POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP IN
FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY

2018-2019

Please contact us with additional questions: ForensicFellowships@musc.edu
Community & Public Safety Psychiatry Division
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
Medical University of South Carolina
Phone: (843) 792-1461; Fax: (843) 792-2254
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POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP IN FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY

OVERVIEW: MUSC & THE COMMUNITY & PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION (CPSPD)

The Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) opened in 1824 and served as a small private college specialized in training physicians. Today, MUSC serves the State of South Carolina as a state university with a medical center and six colleges which excel in educating a broad range of health professionals, biomedical scientists, and additional health personnel. MUSC was named the top overall hospital in the state of South Carolina by U.S. News & World Report! Additionally, MUSC’s Ear, Nose, and Throat Center has been ranked as being among the best in the nation!

The Community & Public Safety Psychiatry Division (CPSPD) is a division within the larger Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Department in the College of Medicine at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). The CPSPD consists of several specialty programs including the Forensic Psychiatry Program (FPP), the Progressive Professionals Program (PPP), the Sexual Behaviors Clinic and Lab (SBCL), the Youth and Family Forensic Program (YFFP), and the Public Safety & Emergency Services Program. The CPSPD also includes the Community Clinical Services Center, which provides local and statewide outpatient mental health care on the MUSC campus, in the community, within institutional settings, and via telepsychiatry to local and state agencies. The CPSPD demonstrates a commitment to education and innovation with the Education and Training Program and the Research Studies currently operating within the division. Gregg Dwyer, MD, EdD, FAPA, FASAP, serves as the director of the CPSPD. All specialty programs are detailed in the relevant sections below.

OVERVIEW: POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP IN FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY

The Postdoctoral Fellowship in Forensic Psychology at MUSC is a 12-month program that provides a diverse training experience in areas relevant to both mental health and legal domains. Our program is committed to educating clinicians in the theoretical and practical aspects of forensic psychology while simultaneously providing an invaluable service to the state of South Carolina. As major strength of the fellowship, fellows are required and encouraged to gain exposure to a wide variety of both criminal and civil evaluations with both adults and juveniles through the array of programs offered within the CPSPD.

Our program consists of core components, which reflect best practices in the field, and elective opportunities which will allow fellows to explore areas in which they have had limited exposure. We work to prepare fellows to enter the field as exceptional and ethical forensic psychologists with a wide array of specialized skills. Furthermore, we offer guidance to fellows to help them find their place in an ever-changing and growing field.

For the forensic evaluation core experience, our program exposes fellows to both criminal and civil and state and non-state forensic evaluations to round out the range of case exposure.

Fellows become highly familiar with state cases through our contract with the South Carolina
Department of Mental Health. The CPSPD is contracted to provide competency to stand trial and criminal responsibility/capacity to conform evaluations for 12 counties in South Carolina. Through this contract, fellows gain experience conducting court-ordered evaluations in these areas with both adults and juveniles. Additionally, fellows will participate in non-state contracted criminal cases referred to our office from various agencies.

Non-state cases may include several types of evaluations including criminal responsibility (CR), competency to stand trial (CST), independent medical and malpractice, adoption evaluations, child custody evaluations, parental fitness, termination of parental rights, juvenile transfer/reverse transfer evaluations, adoption evaluations, disability claim assessments, worker’s compensation evaluations, pre-employment evaluations, conservator and guardianship evaluations, sexual behavior evaluations, sexually violent predator (SVP) statute civil commitment and release evaluations, fitness-for-duty evaluations, and other forensic consulting. Fellows will gain exposure to the specific CPSPD programs listed and the aforementioned types of cases will be assigned as the fellow’s experience and skill allow. The frequency with which each type of case will assigned is based upon the rate of referrals in each given program. A fellow’s training can be tailored to fit specific professional interests. At MUSC, we also provide Consultation Liaison services to the Institute of Psychiatry and the Medical University Hospital for issues such as violence and suicide risk assessment.

Didactics include a weekly landmark case law series and courses relevant to the intersection of law and mental health. Mock trials and testimony observation are utilized to prepare fellows to present testimony in court. As part of the academic component of the program, fellows complete a research project (paper, local, regional, national, or international presentation, etc.). Fellows will gain experience providing some teaching and supervision to visiting students and/or medical students on a rotation in the CPSPD. Satisfactory completion of this fellowship program meets postdoctoral supervised practice requirements for licensure in the state of South Carolina.

THE AREA

Founded in 1670, Charleston is a beautiful, water-front city that serves as a popular vacation destination. Charleston is well known for its rich history, well-preserved architecture, celebrated restaurant community, and mannerly people. Our French Quarter and Battery areas are enjoyed by individuals nationwide. Condè Nast ranked Charleston the #1 City in the US for the 4th Year! In addition, the city has been named the Top Destination in the World!

Discover a place where the past is still present, where gas-lit lamps flicker in the warm southern breezes. Cobblestone streets pave the way to intriguing boutiques and exquisite dining. Encounter historic houses and museums, attractions, pristine beaches, and world-class golf in one destination that has been welcoming visitors for more than 300 years.

Lovingly-preserved homes, churches, and public buildings line the tree-shaded streets, serving as a living testament to the city's illustrious past. History is literally found around every corner, providing a focal point for a visit to this intriguing city. Much of the Historic District includes Charleston's original commercial areas, allowing visitors to enjoy a leisurely walk to fine galleries, boutiques, and restaurants.
HOW TO GET HERE

Charleston International Airport: Charleston International Airport (CHS) is centrally located in the Charleston, S.C. metropolitan area and provides a first impression of the local community to the nearly 3 million passengers annually coming to the South Carolina Lowcountry for business and leisure activities. CHS flies nonstop to 24 airports and 19 cities in the United States and Canada. Airlines include Alaska Airlines, American Airlines, Delta Air Lines, JetBlue Airlines, Porter Airlines, Silver Airways, Southwest Airlines, United Airlines, and US Airways.

Amtrak: The Charleston Amtrak station is a train station located in North Charleston, South Carolina, and is served by Amtrak, the national railroad passenger system. The North Charleston station was originally built by the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad in 1956, after a fire destroyed Charleston Union Station in 1947.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF CPSPD PROGRAMS

FORENSIC PSYCHIATRY PROGRAM (FPP)

Forensic psychology and psychiatry are fields focused on the intersection of mental health and the legal system. The MUSC Forensic Psychiatry Program (FPP) provides assessment and consulting services to criminal and civil legal entities and supports the year-long forensic psychiatry and forensic psychology fellowship training programs. Furthermore, forensic research is conducted within the FPP, and projects have received federal, state, and private foundation funding support.

Consulting and evaluation services span the forensic field with expertise in civil and criminal case work such as competency to stand trial, criminal responsibility, capacity to conform behavior, mitigation, risk assessment, impact of traumatic brain injury, malpractice, child custody, termination of parental rights, guardianships, and conservatorships. The CPSPD accepts cases from across the entire state of South Carolina. Additionally, as mentioned above, the CPSPD is contracted with the South Carolina Department of Mental Health Forensic Services Center.

PROGRESSIVE PROFESSIONALS PROGRAM (PPP)

The Progressive Professionals Program (PPP) is a comprehensive evaluation, intervention, and monitoring service for professionals referred for problematic workplace conduct. The PPP conducts comprehensive Fitness-for-Duty evaluations to provide expertise on the extent, nature, and severity of the presenting issue and offers recommendations for intervention, treatment, and compliance monitoring. Specifically, services are available for assessing professional sexual misconduct, substance abuse and dependence, verbal and physical aggression, and cognitive impairment. Evaluations are conducted at an MUSC facility located outside of the main campus to facilitate the privacy of the professionals receiving services. The PPP has experience serving state medical and other health care professional licensing boards, hospital systems, physician
residency programs, graduate medical students, the federal government, an aircraft production corporation, law enforcement agencies, and private corporations.

The PPP clinical team consists of a multidisciplinary array of specialists including physicians, psychologists, a licensed professional counselor, and social workers. Team members include experts with board certifications in Forensic Psychiatry, Addiction Psychiatry, Neurology, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, General (Adult) Psychiatry, and Clinical Sexology. We also have a neurocognitive psychologist, polygraph examiner and former sworn law enforcement professional on staff to provide evaluation services for indicated cases. Diana Mullis, M.D., serves at the Director of MUSC’s PPP. Dr. Mullis is a board-certified adult and forensic psychiatrist, who along with the multidisciplinary team of specialists have years of experience in this field of practice.

SEXUAL BEHAVIORS CLINIC AND LAB (SBCL)

The Sexual Behaviors Clinic and Lab (SBCL) is specifically designed and operates to evaluate and treat human sexual behavior disorders to include paraphilic disorders and other problematic, abusive, and criminal offense activities for clinical, forensic, and research purposes. The SBCL includes the use of clinical and forensic interviewing techniques with the capacity for digital audio and video recording, psychometric assessment, physiological assessment to include penile plethysmography, visual reaction time assessment, polygraph examination, and biochemical laboratory studies through affiliated laboratory support.

The SBCL includes a penile plethysmography (PPG) examination lab certified as a "Clinical and Research Laboratory" by Limestone Technologies. The Research certification is the highest level possible. It is one of only two such certified labs in South Carolina and one of the few on the East coast. The SBCL is also one of the few labs in North America with the technical capacity to conduct photo-vaginal plethysmography, which will be operational for clinical, forensic, and research purposes in the near future. Also soon to be offered through the SBCL are treatment services including a medication management clinic employing antiandrogen and anti-gonadotropin medications for the treatment of paraphilias.

The SBCL has provided services to: criminal, civil, and family court systems; other state agencies including the South Carolina Attorney General, Department of Mental Health, Department of Juvenile Justice, and Department of Social Services; and individual and institutional treatment providers. The SBCL conducts both treatment and forensic evaluations to include evaluations for the South Carolina Sexually Violent Predator Act civil commitment and release proceedings.

The U.S. Department of Justice (OJJDP) awarded the SBCL two 3-year grants totaling over $1.5 million. The SBCL is one of three sites in an international research team including Canada and Scotland studying national data on sexual exploitation of children. The SCBL also joined with a Canadian research team conducting ground breaking research using PPG during fMRI to study Pedophilic Disorder. Multiple studies and proposals are in-progress and under development to include ones with other MUSC Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Department entities, other universities, and international sites in Canada and the UK.
YOUTH & FAMILY FORENSIC PROGRAM

The Youth and Family Forensic Program (YFPP) team includes professional from multiple disciplines, including a psychiatrist, psychologist, and professional counselor, all of whom have training and expertise in child development and parenting interventions. Doctoral evaluators have completed formal forensic specialty training. Evaluations offered by the YFPP are related to dissolution of marriage, child protection, legally-involved youth, and adoption.

PUBLIC SAFETY & EMERGENCY SERVICES PROGRAM

The Public Safety and Emergency Services Program provides training and planning services, real time on-scene consultation, and post-event support to law enforcement, emergency management, fire, and rescue agencies at the local, state and federal levels. Services have included the formation of a U.S. Department of Justice agency’s peer support team to include the design, development, and conduct of their peer team training courses, participation in screening and selecting their peer members, and providing instruction on stress management and mental health to their personnel throughout the United States.

Consultations are provided to federal, state, and local criminal justice system professionals working Internet crimes against children cases. Instruction is provided on preventing and managing stress related to the investigation of crimes against children. By provision of a federal grant, the division has supported a state Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force by providing stress prevention and management services to sworn law enforcement personnel, attorneys, paralegals, and forensic computer analysts on the task force.

Services available to law enforcement agencies include: general medical and mental health clinical consulting; mental health education and training; consulting on research and grants for general health and forensic behavioral health issues of law enforcement officers; immediate and follow-up support to law enforcement personnel involved in critical incidents including among others officer-involved shootings, injuries, and line of duty deaths; on-scene operational and post incident support to crime scene investigators, crisis/hostage negotiators, SWAT team, arson investigators, investigators working child fatalities and internet crimes against children, and others. The Medical Officer for the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED), South Carolina Law Enforcement Assistance Program (SCLEAP) and the Crime Scene Unit of the Charleston, SC Police Department is a full-time member of the CPSPD faculty.

CPSPD faculty provides instruction and clinical consultations during 3-day post-critical incident seminars for law enforcement personnel from multiple states around the country and post deployment seminars for National Guard and other military members. Services available to fire and rescue agencies include: general basic medical and mental health clinical consulting, education, and training; consulting on research and grants; immediate and follow-up support to personnel involved in critical incidents including, among others injuries, and line of duty deaths; on-scene operational and post call support. The Medical Director for the Lincolville Fire Department, Lincolnville Volunteer Rescue Squad, and the Lowcountry Emergency Response Training center is a full time faculty member of the CPSPD.
COMMUNITY CLINICAL SERVICES CENTER

The Community Clinical Services Center provides outpatient mental health care on the MUSC campus and at community and institutional settings locally and around the state; conducts research relevant to community mental health services; supports student, resident and fellow education; and provides general clinical telepsychiatry services to local and state agencies. It is important to note that forensic psychology fellows are not assigned to the Community Clinical Service Center during the course of their fellowship year given the focus of this program on forensic evaluation. As such, information is included for reference only. Clinical settings include the following:

**Community Psychiatry Clinic:** The mission of Community Psychiatry Clinic is to provide high quality clinical care to members of our community in need. We offer services to adults, children, and their families. We collaborate with providers throughout the health system in order to deliver comprehensive and evidenced based behavioral health treatment. Our team consists of licensed social workers, a psychiatric nurse practitioner as well as a psychiatrist board certified in General and Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

**General Adult Residency Clinic:** The mission of the General Psychiatry Clinic is to provide psychiatric outpatient care to adults in the local community and to support an environment that promotes clinical education under the supervision of teaching faculty members for third and fourth-year general psychiatry residents. Training includes the development of diagnostic skills and treatment planning, along with the use of various psychotherapy techniques and appropriate psychopharmacological agents. The training experience aims to help residents acquire critical practice management skills applicable to a real-world setting.

**South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC):** The CPSPD provides psychiatric medication management services at clinics on-site in two SCDC institutions and via telepsychiatry to other institutions around the state.

**South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice (SCDJJ):** The CPSPD provides psychiatric medication management services on-site in an SCDJJ facility and conducts the psychiatric component of assessments at one of the SCDJJ evaluation centers.

**EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM**

The CPSPD promotes education through the implementation of a variety of training opportunities. Opportunities include a Postdoctoral Fellowship in Forensic Psychology and a Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship. The CPSPD also serves as a training site for medical students, physician residents and fellows, social work trainees, and undergraduate criminal justice students.

**Postdoctoral Fellowship in Forensic Psychology:** The Postdoctoral Fellowship in Forensic Psychology at MUSC is a 12-month program that offers a wide array of training opportunities pertaining to criminal and civil legal proceedings. Fellows learn through practical application and a series of didactic training seminars. Fellows in the Forensic Psychology and Forensic
Psychiatry Programs share didactic trainings and work closely to facilitate peer learning. The postdoctoral fellowship in forensic psychology program is described in detail below.

*Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship*: The Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship at MUSC is a 12-month accredited program that provides a diverse training experience in areas where psychiatry is applied to legal issues. The program is committed to educating clinicians in both the theoretical and practical aspects of forensic psychiatry.

*Medical Student and Resident Curriculum Elective Courses*: The CPSPD provides didactic and/or clinical instruction in the general and child & adolescent psychiatry residencies, the addiction psychiatry fellowship and the psychology internship. In addition, the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences offers third- and fourth-year medical students and residents several elective clinical and lab courses in forensic psychiatry.

**RESEARCH STUDIES**

The CPSPD values innovation and strives to contribute to the wealth of knowledge in the fields of forensic psychology and psychiatry. Projects are supported by federal, state and private grants. Principal Investigators include CPSPD faculty with a history of federal, state and private foundation funding support. Please visit our website for a list of current research projects: http://clinicaldepartments.musc.edu/CPSP/research.

**POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP TRAINING**

**TRAINING EXPERIENCES**

Fellows will gain exposure to a variety of experiences necessary to form a well-rounded foundation for a career as a Forensic Psychologist. To this end, we have developed a core curriculum consisting of forensic evaluation, psychological assessment, supervision, and a didactic and case law seminar series. Specialized elective opportunities are available based upon each fellow’s interest. Fellows will also gain exposure to expert testimony through observation, mock-trial experiences, and actual testimony as it arises. Location information, a description of the population served, an estimated division of responsibilities, and each core element of the program is discussed below.

**Location:**

Fellows will spend the majority of their work week in the off-campus MUSC location at 29 Leinbach Drive in Charleston, SC. The off-campus office consists of several interview rooms, faculty and fellow offices, a penile plethysmography (PPG) examination lab, and space dedicated to psychological testing, telepsychiatry, group treatment, and research. Interview rooms are equipped with video surveillance and other features to ensure safety. Examinees are generally transported to our location for evaluation and the majority of evaluations take place on-site. Fellows and supervisors will infrequently be required to travel to an alternative location for
forensic evaluation or consultation. Additionally, participation in certain elective rotations may require more frequent off-site training and consultation.

**Population Served:**

At MUSC, fellows have the unique opportunity to interface with a diverse group of juvenile and adult clients experiencing a wide range of psychopathology. Examinees may present with serious mental illness (acute or in remission), substance use disorders, behavioral disorders, mood disorders, anxiety disorders, neurocognitive disorders, and/or personality disorders. Fellows will evaluate examinees currently residing within various levels of care and correctional settings. Detained individuals may be transported for evaluation by various agencies to include Sheriff’s Offices, County Police, the Department of Juvenile Justice, or the South Carolina Department of Corrections. Examinees on bond will present independently for scheduled evaluation. Consultation services regarding suicide and violence risk are provided to MUSC’s inpatient acute units as needed.

**Estimated Division of Responsibilities:** Specified percentages of effort serve as an estimate and may vary depending on cases referred.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Type</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State criminal cases (CST, CRCC)</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-state cases and consultation</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychological Testing</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervision</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Didactics and Case Law</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>5%</td>
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</tbody>
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**Core Training Experiences:**

*Forensic Evaluation:* Fellows gain exposure to a variety of criminal and civil forensic evaluation services throughout their training year. Specifically, we provide state contracted services, as well as consultation and evaluation of non-state criminal and civil matters. Evaluation types will include a heavy focus on Competency to Stand Trial (CST) and Criminal Responsibility and Capacity to Conform Conduct (CRCC) evaluations. Fellows with an interest in juvenile populations will have the opportunity to conduct juvenile Competency to Stand Trial evaluations for Family Court intermittently throughout the duration of their training year.

Fellows are expected and encouraged to participate in several non-state forensic evaluations during the course of the training year. Faculty within the CPSPD offer forensic evaluation services that focus on varying areas to include child custody, parental fitness, termination of parental rights, adoption, juvenile transfer/reverse transfer, disability, worker’s compensation, pre-employment, conservator and guardianship, independent medical and malpractice, adoption, sexual behavior, sexually violent predator statute civil commitment and release, and fitness-for-duty. As mentioned above, fellows will gain exposure to the specific CPSPD programs listed and the aforementioned types of cases will be assigned as the fellow’s experience and skill allow. The frequency with which each type of case will be assigned is based upon the rate of referrals in
each given program. Supervisors will put forth effort to assign specific types of cases to fellows based upon expressed interest.

*Psychological Assessment:* Fellows will gain experience conducting forensic psychological assessment under supervision of a licensed psychologist. Frequency of psychological assessment services provided is largely dependent on referrals requested. Referral questions generally consist of malingering assessment and personality assessment; however, additional referral questions may arise. To that end, fellows will become proficient in the use of several psychological assessment tools used to identify feigning and malingering. Measures commonly used include the Miller Forensic Assessment of Symptoms Test (M-FAST), Structured Interview of Reported Symptoms, 2nd Edition (SIRS-2), Inventory of Legal Knowledge (ILK), Test of Memory Malingering (TOMM), and Validity Indicator Profile (VIP). Fellows will also become familiar with additional specialized psychological testing instruments used in specific forensic evaluations (e.g. child custody and sexual behavior).

Fellows will become familiar with the use of structured forensic assessment instruments such as the MacArthur Competence Assessment Tool- Criminal Adjudication (MacCAT-CA), the Evaluation of Competency to Stand Trial- Revised (ECST-R), and the Rogers Criminal Responsibility Assessment Scales (R-CRAS). Knowledge and clinical application of such assessments will further assist in establishing an in-depth skill base relative to assessing various psycholegal constructs. Fellows may also gain experiences in violence risk assessment if asked to provide consultation regarding dangerousness to inpatient acute units. Commonly used instruments include the Historical Clinical Risk Management-20, Version 3 (HCR-20 V3), and the Violence Risk Appraisal Guide (VRAG).

*Expert Testimony:* Given the nature of forensic evaluation, fellows may be asked by the court to testify regarding psycholegal issues (e.g. competency to stand trial, criminal responsibility, child custody, etc.). As these opportunities arise, fellows will work with their supervisors to prepare for testimony. Throughout the course of the fellowship year, additional opportunities will arise in which fellows will be given the opportunity to observe senior faculty providing expert testimony. Fellows will also participate in one to two mock trials in which they will have the opportunity to practice the skills necessary to become proficient in providing expert testimony.

*Research:* Although not a primary focus of this fellowship, fellows are required to participate in scholarly research activities during the course of their postdoctoral training year. Fellows may request to join with faculty to work towards pre-existing research goals or initiate a project of their own. Fellows are required to participate in one scholarly presentation during the course of their training year. This presentation may be related to the aforementioned research activities as fellows’ interests dictate. Attendance and submission to the American Psychology-Law Society (AP-LS) conference is strongly encouraged. As such, funding for attendance to AP-LS is provided.

**Elective Training Opportunities:**

*Public Safety & Emergency Services Program Rotation:* Fellows have an opportunity to become involved with the CPSPD’s Public Safety & Emergency Services Program. Fellows will work
with faculty who, through interagency agreements, are consultants, and in some cases, embedded and fully credentialed with public safety agencies. Of note, those fully embedded have formal positions and titles in the structure of those agencies. Fellows may attend Post Critical Incident Seminar (PCIS) and Post Deployment Seminar (PDS) iterations and may join with faculty and play an active role in providing training to law enforcement and other public safety and associated agency personnel. Furthermore, fellows may become involved with operational events on a situation-by-situation basis depending on the agency involved. Involvement with this program offers fellows a unique opportunity to interface with law enforcement and other key public safety personnel.

Forensic Treatment: Fellows may have the opportunity to observe and/ or participate in forensic treatment settings on a case-by-case basis depending on opportunities available during the specific training year. Please request additional information in this area if interested.

SUPERVISION

A licensed clinical psychologist with specialty training in forensic psychology serves as the primary clinical supervisor. The primary supervisor will provide a minimum of one hour of supervision each week focusing on forensic casework, psychological assessment, research activities, and professional development. Additional supervision will be provided by several other faculty members within the CPSPD depending on the type of case assigned. See below for a brief description of each faculty member associated with the Postdoctoral Fellowship in Forensic Psychology at MUSC.

EDUCATION AND DIDACTICS

Teaching and educating fellows serves as a top priority within the CPSPD. As such, a seminar series has been developed in which fellows will learn through presentations, videotapes, and hands-on-experience. Presenters from MUSC and associated agencies and universities will speak on a variety of topics relevant to forensic psychology. A landmark case law series will mirror the didactic series and serves to increase the fellows’ familiarity with landmark cases pertaining to mental health and forensic psychology.

EVALUATION AND FEEDBACK

Clinical supervisors formally evaluate fellows quarterly during the course of their training year. Specific areas of strength and areas in need of continued growth are noted. Feedback is provided directly to the fellow and serves as an opportunity to identify areas of focus for the remainder of the training year. At the conclusion of the fellowship, fellows are again provided feedback from their clinical supervisors. This final evaluation aims to highlight the fellows’ accomplishments and help to continue to facilitate growth as they prepare to begin working as an early career psychologist. Similarly, clinical supervisors welcome feedback throughout the duration of the fellow’s training year.
INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

The MUSC Postdoctoral Fellowship in Forensic Psychology offers fellows a unique and valuable opportunity with regard to interdisciplinary training. The above fellowship has been designed to operate in conjunction with the MUSC Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship, which allows fellows from each discipline to work alongside one another for the entirety of their training year. This design affords each fellow an opportunity to learn from the other given his or her respective expertise. In addition to the benefits associated with peer learning, fellows will work alongside psychologists, psychiatrists, licensed professional counselors, social workers, and several other disciplines.

FELLOWSHIP TRAINING DIRECTOR AND COORDINATOR:

Fellowship Training Director:

Sheresa Christopher, Ph.D.: Dr. Christopher attended Pacific Graduate School of Psychology at Palo Alto University (PAU) where she earned a Forensic Psychology Emphasis Certificate, a Master’s Degree in Clinical Psychology, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical Psychology. She attended a pre-doctoral internship at the University of Massachusetts and Worchester Recovery Center and Hospital and completed a Postdoctoral Fellowship in Forensic Psychology at Georgia Regents University in a partnership with East Central Regional Hospital. Dr. Christopher currently holds an academic position as Assistant Professor within the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). Additionally, she serves as the Director of the Postdoctoral Fellowship in Forensic Psychology and is actively involved in providing supervision to fellows in the Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship Program.

Dr. Christopher primarily conducts forensic evaluations with juveniles and adults pertaining to several psycho-legal issues (e.g. competency to stand trial, criminal responsibility, parental fitness, and child custody). She also provides psychological assessment services and is proficient in several domains of assessment to include intelligence, achievement, forensic, psychodiagnostic, and social, emotional, and behavioral functioning. Professional and research interests include juvenile justice, juvenile competency restoration, and the treatment of legally involved youth. She is particularly interested in the psychological and behavioral sequelae of trauma exposure in youth in the juvenile justice system and associated treatment methodologies.

Fellowship Coordinator:

Emily K. Shier, MA, LPC/I: Ms. Shier graduated from Wofford College in 2011 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology. Following the completion of her undergraduate degree, she attended The Citadel Graduate College and completed a Masters of Arts in Psychology - Clinical Counseling in 2014. While attending The Citadel, Ms. Shier worked at The Medical University of South Carolina’s Division of Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics as a Psychometrist, administering a variety of neuropsychological assessments to children of various ages and developmental levels. Ms. Shier’s background includes providing therapy services to youth with behavior problems, youth who have experienced traumatic events, as well as, youth who have
engaged in inappropriate/illegal sexual behaviors and their families. She has provided outreach and education both locally and nationally on the topic of providing treatment to youth with sexual offending behaviors and their families. Ms. Shier has also co-facilitated adult sex offender treatment groups. Presently, Ms. Shier is a Clinical Instructor at The Medical University of South Carolina’s Community and Public Safety Psychiatry Division, where she assists in forensic evaluations and co-facilitates adult sex-offender group treatment. She is a Licensed Professional Counselor Intern in South Carolina and South Carolina Victim Service Provider.

**FACULTY AND STAFF**

Faculty in the CPSPD include professionals from multiple disciplines including physicians, psychologists (clinical, neurocognitive and forensic), social workers, professional counselors, a plethysmography lab technician and a polygraph examiner. There are also several key administrative personnel including the CPSPD Administrative Coordinator, Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship Coordinator, administrative assistants and reception desk staff. It is important to note that only the faculty and staff directly involved in the fellowship are listed herein. The CPSPD has many additional faculty and staff members who serve as active and vital parts of the larger division. Please reference the website for additional information about key personnel in the CPSPD Community Clinical Services Center.

**CPSPD Team Members:**

*Gregg Dwyer, MD, EdD, FAPA, FASAP*: Dr. Dwyer is an Associate Professor in MUSC Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, where he is Director of the CPSPD. Dr. Dwyer is board certified in General, Child & Adolescent, and Forensic Psychiatry and is a certified sex therapist. He currently serves as the Medical Officer for the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED), the Charleston Police Department Crime Scene Unit, and the South Carolina Law Enforcement Assistance Program (SCLEAP). He is also the Medical Director of a South Carolina fire department, an emergency response training center, and a rescue squad.

After serving in the U.S. Navy, Dr. Dwyer was commissioned a civilian special agent with the United States Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) with assignments in field, headquarters, operational, and staff positions. His experience includes criminal investigations, evidence collection and crime scene processing, special operations, foreign counterintelligence, and critical incident peer counseling. He was an NCIS special protection & antiterrorism team member and a firearms, defensive tactics and physical fitness instructor. Dr. Dwyer has held academic appointments in criminal justice programs at Montgomery College in Maryland, Northern Virginia Community College and the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and has been on the faculty of the U.S. Department of Justice National Advocacy Center and National College of District Attorneys.

Dr. Dwyer has provided general and case specific consultation to various state government entities including attorney generals, state police, probation, public defenders, mental health, and juvenile justice departments and to private attorneys and mental health clinicians. He consults with criminal justice system professionals working internet crimes against children cases for
ment health support and has provided instruction on preventing and managing stress related to their investigations. Dr. Dwyer has consulted on the development of a promotion process for a city police department and as a sworn federal criminal investigator was a charter member of a law enforcement peer support team for whom he also co-authored their original briefing and training video on peer support and critical incident stress management. He has conducted fitness-for-duty evaluations for law enforcement and health care professionals including for state licensing boards. Dr. Dwyer provides services to SWAT, hostage/crisis negotiators, crime scene investigators, and other law enforcement specialties, as well as on scene support for fire and rescue operations. Furthermore, Dr. Dwyer has received federal, state, and private research grant funding, presented nationally and internationally, and published peer-reviewed articles and book chapters.

Christopher S. Fields, M.D.: Dr. Fields is an Assistant Professor and the Fellowship Director for the Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship at MUSC. He is Board Certified in Psychiatry, Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, and Forensic Psychiatry. Dr. Fields completed Fellowships in Forensic Psychiatry and Child & Adolescent Psychiatry at Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta. Dr. Fields has experience with adult populations on forensic issues, including: competency to stand trial, criminal responsibility, mitigation, disability and Independent Medical Examinations. Prior to his current work at MUSC, Dr. Fields served as medical director for a large residential psychiatric treatment facility for children in Atlanta, GA. In addition to his forensic work, Dr. Fields has clinical roles at MUSC running an acute adult psychiatric unit and providing outpatient treatment for children and adolescents.

Diana M. Mullis, M.D.: Diana Mullis, M.D., holds a position as Assistant Professor with the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). Dr. Mullis is Board-certified in Psychiatry, a Diplomat of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, and fellowship trained in Forensic Psychiatry. Dr. Mullis completed her residency training in Psychiatry and Fellowship in Forensic Psychiatry at MUSC. Prior to her psychiatric training and subsequent practice in the field of Psychiatry, she practiced several years as a board-certified physician in the field of Emergency Medicine.

Dr. Mullis maintains a clinical practice and actively participates as a faculty member to train and supervise medical students, residents, and fellows. Dr. Mullis is experienced in performing criminal and civil evaluations for the defense and plaintiff, including competency to stand trial, criminal responsibility, and diminished capacity. She also has experience in performing evaluations for mitigation, violence risk assessments, fitness for duty, Independent Medical Evaluations, standard of care and malpractice case analysis, emotional harm and disability, and correctional medical care.

Emily D. Gottfried, Ph.D.: Dr. Gottfried is a clinical forensic psychologist and Instructor in the Community and Public Safety Psychiatry Division of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at MUSC. Dr. Gottfried obtained a Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology from San Diego State University and a Master’s Degree in Psychology from Columbia University in New York. She then attended Florida State University, where she earned a Master’s Degree and Doctorate in Clinical Psychology. She completed her pre-doctoral psychology internship at Patton State Hospital in Southern California. Dr. Gottfried completed a postdoctoral fellowship in forensic psychology at Georgia Regents University in a partnership with East Central
Regional Hospital in Augusta, Georgia. Her clinical interests include sexual behavior, fitness for duty, and criminal forensic evaluations. Dr. Gottfried’s research interests include the accurate assessment of malingering during criminal forensic evaluations, suicide risk assessment, sexual offenders, and female offenders.

**Geoffrey R. McKee, PhD, ABPP:** Dr. McKee holds the rank of Clinical Professor in the Departments of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at MUSC and University of South Carolina School of Medicine. A Board-certified Forensic Psychologist for over 30 years, he is a Past President of the American Academy of Forensic Psychology. He was the Chief Psychologist of the Forensic Psychiatry Service at the William S. Hall Psychiatric Institute and the South Carolina Department of Mental Health (SCDMH) representative to the state-wide case review committee for the Sexually Violent Predator Act until his retirement in 2011. Dr. McKee has given expert testimony in over 300 criminal and 30 death penalty trials, sentencing hearings, or post-conviction relief appeals, twice before the South Carolina Supreme Court. He has evaluated over 500 adult or juvenile murder defendants, including over thirty mothers charged with killing their child or children. He has also specialized in domestic forensic psychology providing child custody/parenting capacity evaluations and expert testimony since 1976. He is the author of Why Mothers Kill: A Forensic Psychologist’s Casebook (Oxford University Press, 2006) and author or co-author of peer-reviewed book chapters and journal articles on maternal filicide, juveniles’ trial competency, violent adolescents, violent females, sex offenders, and criminal forensic psychology practice. He completed his PhD in psychology from the University of Missouri in 1969 and has been a licensed psychologist in Arizona, North Dakota, and South Carolina since 1985.

**William Burke, Ph.D.:** Dr. Burke is the president and clinical director of Southeastern Assessments, which provides forensic evaluations and treatment primarily with sex offenders and individuals with sexual disorders. He is also a Clinical Assistant Professor at the Medical University of South Carolina, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. Dr. Burke has personally evaluated and tested over 6,000 sexual offenders. Of those evaluated, approximately 3,000 have undergone a penile plethysmograph study conducted by Dr. Burke or under his direction.

**Kathryn K. VanKirk, Ph.D.:** Dr. VanKirk is a licensed clinical psychologist/staff neuropsychologist at the Ralph H. Johnson Veteran’s Administration Medical Center and assistant professor with the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). Presently, she serves as neuropsychologist consultant with the Department of Forensic Psychiatry at MUSC and is also a member of the Violent Behavior Prevention Committee at the Ralph H. Johnson VAMC.

**Joe Secondary, RPSGT, RST, Lab Technician:** Joe Secondary graduated from Laboure College in Boston, MA with a degree in Clinical Neurophysiology. He trained in EEG, SLEEP, EP, EMG, IOM and LTM epilepsy diagnostic studies. He has worked in clinical and research sleep and neurophysiology since 1993. He is a registered Polysomnographic Technologist and has managed sleep centers for over 10 years. Furthermore, he is specialized in sleep lab development and has experience in community and corporate education for sleep disorders and sleep wellness. He has worked at MUSC since June 2010.
Tim Stephenson, Polygrapher: Tim Stephenson is a retired law enforcement officer and a Polygraph Examiner in the Department of Forensic Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at MUSC. He is a graduate of the University of Arkansas Law Enforcement Executive Development Course, the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy, the FBI Command College, and the Virginia School of Polygraph. He is a past president of the South Carolina Association of Polygraph Examiners and has extensive experience in conducting behavior assessments, credibility assessments and polygraph examinations on a variety of criminal cases. He has been court certified as an expert in law enforcement operations in the Court of General Sessions and Administrative Court. He is an active participant in the teaching program at MUSC providing lectures for medical students, residents, and fellows.

Kristin Eyre, MSW, LISW-CP: Kristin Eyre, MSW, LISW-CP graduated from the University of South Carolina in 2005 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice. Following her undergraduate studies, she attended the University Of South Carolina College Of Social Work, graduating with a Master of Social Work degree in 2009. Ms. Eyre’s substantive area of expertise is working within inpatient forensic settings. At the South Carolina Department of Corrections and the South Carolina Department of Mental Health, she worked as a member of acute inpatient multidisciplinary teams providing assessment, treatment and discharge planning for a complex caseload of individuals with numerous biopsychosocial challenges, including criminal charges. While meeting the supervision requirements for Independent Licensure, she broadened her clinical skills by working as the lead therapist for a structured outpatient program providing services to those diagnosed with cognitive disabilities and those with severe mood disorders. In addition to forensic mental health, Ms. Eyre’s interests include outreach and the provision of education regarding forensic mental health to members of the criminal justice community. Ms. Eyre presently works at The Medical University of South Carolina’s Community and Public Safety Psychiatry Division, where she assists in forensic evaluations. She is a Licensed Independent Social Worker with a Clinical Practice specialization in the State of South Carolina.

Allison Floyd, B.S. (Administrative Assistant): Ms. Floyd obtained a B.S. from the University of Central Florida in December of 2005. Ms. Floyd recently joined the Community & Public Safety Psychiatry Division of MUSC. She provides numerous services to assist CPSPD faculty in conducting forensic evaluations for the legal system.

ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION PROCESS

Eligibility: Applicants must have a Ph.D. or Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology from an American Psychological Association (APA) accredited graduate program. During the course of obtaining their degree, applicants must have completed an APA-accredited pre-doctoral internship program. If an applicant’s degree has not yet been conferred, a letter from the applicant’s graduate school specifying degree requirements have been met and the date the applicant’s degree will be conferred is required. An applicant’s degree must be conferred no later than August 31st. Applicants must have strong general clinical training and robust experience with psychological assessment and report writing. Experience working with forensic populations is preferred. The deadline for applications to be submitted in their entirety is January 5th of each
year. MUSC is participating in the Uniform Acceptance Date (UAD) process for forensic fellowships. This year, the UAD for forensic fellowships is February 26, 2018. Although our fellowship may make an offer prior to the UAD, we will not require applicants to accept an offer prior to February 26, 2018. Applicants are nonetheless encouraged to notify a fellowship of their decision as soon as possible, to allow for more efficient management of opportunities."

SELECTION PROCEDURES

Eligible applicants must complete the application located in appendix A. They are also required to submit a copy of their curriculum vitae, a personal statement (1-2 pages), three letters of recommendation, an official copy of graduate transcripts, and two writing samples (preferably forensic reports, if available). Please submit all application materials in one PDF document to ForensicFellowships@musc.edu. Letters of recommendation and official graduate transcripts may also be sent to ForensicFellowships@musc.edu or 29-C Leinbach Drive Charleston, SC 29407. Once applications are received, selected applicants will be invited for an in-person interview.

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

The salary for this position is based on the funding levels established by the National Institute of Health for doctoral level trainees and will be updated annually. As a point of reference, the salary was $47,484 for the 2017-2018 training year. In addition to the stipend, MUSC offers a package of fringe benefits that includes health benefits and annual, professional, and sick leave. Furthermore, the CPSPD will pay for fellow attendance at the American Psychology-Law Society (AP-LS) conference in March, as part of the fellowship training. Fellows also benefit by enjoying the relaxing, coastal atmosphere of Charleston, South Carolina.
APPLICATION FOR POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP IN FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY

Date: _____________________

Name_____________________________________

Last                                         First                                            Middle

Social Security No. ________________________  D.O.B. __________________________

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Signature________________________________________

Mailing Address _______________________________

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Present Address _______________________________

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Home Phone: ____________
Work Phone: ____________
Cell Phone: _____________
Fax: ____________________
E-mail: __________________
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. License to practice in State(s) of __________ License No(s) __________ Date(s) __________

2. Is there any reason that you could not perform the essential functions of a psychology fellow in the training program at the Medical University of South Carolina with or without accommodation? Yes ____ No ____

If yes, please explain on a separate sheet the required accommodation and how, with it, you could perform the essential functions of the position.

3. If not a U.S. citizen and/or if graduated from a foreign graduate school, please complete the following (if applicable):

Type of Visa___________________

Do you intend to apply for U.S. citizenship?______________________________

ECFMG Certificate Number ____________________________________________

Attach a copy of the certificate or interim certificate. If you are now in the U.S. give date and port of entry___________________________________________________________________________.

4. Chronological list of most salient activities including publications, academic honors, and any further special training which you have. You may attach a detailed CV instead.

__________________________________________________________________________________

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__________________________________________________________________________________

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Fellowship Appointments: Applications should be forwarded to Emily K. Shier, MA, LPC/I, at the address on the first page of this application. Supporting documentation for this application are to be sent including:

- Application Form
- Curriculum vitae
- A personal statement (1-2 pages)
- Three letters of recommendation
- Two writing samples (preferably forensic reports)
- Official copy of graduate transcripts
- Copy of graduate degree or DCT Letter