Samantha Abram, PhD
San Francisco VA Health Care System
University of California, San Francisco

I am a clinical neuroscientist concerned with *how decision-making goes awry in schizophrenia and other psychopathologies*, and *the extent to which aberrant decision mechanisms track across species*. Building upon a strong foundation in translational neuroscience, my ultimate goal is to develop more tailored psychiatric treatments that harness the power of preclinical models. I have used fMRI to study negative symptoms and functional deficits in schizophrenia for over a decade. My graduate training at the University of Minnesota was unique in that I was co-mentored by leading experts in human psychopathology and fMRI (Dr. Angus MacDonald, III), as well as basic neuroscience (Dr. A. David Redish). I designed a reward task for humans called the Web-Surf Task, which is a direct translation of an experiential rat foraging paradigm called Restaurant Row. With this task, our group made several important discoveries about ways in which humans and rodents do (or do not) behavior similarly when seeking rewards. I am currently an advanced post-doctoral research fellow in the lab of Drs. Daniel Mathalon, Judith Ford, and Susanna Fryer at the San Francisco VA. Building on my prior fMRI work, I have gained new skills in neuropsychopharmacology and EEG to equip myself with a multimodal toolkit for my future translational investigations (and to one day examine how neural system manipulations in humans correspond with animal models). For instance, I examined the effects of intranasal oxytocin on resting-state brain connectivity and negative symptoms, and I used EEG to characterize anticipatory and consummatory reward responses in people with schizophrenia during a gambling task. I am currently studying how ketamine can be used as a pharmacological probe to model schizophrenia-like brain dysfunction and clinical sequelae. While I have made significant strides in my investigations of schizophrenia and rodent-to-human translation as separate lines of research, an important next phase of my career is to integrate across these domains. My long-term objectives are to: 1) identify mechanisms that lead to failed goal pursuit in schizophrenia and other disorders with pronounced amotivation, 2) bridge these mechanisms with preclinical research, and 3) develop personalized treatments based on an individual's brain dynamics to boost functioning among individuals with severe mental illness. Taken together, I hope to improve our understanding of the psychiatric symptoms that are persistent and unresponsive to available interventions.

Lily Balasuriya, MD, MMS
Yale University School of Medicine

My name is Lily Balasuriya and I am a first year National Clinician Scholar and Public Psychiatrist. I treat patients with Serious Mental Illness (SMI). The statistic that my patients die 25 years earlier than their counterparts still rings true today. As a public psychiatrist—it is my duty to address this disparity in mortality. The number one contributor to this death disparity are cardiovascular events. What our patients eat or don't eat plays a large role here as it pertains to their risk factors for cardiovascular events.

While we may educate our patients about nutrition, and eating a well-balanced meal, are we really aware of the grim reality that impacts these individuals? Recent studies completed have found that over 30% of patients go hungry more than 3 days of the week due to food insecurity. Other studies have found that lack of access to food worsens existing mental health conditions, increases acute and chronic stress levels, and is associated with increased likelihood of ED visits and hospitalizations.

If we aspire to help our patients live, and close this mortality gap for patients with SMI, we must address food insecurity in our patients lives. This will be the focus of the next two years of my health services research and policy work: addressing food insecurity in vulnerable populations experiencing serious mental illness. If we can partner together in any way to end the food insecurity crisis that is plaguing our communities—I would be honored to meet.

Emily Belleau, PhD
McLean Hospital/Harvard Medical School

I completed my doctoral studies in clinical psychology at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee under the mentorship of Christine Larson, Ph.D. After completing my clinical internship at the University of Mississippi Clinical Psychology Consortium, I joined the Laboratory of Affective and Translational Neuroscience, directed by Diego Pizzagalli, as a research postdoctoral fellow. In January 2019, I transitioned to the junior faculty position of Instructor of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School, and Assistant Neuroscientist, McLean Hospital. My research program uses multimodal neuroimaging techniques to examine neurobiological mechanisms underlying stress-related disorders, particularly major depressive disorder (MDD) and posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Currently, I devote 90% of my time to research and 10% is devoted to other teaching responsibilities, including mentoring postbaccalaureate research assistants, undergraduate students, graduate students, as well as other junior faculty members that wish to incorporate neuroimaging methods into their research program.

My work aims to understand how aberrant functioning of large-scale neural networks contribute to core cognitive deficits and heightened threat reactivity linked to stress-related internalizing psychopathology. Much of my research to date has focused on examination of corticolimbic networks (amygdala, hippocampus, medial prefrontal cortex) linked to aberrant stress responses. Recently, I have begun incorporating a developmental perspective to my research program, focusing on the adolescent developmental period. I am investigating reward processing abnormalities in adolescents with major depressive disorder and how stress may impact reward-related neural circuitry in these youth. In a recently completed collaboration with Diego Pizzagalli, Ph.D. and Randy Auerbach, Ph.D. (Belleau et al., under revised review), using computational modeling, we found that healthy adolescents at high familial risk for depression, owing to a maternal history of major depressive disorder, exhibited reward sensitivity deficits, compared to low-risk adolescents without a maternal history of depressive disorders. Additionally, amongst high-risk adolescents, greater reward sensitivity dysfunction was linked to higher medial prefrontal cortex resting activation, suggesting that reward sensitivity deficits and associated dysfunction in frontostriatal circuitry may be a premorbid vulnerability marker for major depressive disorder. I recently received a Klingenstein Third Generation Postdoctoral Fellowship and a NIMH K23 Career Development Award to examine the impact of acute stress on frontostriatal circuits underlying reward processing. With respect to the Klingenstein-funded project, we are examining dynamic changes in frontostriatal resting state activity and connectivity from before, during, and after a well-established laboratory psychosocial stress paradigm in adolescents with and without major depressive disorder. Preliminary analyses have shown that adolescents with major depression show blunted frontostriatal activity in adolescents with depression relative to healthy controls. The K23 will expand upon this work, using functional neuroimaging with a novel "value of control" task in conjunction with a prospective design, I will examine the impact of stress on the inherently rewarding aspects of perceived control amongst adolescents with and without depression, and whether stress-related impairments can predict "real world" expression of maladaptive coping and anhedonia.

Yosef A. Berlow, MD, PhD
Alpert Medical School of Brown University

My research has focused on utilizing neuroimaging and statistical modeling techniques to investigate psychiatric disorders and identify biomarkers of treatment response. I received my undergraduate training in Psychology and Behavioral Neuroscience at Lehigh University. I then spent five years in clinical research at McLean Hospital in the Geriatric Psychiatry Research Program, where I investigated late-life mood disorders, aging and neurodegenerative dementias using a variety of MRI techniques. I then joined the M.D./Ph.D. program at Oregon Health & Science University in the Department of Behavioral Neuroscience, where I continued neuroimaging research at the Advanced Imaging Research Center, investigating changes in brain tissue composition associated with aging, neurodegenerative diseases, mood disorders, and substance abuse. I completed psychiatry residency in the NIMH-sponsored R25 Research Training Program at the Alpert Medical School of Brown University, where I received the Chair's Choice Award from the Society of Biological Psychiatry, and the Laughlin Fellowship from the American College of Psychiatrists. Since coming to Brown, I have focused on identifying predictors of response to noninvasive neuromodulation treatments, including transcranial magnetic stimulation and transcranial direct current stimulation in collaboration with investigators at the Providence VA RR&D Center for Neurorestoration and

Neurotechnology. This past summer, I became a Staff Psychiatrist at the Providence VA Medical Center and applied for a Career Development Award to lay the foundation for me to become an independent physician-scientist.

Sierra Carter, PhD
Georgia State University

I am an Assistant Professor of Clinical and Community Psychology at Georgia State University. I also hold an adjunct faculty appointment at Emory University in the School of Medicine. I earned my PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of Georgia. I also completed my postdoctoral fellowship training at Emory University School of Medicine with the Grady Trauma Project, a large scale study examining the clinical and physiological implications of trauma exposure in a primarily African American community sample of highly trauma-exposed individuals.

My research focuses on racial health disparities and investigates how psychosocial and contextual stressors can affect both mental and physical health outcomes for underrepresented populations. Currently, my research examines the influence of psychological symptoms, such as depression and anxiety, as mechanisms through which racial discrimination is related to both current and longer-term negative health outcomes. Utilizing a risk and resilience framework, my current research also examines differences in African Americans' responses to racism-related stress and how psychological (i.e., depression and PTSD) and contextual factors (i.e., socioeconomic status and concentrated disadvantage) exacerbate or protect against the deleterious health effects of racism experiences. To extend this work, my future research projects include examining the intergeneration impact of trauma exposure and experiences of racism-related stress among African American pregnant women. My future career goals are to (1) be a leading, scientific voice for research that acknowledges racial/cultural perspectives in understanding co-occurring mental and physical health states and (2) aid in improved identification of mechanisms that can be targeted in prevention and treatment efforts to reduce racial health disparities.

Lief Fenno, MD, PhD
Stanford University

As a child, growing up in beautiful and rugged rural Alaska, my classroom was a boundless playground of forests, rivers, and glaciers where I learned to thrive in 24-hour midnight suns and whiteout blizzards. Instead of following in my father's footsteps as a Trans-Alaska Pipeline laborer, I studied as an undergraduate at Harvard and completed a PhD in neuroscience and MD at Stanford, where I honed an adventurous and creative approach to research and worked at the intersection of neuroscience, psychiatry, and bio-engineering. While my initial motivation and interest in these fields related to family members with untreatable neurological and psychiatric diseases, I found that my work to uncover secrets hidden within the brain brought out the same intense curiosity that was a cornerstone of my exploration of nature as a child. Throughout my professional path, I have developed and applied tools for controlling (via optogenetic tools with unique spectral, temporal, or signaling properties) highly defined (via novel viral targeting approaches) populations of neurons in awake, behaving animals in order to understand (via novel behavioral paradigms utilizing optical neuromodulation) brain function in health and disease. These tools and approaches have been widely and freely distributed to public research efforts around the world. I take pride in my passion for teaching and mentoring at the undergraduate, graduate, and resident levels, fostering a culture of learning where team members are invested in producing creative, fundamental, and innovative work and develop as successful scientists. Having recently completed adult psychiatry residency at Stanford, I am now an Instructor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, where I treat patients with substance use disorders (addiction) and associated psychiatric diseases as an Attending Physician at Stanford Hospital, and also lead a multidisciplinary team developing and applying novel molecular and viral neuroscience approaches as a member of Karl Deisseroth's laboratory in the Department of Bioengineering.

Gabriel R. Fries, PhD
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

I am an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston (UTHealth), where I work primarily with translational research in psychiatry. I have a broad background in psychiatry, molecular biology, genetics, and biochemistry, with specific interest and training in epigenetics, bipolar disorder, and stress. My research training began as an undergraduate student in 2007 when I joined the group led by Dr. Flavio Kapczinski in Brazil, where I also received my Master's (2011) and Ph.D. (2014) degrees in Biochemistry. During my PhD I also worked as a visiting research fellow at the Max Planck Institute of Psychiatry (Germany), where I was trained in molecular biology and epigenetics (2013-2014). I joined UTHealth in 2015 as a postdoctoral fellow, was promoted to Instructor in October 2018, and recently to Assistant Professor in September 2019. My research is focused on the epigenetic basis of bipolar disorder, with a particular interest in exploring how epigenetic mechanisms may modulate suicidality and premature aging in patients. To investigate this, I work with blood and post-mortem tissues from patients and controls and integrate basic science, bioinformatics, and biomarkers findings with clinical and environmental data. Specifically, I am currently working on a K01 project aimed at investigating brain DNA methylation alterations in patients who died of suicide in association with genetic risk scores and neuroanatomical alterations. I am also working to develop a new cellular model of accelerated epigenetic aging that may be used in the future for the study of anti-aging and DNA methylation-modulating medications. Over the next years, I hope to collaborate with many investigators and establish an interdisciplinary, translational research program focused on the epigenetics of mood disorders, combining expertise from clinicians and basic scientists in a diverse and productive environment. I look forward to learning, meeting and networking with new investigators, as well as improving my skills as part of the CDI activities.

Jennifer Goldschmied, PhD
University of Pennsylvania

I am currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Chronobiology and Sleep Institute within the Perelman School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania, having spent the last fifteen years training in clinical sleep research. I received my B.A. in Psychology and Neuroscience from the University of Pennsylvania in 2006, and Ph.D. in Clinical Science from the University of Michigan in 2016. I completed my clinical psychology internship at the Medical School of South Carolina and was then awarded a 3-year T32 fellowship in Sleep and Circadian Research in the Center for Sleep and Circadian Neurobiology at the University of Pennsylvania. My research program seeks to uncover the underlying mechanism by which sleep modulates mood and affects the processing of emotional information, in addition to exploring if it is possible to manipulate sleep for therapeutic benefit, in order to achieve specific and preferred emotional outcomes. To this end, I utilize sleep manipulation paradigms including slow-wave disruption, sleep delay, and napping to examine cognitive and behavioral outcomes. During my fellowship, I developed a model proposing that sleep slow-wave activity may modulate mood via changes to plasticity which was the basis of a Career Development Award and Loan Repayment Program Award that I received from the National Institute of Mental Health in 2019. In that project, I am investigating whether impairments in sleep homeostasis in major depressive disorder are associated with disturbances in neuroplasticity, and if disrupting slow-wave activity can beneficially affect mood via improved plasticity. Ultimately, I aim to understand the intimate relationship between sleep and emotional functioning in order to identify potential future targets for intervention in affective disorders, with a focus on developing precision medicine approaches.

CDI

2021 Career Development Institute for Psychiatry

PARTICIPANT INTRODUCTIONS

Melanie J Grubisha, MD, PhD
University of Pittsburgh

I'm thrilled to be a member of the CDI Class of 2020! I received my MD/PhD from the University of Pittsburgh Medical Scientist Training Program in 2013. I completed residency training in psychiatry at UPMC in 2017 as a participant in the Psychiatry Research Pathway (PRP). During my final year in training I served as chief resident for the PRP, which gave me the opportunity to guide other residents along a similar path for a melded career of research and clinical care in psychiatry. I am currently living my dream of just such a career, blending my time between research (80%) and clinical care (20%). Clinically, I evaluate and treat patients through our county's walk-in and residential crisis services. My research focuses on molecular mechanisms underlying dendritic impairments in schizophrenia, with particular focus on the pathologic regression of dendritic arbors across adolescence. My longterm career goal is to establish my own fully funded, independent research laboratory in an academic setting where I can continue to elucidate molecular mechanisms underlying dendritic pathology in schizophrenia.

Laura M. Hack, MD, PhD
Stanford University

My long-term career goal is to become an independently funded physician-scientist leading a cutting-edge research and clinical program in precision psychiatry for treatment resistant mood and anxiety disorders. I became fascinated with the human brain as the most complex and least understood organ in the body in high school, leading me to complete an undergraduate degree in Neuroscience from The College of William & Mary. I then pursued combined MD/PhD training at Virginia Commonwealth University, earning my PhD in Human and Molecular Genetics, with the future vision of being able to integrate innovative research findings into the clinic and gaining inspiration for important research questions from treating my patients. During my subsequent Psychiatry Residency in the Research Track at Emory University School of Medicine, I trained in the Treatment Resistant Depression Clinic and engaged in research projects related to the identification of blood-based and clinical markers of outcomes in affective and stressor-related disorders utilizing machine learning techniques. I am currently in the Advanced Fellowship in Mental Illness and Treatment at the Palo Alto VA Mental Illness Research Education and Clinical Center (MIRECC) and a Clinical Instructor at Stanford in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. My research under the mentorship of Drs. Leanne Williams, Alan Schatzberg, and Ruth O'Hara has focused on the assessment of mechanistic and predictive biomarkers for subtyping and prospective treatment guidance of mood and anxiety disorders. Specifically, I am working to improve our ability to predict and track outcomes on the individual level by identifying profiles of biological, clinical, and behavioral predictive and response markers. I am also conducting innovative clinical trials that will ideally accelerate the translation of our emerging knowledge about mechanistic neural targets into the clinic with the ultimate goal of relieving the suffering that arises from our current trial-and-error approach in psychiatry.

Rebecca Hendrickson MD, PhD
VA Puget Sound Health Care System /
University of Washington School of Medicine

I am a clinical psychiatrist and neuroscience and psychiatric researcher. My research program focuses on understanding the role of catecholamine dysregulation during both wake and sleep in the pathophysiology of PTSD, and on using this understanding to develop new and improved treatment approaches. My work also emphases the use of novel clinical trial designs.

I completed both medical school and a PhD in systems neuroscience at Washington University in St. Louis. My PhD work focused on electrophysiologic correlates of sensory processing and memory formation in the mouse accessory olfactory system. I completed my clinical psychiatry training at the University of Washington. In and following my psychiatry residency, I transitioned my research focus to translational trials in humans, completing a 3-year VA Advanced Fellowship in Mental Illness Research.

Currently, I am the principle investigator for a 5-year CSR&D funded CDA-2 award that uses an aggregated N-of-1 randomized controlled trial design to test the ability of noradrenergic biomarkers measured at baseline to predict individual participants' clinical response to prazosin. This trial also utilizes a variety of physiologic and biofluid biomarkers to quantify changes in pre-synaptic versus post-synaptic noradrenergic signaling, and the relationship of these changes to PTSD symptom expression, sleep architecture, and treatment response.

My long term career goals include using the types of tools developed in my current clinical trial, such as validated biomarkers of catecholamine signaling and the use of novel clinical trial designs, to better understand the impact of changes in catecholamine signaling on emotion regulation, learning, and sleep, and how pharmacologic modulation of the catecholamine system can be used to improve mental health outcomes after traumatic stress.

Reilly Kayser, MD
Columbia University/New York State Psychiatric Institute

I am a psychiatrist and postdoctoral fellow who uses an experimental medicine approach to study novel treatments for anxiety and obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD). My interest in clinical and translational psychiatry research began as an undergraduate at Yale, where I studied psychology with a concentration in behavioral neuroscience. After graduating, I spent two years as a post-baccalaureate intramural research training award fellow at the National Institute of Mental Health. Under the mentorship of Dr. Ellen Leibenluft, I participated in neuroimaging research in children with bipolar disorder and chronic irritability, which I continued to work on throughout my medical training at Georgetown University. I then completed my psychiatry residency at Columbia University and New York State Psychiatric Institute, where I was a member of the research track.

Challenging clinical experiences during my residency piqued my interest in OCD, an illness that affects around 2% of adults and causes disabling symptoms which often persist despite evidence-based treatments. Thus, I joined Dr. Blair Simpson's team at the Center for OCD and Related Disorders. With Dr. Simpson's mentorship, I have since developed a particular interest in the brain's endocannabinoid system (ECS), which may play a role in the pathophysiology and potentially the treatment of OCD. In collaboration with Dr. Margaret Haney, I explored the relationship between the ECS and OCD in two preliminary studies in patients with OCD: First, a trial of nabilone (a cannabinoid 1 receptor agonist), alone and combined with exposure-based psychotherapy; and second, a placebo-controlled human laboratory study of different varietals of smoked cannabis. These findings motivated a current study using functional MRI and psychophysiology to explore nabilone's effects on fear extinction learning and recall in patients with OCD; they also formed the basis for my recent NIMH Career Development Award application.

After completing my research training, I plan to pursue an academic psychiatry faculty position in order to build on my postdoctoral work as an independent investigator. My ultimate goal is to apply translational neuroscience and experimental medicine methodologies to develop new, more effective treatments for patients who suffer from psychiatric illnesses like OCD.

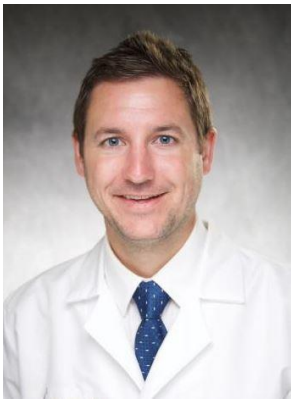
Ellen Lee, MD
University of California San Diego

It's nice to meet you all! I'm Ellen Lee, an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at UC San Diego and a Staff Psychiatrist at the San Diego VA healthcare system. I am board-certified in Board-certified in Psychiatry and Geriatric Psychiatry. My educational journey includes a Bachelor's degree in Astronomy and Physics from Harvard University, medical degree at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine at Case Western Reserve University, and a one-year research fellowship through the Clinical Research Training Program at the National Institutes of Health. I completed my residency in general psychiatry at the University of Maryland / Sheppard Pratt Hospital program, my clinical fellowship in geriatric psychiatry at UC San Diego, and a NIMH-funded T32 postdoctoral research fellowship at UC San Diego. My research

focuses on biological and psychosocial aging in persons with schizophrenia and the healthy aging population, specifically examining how sleep disturbances, social functioning (loneliness and social isolation), and positive psychological traits (e.g., resilience and compassion) impact mental, physical, and cognitive aging. My lab uses blood-based biomarkers of aging, wearable sensors for sleep and activity, novel cognitive and trait-related tasks, and Artificial Intelligence technologies including natural language processing and machine learning. My research is funded by a NIMH K23 career development award to examine the influence of sleep on inflammation and cognition in older persons with schizophrenia, a NARSAD Young Investigator Award from the Brain & Behavior Research Foundation, Altman Clinical and Translational Research Institute, and VISN 22 Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Center. My career goal is to build a research program that will improve health outcomes for adults with and without serious mental illnesses, by elucidating the mechanistic links between biological and psychosocial aging as well as developing targeted interventions.

Robert Mealer, MD, PhD
MGH, Harvard Medical School

I attended Montana State University, majoring in Cell Biology and Neuroscience, and performed research with Thomas Hughes, PhD, developing voltage-dependent fluorescent biosensors in neurons. I completed the MDPhD Program at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, and performed my dissertation research with Sol Snyder, MD, focused on the cellular mechanisms of striatal selectivity in Huntington's disease. I graduated from the MGH/McLean Adult Psychiatry Residency Program in 2018 and have remained on staff in the Psychiatric and Neurodevelopmental Genetics Unit at MGH. My research investigates biochemical changes in the brain caused by genetic variants associated with schizophrenia. Our work has focused specifically on the glycosylation pathway, where sugar polymers are enzymatically attached to proteins and lipids to regulates their function.



Nicholas Trapp MD, MS
Stanford University, *Neuropsychiatry Fellow*
University of Iowa, *Assistant Professor of Psychiatry (on leave)*

Hi everyone! My name is Nick Trapp, I'm a psychiatrist with subspecialty training in neuromodulation, neuropsychiatry, and clinical/translational neuroscience research. I'm originally from Chicagoland and completed undergraduate schooling at the University of Notre Dame. I received my M.D. at the University of Nebraska, followed by completing psychiatry residency at Washington University in St. Louis, then a T32 post-doctoral fellowship and Master of Science at the University of Iowa focused on neuromodulation, neuroimaging, and translational biomedicine. Now I'm in the midst of a neuropsychiatry and behavioral neurology fellowship at Stanford University. My research focuses on the application and optimization of neuromodulation therapies for the treatment of neuropsychiatric conditions. My career goal is to become an academic neuropsychiatrist leading research on the development of novel invasive and noninvasive neurotechnology-based therapeutics. My research topic for this workshop investigates the neuroplastic effects of repetitive brain stimulation using intracranial electroencephalography in human subjects with epilepsy. The goal of the research is to develop a method for "dosing" the effects of intracranial electrical stimulation and transcranial magnetic stimulation to optimize neuroplasticity, improve targeting, and achieve maximal therapeutic benefit. I've very excited to be a part of the CDI family and look forward to meeting everyone (if COVID will stop ruining our plans)!

CDI

2021 Career Development Institute for Psychiatry

PARTICIPANT INTRODUCTIONS

Rachel Vaughn-Coaxum, PhD
University of Pittsburgh

I am an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. I am trained as a psychologist, and I received my PhD in clinical psychology from Harvard University. I completed a predoctoral clinical psychology internship at Western Psychiatric Hospital/University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, followed by two years of training on a NIMH T32 postdoctoral fellowship, also through the psychiatry department at the University of Pittsburgh. My training background was focused in the areas of risk factors for child and adolescent psychopathology and the evaluation of psychotherapy effectiveness for youth populations. The current focus of my research is to identify how exposure to childhood adversity affects treatment outcomes for youth depression by examining the influence of adversity on cognitive and affective processes that are targeted by evidence-based psychotherapies. The aim of this research is to better understand why depressed youths exposed to adversity are at higher risk of treatment nonresponse, and to elucidate ways to optimize treatments for these high-risk youths. During my graduate and postdoctoral training, I was involved in meta-analytic studies examining the effectiveness of psychotherapy for children and adolescents across 50 years of randomized trials. I also conducted research investigating interactions between distinct forms of childhood adversity (e.g., threat and deprivation) and cognitive (working memory, attentional processes) and affective (autonomic nervous system activity) processes in relation to 1) amplifying current depression symptoms among adolescents, and 2) the longitudinal course of depression symptoms in youths with bipolar disorders. I recently received a career development award from the NIMH to examine how the effects of childhood adversity on basic cognitive processes involved in associative learning influence the acquisition of psychotherapy skills for youth depression. I am also starting a pilot clinical trial supported by the Klingenstein Third Generation Foundation comparing two brief interventions for youth depression (Behavioral Activation and Problem Solving Therapy) with the goal of identifying whether adversity influences change in target treatment processes, and whether the influence is specific to certain cognitive processes in cognitive behavioral therapies. My long-term goal is to bridge basic science on adversity-related biobehavioral deficits with intervention science, with the aim of increasing treatment effectiveness for depression among youths exposed to adversity.

Alecia Vogel, MD, PhD
Washington University in St. Louis

I am an MD, PhD trained child psychiatrist currently working as a clinical instructor, post-doctoral fellow, and mother of two preschool boys at Washington University in St. Louis. I have become a St. Louis lifer, growing up in the area, attending Saint Louis University for Biology and Psychology undergraduate degrees, and then moving to Washington University where I trained in the medical scientist training program, obtaining my PhD in Neuroscience working with Drs. Steve Petersen and Brad Schlaggar using functional and resting state MRI to better understanding developing specialization for reading in the visual system. After also finishing my MD, I continued at Wash U for my post-graduate clinical training in general and then child and adolescent psychiatry residency and fellowship, where I developed an interest in emotion dysregulation. I became particularly interested in treating children with “big emotions”, who were not only irritable, but also had dysregulated expressions of positive affect without meeting criteria for mania. After training, I joined the clinical faculty at Wash U working with residents and fellows in my emotion dysregulation outpatient clinic, as well as teaching and mentoring medical students, residents, and fellows in various roles. I have also been funded by a T32 post-doctoral position and an AACAP grant to study the separable role of excitability, or dysregulation that includes positive affect, in the development of psychopathology, working with Drs. Joan Luby, Deanna Barch, and Susan Perlman, using clinical interviews, behavioral observations, and fMRI in longitudinal samples of children with early affective symptoms. My long-term career goal includes working as a physician scientist to better understand the role of emotion dysregulation, and specifically the role of excitability, as an indicator of risk and potential target for intervention.

Georgios Voloudakis, MD, MS, PhD
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

I am a psychiatrist-scientist and my research is focused on the identification of molecular pathways through which non-coding genetic variants confer susceptibility to neuropsychiatric disorders. My long-term research goal is to increase our understanding of the genetic component of these disorders and to identify biological targets and devise approaches for reversing genetically driven disease-associated perturbations. Towards furthering this goal, I have spent my training years obtaining the knowledge and skills that can support a genetically-informed drug discovery pipeline for neuropsychiatric disorders: (1) Identification of molecular targets with computational genomics approaches. Working under the mentorship of Dr. Roussos at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai (ISMMS) during my psychiatry residency training (physician-scientist track), I gained valuable experience in analyzing human genetic and multi-omics datasets. In addition, I developed and applied mathematical models to identify causal variations, biological pathways and putative therapeutic targets in neuropsychiatric diseases. (2) *In vitro* and *in vivo* preclinical validations. I have extensive experience (PhD thesis and postdoctoral fellowship at Dr. Robakis' lab at ISMMS) in dissecting biological pathways and testing ways to reverse phenotype-associated molecular signatures *in vitro* (cell lines and primary cultures) and in animal models. This experience will help me in the future to conceive and design *in vitro* and *in vivo* validation experiments for interesting findings from the above computational analyses. (3) Human clinical trials and cohort phenotyping. During my clinical training, I have participated as a study physician in clinical trials on schizophrenia spectrum disorders (led by Dr. Perez at ISMMS) to gain a deeper understanding of human studies and to help inform research ideas. Finally, I am part of the Phenomics and Mental Health working groups at the VA's Million Veteran Program which among others aim to improve the accuracy of the assignment of neuropsychiatric disorders to individuals in the biobank by leveraging electronic health record information. Taken together, these experiences have formed the basis of my current NIMH-funded line of research which is exploring novel approaches for integrating multi-omics data with genetic information across major US biobanks to deduct key molecular drivers in disease and identify the most suitable psychopharmacologic approaches for genetically heterogeneous neuropsychiatric disorders.

Hilary Weingarden, PhD
Massachusetts General Hospital & Harvard Medical School

I am a licensed psychologist in the OCD and Related Disorders Program at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) and an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Harvard Medical School (HMS). My research is focused on cognitive and emotional risk factors for adverse outcomes such as suicidal ideation in obsessive-compulsive related disorders (OCRDs), and on applying technology to enhance assessment of and interventions for OCRDs. I received my bachelor's degree from Tufts University and my Ph.D. in clinical psychology from George Mason University. I completed my pre- and post-doctoral psychology training at MGH/HMS. Currently, I am conducting a study using smartphone-based ecological momentary assessment and digital phenotyping to detect negative emotion states in body dysmorphic disorder, in order to predict acute risk for suicidal ideation and substance use behaviors (K23MH119372). I am also a co-Investigator on industry collaborations to develop and test smartphone based-cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) for OCRDs and related conditions. In the future, I hope to continue to develop this program of research, merging methods for passive and active technology-based assessments with technology-based interventions, in order to develop more accessible, scalable, and effective psychological treatments.