



Council of Professional Geropsychology Training Programs

**Council of Professional Geropsychology Training Programs (CoPGTP)**

Website: [www.copgtp.org](http://www.copgtp.org)

CCTC Meeting  
Spring 2023

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

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

**The CoPGTP Officers for 2023 are:**

- Veronica Shead, Ph.D., Chair, V.A. St. Louis Healthcare System
- Allison Jahn, Ph.D., Past Chair, Milwaukee VA Medical Center
- Patty Bamonti, Ph.D., ABPP, Chair Elect, V.A. Boston Healthcare System
- Rachel Weiskittle, Ph.D. Secretary, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
- Jay Gregg, Ph.D., Treasurer, Durham V.A. Health Care System
- Nicole Torrence, Ph.D., Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Member-at-Large, San Francisco VA Healthcare System
- Katherine King, Psy.D., Graduate Program Member-at-Large, William James College
- Nathalie Rieder, Psy.D., Internship Program Member-at-Large, , V.A. St. Louis Healthcare System
- Kimberly Hiroto, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Program Member-at-Large, V.A. Palo Alto Health Care System
- Erin Kube, Ph.D., ABPP, Post-Licensure Training Member-at-Large, VA Salt Lake City Health Care System & VISN 19 Rocky Mountain Network Clinical Resource Hub

Liaisons:

- Michelle Kehn, Ph.D., ABPP Newsletter Editor, VA New York Harbor Health Care System
- Kyle Page, Ph.D., ABPP, Media Manager, Hines VA Medical Center

Student Representatives

- Hannah Apostolou, University of Alabama

- Anastasia Canell, VA Bedford HCS
- Cathryn Goldman, Yeshiva University
- Danielle Llaneza, University of Houston
- Tim Ly, University of Alabama
- Carmen Tyler, Milwaukee VAMC

### **Organizational structure**

CoPGTP holds monthly executive board meetings that address its ongoing activities, which have included reports on budget, membership, newsletters, the annual meeting, website administration and the expansion of our online resources, survey of APPIC members regarding careers in geropsychology, core competencies initiative, support and promotion of [www.gerocentral.org](http://www.gerocentral.org), program and award applications, and ways to promote the Pikes Peak model of geropsychology training. In past years, we've offered "town hall" meetings, open to any CoPGTP members for their input and general participation, however, we are working to expand and revise opportunities for members to participate in relevant panel discussions and student networking events.

### **Resources**

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

- List of member organizations who provide geropsychology training at the doctoral, internship, post-doctoral, and post-licensure levels
- The Pikes Peak Geropsychology Knowledge and Skill Assessment Tool (competencies evaluation tool for supervisory or self-rating purposes)
- 2021 Revision of the Geropsychology Training Taxonomy, with consultation available to member programs on its use
- APA's revised "Guidelines for Psychological Practice with Older Adults"
- Recommended resources associated with the Pikes Peak Model attitude, knowledge, and skill competencies in geropsychology (books, articles, websites, APA videos, web-based training, etc.)
- Geropsychology course descriptions and syllabi (for doctoral as well as internship/post-doctoral courses)
- List of CoPGTP members available to consult regarding development of geropsychology training programs
- Newsletter archive
- Links to other resources and organizations including GeroCentral (<https://gerocentral.org>), a collaborative effort that CoPGTP sponsors with other geropsychology organizations. GeroCentral brings together available resources for geropsychology training, service provision, policy, and research, including online assessment of geropsychology competencies, in a central internet location.

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

### **Programs/Meetings**

- The 2022 annual meeting was held virtually in November 2022.
- We sponsored a series of collaborative Geropsychology Assessment Workshops.
- We cohosted a geropsychology networking event and student social during the American Psychological Association annual convention.

## Grants/Awards

- The Board Created a new award to promote DEI in the field of geropsychology and to honor our late board member, Dr. Kadija Williams. The Dr. Kadija N. Williams Award in Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion was awarded to Danielle McDuffie from the University of Alabama and intern at the Durham V.A. Health Care System.
- The 2022 Excellence in Geropsychology Training was awarded to Foundational Competencies in Older Adult Mental Health Online Certificate Program from the Rush Center for Excellence in Aging, in partnership with the E4 Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Disparities in Aging and CATCH-ON Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program
- The 2022 Research Grant Award went to “Understanding the Effects of Trauma on Memory in Older Adults: The Role of Post-Traumatic Growth.” (Rachel Kerzner, Dr. Jessica Strong, Maria Maclean, and John Dunn, UPEI).
- An Additional Grant was also funded: “Capacity Assessment Training and Competency Evaluation Tool (CATCET),” a collaborative project between 8 member programs led by Dr. M. Lindsey Jacobs, Ph.D., MSPH, ABPP

## Updates

CoPGTP sponsors geropsychology training programming and project development:

- International webinar series, “Career Opportunities in Adult Development and Aging”, aimed at strengthening the pipeline in geropsychology, including in academic careers. Information on the series and archives are available at <https://sites.wustl.edu/geropsychology/careers/>
- Building Bridges Graduate/Practicum Workgroup: Workgroup from the Building Bridges conference creating a survey about the unique aspects of the pandemic on geropsychology training.
- Performance-based capacity project: Work continues on developing of rubric to allow performance-based assessment of capacity utilizing input from various experts in different areas of capacity assessment.
- Case-based assessment in geropsychology: Workgroup continues to develop a supplement to the Pikes Peak self-assessment of foundational and functional competencies in geropsychology.
- CoPGTP is collaborating on the renewal for specialty recognition for geropsychology through CRSPPP.
- CoPGTP co-sponsors a new program of post-licensure consultation groups, for those in practice new to working with older adults.

Submitted by Allison Jahn, Ph.D.

2023, Past Chair, Council of Professional Geropsychology Training Programs