

Clinical Neuropsychology Postdoctoral Fellowship Program



South Texas Veterans Health Care System (STVHCS)
Psychology Service (116B)
Audie L. Murphy VA Hospital
7400 Merton Minter
San Antonio, TX 78229

www.va.gov/south-texas-health-care/work-with-us/internships-and-fellowships/

Applications due: 2 January 2022
APPCN Match Program Code: 9552

Post-match: one vacancy.

Please send cover letter, CV, and 3 letters of recommendation (can be sent separately) to Karin McCoy (Karin.McCoy@va.gov)
Applications will be reviewed until position is filled.

Audie L. Murphy Memorial Hospital (ALM)



Program Director Information

Karin J.M. McCoy, Ph.D., ABPP
Board Certified in Clinical Neuropsychology
Training Director, Clinical Neuropsychology Fellowship Program
South Texas Veterans Health Care System
Email: Karin.McCoy@va.gov

Land Acknowledgment

The South Texas Veterans Health Care System resides on the stolen, traditional land of Indigenous Peoples, specifically, the Jumanos, Tonkawa, Lipan Apache, and Coahuiltecan Peoples (<https://native-land.ca/>). It is through their continued displacement that allows UT and the VA to remain today.

Accreditation Status

The Clinical Neuropsychology Postdoctoral Fellowship Program at the South Texas Veterans Health Care System (STVHCS) is fully accredited by the Commission on Accreditation (CoA) of the American Psychological Association (APA). The next site visit of the program by CoA is due in 2027. Questions related to the program's accredited status should be directed to the Commission on Accreditation:

Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation
American Psychological Association
750 1st Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002
Phone: (202) 336-5979 / E-mail: apaaccred@apa.org
Web: www.apa.org/ed/accreditation

APPCN Member Status

The STVHCS Clinical Neuropsychology fellowship program is a member program of the Association of Postdoctoral Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology (APPCN; www.appcn.org). The program participates in the APPCN Match for recruitment.

COVID-19 Response and Adaptations

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the STVHCS Training Program, with support from facility leadership, focused on the safety and well-being of trainees, staff, and veterans. We follow CDC guidelines and local Infection Control standards. Fellows have been issued government furnished equipment (GFE), including laptops, to be able to effectively telework as needed.

STVHCS Psychology Service was a leader, nationwide, in providing telemental health (TMH) services as the pandemic unfolded, and continues to provide TMH services across the system. Until Fall 2021, most neuropsychology assessments (cognitive screenings) were conducted remotely through VA telehealth technologies, following evidence-based guidelines and protocols. Currently, neuropsychological assessments are conducted in the facility, with room-to-room telehealth for interviews and testing if needed. All VA neuropsychology training sites are fully operational, with inpatient services fully functional. Didactics were virtual for 2021-2022, and for the 2022-2023 training year, were fully in-person, in-facility, which has been beneficial for integrated learning and support. All selection procedures will be virtual for the 2023-2025 fellowship cohort. Applicants will be invited to participate in a virtual open house and virtual interviews.

Program Description

STVHCS offers a two-year APA-accredited postdoctoral fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology and recruits **two fellows** each year. The goal of the Clinical Neuropsychology Fellowship Program is to prepare fellows for employment as neuropsychologists and board certification through the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP). Our program is a member program of the Association of Postdoctoral Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology (APPCN; www.appcn.org) and provides training consistent with the Houston Conference Guidelines (Hannay, 1998). The training director was a delegate to the Minnesota Update Conference in September 2022. The program supports and embraces the purpose of the MUC, to center neuropsychology training competencies on diversity, equity, and inclusion, as well as increase exposure and understanding of advocacy and technological advances in training.

Fellows learn a variety of neuropsychological assessment, intervention, and research techniques within a VA hospital and design their training programs to meet individual needs and career goals. The *first month* of training is spent designing an individualized training plan. In addition to training at VA, training opportunities occur at the Department of Defense, San Antonio Military Medical Center (SAMMC), which is approximately 15 miles away, and at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, now called UT Health, which is connected to the VA hospital via a sky bridge. Most graduates of our fellowship program obtain employment in VA Neuropsychology Service positions or academic medical centers. In addition to the four neuropsychology fellows, the STVHCS has seven clinical psychology interns and ten clinical psychology fellows.

Training Model

We characterize our training model as one in the scientist-practitioner tradition, as originally established by the Boulder Conference in 1947. We value both the clinical and scientific traditions of clinical and counseling psychology. Throughout their clinical training experiences, fellows are expected to utilize and integrate the scientific bases of evidence-based neuropsychology into practice. In addition, we place strong emphasis on scholarly inquiry and research productivity during the fellowship years.

STVHCS Mission and Vision

The mission of South Texas Veterans Health Care System (STVHCS) and the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) is to improve the health of the veteran population by providing primary care, specialty care, extended care, and related social support services in an integrated health care delivery system. Since 1946, the VA has developed affiliations and training programs with the specific purpose of maintaining and improving the quality of care for veteran patients, to assist in the recruitment and retention of the highest quality staff at VA facilities, and to create a patient care environment characterized by an academic atmosphere of inquiry. The VA is legislatively mandated to assist in the training of physicians and associated health professionals for its own system and for the nation.

Psychology Training Mission and Vision

The psychology training program at STVHCS fully supports the patient care, teaching, and research missions of the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) of the Department of Veterans Affairs by providing highly trained psychologists to care for veterans and other clients using the knowledge and science base of psychology. It is the vision of the psychology training program at STVHCS to be a recognized leader in the nation in the training of psychologists for public service. The neuropsychology postdoctoral fellowship at the South Texas Veterans Health Care System (STVHCS) is designed to provide exemplary training for applicants who desire careers in public-sector clinical neuropsychology. The aim of the program is to produce board-eligible clinical neuropsychologists. All fellows are expected to obtain training in a variety of assessments and interventions with a variety of patient populations.

Core Values

The psychology training program at STVHCS is guided by the following core values in support of excellence in patient care and training. We believe that quality psychology training should be:

1. Patient-Focused: The training of psychologists enhances patient care and is best conducted in an environment respectful of training with the leadership and involvement of STVHCS professional psychology community.
2. Interprofessional: The value of interprofessional collaboration is respected, acknowledged, and utilized in all psychology activities. Trainees should work and learn with trainees and practitioners from Medicine, Social Work, Psychiatry, Pharmacy, Nursing, and other health care disciplines within the medical center.
3. Respectful of Diversity: Psychology training should be sensitive and responsive to the diverse cultural, ethnic, and special populations of veterans served -- including women and the older adults -- as well as to clinical conditions such as chronic mental or physical illness. Likewise, psychology training is sensitive and responsive to diversity in culture, ethnicity, gender, race, religion, age, ability status, gender identity, and sexual orientation among our trainees and faculty.
4. Individualized: The training of psychologists is best supported by the use of a variety of supervised training activities designed to address the fellows' specific training needs, the diversity of clients served, and to integrate the practice and science base of psychology. Specific clinical assignments are primarily guided by the individual educational needs and goals of the fellow.
5. Accountable: The training of psychologists must meet quality of care standards of the profession of psychology to include obtaining and maintaining accreditation, providing evidence of continuous improvement in training processes, and promoting and evaluating training outcomes which incorporate concerns and needs of patients, residents, affiliated institutions, and the VHA.
6. In Partnership with Other Professionals: Psychology training is enhanced by agreements and collegial partnerships among affiliated institutions, disciplines, and programs in the community that are sensitive and responsive to the broad goals and mission of the Psychology Service of STVHCS and the VHA.

Focus on Diversity Training

One of the core values of the program is respectfulness of diversity. The neuropsychology fellows are expected to engage in the following diversity training and experiences with the clinical psychology fellows. Additional neuropsychology diversity training experiences are listed below, in the Training Experiences section.

First year fellows have a monthly Multicultural Journal Club, jointly with the interns.

Fellows engage in Diversity Immersion Experiences three times a year. Immersion Experiences provide trainees with intensive exposure and training to enhance professional competency in areas of culture and diversity in a thoughtful manner. These experiences are meant to broaden understanding of cultural and diversity issues and factors which influence case conceptualization, diagnosis, and treatment planning for patients in the South Texas area. The experience asks trainees to look inward and reflect on their own preconceived notions and/or biases, to work towards greater awareness, understanding, and growth as practitioners. The immersion experience program is coordinated by the Diversity Training Committee.

Fellows can join the Diversity Training Committee. Training experiences with the committee increase trainees' cultural knowledge, promote greater self-awareness of one's background and potential positions of privilege, develop and implement in-classroom and experimental learning opportunities, broaden psychology trainees' understanding of cultural, diversity, and social justice factors which shape our community and the world as a whole, and cultivate comfort with engaging in culturally aware dialogue across all levels of mental health services.

The specific activities of the DTC include:

- Multicultural Clinical Experience
- Quarterly Engagement Newsletter (Awareness Matters)
- Consultation Hour for Trainees
- Consultation Hour for Staff
- Book Club
- Race-Based Stress/Trauma & Empowerment Group
- My Life My Story
- Psychology New Employee Orientation
- Team Presentations



Supervision Received

In helping fellows acquire proficiency in the advanced competency areas, learning objectives are accomplished primarily through experiential clinical learning under the supervision and mentoring of licensed psychologists. All supervising psychologists are required to attend annual supervisors' training; the annual training includes training in (a) supervision topics generally, (b) expectations and requirements from VA Office of Academic Affiliations (OAA) and our accrediting body, American Psychological Association (APA), (c) ethics of supervision, (d) diversity, equity, and inclusion in supervision and training, and (e) use of

evidence-based approaches and/or engagement in clinical research. All work performed by fellows must be under the supervision of a licensed psychologist. Fellows receive a minimum of 2 hours of individual face-to-face supervision each week. Additionally, fellows receive at least 2 hours of group supervision each week, with another 2 hours spent in interactive learning settings. Over the course of the two years of the neuropsychology fellowship, fellows will work with up to eleven neuropsychologists, depending on training experiences, of which, five are board certified in clinical neuropsychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology/American Board of Clinical Neuropsychology. Complementing this supervision, through the process of working closely with a number of different Psychology Service supervisors, fellows are exposed to role modeling and mentoring on an ongoing basis. In addition, fellows receive didactic seminar presentations on topics related to their training.

Stipend and Benefits

Stipend and benefits are competitive with other similar training programs nationally and consistent with VA personnel policies. The stipend for all first year fellows is set at \$52,538 by VA Central Office, Office of Academic Affiliations (OAA), and the stipend for second year fellows is \$55,378. There is no state income tax in Texas. Health insurance and life insurance available. The STVHCS is an equal opportunity employer.

Fellows earn 4 hours of annual leave and 4 hours of sick leave per pay period (13 days of each per year). Sick leave can be used for personal illness, medical/dental care, or to care for members of immediate family who are ill or injured. In addition, fellows receive leave for 11 Federal holidays. Training or travel leave may be granted for off-site educational workshops, seminars, and other approved training activities. There is no fixed limit on the amount of training leave that can be requested; we encourage fellows to attend at least one conference per year. The Education Service may provide up to \$400 reimbursement for conference registration and/or continuing education fees. With appropriate approvals, travel for a conference may be fully funded (flight, hotel, meal per diem), especially if the fellow is presenting research conducted at STVHCS. Up to three days of authorized absence may be requested for professional development activities (e.g., VA job interviews, licensure examinations).

Time Commitments

The postdoctoral fellowship program generally is a 40 hour per week fellowship.

Start Date

Fellowship is expected to begin 31 July 2023. The start date can be flexible depending on when the matched fellow completes degree requirements. It is VA policy that selected applicants successfully defend their dissertation and complete all other degree requirements before beginning fellowship. Fellows with extraordinary circumstances may petition for two 30-day extensions, but if granted, they will be required to extend training to achieve the required number of supervised hours. Fellows who are unable to begin the fellowship more than 60 days after their original start date may be terminated from the program.

Eligibility

Eligibility For All Psychology Training Programs

1. U.S. citizenship. VA is unable to consider applications from anyone who is not currently a U.S. citizen. Verification of citizenship is required following selection. All fellows must complete a Certification of Citizenship in the United States prior to beginning VA training.
2. An applicant assigned male at birth, 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. Applicants for whom this applies 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.
3. Fellows are subject to fingerprinting and background checks. Match result and selection decisions are contingent on passing these screens.
4. VA conducts drug screening exams on randomly selected personnel as well as new employees. [VA Drug-Free Workplace Program Guide for Veterans Health Administration Health Professions Trainees](#)
5. COVID-19 vaccination, or approved medical or religious exception, is required for VA employment.
6. Additional information can be found: [Am I Eligible? Checklist for VA HPTs](#)

Additional Eligibility Criteria for Postdoctoral Fellowship

Postdoctoral fellowship applicants must meet the following criteria to be considered for any VA Psychology Postdoctoral Program:

1. Doctorate from an APA-accredited graduate program in Clinical or Counseling Psychology. Persons with a doctorate in another area of psychology who meet the APA criteria for re-specialization training in Clinical or Counseling Psychology are also eligible.
2. Completion of an APA-accredited internship program or a VA-sponsored internship.

STVHCS Policy on Discrimination

The Federal Government is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We strongly encourage applications from candidates from underrepresented groups. Equal opportunity in employment will be provided for all qualified persons. Consistent with the basic principles and policies governing personnel administration, all personnel actions and employment practices are based solely on merit and fitness without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, reprisal, and sexual orientation.

Our fellowship program does not discriminate against, and will provide reasonable accommodation for, qualified individuals with disabilities when such an adjustment or change is requested and needed at work for a reason related to a medical condition. Requests for accommodation do not need to be made during the application process. However, if accommodations are needed, requests should be submitted as soon as possible after selection to enable the program to make necessary arrangements.

Application & Selection Procedures

All recruitment and notification procedures comply with the rules set forth by the Association of Postdoctoral Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology (APPCN) and follow APA ethical guidelines. According to APPCN match expectations, this site abides by the APPCN policy that no person at this facility will solicit, accept, or use any ranking-related information from any applicant, except as specifically permitted in the match rules.

Applicants

Two fellows are recruited nationally each year. We seek applicants with a strong academic foundation from their university programs who are well rounded with regard to assessment, treatment, and research experiences. We especially encourage applicants with knowledge and experience with cultural and ethnic diversity issues and Spanish-language fluency.

As a member program of APPCN, we participate in the National Matching Program and cannot accept applicants who are not registered in the match. To register in the match, please go to: <http://www.natmatch.com/appcnmat/index.htm>

Application Materials

Post-match: one vacancy.
Please send cover letter, CV, and 3 letters of recommendation (can be sent separately) to Karin McCoy (Karin.McCoy@va.gov)
Applications will be reviewed until position is filled.

Qualified applicants should submit the following materials via the APPA CAS:

- A cover letter clearly indicating their training, research, and career goals.
- A current CV including anticipated graduation date
- Brief additional questions
- Copy of APPIC Autobiographical essay (no need to edit or modify)
- One redacted/de-identified neuropsychological assessment work sample
- Dissertation abstract (one page, approximately)
- Three letters of recommendation from individuals knowledgeable about the applicant's work
- Confirmation from dissertation chair that dissertation will be completed prior to starting fellowship; this can be included in a letter of recommendation or by completion of the APPCN Doctoral Training Verification Form. [Doctoral Training Verification - APPCN](#)
- Transcripts of all graduate work (VA requires official transcripts)

Selection

Applicants are rated on (1) academic preparation, including neuropsychological coursework, practicum experiences, internship training, and research, (2) assessment and treatment experience with diverse neuropsychological patient populations, (3) research

productivity, (4) writing skills, (5) letters of reference, and (6) fit of goals with program aims. After review of applications, top candidates will be offered interviews (see below).

Competitive applicants typically have taken two or more graduate level neuropsychological courses, including neuropsychological assessment. They have had at least one practicum experience in neuropsychology and have completed an internship with a focused neuropsychological rotation. They have assessment experience with a variety of neuropsychological tests and clinical populations and have written at least 40 adult neuropsychological reports. They have conducted neuropsychological-focused research and have at least five national or international conference presentations. They have strong letters of reference from 2-3 supervisors of neuropsychological experiences. Individuals who have been successful in our program in the past have had a good sense of humor, self-initiative, flexibility, and respect for diversity.

Application Process

Post-match: one vacancy.

**Please send cover letter, CV, and 3 letters of recommendation (can be sent separately) to Karin McCoy (Karin.McCoy@va.gov)
Applications will be reviewed until position is filled.**

- Submit materials through APPA CAS by the deadline of **2 January**.
- Applications will be reviewed as soon as possible, generally about two weeks after the deadline date, and top applicants selected for interviews will be emailed or called shortly thereafter. We typically interview 20 applicants.
- All interviews will be virtual, and held during the week of the INS conference (week of 30 January 2023); applicants selected for interviews will also be invited to an OPTIONAL open house on Monday 23 January 2023 to hear the neuropsychologists discuss their training opportunities.
- Applicants not selected for interviews will be notified by email as soon as possible.
- Following interviews, applicant rankings will be submitted to the APPCN Matching Program by the ranking deadline, 8 February 2023. Applicants interested in ranking our program should use the program code **9552**. Match results will be released on Match Day, 15 February 2023.
- Applicants no longer under consideration after the interview will be notified by email as soon as possible.

Applicants should feel free to email the Training Director at Karin.McCoy@va.gov with any questions regarding the application process.

Program Structure/Curriculum Requirements

During the first month of fellowship, the Training Director of the Clinical Neuropsychology Fellowship Program and the assigned preceptor (professional mentor) will work with fellows to design an individual training plan. Fellows will select clinical activities,

supervision and teaching experiences, and research and administrative projects based on individual training needs and goals. Below are the core training experiences offered:

Clinical Training Experiences

Year 1

During Year 1, fellows will complete three, 4-month clinical training experiences

1. Neuropsychology Consult Service: The Consult Service is an outpatient clinic which receives a wide array of referrals from neurology, primary care, mental health, social work, and other medical specialty clinics to assist with differential diagnosis and treatment planning. The most common referral reasons are stroke, neurodegenerative/dementing disorders, neurological conditions (e.g., Parkinson's disease, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis), non-acute brain injury, medical/metabolic comorbidities (e.g., hepatic/renal failure, sleep apnea, HIV/AIDS), psychiatric disturbance, learning disorders, decision-making capacity, and presurgical candidacy evaluation. While rotating in this clinic, the first-year fellows will be expected to have two full days of outpatient evaluations; additionally fellows will co-facilitate a weekly Cognitive Stimulation for Dementia group. One provider in this clinic conducts Spanish-language neuropsychological evaluations; fellows have an opportunity to participate if fluent in Spanish.
2. Polytrauma Rehabilitation Center (PRC):: The San Antonio PRC is the newest of five VA Polytrauma hospitals. The 12-bed **inpatient** (PRC) unit is focused on the rehabilitation of veterans and active duty service members, most often admitted for post-acute treatment of acquired brain injuries (e.g., moderate-severe traumatic brain injury (TBI)/emerging consciousness, stroke, hypoxia/anoxia) and orthopedic injuries. During the PRC rotation, fellows will work as an active member of an interdisciplinary treatment team which includes physicians, speech pathologists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, optometrists, psychologists (individual & family), social workers, chaplains, nurses, and recreational therapists.
3. Polytrauma Network Site (PNS) Fellows participate in the interdisciplinary **outpatient** PNS clinic, working alongside, and in consultation with, the physiatrists and PM&R (Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation) residents. Typically, outpatient evaluations are conducted with patients who have recovered from moderate to severe traumatic brain injury. Additionally, fellows will join the team during intakes and provide consultation and education regarding the utility and appropriateness for neuropsychological services. For 2023-2024, this experience will be combined with the PTRP/PACER experience due to a staff vacancy.
4. Polytrauma Transitional Rehabilitation Program (PTRP) and PACER program: PTRP is a 12-bed residential rehabilitation program for active duty and military veterans who have sustained injuries to multiple systems. TBI or stroke are the most common reasons for participation, with many program participants having sustained orthopedic trauma, amputation(s), spinal cord injury, and/or burn injuries in addition to the traumatic brain injury. Many were exposed to traumatic

combat experiences and have psychological disorders related to war experiences or injury-related events. Primary transitional program goals are to aid participants' a) return to community living with maximum independence, and b) return to productive community roles, with an emphasis on work or formal education programs. Fellows are involved in both evaluation and treatment. They help the team identify and conceptualize the nature of cognitive, emotional, personality, and psychosocial issues which affect the individual's progress in continuing rehabilitation, adjustment to injury, and quality of life issues. Fellows work closely with the treatment team to address emotional issues, implement environmental or behavioral interventions to assist with management of behavioral sequelae of injury, and build patients' knowledge of deficits and skills for managing cognitive symptoms of brain injury. The PACER program is a new program, housed at the PTRP residential facility, for active duty special operators; the program provides a thorough evaluation of cognitive and psychological strengths and difficulties during an intensive three-week stay.

Year 2

In the second year, the individualized training plan is based on the following required and optional clinical experiences:

- Neuropsychology Consult Service (required): Second-year fellows have one day assigned for outpatient evaluations per week. Additional clinical duties include (1) responding to inpatient neuropsychology consultation requests for patients admitted to medicine or psychiatry units, (2) co-facilitating a Coping with Cognitive Problems cognitive rehabilitation group, and (3) providing individual cognitive rehabilitation to 2-3 patients. One of the neuropsychologists in this clinic conducts Spanish-language assessments; if fluent in Spanish, fellows are given opportunities to participate.
- Neurology Consultation/Liaison (required): Second-year fellows will spend one month rounding with the inpatient neurology team. During this month, outpatient responsibilities will be waived (e.g., outpatient neuropsychological assessments) to allow sufficient time each day to round with the neurology residents and attending.
- San Antonio Military Medical Center/Brooke Army Medical Center (required): Contingent on renewal of annual approval for the "outside" training experience, second-year fellows will spend two days per week at SAMMC/BAMC for three months, during which time they will provide outpatient evaluations for active duty and retired military personnel. These evaluations may include forensic/disability evaluations for the medical boarding process for active duty service members. This experience is an immersion in active duty culture; fellows will learn about military structure and culture. Additionally, ethical and professional issues regarding confidentiality for forensic/medical board examinations and command reporting will be relevant.

- Additional Clinical Experiences:
 - Neuroseizure Clinic
 - Clinical Psychology training experiences (primary care, spinal cord, transplant evaluations, palliative care, trauma, substance use disorders, geropsychology, psychosocial rehabilitation for serious mental illness, rural mental health, etc.)
 - Comprehensive Epilepsy Service at UT Health: primarily outpatient evaluations, with opportunities to participate in pre-surgical multidisciplinary conferences for DBS and epilepsy, and observe Wada procedures, contingent on renewal of annual approval for the “outside” training experience.
 - Pediatric Neuropsychology in a Private Practice Setting
 - Outpatient TBI Rehabilitation in a Department of Defense Setting

Example Training Experience Schedule:

Year 1: September to January	Neuropsychology Consult Service Supervisor: Janice Marceaux, Ph.D., ABPP
February to May	Polytrauma Rehabilitation Center (PRC) Inpatient Supervisor: Cammy Chicota-Carroll, Ph.D., ABPP
June to August	Polytrauma Transitional Rehabilitation Program (PTRP) Supervisor: Kristine Carter, Ph.D., ABPP
Year 2: September - January	Neuropsychology Consult Service Outpatient Supervisor: Karin McCoy, Ph.D., ABPP One case per week required; 2 - 3 outpatient cog rehab cases Tiered supervision with practicum student
October and November	UT Health (UTHSCSA) Department of Neurology Epilepsy Center Supervisor: Amy Werry Psy.D. 1.5 days per week (one assessment and one WADA exam)
December	Neuropsychology Consult Service Administration Supervisor: Janice Marceaux, Ph.D., ABPP
February - July	Neuropsychology Consult Service Outpatient Supervisor: Jonathan Highsmith, Ph.D. One outpatient case per week; 0-2 inpatient cases per week
March – May	San Antonio Military Medical Center (SAMMC) Supervisor: Robert Seegmiller, Ph.D., ABPP Two days per week; replaces NP Consult Outpatient
June	Neurology Consult/Liaison Service Supervisor: Jonathan Highsmith, Ph.D. Released from outpatient clinic assessment requirements for the month

Supervision Training Experiences

Fellows have at least two hours of scheduled, face-to-face individual supervision, in addition to weekly group supervision (see Case Consultation, described below under Seminars/Didactics). In addition, fellows have the following experiences learning to supervise:

Year 1

- First-year fellows may provide tiered WAIS-IV administration/interpretation supervision to doctoral interns.

- First-year fellows may provide assessment or cognitive rehabilitation supervision to interns, if interns select to be at the polytrauma neuropsychology training experiences.

Year 2

- Second-year fellows provide tiered neuropsychology case supervision to neuropsychology practicum students.
- Second-year fellows co-facilitate cognitive rehabilitation groups with doctoral interns and provide tiered supervision.
- Second-year fellows have access to technician support for testing and gain experience supervising a psychometrist.

Research Training Experiences

- The faculty model integration of science and practice, including ongoing participation in research productivity while engaged in busy clinical practice. In order to learn these skills, fellows are required to complete two research projects, each of which is expected to result in a manuscript submission to a peer-reviewed journal (one per year). These projects can be connected, on related topics, or may be on different topics, depending on the interests of the fellow. Projects can be brand new, or can build on previous research, or can focus on program evaluation or clinical outcomes. Fellows have routine and sufficient access to a research mentor; the fellow may choose the same research mentor both years, or may switch research mentors after the first year. Frequently, in the first year, the fellows use data from the Neuropsychology Database (see below). In the second year, fellows are encouraged to manage a research team, and invite staff and other trainees to work on their project and write sections of the manuscript. This gives the fellow the opportunity to learn how to manage a team and be a productive researcher while engaged in clinical practice. Notably, the goal of this experience is to demonstrate the ease and feasibility of conducting research in a clinical setting. All fellows have successfully completed the research expectation, regardless of their degree of experience or interest in research prior to starting the program, as we are flexible in the topics and approach. Dedicated time is scheduled during the work week.
- Neuropsychology has ongoing research that fellows are encouraged to join or use to start an original project. The service maintains an active database which includes medical, psychosocial, and neuropsychological test data from nearly all patients assessed. Below is a non-inclusive list of ongoing projects:
 - Ecological Validity Studies: The team is in the early stages of planning research focused on assessment of basic and instrumental activities of daily living, particularly in relationship to decisional capacity evaluations.
 - Naming Studies: A main research aim has been to investigate the clinical utility of several naming measures (i.e., Boston Naming Test; NAB Naming; Visual and Auditory Naming Tests). The two primary naming projects involve

1) investigating the effect of bilingualism on test performance and 2) determining which naming measure(s) demonstrate the greatest sensitivity to language impairment in various clinical and demographic populations. Ancillary projects are available using this naming dataset – one recent study looked at the impact of removing the noose item from the BNT-2.

- MoCA Study: There has been increasing literature on the use of various cut-offs (e.g., Frietas et al., 2012) and normative data (e.g., Rossetti, et al., 2011) for interpreting MoCA performance. As such, the study aims to build on these prior studies and examine the utility of the MoCA in the diverse population of veterans served at the STVHCS.
 - Performance Validity (PVT) Studies: Several manuscripts have been produced using the data collected with multiple PVTs (e.g., Word Memory Test, TOMM, ACS-Word Choice Test, Dot Counting Test, Rey 15-item, RDS). This data set is available for additional inquires. Expansion of the original data set is in development, related to PVT use for telehealth assessments.
 - Outcome Studies: Multiple outcome studies have been conducted assessing utility of feedback and degree to which the neuropsychological assessment is useful for patients. Currently, an investigation of the utility of our cognitive treatment groups is underway. Outcome studies are a particular interest for the team and new ideas are always welcome.
- STVHCS is a member of TBI Model Systems with access to their database.

Recent Publications

*Intern and Postdoctoral Fellow Names are **bolded** (based on status when primary work was completed)*

Salo, S.K., Marceaux, J.C., McCoy, K.J.M., & Hilsabeck, R.C. (2021). Removing the noose Item from the Boston Naming Test: A step toward antiracist neuropsychological assessment. *The Clinical Neuropsychologist*. doi: 10.1080/13854046.2021.1933187

Kraemer, L.D.R., Soble, J.R., Phillips, J.I., Webber, T.A., Fullen, C.T., Highsmith, J.M., Alverson, W.A., & Critchfield, E.A. (2020). Minimizing evaluation time while maintaining accuracy: Cross-validation of the Test of Memory Malingering (TOMM) Trial 1 and first 10-item errors as briefer performance validity tests. *Psychological Assessment*, 32(5), 442-450.

Alverson, W.A., O'Rourke, J.J.F., & Soble, J.R. (2019). The Word Memory Test genuine memory impairment profile discriminates genuine memory impairment from invalid performance in a mixed clinical sample with cognitive impairment. *The Clinical Neuropsychology*. 1-16. doi: 10.1080/13854046.2019.1599071.

Bain, K.M., Soble, J.R., Webber, T.A., Messerly, J.M., Bailey, K.C., Kirton, J.W., & McCoy, K.J.M. (2019). Cross-validation of three Advanced Clinical Solutions performance

- validity tests: Examining combinations of measures to maximize classification of invalid performance. *Applied Neuropsychology: Adult*. 1-11. doi: 10.1080/23279095.2019.1585352.
- Soble, J.R., **Alverson, W.A., Phillips, J.I.**, Critchfield, E.A., Fullen, C., O'Rourke, J.J.F., ... Marceaux, J.C., (2019). Strength in numbers or quality of quantity? Examining the importance of criterion measure selection to define validity groups in performance validity test (PVT) research [EPUB ahead of print]. *Psychological Law and Injury*. doi: 10.1007/s12207-019-09370-w
- Kirton J.W.**, Soble, J.R., Marceaux, J.C., **Messerly, J., Bain, K.M., Webber, T.A., Fullen, C., Alverson, W.A.**, & McCoy, K.J.M. (2019). Comparison of models of premorbid IQ estimation using the TOPF, OPIE-3, and Barona equation, with corrections for the Flynn effect. *Neuropsychology*. doi: 10.1037/neu0000569.
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Recent Poster Presentations/Abstracts

*Intern and Postdoctoral Fellow Names are **bolded***

Kraemer, L.D.R., Phillips, J.I., Marceaux, J.C., Bain, K.M., & McCoy, K.J.M. (February, 2020). Speed Matters: Examining the Impact of Processing Speed on Brief Visuospatial Memory Test-Revised Performance. Poster presented at the 2020 International Neuropsychological Society's Annual Meeting.

Fullen, C., Marceaux, J.C., **Phillips, J., & Dozier, M.** (2019, November). Stroop Performance in Bilingual Veterans. Poster to be presented at the 39th Annual Conference of the National Academy of Neuropsychology.

Phillips, J.I., Marceaux, J.C., McCoy, K.J.M., **Kraemer, L.D.R., & Fullen, C.T.** (2019, November). MoCA Cutoffs for English/Spanish Bilingual Veterans Assessed in English. Poster to be presented at the 39th Annual Conference of the National Academy of Neuropsychology.

Marceaux, J.C., Bain, K., & **Fullen, C.** (2019, November). Abnormal MoCA Scores in a Clinic-Referred Sample. Poster to be presented at the 39th Annual Conference of the National Academy of Neuropsychology.

Fullen, C., Marceaux, J.C., & **Kirton, J.** (2019, February). Improving documentation of behavioral health issues in an outpatient epilepsy clinic. Poster presented at the 2019 International Neuropsychological Society's Annual Meeting.

Shoji, K.D. & Marceaux, J.C. (2018, February). *Application of cognitive stimulation therapy for dementia in a veteran population.* Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Neuropsychological Association, Washington DC.

Webber, T.A., & Soble, J.R. (2018, February). *Utility of various WAIS-IV Digit Span indices for predicting noncredible performance in older veterans with and without cognitive impairment.* Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Neuropsychological Association, Washington DC.

Santos, O.A., Soble, J.R., & Marceaux, J.M. (2018, February). *Investigating the effect of bilingualism and nonverbal intelligence on executive functions.* Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Neuropsychological Association, Washington DC.

Kossman, A., Marceaux, J.C., Gonzalez, D.A., & Golla, L.M. (2017, February). *Predictive value of ECog total score and informant characteristics of cognitive impairment.* Poster

presented at Annual Meeting of The International Neuropsychological Society, New Orleans, LA.

Santos, O.A., & Soble, J.R. (2017, February). *Predicting performance on a functional executive measure via a brief cognitive screening test*. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Neuropsychological Association, New Orleans, LA.

Bailey, K.C., Soble, J.R., & O'Rourke, J.J.F. (2017, February). *Getting the most out of your performance validity investment: An examination of five tests among a mixed clinical sample of veterans*. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Neuropsychological Association, New Orleans, LA.

Bailey, K.C., Soble, J.R., Marceaux, J.C., & McCoy, K.J.M. (2016, June). *Lack of a "Bilingual Advantage" on Working Memory and Executive Functioning in a Veteran Sample*. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Clinical Neuropsychology, Chicago, IL.

Ashish, D., Gonzalez, D.A., Bailey, K.C., Soble, J.R., Marceaux, J.C., & McCoy, K.J.M. (2016, May). *What neuropsychology does for you*. Poster presented at the Annual STVHCS Research Week, San Antonio, TX.

Highsmith, J.M., González, D.A., Soble, J.R., Marceaux, J.C., & McCoy, K.J.M. (2016, February). *Cardiovascular risk models predict processing speed performance: Initial evidence from a veteran sample*. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society, Boston, MA.

Ashish, D., Soble, J.R., Marceaux, J.C., & McCoy, K.J.M. (2016, February). *Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale-4th Edition (WAIS-IV) performance in a mixed clinical sample of monolingual and bilingual veterans*. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society, Boston, MA.

Gonzalez, D.A., Soble, J.R., Highsmith, J.M., Marceaux, J.C., & McCoy, K.J.M. (2016, February). *Auditory and Visual Naming Tests: Psychometric properties and performance patterns among veterans with and without cognitive impairment*. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society, Boston, MA.

Sordahl, J., Critchfield, E., McCoy, K., Halmai, E. (2015, November). *The Pillbox Test in an Inpatient Polytrauma Rehabilitation setting*. Poster presented at the National Academy of Neuropsychology Annual Conference, Austin, TX.

Gonzalez, D.A., Marceaux, J.C., McCoy, K.J.M., & Soble, J.R. (2015, November). *Latent structure and collateral report relationships of the Texas Functional Living Scale with geriatric veterans*. Poster presented at the National Academy of Neuropsychology Annual Conference, Austin, TX. *Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology*, 30, 587.

- Sordahl, J.A., Gonzalez, D.A., Highsmith, J.M.,** McCoy, K., Marceaux, J., O'Rourke, J.J.F. (2015, February). *The relationship between body mass index and processing speed*. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Neuropsychological, Denver, CO.
- Gonzalez, D.A., McConnell, J.M., Balldin, V.H.,** Yehyaw, N., McCoy, K., & Marceaux, J. (2014). Exploring the structural validity of the Texas Functional Living Scale with geriatric veterans. *Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology, 29*, 526.
- Balldin, V.H., Marceaux, J.,** McCoy, K., Hilsabeck, R. (2014, February). *Validation of the Brief Cognitive Status Exam (BCSE) in a mixed clinical sample*. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Neuropsychological, Seattle, WA. *Journal of the International Neuropsychological Society, 20*.
- McConnell, J.M., Gonzalez, D.A.,** Yehyaw, N.T., **Balldin, V.H.,** McCoy, K.J., & **Marceaux, J.C.,** (2014, February). *Mild neurocognitive disorder: A cluster analysis*. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Neuropsychological, Seattle, WA. *Journal of the International Neuropsychological Society, 20*.
- Logue, E., Marceaux, J.,** McCoy, K.J.M, Cullum, C.M., Yehyaw, N., & Hilsabeck, R.C. (2013, February). *The Everyday Cognition (ECog) Scale: Further evidence for construct validity*. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Neuropsychological, Waikoloa, HI. *Journal of the International Neuropsychological Society, 19*, 128.
- Logue, E., Marceaux, J.,** McCoy, K.J.M., Yehyaw, N., & Hilsabeck, R. C. (2013, February). *Further validation of the ECog using a diverse clinical sample*. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Neuropsychological, Waikoloa, HI. *Journal of the International Neuropsychological Society, 19*, 128.

Diversity Training Experiences

- During the monthly Multicultural Journal Club, described below, first year fellows meet with clinical psychology interns and clinical psychology fellows to discuss diversity issues relevant to health psychology, neuropsychology, and related fields.
- During the 2018-2019 training year, a clinical psychology fellow worked closely with the Diversity Committee Chair on an administrative project (see below) to design and implement a series of Multicultural/Diversity Immersion Experiences. The three inaugural events were: (a) Basilica of the National Shrine of the Little Flower and Ranger-led tour at Mission San Jose; (b) Battle of the Flowers Parade during Fiesta San Antonio; and (c) Carver Community Cultural Center and St. Paul United Methodist Church. Attendance was optional for all fellows.
- The Diversity Immersion experiences have continued; in training year 2022-2023, the fellows and interns have had one joint experience; four additional experiences

(two for fellows) have been planned for the remainder of the year, by the newly formed Psychology Service Diversity Training Committee. The DTC is a service-level committee that was developed from the original training sub-committee. Now, the committee provides guidance and training experiences to the whole of Psychology Service. Fellows, interns, and practicum students have opportunities to serve on the committee and engage in the projects.

- As indicated above, the training experience with the Department of Defense (DoD) scheduled for the second year, is an immersion experience in active-duty military culture, with unique ethical and professional factors.
- As indicated above, fellows who are bilingual in Spanish have opportunities to conduct neuropsychological assessments in Spanish under the supervision of our bilingual neuropsychologist, Dr. Kathleen Bain.
- The neuropsychology didactic, Professional Development (see didactics list), which meets weekly, devotes one session each month to diversity issues in neuropsychology.

Administrative Training Experiences

- In order to gain experience managing the administrative aspects of a position in a large bureaucratic setting, fellows are required to complete one administrative project during the two-year fellowship. The project is flexible to meet the interest and needs of the fellow; ideas are provided during orientation so the fellow can develop a project idea for themselves during the first month of fellowship. Fellows are expected to complete this project in the first year of fellowship, although exceptions can be made if the project is connected with clinical experiences planned for the second year of fellowship. All fellows have successfully completed this project; most projects have continued on past the tenure of the fellow. Dedicated time is scheduled during the work week.
- Second-year fellows will serve as the Neuropsychology Clinic administrator for one month. In this role, fellows gain in vivo experience managing incoming consults, responding to requests for information via chart review, and facilitating the weekly Neuropsychology Clinic Meeting (see seminars section below).

Seminars/Didactic Training Experiences

Many didactic opportunities are available to fellows through the Psychology Service, VA Hospital, Department of Defense (DoD), and nearby University of Texas Health medical school. There are NP-specific required seminar meetings, and a few required general psychology monthly meetings which provide opportunities to learn about administrative and training issues faced by all psychologists. Required seminars and meetings are listed below.

Required Neuropsychology Didactics and Clinical Meetings

- Neuropsychology Staffing Meeting: During this weekly meeting, the upcoming week's cases are reviewed for potential changes to the test battery or approach. Fellows are expected to attend this meeting only when completing the Neuropsychology Consult Service rotation.

- Neuropsychology Professional Development Seminar: Held every Wednesday, except the first Wednesday of the month, staff lead the discussion on professional development topics of interest to the fellows. Administrative clinical topics, such as current procedural terminology (CPT) codes and practicing in various clinical settings also are discussed.
- Neuropsychology Case Consultation: Case consultation (i.e., group supervision) is held weekly on Wednesday afternoons. Trainees, and occasionally staff, present cases for supervision or consultation. Typically, one trainee presents the background information and another interprets the test data, conceptualizes the case, and offers recommendations. Fellows learn to present patient data quickly and, when interpreting data, learn to do so in an organized, concise manner. These skills are useful when working with other health care providers (and come in handy for the ABPP oral exam!)
- Neuropsychology Journal Club: Journal Club is held most Wednesday afternoons from September to June. Topics are based on competency areas outlined in the Houston Conference guidelines for clinical neuropsychology training and follow a two-year schedule to coincide with the two-year fellowship training requirement for clinical neuropsychologists. Once a quarter, staff neuropsychologists and trainees from Dallas participate via videoconferencing; the topic on these occasions is usually discussed in debate format with each training site taking a side; recent discussions have included debates regarding the cognitive effects of cannabis, and the utility of diagnosing a patient as 'malingering'. These debates allow for investigation of the scientific evidence, consensus statements, and/or practice guidelines on both sides of a topic.
- Neuroanatomy Seminar: This bi-weekly seminar is designed to provide fellows with a working knowledge of functional neuroanatomy from a structural and systems perspective to inform clinical work and to prepare for the ABPP examination process.
- Neuropsychology Grand Rounds: This seminar occurs on the second Friday of each month from September to June. Formal lectures, usually case-focused, are attended by VA neuropsychologists and trainees, as well as other neuropsychologists and mental health professionals in the community. Fellows are required to present in this forum once per year.
- ABPP in Clinical Neuropsychology Preparation: This didactic offers fellows hands-on experience with the three parts of the ABPP-CN oral exam: (1) Ethics/Professional Issues; (2) Case Defense; and (3) Fact Finding. Fellows complete multiple mock exams throughout their two years of training. Mock ethics/professional issues and case defense occurs four times a year (in place of journal club) and mock fact findings occur on the first Wednesday (in lieu of case conference).

- Neuropsychology Research Meeting: The monthly meeting occurs on the first Wednesday of the month (in place of journal club) and provides fellows and staff an opportunity to provide updates on ongoing projects for feedback/consultation as well as propose new research projects.
- Essentials with the Training Director: This new discussion-based review of essential principles in neuropsychology is held once a month. During the inaugural year, 2021-2022, the first year fellows discussed key journal articles with the training director, in order to integrate the research findings into clinical practice. For the 2022-2023 training year, the first year fellows are discussing *The Mismeasure of Man*, by Stephen Jay Gould. This text provides a summary of scientific racism as it related to hereditarian IQ and the idea of ranking individuals using one number. As with all new experiences and didactics, modifications will be made based on feedback.
- Neuropsychology Team Lunch: This informal lunch occurs on the first Wednesday of the month and serves as a time for relaxed interaction and team building. This monthly team lunch often serves as a time for celebrations of team or individual occasions and/or accomplishments, such as birthdays and graduations.
- Neurological Sciences Grand Rounds: These sessions are a combination of case presentations and lectures involving UT Health neurology and neurosurgery faculty/residents and various guest speakers. Sessions usually begin with a case presentation by a resident followed by a lecture. Second year fellows are expected to attend twice per month. First year fellows are welcome to attend as their schedule allows.

Other Required Didactics, in conjunction with the Clinical Psychology Fellows

- Professional Development Seminar: This seminar is held on the first Monday of each month. Topics include career development, networking, job interviewing, board certification, and preparing for Licensure and the Examination for Professional Psychology Practice (EPPP). First-year fellows are expected to attend this seminar and are excused from clinical duties to allow time for attendance. Second year fellows generally do not attend, but they are welcome to attend any topics that are new and relevant.
- Psychology Grand Rounds: These are one-hour formal presentations of general interest to all psychology staff. Psychology Grand Rounds are held monthly on the first Thursday. Neuropsychology fellows are expected to present in this forum once during their first year of the fellowship. First year and second year fellows are expected to attend.
- Multicultural Journal Club: This informal journal club meets monthly on the first Monday of the month, immediately following the Professional Development Seminar

listed above. Topics and presenters are decided at the beginning of the year and rotated among teams of fellows and interns. The scheduled presenters choose an article for discussion and distribute it to the group before the journal club meeting. First year fellows are expected to moderate sessions. Second year fellows do not attend, since they are off-site on Mondays for three months of the year.

- **Informal Lunches with the Training Director:** The purpose of this monthly lunch gathering is to become more acquainted with the fellows. The time may be used for informal discussions about professional development, training concerns, questions about the VA system, or other areas of interest for fellows. This meeting occurs every first Monday of the month. First year fellows are expected to attend. This is optional for second year fellows.
- **Fellows' Hour:** This meeting is structured by the fellows to foster social support and to build community among the class. It can be held on site or off site in a less formal setting, if desired. The fellows are excused early once a month in order to allow time to gather off-site. This is optional for second year fellows.
- **Staff Meeting:** This monthly half hour meeting on the first Thursday of the month at noon, is run by Dr. Jeremy Crostley, the Acting Chief of Psychology Service, and provides important clinical and administrative updates about the service. Since all members of the Psychology Service are required to attend, it provides an overview of the depth and breadth of the mental health services provided by our facility and face-to-face time with the clinicians and administrators.

Overview of Didactic Schedule for First Year:

	1st Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	1st Thursday	Friday
8:00	Essentials with the TD				Neurological Sciences Grand Rounds (optional)
9:00	Didactic				
10:00	Didactic				
11:00	MC JC			Psych GR	
12:00	TD lunch		NP Lunch or Neuroanatomy	Psych Staff Mtg	
1:00	Training Committee Mtg (for trainee rep)		NP Journal Club or ABPP Prep or Research Mtg	Psych GR	
2:00			Case Consult. or Mock fact-finding		
3:00	Fellow Hour		NP Prof Issues		2 nd Friday: NP Grand Rounds

Overview of Didactic Schedule for Second Year:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	1st Thursday	Friday
8:00					Neurological Sciences Grand Rounds
9:00					
10:00					
11:00				Psych GR	
12:00	TD lunch (optional)		NP Lunch or Neuroanatomy	Psych Staff Mtg	

1:00			NP Journal Club or ABPP Prep or Research Mtg	Psych GR	
2:00			Case Consult. or Mock fact-finding		
3:00	Fellow Hour (optional)		NP Prof Issues		2nd Friday: NP Grand Rounds

Evaluation & Feedback

Fellows receive both formal and informal feedback about their progression through the program. Evaluation of the fellow is based upon timely completion of required work samples and formal competency-based evaluations that are conducted within the first month and then at the middle and end of each training experience.

Our program adheres to advanced competency requirements described in the APA Standards of Accreditation (SoA), as well as those proposed for certification by the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP). Specialty competencies that meet Houston Conference guidelines for exit criteria for residency/fellowship training in clinical neuropsychology and follow specialty training requirements for board certification in clinical neuropsychology through ABPP must be met.

Advanced Competency Areas:

1. Assessment
2. Intervention
3. Teaching and Supervision
4. Consultation and Interdisciplinary Skills
5. Research/Integration of Science and Practice
6. Administration
7. Professional Values, Attitudes, and Behaviors
8. Communication and Interpersonal Skills
9. Ethical and Legal Standards
10. Individual and Cultural Diversity

Neuropsychology Competencies (based on Houston Conference Guidelines):

1. Advanced skill in the neuropsychological evaluation and treatment of patients as well as consultation to other health care professionals sufficient to practice on an independent basis.
2. Advanced understanding of brain-behavior relationships.
3. Awareness of scientifically- informed practice through completion of scholarly activity, e.g., submission of a study or literature review for publication, presentation, submission or a grant proposal or outcome assessment.
4. Eligibility for state or provincial licensure or certification for the independent practice of psychology.
5. Eligibility for board certification in clinical neuropsychology by ABPP.

Evaluation of Fellowship Program:

Fellows formally evaluate their training experiences and supervisors at the mid-point and completion of each training experience. Informal evaluation of the fellowship program is a continuing process in which fellows are encouraged to bring up issues, concerns, and suggestions throughout the year. Also, there is an annual fellowship program evaluation, which includes anonymous feedback and a focus-group meeting with a psychologist from the community familiar with the program, to review results of the survey and make suggestions for improving the fellowship program. Exit interviews are conducted by the Training Director and Chief of Psychology to gain additional information regarding fellow-staff interactions and suggestions for improvement.

Training Facilities

The Audie L. Murphy Memorial Veterans Hospital opened in 1973. In 1995, the hospital consolidated with the VA Medical Center in Kerrville, Texas and six surrounding VA outpatient clinics creating the South Texas Veterans Health Care System. The San Antonio facilities, where most psychology training takes place, includes the Audie L. Murphy Veterans Hospital, the North West Health Care Center, Balcones Heights Outpatient Clinic, North Central Federal Clinic, the Domiciliary Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program, and the Polytrauma Transitional Residential Rehabilitation program.

The Polytrauma program is one of five, and the newest (!), comprehensive system of care in the nation, with inpatient, outpatient, and transitional services. South Texas Veterans Health Care System is a flagship site for Whole Health as well as for High Reliability Organizational Principles. The comprehensive Spinal Cord Unit is one of 25 in the VA system, and the Bone Marrow Transplant unit is one of just three.

The hospital has a well-equipped and attractive campus located in the northwest section of the city within the South Texas Medical Complex. The hospital has state-of-the-art facilities for teleconferencing with remote sites, and computer support. All neuropsychology fellows have their own personal computers located in their offices. Most commonly used neuropsychological measures are available in the fellow's offices, while more seldomly-chosen measures must be checked-out from the neuropsychology technicians. The hospital is affiliated with the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UTHSCSA/UT Health) and has easy access to the UTHSCSA's professional staff and educational resources (the two facilities are physically connected by a skybridge). All personal computers give trainees access to extensive VA library resources and databases.

Training/Clinical Faculty

NEUROPSYCHOLOGY FACULTY at STVHCS

KATHLEEN M. BAIN, Ph.D.

Clinical Psychology, University of North Texas, 2016
Neuropsychology Consult Service

Dr. Bain earned her doctorate through the Clinical Psychology program at the University of North Texas. She completed her doctoral internship at the VA Illiana Health Care System in Danville, Illinois, then completed the two-year postdoctoral neuropsychology fellowship at the South Texas Veterans Health Care System. Dr. Bain now works as a staff neuropsychologist in the Neuropsychology Consult Service. Areas of current research interest including the validity of cognitive screenings, assessment of performance validity, and impact of bilingualism on cognitive test performance, as well as development of Spanish-language assessments. In her spare time, Dr. Bain can be found preparing for board certification, chasing her toddler, playing Pokemon Go at local parks, and binge-watching baking shows on Netflix.

KIRSTINE R. CARTER, PH.D., ABPP-CN

University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, 2014
Polytrauma Transitional Rehabilitation Program (PTRP) and
Post-Deployment Accelerated Comprehensive Evaluation and Rehabilitation (PACER)

Dr. Carter earned her doctorate in Clinical Psychology and completed her doctoral internship at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. She completed a two-year postdoctoral fellowship in neuropsychology at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. She is currently the staff neuropsychologist for the Polytrauma Transitional Rehabilitation Program (PTRP) and the Post-Deployment Accelerated Comprehensive Evaluation and Rehabilitation (PACER) program. Her clinical interest is helping individuals with acquired brain injuries reintegrate into the community. Research interests include examining factors that contribute to returning to work or active duty following brain injury as well as neuropsychological effects of COVID-19. She is an active member of the American Academy of Clinical Neuropsychology (AACN). Dr. Carter and her family (husband and two sons) moved to San Antonio in 2021 and enjoy playing soccer as a unit and on individual teams in the area. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Carter learned that she is terrible at guessing how tall people are after initially meeting them virtually.

CAMMY CHICOTA-CARROLL, Ph.D., ABPP

Clinical Psychology, California School of Professional Psychology, 2004
Polytrauma Rehabilitation Center (PRC)

Dr. Chicota-Carroll is a staff Neuropsychologist at the Polytrauma Rehabilitation Center (PRC). She earned her doctorate in clinical psychology, with a concentration in neuropsychology, from the California School of Professional Psychology. She completed her internship training in neuropsychology and rehabilitation at Mt. Sinai School of Medicine/NYU. She completed her post-doctoral fellowship at UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute in neuropsychology with a sub specialization in brain-mapping/epilepsy. Following training, Dr. Chicota-Carroll has been a staff Neuropsychologist at hospitals in Washington and Colorado; she runs a private practice, also. She has a wide range of research interests and has done work in the areas of epilepsy, dementia, and pre and post neurosurgical outcomes for various etiologies. She joined the Polytrauma service in 2018. In her spare time, she enjoys time with her kids and husband in the outdoors, with other family/friends, preferably laughing. During the COVID Pandemic, she became a reluctant distance-learning homeschooler of two, but on the bright side she is rocking third grade math!

JONATHAN M. HIGHSMITH, Ph.D.

Clinical Health Psychology, East Carolina University, 2014
Neuropsychology Consultation Service

Dr. Highsmith earned his doctorate in clinical health psychology at East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina (neuropsychology concentration). He completed internship training at the Memphis VA Medical Center and postdoctoral training at the South Texas Veterans Health Care System. After postdoc, he joined the STVHCS as a staff neuropsychologist in the outpatient Polytrauma Network Site (PNS) clinic and transitioned to the Neuropsychology Consultation Service in 2017. Research interests include the cognitive effects of various cardiovascular risk factors and sleep disorders. When not at work, Dr. Highsmith enjoys spending time with his family, attempting to use his backyard smoker, leading a Lego robotics team, and traveling. During the COVID Pandemic he decided to start so many outdoor projects that he has guaranteed himself several years of construction duties.

JANICE C. MARCEAUX, PH.D., ABPP

Medical/Clinical Psychology, University of Alabama at Birmingham, 2011
Team Lead, Neuropsychology Consultation Service

Dr. Marceaux is a staff neuropsychologist and the Clinic Director of the Neuropsychology Consult Service. She earned her doctorate from the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), completed her internship training in neuropsychology through the Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System, and completed her two-year postdoctoral fellowship at the South Texas Veterans Health Care System. Her clinical and research interests are broad, including neuropsychological assessment of adults across the lifespan, particularly those with a wide range of medical, psychosocial, and psychiatric issues. Her clinical activities include individual, family, and group cognitive rehabilitation/stimulation therapy. Her research interests involve investigating the utility of a dementia treatment program in the

VA clinical setting, as well as the psychometric analysis and clinical utility of cognitive and functional measures. She has served as a site visitor for the American Psychological Association for the past three years and is an active member of the American Academy of Clinical Neuropsychology (AACN) and the National Academy of Neuropsychology (NAN). In her free time, she spends time with her family (husband, son, and two Yorkies), plays board games, and watches too many television shows. Although her home life has not changed much during the COVID-19 pandemic, she is finally using her home office for something other than storage!

KARIN J.M. McCOY, PH.D., ABPP

Clinical & Health Psychology, University of Florida, 2004
Neuropsychology Consultation Service
Training Director, Clinical Neuropsychology Fellowship
Section Chief, Neuropsychology

Dr. McCoy completed internship training at the Memphis VA Medical Center in Memphis, TN and two years of postdoctoral training in neuropsychology at South Texas Veterans Health Care System. She has been board certified in clinical neuropsychology through the American Board of Professional Psychology since 2009. After two years on faculty in the Department of Neurosurgery at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, she returned to the South Texas VA as director of the Neuropsychology Consult Service, before she moved into her current position as program manager/section chief for neuropsychology. Under her leadership, Neuropsychology Service has expanded from 1.25 to 11 full-time neuropsychologists and the Neuropsychology Fellowship program has doubled, from 2 to 4 fellows. Her clinical interests are in gero-neuropsychology and the complex issues involved in evaluations of decision-making capacity. Her current research interests include the utility of various naming tests in bilingual patients as well as ensuring the ecological validity of measures used for capacity evaluation. She is an active member of the National Academy of Neuropsychology (NAN) and was elected to a position on the board, as member-at-large, for 2017-2019 and a second term, as treasurer, for 2020-2022. In 2022, she was elected president elect, and will serve as president of NAN in 2024. She was recognized by NAN in 2013 with the Early Career Service Award for contributions to Clinical Neuropsychology. In her free time, she enjoys reading mystery novels and swimming, sometimes simultaneously. During the COVID Pandemic she discovered that her home “office” is the warmest room in the house and that all things are improved, or at least more chaotic, when one adopts three kittens!

New to the Neuropsychology Service:

PAUL ANDREWS, PH.D.

Nova Southeastern University, 2020
Neuropsychology Clinic, Kerrville Division, Kerrville Texas

CATHERINE MEWBORN, PH.D.

University of Georgia, 2019

Neuropsychology Consult Service

NEUROPSYCHOLOGY FACULTY (AFFILIATED/ASSOCIATED)

JUSTIN O'ROURKE, PH.D., ABPP

Clinical Psychology, University of Iowa, 2011

Polytrauma Neuropsychology

Dr. O'Rourke is board certified in clinical neuropsychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology and he is a member of the American Board of Clinical Neuropsychology. He was trained at the Benton Neuropsychology Laboratory and Department of Psychiatry within the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine while also earning his doctorate through the Counseling Psychology Department at the University of Iowa. He then completed his doctoral internship at the South Texas Veterans Health Care System in San Antonio, Texas. His postdoctoral fellowship in clinical neuropsychology was completed at the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center and the Oklahoma City VA Hospital in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He is now serving as a site primary investigator for [TBI Model Systems](#) program at the [Polytrauma Rehabilitation Center at the South Texas VA Health Care System](#). Dr. O'Rourke serves as a co-chair for the [National Academy of Neuropsychology's Legislative Action and Advocacy Committee](#). In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his wife and kids, reading anything by one of the Inklings, and building PCs to indulge his inner geek.

ROBERT A. SEEGMILLER, PH.D., ABPP

Psychology, Iowa State University, 1987

Director, Postdoctoral Fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas.

Dr. Seegmiller retired from the United States Air Force in 2007, where he previously served as the Chief of Neuropsychology Services at Wilford Hall USAF Medical Center. He completed a post-doctoral fellowship in clinical neuropsychology at the University of Virginia Health System in 1998 and received his board certification in Clinical Neuropsychology from the American Board of Professional Psychology in 2000. His current responsibilities include training postdoctoral neuropsychology fellows and doctoral clinical psychology interns. Dr. Seegmiller also serves as a clinical neuropsychologist for the U.S. Army, and provides neuropsychological services to active duty military personnel, retirees, and their family members. His practice involves consulting with medical staff, evaluating patients with a variety of medical and psychiatric disorders, offering diagnoses and treatment recommendations, and providing counseling/intervention services. He is active in the profession, serving on the Board of Directors for the Association of Professional

Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology (APPCN) and the American Board of Clinical Neuropsychology (ABCN), where he chairs the Ethics Committee and serves as an oral examiner for board certification.



2019 Pre-pandemic Holiday Dinner (and gift exchange) Event

Trainees^a & Fellowship Outcomes

- Since 2005, 100% of fellows passed the EPPP prior to the end of fellowship
- Since 2007, 100% of fellows secured employment prior to graduating fellowship
 - **Initial** employment setting is listed in italics below each past fellow's name
- Since 2007, ten graduated fellows have completed board certification in Clinical Neuropsychology through the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP) and seven more are actively in the process of board certification.

CURRENT NEUROPSYCHOLOGY FELLOWS

Lindsay Fruehauf, Ph.D. (First-year Fellow)
Brigham Young University

Ida Mohebpour, Psy.D. (First-year Fellow)
Midwestern University

Jameson Beach, Ph.D. (Second-year Fellow) University of South Alabama
Ashley Peak, Psy.D. (Second-year Fellow) University of La Verne
PAST NEUROPSYCHOLOGY FELLOWS <i>FIRST POSITION FOLLOWING FELLOWSHIP</i>
Kanesha Banks, Ph.D. (2020-2022) Howard University <i>Private Medical Center Staff Neuropsychologist</i>
Deborah Radmanesh, Psy.D. (2020-2022) Nova Southeastern University <i>VA Staff Neuropsychologist</i>
Idalhi Barnes Marrero , Psy.D. (2019-2021) Albizu University <i>VA Staff Neuropsychologist</i>
Amber Fahey, Ph.D. (2019-2021) University of Alabama at Birmingham <i>Private Practice Neuropsychologist</i>
Lindsay Kraemer, Psy.D. (2018-2020) Pacific University <i>Rehabilitation Clinic Staff Neuropsychologist</i>
Jacob Phillips, Psy.D. (2018-2020) Regent University <i>Private Practice Neuropsychologist with Academic Affiliation</i>
William “Alex” Alverson, Ph.D., ABPP (2017-2019) University of Houston (Clinical) <i>Rehabilitation Hospital Staff Neuropsychologist</i>
Johanna Messerly, Psy.D., ABPP (2017-2019) Nova Southwestern (Clinical) <i>University Medical Center Staff Neuropsychologist</i>

<p>Kathleen “Katie” Bain, Ph.D. (2016-2018) University of North Texas (Clinical) <i>VA Staff Neuropsychologist</i></p>
<p>Joshua Kirton, Ph.D. (2016-2018) University of Florida (Clinical) <i>Department of Defense (DoD) Staff Neuropsychologist</i></p>
<p>Kenneth “Chase” Bailey, Ph.D, ABPP (2015-2017) University of Oklahoma (Counseling) <i>University Medical Center Staff Neuropsychologist</i></p>
<p>Audrey Greene, Psy.D. (2015-2017) Pacific Graduate School of Psychology (Clinical) <i>Private Practice Neuropsychologist</i></p>
<p>Jonathan Highsmith, Ph.D. (2014-2016) East Carolina University (Clinical) <i>VA Staff Neuropsychologist</i></p>
<p>David Andrés Gonzalez, Ph.D., ABPP (2014-2016) University of North Texas (Clinical) <i>University Medical Center Staff Neuropsychologist</i></p>
<p>Jeffrey Sordahl, Psy.D., ABPP (2013-2015) George Fox University (Clinical) <i>VA Staff Neuropsychologist</i></p>
<p>Valerie Balldin, Ph.D. (2012-2014) Texas Tech University (Clinical) <i>University Medical Center Staff Neuropsychologist</i></p>
<p>Janice Marceaux, Ph.D., ABPP (2011-2013) University of Alabama - Birmingham (Clinical) <i>VA Staff Neuropsychologist</i></p>
<p>Robert Fallows, Psy.D., ABPP (2010-2012) Argosy University (Clinical) <i>Private Medical Center Staff Neuropsychologist</i></p>

Russell Pella, Ph.D., ABPP (2009-2011)
Louisiana State University (Clinical)
University Medical Center Staff Neuropsychologist

Tammy Hietpas, Ph.D. (2008-2010)
University of Missouri-Kansas City (Counseling)
Private Practice Neuropsychologist

Shalanda Gordon, Ph.D. (2007-2009)
Howard University (Clinical)
VA Staff Neuropsychologist

Andrea Zartman, Ph.D., ABPP (2006-2008)
University of North Texas (Clinical Health)
VA Staff Neuropsychologist

Karin McCoy, Ph.D., ABPP (2005-2007)
University of Florida (Clinical)
University Medical Center Staff Neuropsychologist

^a*All trainees listed have given permission for their information to be published*

Postdoctoral Residency Admissions, Support, and Initial Placement Data

POST-DOCTORAL RESIDENCY PROGRAM TABLES

Date Program Tables were updated: 30 November 2022 and (stipend only) **16 January 2023**

Postdoctoral 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 selection and practicum and academic preparation requirements:
Applicants are most likely to fit well into our program if they are prepared academically, with neuropsychological coursework, practicum experiences, internship training, research experience, assessment and treatment experience with diverse neuropsychological patient populations. Additionally, strong writing skills, adaptability, enthusiasm for learning, and strong time management skills will allow an applicant to get the most out of our training opportunities. Interest in clinical and research work with bilingual populations may increase the applicant’s fit.
Describe any other required minimum criteria used to screen applicants:
Competitive applicants typically have taken two or more graduate level neuropsychological courses, including neuropsychological assessment. They have had at least one practicum experience in neuropsychology and have completed an internship with a focused neuropsychological rotation. They have assessment experience with a variety of neuropsychological tests and clinical populations and have written at least 40 adult neuropsychological reports. They have conducted neuropsychological-focused research and have at least five national or international conference presentations. They have strong letters of reference from 2-3 supervisors of neuropsychological experiences.

Financial and Other Benefit Support for Upcoming Training Year*

Annual Stipend/Salary for Full-time Residents/Fellows – Year One	\$52,538
Annual Stipend/Salary for Full-time Residents/Fellows – Year Two	\$55,378
Annual Stipend/Salary for Half-time Residents	n/a
Program provides access to medical insurance for resident?	Yes
If access to medical insurance is provided	
Trainee contribution to cost required?	Yes
Coverage of family member(s) available?	Yes
Coverage of legally married partner available?	Yes
Coverage of domestic partner available?	No
Hours of Annual Paid Personal Time Off (PTO and/or Vacation)	104
Hours of Annual Paid Sick Leave	104
In the event of medical conditions and/or family needs that require extended leave, does the program allow reasonable unpaid leave to residents/fellows in excess of personal time off and sick leave?	Yes
Other Benefits: 11 Federal Holidays; 3 Administrative Absence days	

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

Initial Post-Residency/Fellowship Positions

(Provide an Aggregated Tally for the Preceding 3 cohorts)

	2018-2022*	
Total # of residents/fellows who were in the 3 cohorts	6	
Total # of residents/fellows who remain in training in the fellowship program	0	
	PD	EP
Academic teaching	0	0
Community mental health center	0	0
Consortium	0	0
University Counseling Center	0	0
Hospital/Medical Center	0	2
Veterans Affairs Health Care System	0	2
Psychiatric facility	0	0
Correctional facility	0	0
Health maintenance organization	0	0
School district/system	0	0
Independent practice setting	0	2
Other	0	0

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. *Since the program is a two-year training program, the three cohorts included are: 2018-2020, 2019-2021, 2020-2022.

Program History

Our internship program was accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA) in 1980. Postdoctoral training began in 1992, when our program successfully competed for funding from VA Headquarters and was named one of six VA medical centers to provide training in geropsychology.

Our first postdoctoral fellows in neuropsychology were appointed in 1996. The postdoctoral program was accredited by the APA in 1999, making it the **first** VA psychology program to achieve this milestone. The clinical neuropsychology program was granted specialty accreditation in 2003. Our neuropsychology postdoctoral position was funded through a research grant from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, until we restructured our program to have four postdoctoral fellowship slots (Health Psychology, Palliative Care, and two years of Neuropsychology) for the 2005-2007 training cohort. We continued to have two neuropsychology positions until 2014, when the clinical neuropsychology program expanded from two positions to four. These four positions are fully funded by the VA and fully accredited by APA.

About San Antonio

San Antonio

San Antonio is a rapidly growing multicultural city, with a population of 1.53 million as of 2020, making it the seventh most populous city in the United States and the second most populous in Texas. The metropolitan area is the 25th largest metro area, with a population of 2.3 million. In 2019, the American Community Survey estimated San Antonio had a racial makeup of 88.4% White, 6.6% Black and African American, 0.2% American Indian and Alaska Native, 2.8% Asian, 0.1% Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander, 0.2% some other race and 1.7% two or more races. Ethnically, 64.5% were Hispanic or Latin American of any race. In 2020, its racial and ethnic makeup was 23.4% non-Hispanic white, 63.9% Hispanic or Latin American of any race, 6.5% Black and African American, 3.2% Asian, and 2.3% multiracial or some other race. The city retains considerable historical and picturesque charm despite its rapid growth. Its economy is driven by tourism, military, light industry, financial services, and strong biomedical research and educational institutions. Four US military facilities comprise Joint Base San Antonio, including Fort Sam Houston, Randolph Air Force Base, and Lackland Air Force Base.

San Antonio's rich history and cultural diversity offer many interesting sights and activities, including the Alamo, historic missions, fine restaurants, museums, zoo (the third largest in the nation), and the romantic downtown River Walk. San Antonio has a lively music and theater scene. You can take your pick of clubs featuring blues, jazz, salsa, country, and Tejano-Conjunto music. Our beautifully renovated historic downtown theaters are home to a first-class symphony, ballet, and many national touring productions. In addition to barbecue, San Antonio is known for Mexican, Spanish, German, and French culinary traditions; UNESCO has designated San Antonio a "Creative City of Gastronomy" – just the second city in the United States to receive this honor.

Sports fans can enjoy watching the five-time NBA champion Spurs compete in basketball, the San Antonio Football Club which plays in the United Soccer League, the American Hockey League team San Antonio Rampage, and the seven-time Texas League champion Missions in AA professional baseball. The Alamodome plays host to NFL exhibition games, the Alamo Bowl, NCAA Playoffs, and other Texas-sized events, including the Rodeo.

The weather in San Antonio is subtropical with 300 sunny days throughout the year. The mild winters encourage year-round festivals and outdoor fun. Often we feel the winter chill, briefly, for a short time in January or February.

North of San Antonio is the scenic Texas Hill Country, an ideal getaway for swimming, fishing, skiing, canoeing, tubing, and hunting. San Antonio is only a few hours' drive from the Gulf of Mexico, with isolated sandy beaches, warm waters, and excellent fishing.

Housing in San Antonio is plentiful and reasonably priced. Trainees can find safe, economical apartments within walking distance of the hospital. Our award-winning public and private schools are among the best in the state.

Calendar of Cultural Events and Festivals: Viva San Antonio

January

- San Antonio Cocktail Conference
- River walk Mud Festival/Draining of the River
- Martin Luther King, Jr., March, (largest in the nation)
- Parade of Lanterns

February

- Asian Festival
- Battle of the Alamo Commemoration
- San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo
- Mardi Gras Festival and River Parade

March

- Contemporary Art Month
- San Antonio Folk Dance Festival
- St. Patrick's Day River Parade & Festival (San Antonio River dyed green)

April

- Fiesta San Antonio
 - 11-day celebration, including Battle of Flowers Parade & A Night in Old San Antonio (NIOA)
- Valero Texas Open

May

- Armed Forces River Parade
- Cinco De Mayo Celebrations

Culinaria: A Wine and Culinary Arts Festival
Fiesta Noche del Rio
Tejano Conjunto Festival

June

San Antonio Summer Art & Jazz Festival
Texas Folklife Festival

July

Balcones Heights Jazz Festival
Fourth of July Celebrations

August

Ford Canoe Challenge

September

Diez y Seis Events
Fotoseptiembre USA
Jazz'SA Live
World Heritage Festival

October

Oktoberfest San Antonio

November

Dia de los Muertos
Diwali San Antonio
Ford Holiday River Parade & Lighting Ceremony

December

San Antonio Rock 'n' Roll Marathon and Half Marathon
Fiesta de las Luminarias
Mariachi Extravaganza Concert
Valero Alamo Bowl



Enjoy some Mexican food and a margarita on the downtown Riverwalk



... or visit the Alamo.