

Eastern Oklahoma VA Health Care System

2017 – 2018

Psychology Internship Program

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT THE ADDRESS LISTED BELOW
http://www.muskogee.va.gov/services/Predoctoral_Psychology_Internship_Program.asp

Please send all questions regarding the internship to: VHAMUSInternshipCommittee@va.gov

EASTERN OKLAHOMA VA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Eastern Oklahoma VA Health Care System (EOVAHCS) is based in Muskogee Oklahoma. The Jack C. Montgomery VA Medical Center has a proud legacy as we were the first VA Medical Center in the Nation to be named after a Native American. On Nov. 30, 2006, the Muskogee VA Medical Center was rededicated as the Jack C. Montgomery VA Medical Center in honor of WWII Veteran and Medal of Honor recipient Jack C. Montgomery, a member of Cherokee Nation. Our Community-Based Outpatient Clinic in Tulsa is also named after a Native American. On May 27, 2008, the Tulsa Clinic was rededicated as the Ernest Childers VA Outpatient Clinic after Ernest Childers, a WWII Veteran and Medal of Honor recipient and a member of Creek Nation. Our motto is “Excellence Starts Here”.

The Jack C. Montgomery VAMC serves veterans from a 25-county area in eastern Oklahoma. In addition to the main medical center in Muskogee, we offer a number of services to our patients at three community-based outpatient clinics located in Tulsa, Hartshorne, and Vinita. Our facility serves a largely rural community and we believe the creation of an Internship in Clinical Psychology at our facility would enhance our care of rural and underserved Veterans with mental health care needs and provide an exceptional opportunity for trainees to gain experience and knowledge in serving rural Veterans. We hope to incorporate our Interns into programs where the focus is specifically in underserved populations including working with Veterans with severe mental illness (SMI), Veterans who have experienced military sexual trauma (MST), are currently living in remote area (rural mental health and Mental Health Intensive Case Management Program), who are currently going through the court system (Veteran’s Treatment Court), and who are of a minority sexual orientation group, (LGBT). We also hope to work closely with rural Native American communities in the Eastern Oklahoma area, allowing trainees to develop multicultural understanding of diverse tribes in Eastern Oklahoma and insight into the unique needs of Native American Veterans.

Accreditation Status

The **Eastern Oklahoma VA Healthcare System’s Psychology Internship Program** is not yet accredited by the Commission on Accreditation (CoA) of American Psychological Association (APA). Although the internship is not currently accredited, the Office of Academic Affiliation indicates that any individual who completes a VA psychology internship is eligible for VA employment as a psychologist. Further, the program will be developed around all of the competency requirements as outlined by the 2017 Standards of Accreditation for Health Service Psychology by the Commission on Accreditation through the American Psychological Association with the expectation the program will gain accreditation as soon as possible

Pre-Doctoral Psychology Internship

During the 2017 - 2018 training year, the Eastern OK Healthcare System Psychology Pre-Doctoral Psychology Internship Training Program will provide training for 4 full-time psychology interns. We are pleased to welcome you to our Medical Center and look forward to your application for admission. The program is a 12-month, full-time appointment. All interns complete at least a total of 2080 hours of training. The usual tour of duty is 8:00 – 4:30PM, although some training experiences may involve a different one due to scheduled activities on that rotation (e.g., evening/Saturday therapy groups). Although some rotations will offer experiences outside of the usual tour of duty, there are no mandatory after-hour expectations.

About the Program

The primary mission of this training program is to provide quality clinical training utilizing a diverse range of theoretical models and techniques. The Practitioner-Scholar model is the underlying philosophy. We emphasize the integration of research and practical experience and believe it is essential in the development of professional competency. Therefore, emphasis is placed on applying evidence-based practices, research-based programming, and the application of science into practice. The goal is to facilitate interns' development of critical thinking, conceptualization, and problem solving skills. Prior to the completion of the training, interns will be expected to be competent in providing basic psychological services to Veterans in an ethical, professional, and knowledgeable manner.

The training program offers a focus on mental health care for rural and remotely living Veterans and underserved Veterans. Interns will be incorporated into programs where the focus is specifically on underserved populations including working with Veterans with severe mental illness (SMI), Veterans who have experienced military sexual trauma (MST), are currently living in remote area (rural mental health and Mental Health Intensive Case Management Program), who are currently going through the court system (Veteran's Treatment Court), and who are of a minority sexual orientation group, (LGBT). We also work closely with rural Native American communities in the Eastern Oklahoma area, allowing trainees to develop multicultural understanding of diverse tribes in Eastern Oklahoma and insight into the unique needs of Native American Veterans.

Each training opportunity in all rotations will present the opportunity to train with a multidisciplinary staff in a cooperative and professional environment along with training in evidenced based practices . Our diverse staff will offer a breadth of viewpoints and experiences to the training experience with a focus on Veteran-centered care as well as an emphasis on recovery and community re-integration.

Program Structure

The Internship year is divided into two major rotations of six months each, two minor rotations of six months each, and a yearlong rotation focused on evidenced based assessment and therapy. In general, Interns are expected to achieve foundational competencies in the area of clinical assessment, group and individual psychotherapy, consultation and treatment planning, professionalism and ethical/legal standards and policy, sensitivity to individual differences and cultural diversity, supervision and scientific knowledge and methods.

Interns will receive three hours of individual supervision each week by three separate licensed psychologists (Assessment/Evidenced Based Therapy supervisor, Major Rotation Supervisor, Minor Rotation Supervisor). In addition interns will have one hour of group supervision and two hours of didactic activities each week. The didactics and seminars will be coordinated by the training leadership and will focus on multicultural issues, provision of rural mental health care, empirically based treatments, documentation, and issues in psychological assessment. Diverse perspectives in training will be provided by clinical providers working in various areas of Veteran care as well as outside speakers with specific knowledge in psychological assessment, trauma-related care, and diversity issues.

Lastly, interns will have four hours each week to work on research and group projects such as Native American Outreach, Rural Outreach at the Claremore Vet Center, MST Outreach, and planning of the Annual Mental Health Summit. The remaining 30 hours will be devoted to direct clinical care and duties in support of clinical care. Each intern will be required to participate in the Psychology Assessment/Intake Clinic and the Evidenced-Based Psychotherapy Clinic throughout the year.

Psychology Assessment Clinic

Interns will conduct assessments in response to consult requests submitted by clinical providers anywhere within the VA network of clinics. The assessments involve clinical interview, review of history and records, and standardized psychological assessments and are specific to the referral questions. Interns will write integrated assessment reports and present this feedback to both colleagues and patients as appropriate. Emphasis is placed on collaborating with other professionals to clarify referral questions and provide meaningful feedback to both the referring clinician and the patient.

Evidenced-Based Psychotherapy Clinic

Interns will choose at least two therapies to become proficient in throughout the training year. Trainings will include in-person instruction, audio recordings, direct observation, supervision, and consultation. When appropriate, interns are required to become proficient in both the group and individual modalities. These are in addition to the

evidenced based therapies implemented on their rotations. All EBP supervision will be provided by a psychologist who has VA Provider Status for that particular EBP.

Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT): CPT is a manualized, cognitive-behavioral, time-limited (12-17 weeks) treatment approach for trauma related symptoms. This therapy is provided in both individual and group therapy formats.

Prolonged Exposure Therapy (PE): PE is a manualized, cognitive-behavioral time-limited (10-15 weeks) treatment approach for veterans with a diagnosis of PTSD. This therapy is provided in individual format only.

Motivational Interviewing/Motivational Enhancement Therapy (MI, MET): MI and MET are client centered therapeutic styles for eliciting behavioral change. These are used frequently with patients with Substance Use Disorders.

Dialectical Behavioral Therapy Skills Group (DBT): DBT is a manualized approach focusing on the skills of mindfulness, interpersonal effectiveness, emotion regulation, and distress tolerance. This is available as a six month group.

Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT): ACT uses acceptance and mindfulness processes along with commitment to behavioral change to bring about greater psychological flexibility.

Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy for Depression (CBT-D): CBT-D focuses on cognitive restructuring along with behavioral activation to treat depressive symptoms. This is available in group and individual format.

Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy for Insomnia (CBT-I): CBT-I focuses on cognitive restructuring and behavioral changes to treat insomnia. This is available in group and individual formats.

Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy for Pain: This is a manualized, time-limited (12 weeks) that focuses on CBT skills for pain management. This is available in group and individual formats.

Exposure, Relaxation, and Rescripting Therapy (ERRT): This is a manualized, time-limited (5 weeks) cognitive-behavioral therapy for the treatment of trauma related nightmares. This is available in group and individual formats.

Social Skills Training: Evidenced based treatment for veterans with severe mental illness. This is available in group format.

Choice of major rotations include: (Interns will choose two each lasting 16 hours per week for six months)

- General Mental Health Clinic (GMHC)
- Outpatient PTSD Clinical Team (PCT)/Military Sexual Trauma
- Acute Inpatient Psychiatry/Behavioral Health
- Substance Use Disorder Team (SUD)/Veterans Treatment Court
- Pain Clinic – Health Psychology

The choices for minor rotations include: (Interns will choose two each lasting 8 hours per week for six months)

- Home-Based Primary Care (HBPC)
- Rural Telemental Health
- Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery Center (PRRC)
- General Mental Health Clinic (GMHC)
- Outpatient PTSD Clinical Team (PCT)/Military Sexual Trauma
- Acute Inpatient Psychiatry/Behavioral Health
- Substance Use Disorder Team (SUD)/Veterans Treatment Court
- Health Psychology and Pain Clinic

Rotation Description:

Major Rotations:

General Mental Health: Interns will see outpatients in the general outpatient mental health clinic at the VAMC and Tulsa CBOC. In this clinic a holistic, recovery-oriented approach to care is taken so interns work closely with medication providers (nurse practitioners and psychiatrists) and social workers (homeless veteran coordinator, CWT and supported employment coordinator), as well as collaborating with primary and specialty care physicians. Interns will gain experience working with veterans who have the following diagnoses: schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, depression, and anxiety.

Inpatient Mental Health Service: Interns will work as part of a multidisciplinary treatment team on the inpatient mental health service. In this setting, the interns provide brief psychotherapy and psychological assessments. A large focus of the rotation is consulting and communicating about treatment conceptualization and planning with the team, which includes nursing, social work and psychiatry staff. Psychological interventions consist of both group and individual treatments.

PTSD Clinic: Interns will gain experience in empirically supported assessment and treatments of PTSD related to combat and military sexual trauma (MST). Evidenced Based Psychotherapy training opportunities include: Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) Skills Groups, Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) Skills Groups; Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT), CBT for Insomnia, Exposure Relaxation Rescripting

Therapy for Trauma Related Nightmares (ERRT), and Prolonged Exposure Therapy. Interns will learn to reliably administer and score the Clinician Administered PTSD Scale (CAPS-5). Training focus will be individualized based on intern's past training, experience, and interest.

Substance Use Disorder Team: The Eastern Oklahoma VA Health Care Systems (EOVAHC) Behavioral Medicine Service (BMS) offers a "continuum of care" model for Veterans diagnosed with Substance Use Disorders (SUD) and Co-Occurring Disorders providing interns the opportunity to individualize their training experience. A strong clinical focus would provide interns with experience in Substance Use Disorder assessment, consultation, evidence based therapies, outpatient and intensive outpatient (IOP) groups and may also include inpatient consultation. Evidence Based practices include Motivational Enhancement Therapy, Mindfulness, Seeking Safety, 12-Step Facilitation, a Cognitive Behaviorally focused Relapse Prevention and Acceptance Commitment Therapy approaches.

Tulsa Veterans Court (VTC) targets veterans charged with non-violent felonies and who also struggle with drug and/or alcohol addictions, and/or mental health problems. The Veterans Treatment Court is a collaborative effort among the 14th Judicial District Tulsa County Drug/DUI Court, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Tulsa County District Attorney's Office, Tulsa County Public Defender's Office, Human Skills and Resources Supervision, Tulsa County Court Services, and many other community partners. Tulsa Veterans Court is certified as a National Training Mentor Court. Interns will have the opportunity to attend court dates, graduations and provide counseling services and case management to VTC participants.

Pain Clinic – Health Psychology: The rotation in the Interdisciplinary Pain Clinic would focus on evaluation and treatment of Chronic Pain patients. Training in the evaluation of Chronic Pain patient include a clinical health psychology interview and analysis of objective psychological testing including the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory 2 (MMPI-2). Evaluation can be for approval and recommendations for pain implantable (i.e., Spinal Cord Stimulator, Pain Intrathecal Pump), and/or to identify appropriate non-pharmacological treatments including Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy for Chronic Pain (CBT-CP), Pain rehabilitation, and possible recommendations for Complementary Alternative Modalities including recommendations for Chiropractic care, Pain modalities (e.g., Alpha-Stim, Laser Touch One, & Neurolumen), acupuncture, and Tai Chi. Training in group and individual Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy for Chronic Pain (CBT-CP). Additional focus on exposure interventions for those veterans presenting with comorbid Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and a diagnosis of Chronic Pain. Didactics for working with Chronic Pain patients can be provided within the rotation or for all of the internship class. Advantages of this rotation will be for interns to learn effective evaluation and treatment of patients presenting with Chronic Pain.

Minor Rotations:

Home Based Primary Care Rotation: Interns will have the opportunity to learn how to effectively provide a full range of psychological services to patients in the home who are unable to travel to the nearest VA Medical Center. Many of those served are in very rural areas of Eastern Oklahoma, which will add to this unique training experience. Specific services include screenings; psychological, cognitive, and capacity assessments; psychotherapy; and prevention-oriented services. Mental health treatment and prevention-oriented services will emphasize evidence-based and best practice approaches..

Rural Telemental Health: The Rural TeleMental Health (RTH) rotation will offer interns distinct and innovative training using technology to complement their psychotherapy, psychological evaluation, consultation, and interprofessional skills. Interns can expect to work towards decreasing health disparities in an interprofessional training model serving rural Oklahoma veterans from Vinita and Hartshorne CBOCS in partnership with social work, psychiatry, and primary care using video teleconferencing. They will learn the unique combination of economic, social, and cultural factors affecting rural veterans. As a result of socio-eco-cultural influences, many of our rural veterans have multifactorial medical and mental health issues; therefore, interns will acquire advanced skills and knowledge in assessment, evaluation, psychotherapy, consultation, and case management.

PRRC: The Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery Center is a recovery based, daily treatment program for Veterans who have persistent severe mental illness including Schizophrenia, Schizoaffective Disorder, Bipolar Disorder, and PTSD. The goal of the PRRC is community integration and building skills to strengthen social supports.

Stipend Appointment - Pre-Doctoral Psychology Internship

The current stipend for full-time VA Interns is \$24,013.50, paid biweekly throughout the annual appointment period. Currently, this stipend is subject to Federal Income Tax withholding. Recent changes have now mandated that Interns be classified as full-time employees, making them eligible for health insurance and life insurance benefits. Interns are not eligible for participation in the VA retirement programs. Questions concerning payment of the stipend or related topics about benefits may be directed to the Training Director.

The Internship is a full-time, one-year appointment and will start on August 21, 2017. Under the federal sick leave/annual leave program, Interns accrue 4 hours of paid sick leave and 4 hours of paid annual leave (vacation) every 2-week pay period. This

equates to approximately 13 days of sick leave and 13 days of annual leave over the course of the Internship year. With the approval of the current rotation supervisors and the Training Director, each intern will be allocated up to five (5) days of authorized absence (AA) for professional development activities (e.g. conferences, presentations, interviews, meetings w/their dissertation advisor/graduate school faculty, etc.) The Training Committee and Training Director has the right to deny AA if it is likely to have a negative effect on the course of training. In addition, there are 10 Federal Holidays. Leave time may not be used as an extended block during any one rotation. Instances in which the one-year period needs to be extended because of illness or other extenuating circumstances will be addressed individually by the Training Committee. **Any approved extension of the one-year training period would occur without funding.**

Supervision

The EOVAHCS has over 15 licensed doctoral level psychologists that are available as supervisors for the internship program. This constitutes a faculty/intern ratio of more than 4:1. All supervisors have regular and weekly times for individual supervision. All interns have at least two primary supervisors at any given time (Major and Minor Rotations); along with a supervisor for the Assessment/Evidenced Based Therapy Clinics. Thus a *minimum* of three hours of face-to-face individual supervision is provided each week. In addition, interns receive at least one hour of group supervision each week and two hours of didactics. Further, interns will participate in direct observation and feedback, modeling, case review, co-treatment with a supervisor, treatment team meetings, and “as needed” consultation (with supervisors, other psychology staff, and treatment team staff).

Intern Didactics

The weekly General Intern Didactic Seminar covers a broad range of topics selected to address specific competencies as well as the multiple roles of the contemporary psychologist. These will be provided by staff from a multitude of disciplines as well as invited speakers from the community including professors from local universities. Each intern will also be given the opportunity to present a didactic to Behavioral Medicine Staff.

Research, Group Projects, and Community Outreach

Interns will have four hours each week to work on research and group projects such as Native American Outreach, Rural Outreach at the Claremore Vet Center, Military Sexual Trauma Outreach, and planning of the Annual Mental Health Summit. Research

projects can include the student's own dissertation research/project or local program evaluation studies under the direction of a staff psychologist.

Applications

Applicant Eligibility

Applicants for Internship must have advanced standing in a clinical or counseling psychology doctoral program approved by the American Psychological Association. We do not review applications of students from programs currently on probationary status with APA. All applicants must receive the written endorsement of their program Training Director as having completed all departmental requirements for Internship eligibility. This is expected to include all coursework and qualifying examinations with at least initial progress toward the dissertation/research project. Applicants should have a reasonable certainty of completing all requirements for the doctorate including dissertation defense, within one year following Internship.

The Eastern Oklahoma VA Healthcare System is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages applications from members of minority and non-traditional groups. If selected, the Federal Government requires that male applicants to VA positions who were born after 12/31/59 sign a Pre-appointment Certification Statement for Selective Service Registration before they are employed. Male applicants are required to have registered with the Selective Service System before the age of 26. All interns will complete a Certification of Citizenship in the United States prior to beginning the internship. We cannot consider applications from anyone who is not currently a U.S. citizen. Interns are subject to fingerprinting and background checks. Match result and selection decisions are contingent on passing these screens. The VA conducts drug screening exams on randomly selected personnel as well as new employees. Interns are not required to be tested prior to beginning work, but once on staff, they are subject to random selection as is all other clinical staff.

Application Process

We are currently not yet members of APPIC due to this being the first year for the internship and are unable to utilize the application portal process. We will need your application directly E-Mailed or mailed to us for consideration. Letters of recommendation and Academic Program Verification of Internship Eligibility and

Readiness forms may be mailed or directly E-Mailed from the institution and/or recommender. For applications to be considered complete, the following materials must be **received at our facility** either by E-Mail or mail by 12/9/2016 11:59PM, CST:

- Online APPIC Application for Psychology Internship (AAPI)
- Supplemental Application (available on website)
- Curriculum Vita
- Three letters of recommendation
- Official Transcript of graduate work sent directly by your university
- Academic Program Verification of Internship Eligibility and Readiness form-submitted by the Director of Clinical Training
- Cover Letter identifying what rotations are of major interest

Individual interviews will be conducted by invitation only, following initial evaluation of application materials. Applicants invited for interviews will be notified by December 23, 2016 and an interview will be scheduled during the week of January 23, 2017 (Interviews are typically conducted onsite, but can be arranged to be conducted via video tele-conference or by phone as well). We are currently in the process of registering for the Match and will post our Match Number to our website.

Policies and procedures regarding internship offers and acceptance recommended by the APPIC and the Council of Directors of Clinical Training Programs will be followed for the appointment of Interns to the Eastern OK VA Healthcare System, Psychology Internship Training Program. The internship site agrees to abide by the APPIC Policy that no person at this training facility will solicit, accept or use any ranking-related information from any intern applicant prior to Uniform Notification Day.

For further information, please contact us by email: VHAMUSInternshipCommittee@va.gov

EOVAHS Psychology Staff: *(listed in alphabetical order)*

ANNE BATCHELER, PH.D.

Oklahoma State University
Licensed Psychologist
General Mental Health Team

PATRICIA M. BYRD, PH.D.

University of Tulsa, 2009
Licensed Psychologist – Kansas
MST Coordinator/PTSD Clinical Team

Dr. Byrd received her Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Tulsa in 2009. While at the University of Tulsa, she was a research lab manager for the Trauma Research: Assessment, Prevention, and Treatment Center with primary responsibilities focusing on managing randomized controlled trials involving Exposure, Relaxation, and Rescripting Therapy which is an evidenced based treatment for trauma related nightmares. Dr. Byrd completed her internship at the Federal Bureau of Prisons FCI in Fort Worth, TX. She worked after internship for the Federal Medical Center Carswell, in Fort Worth, TX as a Drug Treatment Specialist and the Suicide Prevention Coordinator working with federal women inmates. Dr. Byrd joined the staff at the EOVAHCS in 2013 as the PTSD/SUD Psychologist. She became the Military Sexual Trauma Coordinator in 2014 and created an evidenced based outpatient treatment program for male and female veterans who have experienced sexual trauma. Dr. Byrd received Practicum Student Supervisor of the year from the University of Tulsa in 2016.

PETER C. CIALI, Ph.D.

Oklahoma State University, 2006
Licensed Psychologist – Oklahoma
General Mental Health Team

Dr. Ciali received his Ph.D. in counseling psychology from Oklahoma State University in 2006. He completed his clinical internship at Sharp Mesa Vista Hospital in San Diego, CA in 2005, with an emphasis in cognitive behavioral therapy. Dr. Ciali began his career in private practice and he joined the staff at the Jack C. Montgomery VAMC in 2009. At present, Dr. Ciali provides individual and group cognitive behavioral therapy in the general mental health outpatient clinic. Additional clinical responsibilities include providing psychological evaluations for candidates for bariatric surgery, organ transplants, pre-employment law enforcement evaluations, and Compensation and Pension Examinations for PTSD and general mental health disorders. Dr. Ciali provides direct clinical supervision for doctoral practicum students and he serves as a VACO national consultant in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy depression.

DIANE GENTHER, PH.D.

University of Kansas, 2012
Licensed Psychologist – Oklahoma
General Mental Health Team

Dr. Genther received her Ph.D. in counseling psychology from the University of Kansas in 2012. She completed her internship at the White River Junction VA Medical Center, which provided a dual-focused training model in dynamic and cognitive-behavioral treatment modalities. The White River Junction VA Medical Center houses the National Center for PTSD headquarters, and her internship also included subspecialty training in the assessment and treatment of PTSD through partnership with the National Center. Following internship, Dr. Genther worked as a staff psychologist in university counseling, where supervision of practicum students and interns constituted a significant portion of her work. She returned to the VA Health Care System in 2015, and in her current position, works exclusively in TeleMental Health through the General Mental Health Clinic, treating veterans at the Vinita CBOC. She is also a supervisor for the Rural Telemental Health rotation. Her clinical approach is collaborative and integrative, borrowing from dynamic and cognitive-behavioral schools of thought to best address the needs of the individual veterans with whom she works. She has recently completed the Interpersonal Therapy for Depression VA Training Program and is excited to offer supervision in this particular EBP for interns who are interested. Her supervision approach is developmental and tailored to the specific training needs and goals of her supervisees.

MARCY ELDER, PH.D.

University of Tulsa
Acute Psychiatric Inpatient Psychologist

LEAH MJ HALL, PH.D.

University of Minnesota, 2015
General Mental Health Clinic

Dr. Leah Hall is a graduate of the University of Minnesota Clinical Science and Psychopathology Research Program, where her research focused on the use of functional MRI methods to investigate neural correlates of eating disorders and major depressive disorder. She also served as an assessor and therapist on multi-center randomized controlled trials investigating the effectiveness of Interpersonal Psychotherapy (IPT) and deep brain stimulation in major depression. Dr. Hall completed her predoctoral internship at the Jesse Brown VAMC in Chicago, IL where clinical training emphasized psychological assessment as well as evidence based treatment for PTSD, substance use disorders, and anxiety disorders. She is currently a staff psychologist at the Jack C. Montgomery VAMC where she conducts Compensation & Pension (C&P) disability evaluations and provides clinical care within the General Mental Health Outpatient Clinic. In addition to delivery of evidence-based treatment (i.e., IPT, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Prolonged Exposure Therapy, Cognitive Processing

Therapy), she conducts testing within the Psychological Assessment Clinic to help assist with differential diagnosis and treatment planning.

TOM HOFFMAN, PH.D., M.B.A.

University of Arkansas , 1987
Licensed Psychologist – Oklahoma
General Mental Health Team

Dr. Hoffmann is a staff psychologist in the general mental health clinic in Tulsa. He has his M.B.A. and Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Arkansas. He did his internship at the Oklahoma City VA. Dr. Hoffmann is certified in several EBT's and enjoys using mindfulness and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy in his work. His interests include substance use disorders, PTSD, LGBT issues, the C & P examination process, and use of experiential modalities in psychotherapy. Dr. Hoffmann was a recreational therapist and ropes course instructor in an earlier life. He enjoys travel and OU sports.

BETH M. JEFFRIES, PHD

Oklahoma State University, 2001
Licensed Psychologist – Oklahoma
PTSD Clinical Team

Dr. Jeffries completed her internship at the Wichita Collaborative Internship at Wichita State University. She is the Lead psychologist for the Eastern Oklahoma VA Healthcare System. Her main office is at the Jack C Montgomery VA Hospital in Muskogee, annexed in the East Building. Most of her time with VA has specialized in the treatment of PTSD and the implementation of EBPs. She has been very active with the development of the Vtel system implementation, reaching Veterans in rural Oklahoma that have been traditionally underserved. She also has been active with a new VA program, Peer Support Specialists, and is very proud of their work with Veterans. She is currently the Chair of the Research Workgroup at JCMVA, and is a voting member of Oklahoma University's Board 4 IRB. Her interests are in supervision, multiculturalism, diversity, and Native American issues. She has been known to have as many as 10 pets of various species at any one time, currently having a mere 4!

JANE KUREK, PH.D.

University of Tulsa
Licensed Psychologist – Oklahoma
PTSD Clinical Team

MICHAEL MCKEE, PH.D.

Oklahoma State University
Licensed Psychologist
General Mental Health Team

ARENA MUELLER, PSY.D.

Adler School of Professional Psychology 2006
Licensed Clinical Psychologist – Ohio
Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor – Illinois
Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor- Illinois
Substance Use Disorder Team

Dr. Mueller completed a Master's Degree with emphasis in substance use disorder at the University of Missouri-Kansas City in 2000. She completed her doctoral work at the Adler School of Professional Psychology in Chicago in 2006. Dr. Mueller has four years experience working as a psychiatric emergency therapist in community hospital emergency rooms in the greater Chicago area and was an emergency responder to the 2008 shooting at Northern State University in Illinois. She has four years of experience working University Counseling Centers in Missouri, Texas and Ohio where supervision of practicum students and interns was a major responsibility. In 2009 she began working at the Eastern Oklahoma VA Healthcare system where she has primarily worked in roles that address Posttraumatic Stress, Substance Use Disorder and use Evidence Based Therapeutic approaches.

Dr. Mueller currently is the Muskogee Substance Use Disorder Team Lead and facility Evidenced Based Therapy Program Coordinator. Her clinical interests are PTSD, SUD, Dual Disorders, Mindfulness, Prolonged Exposure Therapy, Cognitive Processing Therapy, Motivational Enhancement Therapy, Acceptance Commitment Therapy and Compassion Focused Therapy. Her approach to supervision is supportive, collaborative and developmental. She works to ensure a balance between her role, the supervisee's competence level and the clinical need as determined by the client.

HEATHER RANGER-KOBEL, PH.D.

Oklahoma State University
Licensed Psychologist – Oklahoma
Home Based Primary Care Psychologist

ALYSSA RIPPY, PH.D.

University of Tulsa, 2007
M.A. Industrial Organization Psychology
Licensed Psychologist – Oklahoma
PRRC Program Coordinator

Dr. Rippy serves as the Program Coordinator of the PRRC, based at the Behavioral Medicine Clinic in Tulsa. She provides evidence based therapeutic interventions to Veterans with severe mental illness within a recovery-based framework. Prior to working with the PRRC, she served as the Program Coordinator for the Acute Psychiatric Unit at the Jack C. Montgomery VAMC. Dr. Rippy was recognized by the University of Tulsa with an award for *Excellence in Clinical Supervision* in 2012. She has coordinated the psychology practicum program for seven years and has provided individual supervision to pre-doctoral students as well as VA Psychologists who are under supervision for licensure. Dr. Rippy has focused the majority of her research on the relationship

between PTSD and increased paranoia among combat Veterans as well as examining the effects for perceived discrimination on mental health.

RIVER SMITH, PH.D.

University of Tulsa, 2008
Licensed Psychologist – Oklahoma
PTSD Clinical Team

Dr. River Smith earned her PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of Tulsa in 2008. Dr. River Smith completed her pre-doctoral internship and postdoctoral fellowship in Primary Care Mental Health at the University of Oklahoma Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences as VA funded trainee. Her clinical and research interests are in the area of combat stress, risk, resilience and PTSD. She has worked on the Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Clinical team serving Iraq and Afghanistan veterans at this facility since 2009. She is certified in Prolonged Exposure Therapy, Cognitive Processing Therapy and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Insomnia.

ELISE TAYLOR, PH.D.

University of Oklahoma - 1998
Licensed Clinical Psychologist - Oklahoma
Program Manager
Substance Use Disorder and Veterans Treatment Court

Dr. Taylor is responsible for the management of the EOVAHCS Veterans Treatment Court Program (third program in the Nation and one out of four mentor courts in the Nation). The Veterans Treatment Court provides training to other court systems and VA programs seeking to develop their own Veterans treatment court. She supervises the justice outreach activities of the Readjustment Counselor/VTC Liaison and Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator positions. In addition to the justice programs, Dr. Taylor manages the Substance Use Disorder program. These services include an intensive outpatient program, residential and detoxification services, outpatient/aftercare, intake and assessment, medications, buprenorphine/suboxone clinic, SUD/PTSD services, education, individual, family and group treatment, and case management as well as consultative services to the medical and psychiatric inpatient programs at the Medical Center. She has been employed with the VA since 2005.

Prior to her VA service, Dr. Taylor was the Clinical Director for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse Services for eight years. Her specialty areas include child/adolescent mental health, American Indian identity and acculturation issues, and addiction. She belongs to the Eco (Deer) Clan and Ocevpofo (Hickory Ground) Tribal Town. She has also worked with Alaska Natives, New Mexico Pueblo tribes and Dine'.

ROBERT TROMBLEY, PH.D.