

APA
2024

AUGUST 8-10
SEATTLE



Society of Counseling Psychology Division 17
AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

2024 AWARDS PROGRAM

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 2024

17

2024 SOCIETY OF COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, DIVISION 17, APA Best in Practice and Best in Science Addresses

Theodore Burnes, Ph.D., M.S.Ed.

2024 Best in Practice

Theo Burnes (he/him) is a licensed psychologist in private practice in Los Angeles, California, where he provides psychotherapy, consultation, and supervises pre-licensed professionals. He also is a Professor of Clinical Education at the University of Southern California's Rossier School of Education. His professional foci include sex-positivity and comprehensive sex education; psychotherapy with adolescents and their families; mental well-being for queer, trans, and nonbinary people; addressing workplace climate for people in the sex work industries; clinical supervision.



Don Emerson Davis, Jr., Ph.D.

2024 Best in Science

Don (Donnie) Davis Jr., PhD, is a Professor of Psychology at Georgia State University. Donnie did undergraduate work at Yale and his doctorate in Counseling Psychology at Virginia Commonwealth University. He completed his psychology pre-doctoral internship at Clemson University and is currently licensed in the state of Georgia. A member of the Matheny Center for the Study of Stress, Trauma, and Resilience (MSTAR), Donnie has worked on over 30 grants, many with the John Templeton Foundation. 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 300 articles or chapters and has also written books on several of these themes. In teaching and service, he is committed to making the early career phase more inclusive and easier to navigate. He co-founded the Good Life Research Network. He is the Associate Editor of the Journal of Positive Psychology. Donnie has a spouse/partner and three kids, Catherine (age 15), Adam (age 11), Emerson (age 5) and enjoys biking, hiking, and other outdoor activities—and he loves reading.



2024 SOCIETY OF COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, DIVISION 17, APA AWARD RECIPIENTS

Raquel Rose, Ph.D.

Barbara A. Kirk Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Research

Dr. Rose's research, clinical praxis and activism seeks to understand the impact of systemic trauma, resource precarity, and deficit-based narratives around racial/ethnic minority and SOGIE diverse youth on psychosocial outcomes particularly in the mental health, education and legal fields. As a first-generation, Caribbean immigrant her scholarship is deeply rooted in her identity as a queer, black woman of the diaspora. In particular, she focuses on the effective implementation and evaluation of black feminist-abolitionist interventions and participatory programs centering the voices of youth who are impacted by carceral systems. These efforts aim to inform multi-disciplinary efforts to change systems/policy, promote better service delivery and innovation, and support youth thriving.



Megan Herdt

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

Megan Herdt (she/her) is a counseling psychology doctoral candidate at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and she graduated from Elon University in 2019 with a B.A. in psychology. Her research, based primarily in the Psychology of Working Theory (PWT), lies at the intersection of counseling psychology and vocational psychology. Specifically, Megan studies how systems of privilege, power, and oppression intersect to influence workers' vocational trajectories and access to decent, dignified work with implications for their vocational and general wellbeing. She is currently completing her pre-doctoral internship at the University of Maryland's counseling center, where she uses intersectional feminist and relational cultural therapy to support her clients' wellbeing. Megan specializes in working with LGBTQ+ students and invests herself in outreach, advocacy, and program development focused on expanding institutional and community supports for LGBTQ+ college students. She is also a student representative for APA Division 17's Section for Advocacy of Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity (SASOGD) and APA Division 44's Bisexual Issues Committee.



2024 SOCIETY OF COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, DIVISION 17, APA AWARD RECIPIENTS

Melissa M. Ertl, Ph.D., L.P.

Dorothy Booz Black Award for Outstanding Contributions in Counseling Health Psychology Award Recipient

Dr. Melissa Ertl is a counseling psychologist and an Assistant Professor of Psychology at University of Minnesota whose work is focused on addressing social, cultural, and structural determinants of health at the intersections of mental health, substance use, and sexual health among women, Latinx immigrants, young adults, LGBTQ+ communities, and individuals with disabilities and their caregivers. Dr. Ertl earned her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology with a certificate in Health Disparities in Public Health. She is a licensed psychologist in Minnesota and New York and maintains a small private practice. In her work, she aims to contribute to our understanding of how to eliminate health disparities and promote health equity among underserved and marginalized populations.



Christopher Stults, Ph.D.

John D. Black Award for Outstanding Practice Achievement

Dr. Christopher Stults is an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Baruch College, City University of New York (CUNY). He is also on the faculty of the Health Psychology and Clinical Science doctoral program at the CUNY Graduate Center. Additionally, he is a licensed psychologist in independent practice in New York City. Prior to starting at Baruch College, Dr. Stults earned a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Miami, a Master's degree in Counseling Psychology from Florida International University, and a PhD in Counseling Psychology from New York University. He also completed the APA-accredited predoctoral internship at program Montefiore Medical Center / Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

The mission of Dr. Stults's program of research and clinical work is to improve the lives of sexual and gender minority populations. His work is comprised of four foci: intimate partner violence (IPV), consensual non-monogamy (CNM), health-risk behaviors, and trauma. Dr. Stults leads the Sexual and Gender Minority Health (SGMH) Lab at Baruch College, and his team includes undergraduate and graduate students from the greater New York City area.



2024 SOCIETY OF COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, DIVISION 17, APA AWARD RECIPIENTS

Blake A. Allan, Ph.D.

Fritz & Linn Kuder Early Career Award for Distinguished Scientific Contributions Award Recipients

Blake A. Allan, PhD, is Associate Professor of Counseling Psychology at the University of Houston. His research focuses on the quality of work, encompassing constructs such as underemployment, precarious work, decent work, and meaningful work. This includes the conceptualization and measurement of these constructs, how structural factors inequitably distribute poor quality work, and how these experiences relate to mental health.



Dena Abbott, Ph.D., LP

Early Career Award For Distinguished Professional Contributions To Counseling Psychology Award

Dena M. Abbott, Ph.D. (she/her) earned her degree from Texas Woman's University's APA-Accredited Counseling Psychology program in 2017. She is a Licensed Psychologist in the state of Nebraska and an AASECT-Certified Sexuality Educator. She currently serves as the Chair of the Society for Counseling Psychology's Section for the Advancement of Feminist Psychology and owns and operates an independent practice specializes in relationship and sex therapy.

Currently an Associate Professor in the APA-Accredited Counseling Psychology program at University of Nebraska – Lincoln, Dr. Abbott's research focuses on the impact of hegemonic Christian and Christian nationalism on mental health and well-being, with a particular emphasis on the health of nonreligious Americans. Relatedly, she is dedicated to promoting sexual and reproductive health competence among mental health professionals and advancing sexual liberation for all.



2024 SOCIETY OF COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, DIVISION 17, APA AWARD RECIPIENTS

Edward Delgado-Romero, Ph.D.

*Lifetime Achievement in Mentoring Award Recipient and
Social Justice Award in Counseling Psychology*

Dr. Edward Delgado-Romero is a Professor and the Associate Dean for Faculty and Staff Services at the Mary Frances Early College of Education. He has established a collaborative record of publications, presentations and service that have supported graduate students and the Latinx community. Recently a group of over 30 current students and alumni contributed to his edited book, *Latinx Mental Health: From Surviving to Thriving*.

Ed is a first generation American; son of Colombian Immigrants and he founded la Clinica in LaK'ech, a free psychological clinic for Spanish speakers. The clinic has trained Counseling, Clinical and School Psychology graduate students, Master of Social Work interns and undergraduates. He is also a founder of the National Latinx Psychological Association (NLPA), a past president of NLPA and serves on the Board of Directors of the American Association for Hispanic Higher Education. His awards include the UGA Engaged Scholar in 2021.

Ed received his doctorate in psychology from the University of Notre Dame. He has been major professor for over 50 Ph.D. students, many of them first-generation college, bilingual and committed to cultural competency. Together with his students Ed has written and presented extensively about Latinx psychology, multicultural psychology and the ethics of training bilingual clinicians. Many students have described Ed's house as their "home away from home" and acknowledges the support of his wife Angie Romero-Shih, LMSW and of his children Anaïs, Xio, Nick, Emery and Guillermo.



2024 SOCIETY OF COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, DIVISION 17, APA AWARD RECIPIENTS

Maryam M. Jernigan-Noesi, MEd, Ph.D.

Dr. Janet E. Helms Racial Justice Award

Dr. Maryam M. Jernigan-Noesi is a trailblazing psychologist, educator, and consultant whose pioneering work promotes racial justice, culturally responsive practices, and equitable systems change. With an illustrious career spanning over two decades as a mental health provider and tenured professor, Dr. Jernigan-Noesi brings a wealth of expertise and passion to the podium.

She completed her advanced clinical training at The Center for Multicultural Training in Psychology at Boston Medical Center and Boston University School of Medicine. She also held prestigious fellowships at Harvard Medical School and Yale University School of Medicine. These educational experiences allowed Dr. Jernigan-Noesi to specialize in integrated healthcare, translational research, and intervention science.

As an esteemed educator, she served as a faculty member and tenure-track professor in higher education for over 15 years. She taught a diverse array of courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels, including Counseling Skills and Techniques, Psychology of Women: Race, Class, and Gender, and Critical Perspectives in Multicultural Psychology. Her academic influence extended beyond the classroom as she assisted in developing three inaugural Clinical Mental Health Counseling Master's Programs in Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Georgia.

Dr. Jernigan-Noesi's clinical expertise is vast, providing inpatient and outpatient behavioral health services in community, medical, forensic, academic, and private practice settings. As Founder and CEO of Jernigan & Associates Consulting, she has provided valuable consulting to over 30,000 professionals working in government, healthcare, education, and the private sector on assessment evaluation, strategic planning, and professional development—all through a lens of racial equity and cultural responsiveness.

The Ford and Mellon Foundations and the American Psychological Association have honored her groundbreaking contributions to advancing racial equity in behavioral healthcare and psychology. Most notably, Dr. Jernigan-Noesi served as a research consultant for the APA's historic 2021 apology and current Racial Equity Action Plan, which acknowledged and aimed to rectify the organization's role in perpetuating racism and racial discrimination.

Beyond her professional roles, Dr. Jernigan-Noesi actively works to create a more just world through community leadership and service. She is an advisor for the Sesame Street racial justice initiative and a board member for organizations supporting children and families affected by homelessness and domestic violence. Additionally, she founded the non-profit Psychologists for Racial Justice, Inc. to dismantle systemic racism and promote social equity.



2024 SOCIETY OF COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, DIVISION 17, APA Early Career Professionals Committee Award Recipients

Dr. Zubin DeVitre

2024 Early Career Teaching Award

Dr. DeVitre (he/him/his) completed his doctorate in Counseling Psychology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and currently works as an assistant professor at Seton Hall University. As a 2nd-generation Parsi-American, Dr. DeVitre's primary research focuses on the experiences of marginalized university populations (specifically South Asian American students) and how various psychosociocultural factors impact their well-being. In the classroom, Dr. DeVitre does his best to attend to the three individual, yet collectively informed elements of his teaching philosophy: 1) accessibility, 2) engagement, and 3) empowerment. In all his work (e.g., didactics, research, clinical), Dr. DeVitre strives to incorporate multicultural and decolonial understandings as foundational elements to the understanding of psychology. Holding a passion teaching, he is excited to continue his journey as a professor and continue to use his position to advocate for student education and wellness.



Dr. Tiffany Williams

2024 Early Career Mentorship Award

Tiffany R. Williams, PhD is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychological Sciences and Counseling at Tennessee State University. She is licensed as a psychologist with the health service designation in Indiana, Ohio, and Tennessee. Through a lens of social justice, her research broadly focuses on evaluating the effects of health and work disparities among Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC). Her most recent research has been investigating the impact of social determinants of health (e.g., gendered racism, racial discrimination) and the effects of socio-political and -cultural barriers on Black women's well-being. Her research is transitioning to investigations centered around developing culturally sensitive evidence-based interventions and promoting radical healing among Black women.



2024 SOCIETY OF COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, DIVISION 17, APA Early Career Professionals Committee Award Recipients

Dr. Monica J. Johnson

2024 Early Career Social Justice Advocacy Award

Monica J. Johnson, Ph.D. graduated from The State University of New York at Buffalo, in the combined Counseling Psychology and School Psychology program. Monica is currently a Licensed Staff Psychologist at Princeton University's college counseling center, after completing a clinical Post-Doctoral Fellowship there in 2021. Monica is also an adjunct professor at SUNY Buffalo, teaching Diversity and Human Relations and Intro to Counseling. Monica's research and clinical interests include African American acculturation, religiosity, social justice, advocacy, multiculturalism, and minority mental health. Monica's dissertation was a qualitative exploration into the Strong Black Woman Phenomenon through the lens of African American acculturation, titled: 'You got five minutes to be upset, then you gotta be a gangsta': A Qualitative Understanding of the Strong Black Woman Phenomenon Through the Lens of African American Acculturation.

Additionally, she has been working on research involving the infusion of multiculturalism into the curriculum in various counseling psychology Ph.D. programs, and aspects of minority mental health. She also serves as a consultant for DEI work and is involved in numerous leadership roles all aimed to support BIPOC populations and provide mental health services to marginalized populations. Her focus involves supporting the communities that are congruent with those who helped mold and impact her childhood.

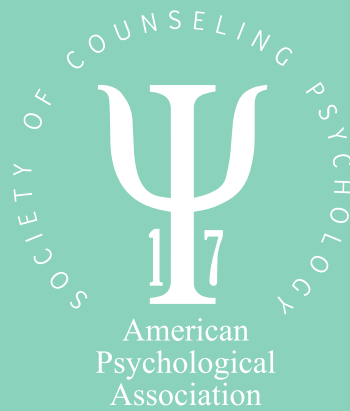


Dr. Zoeann Finzi-Adams

2024 Early Career Clinical Practice Award

Zoeann Finzi-Adams, PhD has been deeply committed to women's issues for as long as she can remember. While attending Florida International University for undergrad, she also found her passion for Psychology and social justice. These passions spearheaded her pursuit of her master's degree at Florida International University in Counseling Psychology, and later her PhD in Counseling Psychology from Howard University. Dr. Finzi-Adams is deeply passionate about the lived experiences of Black women including the impact of group-based stressors (e.g. colorism, racism, sexism), disparities (e.g. anxiety, depression, obesity, maternal health outcomes) as well as the unique strengths and resiliency factors. Dr. Finzi-Adams is committed to addressing these issues by way of accessibility to therapy, including through the creation of her private practice focused on women of color as well as through her research initiatives. Her current research agenda includes Black maternal health and high functioning anxiety and depression among Black women.





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