

# InTouch

Graduate Psychology Programs

FALL 2024

Welcome to the fall 2024 edition of Chatham University's graduate psychology newsletter. The graduate psychology programs have had lots of exciting developments since our last edition and we can't wait to share them with you. Be sure to alert us to any exciting news or accomplishments so that we can share them with our community.

**Read on for all of our latest news, student and faculty highlights, and more—**

## PROGRAM NEWS

### Graduate Psychology Welcomes Dr. Molly Kelly



**Dr. Molly Kelly, MAP '19, PsyD '23** was recently appointed as a full-time faculty member in graduate psychology. Dr. Kelly earned her PsyD right here at Chatham University and has already done many great things since her appointment! For

example, Dr. Kelly recently earned certification in perinatal mental health, became an affiliated faculty of Chatham University's Womens Institute, and launched the Women's Reproductive Mental Health Research Lab. To learn more about Dr. Kelly, as well as all of Chatham's new professors, visit [pulse.chatham.edu](https://pulse.chatham.edu). We are very glad to have Dr. Kelly as part of our faculty!

### The IDEALS Lab Turns Research into Action

The Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Activism for Liberation and Social change (IDEALS) Lab has been incredibly active—from presenting at the APA conference in Seattle to holding a sexual assault awareness event at Chatham. IDEALS Lab co-founder **Dr. Michael Cadaret** and **Sydney SeNay, MSCP '24**, spoke with Pulse in September to talk more about the mission of the IDEALS Lab and how they aspire to turn research into action. To read the full story, visit [pulse.chatham.edu](https://pulse.chatham.edu).

## Another Successful Summer “Crossover!”

For the second summer in a row, **Drs. Deanna Hamilton and John Dimoff** held a “crossover” event involving their Positive Psychology and Addictions Counseling classes. Dr. Dimoff visited Dr. Hamilton’s Positive Psychology class on July 29, and Dr. Hamilton visited Dr. Dimoff’s Addictions Counseling class on July 31. Both classes focused on positive psychology interventions for addictions, which are often overlooked but incredibly important! To learn more about the origin of the “crossover” idea, visit [pulse.chatham.edu](https://pulse.chatham.edu).

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## Graduate Psychology Presents at AHN “Psychepalooza 2”

Assistant professor **Tina Stephenson, PsyD ’19**, and second-year PsyD student **Andillon DelPesco, MAP ’23**, presented at Allegheny Health Network’s (AHN) Psychepalooza 2, which took place on September 27, 2024. As noted on the [Psychepalooza website](#), the event bring together a wide array of behavioral health providers to learn about recent advances in the areas of assessment and treatment. Dr. Stephenson and Andillon presented on the topic of “Neuro-Informed Counseling,” which included a review of how the topic is defined, how it has evolved throughout its history, and how it is currently being applied. Congratulations to Dr. Stephenson and Andillon for representing graduate psychology at such an important, interdisciplinary event!

## STUDENT NEWS

### PsyD Student Ryan Whitlow Awarded APA Minority Fellowship



Congratulations to second-year PsyD student **Ryan Whitlow**, who was recently awarded a prestigious APA Minority Fellowship. In Ryan’s words: “The purpose of the fellowship is to identify, select, and support the training of ethnic minority graduate students who commit to significantly improving the quality of care provided to ethnic and racial minorities who have a mental or co-occurring mental and substance use disorder.” Ryan’s commitment to these efforts is both clear and commendable, and we are very proud of her accomplishment! To learn more about Ryan’s fellowship (and to see her APA bio!), [click here](#).

# PsyD Students Present at APA in Seattle this Past Summer



“Our trip to Seattle for the American Psychological Association Annual (APA) Conference (a first for us as Chatham students) was amazing! I attended with Chatham doctoral students **Taro Sekikawa, MSW, Ana Yandrich '01, MAP '20**, and our mentor Chatham Professor **Dr. Jill D. Paquin**. We all got lunch together with recent Fordham Ph.D. graduate Dr. Gabriela Munoz De Zubiria to expand our network and to celebrate our work together and was a sweet team experience. Afterwards, I sat in the front row to watch Jill in her role as symposium Chair, and watch Taro present the research we had been working on for the past year about BIPOC expert group therapists. Ana presented another research study she had worked on with Jill and Joe Miles, Ph.D. from the University of Tennessee and Andrew Gerlach, Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh about diversity and social justice themes in the group therapy literature. Afterwards, we attended the [APA Division 49 \(Society for Group Psychology and Group Psychotherapy\)](#) Social Hour to celebrate our presentations. Attending the conference was a surreal experience where I started to actually feel like a real (emerging) psychologist.”

– PsyD student **Andillon DelPesco, MAP '23**

## REFERENCES

\*Sekikawa, T., Paquin, J.D., Brown, K., \*DelPesco, A., \*Simon, K. & Abegunde, C. (2024). *Developing into a group therapist: BIPOC group therapy experts and their experiences with training*. In J. D. Paquin and J. Miles (Co-Chairpersons) Divisions 49. Symposium presented at the American Psychological Association Convention, Seattle, WA.

\*Yandrich, A., Paquin, J. D., Miles, J., & Gerlach, A. (2024). “Themes in multiculturalism and social justice in group counseling research: A latent Dirichlet allocation analysis.” In J. D. Paquin and J. Miles (Co-Chairpersons) Divisions 49. Symposium presented at the American Psychological Association Convention, Seattle, WA.

## PsyD Student Wins Award



Congratulations to PsyD candidate **Emiko Hunt** for winning an Asian American Psychological Association (AAPA) Division of Multiracial and Adopted Asian Americans (DMAA) award for 2023–2024! This award

recognizes research that supports the mission of the division and speaks to the needs of the multiracial and adopted Asian Americans communities. Emi won this award for her dissertation project, which is titled “Multiracial Asian American Identity: Exploring Racial and Professional Identity Development and Integration in Psychology Practice.”



## Class Assignment Grows into Published Paper

PsyD student **Ahrianna Keefe, MAP '24**, and **Jill D. Paquin, Ph.D.**, published a paper in the American Psychological Association’s Division for Psychotherapy (Division 29) Newsletter on September 25, 2024, entitled: [A First Year Doctoral Student’s Introduction to Evidence-Based Practice in Psychotherapy: What I’m Taking with me Into Sessions as a New Therapist](#). The paper is a collaboration between Ahrianna and Jill that grew out of a class assignment from last year. “Ahrianna did an excellent job on the assignment, and was game to let me help her edit it into a manuscript for publication. She had a lot of original ideas about how our class sources connected to one another, and I thought we could turn it into something that would make a great contribution to the literature.”



## Calling All Graduate Psychology Alumni!

If you are in private practice, would you consider offering one spot for a Chatham master’s or doctoral student on a sliding fee scale or pro bono basis? Our doctoral students cannot seek counseling at Chatham’s Counseling Center because they engage in a practicum there for their first semester or two. Moreover, some master’s students express a preference for seeing an alum or an outside clinician as well. While some students have health insurance, the co-pay or deductible can make counseling unaffordable. If you would like to talk more about this possibility, please contact Dr. Gina Zanardelli at [gzanardelli@chatham.edu](mailto:gzanardelli@chatham.edu). We appreciate your consideration for this!

## ALUMNI NOTE

**Paulette Cantwell, MSCP '11** has a thriving private practice and just got her pup certified as a therapy dog!

Do you have professional news? Are you interested in accessing the online directory? Keep in touch with Chatham and your classmates by visiting **chatham.edu/alumni**. Become a member of the alumni directory, view and share classnotes, and register/pay for events online.

Contact **alumni@chatham.edu** for your unique login information.