the end-of year supervisor rating provided by the
Intern. Intern evaluations will be forwarded to the Director of Training at the Intern's home graduate school.

In addition, Interns should be aware that we will attempt to maintain contact with them for at least five years. Interns will be surveyed each year about their current position and institution; population(s) served; percent effort devoted to clinical, administrative, research and teaching activities; and leadership activities. These data will be used to determine whether the program is successfully training psychologists who go on to work in the field and is required by APA.

To successfully complete the Internship, Interns are expected to demonstrate an appropriate level of professional psychological skills and competencies in the core areas described in the section on the Objectives and Goals of the Internship Program. Interns will be certified as having completed the Internship at UCSD/VA with the concurrence of individual supervisors and the Psychology Internship Training Committee. Interns successfully completing the training program will be issued a certificate of Internship completion consistent with APA Commission on Accreditation Implementing Regulations.

Office Hours and Vacation, Holiday, and Leave Policies

The general office hours for the Internship cover Monday through Friday, typically from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or similar. Interns are generally expected to work 40-45 hours/week. However, the Intern's professional responsibilities may extend the work week beyond its customary 45 hours on some rotations or at some points in the training year. Additionally, some rotations may require evening clinics on one night of the week or have after- hours access or call duty. Interns should not be scheduled for more than 6.5 hours of direct clinical care on any given day. If a more extended schedule is required, these will be reviewed and considered on a case-by-case basis. Interns must be provided with a 30-minute lunch/midday break during which no Internship duties are scheduled or expected. In traditional outpatient clinics, additions to Interns' schedules should be made no later than 24 hours prior. Interns and supervisors will coordinate the exact schedule to meet the needs of the clinic and the Intern. An average amount of time sufficient for an Intern to complete documentation on any given rotation shall be built into the typical workday. If an Intern requires greater than an average amount of time for documentation, the Intern is expected to complete documentation beyond the typical 40-45 hours/week, rather than sacrifice other rotation responsibilities. In this case, a plan will be developed with the supervisor to help the Intern increase the efficiency of documentation.

All VA-paid Interns are funded through Internship stipends from the Department of

Veterans Affairs Office of Academic Affiliations (OAA). VA-paid Interns will accrue leave based on the formulas found here: https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/leave-administration/fact-sheets/annual-leave/. Though for most Interns this will be **4 hours of annual leave and 4 hours of sick leave per pay period**. **On VA rotations, Interns must formally request annual leave at least 60 days prior to the requested day(s) off from both primary supervisors.** There may be greater flexibility to request days off fewer than 60 days in advance if no patients are already scheduled for an Intern on the day(s) off requested. Supervisors and the Intern must sign leave slips BEFORE leave is approved. This is VASDHS policy for all individuals who provide clinical services and is necessary to plan for coverage in the Intern's absence. An exception to this would be a true emergency (e.g., illness, a death in the family). Sick/emergency leave would count against the total leave. An additional exception may include postdoctoral interviews; because 60 days advanced notice is not typically provided in the context of being invited for a postdoctoral interview, Interns are encouraged to work with their direct supervisor to arrive at a mutually agreeable leave and coverage plan. Trainees may request that professional travel (e.g. conferences, trainings) be covered as part of their typical tour through the Travel and Training process.

VA-paid Interns may request Advanced Leave in situations where they require time off but have not yet accrued sufficient leave (often early in the training year). Advanced Leave requests from July – December cannot be in excess of what would be accrued by December 31 and advanced leave requests from January 1 forward cannot be in excess of what would be accrued by June 30. Advanced Leave requests are considered on a case-by-case basis by both training *and* hospital leadership and are not guaranteed. Leave without pay (LWOP) can be taken in emergent situations in the event that advanced leave is not approved but LWOP is reserved for notably extenuating circumstances and is otherwise discouraged.

For UCSD-paid Interns, there are a total of 20 leave days allowed per year, for ALL personal absences (i.e., any planned time away from work WITHOUT a medical component to the absence, including vacation, dissertation defense, conferences, etc.). The 20 days of vacation hours are available for use on the first day of the new academic year (July 1). In addition, Interns earn 8 hours of sick leave per month. **Onboarding for UCSD- paid Interns takes place on July 1, potentially as early as 6:00 a.m., regardless of what day of the week July 1 falls upon. UCSD onboarding may occur in different phases throughout the day on July 1 as well. Attendance at this onboarding is mandatory for UCSD-paid Interns.**

All Interns must reserve 2 days of leave until their dissertation is defended. This will help ensure adequate time is available if return to the home university for the defense is necessary. No annual/vacation leave is allowed in June, July, or during interview week in January unless by approved by the Training Directors. Subject to supervisor approval, Interns are not required to take annual leave to attend virtual postdoctoral interviews, given it is a crucial part of professional development.

In addition to the leave described above, regularly scheduled paid holidays and those designated by appropriate administrative authority are available to the Interns (please see: https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/pay-administration/fact-sheets/holidays-work-schedules-and-pay and http://blink.ucsd.edu/HR/benefits/time-off/holidays.html).

APPIC encourages its member programs to be as creative and flexible as possible in accommodating family leave or other reasons for extended leave needs of trainees and also encourages trainees to be open-minded, realistic and collaborative when requesting leave. In collaboration with human resources departments and pertinent policies to ensure compliance with relevant regulations and standards, prospective and current trainees and the Internship program will consider what is appropriate and reasonable, what is practical and feasible for the site, and how to ensure that the trainee receives the full benefit of the training experience when considering extended leave situations.

Please see:
http://www.appic.org/Portals/0/downloads/APPIC_GUIDELINES_FOR_PARENTAL_LEAVE_1-21-16.pdf, and/or
https://meded.ucsd.edu/index.cfm/gme/house_officer/house_officer_benefits/insurance_benefits/leave_of_absence/ for additional extended leave policies.

The Internship Program Assistant is responsible only for keeping track of approved leave. All Interns are, however, responsible for appropriately entering time and leave into relevant VA and UCSD timekeeping systems.

Holidays:
https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/federal-holidays/
https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/work-schedules/fact-sheets/adjustment-of-work-schedules-for-religious-observances/
https://blink.ucsd.edu/HR/benefits/time-off/holidays.html

Use of Artificial Intelligence

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a rapidly evolving landscape, including dynamic and varied opinions on its utility and ethics. This Internship facilitates the development of competent professional psychologists who are ready to assume the responsibilities of an entry level doctoral psychologist position. As the Internship is competency-based, it is crucial that these competencies be observed, developed, and if needed, remediated. As such, Intern supervisors and training directors rely on review of a spectrum of products (e.g. reports, notes, manuscript writing, oral presentations) in order to ensure competencies are met at a developmentally appropriate level. USCD/VASD Interns are not permitted to use either external or internal/institutionally-offered AI tools for the attainment of any of the profession-wide

competencies. For applicants, the expectation is that materials and interviews are conducted without use of generative tools. Additionally, patient confidentiality, privacy, and data security are critical elements of the ethical and professional practice of psychology. The APA Code of Ethics and HIPAA set ethical, professional, and legal standards for confidentiality, privacy, protection for vulnerable individuals, and informed consent. Specifically, the use of AI for writing clinical documentation such as progress notes, intake and assessment reports, or treatment summaries, or for treatment planning purposes is not permitted. Only institutionally-approved tools may be used when working in the respective systems and in limited capacity (e.g. refinement of design for a slide deck). Information or resources generated from AI should always be checked for accuracy, bias, and source. Any use of AI for these limited purposes must be disclosed. Per the Science journal policies on image and text integrity, "Authors are accountable for the accuracy of the work and for ensuring that there is no plagiarism. They must also ensure that all sources are appropriately cited and should carefully review the work to guard against bias that may be introduced by AI." We expect that guidelines and recommendations about the use of AI in professional psychology will continue to evolve.

Benefits

Health benefits information can be found at https://www.ucresidentbenefits.com/ or https://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/healthcare/ *Insurance coverage may not be retroactive to one's start date,* so please sign up for insurance as quickly as possible and reach out to your institution HR representative to clarify any questions about coverage. Information about continuation of coverage post-Internship can be found at: https://www.ucresidentbenefits.com/ or https://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/healthcare/temporary-continuation-of-coverage/#url=Pamphlet. Please also contact your institutions appropriate HR representative for the most up to date information as these policies are administered by the respective institutions, not the Internship, and HR will be best positioned to provide up to date policies, information, and anything unique to coverage for trainees.

Interns are covered by institutional liability/malpractice insurance. VA- based Interns are covered under the Tort Claims Act: https://www.va.gov/OGC/FTCA.asp and UCSD-based Interns are covered under GME benefits:
https://medschool.ucsd.edu/education/gme/benefits/Pages/Liability- Insurance.aspx.

Future employers may request such coverage information during the application or credentialling process so bookmarking these pages is advised.

Retirement: UCSD-paid Interns have a mandatory Defined Contribution Plan (DCP) https://ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/retirement-savings-program-information-for-safe-harbor-participants.pdf. In lieu of Social Security, 7.5% of pre-

tax pay is directed to the UC's DCP, More information is at: https://medschool.ucsd.edu/education/residency-fellowship/benefits/retirement.html

Requirements for the Completion of Internship

To successfully complete the Internship, Interns are expected to meet the following requirements:

1. The Internship requires one year of full-time training to be completed in no fewer than 12 months. **Interns must complete 2080 hours** (minus standard holiday, sick, and vacation days as well as any designated by appropriate administrative authority detailed above) of supervised on-duty time during the Internship year.
2. **Patient Contact.** Each Intern is expected to **average 20-24 hours each week in direct patient contact**. Direct patient contact includes only "face to face" contact with patients for any type of group or individual therapy, psychological testing, assessment activities, or patient education. In assessment-focused rotations, allowances are made for test interpretation and report writing hours to apply to the direct hours total.
3. **Psychotherapy.** In major rotations in which treatment is a significant element, Interns will typically be expected to be involved in at least one form of intervention. Most major rotations offer opportunities for group therapy. The Intern and supervisor will coordinate their caseload consistent with the expectation of **approximately 50% time being spent in direct patient care**.
4. **Psychological Assessment.** Completion of **eight comprehensive assessment reports** is the target during the training year, though many Interns (e.g., neuropsychology Interns) will complete substantially more. These assessments must be based on data integrated from multiple sources and must include written reports with diagnostic impressions and recommendations. Assessments based solely on interviews or single tests do not meet this requirement. **An integrated psychological testing report includes a review of history, results of an interview and at least two psychological tests from one or more of the following categories: personality/symptom report measures, intellectual tests, cognitive tests, and neuropsychological tests relevant to their rotation(s).**
5. **Didactic Training.** Interns are required to attend the weekly Psychology Internship Seminar Series presented by department faculty members and are encouraged and often required to attend in-service conferences and other didactic presentations

associated with their rotations. Missing more than four All Intern Seminars will jeopardize successful completion of the Internship and Interns may be required to do alternate assignments to supplement for missed lectures. See also Section 2 – Seminars and Appendix A.

6. **Case Presentations.** In addition to informal case presentations made in group supervision, Interns are required to present one empirically informed psychotherapy/counseling case or one assessment/diagnostic case as part of the Psychology Internship Seminar Series in order to demonstrate competency in these areas (See Evaluation Section). **As part of each case presentation, the Intern should review and discuss research literature relevant to that case**.

7. **Competence in Clinical Activities.** At the end of each rotation, in the judgment of his/her supervisor and the Training Directors, each Intern must have achieved a satisfactory level of competence. **To graduate from the program, by the end of the training year Interns must have rating of "C" on each area of competence. To obtain a "C" rating, across the two weeks leading to the evaluation, the Intern should consistently display each element of each competency at a level comparable to that of an entry-level psychologist.**

8. **Research. Interns are required to attend the UCSD Department of Psychiatry Judd Symposium** each spring (typically in early June each year). **Interns are required to submit an abstract for presentation at this symposium. If accepted, Interns must present their research at the Symposium.** Presentations can be selected for either Oral or Poster Presentations. Presentations can be work presented previously (such as at a recent national conference, part of the Intern's dissertation, or other appropriate and recent research from their graduate institution or UCSD/VA). Typically, senior faculty discussants will be assigned to poster presentations. Any costs related to presentation at the symposium (e.g., costs for poster printing) are the responsibility of the Intern, though the Internship may assist when possible. See also Section 2 – Research.

Section 5

Resources

Commitment to Cultural Responsiveness

The program is organized and administered in such a way that respect for and understanding of cultural and individual diversity of faculty, staff, residents and consumers is fundamental and a core part of training at the VASDHS and at the University of California. According to the 2020 US Census, 38% of adults in San Diego County are minorities, and veterans with mental illness in San Diego County are from diverse backgrounds. We provide a supportive and encouraging environment for students to learn and apply culturally responsive approaches. The program is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Our commitment to diversity includes attempting to ensure an appropriate representation of individuals along many dimensions, including (but not limited to) gender, sexual orientation, age, ethnic/racial minorities, and persons with disabilities. We do not engage in discriminatory practices or unlawful preferential treatment based on race, ethnicity, color, national origin, sex (including pregnancy, gender identity, and sexual orientation), religion, age, disability, genetic information, political affiliation, or veteran status. All program decisions that are related to recruitment, evaluation, retention, and advancement are based solely on individual merit, qualifications, and demonstrated performance.

The program has nondiscriminatory policies and operating conditions and avoids any actions that would restrict program access and participation. In recent years, California state law and University of California policy have prohibited the specific inclusion of race/ethnicity factors in the recruitment of staff and faculty. More recently, however, the University has initiated an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Program to increase faculty and staff diversity with some success. There is no discrimination in faculty hiring and retention practices, resident recruitment and selection processes, or patient eligibility criteria concerning access to the various evaluation and treatment programs.

VASDHS and UC San Diego Health have been named an LGBTQ Healthcare Equality Leader for many years, most recently in 2022 https://www.va.gov/san-diego-health-care/health-services/#other-services

Numerous diversity resources are available at: https://psychiatry.ucsd.edu/about/diversity/index.html. The Department of Psychiatry Chair's Advisory Committee on Diversity Issues created a new feature on the department website -- the "Diversity Corner". This part of the website features quarterly rotating content with the goal of providing a glimpse into diversity-related events in our department as well as stimulating general discussion of diversity-related topics. Interns are welcomed and encouraged to join the DOP Diversity Committee and/or the VA Psychology Service Diversity Action Committee.

Academic Resources

Interns needing academic resources will have access to the UCSD library system as well as the VA's medical library.

The UCSD Department of Psychiatry offers Grand on the fourth Thursday of the month from noon-1pm. Residents and Interns are welcome to attend if interested. The schedule can be found here: https://psychiatry.ucsd.edu/news/events1/upcoming-events.html. Grand Rounds presentations can be accessed virtually through the Department website. For live streaming, log on a few minutes before a presentation. To view an archived presentation, click on the "Events Archive" option up at the left of the page.

UCSD Department of Psychiatry offers a Professional Development Lecture Series accessible to all trainees and faculty. Lectures are streamed online through a live broadcast and are held on campus every third Thursday of the month from noon-1pm. The schedule can be found here: https://psychiatry.ucsd.edu/education-training/trainee-resources/professional-development.html.

Other educational and training resources offered by the UCSD Department of Psychiatry can be found at: https://psychiatry.ucsd.edu/education-training/trainee-resources/index.html. This website also has very useful information on academic software site licenses and other professional development resources.

VA Psychology Training Council (VAPTC) has created a library of psychology training didactic modules. This library includes resources (PowerPoint slide presentations with detailed speaker notes, directed readings, and quizzes) for didactic and/or seminar presentations on a variety of topics. The broad categories include: consultation, leadership and management, psychological intervention, psychological assessment, supervision, teaching, and science. If the links do not open automatically, you can copy and paste them into your browser (alternately, you can access the main VAPTC SharePoint site and look under the shared resources section). VA Didactic resource library:
https://vaww.portal2.va.gov/sites/mentalhealth/vaptc/Lists/curriculum/AllItem s.aspx

Transit and Parking

Both VA and UCSD have transit benefit programs you may be eligible for. Please see the following for up to date programs:
https://transportation.ucsd.edu/commute/index.html
https://www.va.gov/finance/docs/va-financialpolicyvolumeiiichapter01.pdf
http://vaww.va.gov/ofcadmin/transben_page.asp
For more information regarding the VA Transit Benefit Program. please e-mail Jorge Rivera (Jorge.rivera2@va.gov), Transit Benefit Manager.

Housing

UCSD Interns may qualify for campus housing. Please see:
https://ihouse.ucsd.edu/living/scholar/index.html#:~:text=International%20House%20offers%20the%20only,stairwell%20only%20(no%20elevator

Preparing for Licensure

Trainees who wish to pursue licensure in the State of California and use hours accrued on Internship toward licensure must complete the most current Supervision Agreement (e.g., from the California Board of Psychology, or BOP) with their primary supervisor at the beginning of the training year. The process is detailed here: http://www.psychology.ca.gov/laws_regs/voe_checklist.pdf. The Verification of Experience Form is completed at the time of actual application for licensure. These forms are available through the appropriate licensing board (e.g., California Board of Psychology Website at: http://www.psychology.ca.gov/applicants/index.shtml#psych). Licensing boards in some states, including California, may require that supervised clinical hours be documented on a weekly basis throughout the year. Each Intern is responsible for obtaining this documentation, if required, and ensuring that it will satisfy their licensing board requirements. **Interns who wish to pursue licensure in a different state must determine that state's requirements prior to beginning Internship and comply with that state's regulations regarding supervised professional experience. It is the trainee's responsibility to ensure that the most current BOP forms are completed and most current licensing law requirements are met for licensure in the state where the trainee plans to practice.**

Internship Class 2026-27

APPENDIX A

2026-27 Internship Seminar Schedule
(dates, speakers, and/or topics subject to modification)

While the seminars below are formally offered through the Internship program and mandatory, interns are strongly encouraged to attend or review UCSD-offered resources such as Grand Rounds and the Professional Development Lecture Series, found here: https://psychiatry.ucsd.edu/news/events1/upcoming-events.html

Date	Name	Topic	Learning Objectives
July 2, 2026	No Seminar		
July 9, 2026 3:30-4:30	Elizabeth Wrape https://profiles.ucsd.edu/elizabeth.wrape	**Relational distress and Including Families in Care** This is an expert lecture in evidence based practices for couple therapy and family inclusion in mental health care	1. Learn about Integrative Behavioral Couple Therapy (IBCT) 2. Understand assessment and intervention techniques specific to IBCT 3. Learn tips to include significant others in mental health care
July 16, 2026 3:30-4:30	Samantha Chalker https://www.researchgate.net/profile/	**Suicide Risk Assessment** This is an expert lecture on the most current empirically supported practices for evaluating and mitigating suicide risk	1. Learn practical strategies to evaluate suicide risk and protective factors 2. Learn techniques to mitigate risk and safety plan 3. Learn about resources for grief and coping with patient death
July 23, 2026 3:30-4:30	Christina Wierenga https://profiles.ucsd.edu/Christina.Wierenga	**Eating Disorders** This is an expert lecture on current empirically supported conceptual models and treatments for eating disorders	1. Learn about etiological models of eating disorders 2. Gain understanding of EBTs for eating disorders

			3. Learn about the neuroscience of eating disorders
July 30, 2026 3:30-4:30	Heidi Kraft https://psycharmor.org/staff/heidi-squier-fraft-ph-d-clinical-director/	**Military Culture** This lecture is delivered by a retired Navy psychologist and covers both her military experience as well as 15 things that Veterans want non-Veterans to know	1. Gain appreciation of the unique experiences of military personnel, including combat 2. Develop sensitivity to concerns unique to Veterans
August 6, 2026 3:30-4:30	Julie Kangas https://profiles.ucsd.edu/julie.kangas	**Empowering Purposeful Responses to Microaggressions, and Inappropriate Behaviors at work**. This is an expert lecture on best practices for managing inappropriate behaviors from patients	1. Gain increased knowledge of establishing rapport with patients who are using inappropriate language 2. Be able to respond effectively to inappropriate comments 3. Be able to identify risk management techniques to mitigate elements of risk in mental health practice and supervision
August 13, 2026 3:30	Cindy Chang https://profiles.ucsd.edu/cindy.chang	**Clinical Considerations for Working with LGBTQ+ Veterans: Assessment, Engagement, and Evidence-Based Care**	
August 20, 2026 3:30	Training Directors	**Beach Party/Social** This is a social event to encourage class cohesiveness	La Jolla Shores Beach
August 27, 2026 3:30-4:30	Katie Bangen https://profiles.ucsd.edu/katherine.bangen	**Neuropsychology**: This expert talk provides an overview of risk factors for cognitive decline and dementia, with a	1. Identify key vascular risk factors associated with cognitive decline and dementia.

		particular focus on the role of vascular risk factors in cognitive and brain aging.	2. Explain biological pathways through which vascular risk factors may affect brain health and cognition. 3. Evaluate evidence regarding timing and modification of vascular risk in relation to cognitive aging and dementia prevention.
September 3, 2026 3:30-4:30	Training Directors	**Check in**: this is a cohort building & professional development opportunity for Interns to discuss progress through Internship to date with program TDs	Group feedback and professional development
September 10, 2026 3:30-4:30	James McDonald https://profiles.ucsd.edu/james.mcdonald	**Integrating Principles of Antiracism into Clinical Practice and Supervision**	1. Learn about the principles of racism and relevance to clinical practice 2. Learn how to adapt evidence based practice through antiracism lens 3. Learn how to employ antiracist competencies in therapy and supervision
September 17, 2026 3:30-4:30	Sonya Norman https://profiles.ucsd.edu/Sonya.Norman	**Evidence Based Psychotherapy for PTSD with a focus on PE and CPT** This is an expert lecture on the most recent updates regarding trauma focused therapy from faculty from the National Center for PTSD	1. Be able to explain rationale for PE and CPT 2. Be able to describe new developments in PTSD treatment 3. Gain understanding of how to evaluate outcomes in PTSD

September 24, 2026 3:30-4:30	Pia Heppner https://profiles.ucsd.edu/pia.heppner	**Filipino Culture, Military History and Mental Health**	1. Overview of history (including US-Philippines history), immigration patterns, education and sociodemographic features of the population 2. Cultural factors and communication: Norms and implications for help-seeking and healthcare 3. Culturally-sensitive approaches to assessment and therapy
October 1, 2026 3:30-4:30	Fellowship Training Directors -Laurie Lindamer -Barton Palmer -Natalie Castriotta -Beth Twamley -Julie Kangas -Neal Doran -Andrea Spadoni	**Postdoc opportunities in San Diego**[2] This is an interactive question and answer professional development session to assist Interns in understanding opportunities for next steps after Internship	1. Learn about post-doctoral opportunities in San Diego and nation-wide 2. Learn how to identify and narrow down appropriate options to apply to 3. Learn how and when to apply for fellowship
October 8, 2026 3:30-4:30	Internship Alumni	**Postdoc Q&A**	This is an interactive question and answer professional development session to assist Interns in understanding opportunities for next steps after Internship from program alumni

[2] Neuropsychology-specific postdoctoral opportunities will be reviewed in the Clinical Neuropsychology Seminar on September 15, 2026 from 4-5 pm.

October 15, 2026 3:30-4:30	Matt Herbert https://profiles.ucsd.edu/matthew.herbert	**Conceptualizing, Assessing, and Communicating Chronic Pain**	1. Provide relevant pain neuroscience education 2. Outline strategies of assessing chronic pain 3. Discuss how to tailor communication of pain based on client characteristics
October 22, 2026 3:30-4:30	Ana Ramirez https://profiles.ucsd.edu/ana.ramirez	**Cultural Considerations and Adaptations in Treatment**	1. Review Eating Disorders (ED) prevalence rates and presentation among Latinos 2. Discuss differences in treatment-seeking rates and access to care for Latinos 3. Identify adaptations to evidence-based treatments of EDs to provide culturally sensitive care for Latinos 4. Discuss important considerations when adapting evidence-based interventions to maintain treatment efficacy
October 29, 2026 3:30-4:30	Andrea Hekler https://profiles.ucsd.edu/andrea.hekler	**Insomnia with an emphasis on behavioral treatments** This is an expert lecture on empirically supported assessment and treatment of sleep disorders with a particular emphasis on CBT-I	1. Learn strategies to assess and characterize insomnia 2. Learn about evidence based behavioral interventions for insomnia
November 5, 2026 3:30-4:30	Elizabeth Loyola	**Parent Coaching Models**	1.

November 12, 2026 3:30-4:30	Lisa Eyler https://profiles.ucsd.edu/lisa.eyler	**Empathy, Compassion, and Self Compassion**: TBD	1.
November 19, 2026 3:30-4:30	Raeanne Moore https://profiles.ucsd.edu/raeanne.moore	**Rethinking Cognitive Testing: Digital Innovations for Everyday Use** This is an expert lecture on digital phenotyping in psychiatry	1. Limitations of current neuropsychological assessment methods 2. Overview of smartphone-based cognitive testing 3. Evidence from key studies and clinical applications
November 26, 2026	HOLIDAY	NO SEMINAR	
December 3, 2026 3:30-4:30	Abigail Angkaw https://profiles.ucsd.edu/abigail.angkaw	**Mental Health Professionals: Self-Care and Peer-Based Support** This is an expert lecture on best practices for personal self-care when conducting mental health care.	1. Describe expected potential impacts for mental health professionals (cumulative stress, vicarious trauma, burnout etc) 2. Describe self-care as an ethical imperative 3. Teach Stress First Aid model for healthcare professionals (along with other prevention/interventions options)
December 10, 2026 3:30-4:30	Dimitri Perivoliotis https://profiles.ucsd.edu/Dimitri.Perivoliotis	**CBT for Psychosis** This is an expert lecture on the most recent updates regarding CBT for Psychosis	1. Be able to articulate the basic cognitive conceptualization of psychotic symptoms. 2. Be able to apply 1 cognitive/behavioral intervention for psychosis in your encounters with patients with this population. 3. Understand the importance of

			adopting a recovery orientation in clinical work with this population.
December 17, 2026 3:30	Training Directors	HOLIDAY PARTY	This is a social event to encourage class cohesiveness
December 24, 2026	HOLIDAY	NO SEMINAR	HOLIDAY
December 31, 2027	HOLIDAY	NO SEMINAR	HOLIDAY
January 7, 2027	Internship interviews	NO SEMINAR	Internship interviews
January 14, 2027 3:30-4:30	Andrew Bismark https://profiles.ucsd.edu/andrew.bismark	**Psychedelic-Assisted Treatment** This is an expert lecture to introduce learners to psychedelic-assisted interventions.	1. Identify different types of psychedelic-assisted interventions, including those offered at the VA/UCSD 2. Understand the mechanisms underlying observed effects 3. Learn how to identify patients appropriate for psychedelic-assisted treatment
January 21, 2027 3:30-4:30	Training Directors	**Check in**: this is a cohort building & professional development opportunity for Interns to discuss progress through Internship to date with program TDs	Group feedback and professional development
January 28, 2027 3:30-4:30	Erin Sundermann https://profiles.ucsd.edu/erin.sundermann	**Sex-specific biomarkers and risk factors for Alzheimer's disease**	1.

February 4, 2027 3:30-4:30	Tamara Maginot https://profiles.ucsd.edu/tamara.magi not	**Consultation-Liaison Psychology** This is an expert lecture on CL strategies to address mental health issues, care-interfering behaviors, and the psychological impact of illness.	1. Understand the role of a CL psychologist 2. Learn strategies to mitigate psychological impacts on illness
February 11, 2027 3:30-4:30	Tom Marcotte https://profiles.ucsd.edu/Thomas.Marcotte	**Medicinal Cannabis** This is an expert lecture detailing data on use of medicinal cannabis, its relevance to mental health treatment, and ongoing research examining safe/therapeutic use.	1. Understand empirical trends in use of cannabis 2. Understand current research efforts into how cannabis use affects public policy (e.g., driving safety)
February 18, 2027 3:30-4:30	Zvinka Zlatar https://profiles.ucsd.edu/zvinka.zlatar	**Clinical Utility of Subjective Cognitive Decline in Older Adults**	1. Learn the definition and potential uses of self and informant-reported subjective cognitive decline 2. Gain understanding of the factors that influence subjective cognitive decline 3. Understand its potential utility when seeing patients in clinic
February 25, 2027 3:30-4:30	Leslie Anderson https://profiles/ucsd.edu/leslie.anderson	**Advanced Application of DBT** This is an interactive seminar covering advanced principles of DBT as well as practical applications of DBT techniques	1. Understand theoretical models for DBT 2. Learn about updates in DBT for challenging cases 3. Be better able to apply advanced DBT principles
March 4, 2027 3:30-4:30	Charles Taylor https://profiles.ucsd.edu/charles.taylor	**Amplifying Positivity to Combat Social Disconnection in Anxiety & Depression**	1. Describe the rationale for targeting positive valence processes in treating anxiety

			and depressive disorders. 2. Identify evidence-based strategies for increasing positive valence emotions and behavior. 3. Summarize the effects of targeting positive valence processes on social connection.
March 11, 2027 3:30-4:30	Shelley Condon https://profiles.ucsd.edu/shelley.condon	TBD	
March 18, 2027 3:30-4:30	Ben Felleman https://profiles.ucsd.edu/benjamin.felleman	**How to run a part-time business while doing VA Full-time**	1. Increase excitement about the financial opportunities ahead 2. Increase financial literacy 3. Increase interest in VA jobs
March 25, 2027 3:30-4:30	Neal Doran https://profiles.ucsd.edu/neal.doran	**VA Jobs and Hiring**	1.
April 1, 2027 3:30-5:00	Panel –Sheena Dev, Sarah Jurick, Blaire Ehret	**Professional Careers Outside Academia** This is an interactive panel discussion of careers outside of VA or Academic Medicine	1. Learn about career paths outside of academic 2. Discuss creative ways to apply clinical psychology skills/knowledge to the workforce
April 8, 2027 3:30-5:00	Training Directors	End of Year Review and Feedback	
April 15, 2027 3:30-5:00	Intern Presentations		
April 22, 2027 3:30-5:00	Intern Presentations		
April 29, 2027 3:30-5:00	Intern Presentations		
May 6, 2027 3:30-5:00	Intern Presentations		
May 13, 2027 3:30-5:00	Intern Presentations		
May 20, 2027 3:30-5:00	Intern Presentations		
May 27, 2027 3:30-5:00	Intern Presentations		

June 3, 2027 3:30-5:00	Department Graduation Celebration	NO SEMINAR	
June 10, 2027 3:30-5:00	Intern Presentations		
June 17, 2027 3:30-5:00	Intern Presentations		
June 24, 2027	NO SEMINAR	NO SEMINAR	
June 30, 2027	Hail and Farewell		