

BOSTON COLLEGE

Lynch School of Education and
Human Development



Institute for the Study of Race and Culture



BOSTON COLLEGE

Carolyn A. and Peter S. Lynch

School of Education and Human Development

The Institute for the Study of Race and Culture presents...

First Biennial Graduate Student Diversity Challenge Conference

*Race and Racism in Psychological Science:
Considerations for Emerging Scholars*

November 11, 2023

9:30 AM – 5:00 PM EST

Via Zoom

Register Here



Feedback Form



<https://forms.gle/xdvwzND8E9G7yTVN6>



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9:30 AM – 9:45 AM EST

Welcome: Dr. Alex L. Pieterse, Dr. Brian Smith

9:45 AM – 10:45 AM EST

Keynote Address: Dr. Brian TaeHyuk Keum

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM EST

Graduate Student Symposia Presentations

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM EST

Lunch & Graduate Student Poster Presentations

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM EST

Graduate Student Paper Presentations

2:15 PM – 2:45 PM EST

Interview with Dr. Jardin Dogan-Dixon

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM EST

Mentor Panels

4:30 PM – 5:00 PM EST

Closing Address: Dr. Alex L. Pieterse



9:30 AM – 9:45 AM EST

Welcome: Dr. Alex L. Pieterse, Dr. Brian Smith

Dr. Pieterse, Director of the Institute for the Study of Race and Culture (ISRC), will greet attendees and present an overview of the ISRC and the goals of this conference.

9:45 AM – 10:45 AM EST

Keynote Address: Dr. Brian TaeHyuk Keum

In this Keynote Address, Dr. Keum will share his personal growth and development as a scholar, including what drew him to study race and racism and some of his most critical research findings.



Brian TaeHyuk Keum, PhD, (he/him/his) is the Buehler Family Sesquicentennial Assistant Professor in the Department of Counseling, Developmental, and Educational Psychology at Boston College. Dr. Keum's research focuses on (a) mental and behavioral costs of online oppression (e.g., online racism), (b) intersectional perspectives in mental health and socialization among Asian Americans, (c) multicultural and social justice issues in clinical training, (d) culturally-congruent and culturally-relevant psychological measure development/evaluation, and (e) promotion of cross-racial anti-racism solidarity.

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM EST

Graduate Student Symposia Presentations

We are excited to present 4 student symposia on mental health and healing from racism. Each symposium is a collection of three presentations centered on a unifying theme. Below are the authors, titles, and abstracts of the symposia presentations. Please join to provide feedback and share your thoughts with these outstanding students.



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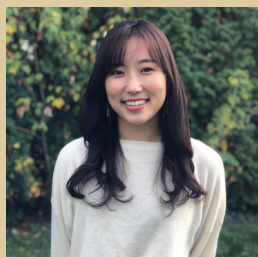
Carolyn A. and Peter S. Lynch

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1. Jeanie (Yea Jin) Chang, Han Na Lee, Tiffany Fang: Healing from Racism through Critical Consciousness

- 1) Development and Validation of the Measure of Critical Reflection.
- 2) Asian Americans' Experiences of COVID-related Discrimination: Collective Identity, Critical Consciousness, and Intergroup Solidarity.
- 3) Intergenerational Trauma and Resilience in Chinese American Families.

This symposium will offer perspectives on critical consciousness and its complex interplay with racial trauma. Measurement of critical consciousness, the role of critical consciousness in racial identity development, and the application of critical consciousness in understanding intergenerational trauma and resilience will be discussed.



Jeanie (Yea Jin) Chang is a fourth-year Counseling Psychology doctoral candidate at Loyola University Chicago. Her research interests include immigration experiences, Asian American identity, and critical consciousness. Her dissertation entails developing and validating a measure of critical consciousness. She hopes to use the results from this study to develop interventions for facilitating racial identity development, healing from oppression, and training counselors in liberative psychology.



Han Na Lee is a fifth-year counseling psychology doctoral candidate at Loyola University Chicago and is currently completing her doctoral internship at the University of Texas at Austin Counseling and Mental Health Center. Her research interests include immigrant specific concerns, contextualization of social relationships for ethnic minorities, racism and identity development for Asian Americans, and community-based interventions. Her dissertation examined the impact of COVID-related discrimination on Asian Americans' collective identity and how it shapes solidarity among marginalized groups through the lens of critical consciousness.



Tiffany Fang, MA, LPC (she/her) is a fourth-year counseling psychology doctoral candidate at Loyola University Chicago. Her research interests center around ecologically valid interventions for healing from racism, processes of intergenerational trauma and resilience, and measurement of institutional racism. Her clinical interests include BIPOC mental health, trauma treatment, and chronic and acute illnesses. She is passionate about grounding her work on the South Side of Chicago, where both sides of her family immigrated in the 1980's and she currently resides with her partner.



2. Vanessa Anyanso, Brianna A. Baker, Jada Rene Flint: Exploring Black Mental Health at the Intersection of COVID-19, Police Violence, Activism, and Radical Hope

On May 25, 2020, George Floyd was killed by police officers in Minneapolis. The period of racially charged social unrest that followed was associated with increased psychological distress for all Americans, particularly Black Americans. This symposium 1) explores the psychological plight of Black Americans in the context of police brutality, the COVID-19 pandemic, and 2) activism and seeks to engender hope and healing by introducing the radical hope process model.



Vanessa Anyanso, B.A., (she/her) is a fifth-year doctoral candidate in Counseling Psychology at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities and a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Columbia University. Her current research interests include the impact of the Minneapolis Unrest on the well-being and the impact that the Strong Black Woman schema has on the mental health of Black women across the African diaspora. She is also a Scientist-Practitioner-Advocate co-chair on the Executive Board for the Student Affiliates of Seventeen, a lead mentor through the NextGen Psych Scholars Program, and creator and host of the PhDiversity Podcast.



Brianna A. Baker, M.Phil (she/her) is a 4th-year Ph.D candidate in Counseling Psychology at Teachers College, Columbia University. She specializes in using Afrofuturism and Black feminist thought to develop policy and community-level interventions concerning mental health equity and sociopolitical determinants of mental health for Black women and families. She is a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Research Scholar and an American Psychological Association Predoctoral Minority Fellow. She hopes to mesh her passions for communications, public health, and psychology to bring Black mental health to the forefront of America's social, moral, and political agendas.



Jada Rene Flint, M.A., (she/her) is currently a fourth-year doctoral candidate in Clinical Psychology at Teachers College, Columbia University. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Africana Studies and Psychology, which she obtained from Smith College. In 2020, she also successfully completed her Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology and received a certification in Sexuality, Women, and Gender from Teachers College. Her research is primarily centered on the intricate aspects of suicidality within the African American community. She is particularly committed to the exploration and identification of distinct traits linked to suicidal ideation and behavior among Black youth with the ultimate goal in enhancing targeted and effective prevention strategies and interventions.



3. Wendy Chu, Julie K. Nguyen, Stephanie H. Yu: Understanding Racial Trauma in Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander Communities: The Impact, Our Response, and Our Radical Healing

This symposium will highlight three investigations from the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islanders HEALing from Racial Trauma (AANHPI HEART) Study. These investigations, led by Asian American women, sought to: (1) examine how AANHPIs describe being impacted by anti-Asian racism since the COVID-19 pandemic (qualitative) and examine the associations between impact and other cultural factors and outcomes (quantitative); (2) examine how AANHPIs describe responding to anti-Asian racism; and (3) examine the association between racial trauma symptoms in AANHPIs and radical healing.



Wendy Chu (she/her/hers) is currently a fifth-year PhD student in the Clinical-Community Psychology program at the University of South Carolina. She earned a BA in Psychology from Macalester College. She self-identifies as a Chinese American woman, first-generation college student, and daughter of low-income Chinese immigrants. Her research, funded by the W.T. Grant Foundation and APA CHANGE Grant, aims to improve the cultural responsiveness of mental health services and programs for marginalized populations, particularly youth and families, by centering and elevating their lived experiences. Wendy is passionate about advancing social justice for racial/ethnic minoritized communities and likes to try new foods, watch anime, and spend time with her friends in her free time.



Julie K. Nguyen (she/her/hers) is a current 2nd-year PhD student in the Clinical-Community Psychology program at the University of South Carolina. She earned a BS in Psychology from Georgia State University. She self-identifies as a Vietnamese American woman and first-generation college student. Her research broadly focuses on advancing health equity by 1) examining sociocultural risk and protective factors for ethnic minority children and families, 2) using this knowledge to culturally adapt trauma-informed, family-based evidence-based treatments, and 3) increasing access to mental health services through implementation science and policy. In her free time, she likes to travel, try new foods, and play volleyball.



Stephanie H. Yu is a Clinical Psychology PhD candidate at UCLA and current predoctoral psychology intern at the University of Illinois Chicago Department of Psychiatry. She self-identifies as a Chinese/Taiwanese American woman and daughter of immigrants. Across her research, clinical, and advocacy work, she is passionate about advancing social justice and equity for racial/ethnic minoritized communities through community partnership. To date, her research has focused on culturally-responsive adaptation and implementation of evidence-based practices in public systems of care serving structurally marginalized communities. Her research also centers on understanding the impact of, and how communities heal from, individual and systemic racism and discrimination. Finally, Stephanie's advocacy work extends to advancing initiatives towards greater equity, access, and anti-racism in academia and higher education overall.



4. Gayla Olvera, Bethany Faulds, Jori Williams, Halie Liles-Gregory, Susma Khanal, Joshua Harris:

Mental Health Care Attainment and Outcomes within Latinx Communities: Working Towards an Anti-Racist System

Latinx communities face various barriers that stem from historic and current systems inundated with racism. Such barriers negatively influence the attainment and outcomes of mental health care within Latinx communities. Working towards an anti-racist system as a profession will require a complex process that 1) takes stock of current disparities in access to care, 2) incorporates a culturally strengths-based perspective on resiliency and coping strategies, and 3) draws meaningful conclusions for treatment recommendations at the individual and systemic level; such aims will be addressed in the presentations of this symposium.



Gayla Olvera (MA, Clinical Psychology) is a doctoral candidate in clinical psychology at Regent University. Her areas of research focus on multicultural psychology, particularly addressing issues related to BIPOC communities and mental health. More specifically, she has a strong interest in working with and advocating for Latinx populations. She possesses a broad range of clinical interests and experience, which encompass serving individuals of all ages, including children, teenagers, adults, as well as couples and families, in outpatient environments. Additionally, she has experience working with trauma histories, substance use disorders, mood disorders, and identity conflicts. Gayla has participated in various research teams and clinics at Regent, including Multicultural Clinic, Academy of Minority Identity Development (AMIDA), Hope Couples Clinic, and Child Guidance Clinic.



Bethany Faulds, M.A. is a doctoral candidate in Regent University's Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology Program. Her clinical and research interests include marginalized populations, anti-racism, and forensics.



Jori Williams was born and raised mostly in Portsmouth, Ohio. She attended Marshall University in West Virginia, obtaining her bachelor's degree (B.A.) and master's degrees (M.A., Ed.S.). After graduating, she worked as a school psychologist for two years in Morganton, North Carolina. Currently, Jori is a fourth year student in her clinical psychology doctoral program at Regent University in Virginia Beach, Virginia. She is passionate about minority mental health and identity development, especially within the Black community. Jori has participated in various research teams and clinics at Regent, such as Multicultural Clinic, Academy of Minority Identity Development (AMIDA), Aletheia (Trauma-informed) Project, Child Guidance Clinic, and Childhood Advocacy, Education & Research (CARE) Initiative.





Halie Liles-Gregory is a Clinical Psychology doctoral candidate at Regent University's PsyD program. As a supervisor in her program's Multicultural Clinic, she has enjoyed the opportunity to mentor students from younger cohorts in developing greater cultural comfort and approaching client conceptualization in a way that honors the intersectionality of various identity variables. Her passions for research include healthcare inequities in diverse populations and promoting the responsible consumption of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion research. She hopes to work as part of an interdisciplinary team within integrated primary care at a VA Medical Center once she graduates.



My name is Susma Khanal. I am a 3rd-year Psy.D. student at Regent University, and my passion lies in working with adults aged 18 and older in my own private practice in the future. My ultimate aspiration is to use the knowledge and skills I'm gaining to make a positive difference in the lives of many, guiding them toward a brighter and more fulfilling mental health journey.



My name is Joshua Harris and I am currently a 2nd year PsyD student. My research interest is exploring the intersecting diversity variables of spirituality, ethnicity, and education as it pertains to first generation BIPOC doctoral candidates and graduates navigating trauma in an integrated PHD/PsyD program from PWIs and HBCUs.



12:00 PM – 1:00 PM EST

Lunch & Poster Presentations

We are excited to present 12 student posters on the impact of racism and anti-racism among diverse populations. Below are the authors and titles of the poster presentations. Please join to provide feedback and share your thoughts with these outstanding students.

**1. Madelyn Harris, LaShawnda Fields, PhD, Robert Motley, PhD:
Voices from the Sidelines: Black Women’s Experiences Witnessing
Excessive Use of Force by Police**



Madelyn Harris (she/her/hers) is a second-year PhD student in counseling psychology at Boston College. Her research and practice center the wisdom of communities historically excluded from and exploited by psychological research, education, and intervention, specifically Black and LGBTQIA+ Americans.

**2. Molly Sawdy, Jessica LoPresti, PhD:
A Proposed Measure: The Adoption-Related Microaggressions
Scale (ARMS)**



Molly is a fourth-year clinical psychology doctoral student at Suffolk University. Her research focuses on barriers to accessing effective mental healthcare for people and communities of color, including the mental health and wellness experiences of transracial adoptees of color.

**3. Tatyana N. Smith:
A Qualitative Exploration of the Romantic Experiences of Black Men
Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse**



Tatyana Smith, M.A., is a fifth-year doctoral student in the counseling psychology department at Western Michigan University. Her research interests include Black men, childhood sexual abuse, masculinity, and romantic relationships.



4. Danielle A. Farrar:

Creating SPACE: A Conceptual Model for Addressing the Impact of Gendered Racism on Black Women



Danielle Farrar is a second year student in the Springfield College Psy.D. in Counseling Psychology program. Her interest is in BIPOC health and wellness and her current research focus is on the health and well-being of Black women.

5. Lisa Wenninger, Devona Stalnaker-Shofner, PhD, Keiko Sano, PhD, Syntia Santos-Dietz, PhD:

Journeys of Counselor Educators Towards Antiracism: A Collaborative Autoethnography



Lisa Wenninger (she/her) is a doctoral candidate in Counselor Education & Supervision at Antioch University. Her research focus is on antiracist skills and identity development.

6. Sabrina Piccolo:

What makes a job difficult?: The influence of training, wage, and social class on the perception of difficulty in labor



Sabrina Piccolo (she/her/hers) is a first-year PhD student in social psychology at Northeastern University. Her research explores how people who hold multiple racial or cultural identities are perceived by others and perceive themselves in a world with rigid views on social categories.

7. Jocelyn Meza, Diana Formoso:

Navigating the Reunion Road: Understanding Challenges in Latinx Unaccompanied Immigrant Minors' Family Reunification



Jocelyn Meza is a fourth-year graduate student in the clinical psychology doctoral program at Nova Southeastern University. Her research focus is on how different cultural (e.g., acculturation, race/ethnicity, cultural beliefs) and sociological (poverty, disparities, adverse experiences) factors impact youth outcomes.



8. Nesther S. Fernandez:

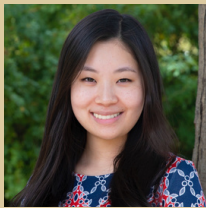
Racial Trauma and The Impact on Black College Students



Nesther S. Fernandez recently graduated from Boston College where he completed a Masters degree in Mental Health Counseling. His research interests are understanding the complexities of Racial Trauma and the impacts it has on Black and Latinx students, exploring coping mechanisms, structural racism, and anti-racism practices.

9. Haruka Kokaze, Victoria Bui, Ahad Asad, Aysegul Yucel, Lisa Suzuki, PhD, Kyoko Toyama, PhD:

Unmasking Racial Trauma: Exploring the Unspoken Impact on Asian American Well-being



Haruka Kokaze is pursuing a MA in Counseling for Mental Health and Wellness at NYU. Her research focuses most recently on race-based traumatic stress in Asian American communities and mental health in the workplace.



Victoria Bui is a master's student at the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at New York University. Currently, she contributes to research at NYU and CUNY to study the effects of racial trauma and increase resources for individuals and families negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.



Ahad Asad, BSc (hons), (he/him) is a second year Master's of Education student at the University of Alberta, specializing in Counselling Psychology. His research interests lie in anti-oppression and advocacy work with a focus on intersectional identities.



Aysegul Yucel is currently obtaining her master's degree in forensic psychology at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Her research interests include the impact of existing societal structure and stigma on the psychological well-being of marginalized populations, the effects of sexual trauma, and short and long-term suicide risk factors for suicide.



10. Kimberly M. Wesley, Anwar Hussein, Sianne Alexis, Diamond Brown, Keena Singletary, Suzette Speight, PhD:

“I’m not the only one”: Black student experiences within the Counseling Psychology Program (CPP) at The University of Akron



Kimberly M. Wesley (she/her) is a first-generation Counseling Psychology Ph.D. student at The University of Akron who works under the mentorship of Dr. Suzette Speight. Her research and scholarly interests pertain to race and racism, Black women, radical healing, racial trauma, and anti-racism.



Anwar Hussein is a Counseling Psychology doctoral student at the University of Akron. His research interests broadly include biculturalism, identity development, and mental health outcomes.



Sianne Alexis (she/her/hers) is a student in the Counseling Psychology Ph.D. program at The University of Akron. Her research interests examine the effects that intersectionality and systems of oppression have on marginalized groups.



Diamond is a current 2nd year in the Ph.D. Counseling Psychology program at The University of Akron. Their research interests include Black Queer individuals, multicultural competence, social justice and community psychology.



Keena Singletary is a fourth-year student in The University of Akron’s Counseling Psychology doctoral program. Her research interests broadly include health disparities among Black women.



**11. Julia Zhong, Jennifer H. Martinez, PhD:
Cultural Values as a Moderator of the Effect of Racial Microaggressions on
Mental Health**



Julia Zhong (she/her) is a first-year PhD student in clinical psychology at Suffolk University. Her research interests include the role of Asian American identity and cultural values on mental health, culturally informed therapies, and mental health accessibility for marginalized communities.

**12. Eun Jeong (EJ) Yang, Jasmine Mueller-Hsia:
The Role of Racism and Race-Based Traumatic Stress in Mental Health
Among Asian Americans**



Eun Jeong (EJ) Yang (she/her) is a fourth-year doctoral student in Counseling Psychology at Boston College. Her scholarly interests also encompass culturally informed assessment and intervention strategies, as well as the exploration of racial trauma.



Jasmine Mueller-Hsia (she/her) is a second-year master's student in the Mental Health Counseling program at Boston College. Liberation is the heart of her lifework: her research interests center on the lived experiences of queer and trans people of color, particularly regarding relationships and disability, and how we can build worlds where everyone is free.



1:00 PM – 2:00 PM EST

Graduate Student Paper Presentations

We are excited to present 7 student papers on the impact of racism and anti-racism among diverse populations. Below are the authors, titles, and abstracts of the paper presentations. Please join to provide feedback and share your thoughts with these outstanding students.

1. Nicole Davis, Julio Sevilla, PhD:

Racial Diversity in Marketing Promotions Improves Preference for Stigmatized Products

While past work suggests that firms seem to benefit from featuring racial diversity in marketing appeals, it is unclear whether these effects replicate in stigmatized settings. This study aims to fill this gap by examining consumer response to representation of racial diversity in marketing appeals promotion stigmatized products. Empirical evidence indicates that, unlike past findings, the representation of mixed-race groups (versus monoracial majority or minority groups) enhances ad outcomes for stigmatized (vs. non-stigmatized) promotions. Drawing from social identity theory, we find that this increased preference is driven by perceptions of inclusion which signals brand expertise, leading to better outcomes such as higher ad evaluations and expected quality.



Nicole Davis is a current PhD Candidate in Marketing in the Terry College of Business. Nicole's research concentrates on consumer behavior, with special interest in stereotyping, race, gender, DEI, and branding. Much of Nicole's research examines some dimension of race or gender in the consumer marketplace against both consumer and firm outcomes. Nicole also draws on her 7+ years of work experience in various marketing roles to develop research questions and integrate past experience in the classroom.



2. Maryam Ware, Lauren Hall, Yara Mekawi, PhD: Feeling Depleted: The Independent and Interactive Effects of Gendered Racial Microaggressions and Racial Pride on Cognitive Inhibition

Gendered racial microaggressions are subtle behaviors, comments, or actions that communicate derogatory or negative messages about a person's race and gender identity. Experiencing gendered racial microaggressions has been shown to be harmful to Black women's mental health, but the cognitive mechanisms through which harm occurs are poorly understood. This study aimed to fill this gap by examining the independent and interactive roles of gendered racial microaggressions and racial identity pride (private regard) on inhibition difficulty in a sample of Black women.



Maryam Ware (she/her) is a second-year graduate student in the Clinical Psychology Ph.D. program working with Dr. Yara Mekawi. She graduated from Mount Holyoke College with a Bachelor of Arts in Neuroscience & Behavior with a minor in Psychology. Her current research interests include examining the mechanisms by which racism and its consequences impact development and using this knowledge to develop impactful strengths-based interventions.

3. Sommer C. Blair: Gun Violence and Anti-Black Racism in America: A Story of Symbolic Interactionism, Intersectionality, and Interest Convergence

Anti-Black racism and its connection to gun violence is a complex social problem that has plagued American society since its inception. This presentation examines the faulty narratives in American history, media, and film, that are used to perpetuate stereotypes and justify the disproportionate victimization of Black Americans by firearms. Policy and practice recommendations will be made for those working within the field of social work and beyond by way of the theoretical explanations provided with the goal for the audience to walk away having a better, clearer understanding of the relationship between the unique phenomenon that is the social problem of anti-Black racism and gun violence in the United States.



Sommer C. Blair, LISW-CP, is a second-year doctoral student at the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work mentored by Dr. James Huguley working with his Parenting While Black Project. Sommer received her MSW from the University of South Carolina School of Social Work with a graduate certificate in Drug and Addiction Studies. Sommer's practice experience is immersed in direct case management and providing therapeutic services to children and families with child protective services involvement. Her research focuses on identifying the most effective ways for white people to become engaged co-conspirators with marginalized racial groups. She is interested in understanding the role whiteness plays in interracial relationships, places, and spaces of all kinds. Currently, her work involves preparing effective ethnic-racial socialization interventions for white families.



4. Xiangyu Tao:

Exposure to Offline and Online Gendered Racism, Friendships, and Mental Health Among Young Women of Color

Experience of offline and online gendered racism can increase mental health risks among young BIPOC women, while positive and negative friendship experiences may protect against or increase such risks. This study collected online survey data from 339 Asian, Black, and Hispanic/Latina young women aged 18-24 and found that friendship co-rumination (an excessive focus) in response to gendered racism mediated the association between exposure to gendered racism and symptoms of depressive and anxiety and substance use risk. Positive aspects of BIPOC friendships, i.e., higher intimacy and support, mitigated the adverse association between co-rumination and substance use but not mental health risk.



Xiangyu Tao is a fifth year PhD candidate in the Social Justice and Health Justice Lab mentored by Dr. Celia B. Fisher in the Applied Developmental Psychology program at Fordham University. Her research interests center around developmental risk and resilience in response to racial, sexual, and gender discrimination across ecological contexts, especially online experiences among underrepresented youth. Informing responsible conduct of research with underserved communities is also central to her work. Xiangyu has had 11 publications, including seven first-authored works, in high-impact journals, and had been awarded the Journal of Youth and Adolescence 2021 Emerging Scholar Best Article Award for her MA thesis published article on exposure to social media discrimination and mental health among BIPOC adolescents. Xiangyu will be graduated in May 2024.

5. Audrey Tesi:

A Brief Overview of the Mental and Behavioral Effects Experienced by Dark-Skin Black Women

Colorism is regarded as the “allocation of privilege and disadvantage according to the lightness or darkness of one’s skin, with favoritism typically granted to those with lighter skin” (Diette et al., 2015, p. 156). A psychosocial mechanism in which white supremacy and anti-Black racism are affirmed and perpetuated, it ascribes a privileged status to those with phenotypic features that maintain a closer proximation to whiteness (Wilder & Cain, 2011). During this presentation, colorism in addition to the mental and behavioral effects experienced by dark-skinned Black women, specifically self-esteem, suicidal ideation, and sexual health, will be articulated.



Audrey Tesi (she/her), M.S. is a doctoral student in the Counseling Psychology program at the University of Akron. She graduated from Syracuse University in 2017 with a B.S. in Psychology and an M.S. in Psychology from Lipscomb University in 2021. Clinically, she is interested in working with marginalized communities, specifically the Black community, and uses both acceptance and commitment and cognitive-behavioral therapeutic approaches that are multiculturally informed. Broadly, her research interests include the study of socioeconomic issues and their relationship with mental health as well as issues affecting the Black community, particularly racism and colorism. She is currently writing her dissertation on how skin tone satisfaction and racial identity moderates the relationship between skin tone and sexual health among Black women.



**6. Tanvi N. Shah, Georgia McFarland, Rohan R. Arcot, Tanya Songtachalert, Amy Chen, Melissa K. Holt, PhD, Grace S. Kim, PhD:
Asian Women in Counseling Psychology Research: A Systematic Content Analysis from 2000 – 2020**

Asian women in the United States (AWUS) are part of the most rapidly growing racial group in the country today (Budiman & Ruiz, 2021), and are 2.3 times more likely to experience hate incidents than Asian men (Stop AAPI-Hate Organization, 2021). At the same time, there is a notable gap in counseling psychology literature when it comes to considering the impact of intersectional identities on intersectional lived experiences (Shin et al., 2017), especially on AWUS. The present study highlights the scope of the gap through a systematic content analysis of 3,913 articles published in the Journal of Counseling Psychology (JCP) and The Counseling Psychologist (TCP) between January 2000 and July 2020.



Tanvi Shah (pronouns: she/they) is a doctoral candidate in Counseling Psychology at Boston University, Wheelock College of Education and Human Development. Tenets of intersectionality, multicultural awareness, and insight-oriented therapies inform her work as a researcher and clinician. Tanvi's research focuses on mental health and trauma within marginalized communities, with a focus on Asian women and gender-based oppression, while her clinical is grounded in the importance of cultural humility and advocacy in the therapeutic relationship.



Georgia McFarland (she/her) holds a bachelor's degree from Johns Hopkins University, majoring in Psychological & Brain Sciences and Africana Studies. She furthered her education with a master's in education, specializing in Counseling Psychology with a concentration in Sports Psychology, at Boston University. Her research interests include the impacts of social programs on Black youth, housing discrimination in urban areas, and mental health in marginalized communities. Currently, Georgia is working as a pre-licensure therapist in New York at a private practice, where she continues to apply her knowledge and skills in the field.

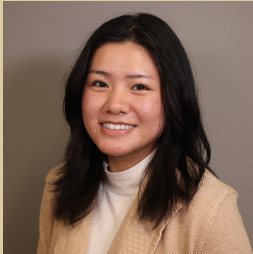


Rohan Arcot (he/him) is a second-year PhD student in Counseling Psychology at Boston University. He holds a M.S. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from Johns Hopkins University (JHU), a B.A. in psychology from Hamilton College, and is a Nationally Certified Counselor. He works as a research team member in the ARISE lab and for the Center for Character and Social Responsibility. His research interests include Asian American mental health, culturally sensitive therapeutic treatments, positive psychology, anti-racism, and multicultural counseling training. This research has been supported through funding by the Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development (AMCD) and Southern Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (SACES) and has been presented at national conferences including APA and AERA.





Tanya Songtchalert is a doctoral student in the Counseling Psychology & Applied Human Development program at Boston University Wheelock College of Education & Human Development. Tanya has a background in public health and neuroscience research. Tanya currently works at McLean 3 East as a practicum student implementing DBT with clients. Her research focuses on mental healthcare accessibility for Asian and Asian American individuals, and how food and shared mealtimes can be used to increase access and efficacy of group therapy for this population.



Amy Chen is a second-year master's in counseling psychology student at Boston University Wheelock College of Education & Human Development. She completed her bachelor's in science degree in clinical psychology with minors in philanthropy and anthropology at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Amy's research interests lie in the Asian American and immigrant experiences, specifically on racial trauma, resilience, accessibility and barriers to mental health that these populations face.



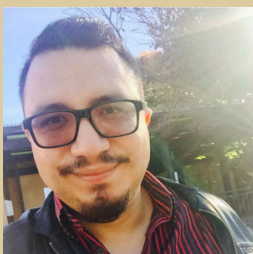
Dr. Melissa K. Holt (she/her) is Director of Kilachand Honors College, Boston University and Associate Professor of Counseling Psychology at Boston University Wheelock College of Education & Human Development. Her research, conducted in collaboration with schools and non-profit agencies, focuses on adolescents' experiences with identity-based harassment and victimization in school, at home, and in the community. Within this line of research Dr. Holt has evaluated disparities in victimization and its correlates (e.g., mental health), factors that promote resilience among youth, the overlap among violence exposures, and the efficacy of school-based prevention programs. Her recent research has had a particular emphasis on harassment based on identity – specifically, with respect to gender identity, sexual orientation, immigration status, and race/ethnicity.



Dr. Grace S. Kim is Clinical Associate Professor and chair of the Counseling Psychology & Applied Human Development Department at Boston University, Wheelock College of Education & Human Development. Dr. Kim researches social justice education and Asian American psychology. She studies how to teach diversity and social justice effectively, and how to train future professionals to be more culturally humble and responsive. She also focuses on resilience and mental health of Asian Americans, centering their struggles for liberation, social agency, and solidarity with other marginalized groups. Dr. Kim is the co-author of two books, *Unraveling Assumptions: A Primer for Understanding Oppression and Privilege*, and *Teaching Diversity Relationally: Engaging Emotions and Embracing Possibilities*. She is a fellow of the American Psychological Association and the Asian American Psychological Association.

7. Aldo Barrita:

When the Pain is Absorbed: Moderated Mediation Analysis of Intersectional Oppression, Internalization, and Mental Health



Aldo Barrita (he/his/él) is a queer Latinx doctoral student in his 4th year at the Psychological and Brain Sciences Ph.D. Program at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). He was born in Mexico and immigrated to the US when he was 16. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of California, Berkeley in 2017 with high honors. His research focus includes how different forms of discrimination, primarily microaggressions, psychologically impact individuals from marginalized communities. Specifically, he has a special interest in Latinx and/or LGBTQ+ experiences with microaggressions as well as psychometrics. Aldo Barrita currently serves as the student representative for the National Latinx Psychology Association (NLPA) and student chair-elect for APA Division 52.



2:15 PM – 2:45 PM EST

Interview with Dr. Jardin Dogan-Dixon

We are thrilled to present Dr. Dogan-Dixon as the 2023-2024 ISRC Scholar-In-Residence. In this segment, Dr. Alex L. Pieterse will invite Dr. Dogan-Dixon to discuss her work on reducing mental health barriers and improving the mental, sexual, and relational well-being of Black Americans.



Dr. Jardin Dogan-Dixon is a licensed psychologist who currently works in a federal correctional setting. She graduated from the counseling psychology doctoral program at the University of Kentucky in 2022. Her intersectionality-informed research has a three-pronged focus: 1) Black identity, racial trauma, and mental health; 2) Black sexualities, sexual pleasure, and intimate relationships; and 3) drug and incarceration-related health disparities. The objective of her research agenda is to demonstrate how racial trauma can lead to adverse health outcomes, an overreliance on maladaptive coping strategies, and relationship dissolution that hinders powerful and protective community-building among Black populations. To date, Dr. Dogan-Dixon has published thirty-three (33) scholarly manuscripts, and her work has been supported by a predoctoral fellowship with the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA), University of Kentucky Center for Health Equity, and Active Minds. She has a commitment to treating race-related stress and racial trauma via a multifaceted prevention and intervention approach of research, clinical practice, and community work. Thus, her clinical experiences have taken place in college counseling centers, racial trauma clinics, and criminal justice settings. She recently completed her predoctoral internship at the Federal Medical Center in Lexington, KY. Moving beyond academic research paywalls, Dr. Dogan-Dixon facilitates mental health and racial trauma workshops for local communities and anti-racism trainings for national organizations. Her work has been featured in media news outlets including NBCLX, Women's Health, Vice, Bustle, and PsyCom. Dr. Dogan-Dixon also created her Instagram platform @blkfolxtherapy to increase access to culturally-relevant mental health education and heighten the visibility of Black mental health professionals. Ultimately, Dr. Dogan-Dixon has goals of reducing mental health barriers and stigmas, improving access to identity-affirming therapy, and providing Black Americans with tools to improve their mental, sexual, and relational well-being to live meaningful and fulfilling lives. In her spare time, Dr. Dogan-Dixon enjoys weightlifting, traveling, and calligraphy.



3:00 PM – 4:30 PM EST

Mentor Panels

We are honored to have nine amazing faculty members join us and offer their time and wisdom to emerging scholars. Each faculty member is a leader in their field, and each mentor panel was selected to represent a diversity of experiences and areas of expertise. Please come with your questions! Mentors' complete bios can be found on our website.

Mentor Panel 1:

Drs. Jioni Lewis, Alvin Alvarez, & Roberto Abreu



Dr. Jioni A. Lewis (she/her) is an Associate Professor and Co-Director of Training in the Counseling Psychology Doctoral Program in the Department of Counseling, Higher Education, and Special Education at the University of Maryland, College Park. Dr. Lewis's primary line of research applies intersectionality theory to investigate the influence of racism and sexism on Black women's health and wellbeing. She also examines protective factors that buffer individuals against the harmful effects of gendered racism, such as radical healing, collective coping, and resistance strategies.



Dr. Alvin Alvarez (he/him) is currently a Professor of Counseling and formerly the Dean of the College of Health and Social Sciences at San Francisco State University. His scholarship focuses on Asian Americans, racial identity, and the psychological impact of racism. He has been supported by the National Institute of Mental Health and has been awarded the Janet E. Helms Award for Mentoring and Scholarship and the Asian Pacific American Network Research Award from the American College Personnel Association.



Dr. Roberto L. Abreu (he/him/él) is an assistant professor of Counseling Psychology and the director of the Collective Healing and Empowering VoicEs through Research and Engagement (¡Chévere!) in the Department of Psychology at the University of Florida (UF). He is also an affiliate faculty in Center for Latin American Studies, and the Center for Gender, Sexualities and Women's Studies Research at UF. His research explores ways in which marginalized communities resist systemic oppression and promote collective well-being.



Mentor Panel 2:

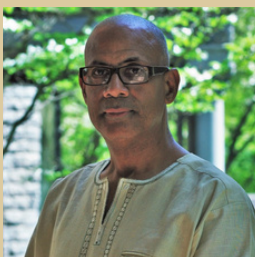
Drs. Yara Mekawi, Bryan Kim, & Shawn Utesy



Dr. Yara Mekawi (she/her) is an assistant professor in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at the University of Louisville. She is the director of the Challenging Ongoing Legacies Of Racism (COLOR) lab and her research focuses on examining racial discrimination and racial prejudice at the intersection of affect and cognition. Dr. Mekawi is interested in the assessment and integration of meaningful DEI practices within organizations and the implementation of interventions designed to increase access for historically excluded racial groups.



Dr. Bryan S. K. Kim (he/him) is a professor of psychology and the chairperson of the Division of Social Sciences at University of Hawaii at Hilo. He has over 90 publications (including 9 psychological instruments) and 100 presentations in the areas of multicultural counseling process and outcome, measurement of cultural constructs, counselor education and supervision, and immigrant experiences. Dr. Kim's current research examines the relations among enculturation and acculturation (e.g., adherence to Asian cultural values) and psychological functioning among Asian Americans and Asian international persons.



Dr. Shawn Utsey (he/him) is a Professor of Psychology at Virginia Commonwealth University. He received his B.A. in psychology from North Carolina A&T State University, his M.A. in rehabilitation counseling from New York University, and his Ph.D. in counseling psychology from Fordham University. Dr. Utsey's research is focused on understanding how racism-related stress impacts the psychological and physiological health of African Americans. In addition, he has examined how trauma is manifest in the victims of racial violence. Dr. Utsey is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist in the state of Virginia, where he has a private practice specializing in treating race-based traumatic injury.



Mentor Panel 3:

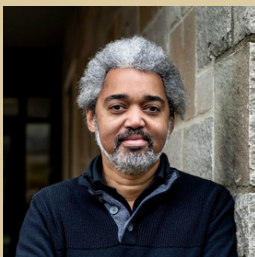
Drs. Elizabeth Vera, Melanie Wilcox, & Alex L. Pieterse



Dr. Elizabeth Vera (she/her) is a Professor of Counseling Psychology at Loyola University Chicago. She received her PhD from The Ohio State University. Dr. Vera's areas of scholarship include well-being of BIPOC and linguistically diverse youth, conceptualizations of social justice, and the application of prevention, outreach, and advocacy in the field of psychology. She is an Associate Editor for *The Counseling Psychologist*, and is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association, Divisions 17 and 45.



Dr. Melanie (Mel) M. Wilcox, ABPP (she/her) is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychological Sciences, Institute of Public and Preventive Health, and Department of Psychiatry at Augusta University. Her research, leadership, and advocacy is centered around three pillars: (1) Culturally and structurally responsive care and training; (2) Racial and socioeconomic inequity in higher education; and (3) critical whiteness, antiracism, and social justice more broadly. Mel is a licensed psychologist and works part-time in private practice at the Aguirre Center for Inclusive Psychotherapy in Atlanta, GA, providing psychotherapy and psychological assessment via telehealth.



Dr. Alex L. Pieterse is an Associate Professor of Counseling Psychology in the Department of Counseling, Educational and Developmental Psychology at Boston College. He received his Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from Teachers College, Columbia University. His scholarship focuses on psychosocial aspects of race and racism, racial trauma, and anti-racism training and self-awareness. He is a prior recipient of a NIH – Health Disparities Grant. Dr. Pieterse is currently an Associate Editor for *The Counseling Psychologist*. He is a Licensed Psychologist and has experience as a Racial Diversity Consultant.



4:30 PM – 5:00 PM EST

Closing Address: Dr. Alex L. Pieterse

Dr. Pieterse will conclude this conference with reflections on the knowledge and insight shared today. We will also invite all participants to share gratitudes, takeaways, and feedback. Thank you for making the First Biennial Graduate Student Diversity Challenge Conference a success!

Special Acknowledgements

This conference would not be possible without the generous support of countless individuals and institutions. We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to:

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The RESIST Lab members, including EJ Yang, Shari Gordon, Madelyn Harris, Lawrence Stevenson, Jasmine Mueller-Hsia, Ariana Sista, Krystal Cunningham, Madison Gribble, Allison Witherspoon, and Rasheed Adeyemo for co-hosting this conference with open hearts, dedication, and good humor.

Kiara Serret and the Boston College Lynch School marketing team for developing the website and offering much-needed guidance on event organization and advertising.

Jasmine Mueller-Hsia, 2023-2024 ISRC Coordinator, for behind-the-scenes organization.

Dr. Brian TaeHyuk Keum, for offering the Keynote Address and sharing your journey and your work with us.

Our remarkable faculty mentors for sharing your wisdom, insights, and advice with emerging scholars.

...And most importantly, our graduate student presenters and attendees! You are the future of research on race and racism in psychological science and the reason we are here.

Thank you all.

