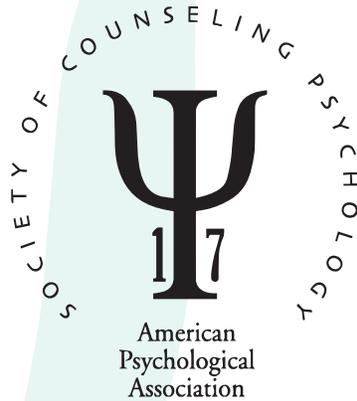


# APA 2024

AUGUST 8-10  
SEATTLE



## 2024 FELLOWS TALKS

The Society of Counseling Psychology  
Friday, August 9, 2024 | 3:00 - 4:50 PM  
Location: Room 3B

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## 2024 FELLOWS TALKS PROGRAM

### Hsiu-Lan Cheng, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Counseling Psychology, University of San Francisco

#### *“Inclusion, justice, and hope: My quest and compass”*

Hsiu-Lan Cheng, Ph.D., is a Professor in the Department of Counseling Psychology at the University of San Francisco. As a first-generation immigrant woman from Taiwan, Cheng’s personal racial/ethnic identity development has deeply shaped her interest in racism research and racial/ethnic minority psychology. Her primary research interests include multicultural contextualization of psychological concerns and help-seeking; Asia/Asian American Mental Health; body image and disordered eating concerns among minoritized individuals; attachment theory; and positive psychology. Cheng’s research has received institutional and external recognitions, including the APA Division 35’s Psychotherapy with Women Award and Division 17’s Best in Science Address. Prior to her academic career, Cheng spent five years as a senior staff psychologist at a university counseling center; her career profile illustrates her passions in both research and practice. She has also served on the editorial boards of a few APA journals and the governing boards of some APA divisions and divisional sections. Cheng believes in the power and importance of contributing to a more inclusive, just, and compassionate society through research, scholarship, practice, teaching, and service.



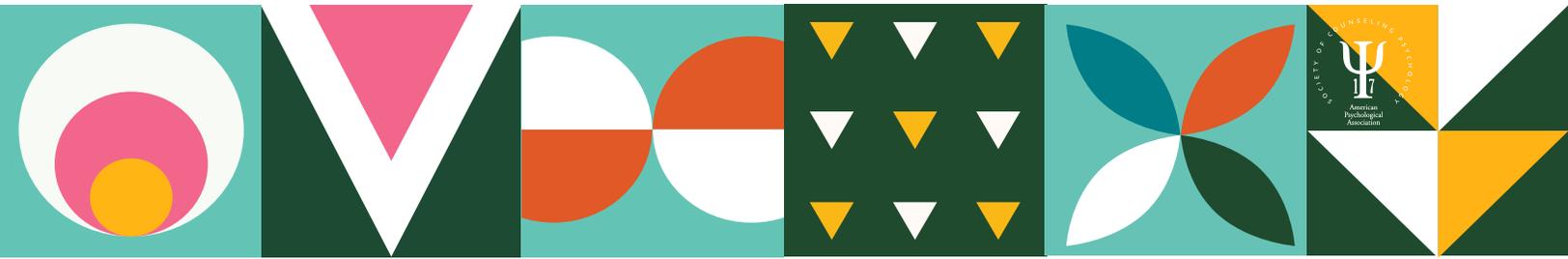
### Bryana H. French, Ph.D., LP

Associate Professor, Associate Chair, University of St. Thomas

#### *“The root system of radical healing”*

Bryana H. French, PhD, LP, was recently promoted to Professor and is the Associate Chair in the Graduate School of Professional Psychology at the University of St. Thomas. She graduated from the University of Illinois’ Counseling Psychology PhD program and pre-doctoral internship at the University of Maryland Counseling and Psychological Services Center. She worked as an APA MFP Policy Fellow for SAMHSA and began her teaching career at the University of Missouri before moving back to her hometown, Minneapolis. Her research, teaching, and community engagement focuses on racial and sexual trauma and recovery, specifically among Black, Indigenous and People of Color. Her recent work has been with the Psychology of Radical Healing Collective where first authored “Toward a psychological framework for radical healing in Communities of Color” ranked in the top 5% on Altmetrics publication data. Her training interests focus on multicultural counseling development and social justice pedagogy, and she has a small private practice where she provides trauma treatment to majority BIPOC adults. Dr. French has held multiple leadership roles in APA the including serving on the APA Council of Representative Leadership Team and the APA Leadership Institute for Women in Psychology. Her work has been recognized with awards throughout her career, including the APA Minority Fellowship Program, APA Divisions 17, 35, and 45, the Association of Black Psychologists, and the Minnesota Psychological Association.





## 2024 FELLOWS TALKS PROGRAM

### Melissa K. Holt., Ph.D., LP

Professor, Counseling Psychology;  
Arvind and Chandan Nandlal Kilachand Professor & Director, Kilachand Honors  
College, Boston University

#### ***“Inspired and uplifted by generations of remarkable women”***

Dr. Melissa K. Holt (she/her) is a professor of Counseling Psychology at Boston University Wheelock College of Education & Human Development and a licensed psychologist. She is also director of the Kilachand Honors College at Boston University and the Arvind and Chandan Nandlal Kilachand Professor. She received her PhD in Counseling Psychology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign under the mentorship of Dr. Dorothy Espelage, and her BS in Psychology from Tufts University. Dr. Holt’s research explores how adolescents’ exposure to violence - particularly bias-based harassment (i.e. harassment based on one’s identity) - influences mental health and well-being; ways in which school-based prevention programs can play a central role in reducing students’ exposures to bullying and bias-based harassment and improving school climate; and the experiences of gender-diverse adolescents, with an emphasis on the ways in which contexts and systems can better support gender diverse youth and amplify youth strengths.



### Jioni A. Lewis, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, University of Maryland, College Park

#### ***“My Journey as a Black Feminist Counseling Psychologist”***

Dr. Jioni A. Lewis 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. She received her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Dr. Lewis is a leading expert on the impact of systemic racism and sexism on the mental and physical health of women of color, with a focus on Black women. Her primary line of research applies intersectionality theory to investigate the influence of racism and sexism (i.e., gendered racism) on Black women’s health and wellbeing. She developed the Gendered Racial Microaggressions Scale (Lewis & Neville, 2015), which is a measure to assess the frequency and stress of subtle forms of gendered racism experienced by Black women. 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. Lewis has received several national awards for her research, teaching, and advocacy, including the 2019 Emerging Professional Contributions to Research Award from the Society for the Psychological Study of Culture, Ethnicity, and Race (APA Division 45), the 2020 Emerging Leader for Women in Psychology Award from the Committee on Women in Psychology, and the 2022 Fritz & Linn Kuder Early Career Award for Distinguished Scientific Contributions from the Society of Counseling Psychology. She is Past-President of the Psychology of Black Women (APA Division 35-Section I), where she served as Lead Coordinator of the Inaugural Psychology of Black Women Conference. She currently serves as the Vice President of Education and Training for the Society of Counseling Psychology.





## 2024 FELLOWS TALKS PROGRAM

### **Hung-Bin Sheu, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor University at Albany, SUNY

#### ***“From International Student to Fellow – Reflecting on the Journey and Moving Forward”***

Hung-Bin Sheu is an Associate Professor in the Department of Educational and Counseling Psychology at the University at Albany, SUNY. He received his Ph.D. in counseling psychology from the University of Maryland, College Park. His research focuses on cross-cultural and cross-racial/ethnic investigations on well-being, adjustment and career development, multicultural counseling and training, as well as health behavior and disparities among individuals of diverse backgrounds. Dr. Sheu has disseminated his scholarship through journal articles, book chapters, and presentations at national and international conferences. His teaching covers courses such as career theory and counseling, vocational psychology, multicultural counseling, counseling theory and practicum, and structural equation modeling. He has served on the editorial boards of academic journals published in the U.S. and Taiwan and taken on leadership roles in professional organizations such as the Society for Vocational Psychology.



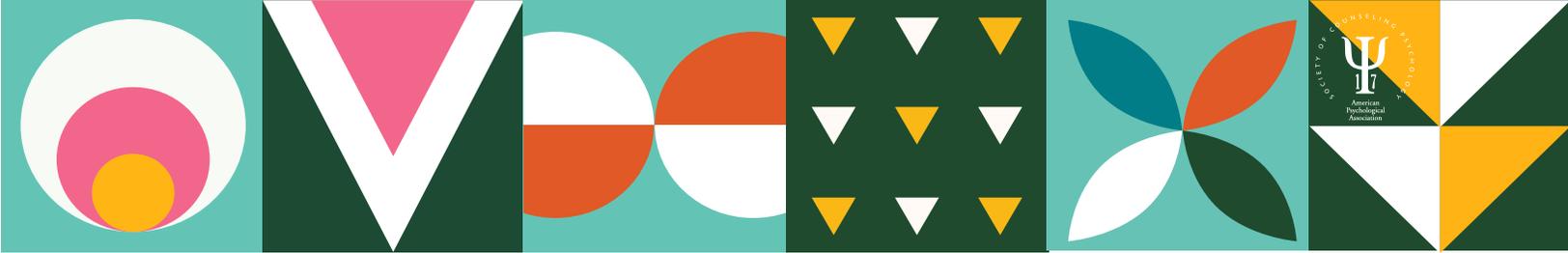
### **Kenneth T. Wang, Ph.D.**

Professor of Psychology at Fuller Theological Seminary

#### ***“My Journey Towards Harmonizing Culture, Faith, and Professional Identity Across Borders”***

Dr. Kenneth Wang is a Taiwanese American psychologist and a professor at Fuller Theological Seminary. Before joining Fuller, he served on the faculty at the University of Missouri and held positions as a staff psychologist at the University of Illinois and a counselor at National Dong-Hwa University in Taiwan. Dr. Wang specializes in the convergence of psychology, culture, and spirituality. His research primarily investigates the impact of perfectionism as well as cultural and religious factors, on mental health and well-being. He has published extensively in areas including perfectionism, the psychological adjustment of international populations, Asian American psychology, scale development, and the integration of psychology with theology. Dr. Wang is committed to connecting research with practical applications, enhancing cross-cultural understanding, and building bridges between religious and secular academic environments.





## 2024 FELLOWS TALKS PROGRAM

### Yu-Wei Wang, Ph.D.

Research/Assistant Director of the Counseling Center, Associate Clinical Professor; Affiliate Associate Professor, Department of Counseling, Higher Education, & Special Education; Affiliate Faculty Fellow, University Honors Program, University of Maryland, College Park

#### ***“A Curious Story of Dreamers, Builders, and Helpers”***

Dr. Yu-Wei Wang received her undergraduate degree in English & American Literature from National Central University in Taiwan, dual Master’s degrees in Psychological Counseling and Organizational Psychology from Teachers College, Columbia University, and her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from the University of Missouri. Dr. Wang is the Research Director, Assistant Director of the Counseling Center, and Associate Clinical Professor at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD). She is an Affiliate Associate Professor in the Department of Counseling, Higher Education, & Special Education, and an Affiliate Faculty Fellow in the University Honors Program at UMD. Dr. Wang’s primary charges are (a) the bi-annual University New Student Census completed by incoming undergraduate students at UMD and (b) the Withdrawal Survey completed by undergraduate students who withdrew from the University before completing their degrees. In addition, she has conducted research on career development issues in partnership with the University Career Center and studies on food insecurity in partnership with the Dining Services, Health Center, and Maryland Parents & Family Association. The Food Access & Student Well-being Study helped the University raise funds to build a new Campus Pantry that serves students, staff, and faculty in need. She has published articles and book chapters on international and multicultural issues in psychology, counseling, education, & training; stress, trauma, and coping/problem solving; as well as qualitative research design. Dr. Wang is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association (APA) in the Society of Counseling Psychology (Division 17) and Division of International Psychology (Division 52). She is a member of the APA Division 17, 35, 45, and 52, and currently serves as the Secretary to the Board of the Division of International Psychology. Dr. Wang received the 2020 University of Maryland Division of Student Affairs Outstanding Service Award and the 2022 Excellent Contribution Award from the APA Division 17 International Section for her contributions to international counseling psychology research, service/training, and cross-cultural collaboration. She is a Co-Founder of the Taiwan Psychology Network—a nonprofit professional organization in the United States.



### Valene A. Whittaker, Ph.D.

Military Sexual Trauma Services Coordinator & Women’s Health Clinic Psychologist  
Washington DC Veterans Affairs Medical Center

#### ***“Grow Through What You Go Through: Resilience and Recovery as a VA Counseling Psychologist”***

Valene Whittaker, PhD, is the Military Sexual Trauma Services Coordinator & Licensed Psychologist in the Women’s Health Clinic at the Washington DC Veterans Affairs Medical Center. In these roles she provides individual and group psychotherapy to Veterans who identify as Women and Veterans assigned female at birth; MST-related consultation and care coordination to Veterans of all genders; and education to the medical center community on specialized women’s mental health and military sexual trauma issues. Outside of these roles, she facilitates a drop-in Race-based Stress, Trauma, & Empowerment Group for BIPOC Veterans, provides clinical supervision to psychology interns, and is a member of the Psychology Training and Mental Health Service Line Committees.



Dr. Whittaker completed her PhD in Counseling Psychology and a Graduate Minor in African American Studies from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and completed her predoctoral internship at the University of California, Berkeley. She completed a postdoctoral fellowship at VA Bedford Healthcare system, subsequently working for five years in their outpatient mental health clinic and for three years as the hospital’s MST Coordinator. Dr. Whittaker has been active in professional service in APA and in Division 17. She is currently a member of the APA Council of Representatives, representing Division 18 (Psychologists in Public Service), and formerly served on the APA Ethics Committee, APA Membership Board, and as the SCP Vice President for Communications. She has been nationally recognized for her professional contributions to the field of counseling psychology and in the areas of equity, social justice, and inclusion.



## 2024 FELLOWS TALKS PROGRAM

### Melanie (Mel) M. Wilcox, Ph.D., ABPP

Associate Professor, University at Albany

#### ***“Dislocation, White Supremacist Capitalism, and Healing through Connection”***

Dr. Mel Wilcox is an Associate Professor in the Counseling Psychology Ph.D. program at the University at Albany, where she also earned her Ph.D. in 2015. Her research focuses on culturally and structurally responsive psychotherapy and training (including clinical supervision); racial and socioeconomic inequity in higher education; and whiteness, antiracism, and social justice more broadly. She is currently President-Elect of APA Division 17, the Society of Counseling Psychology. She has previously served on the APA Board of Educational Affairs, having chaired that board in 2020, and now serves on the APA Committee on Socioeconomic Status. She also co-founded the Psychology of Social Class Organization, which is petitioning for a new APA Division focused on economic justice. She is an Associate Editor of Training and Education in Professional Psychology and serves on several other editorial boards, including those of The Counseling Psychologist and Journal of Counseling Psychology. She is also a licensed psychologist and board certified in counseling psychology, and works part-time in private practice at the Atlanta-based Aguirre Center for Inclusive Psychotherapy providing individual psychotherapy, relationship therapy, psychological assessment, and clinical supervision via telehealth.



### Leo Wilton, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Human Development, State University of New York at Binghamton

Leo Wilton, Ph.D., is a Professor in the Department of Human Development at the State University of New York at Binghamton. His research on the HIV epidemic focuses on the intersectionality of race, gender, and sexuality, as situated in macro- and micro-level inequities in Black communities. His research engages the complexities of how socio-structural and-cultural contexts influence people’s development and well-being within African and African Diaspora communities. His research explores how intersectional inequalities provide a praxis framework for developing culturally-congruent HIV prevention and care interventions for communities of color. His research, policy, advocacy, and social justice contributions have provided a formidable multi-tiered impact on the psychology profession on (inter)national levels. He has served as Principal Investigator (PI) or Co-Investigator on several National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded research studies.





# Society of Counseling Psychology Division 17

AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION