

Society of Counseling Psychology Division 17

AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

# 2020 Awards Program

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

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## 2020 SOCIETY OF COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, DIVISION 17, APA AWARD RECIPIENTS

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### Melissa Ertl, M.S.

#### *Barbara A. Kirk Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Research*

Melissa Ertl, M.S., will receive her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology in May 2021 from University at Albany-State University of New York. She is a fifth-year doctoral candidate beginning her predoctoral internship year at Pace University in New York City. Her research focuses broadly on health risk behaviors and health disparities among marginalized populations, primarily Latinx immigrants, college students, caregivers, and individuals with neurological disorders. She is receiving the Barbara A. Kirk Award, in part, for her contributions to original, longitudinal research on acculturative stress among recently arrived Latina immigrants. She would like to especially thank her three phenomenal mentors during her doctoral studies, Dr. Frank R. Dillon, Dr. Jessica L. Martin, and Dr. Rachel E. Brenner, for sharing their knowledge, skill, time, and talent with her and for making research a relational and enjoyable endeavor.



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### Bo Hyun Lee, M.A.

#### *Donald E. Super Fellowship for the Support of Dissertation Research on Career Development Award*

Bo Hyun Lee, M.A., is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Missouri. She is currently getting ready for her internship at Counseling and Wellness Center of University of Florida. Bo was born and raised in Seoul, South Korea and received Bachelor of art/science in Education/Mathematics Education and Master of arts in Counseling at Korea University. Her research interests include career development of marginalized groups (e.g., persons of color, women); multicultural counseling; and social justice/advocacy training. She is receiving the Donald E. Super Award with her dissertation research on a topic related to contextual factors on students of color in Engineering fields. She would like to especially thank her mentor, Lisa Y. Flores, Ph.D., who has provided a great support to navigate academia but also her life in the U.S. as an international person, and her parents who have trusted her with love in her journey.



## 2020 SOCIETY OF COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, DIVISION 17, APA AWARD RECIPIENTS

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### Melanie Brewster, Ph.D.

*The Fritz & Linn Kuder Early Career Award for Distinguished Scientific Contributions to Counseling Psychology*

Dr. Melanie Brewster earned her Ph.D. from the University of Florida in 2011 and is currently an associate professor of psychology and education at Columbia University and the Director of Clinical Training for the counseling psychology Ph.D. program. Dr. Brewster co-founded the Sexuality, Women, and Gender Project at Teachers College, Columbia University—a graduate-level advanced certificate aimed to prepare the next generation of educators, researchers, practitioners, administrators, and activists interested in new waves of theory and innovative practice with marginalized groups. To date, she has published well over 50 articles and chapters on minority stress and well-being and a book on nonbelief, *Atheists in America*. She is an associate editor for the *Journal of Counseling Psychology*. Beyond academia, she holds a part-time psychotherapy practice in midtown Manhattan.

Dr. Brewster is grateful for Dr. Bonnie Moradi's patient mentorship when she was student at UF. She is also thankful for the loving support of her three 'work-wives' Drs. Riddhi Sandil, Annelise Mennicke, and Nikki Jones.




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### Don Davis, Ph.D.

*Early Career Award for Distinguished Professional Contributions to Counseling Psychology*

Don (Donnie) Davis is an Associate Professor of Psychology at Georgia State University. Donnie did undergraduate work at Yale and his doctorate at Virginia Commonwealth University, under Everett Worthington. His research and clinical interests are in the area of positive psychology. His work focuses on humility and related virtues such as forgiveness and gratitude. He has published over 230 articles or chapters, as well as several books on these themes. He has participated in over 20 grant-funded projects. He is the Associate Editor of the *Journal of Positive Psychology*. In terms of fun, Donnie enjoys biking, hiking, and other outdoor activities, and is also an avid reader. He also loves spending time with his partner, Cirleen DeBlaere, and his three kids, Catherine (age 11), Adam (age 7), and Emerson (age 1). Donnie also wanted to thank his letter writers, Everett Worthington, Jeff Ashby, and Stacey McElroy.



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### Daniela Domínguez, Ph.D.

*Early Career Award for Distinguished Professional Contributions to Counseling Psychology*

Daniela Domínguez is an assistant professor in the counseling psychology department at the University of San Francisco. She is also the research director at the Hanna Institute in Sonoma Valley. As a licensed psychologist, Dr. Domínguez works in the area of Latinx mental health, immigration concerns, and Queer matters. Her program of research has focused on understanding how immigrants cope with risks, threats, demands, and stress, and uses specific strategies to draw upon resiliencies to achieve positive health. In her most recent publication in the *American Psychologist*, she explains how the COVID-19 pandemic has shed light on the norms, patterns, and power structures in the U.S. that privilege certain groups of people over others. With her co-authors, she describes COVID-19 as an unprecedented catalyst for social transformation that underscores the need for multilevel and cross-sectoral solutions to address systemic changes to improve health equity for all.



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### Ryan Duffy, Ph.D.

*The John Holland Award for Outstanding Achievement in Career or Personality Research*

Ryan graduated from the University of Maryland in 2009 with a Ph.D. in counseling psychology and is currently a professor in the counseling psychology program at the University of Florida. Ryan is currently the editor of the *Journal of Career Assessment* and has recently been part of teams publishing theory papers on work as a calling and the psychology of working. Ryan's entire career and associated accomplishments are a total byproduct of privilege and luck, receiving incredible mentorship from David Blustein and Bob Lent and having a slew of unearned privileges that have been with him every step of the way. In addition to these formal mentors, Ryan thanks his colleagues at UF for being there for him, his current and former students for putting up with his growth edges, and his partner Nicole for keeping him on his toes.



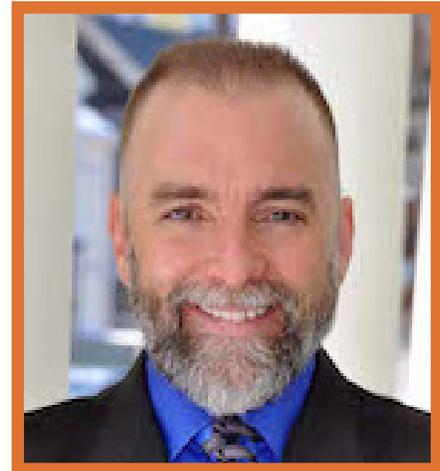
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### John O'Brien, Ph.D.

*The John Holland Award for Outstanding Achievement in Career or Personality Research*

John is a licensed psychologist in private practice in Portland, Maine since 1998 at Mental Health Associates of Maine. He specializes in the treatment of substance abuse, grief, trauma and gay/lesbian issues. He is an adjunct faculty member at the University of Maine at Augusta, teaching courses in psychology and addictions since 2000. John provides consultation and workshops to other clinicians on effective treatment of addiction and trauma. In addition, he recently received advanced training in coaching and has opened an executive/leadership coaching business, Activate Success. In his spare time, John enjoys motorcycling, skiing, running and further developing his ability in German.



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

*Social Justice Award in Counseling Psychology*

Jioni A. Lewis received her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is currently an Associate Professor of Counseling Psychology at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville (UTK) and will be joining the faculty at the University of Maryland, College Park in Fall 2020. Dr. Lewis's strong commitment to social justice is reflected in her research, teaching, community engagement, and advocacy. Her research is focused on the impact of gendered racism on the health and well-being of Black women. She has been vital to the Scientist-Practitioner-Advocate training model in the Counseling Psychology Program at UTK, teaching the capstone Social Justice Practicum course for the past 7 years. She also co-founded the Critical Race Collective at UTK, an interdisciplinary research group who utilize critical race theory in their research, teaching, and activism. This group has been integral in combatting racism and white supremacy within the university community.



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### Jonathan Schwartz, Ph.D.

#### *Social Justice Award in Counseling Psychology*

Jonathan Schwartz is the Dean of the College of Public Service at the University of Houston-Downtown. He brings a strong background of both national and academic leadership previously serving as President of an American Psychological Association Division and as Associate Dean of Graduate Studies at the University of Houston, College of Education and Associate Dean of Research at New Mexico State University. Dr. Schwartz is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association and an award winning scholar in the area of men and masculinity and prevention. He was recently awarded a lifetime achievement award by the American Psychological Association for his work in Prevention. Dr. Schwartz also strongly values community engagement, having served previously as the co-founder and executive director of the Advancing Community Engagement and Service Institute and lead for the University of Houston's Educational Third Ward Initiative.




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### Larry Gerstein, Ph.D.

#### *The 2020 Leona Tyler Award for Lifetime of Achievement in Counseling Psychology*

Lawrence Gerstein earned a Ph.D. in counseling and social psychology at the University of Georgia. He is a Ball State University George and Frances Ball Distinguished Professor of Psychology-Counseling and directs the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies. Gerstein co-founded Division 17's International Section and served as The Counseling Psychologist's International Forum Co-Editor. He is a mediator, Fulbright Scholar, APA Fellow, Division 52's President-Elect, and expert in peacebuilding, cross-cultural psychology, and sports for youth development. Gerstein has performed "people to people" and peacebuilding projects in the U.S., Iraq, Pakistan, Jordan, Tajikistan, India, Hong Kong, China, Indonesia, Korea, Israel, Taiwan, and Myanmar. He is co-editor of the Journal for Social Action in Counseling and Psychology, Handbook for Social Justice in Counseling Psychology, Theories and Applications of Counseling and Psychotherapy, and International Handbook of Cross-Cultural Counseling. He thanks his wife, family, Taktser Rinpoche, Abraham Tesser, and Wayne Antenen for their support and wisdom!



## 2020 SOCIETY OF COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, DIVISION 17, APA AWARD RECIPIENTS

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### Elizabeth Vera, Ph.D.

*Derald Wing Sue Distinguished Contributions to Multicultural Counseling Award*

Elizabeth Vera received her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from the Ohio State University. She is a Professor and co-chair of the Counseling Psychology programs at Loyola University Chicago. Dr. Vera is a Fellow of APA Divisions 17 and 45. She was awarded a Lifetime Award for Contributions to the Science/Practice of Prevention from the Prevention Section of SCP. Her scholarship addresses social justice issues within the field of psychology; prevention science; and mental health and educational disparities in Latinx youth populations and Emerging Bilinguals. Dr. Vera engages in community-based participatory research with K-12 schools throughout Chicago and its suburbs to increase access and equity for marginalized youth. She would like to thank colleagues who nominated her for this award, student collaborators/mentees, and her Loyola family including Suzette Speight, Steve Brown, Valerie Collier, Rufus Gonzales, David Shriberg, Matt Miller, Eunju Yoon, and Hui Xu for all their support.



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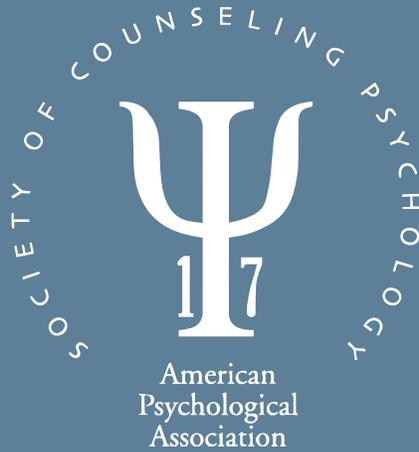
**We would also  
like to recognize:**

**Chun-Chung Choi, Ph.D.**

*Society of Counseling Psychology, Division 17, APA  
Best in Practice Address*

**Jioni A. Lewis, Ph.D.**

*Society of Counseling Psychology, Division 17, APA  
Best in Science Address*



# Society of Counseling Psychology Division 17

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## CONTACT INFO

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Society of Counseling Psychology  
Division 17, APA  
[www.div17.org](http://www.div17.org)

