



YALE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
Department of Psychiatry / Psychology Section

## Psychology Section Executive Training Committee



**Amber W. Childs, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Psychiatry; Director of Clinical Training in Psychology, Yale University School of Medicine; Psychologist, Adolescent Day Hospital, Yale New Haven Psychiatric Hospital**

Dr. Childs is an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry in the Yale School of Medicine and a member of the Medical Staff at Yale New Haven Psychiatric Hospital. In her role as Director of Clinical Training in Psychology, Dr. Childs works closely with Dr. Rajita Sinha, Chief of the Section of Psychology, Drs. Jacob Tebes and Dwain Fehon, Psychology site Chiefs of Connecticut Mental Health Center and Yale New Haven Hospital, respectively, and members of the Executive Training Committee to ensure state-of-the art training in clinical and community psychology. Dr. Childs also serves as program psychologist at the Yale Psychiatric Hospital's adolescent day program. Her work within the day hospital includes implementation and evaluation of evidence-based clinical psychotherapy programming, spear-heading the development and execution of comprehensive measurement-based care initiatives across the New Haven and Branford locations, staff education and provision of clinical services. Empirically, Dr. Childs is interested in broader evaluation of, as well as specific psychosocial correlates to (e.g., parent-child relations) treatment outcomes among high-risk youth, especially as they inform opportunities for quality enhancement of care.



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**Dwain Fehon, PsyD, Associate Professor of Psychiatry; Chief Psychologist, Psychiatric Services, Yale-New Haven Hospital; Director, Behavioral Medicine, Psychological Medicine Section, Yale-New Haven Hospital**

Dr. Fehon is an Associate Professor within the Department of Psychiatry and a member of the Medical Staff at Yale-New Haven Hospital. As Chief Psychologist for Psychiatric Services, Dr. Fehon oversees and coordinates the doctoral psychology training program within Yale-New Haven Hospital and Yale-New Haven Psychiatric Hospital. He also directs the hospital's Behavioral Medicine program and provides clinical services within the areas of palliative care and psycho-oncology. Dr. Fehon's current academic focus is on understanding psychological, behavioral, and neuropsychiatric comorbidities among patients facing serious, chronic, and life threatening illnesses. He is interested in the utilization of qualitative and quantitative research methods to understand the phenomenological aspects of living with serious illness, and the development of novel psychotherapies to reduce the risk of adverse stress-related symptoms such as drug and alcohol abuse, depression, anxiety and PTSD in vulnerable medically ill patient populations.



**Brian Kiluk, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry; Director, Technology-Based Interventions**

Dr. Kiluk is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and a licensed clinical psychologist conducting research in the field of substance use disorder treatment. He serves as Principal Investigator on research grants awarded from the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, and his work has widely published in peer-reviewed journals and featured at multiple national scientific meetings. Dr. Kiluk's area of research includes an emphasis on the evaluation and enhancement of a web-based version of cognitive behavioral therapy for alcohol and drug use disorders, the exploration of the mechanisms of cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) for substance use disorders, and the identification of clinically meaningful outcome indicators of clinical trials for illicit drug use disorders. As an expert in CBT for substance use disorders, Dr. Kiluk also consults with treatment facilities across the U.S. to provide workshop training in manual-guided CBT, as well as ongoing fidelity monitoring and coaching.



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**David Klemanski, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry; Director of the Psychological Assessment Service for Yale-New Haven Hospital.**

Dr. Klemanski is an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Director of the Psychological Assessment Service for Yale-New Haven Hospital. He is a licensed psychologist who has expertise in diagnosing and treating anxiety disorders as well as psychological and diagnostic assessment. His research interests have broadly focused on delineating psychopathological components of anxiety relevant to classification of specific anxiety-based disorders and identification of common comorbid conditions. More recently, his research has centered on individual differences in emotion regulation strategies and treatment outcome among anxiety- and mood-based disorders. By delineating differential regulatory processes associated with various emotional experiences, his research aims to contribute to clarification of the diagnostic overlap among these disorders. Dr. Klemanski's work has been regularly published in peer-reviewed journals and featured at national scientific meetings and he recently co-authored the book, *"Don't let your anxiety run your life: Using the science of emotion regulation and mindfulness to overcome your worry and fear."*



**Donna LaPaglia, PsyD, Associate Professor; Director of the Substance Abuse Treatment Unit of the Connecticut Mental Health Center; Associate Director of Addiction Services, the Connecticut Mental Health Center**

Dr. LaPaglia is an Associate Professor in Psychiatry at Yale School of Medicine and is the Director of the Substance Abuse Treatment Unit (SATU). She is the Associate Director of Addiction Services for the Connecticut Mental Health Center and directs the psychology training program at SATU. Dr. LaPaglia is on the board of directors for the Association of Psychologists in Academic Health Centers, and for the American Psychological Association's Division 12. She has published in the areas of psychotherapeutic interventions for substance use disorders, medication implementation in addictions treatment, and in the area of residency training. Her clinical work and research has focused on addiction treatment; specifically on cognitive behavioral interventions for substance use; public sector addiction services; addictions leadership; curriculum development for psychology and residency training in treatment interventions for substance use disorders; auricular acupuncture, self-care approaches, and leadership development.



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**Rajita Sinha, PhD; Chief of the Section of Psychology, Department of Psychiatry; Foundations Fund Professor of Psychiatry and in Neurobiology and the Child Study Center; Director, Yale Stress Center**

Dr. Sinha is known for her work on brain mechanisms underlying stress and its link to craving and compulsive motivation for addictive behaviors and health outcomes. She is also Co-Director of the Research Education and Training Core for the Yale Center of Clinical Investigation (YCCI), which is the administrative home for Yale School of Medicine's Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) supported by the NIH. She leads the Yale Stress Center which conducts interdisciplinary and collaborative research integrating mental and physical health domains and the study of brain mechanisms in stress-related chronic diseases. The Yale Stress Center has been the clinical, scientific and administrative home for a number of large NIH supported research initiatives, including an interdisciplinary research consortium project, one of the largest NIH-funded research programs at Yale relating to stress, addiction and health outcomes. In her capacity as Chief, Dr. Sinha works closely with the psychology faculty within the Department to build on the strengths of the Psychology Section with regards to professional development, clinical care, research, and education.



**Jacob Tebes, PhD, Professor of Psychiatry, in the Child Study Center, and in Public Health; Director, Division of Prevention and Community Research, Department of Psychiatry; Executive Director, The Consultation Center; Chief Psychologist, Connecticut Mental Health Center**

Dr. Tebes is known for scholarship in prevention, community psychology, and program evaluation, and is the recent past editor of the American Journal of Community Psychology. His work focuses on the promotion of resilience in at risk populations, the prevention of adolescent substance use, culturally-based approaches in practice and research, team science, and philosophy of science. He consults to federal, state, and municipal agencies and community organizations on program development and the use of evaluation data to inform practice and policy. Dr. Tebes has taught postdoctoral and doctoral seminars in prevention research methods, clinical methods of child intervention, culture and diversity in clinical/community practice, and professional development. He serves as Program Director of a NIDA T32 postdoctoral research training program in substance abuse prevention.