



# Washington Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis, Inc.

Newsletter

Fall 2021

The newsletter of the  
Washington Baltimore  
Center for Psychoanalysis

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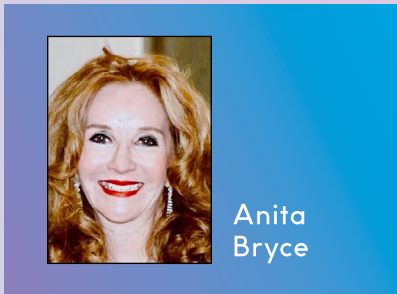
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## UPDATE FROM THE BOARD

### State of the Center



**T**he last two years in our lives have been unlike any other. We have faced insurmountable challenges and have come together to find ways to creatively adapt, virtually be together, and rapidly pivot to new avenues of learning, teaching, and communicating.

This planetary pandemic ushered into our lives by the unforgiving COVID has engulfed us in an unpredictable tsunami that brought with it a disproportionately negative impact on the lives of the disadvantaged. We have watched the pain, fear, torment, and misery that ravaged our country in the form of over 700,000 deaths. We have witnessed the consequences of dehumanizing systemic injustices in the present and in the past that have been inflicted upon the lives of people of color.

The Board feels that it is imperative that we, as an organization, focus on these very important issues, and we are undertaking efforts to do this via some of the following mechanisms which I will highlight.

First, we have a responsibility to do everything in our power to become a truly anti-oppressive, anti-racist, and a welcoming community:

A community that is committed to examining aspects of history which have affected our culture and our decisions.

A kind and caring community that participates in open yet respectful dialogue with one another.

A community that sees and acknowledges the racism that exists and is steadfast in committing to help to alleviate the suffering that it has caused.

A community that vows to work together in taking responsibility to ensure that change occurs.

A community of like-minded people who are determined to use every iota of our strength and stamina to work to change our world for the better.

Second, to fulfill these commitments, the Board has hired outside diversity, equity, and inclusion consultants who are in the process of

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gathering data about our organization, thus assisting us in not only understanding our past, but developing ways to enhance the diversity of our group. The details of this undertaking will be elaborated in the body of this newsletter.

Third, we will soon be initiating a scholarship program in hopes of drawing a more diverse student body that can only enhance our work, our learning, our skills, and our impact on humankind. We need to attract those who, in particular, work on the frontline of the following: those who work with the underserved; those in community settings; people from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds; and people who could not afford to pursue training experiences without our financial assistance. The annual fundraising letter sent to the membership will appeal to all of you to please support our efforts to make training accessible to a broader population.

Fourth, not only do we hope to make training more available to those in need, we also are continuing to support making treatment more available through our Community Treatment Fund which provides grants to subsidize the therapy of the underprivileged in our area.

Fifth, an ongoing focus by the Board on these above stated goals has led us to put a significant emphasis on public relations/communication. We feel that this is a necessary undertaking which will assist us in accomplishing the above stated objectives. We are in the process

of hiring consultants to assist us in becoming more visible via designing a new website and creating more visually appealing and expansive materials to publicize all that we have to offer.

Sixth, another significant, yet related focus on the part of the Board has been to have in our constant awareness the fact that we are a two-city organization. As a result of this emphasis, we have continued to pursue our distance learning options.

A final and important endeavor of the Board has to do with our saying goodbye to our esteemed, committed, very special executive director of 30 years, Elizabeth Manne. The Board has hired an agency to assist us with this process which is currently well underway.

Many other impressive things are going on at our Center as colleagues have devoted hours towards volunteering to make the Washington Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis the robust place that it is.

Our two fellowship programs that have participants from all over the world.

Our newly initiated program whose mission it is to present clinical material to the very valued psychotherapists in our membership and beyond.

The addition of the Observational Studies Program to our program offerings.

Our community outreach efforts which are very much on the increase.

Our collaborations with residents in psychiatry departments at Howard University and The George Washington University.

Our Case Conferences that are well attended and held in high regard throughout the community.

Our pro-bono efforts to provide treatment to frontline workers in the fight against COVID.

We need the support of the entire community to accomplish the goals that we have set. We could not do all that we are doing without the devotion of our very committed volunteers who give of their energy, time, and creativity. To those of you who are already involved, thank you so very much, we greatly appreciate your efforts, for others of you who are not currently contributing please consider doing so. The opportunities and rewards are endless.

Most Sincerely,

*Board of Directors of the  
Washington Baltimore  
Center for Psychoanalysis:*

*Anita K. Bryce, Ph.D., President*

*Deborah Feldheim, M.D.,  
Immediate Past President*

*Karol R. Kullberg, LCSW-C,  
Vice President of Board Affairs*

*Yvonne De Cuir, Ph.D.,  
Vice President of Education*

*Marc S. Levine, M.D.,  
Institute Director*

*Cary Gold, M.B.A., Treasurer*

*David E. Cooper, Ph.D.,  
WBCP Director, APsaA Board*

*Jeffrey Akman, M.D.*

*Alan Heilbron, M.S.*

*Terri Judge, Ph.D.*

*Kerry Malawista, Ph.D.*

*Erica McClaskey, M.D.*

*Beth Roberts, J.D.*

*Molly Ryan, M.B.A.*

# Diversity Equity and Inclusion Consultation Update

Like many other institutes, professional organizations, universities, and other organizations, the WBCP has brought their attention to examining how issues around diversity, equity, and inclusion impact our membership and students. Many committees and groups in the Center have wrestled with difficult issues impacting all aspects of our Center's vibrant life, including how current structures support or hinder our goal to be an inclusive organization, and how to improve the institutional climate of our Center. In late February 2021, the Board unanimously voted to hire a consulting group to help us develop data on our membership's views, experiences, and concerns. Drs. Jessica Isom, Aekta Malhotra and Flavia DeSouza, from Vision for Equity, were hired to do an audit and to make recommendations. The DEI Work Group was formed to think about and manage the rolling out of the consultation process. The group consists of Dr. Anita Bryce, Dr. Yvonne De Cuir and Ms. Karol Kullberg from the Board Executive Committee, Dr. Marc Levine, Director of the Psychoanalytic Institute, and Drs. Joanie Liebermann and David Cooper, Co-Chairs of the Diversities Committee. The audit consists of a survey which has generated key topics, issues and goals brought forth by our members to be further explored in semi-structured and facilitated focus groups. The focus groups are expected to begin in December. They will be composed of approximately six members of the Center and facilitated by two leaders from Vision for Equity. Volunteer participants will be invited to share their opinions and experiences to clearly define the varied perspectives and insights on diversity, equity, and inclusion within the WBCP and to inform tailored recommendations on supporting these goals in the Center. There will be a final report of the survey findings with recommendations which will be available to our membership.

We are aware of the difficulties addressing issues of race, gender, socio-economic and other diversities among ourselves and the incidences of unintended negative impact on students, staff, and members. As a Board, we have struggled to learn to have difficult conversations about controversial topics and to improve how we listen to divergent perspectives, and to the unintended impact our words can have on

## Watch Amanda Gorman Read Her Inaugural Poem

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LZ055illIN4>

*For there is always light,  
if only we're brave enough to see it.  
if only we're brave enough to be it.*

-Amanda Gorman

others. It has been indeed challenging, humbling, but foremost it has been instructive. We recognize that this initiative has been met with many different reactions, some negative and some positive. While hoping for support and engagement, we recognize some may be hesitant to participate. We believe that only through honesty, openness, and soul-searching self-examination, can growth progress. It is important that all voices are heard. The Board is committed to developing a more inclusive, welcoming, and diverse Center. Moreover, our long-term survival depends on our ability to continue to make psychoanalytic thinking relevant to the many challenges our world faces: food insecurity, racism, violence, extremism, climate change and other threats to human welfare. We hope this consultation process contributes to the WBCP continuing to be a center for excellence in training, research, and contributions to our community.

*Anita K. Bryce, Ph.D., President*

*David E. Cooper, Ph.D., Co-Chair of the Diversities Committee*

*Yvonne De Cuir, Ph.D., Vice President of Education*

*Karol R. Kullberg, LCSW-C, Vice President of Board Affairs*

*Marc S. Levine, M.D., Institute Director*

*Joanie Liebermann, M.D., Co-Chair of the Diversities Committee*

# The State of Our Psychoanalytic Institute

**O**ur Institute, like every other psychoanalytic institute on the planet, has been profoundly impacted by the global pandemic and the societal and political changes unfolding alongside it. It seems like an endless stream of crises has befallen us over the past couple of years: the pandemic, the tumultuous and divisive political climate in our country, and the “racial reckoning” sparked by the murder of George Floyd, to name just a few. We all recognize that the world is undergoing epochal changes, and psychoanalytic practice and training is changing along with everything else. If only we knew how it was all going to turn out, our Institute could make appropriate plans and adjustments, but we can only do so much with the incomplete and preliminary data we have at present. That hasn’t stopped us from trying, however. With about seven months left in my term as Institute Director, I’d like to tell you about where we are, and where we might be going.

All things considered the Institute is doing quite well. We admitted twelve students to the PSP1 class for 2021-2022. As the Institute Council reviewed their applications, we were impressed with the depth, breadth, and diversity of their experiences, and we anticipated they would be a joy to work with. We are only about a month into classes, but early reports from faculty suggest that we were right. PSP2 has eleven students continuing from last year. Beginning their academic

work in fall 2020, they were the first group to have all their classes conducted via Zoom. They deserve our respect and admiration for rising to that challenge and forging what appears to be a cohesive and productive working group dynamic. There were not enough people to constitute a third-year class of candidates, but we have a cohort of six candidates working together, some in their fourth year of candidacy and some in the third. We currently have about fifteen active advanced candidates.

On the administrative/governance front, I want to start by expressing my gratitude to the hardworking and dedicated members of the Institute Council. Their support and collective wisdom have been invaluable to me during my term as director. I have been impressed with how this group has also risen to the challenges imposed by the pandemic, and I think we have made significant progress in envisioning and planning for a “post-pandemic” Institute. We have been operating with the assumption that most mental health clinicians will continue with some version of “hybrid” (online/in person) practices long after the pandemic is behind us, and we have been considering how to incorporate and account for that reality in teaching our students and candidates. With that in mind, we have been re-examining all the major elements of psychoanalytic education: classes, supervision, training analyses and control cases.

The merger of the Baltimore and Washington groups was finalized about four years ago, and now more than ever, we need to face the consequences, intended and unintended, of that merger. Everyone has gotten accustomed to the advantages and conveniences of Zoom and asking students to commute between the two cities every week for classes no longer seems realistic or reasonable. Our Distance Education Committee, under the leadership of Karyne Messina, is working on this issue, with the expectation that we will work out a hybrid version of online/in-person didactics. (The word “hybrid” has taken on new meaning and significance, as the pandemic alters our language along with everything else. How often did you utter the words “you’re muted” before COVID?).

There is much work still to be done. In my three-and-a-half decades as a member of our organization, I have been struck with how each Institute Director (and Center president) has at least one crisis that shapes and defines their term of office. Having served in several leadership roles over those years, I have always tried to operate by the maxim that “one should never let a good crisis go to waste.” This time around, that maxim seems more relevant than ever. Charlie Parks will be taking over the reigns as Institute Director next June. I will do everything I can to ensure a smooth transition, and I look forward to continuing to work with our Center in other capacities in the years ahead.

*Marc S. Levine, M.D.,  
Institute Director*

# A Complementary Relationship: Bringing Psychoanalysis to the Community and the Community to Psychoanalysis

The Community Outreach Study Group, with its 16 members, has been meeting for over a year now. We have a wonderfully diverse group which includes psychoanalysts and psychotherapists from Baltimore and Washington, as well as PSP graduates. With the goal of bridging psychoanalysis and community mental health, we will be adding mental health practitioners and other care providers from community organizations to ultimately create a wider coalition. In addition to broadening and enhancing the frame of psychoanalytic practice, the work of our study group will actively contribute to our Center's mission to uphold the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

In the first six months of meeting together, we created a "learning lab," to help us all begin to understand more about community psychoanalysis. We were fortunate to have a community consultant work with us, pro-bono, to help organize our understanding and thinking about the exciting work our group was about to embark upon. Many of our study group members, who are currently involved in community work, had much to offer from their vast experiences during this initial phase. In addition, we brought in community leaders to share about their organizations, with a focus on the needs and challenges of their mental health clinicians. We also spoke to other psychoanalytic centers who have a focus on community psychoanalysis in their training programs. In between meetings we read journal articles, watched IPA Podcasts (Off the Couch), and attended webinars and conferences, all in an effort to build knowledge.

Our "learning lab" helped to establish the following goals:

1. To create a culture of community involvement at the WBCP;
2. To provide opportunities for our members to form mutually beneficial relationships with community organizations;

3. To equip members of our Center with a deeper understanding of how to use their psychoanalytic skills and experience to make a meaningful impact in our surrounding communities in DC, Baltimore, and Northern Virginia. We are now ready to move into thinking about our own "model of community psychoanalysis." That is, we know that community organizations have much to teach us but what is it that we can offer them?

To that end, we recently invited Regina Pally, M.D., psychiatrist, psychoanalyst and Founder, The Center for Reflective Communities, to speak with us. We have also co-sponsored two events: an eight-week course entitled Bridging Psychoanalysis and the Community, with the Oregon Psychoanalytic Center, Contemporary Freudian Center and APsaA; and the Psychoanalytic Understanding of Poverty: The Importance of Context and Gender, with the Contemporary Freudian Society and IPA's, Committee on Women and Psychoanalysis. The eight-week course includes psychoanalysts and psychotherapists as instructors and participants, alongside community mental health professionals, also taking the course. As our understanding continues to grow, we will have much to offer the Center. We are currently organizing a colloquium on Community Psychoanalysis in the spring and have started a series that will be posted on the list-serv and on our website called Beyond the Couch, featuring the outstanding community outreach of so many of our members. Consistent with the mission of our own Center, as highlighted on our website, and with the recently revised standards of the APsaA, our aim is to make Community Psychoanalysis an integral part of our Center's identity and to add it to the formal curriculum and training at the WBCP.

*Joy Kasset, Ph.D., & Deborah Feldheim, M.D.,  
Co-Chairs, Community Outreach  
Study Group*

# The Clinical Psychotherapy Program Series

**T**he Clinical Psychotherapy Program Series at WBCP is a case conference/seminar series focused on the practice of psychotherapy, providing a collegial atmosphere for lively, interactive discussions of case material and psychoanalytic/psychodynamic theory and technique. The purpose of this program is to encourage participants to hear the diverse views and experiences of others in an informal setting, allowing an open exchange of treatment and theoretical perspectives. An overall goal is to promote peer interaction with therapists from a variety of clinical settings, mental health disciplines and cross-cultural backgrounds. This program also offers a way to reach those in the mental health community who seek further immersion into psychodynamic and psychoanalytic thinking/practice and want opportunities to learn from and with experienced peers.

The Clinical Psychotherapy Program Series provides a deeper exploration into varied clinical themes, practical and theoretical considerations, and technical challenges that are regularly found in a once or twice weekly psychoanalytic psychotherapy. Participants engage in discussion around treatment philosophies, clinical interventions in an open and friendly environment, and have a shared experience recognizing the challenges of this work.

Prior to the reunification of the two centers, Bonnie Gallagher and Kathleen Evans originally designed this program under the former Baltimore Washington Center for Psychoanalysis (BWCP) as a separate entity, entitled the “Association for Psychoanalytic Thought” (APT), which demonstrated and promoted appreciation for how psychoanalytic perspectives and thinking intersected with clinical work, the arts, philosophy, culture, and society. Today, the current Clinical Psychotherapy Program Series is chaired by Bonnie Gallagher, LICSW and has focused its programming to promote the value, diversity, and meanings of psychotherapy practice, especially as it is enhanced from a variety of perspectives.

In the inaugural year of this new program, this series offered demonstrations and discussions of complex, intensive psychotherapeutic work involving several themes. Participants were engaged in exploring the transference material illustrating and deconstructing the “false-self” presentation in a young adult; understanding and delineating intricate, jarring manifestations of transference and countertransference experiences when working with trauma; integrating advanced concepts and techniques with neuroscience and psychotherapy, where somatic symptoms and mirror neurons played a critical role in understanding transference with an

adult patient; and finally tracking and metabolizing alongside the presenter the disruptions preventing a therapist’s ability to mentalize in working with a traumatized adolescent, while struggling together to learn about and discuss how a therapist can regain a state of reflective functioning and attunement. Watch for this year’s flyer for new and exciting upcoming presentations!

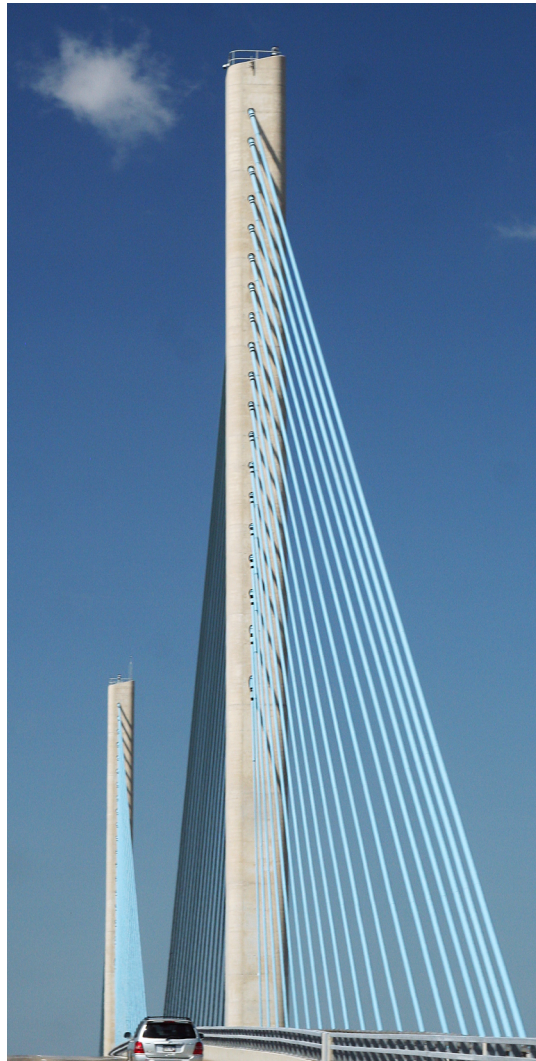
All students from any mental health discipline, graduates of the PSP (Psychoanalytic Studies Program), former or current WBCP members and psychotherapists wanting to stay connected to or learn more about the WBCP are strongly encouraged to join and participate in this case conference/seminar series. Five meetings are scheduled per year, taking place on the third Sunday of the month from 9:30 AM until 12:30 PM. Meetings are held via Zoom throughout the 2021-2022 academic year. Continuing Education credits are provided for all disciplines, including physicians. If you are interested in becoming a presenter or learning more about the philosophy and goals of this program, please contact Bonnie Gallagher at [bonniegallagher@verizon.net](mailto:bonniegallagher@verizon.net).

*Bonnie Gallagher, LICSW,  
MSW, LCSW-C, Chair*

## WASHINGTON CASE CONFERENCE: A Decade Bridging Communities

This year marked the 10th anniversary of the Washington Case Conference, (WCC) a series of eight two-hour programs held during the academic year. Inspired by the Baltimore Case Conference led by Noreen Honeycutt, Ph.D., Lizbeth Moses, Ph.D., grappled with the question of how to maintain the rigor of psychoanalytic thinking and methods while creating a program relevant and accessible to psychotherapists of all theoretical orientations. With the hope of developing a welcoming and engaged learning experience, she recruited Judy Chertoff, M.D., and Aimée Nover, Ph.D., to create a bridge for bringing together the Washington metropolitan psychotherapy community and its psychoanalytic community within a Case Conference experience. As colleagues of different ages, psychoanalytic stages, and professional disciplines, we joined forces in the hope of developing a strong community that embraces diversity as essential to the learning and developing process.

Each second Friday of the month the program features a psychotherapist or psychoanalyst from the Washington area who presents a compelling clinically related theoretical or practical issue and then leads a robust discussion. In 2016, in response to requests by WCC attendees to have the opportunity for more in-depth discussion, we initiated the WCC Seminar Series. This is a subscription series in which sessions follow two weeks after each of six designated Conferences. The Seminar Series, meeting on the fourth Friday of each month, continues to be composed of a consistent core group with a few additions each year. Collegial connection



and trust have developed in this group, allowing for substantial depth of sharing as participants often present their own personal therapeutic challenges.

Originally sponsored by the BWCP, we created in 2016 another community bridge and asked both the WCP (now WBCP) and the CFS to join us as co-sponsors. Guiding principles of the WCC are to invite speakers from the broader mental health community who are sympathetic to a psychodynamic approach and to include room for innovative ideas and therapeutic approaches that may expand upon psychoanalytic thinking. We are fortunate to have excellent presenters — deep thinkers and dynamic communicators who integrate theory and practice and describe creative solutions for challenging problems.

The topics have fallen under the following main categories: Intersection of Medicine and Psychoanalysis (Psyche and Soma); Relationship between the Arts and Psychoanalysis; Ethical Challenges in Practice; Diversity (as it applies to theories of the mind as well as to gender, sexual orientation, and ethnicity); School-Related Issues; and Psychoanalysis in the Community.

Over our first 10 years, the following topics illustrate our wide range of topics and presenters:

- The Many Languages of the Body: Listening to the Psychosomatic States in our Patients (Marie Murphy, M.S.W.)
- When a Parent Dies: A Developmental Look at Mourning in Childhood (Kerry Malawista, Ph.D.)
- Cyber Addiction (Clifford Sussman, M.D.)

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- The Impact of Psychoanalytic Thinking on Writing Fiction (Russell Carr, M.D.)
- Confidentiality, Clinical Ethical and Legal Ramifications (Barry Landau, M.D.)
- Outside Our Offices: Applying Analytic Thought to Community Mental Health (Joy Kassett, Ph.D.)
- Psychopharmacology and Psychotherapy: The Joys and Frustrations of a Satisfying Marriage (Lance Clawson, M.D.)
- Diversity With Regard to What: And Why Should Psychoanalysis (and Psychotherapists) Care? (David Cooper, Ph.D. and Joanie Lieberman, M.D.)
- The Culture of Divergence and Diversity: Gay Men and the Male Gendered Pre-Oedipal Good Object (Raymond Hoffman, M.D.)
- The Art in Psychoanalysis (J. David Miller, M.D.)
- Working with Children and a Tribal Village in the Bombay Slums (Marc Nemiroff, Ph.D.)

In April 2020, like many programs, we were forced to cancel our planned in-person sessions at a local meeting ground (River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation) and move to Zoom. Since then, we have continued successfully with virtual sessions, keeping open the hope to move back in person as soon as possible (and once again enjoy snacks and conversations during a 15-minute break). Although Zoom allows for wider participation, we have tried to retain the intimate local character of the program by limiting the audience to members of the WBCP or CFS and mental health professionals from the local Baltimore-Washington area. Our speakers feel safe that their presentations of detailed clinical material will remain confidential on Zoom because we require participants to keep videos on and can identify everyone in the room. Last year we covered a range of timely topics, for example the reaction of teenagers and young adults to the pandemic (Marsha Levy-Warren, Ph.D.) and Traumatic Bereavement in an African American Woman (Marilyn Martin, M.D.). In addition, we heard about Interferences to Normal Child Development (Mary FitzGerald, M.S.W.), a Couple's Impasse (Doris Snow, Ph.D.) and the Challenges of Aging and Retirement (Boyd Burris, M.D.).

So far this year, we are off to an excellent start and have been able to include several non-analyst local clinicians. Anne Adelman, Ph.D., and Kerry Malawista, Ph.D., began our year with an ethics conference on the topic of self-disclosure; they provided several excellent examples from their own practices, leading to a lively discussion. In October, Ruth Edelman, Ph.D., described developmentally informed CBT for children. She illustrated, again with many examples, how CBT can be informed by developmental and psychoanalytic principles. Participants were struck by the commonalities rather than differences between this dynamic CBT approach and the psychoanalytic approach.

Additional Case Conferences this academic year will highlight speakers and topics pertinent to increasing our understanding of clinical work with diverse populations. One of the WBCP PSP graduates, Raquel Carrera, LPC, will likely have already discussed Trauma in an Adolescent (November) by the time of this newsletter. Our current PSP student, Crystal Han, M.D., (along with her colleague Angelene Pham, M.D.), will present the history and current manifestations of Anti-Asian Racism (December). In January, the 2020 Army's Social Worker of the Year, Lt. Col Liquori Etheridge, M.S.W., will speak about the Multi-Generational Transmission of Trauma. And David German, D.O., will speak about the challenges of "knowing oneself and being known" in the LGBTQ+ population (March). In April, Bob Winer, M.D., will interview Kerry Malawista, Ph.D., and Michael Jasnow, Ph.D., about their long psychoanalytic careers. Finally, after a pandemic delay, we will have the opportunity to hear Noa Ashman, M.S.W., describe her work with a couple in a paper entitled, "Till Sex Do Us Part."

The award-winning writer Luis Alberto Urrea says that "a deep truth of our time is that we miss each other." He goes on to say, there is no them — there is only us. It is in that spirit that we share with pride the multifaceted WCC program that we have created as an inclusive and diverse learning experience. In the future, we look forward to having a younger generation contribute to and take over the program to ensure its expansion and longevity.

*Judy Chertoff, M.D., Lizbeth Moses, Ph.D.,  
and Aimée Nover, Ph.D., Co-chairs*



# Report on Diversities Committee

The Diversities Committee was established as a committee of the Center's Board nearly six years ago. It continues to meet monthly, even during the summer months. The importance of its work was highlighted in February 2020 by Anton's Hart's Raphling lecture on radical openness and his meetings with representative members of our Center in February 2020. The need was further fueled by the rise of the Black Lives Matter movement that followed the murders of Ahmaud Arbery, Brianna Taylor, George Floyd, and other people of color in 2020, heated national conversations about the role of systemic racism in many aspects of our society, and the disproportionate morbidity and mortality of the COVID-19 virus among communities of color. The direct result was that since last spring, the committee membership has grown from five to fourteen people. Its current members (in alphabetical order) include Anne Adelman, Raquel Carrera, Danille Drake, Sarah Hedlund, Marilyn Martin, Erica McClaskey, Teresa Mendez, Lizbeth Moses, Susan Munford, Fred Pisoni, Fernando Tripodi, Rajeev Warriar; David

Cooper and Joanie Liebermann continue to serve as Co-chairs.

We are currently focusing on several concrete projects: co-sponsorship of the upcoming Ethics Conference on December 5th and an interview project to understand the experience of Black psychoanalysts who have trained at our institutes. We are also engaged in the early stages of addressing the affordability and desirability of psychotherapy and psychoanalytic training for all students and candidates, with the hopes of attracting more diverse populations to our Center. Similarly, we hope to be instrumental in establishing an ombudsperson who would be available to help any member of the Center deal with difficult situations, including those related to race and ethnicity, that might arise during training or treatment.

In addition to these concrete projects, we have spent considerable time discussing the whiteness of our Center, the white privilege that permeates psychoanalysis in our WBCP and throughout America and the losses we incur by having such

a lack of diversity in our classrooms and consulting rooms. In conjunction with these broader themes, we have attempted to better understand the mixed reception that DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) efforts, offered by Vision for Equity under the leadership of Dr. Jessica Isom, have received at our Center. We have tried to consider what changes will make our Center a more welcoming organization that is more reflective of the larger DC community in which we live, and more consistent with the curiosity, openness, and understanding that originally drew us all to psychoanalysis. We hope that our fellow members have responded both to our own WBCP survey crafted by Vision for Equity and the national survey solicited by the Holmes Commission as both may help us more clearly define our difficulties with inclusion. We invite you to continue to share your own observations with our committee by contacting any of our committee members. We similarly welcome any Center members who would be interested in contributing to our diversities work.

*David E. Cooper, Ph.D., and  
Joanie Liebermann, M.D.,  
Co-Chairs*

## WBCP Newsletter Staff

Fred Pisoni  
Newsletter Editor

Bethany Wolf  
Director of Communications

Send any newsletter  
comments or suggestions to  
fpisoni@aol.com

## NOTICE THIS

### WBCP Upcoming Events

<https://www.wbcpc.org/cgi/page.cgi/calendar.html>

### WBCP Clinic Information

<https://www.wbcpcclinic.org>

# Meet the WBCP Staff



## Elizabeth Manne, Executive Director

Elizabeth Manne is currently working on renewing Center insurance policies; on membership renewal matters; on WBCP's annual audit; planning for the upcoming annual budget process; proofreading program fliers, newsletter articles and other communications for posting in email and on the WBCP website; working with our Director of Communications on plans for WBCP's new website design; meeting with fellow APsaA Center Executive Directors to share management procedures; meeting with staff each week to coordinate our vast workload. Elizabeth is most grateful to have an amazing administrative team! She is looking forward to retiring from her position as Executive Director after 30 years and hopes to continue with the Center in a part time capacity. Elizabeth teaches yoga on Sunday mornings. She lives with her 11-month-old puppy, Ginger, in Elkridge, MD.



## Bethany Wolf, Director of Communications

Bethany Wolf is overseeing WBCP's Comprehensive Communications Initiative currently underway. An important priority of this Initiative is a complete redesign of the Center's website. This will include a new public interface and member area. Bethany works closely with Elizabeth and the Communications Work Group. This team is in the process of interviewing companies to build the website and anticipates the new site will launch by summer 2022. Additionally, Bethany is responsible for creating and maintaining a successful brand and image for WBCP, and also guides the strategy for all marketing efforts. Bethany moved to DC after finishing graduate school in England. She started her career in arts education, working for the Smithsonian and two different embassies. In 2013 she relocated to Arizona to work in higher ed and returned to DC in early 2020. Bethany lives in Northwest Washington, DC, and enjoys spending time with her friends and family, including her kitten, Sophie. She is also an avid yoga enthusiast.



## Kathleen Oristian, Administrator

Kathleen organizes and manages accounts payable and receivables. She picks up mail at the DC office and processes the Center's banking needs. Kathleen worked closely with Elizabeth Manne to

complete the 2021 application to the D.C. Higher Education Licensure Commission. She worked with the Fellowship program directors processing 2021-2022 applications, posting relative documents to the website, sending acceptance letters and has prepared and is managing attendance records. She participates in updating and maintaining the Center database, editing profiles and memberships, managing invoices. Other projects include providing updates for APsaA for their annual candidates review and WBCP membership information for APsaA's upcoming roster update. She provides assistance and responds to member and other inquiries. Kathleen lives in North Potomac, Maryland. She has one daughter in high school and one daughter who is a freshman in college. Both daughters play competitive golf, and she loves to watch them play. She has two rambunctious kitten brothers, Maverick and Goose.



## Janine Nickel, Administrative Assistant

Janine Nickel started with WBCP in January of 2019. One of her most important duties is to manage the CME/CE application process. She has the joy of coordinating the collection and processing of all

the paperwork and materials required by APsaA and the APA. If the WBCP is hosting a program, Janine is responsible for not only the CME/CE aspect of it, she also creates the registration, sends promotional emails, creates and distributes the survey and survey summary, creates the Zoom meeting, creates the attendance sheet, and handles all communication about the program to members and registrants. A short list of additional projects that Janine is also involved with include Faculty Reappointment forms, New Directions, Study Groups, website changes, changes to the operating manuals, student and candidate Face Sheets, uploading various Institute reports to Share File. Janine lives in North Potomac, Maryland with her husband, rottweiler, and two cats. Her twin daughters are freshmen in college.

## Meet the Year-One PSP Students



Marlene Adams



David Hernandez



Roua Hijazi



Justin Hopkins



Doran Katz



Suzanne Koopmans

**Marlene Adams, Ph.D., CRNP-PMH**, is a psychiatric nurse practitioner at UMMS, St. Joseph Medical Center in Towson, MD. She earned her Bachelor's in Nursing, Master's in Psychiatric Nursing and Doctorate in Nursing at the University of Maryland, Baltimore. She worked on various inpatient psychiatric units at Sheppard Pratt Hospital while completing her nursing education. She then worked as an Assistant Professor of Nursing at University of Delaware. Marlene completed the 2009-2010 Fundamentals of Psychodynamic Therapy course at the Washington School of Psychiatry, the 2009-2010 Adult Fellowship Program, and the 2010-2012 Advanced Psychotherapy Course at the Baltimore Washington Center for Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis. She looks forward to applying her academic learning to her clinical practice while integrating therapy with medication management in her work with patients. In her spare time, she enjoys watching the Ravens and Orioles games, dining at waterfront restaurants, and traveling the world.

**David Hernandez, M.D.**, was born in Colombia and moved to New Jersey at an early age. He went to Rutgers University where he majored in biology and then went on to Dartmouth for medical school. He completed his psychiatric residency training at Montefiore in the Bronx. David served as one of the chief residents in medical education. He moved to Baltimore for his wife's training in pulmonary critical care at Johns Hopkins. He's an attending psychiatrist at Sheppard Pratt in a residential program. David has interests in psychotherapy in general and particularly approaches dealing with unconscious material. He enjoys hiking, traveling, and trying new cuisines.

**Roua Hijazi, M.A., LPC**, has a private practice in Washington, DC. She earned a Master's degree in clinical mental health counseling from The George Washington University, and prior to becoming a psychotherapist, she studied economics at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London, and at the American University of Beirut. She also worked as an economist at the International Monetary Fund. In addition to her private practice, Roua works as a consultant at the Health Services Department of the World Bank Group providing psychological counseling to multicultural individuals and families on issues of transition and adaptation, parenting concerns, relationship conflict, grief, trauma, and domestic violence. She is interested in pursuing psychoanalytic studies to further deepen her understanding of the therapeutic encounter and the process of change in therapy.

**Dr. Justin S. Hopkins** operates a psychotherapy practice for adults and couples in Dupont Circle. As a psychologist, his educational background includes a Bachelor's in Psychology from Hampton University, a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Regent University, and postdoctoral study at The George Washington University. Justin works with a wide array of concerns, including depression, anxiety, bipolar, trauma, and relationship issues. His niche areas of interest include diversity and cultural trauma. As a consultant and speaker on gender and race-related oppression, Justin is committed to understanding people and organizations through the lens of cultural context. Justin blends his academic and clinical knowledge of power and privilege, with compassion and insight to advise and advocate for social change.

**Dr. Doran Katz**, is an Assistant Professor of Curriculum and Pedagogy and Applied Linguistics and Assistant Director of Graduate Studies at the Middlebury School of Hebrew, Middlebury Language Schools. In her role at Middlebury, Doran teaches and advises MA and Doctoral students, works in admissions, and helps steer the curricular vision and planning of the department. Doran's research interests are focused generally on many areas teaching and learning including: relationships with 'difficult knowledge,' teacher autonomy, and notions of self efficacy. Doran is excited to learn and expand her knowledge of psychoanalysis as she sees it as a crucial framework to looking at and understanding phenomena related to learning. Doran lives in the MD suburbs of DC with her husband, rescue dog, and 4 kids (with a 5th on the way).

**Suzanne Koopmans, LICSW**, graduated with a Master of Social Work from Catholic University in 2010. Before becoming a therapist, she held several different positions at the Netherlands Embassy in Washington, DC, the last one serving as the liaison to the World Bank. Suzanne worked at SOME and The George Washington University Mental Health Services before launching her private practice in Dupont Circle. Suzanne provides individual psychotherapy to (young) adults, working mostly on understanding the self, relationship issues, and navigating life transitions. She is originally from the Netherlands and completed her M.A. in Russian Language and Literature at the University of Groningen. While studying in Moscow in 1990-1991, she met her future American husband, Sam, who was doing research for his Ph.D. Suzanne moved to the US in 1994 to get married to Sam, and they have a son (23) and a daughter (20) together. Suzanne continues to learn about American culture. Suzanne is excited to be part of the PSP program, with an amazing group of peers, and to have the opportunity to continue to grow and learn as a person and a therapist.



Kristen Kreider

**Kristen Kreider, LCSW-C**, is a clinical social worker practicing in Baltimore, MD. She is originally from Palmyra, Pennsylvania, but has lived in Maryland most of her life. She attended University of Maryland, Baltimore County, where she received a Bachelor of Science in Psychology, and received her Master of Social Work from University of Maryland, School of Social Work. Since obtaining her licensure, she has worked at several Outpatient Community Mental Health Clinics in Baltimore City. Currently she finds herself at a psychodynamic and psychoanalytically oriented group practice and recovery center, University Psychological Center/ Recovery Network. Kristen completed the WBCP Fellowship in 2019, and looks forward to growing in her understanding of psychoanalytic theory through the PSP.



Abby LePage

**Abby LePage, Psy.D.**, is a licensed clinical psychologist currently working in private practice in Washington, DC. She received her doctorate from The George Washington University's Professional Psychology program and completed her training at various college counseling sites in the DC area. In her clinical work she primarily draws from psychodynamic theory, but is increasingly interested in bringing in aspects of relational cultural theory into her sessions. When not working, she enjoys gardening and hiking with her husband and her dog.



Shari Matray

**Shari Matray, Ph.D., LPC**, is a psychotherapist who works at Dynamic Psychotherapy, a group private practice in Dupont Circle. Shari earned her Doctorate in Counseling from The George Washington University and her Master's in Mental Health Counseling from Hunter College in NYC. Prior to working in a private practice, Shari completed a Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the American University Counseling Center. Shari has gained clinical experience in college counseling centers and community mental health settings. Shari now conducts psychodynamic psychotherapy with adults in private practice. Shari is excited to learn more about psychoanalytic theory and how to effectively incorporate it into her clinical work.



Caroline McGervey

**Caroline McGervey, LPC**, works in private practice in Washington, DC. She received her Master's in clinical psychology from the Institute for the Psychological Sciences and recently completed the Observational Studies Program, a two-year certificate program at the Washington School of Psychiatry. Outside of work and study, Caroline enjoys spending time with her husband and two-year old daughter in the Del Ray neighborhood in Alexandria, VA. She also enjoys cooking, practicing yoga, and being outdoors.



Uchenwa Okoli

**Uchenwa Okoli, M.D.**, is a board certified child, adolescent, adult psychiatrist licensed in Maryland and District of Columbia. She obtained her medical degree from Weill Cornell Medical College. She subsequently completed her adult psychiatry residency at NYPH/Weill Cornell Medical Center and child/adolescent fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital/McLean Hospital. She currently works as a staff psychiatrist at JLG-RICA in Rockville, MD and has a private practice in DC.



Karl Umbrasas

**Karl Umbrasas, Psy.D., ABPP**, is a board-certified clinical psychologist who is on active duty in the army. Karl completed a post-doctoral fellowship in forensic psychology and holds a Master of Science in clinical psychopharmacology. Some of Karl's interests include psychoanalytic psychotherapy and understanding group behavior from a psychoanalytic perspective.

## Meet the Year-Two PSP Students



Cathy Eisenhower

**Cathy Eisenhower, LPC,** is licensed in Texas, Maryland, and DC, where she just returned after a five-year stint in Austin. She has worked at Suburban Hospital in the PHP/IOP program and at the Lourie Center for Children's Social and Emotional Wellness, and she is currently in private practice, treating ages zero and up. In former careers, she taught creative writing, worked in communications for nonprofits, and was an academic librarian at The George Washington University, where she attended graduate school for clinical mental health counseling. She is also a poet, and so is her husband, as is her 21-year-old stepdaughter. Her cats so far have not taken up the poetic arts.



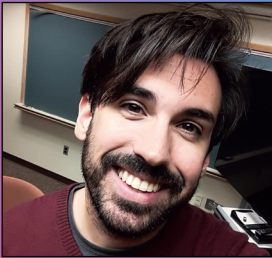
Crystal Han

**Crystal Han, M.D.,** is currently a second year child and adolescent psychiatry fellow at the University of Maryland/Sheppard Pratt. She completed her Bachelor of Arts at Cornell University and received her medical degree at the University at Buffalo School of Medicine. She completed her psychiatry residency at the University of Maryland/Sheppard Pratt adult psychiatry residency program. Her academic interests include cultural psychiatry, the Asian American transitional aged youth population and psychoanalytic psychotherapy. She is a recipient of the American Psychiatric Association SAMHSA Minority Fellowship.



Marina Nikhinson

**Marina Nikhinson, M.D.,** is a psychiatrist in private practice at MindWork Group in Baltimore, MD. She began her professional training at University of Maryland School of Medicine, and then completed her residency at University of Maryland/Sheppard Pratt Psychiatry Residency program. During more than a decade in her role as an attending psychiatrist at the Retreat at Sheppard Pratt, Dr. Nikhinson has developed a love for intensive psychotherapeutic work and appreciation for the complexity of human suffering as well as resilience. She has been involved in teaching psychiatry residents through supervision and formal instruction throughout her career. She has enjoyed the PSP1 year, and looks forward to continuing to grow and learn with her class this year.



Elliot Schwebach

**Elliott Schwebach, M.A.,** is a doctoral candidate in political theory, studying political psychology and the philosophy of human and nonhuman nature. His dissertation argues that there can exist models of property ownership beyond the traditional dichotomy posed by Lockean/Liberal and Marxist thought. He challenges both approaches and offers a third alternative by looking to Pierre-Joseph Proudhon and early Freudian drive theory, including especially its developments by Ives Hendrick and Frantz Fanon. He thanks the WBCP and his classmates for this wonderful and supportive space to learn!



Melanie Soilleux

**Melanie Soilleux, Psy.D.,** is a licensed clinical psychologist with a private practice in Washington, DC. She completed her undergraduate degree at Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana. Melanie received her doctoral degree from The George Washington University. She completed her pre-doctoral internship at Drexel University's Counseling Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Her post-doctoral fellowship was at The George Washington University Counseling and Psychological Services. Currently, Melanie provides individual psychotherapy working with adults in private practice. She has a specialty working with individuals on the autism spectrum. Melanie is excited to continue deepening her knowledge of psychoanalytic theory and practice.



Steve Sorkin

**Steve Sorkin, Ph.D.,** is enjoying his participation as a scholar in the PSP. He has been a clinical psychologist for about 35 years and provided clinical services in a range of professional settings, including Saint Elizabeths Hospital, the Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute, and independent practice. He has held a variety of academic and administrative roles including President of the American School of Professional Psychology/Washington, DC campus, founding Dean of The Chicago School of Professional Psychology/Washington, DC campus, an Associate and a Clinical Professor at a few universities, and Associate Executive Director of the American Psychological Association. He consults to graduate education institutions and has served on several boards. Prior to all of these experiences, for several years in the 1970s, he was involved with an association in London that established some of the first therapeutic communities as an alternative to psychiatric hospitalization.



Louis Straker

**Louis Straker, MSW, LCSW-C**, is in private practice in Columbia, Maryland, where he sees adults and adolescents. He received his Bachelor's in Psychology from The College of New Jersey and earned his Master of Social Work from the University of Pennsylvania. Prior to working in private practice, Louis worked in a wide variety of clinical settings, including community mental health centers, schools, and outpatient mental health clinics. He completed the adult psychoanalytic fellowship program at the Baltimore Washington Center for Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis in 2013-2014. He has been interested in psychodynamic theory and practice since then and looks forward to continuing his studies.



Benjamin Tellie

**Benjamin Tellie, M.A.**, is a national award-winning art educator. He is also an artist and scholar. Ben currently holds over 11 years of teaching experience as an Art and Design educator at Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School in Rockville, MD, and is a doctoral student at The George Washington University in the EdD, Curriculum and Instruction program. He is a scholar participant in the Psychoanalytic Studies Program at the Washington Baltimore Center of Psychoanalysis and engages in Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging work as a Curriculum Specialist and Theorist for Dr. Valaida Wise Consulting. Ben's work in the fields of art education and curriculum studies focuses on anti-racism, arts-based research, curriculum theory, psychoanalysis and education, emotion and aesthetics, and autobiographical inquiry.



Maggie Valladares

**Elia Margarita (Maggie) Valladares Juarez, M.D.**, is from Mexico, where she completed medical school prior to emigrating to the US for further medical training. She currently works in community psychiatry for the city of Alexandria Department of Health and Human Services. She has been the psychiatrist at an Assertive Community Treatment team (ACT) since 2018. Prior to that, she worked at Western State Hospital and the University of Virginia as an inpatient psychiatrist, supervising residents and medical students from 2015 to 2018. Maggie completed residency training in 2014 at The University of Virginia, then completed a year in eating disorders at Sheppard Pratt. Her interest has been to work with chronic mental illness and psychotic disorders. She joined the PSP to deepen her knowledge and integrate clinical skills and psychodynamically informed treatment into her community work.



Nina Van Sant

**Nina Van Sant, LICSW**, is a second-year student in the PSP. She is a licensed clinical social worker who is in private practice in both Dupont Circle and also in her home office in Spring Valley, Northwest DC. She is a faculty member of two programs at the Washington School of Psychiatry, including Fundamentals of Psychodynamic Psychotherapy and Infant Observation. She treats individuals, couples, and families from ages 0 +. She is trained in assessing attachment for infants, toddlers, and adults. She has a special interest in stepfamilies.