



Council of Professional Geropsychology Training Programs

Council of Professional Geropsychology Training Programs (CoPGTP)

Website: www.copgtp.org

CCTC Meeting

Spring 2022

The **Council of Professional Geropsychology Training Programs** promotes state-of-the-art education and training in geropsychology among its members, provide a forum for sharing resources and advancements in and among training programs, and support activities that prepare psychologists for competent and ethical geropsychology practice. CoPGTP was established in 2007 following the 2006 Pikes Peak National Conference on Training in Professional Geropsychology. CoPGTP has over 46 national and international member programs.

We seek to assist and recognize academic institutions, internship and fellowship programs, and continuing education providers dedicated to the principles and practice of professional geropsychology. Each member of the Council is committed to providing training consistent with the Pikes Peak Model for Training in Professional Geropsychology. This model specifies attitudes, knowledge, and skill competencies and core features of training for professional geropsychology practice.

The CoPGTP Officers for 2022 are:

- Allison Jahn, Ph.D., Chair, Milwaukee VA Medical Center
- Michelle Mlinac, Psy.D. ABPP, Past Chair, V.A. Boston Healthcare System
- Veronica Shead, Ph.D., Chair Elect, V.A. St. Louis Healthcare System
- Rachel Weiskittle, Ph.D. Secretary, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
- Jay Gregg, Ph.D., ABPP, Treasurer, Durham V.A. Health Care System
- Nicole Torrence, Ph.D., Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Member-at-Large, San Francisco VA Healthcare System
- Katherine King, Psy.D., Graduate Program Member-at-Large, William James College
- Lindsey Slaughter, Psy.D., ABPP, Internship Program Member-at-Large, Richmond V.A. Medical Center
- Kimberly Hiroto, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Program Member-at-Large, V.A. Palo Alto Health Care System
- Erin Emery-Tiburcio, Ph.D., ABPP, Post-Licensure Training Member-at-Large, Rush University Medical Center

Liaisons:

- Grant Harris, Ph.D., ABPP, Newsletter Editor, VA St. Louis Healthcare System
- Kyle Page, Ph.D., ABPP, Media Manager, Hines VA Medical Center

Student Representatives

- Jennifer Daks, M.A., VA Boston Healthcare System & University of Rochester
- Selmi Kallmi, M.A., VA Boston Healthcare System & University of Missouri, St. Louis
- Diana Hedrick, M.A. Bedford VA Medical Center & University of Louisville
- Candice Reel, M.A., University of Alabama
- Ali Molaie, M.A., West Los Angeles VA & University of Nevada, Reno
- Katie Granier, M.A., University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
- Erika Fenstermacher, M.A., West Virginia University
- Rachel Spalding, M.S., Milwaukee VA & West Virginia University

Organizational structure

CoPGTP holds monthly executive board meetings that address its ongoing activities, which have included reports on budget, membership, newsletters, the annual meeting, website administration and the expansion of our online resources, survey of APPIC members regarding careers in geropsychology, core competencies initiative, support and promotion of www.gerocentral.org, program and award applications, and ways to promote the Pikes Peak model of geropsychology training. Twice a year the monthly conference calls are conducted as “town hall” meetings, open to any CoPGTP members for their input and general participation.

Resources

The CoPGTP website includes these resources devoted to training issues in professional geropsychology:

- List of member organizations who provide geropsychology training at the doctoral, internship, post-doctoral, and post-licensure levels
- The Pikes Peak Geropsychology Knowledge and Skill Assessment Tool (competencies evaluation tool for supervisory or self-rating purposes)
- 2021 Revision of the Geropsychology Training Taxonomy, with consultation available to member programs on its use
- APA’s revised “Guidelines for Psychological Practice with Older Adults”
- Recommended resources associated with the Pikes Peak Model attitude, knowledge, and skill competencies in geropsychology (books, articles, websites, APA videos, web-based training, etc.)
- Geropsychology course descriptions and syllabi (for doctoral as well as internship/post-doctoral courses)
- List of CoPGTP members available to consult regarding development of geropsychology training programs
- Newsletter archive (published twice annually)
- Links to other resources and organizations

Member organizations can access the website (www.copgtp.org) to update their program information, keeping the resources on the website timely and relevant.

Programs/Meetings

- The 2021 annual meeting/town hall was held virtually in November 2021.

- As we were unable to host our annual dinner meeting at the November Gerontological Society meeting, CoPGTP again held a virtual student social which we co-hosted with the Society of Clinical Geropsychology. Our mutual student representatives took the lead on this offering which offered the opportunity for undergraduates and graduate students to ask questions about graduate admissions, internship applications, and fellowship availability.
- As part of the broader geropsychology community, we also co-sponsored a follow-up conference in September to provide workgroup updates on training projects emerging from the March 2021 Building Bridges conference.

Grants/Awards

- The 2021 Excellence in Geropsychology Training was awarded to: the West Los Angeles VA - Geropsychology Internship: (Drs. Kevin Booker, Paul Cernin, Megan Johnson, Fred Kornfeind, Rebecca Melrose, Anna Okonek, Sheryl Osato, & Stacy Wilkins)
- The 2021 Research Grant Award went to “Program Evaluation of an Interdisciplinary Primary Care Team on Prince Edward Island,” (Dr. Jessica Strong, UPEI)
- Grants also were funded for:
 - “Use of Capacity Instruments for Older Adults in Psychology,” Hines VA (Drs Anne Day & Kyle Page) & Milwaukee VA (Dr. Heather Smith)
 - “Increasing Trainees' Understanding of Academic Career Options and Professional Pathways in Clinical Geropsychology,” Washington University in St. Louis (Meghan McDarby & Dr. Brian Carpenter) & VA Boston (Dr. Jennifer Moye)

Updates

New:

- CoPGTP is a proud sponsor of the international webinar series, “Career Opportunities in Adult Development and Aging”, aimed at strengthening the pipeline in geropsychology, including in academic careers. Information on the series and archives are available at <https://sites.wustl.edu/geropsychology/careers/>
- Building Bridges Post-Licensure Training Workgroup – Following from our successful geropsychology community training conference last year, this workgroup has surveyed generalist psychologists’ interest in obtaining specialty consultation in geropsychology, and are creating a road-map and structure for this to be available to practicing psychologists.
- Building Bridges Graduate/Practicum Workgroup – Another workgroup that spun off from the Bridges conference is creating a survey about the unique aspects of the pandemic on geropsychology training. The workgroup aims for survey distribution in the Spring.

Ongoing:

- Performance-based capacity project: Work continues on developing of rubric to allow performance-based assessment of capacity utilizing input from various experts in different areas of capacity assessment.
- Case-based assessment in geropsychology: Workgroup continues to develop a supplement to the Pikes Peak self-assessment of foundational and functional competencies in geropsychology.

Submitted by Michelle Mlinac, Psy.D. ABPP

2022, Past Chair, Council of Professional Geropsychology Training Programs