Psychology Internship Staff Roster

UNI’s professional staff includes fourteen licensed psychologists who are direct supervisors for the internship program, and five licensed psychologists who fulfill other roles related to the internship. Psychology staff members participate and support the internship training program in a variety of ways. They may provide individual intern supervision and mentoring, participate in didactic training and seminars, provide consultation, contribute to psychology staff meetings and treatment team rounds, host case conferences, participate as members of the Psychology Training Committee and/or assist with ongoing program evaluation.

Brian Augustyn, Ph.D. (Supervisor)
Lorna Benjamin, Ph.D.
Elaine Clark, Ph.D.
Stephanie Donnelly, Ph.D. (Supervisor)
Britt Holmes, Psy.D. (Supervisor)
Jessica Jewell, Ph.D. (Supervisor)
Tony Kemmochi, Psy.D. (Supervisor)
Stephanie McLaughlin, Ph.D.
Richard (Rick) Merideth, Ph.D. (Supervisor)
Amanda R. Miller, Psy.D. (Supervisor)
Tiffani Morgan, Psy.D. (Supervisor)
Christopher J. (C.J.) Powers, Ph.D. (Supervisor)
Deanna Reilly, Ph.D. (Supervisor)
Allison Smith, Ph.D. (Supervisor)
Amanda Stoeckel, Ph.D. (Supervisor)
Nicki Turnidge-Halvorson, Ph.D.
Sandra Whitehouse, Ph.D. (Supervisor)
Lindsay Wilson-Barlow, Ph. D. (Supervisor)
Mona Yaptangco, Ph.D.

Brian Augustyn, Ph.D.
Dr. Brian Augustyn received his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Biola University – Rosemead School of Psychology and completed his internship and postdoctoral hours at the University of Utah Neuropsychiatric Institute. Dr. Augustyn trained in a variety of clinical settings, including inpatient, outpatient, day treatment, medical centers, and specialized schools, with a background providing ABA discrete trial behavioral modification. His clinical work focuses primarily on therapy and psychological assessment with children, adolescents, and their families, with an emphasis in the areas of mood disorders, anxiety disorders, and autism spectrum disorder, while also providing support on the adult inpatient units as well. Dr. Augustyn also has a background in the integration of spirituality and psychology and has been published and presented research in this
area. Dr. Augustyn participates on the inpatient hospital ethics committee and presents at conferences on this topic as well.

His theoretical orientation focuses primarily on approaches emphasizing cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT), dialectical behavior therapy (DBT), and other behavioral or solution-focused interventions. Dr. Augustyn has an adjunct faculty appointment at the University of Utah Department of Psychiatry, and is involved with the DBT consultation group, clinical documentation audit committee, and teaching didactics for the psychology interns and psychiatry residents.

Lorna Benjamin, Ph.D.
For many years, Lorna Benjamin, Ph.D., FDHC, was Professor of Psychiatry, University of Wisconsin-Madison. There, in addition to teaching psychopathology and psychotherapy to Psychiatry residents and Psychology interns, she had a large clinical practice. Now Professor of Psychology and Adjunct Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Utah, she teaches Interpersonal Reconstructive Therapy (IRT) to Psychology graduate students in the IRT clinic at the University Neuropsychiatric Institute. The approach systematically integrates cognitive behavioral, client centered and psychodynamic therapy approaches to be helpful to the CORDS (Comorbid, Often Rehospitalized, Dysfunctional and Suicidal) population. IRT also is effective with “standard outpatients,” but this training concentrates on “the forgotten ones,” those who are too complicated and too ill to be included in Randomized Control Trials. The clinic has a research protocol that assesses effectiveness, and it includes standard symptoms measures (e.g., BDI-II, BAI, SCID I and II) as well as assessments of social interactions and “internalized representations of important others” are via Structural Analysis of Social Behavior (SASB). For her work with SASB, Dr. Benjamin received an honorary degree from the University of Umea, Sweden. Professor Benjamin is the author of Interpersonal Diagnosis and Treatment of Personality Disorders, 2nd Ed. (Guilford Press, hardcover 1996; paperback 2003) and Interpersonal Reconstructive Therapy (IRT): an integrated personality based treatment for complex cases (Guilford Press, hardcover, 2003; paperback, 2006). Dr. Benjamin serves as a consultant to the Psychology Training Program and hosts a monthly case conference series that the interns are welcome to attend.

Elaine Clark, Ph.D.
Dr. Elaine Clark is a licensed psychologist at UNI and professor and dean of the College of Education the University of Utah. She received her Ph.D. in School Psychology from Michigan State University in 1982 and a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from BYU in 1988. She is actively involved with professional organizations at a state and national level. Dr. Clark’s primary teaching and clinical interests are in the assessment and treatment of individuals with
psychiatric disorders and neurological conditions. Her theoretical orientation is grounded in both cognitive-behavioral and psychodynamic theory.

Stephanie Donnelly, Ph.D.
Dr. Stephanie Donnelly earned her PhD in Counseling Psychology from the University of Miami where her research and clinical training focused on cultural diversity, underserved populations, and intimate partner violence. She completed her internship at Kansas University Medical Center in the Rural and Underserved Populations track and completed her post-doctoral fellowship in integrated primary care at Salud Family Health Centers in Colorado. Dr. Donnelly is bilingual (Spanish) and has provided psychological services to children, teens, adults, and families in a variety of outpatient, inpatient, and medical settings. Her theoretical orientation focuses on enhancing patient motivation and empowerment to use DBT skills and cognitive-behavioral interventions to address their presenting problems.

Britt Holmes, Psy.D.
Dr. Britt Holmes received her Psy.D. from Palo Alto University through the PGSP-Stanford Psy.D. Consortium. She completed her internship and postdoctoral hours at the University Neuropsychiatric Institute. Dr. Holmes trained in a range of clinical settings, including inpatient, outpatient, and forensic facilities. Her focus is with patients with serious mental illness, and her primary clinical interest is assessment and differential diagnosis. Dr. Holmes has extensive experience with psychological testing, including with the ADOS, Rorschach, and integrated test batteries. Therapeutically, she works from a cognitive-behavioral approach. Dr. Holmes has an adjunct faculty appointment at the University of Utah Department of Psychiatry and is credentialed by the National Register of Health Service Psychologists.

Dr. Jessica Jewell, Ph.D.
Dr. Jess Jewell received her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from the University of Utah with a focus on adolescents and families. She also holds a Master’s degree in counseling and practiced as a therapist in the outdoor behavior health field with adolescents and families while pursuing her doctoral degree. Dr. Jewell trained in a variety of settings, including residential and outpatient treatment, and has therapy and assessment experience with a wide range of populations, including abused and neglected children and patients in forensic settings. She completed her internship at Wasatch Mental Health in Provo, UT, where she conducted neuropsychological assessments and engaged in trauma-based treatment with children and adults. Dr. Jewell’s therapeutic orientation is based on an integration of cognitive-behavioral and interpersonal process methodologies. Dr. Jewell holds an adjunct faculty appointment at the University Of Utah Department Of Psychiatry. She serves as a primary supervisor.
within the internship program and is a member of the Psychology Training Committee.

Dr. Tony Kemmochi, Psy.D.
Dr. Tony Kemmochi obtained his doctoral degree from the American School of Professional Psychology in the San Francisco Bay Area where he received culturally rich training in one of the most diverse communities in the world. His treatment approach is based on Control Mastery Theory, an innovative theoretical orientation that combines Psychodynamic, Humanistic, and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. As a bilingual immigrant, he is mindful of multicultural factors that impact our experience in the world. He has worked with highly diverse clientele such as immigrants, children of immigrants, oppressed racial minorities, multiracial individuals, individuals with various sexual orientations and gender identities, youth to senior individuals, and people of various socioeconomic statuses. He is well versed in the treatment of mild to severe mental disorders such as identity struggles, culture-bound syndromes, depression, anxiety, trauma, developmental disorder, substance abuse/dependency, cognitive disorders, psychotic disorders, and personality disorders. While he incorporates evidence-based treatments, he recognizes the importance of practice-based evidence, especially when working with underserved populations who have been overlooked by the mainstream research.

Stephanie McLaughlin, Ph.D.
Stephanie McLaughlin is a clinical psychologist and works on UNI adult inpatient units. Dr. McLaughlin completed her bachelor’s degree at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville and her doctoral training at Brigham Young University in Utah. She completed post-doctoral training in 2017 with a group psychotherapy focus at the University of Nevada – Las Vegas. Her research and clinical interests include group psychotherapy and measurement of outcomes in mental health. She has worked and trained in several different clinical settings including community mental health centers, outpatient and inpatient neurorehabilitation units, psychiatric hospitals, medical clinics, and a college counseling center. Outside of her work as a psychologist, she likes to spend time traveling and hiking.

Richard (Rick) Merideth, Ph.D.
Dr. Rick Merideth received his PhD in Clinical Psychology from Brigham Young University (BYU). He received specialized training at BYU in conducting autism assessments and learning disability evaluations for college students. He completed his clinical internship at Valley Mental Health in Salt Lake City working with children, adolescents, and adults with a variety of mental illnesses and cultural backgrounds. He is bilingual (Spanish) and specializes in working with Hispanic populations in both therapy and assessment.
Amanda R. Miller, Psy.D.
Dr. Amanda Miller is the Director of Youth Intermediate Services, which includes Teenscope UNI, Teenscope South Salt Lake, Kidstar UNI Intensive Day Treatment/Partial Hospitalization Programs as well as the Girls Residential Treatment Center. She received her Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology from Baylor University and completed her postdoctoral residency at The University Neuropsychiatric Institute in 2002. She has provided psychological services to the adolescent and child units (i.e., individual and family therapy and psychological assessment). Dr. Miller also has extensive training and experience with adults in a variety of clinical settings. Her conceptual orientation is grounded in psychodynamic theory, though she utilizes an integrative approach emphasizing DBT, CBT and Interpersonal Therapy. Dr. Miller serves as a primary supervisor within the internship program and is a member of the Psychology Training Committee.

Tiffani Morgan, Psy.D.
Dr. Tiffani Morgan received her Psy.D. from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She earned a B.S. in psychology at the University of Utah and a Master’s degree in family therapy at Antioch University Seattle. Dr. Morgan’s doctoral internship was at the Utah State Hospital, and she completed postdoctoral hours in residential treatment and neuropsychological assessment. Dr. Morgan has experience in a variety of inpatient and outpatient settings with children, families, and adults and has also worked extensively with the geriatric population in skilled nursing facilities. She provides psychological services (individual and family therapy and psychological assessment) primarily to the child and adolescent inpatient program at UNI. Therapeutically, she utilizes cognitive-behavioral and family systems approaches. Dr. Morgan has an adjunct faculty appointment at the University Of Utah Department Of Psychiatry. She serves as a primary supervisor within the internship program, and is a member of the Psychology Training Committee.

Christopher J. (CJ) Powers, Ph.D.
Dr. CJ Powers is the Director of Psychology Training at The University Neuropsychiatric Institute and holds an adjunct faculty appointment in the Departments of Psychiatry and Psychology at the University of Utah. He received his PhD in Clinical Child Psychology from the Pennsylvania State University, and completed his internship and post-doctoral training at Geisinger Medical Center, in Danville, PA. Dr. Powers sees patients on the Child and Adolescent Inpatient Units at the University Neuropsychiatric Institute. He also serves as a primary supervisor within the internship program and leads the Psychology Training Committee. Dr. Powers specializes in working with teenagers (and their families) with mood disorders and conduct problems. His primary treatment approaches include Dialectic Behavioral Therapy (DBT), Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) and cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT). Dr. Powers is also the Principal Investigator for an outcome research project that is
examining the efficacy of the Teenscope Day Treatment Program. He has extensive research experience and has presented findings in national conferences and published in international peer-reviewed journals.

Deanna Reilly, Ph.D.
Dr. Deanna Reilly graduated from Texas A&M University, received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, and completed extensive postdoctoral training in neuropsychological assessment. Dr. Reilly holds adjunct faculty appointments in the Department of Educational Psychology and the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Utah. She serves as a primary supervisor within the internship program, and is a member of the Adult Leadership Group which makes management decisions for the adult units. Her clinical work at the Neuropsychiatric Institute is primarily focused on providing psychological services to the adult units (i.e., individual, couples, and family therapy, and cognitive and psychological assessment). Conceptually, she subscribes to psychodynamic and interpersonal theoretical orientations, but uses an integrative clinical approach based on the setting and needs of the patient.

Allison Smith, Ph.D.
Dr. Allison Smith received her Ph.D. from Northern Illinois University with a focus on child clinical/developmental psychopathology. She trained in a variety of settings, including, inpatient, outpatient, group homes, and forensic settings, and she has therapy and assessment experience with both children and adults. She completed her internship and postdoctoral residency at the University of Utah Neuropsychiatric Institute. Dr. Smith's focus is on youth and families experiencing serious mental illness. Conceptually she works from the perspective of developmental psychopathology and cognitive-behavioral therapy. Clinically she integrates cognitive-behavioral strategies, including dialectical behavior therapy (DBT) and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) skills, based on the situation and needs of the patient. Dr. Smith has an adjunct faculty appointment in the University of Utah Department of Psychiatry and is a member of the Psychology Training Committee.

Amanda Stoeckel, Ph.D.
Dr. Amanda Stoeckel is a licensed psychologist and the Program Specialist for the Comprehensive Assessment and Treatment (CAT) Program at the University Neuropsychiatric Institute. She received her Ph.D. in School Psychology from the University of Northern Colorado and completed her clinical internship at the University Neuropsychiatric Institute. Dr. Stoeckel completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the VA Advanced Fellowship Program in Mental Illness Research at the VISN 19 MIRECC VA Salt Lake City Health Care System. She has an adjunct faculty appointment at the University of Utah Department of Psychiatry. Her focus is providing psychological services to youth and young adults within the
CAT Program, and she has extensive training in psychological assessment. Dr. Stoeckel’s therapeutic orientation is typically based on cognitive-behavioral methodology.

Nicki Turnidge-Halvorson, Ph.D.
Dr. Nicki Turnidge-Halvorson received her Ph.D. in counseling psychology from the University of Utah with a focus on children and adolescents. She completed her internship and postdoctoral residency at the University Neuropsychiatric Institute. While at the University, Nicki worked with children and families in multiple outpatient and community mental health settings, and received training in Trauma-Focused Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) and Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT). She also has experience working in private-practice settings conducting comprehensive neuropsychological evaluations and seeing youth in outpatient therapy. Nicki draws from an integrative approach to therapy, with influences from attachment theory and third-wave cognitive behavioral therapies. At the core, her passion is to help children and adolescents reduce their suffering and strengthen their relationships with others. Dr. Turnidge-Halvorson is currently a licensed psychologist at the Teenscope Intensive Day Treatment/Partial Hospitalization program and has an adjunct faculty appointment in the University of Utah Department of Psychiatry.

Sandra Whitehouse, Ph.D.
Dr. Sandra Whitehouse is a licensed psychologist who is the Director of Psychology at The University Neuropsychiatric Institute and holds an adjunct faculty appointment in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Utah. She serves as a primary supervisor within the internship and postdoctoral residency program. She is a member of the Youth Leadership Group which makes management decisions for the youth inpatient units, and serves on the Executive Committee, Strategic Implementation, and Quality and Patient Safety Council. She also is an APA doctoral internship site visitor / chair. She was educated at UCLA, Macquarie University (Sydney, Australia), and the University of Utah, where she received a Ph.D. in counseling psychology with advanced specialization in psychological assessment. She completed her doctoral internship at the UCSD-San Diego VAMC Consortium with rotations in acute child / adolescent inpatient, PTSD, and Dual Diagnosis Substance Abuse / Mental Illness adult populations. Research interests include treatment outcomes and healing aspects of hospital environments. Dr. Whitehouse works with children, adolescents and adults, with an eclectic orientation (cognitive behavioral and object relations emphasis).

Lindsay Wilson-Barlow, Ph. D.
Dr. Lindsay Wilson-Barlow received her Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, TX. There, she developed broad interests in human
development and behavior. As such, she received a breadth of clinical training in a variety of settings, including forensic, Veterans’ Affairs, inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation programs, and community mental health facilities. She completed a pre-doctoral internship at the Durham VA Medical Center (Durham, NC) and a post-doctoral fellowship at the SLC VA Healthcare system (SLC, UT). She recently joined UNI as a licensed psychologist who works primarily with inpatient youth. Of particular interest to Lindsay is case conceptualization of patients with complex clinical presentations. She was trained primarily under a cognitive-behavioral framework, and her current approach can best be described as “integrative”-- largely shaped by Evidence-Based Practices (CBT, DBT, ACT, interpersonal process) with a strong respect for humanistic factors.

Mona Yaptangco, Ph.D.
Dr. Mona Yaptangco received her PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of Utah. During her graduate training, she worked with youth and their families in various outpatient and community mental health facilities while receiving extensive training in Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT). She completed her pre-doctoral internship at the University Neuropsychiatric Institute where she worked with children, adolescents, and their families in both inpatient and partial hospital settings. Dr. Yaptangco completed her post-doctoral fellowship at the Alpert Medical School of Brown University where she conducted clinical work at a partial hospital program for children and provided comprehensive DBT to multi-problem adolescents. Dr. Yaptangco specializes in working with adolescents with mood disorders, suicidal ideation, and self-harm behaviors and enjoys finding creative ways to implement DBT concepts and techniques in individual sessions, family therapy sessions, and with school-aged children.