

# Eastern Oklahoma VA Health Care System

2020 – 2021

## Psychology Doctoral Internship Program



**MATCH Number Program Code: 242611**

Please visit our website at the link below:

[https://www.muskogee.va.gov/Behavioral Medicine Doctoral Psychology Internship Program.asp](https://www.muskogee.va.gov/Behavioral%20Medicine%20Doctoral%20Psychology%20Internship%20Program.asp)

## EASTERN OKLAHOMA VA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM



Eastern Oklahoma VA Health Care System (EOVAHCS) is based in Muskogee and Tulsa 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 internship training occurs in both Muskogee Oklahoma and at the Tulsa Behavioral Medicine Clinic depending on rotation preferences. Interns should plan to spend time in both locations. The Eastern Oklahoma VA Health Care Center (EOVAHCS) serves nearly 50,000 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 four community-based outpatient clinics located in Tulsa, McAlester, Idabel and Vinita. The VA Medical Center located in Muskogee Oklahoma is a Level 2 facility. This facility houses outpatient general mental health and substance abuse. The acute inpatient mental health unit is located on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the hospital and is a locked, 16 bed unit, which offers crisis stabilization for Veteran with acute psychiatric needs.

Adjacent to the main hospital in Muskogee, the Muskogee East Behavioral Medicine Clinic offers empirically based services for Veterans with PTSD, Women Veterans, Veterans who have experienced military sexual trauma (MST), general mental health (GMH) symptoms and Veterans with Substance Use Disorders. The ICHMRS (Intensive Community Mental Health Recovery Service) Range program is also housed at this

location. This program serves rural Veterans with severe mental illness in their homes. The Tulsa CBOC is one of the largest in the nation serving 6,500 unique Veterans in the greater Tulsa area and surrounding communities. Located within the Tulsa CBOC are various programs including GMH, SUD -Intensive Outpatient Program (SUD-IOP), Women's MH/MST Team, PTSD team, ICHMRS, and the Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery Center (PRRC).

## TULSA LIVING



Tulsa is the second largest major metropolitan area in Oklahoma with a population size just shy of 400,000. It has been described as a place where southern hospitality meets cosmopolitan chic. The cost of living index is 84, making it affordable for interns who would still like to enjoy many of the luxuries of a larger metro area. Average rent for a 2 bedroom apartment in the Tulsa metro is approximately \$800/month. It is surrounded by several suburbs including Jenks, Broken Arrow and Owasso, which have been named in the top 10 best places to live in Oklahoma with A rated school districts. Tulsa is within driving distance to many outdoor recreational activities, including the Ozark Mountains and numerous lakes and rivers. The following links provide information on activities available in the Tulsa area.

<http://www.visittulsa.com/things-to-do/>

<https://www.niche.com/places-to-live/search/best-places-to-live/s/oklahoma/>

<http://www.tulsakids.com/Why-I-Love-Tulsa/>

[http://www.travelok.com/tulsa?CMP=Search\\_Google\\_TulsaThingsToDo](http://www.travelok.com/tulsa?CMP=Search_Google_TulsaThingsToDo)

## ACCREDITATION STATUS

The doctoral internship at Eastern Oklahoma VA Health Care System is a newly-funded VA internship site and was established in 2018. The internship program will be accepting its 4th class of interns for the 2021-2022 academic year. The program is currently accredited, on contingency by the American Psychological Association (APA) Commission on Accreditation (CoA) following our initial site visit in May of 2019. Questions related to the program's accreditation status should be directed to:

Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation  
American Psychological Association  
750 1st Street, NE, Washington, DC 2002  
Phone: (202) 336-5979 e-mail: [apaaccred@apa.org](mailto:apaaccred@apa.org)  
Internet: <http://www.apa.org/ed/accreditation>

## DOCTORAL PSYCHOLOGY INTERNSHIP

During the 2021 - 2022 training year, the EOVAHCS's Psychology Internship Training Program will provide training for 4 full-time psychology interns. 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 tour 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. However, as this is a training year, the emphasis should be placed on the time and effort it takes to complete a training opportunity rather than the number of hours worked. This means that sometimes interns will work more than a 40 hour workweek, such as when wrapping up their case consultation and medical record documentation for a client in crisis prior to leaving for the day. Further, an intern may require more time to prepare for a specific competency area where they may be struggling. Interns may work at both our Muskogee and Tulsa locations depending on their training goals.

## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The primary mission of this training program is to provide quality generalist training utilizing evidenced based therapies and assessments. The Scholar-Practitioner model is the underlying philosophy and will be followed to prepare interns as well-rounded competent clinicians. 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 internship program is structured to help interns grow and mature both personally and professionally. Internship training is designed to promote development in two fundamental areas: achieving foundational competencies in psychological practice and developing a sound professional identity. All aspects of the training program will facilitate the development of core competencies as recommended by APA emphasizing the importance of multiple skill sets among diverse populations and in varying functional roles involved in patient care. Interns will learn to effectively communicate their observations and clinical opinions (verbal and written) in interdisciplinary settings and to develop interpersonal skills needed to work effectively with patients, their families, and allied health professionals. Interns will also have the opportunity to further develop their knowledge and sensitivity to cultural, ethical, and legal issues that impact psychological practice along with an overall understanding of individual differences.

In addition to professional competencies, the training program strives to promote positive development of the intern's professional identity. This involves multiple dimensions: Supervisors will provide modeling, feedback, and a progressive gradient of independence needed to help interns better develop a sense of themselves as an emerging professional. This involves helping the intern negotiate the transition from the student role to the professional role, particularly with respect to self-image, increasing responsibilities, the navigation of complex service delivery settings, and professional competence. The program creates a learning environment that supports self-awareness and a more refined sense of strengths and limitations through supervisory feedback and evaluations such that interns develop a better sense of when to act independently and when to seek consultation.

At the start of the training year, Interns undergo several days of orientation to our program, service, and facility. They visit potential rotation sites, meet with potential supervisors, and are provided with information regarding the expectations of each rotation to facilitate composing a training experience that best fits their interests and needs. We take great care to create a training plan and rotation sequence that is fair and accounts for the Intern's clinical interests and goals.

Interns receive feedback from Supervisors throughout the year in addition to formal evaluations at mid-year and at the end of the year. Evaluations emphasize the Intern's strengths and identify areas in need of improvement. In turn, Interns evaluate their Supervisors and the supervision experience. Evaluations are mutually shared and discussed between Intern and Supervisor in a collaborative atmosphere that fosters both personal and professional development.

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 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, treatment planning, professionalism, ethical/legal standards and policy, sensitivity to individual differences and cultural diversity, supervision, and scientific knowledge and methods.

Generally, interns spend two days per week performing duties associated with their rotation, one day a week performing duties associated with assessment, one day a week performing duties associated with evidence based therapy, and one day reserved for training-related activities, including didactic seminars, group supervision, research, and the yearlong diversity group project. Time on the training activity day is also individualized based on the intern's training goals/interests and can include committee work (e.g., LGBTQ Committee; Multicultural Committee; IPV Work Group, Mental Health Summit Planning Committee), and/or outreach (e.g., Native American Outreach, MST Outreach). Activities and roles associated with rotations vary, but generally include individual and/or group psychotherapy, psychological assessment, documentation, report writing, training, and supervision. EOVAHCS is currently developing various research projects where interns will have the opportunity to be involved. Level of involvement may vary based on intern's interest but will include at minimum 2 hours of research work per month when studies are available. This may include tasks such as: data entry, data coding, assessment/screening administration, and possible opportunities for data analysis and writing contributions.

Interns receive two hours of individual supervision each week by two separate licensed psychologists (Assessment Supervisor, Rotation Supervisor). In addition, interns have three hours of group supervision (Assessment, EBP, Training Directors) and two hours of didactic activities each week. The didactics and seminars are coordinated by the training leadership and focus on multicultural issues, ethics, professional development, supervision, empirically based treatments, and psychological assessment. Diverse perspectives in training are provided by clinical providers working in various areas of Veteran care as well as outside speakers with specific expertise.



## Sample Training Structure

<b>Rotation 1</b> 15 hours per week First half of internship year - 6 months	<b>Rotation 2</b> 15 hours per week Second half of internship year - 6 months
<b>Year Long Rotations</b> 1 Day focused on Assessment 1 Day focused on EBP Interventions	
<b>Weekly 2 hours individual supervision</b> One hour with rotation supervisor One hour with Assessment Supervisor	
<b>Weekly 3 hours group supervision</b> One hour with Training Director or Associate Director One hour with EBP Supervisor One hour with Assessment Supervisors	
<b>2 hours of Didactic Seminars Weekly</b>	
<b>4 hours Group Project/Outreach/Committee Work/Misc. Activities</b>	

## **ROTATION DESCRIPTIONS**

Each intern is required to participate in yearlong rotations which will focus on Psychological Assessment and Evidenced-Based Psychotherapy. These rotations will be located at the Tulsa Clinic.

### **Psychological Assessment**

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. Interns will have an individual assessment supervisor who provides supervision and participate in weekly assessment group supervision. Common assessments conducted include: ADHD evaluations, Diagnostic Evaluations, Personality Assessments, PTSD Evaluations, and Cognitive Screeners.

### **Evidenced-Based Psychotherapy**

Interns will become proficient in a minimum of two evidenced based therapies Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT) for PTSD and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Insomnia (CBT-I). Interns will have the unique opportunity to be trained and supervised by VA National consultants and/or Regional Trainers/Consultants in both of these modalities which will give them the opportunity to fulfill the training requirements to be 'grandfathered' in to receiving VA provider status once they are licensed if they decide to continue their career with the VA. Trainings for both CPT and CBT-I will include in-person instruction, audio recordings, direct observation, supervision, and consultation. Interns will participate in group supervision with the EBP consultant for the therapy they are currently providing. Individual supervision will be provided as necessary. As part of this rotation, interns will also conduct one comprehensive intake per week which includes gathering of psychosocial history, conducting suicide risk assessment and safety planning if necessary, assessing relationship violence, along with providing information and rationale about the EBP's available and collaborating with the client to find the best fit based on the client's presenting symptoms and goals.

### **Rotation Options**

Each intern will choose two major (two days a week) 6 month rotations. Rotation locations are varied and these will be assigned based on supervisor availability. Interns stay at the assigned location for the duration of the rotation.



**Choice of major rotations include: (Interns will choose two each lasting 15 hours per week for six months )**

- General Mental Health Clinic (GMHC)
- PTSD Clinical Team (PCT)
- Women's Mental Health Speciality/MST Treatment Program
- Acute Inpatient Psychiatry/Behavioral Health
- Substance Use Disorder Team (SUD)/Veterans Treatment Court
- Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery Center (PRRC)
- Home-Based Primary Care (HBPC)
- Rural Telemental Health

In addition, rotation enhancements are potentially available and can be individualized per intern's training interests such as:

- Special Populations
- Specialty Assessment
- Rural Telemental Health

### **Rotation Descriptions:**

**General Mental Health:** Interns will work as part of an interdisciplinary outpatient clinic, seeing veterans with a full spectrum of psychological disorders including schizophrenia, non-combat PTSD, bipolar disorder, depression, and anxiety. Psychological work in the clinic includes individual and group psychotherapy, as well as participation in the initial intake and treatment planning process for veterans. The intern would have the opportunity to develop and enhance skills in evidence based psychotherapy by participating in both group and individual therapy with a broad range of psychopathology. Skills in differential diagnosis and treatment planning are facilitated through participation in the intake process, which includes veterans with a diverse range of presenting concerns and knowledge base regarding psychotherapy. 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.

**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. Evidenced Based Psychotherapy training opportunities include: Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) Skills Groups, Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT), CBT for Insomnia, 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.

**Women's Mental Health Specialty/MST Treatment Program:** Interns will gain experience in empirically supported assessment and treatments of PTSD related to sexual trauma in the military (MST) and outside the military. Other frequent diagnoses treated within this clinic include Borderline Personality Disorder, Major Depressive Disorder, and Anxiety Disorders. Interns also have the opportunity to gain exposure working with individuals with eating disorders, experiencers of intimate partner violence (IPV), and users of IPV. Evidenced Based Psychotherapy training opportunities include: Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) Skills Groups, Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT), Skills Training in Affect and Interpersonal Regulation (STAIR), Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) Skills Groups; Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT), CBT for Insomnia, Mindfulness, Exposure Relaxation Rescripting Therapy for Trauma Related Nightmares (ERRT), Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Depression 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. Interns on the SUD rotation will also have the unique opportunity to be trained by and consult with a National Trainer in MET.

***Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery Center (PRRC):*** This rotation is a recovery based, daily treatment program for Veterans who have persistent severe mental illness including Schizophrenia, Schizoaffective Disorder, Bipolar Disorder, Severe Depression, and PTSD. The goal of the PRRC is community integration, reducing emotional distress with evidenced based therapeutic interventions, and building skills to strengthen social supports. The Intern would be expected to provide psychological assessment, individual, and group interventions to veterans with serious mental illness as part of an interdisciplinary team including the following disciplines: Vocational Rehabilitation, Recreational Therapist, Peer Support Specialist, Social Work, and Psychologist. Evidenced based practices include: Seeking Safety, CBT for Depression, CBT for Anxiety, Mindfulness, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Schizophrenia, Dialectical Behavior Therapy, Cognitive Processing Therapy, and Social Skills Training for Schizophrenia.

***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) 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 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.

***Special Populations:*** This rotation enhancement will specialize in providing therapeutic services to Veterans from minority populations including: racial/cultural differences, LGBTQ, women, Veterans in the legal system, and Veterans with major physical disabilities. As psychologists, we are tasked with the ethical responsibility of providing culturally informed and appropriate treatments for our clients and the communities with which we engage. However, clinicians often cite concerns about their abilities to apply knowledge of diversity to daily practice. This rotation enhancement will provide interested interns an opportunity to bridge the gap between knowledge and application.. The Special Populations Rotation Enhancement is designed to be flexible, allowing interested interns an opportunity to create an experience fitting with personal and professional goals, prior training experience, and expectations

**Specialty Assessment:** This rotation enhancement will specialize in providing assessments such as bariatric evaluations, organ transplant evaluations, and possibly if available, evaluations conducted for our VA Police. Interns will get the opportunity to receive enhanced training in these specialty assessments/evaluations in regards to administering of standardized assessment instruments, psychosocial interview, interpretation, and report writing.

### **Other Training Opportunities Across Rotations:**

**Evidenced Based Therapies:** Interns will also have the unique opportunity to be exposed to other evidenced based therapies implemented on their rotations. The following is a list of Evidenced Based Therapies currently utilized by psychologists with provider status in that specific modality.

**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.

**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.

**Interpersonal Therapy for Depression (IPT):** IPT is based on the principle that there is a relationship between the way people communicate and interact with others and their mental health. This therapy encourages the patient to regain control of mood and functioning typically lasting 12–16 weeks.

**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 Chronic 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.

**Integrated Behavioral Couples Therapy (IBCT):** This is a couple therapy that incorporates the strategies of behavioral couple therapy with new strategies for promoting acceptance in couples. Studies indicate that IBCT is an effective intervention for reducing marital distress and improving relationship satisfaction.

## SUPERVISION

The EOVAHCS has 13 licensed doctoral level psychologists that are available as supervisors for the internship program. All supervisors have regular and weekly times for individual supervision. All Interns have at least two individual supervisors at any given time (Assessment, Rotation) and meet one hour per week with EBP supervisor during group supervision, one hour per week for assessment group supervision, and one hour per week with Training Director or Associate Training Director for group supervision. Thus a *minimum* of two hours of face-to-face individual supervision and three hours of group supervision is provided each week by a licensed psychologist. Further, Interns will participate in direct observation and feedback, modeling, case review, co-treatment with a supervisor, treatment team meetings, team huddles and “as needed” consultation (with supervisors, other psychology staff, and treatment team staff).

## SUPERVISION OF PRACTICUM STUDENTS

Interns will have the opportunity to gain experience supervising practicum students in individual and group format throughout the year. This experience is supervised, and the intern is provided with formalized instruction and guidance to help build this competency area. Group supervision will start at the beginning of the year. Using a competency based supervision framework, interns will guide junior practicum students through self-reflective exercise in topic areas related to working with a diverse patient population. Group supervision is intended to be experiential with the use of role play and case vignettes to improve trainees capacity for self-reflection and awareness of clinical diversity related issues. Group supervision will take place twice per month and two Interns will cofacilitate each supervision session. A licensed supervisory psychologist will be responsible for reviewing group umbrella supervision through live observation at a minimum of 1 time every 6 months and by review of the session in the intern’s

individual and group supervision. Individual umbrella supervision will not occur until after midyear or commensurate to interns' development level; to ensure interns have adapted to the training environment and completed supervision didactics and readings.

## **INTERN DIDACTICS**

The weekly Didactic Seminar covers a broad range of topics selected to address specific competencies as well as the multiple roles of the contemporary psychologist. The didactics and seminars are coordinated by the training leadership and focus on multicultural issues, ethics, professional development, supervision, empirically based treatments, and psychological assessment. These will be provided by psychology staff, outside consultants, presentations by interns, during Staff Development Meetings (monthly), and during Quarterly Psychology Seminars. Further, the VA provides a variety of trainings throughout the year that will be available for interns to attend based on interest and approval from their supervisor and Training Director.

## **DIVERSITY GROUP PROJECT AND SEMINAR SERIES**

The interns will work together to complete a yearlong group project that is focused on a diversity characteristic chosen by the training committee. The goal is to foster and encourage a life-long practice of professional multicultural competence. The interns together with the Group Project Coordinator(s) will work to embrace the idea of cultural humility and develop a process of openness, self-reflection and ongoing professional and personal development. Aspects of the project include: participation in culturally considerate supervision, delivery of culturally competent clinical interventions, encouragement of reflection on cultural identity and cultural interactions in professional spaces through personal reflective practice and group discussion, and facilitation of experiential encounters that increase awareness of cultural identity and interactions, as well as knowledge of a cultural group.

As part of the diversity group project, interns will create a diversity seminar series. Each intern will present on an aspect of diversity in a formal presentation and facilitation of discussion to fellow interns and training staff for a didactic. This can include an experiential project, more intensive self-reflection, or exploration of a particular case and all will include critical review of and reflection on literature. At the conclusion of the yearlong group project, interns will also conduct a formal presentation as part of the quarterly psychologist training seminar.

## **CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

The COVID-19 pandemic has created numerous personal and professional challenges for us all. One of these challenges is uncertainty about what will happen next week, next month, or throughout the year. The EOVAHCS Internship has made every attempt and will continue to work hard to ensure interns have meaningful training experiences in spite of difficulties associated with the pandemic. We strive to be transparent at all

times; however, we are not able to predict how specific rotations or training opportunities may evolve during the year.

Interns will be trained during orientation on all telehealth modalities, policies, along with access to all policies, procedures, assessment and treatment materials to be utilized in case quarantine measures are being implemented in the state due to the COVID-19 pandemic. All orientation activities, didactics, and supervision can be provided via telehealth. Interns will be set up with access to CITRIX to download on their own personal laptop and supplied with a card reader to enable them to access the VA network from home. At this time, interns will need their own personal computer or laptop and WIFI/data service plan to access all necessities to telework from home. If an intern does not have this readily available, every attempt will be made to supply intern with this; however, we have no guarantees to the supplies/resources that will be available. Trainees have been given the option to report in person in order to work more efficiently if they do not have adequate supplies and/or are having intermittent problems with remote access.

The EOVAHCS has the ability to if necessary to transition all Psychology Trainees to full-time teleworking while maintaining almost all training activities without significant disruption. Specifically, trainees will continue to see veterans via telehealth for individual therapy, group therapy and limited assessment, attending and participating in didactics and supervision via virtual media technologies, and benefiting from live, direct observation of clinical care by supervising psychologists. The decision regarding interns teleworking from home will be made in consultation with facility leadership, BMS leadership, and the Designated Education Officer. It is important to note that interns are considered paid employees of the VA for their internship year and will be expected to follow policies set for VA staff during the COVID-19 pandemic. Of further note, interns must be deemed competent to provide telehealth care from home by supervisors prior to this being an option. Supervisors will work to conduct at minimum 2 live observations of telehealth sessions during the first six weeks out of orientation along with testing knowledge of telehealth policy during supervision to ensure this competence.

The training program is still exploring workarounds for continuing psychological testing if in person operations are unable to continue to resume during the training year; however, the training committee is committed to ensuring the interns will be able to participate in activities to ensure competency in assessment is met. It goes without saying that the health and safety of our Psychology Trainees, along with the competent care of our nation's veterans, is of utmost importance to us. We will continue to provide high quality training in professional psychology while simultaneously keeping our trainees' health and wellness at the forefront.



## STIPEND APPOINTMENT – DOCTORAL PSYCHOLOGY INTERNSHIP

The current stipend for full-time VA Interns is \$26,234.00, 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.

The Internship is a full-time, one-year appointment and will start on Monday August 2, 2021. 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. Interns are also allowed to take up to three days of paid **Authorized Absence (AA)**. This time can be used for post doc or job interviews, for returning to your academic program for meetings related to your dissertation or research, graduation ceremony, or educational activities of interest such as conferences that are not a part of the internship program. These days can only be used with prior supervisor and TD approval. 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.

## APPLICATIONS

### **Applicant Eligibility:**

Applicants for Internship must have advanced standing in a clinical or counseling psychology doctoral program accredited 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 the start of the internship. Applicants should have at a minimum 50 supervised hours of assessment experience and 250 supervised hours of intervention experience.

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 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

Our program is using the APPIC Application for Psychology Internship (AAPI) to enable you to complete one application for all sites that are participating in the APPIC uniform application process. The AAPI is available through the APPIC web site. Please go to the APPIC web site at [www.appic.org](http://www.appic.org) for more information about accessing and completing the online application.

Please be aware that the “Academic Program’s Verification of Internship Eligibility and Readiness” form must be submitted **ELECTRONICALLY** to the Internship site by your graduate Director of Clinical Training. Instructions regarding this part of the application process are contained in the online AAPI. No mail or email application materials will be accepted. Applicants are encouraged to complete the application as early as possible so that ample time will be available for application review.

For any questions please contact:

Patricia Byrd, Ph.D.  
Director of Training  
(918) 610-2001  
[Patricia.Byrd@va.gov](mailto:Patricia.Byrd@va.gov)

River Smith, Ph.D.  
Associate Director of Training  
(918) 610-2004  
[River.Smith@va.gov](mailto:River.Smith@va.gov)

**For your application to be complete, we must receive the following materials through APPIC by November 15, 2020:**

- Online APPIC Application for Psychology Internship (AAPI)
- Your Curriculum Vitae—to be submitted as part of AAPI
- Three letters of recommendation—to be submitted as part of AAPI
- Graduate school transcripts—to be submitted as part of AAPI
- Your Academic Program Verification of Internship Eligibility and Readiness Form—to be submitted by your Director of Clinical Training as part of AAPI

- Cover letter (no longer than two pages) addressing how your experiences to date and current career goals make you a good fit for the training offered at EOVAHCS and emphasizing rotations of interest
- Should you choose, you may also identify representation with an element of diversity in your cover letter

All applications will be reviewed by a selection committee comprised of the Director and Associate Director of Training along with at least two other training committee members. We will attempt to have applications reviewed by training staff that are a part of the applicant's identified rotations of interest. Applications are evaluated across several criteria including: grade point average, dissertation status, awards, scholarly activity, professional activities, experience with evidence based intervention and assessment, strength of letters of recommendation, quality of written application materials, and goodness of fit with the program goals and objectives. All things being equal, consideration is given to applicants representing elements of diversity, including, but not limited to, age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, language, national origin, race, religion, culture, sexual orientation, social economic status, and military service.

All interviews will be virtual due to precautions for the COVID-19 Pandemic. Interviews will occur on the following dates: **December 15, 2020; December 18, 2020; and January 6, 2021.** 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's 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.

## **Trainee Qualifications and Credentials Verification Letter (TQCVL)**

Once selected for an internship position, in order to qualify for VA training, each intern must first be listed on a Trainee Qualifications and Credentials Verification Letter (TQCVL). A TQCVL from the director of the sponsoring (VA or non-VA) program must be submitted to the VA Facility Director through the VA Designated Education Officer (DEO) prior to onboarding.

The TQCVL confirms that specific information has been verified by the sponsoring entity for each trainee listed. All trainees who will receive training at a VA facility must be listed on a TQCVL.

The TQCVL confirms that an intern is:

- Enrolled in or accepted into the accredited training program and has had primary source verification of appropriate qualifications and credentials as required by the admission criteria of the training program;
- Qualified, and has the required credentials, to participate in the accredited training program as agreed to by the sponsoring institution, affiliated participating institutions, and the VA;
- Compliant with all US citizenship or immigration and naturalization laws and therefore suitable to be appointed to a Federal Government position; and
- Meets the essential functions (physical and mental) of the training program and immunized following current CDC guidelines and VHA policy for healthcare workers to protect themselves, other employees and patients while working in a healthcare facility.

## Internship Program Admissions

Date Program Tables are updated: July 10, 2020

**Briefly describe in narrative form important information to assist potential applicants in assessing their likely fit with your program. This description must be consistent with the program's policies on intern selection and practicum and academic preparation requirements:**

Our program focuses on a goodness of fit between intern goals and our training opportunities. As noted above, our primary aim of this training program is to provide quality generalist training utilizing evidenced based therapies and assessments. The Scholar-Practitioner model is the underlying philosophy and will be followed to prepare interns as well-rounded competent clinicians. 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. All things being equal, consideration is given to applicants representing elements of diversity, including, but not limited to, age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, language, national origin, race, religion, culture, sexual orientation, social economic status, and military service (please also refer to Application Process above).

**Does the program require that applicants have received a minimum number of hours of the following at time of application? If Yes, indicate how many:**

Total Direct Contact Intervention Hours			Amount: 250
Total Direct Contact Assessment Hours			Amount: 50

**Describe any other required minimum criteria used to screen applicants:**

Our internship seeks students from APA accredited Ph.D. or Psy.D. clinical or counseling programs who are in good standing. Applicants must have completed at least 3 years of academic study, have completed their comprehensive or qualifying exams, and have proposed their dissertation.

### Financial and Other Benefit Support for Upcoming Training Year\*

Annual Stipend/Salary for Full-time Interns	\$26,234.00	
Annual Stipend/Salary for Half-time Interns	N/A	
Program provides access to medical insurance for intern?	Yes	No
<b>If access to medical insurance is provided:</b>		
Trainee contribution to cost required?	Yes	No
Coverage of family member(s) available?	Yes	No
Coverage of legally married partner available?	Yes	No
Coverage of domestic partner available?	Yes	No
Hours of Annual Paid Personal Time Off (PTO and/or Vacation)	104	
Hours of Annual Paid Sick Leave	104	
In the event of medical conditions and/or family needs that require extended leave, does the program allow reasonable unpaid leave to interns/residents in excess of personal time off and sick leave?	Yes	No
Other Benefits (please describe): Life insurance, federal holidays (10), professional development release time		

\*Note. Programs are not required by the Commission on Accreditation to provide all benefits listed in this table

## Initial Post-Internship Positions

(Provide an Aggregated Tally for the Preceding 3 Cohorts)

	2016-2019	
Total # of interns who were in the 3 cohorts	7	
Total # of interns who did not seek employment because they returned to their doctoral program/are completing doctoral degree	1	
	<b>PD</b>	<b>EP</b>
Community mental health center		
Federally qualified health center		
Independent primary care facility/clinic		
University counseling center		
Veterans Affairs medical center		3
Military health center		
Academic health center	2	
Other medical center or hospital		
Psychiatric hospital		
Academic university/department		
Community college or other teaching setting		
Independent research institution		
Correctional facility		
School district/system		
Independent practice setting	1	
Not currently employed		
Changed to another field		
Other		
Unknown		

Note: "PD" = Post-doctoral residency position; "EP" = Employed Position. Each individual represented in this table should be counted only one time. For former trainees working in more than one setting, select the setting that represents their primary position.



**EOVAHS PSYCHOLOGY TRAINING STAFF:** *(listed in alphabetical order)*

**EOVAHSC Psychology Internship Training Committee**

**ANN BATCHELER, PH.D.**

Oklahoma State University, 2009  
Licensed Psychologist- Oklahoma  
BHIP Supervisor  
General Mental Health Team

Dr. Batcheler graduated from Oklahoma State University in 2009 with a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology. Her studies emphasized cultural diversity and social justice and her dissertation assessed implicit attitudes toward gays and lesbians. She completed her pre-doctoral internship at the University of Idaho. Dr. Batcheler holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in Physical Education from Texas A&M University and an M.A. In Counseling Education from Sam Houston State University. Her post-doctoral background includes multidisciplinary interventions with families who have lost custody of their children due to substance abuse issues. She also worked with developmentally delayed adolescents and their families in a residential treatment program. She joined the Jack C. Montgomery VAMC in 2015 as an outpatient general psychologist, addressing a wide spectrum of mental health issues. . Additional clinical responsibilities include providing psychological evaluations for candidates for bariatric surgery and organ transplants.

**PATRICIA M. BYRD, PH.D.**

University of Tulsa, 2009  
Licensed Psychologist – Oklahoma  
Director of Training  
Women’s MH /MST Program Manager  
Regional CPT Trainer/Consultant

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  
Home Based Primary Care  
National CBT-D Consultant

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. 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.

**JORDAN HEROUX, PH.D.**

University of Tulsa, 2016  
Licensed Psychologist - Oklahoma  
Women's MH/MST Team  
ACT Consultant

Dr. Heroux received his Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Tulsa in 2016. His primary area of specialty is diagnostic and personality assessment with an emphasis on therapeutic/collaborative assessment methods. He completed his

internship at the VA Puget Sound Health Care System, American Lake Division where he trained in residential substance use, general mental health, and outpatient PTSD clinics. He also pursued postdoctoral training in VA psychosocial rehabilitation and recovery, PTSD intervention and assessment, and Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Programming (RRTP). Dr. Heroux's theoretical orientation is primarily behavioral, and he often integrates second and third wave cognitive-behavioral perspectives, client-centered motivational and values considerations, and appreciation for adaptive personality traits in his case formulation and intervention. He has provider status in Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT), Prolonged Exposure (PE) Therapy, Social Skills Training (SST).

**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 developed an acculturation instrument for use with Native American Populations as part of his Master's Thesis. Dr. Hoffmann was a recreational therapist and ropes course instructor in an earlier life. He enjoys travel and OU sports.

**MICHAEL MCKEE, PH.D.**

Oklahoma State University, 2003  
Licensed Psychologist, Oklahoma & Kansas  
BHIP Supervisor  
General Mental Health Team

Dr. McKee has been with the VA for three years and works in General Mental Health. His specialty is CBT for chronic pain patients. He is also trained in CPT for veterans with PTSD. Due to his extensive background in working with incarcerated and court ordered populations, he is often referred patients with anger management problems. Dr. McKee received his Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from Oklahoma State University (2003) and a Master's Degree in Community Counseling from the University of Oklahoma (1986). His undergraduate degree is from Southwest Missouri State University with an emphasis in communication and religious studies. Dr. McKee's focus in graduate school was the relationship of negative self-schemas to partner attachment styles among male batterers. His previous work experiences include call-in chaplain for Norman Regional Hospital, volunteer chaplain for the support group Parent's Responding to Infant Death Experience, program director for MENder's court ordered anger management program, therapist and student supervisor on the residential sex

offender treatment program at Joseph Harp Correctional facility, and program director and group therapist for court ordered substance abuse patients at Prairie View, Inc. in McPherson, KS.

**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  
Evidenced Based Treatment Coordinator  
ACT Trainer & Consultant

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 the use Evidence Based Therapeutic approaches.

**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.

**JOHNNA SMASAL, PH.D.**

University of Tulsa, 2006  
Licensed Psychologist – Oklahoma  
Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program Coordinator  
Women’s MH/MST Team

Dr. Johnna Smasal earned her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Tulsa in 2006. Dr. Smasal completed her pre-doctoral internship at Northeastern Oklahoma Psychology Internship Program and worked in private practice with special emphasis on trauma related evaluations and interventions. She served as Director of Operations for a children’s residential program in the Tulsa area. She has a strong background in supervising postdoctoral residents and pre-doctoral interns. She recently joined the team in December of 2018 and is developing the Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program.

**RIVER SMITH, PH.D.**

University of Tulsa, 2008  
Licensed Psychologist – Oklahoma  
Associate Director of Training  
PTSD Clinical Team  
CBT-I Consultant

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  
CBT-SUD Consultant

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 Ocevpofoa (Hickory Ground) Tribal Town. She has also worked with Alaska Natives, New Mexico Pueblo tribes and Dine'.

**David Webster, Ph.D.**

University of Nebraska-Lincoln – 2002  
Licensed Counseling Psychologist - Arkansas  
Psychology Section Chief

Dr. Webster is a counseling psychologist holding professional licensure in Arkansas. Dr. Webster completed his doctorate (2002) in counseling psychology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Masters of Arts (1997) in community counseling at the University of New Hampshire Durham; Masters of Divinity (1981) at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary; and, Bachelors of Science in psychology (1975), Cumberland College. Dr. Webster's professional background has been diverse to include several years as a child and family staff psychologist in Fort Smith, Arkansas; several years working with military populations including active duty Soldiers with the Department of Defense (army) at both Fort Wainwright, Alaska and Fort Stewart, Georgia and veterans at the Fairbanks Veterans Center in Fairbanks, Alaska and now presently at the Eastern Oklahoma VA Healthcare Systems (EOVAHCS), and finally as program director of the Ph.D. program in clinical-community psychology at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Primary clinical interests focus on treating psychological trauma , traumatic grief, and moral injury.

