2022 Year-In-Review

Graduate Department of Psychological Clinical Science
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Chair's Message...

Dear students and faculty,

As another year passes, I reflect on my gratitude for the students, staff, and faculty that continue to enhance the excellence of our department through their ingenuity, collaboration, and perseverance. In the face of persistent challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, our department has collectively committed to offering a rigorous training experience to our students, including in our courses, research activities, and clinical placements. I am pleased to say that we realized these promises in the last year by virtue of a shared sense of responsibility to deliver an excellent training program, and ultimately, to improve the mental health of the individuals in our community.

The success of our program is intrinsically linked to the successes of our students. I am delighted to see our program’s alumni excelling across an impressive diversity of employment settings—provincial ministry, university health centre, hospital treatment program, private practice, and academic psychology department, among others. Students currently enrolled in our program hold prestigious scholarships, honours, and awards, which reflect their exceedingly high academic achievement, research excellence, and service to the campus and broader community (I encourage you to read more about these accomplishments here in our Year-In-Review). Our outstanding departmental staff continue to come through with exceptional support as we make curricular changes, process admissions applications, and deliver department events and activities. The faculty in our program continue to achieve important career accomplishments as researchers and academics, raising the international profile of our training program.

With the passing of another year, our department reaffirms its commitment to provide a training program that adapts to the changing priorities in our field and the varied interests of our students, all while delivering the mental health services that our communities deserve. I look forward to the many exciting opportunities and activities that the new year will bring to our department!

Warm regards,

Anthony C. Ruocco, Ph.D., C.Psych
Professor, Graduate Chair and Director of Clinical Training
Clinical Psychology Faculty

Anthony C. Ruocco, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Professor, Graduate Chair & Director of Clinical Training

Amanda Ulaszek, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Associate Professor & Program Coordinator

Jessica Dere, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Associate Professor, Teaching Stream & Associate Chair, EDI

Zindel Segal, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Distinguished Professor of Psychology in Mood Disorders

Andrew Cooper, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Teaching Stream

Michael Best, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Assistant Professor

Konstantine Zakzanis, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Professor

R. Michael Bagby, Ph.D., ABAP., C.Psych.
Professor

Vina Goghari, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Professor & Vice-Dean, Research & Program Innovation, SGS

Associate Members

Alison Bury, Ph.D., C.Psych
Andy Lee, Ph.D.
Benjamin Goldstein, M.D., Ph.D.
Brett Ford, Ph.D.
Catherine Sabiston, Ph.D.
Cendri Hutcherson, Ph.D.
Cory Gerristen, Ph.D., C.Psych
Donna Ferguson, Psy.D., C.Psych, ABPP
Rutsuko Ito, Ph.D.
Gary Remington, M.D., Ph.D.
George Foussias, M.D., Ph.D.
Jennifer Rabin, Ph.D., C.Psych

Judith P. Anderson, Ph.D.
Kim Edelstein, Ph.D., C.Psych
Lance L. Hawley, Ph.D., C.Psych
Lena C. Quilty, Ph.D., C.Psych
Lesley A. Ruttan, Ph.D., C.Psych
Longena Ng, Ph.D., C.Psych
Mark Schmuckler, Ph.D.
Matthew Sloan, MD, MSc, FRCPC
Melanie Cohn, Ph.D., C.Psych
Michael Inzlicht, Ph.D.
Nathan Kolla, M.D., Ph.D.
Neil A. Rector, Ph.D., C.Psych
Niki Fitzgerald, Ph.D., C.Psych

Norman Farb, Ph.D.
Ofer Agid, M.D.
Marc Fournier, Ph.D.
Prathiba Shammi, Ph.D., C.Psych
Robin Green, Ph.D., C.Psych
Samantha Fuss, Ph.D., C.Psych
Sandra Black, O.C., O.Ont., M.D., FRCP, FRSC
Sandra Yuen, Ph.D., C.Psych
Sean Kidd, Ph.D., C.Psych
Stephanie Penney, Ph.D., C.Psych
Suzanne Erb, Ph.D.
William Cunningham, Ph.D.
PROFESSOR ANDREW COOPER
In Fall 2021 through Winter 2022, Professor Cooper was part of the inaugural cohort of the "Exploring Best Practices in Teaching & Learning" professional development program offered by the Centre for Teaching and Learning. This summer, he was awarded the UTSC Assistant Professors & Lecturers Teaching Award and learned that he would be nominated for the 2023 tri-campus Early Career Teaching Award as well. And, after a successful continuing status review, Professor Cooper was promoted to Associate Professor, Teaching Stream in the Department of Psychology.

PROFESSOR JESSICA DERE
Professor Dere was awarded the coveted UTSC Associate and Full Professors Teaching Award, granted to those who demonstrate commitment to inclusive excellence in teaching and learning and supportive learning environments. Along with her colleagues in the Department of Biological Sciences, Professor Dere is co-leading a seminar series titled “What’s in a diversity statement”, supported by the Mentorship Initiatives Fund (MIF) at UTSC ($6500). This seminar series and larger mentorship project explore the utility and evaluation of diversity statements in faculty hiring.

PROFESSOR ANTHONY C. RUOCO
This year saw Professor Ruocco become the Graduate Chair and Director of Clinical Training for our department. He was elected Vice-President of the North American Society for the Study of Personality Disorders and was a keynote speaker at the Project Air conference in Australia. His CIHR-funded research on borderline personality disorder was featured in a University of Toronto press release earlier this year.
PROFESSOR ZINDEL SEGAL

Professor Segal has continued to publish his research on mindfulness interventions such as his recent paper in the *Canadian Journal of Behavioural Science*, "Mindfulness Meditation in the Long-Term Management of Mood Disorders: Contributions by Canadian Researchers." Several other manuscripts of Professor Segal's have been published this year as well. He has also appeared on Rick Hanson’s "Being Well" Podcast to discuss mindfulness and depression.

PROFESSOR MICHAEL BEST

The CIHR grant Professor Best received for his study on the efficacy of combined cognitive remediation and cognitive behavioural therapy for schizophrenia was funded this past year, and represents a Canada-wide multi-site clinical trial that will be one of the largest psychological intervention trials to ever be conducted for schizophrenia. It will be led by his team at UTSC. Professor Best also provided a year long training initiative this past year and trained over 100 clinicians in cognitive behavioural therapy for psychosis at hospitals across Ontario.

PROFESSOR VINA GOGHARI

The invited companion paper to Professor Goghari's 2021 CPA Award for Distinguished Contributions to Education and Training in Psychology, *Reimagining Clinical Psychology (Canadian Psychology, 2022)* was selected for an American Psychological Association’s Article Spotlight: Reimagining clinical psychology as an inclusive science and a diverse and just community. Only a limited number of articles are chosen every year; in 2022 thus far it is 31 papers from about 5000 papers. *Canadian Psychology*, the journal Professor Goghari is the Editor of, had two articles in the top 10 downloads out of 5000 published articles in American Psychological Association’s 89 journals.
PROFESSOR KONSTANTINE ZAKZANIS

Professor Zakzanis was awarded a 5-year MITACS research award to examine Neuropsychological Predictors of Relapse in Substance Use Disorders. He also holds a 5-year SSHRC Operating Grant as a sole P.I in the amount of $98,269 to examine the nature of the replication crisis in social science using neuropsychological test measures of effort. This year Professor Zakzanis was re-elected as the President of the Canadian Society for Medical Evaluators, a non-profit organization and is the first Psychologist (non-physician) to hold this title.

PROFESSOR R. MICHAEL BAGBY

In the past year Professor Bagby has continued with his new program of research on the influence of race and culture on the structure and interpretation of measures of personality and psychopathology with a particular focus on the effects of Black racialization in Canada and the U.S. He had a recent publication in Psychological Assessment on these effects on a commonly used measure of personality pathology. Professor Bagby is also collaborating with researchers in the Netherlands and Massachusetts on meta-analytic studies on the moderating and mediating effects of personality on different evidence-based treatments for major depression.

PROFESSOR AMANDA ULIASZEK

Professor Uliaszek is a co-applicant on a $906,394 CIHR Transitions in Care Team Grant to examine the process of providing acute mental health care navigation to university students. She is also newly appointed to the role of Associate Director of Research for Inlight – the University of Toronto’s Institutional Strategic Initiative on Student Mental Health. Professor Uliaszek continues her role of Program Coordinator for the Department of Psychological Clinical Science.
Clinical Psychology Students

MASTERS

Tyler Brown, MA1
Supervisor: Konstantine Zakzanis
Research: neuropsychology, substance use disorder, abstinence, functional impairment.

Etinosa Oliogu, MA1
Supervisor: Anthony Ruocco
Research: cognitive functioning and self-harm lethality.

Aqsa Zahid, MA1
Supervisor: Michael Best
Research: schizophrenia, psychosis, stigma, cognitive biases

Sarah Mullin, MA1
Supervisors: Jennifer Rabin & Konstantine Zakzanis
Research: neuromodulation, neuropsychological assessment, deep brain stimulation, alcohol use disorder, substance use disorder

Maya Ahia, MA1
Supervisor: Amanda Uliaszek
Research: student mental health research, intersectionality, and disability studies

Danielle Downie, MA1
Supervisors: Lena Quilty & Anthony Ruocco
Research: psychopathology, substance use disorder

Orly Lipsitz, MA2
Supervisor: Anthony Ruocco
Research: psychopathology, neurocognition, functional disability

Melanie Mascarenhas, MA2
Supervisors: Konstantine Zakzanis & Zindel Segal
Research: neuropsychology, traumatic brain injury, mindfulness-based therapies, functional impairment, malingering

Maya Amestoy, MA2
Supervisor: Amanda Uliaszek
Research: borderline personality disorder, stigma, emotion dysregulation

Jessica D’Arcey, MA2
Supervisor: Michael Best
Research: recovery in psychosis, Understanding Mechanisms of Psychosis, Digital Mental Health
Clinical Psychology Students

DOCTORAL

Cody Cane, PhD1
Supervisors: Anthony Ruocco & Andy Lee
Research: neuroimaging, transdiagnostic psychopathology, cognitive control

Shreya Jagtap, PhD1
Supervisor: Michael Best
Research: psychosis, delusions, crime, violence

Talia Leibovitz, PhD1
Supervisor: Michael Best
Research: psychosis, schizophrenia, cognitive behavioural therapy, mechanisms

Danika Quesnel, PhD1
Supervisors: Catherine Sabiston & Amanda Uliaszek
Research: eating disorders, physical activity and mental health, health promotion, novel treatment interventions, knowledge translation

Sabrina Adamo, PhD1
Supervisors: Melanie Cohn & Anthony Ruocco
Research: Parkinson’s disease, visual hallucinations, mild cognitive impairment

Willem Le Duc, PhD2
Supervisors: Andy Lee & Anthony Ruocco
Research: approach-avoidance conflict, hippocampus, lesions, memory, decision-making

Zoey Zuo, PhD2
Supervisors: Zindel Segal & Norman Farb
Research: cognitive distortion, rumination, wellbeing, natural language processing, mobile mental health support

Sylvia Romanowska, PhD2
Supervisor: Michael Best
Research: psychosis, neurocognition, intervention

Daniel Krzyzanowski, PhD3
Supervisors: Gary Remington & Vina Goghi
Research: schizophrenia, values, subjective well-being, happiness, lifespan development

Alina Patel, PhD3
Supervisors: Lena Quilty & Zindel Segal
Research: repetitive negative thinking, mindfulness, depression, anxiety

Sarah Saperia, PhD3
Supervisors: Konstantine Zakzanis & George Foussias
Research: schizophrenia-spectrum disorders; negative symptoms; motivation deficits; treatment targets

Robert Aidelbaum, PhD3
Supervisor: Michael Best
Research: social motivation, social cognition, social functioning, schizophrenia
Clinical Psychology Students

DOCTORAL

Ivy Cho, PhD4
Supervisor: Vina Goghari
Research: cognitive control, healthy aging, mood disorders

Sonja Chu, PhD4
Supervisors: Andy Lee & Vina Goghari
Research: fMRI, approach-avoidance conflict, anxiety

Tahira Gulamani, PhD4
Supervisor: Amanda Uliaszek
Research: emotion regulation, impulsivity, dialectical behaviour therapy, treatment mechanisms

Jacob Koudys, PhD4
Supervisors: Anthony Ruocco & Cendri Hutcherson
Research: suicide, transdiagnostic psychopathology, decision making, impulsivity

Nicole Cosentino, PhD4
Supervisors: Marc Fournier & Amanda Uliaszek
Research: interpersonal perception, authenticity, self-coherence, self-knowledge

Kevin Hamdullahpur, PhD5
Supervisor: Amanda Uliaszek
Research: borderline personality disorder, emotion dysregulation, cannabis use

Angela Sekely, PhD5
Supervisor: Konstantine Zakzanis
Research: neuropsychology, psychometrics, traumatic brain injury, brain tumour

Laura Heath, PhD5
Supervisors: Robin Green & Amanda Uliaszek
Research: traumatic brain injury, neuropsychology, rehabilitation

Thulasi Thiruchselvam, PhD5
Supervisors: Lena Quilty & Michael Bagby
Research: depression, concurrent cannabis use, reward, stress

Kathleen Walsh, PhD6
Supervisors: Zindel Segal & Norman Farb
Research: decentering, perspective taking, well-being, virtual mental health interventions
Class of 2022

MASTER OF ARTS

Sabrina Adamo
Supervisors: Melanie Cohn & Anthony Ruocco
Thesis: Is Basal Forebrain Volume Loss Associated with Mild Cognitive Impairment, Visual Hallucinations, or Concomitant Symptomology in Advanced Parkinson’s Disease?

Cody Cane
Supervisors: Anthony Ruocco & Andy Lee
Thesis: An Exploratory Study of Functional Brain Activation Underlying Cognitive Control in Major Depressive Disorder and Borderline Personality Disorder

Shreya Jagtap
Supervisor: Michael Best
Thesis: Examining the Influence of the Self-Referential Bias on Aberrant Salience and Jumping to Conclusions Bias in Individuals with Schizophrenia-Spectrum Disorders

Talia Leibovitz
Supervisor: Michael Best

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Dean Carcone
Supervisors: Anthony Ruocco & Andy Lee
Dissertation: The Transdiagnostic Relationship of Cumulative Lifetime Stress with Memory, the Hippocampus, and Personality Psychopathology

Shauna Solomon-Krakus
Supervisors: Catherine Sabiston & Amanda Uliaszek

Tara Gralnick
Supervisor: Amanda Uliaszek
Dissertation: Development and Evaluation of Therapeutic Assessment for Universal Personality Traits: Extending Therapeutic Assessment Techniques to Address Five-Factor Model Personality

Angela Sekely
Supervisor: Konstantine Zakzanis
Dissertation: Neurocognitive, Psychological, and Functional Outcomes in Patients with Meningioma

Matthew McPhee
Supervisors: Christian Hendershot & Michael Bagby
Dissertation: The Acute Effects of Alcohol on Response Inhibition: An Evaluation of Meta-Analytic and Laboratory-Based Outcomes

Amanda Ferguson
Supervisors: Michael Inzlicht & Zindel Segal
Dissertation: The Empathy Selection Task: Evaluating Empathy as a Subjective Value-Based Choice

Matthew Quitasol
Supervisors: Marc Fournier & Amanda Uliaszek
Dissertation: Blind Spots in Personality Traits and Interpersonal Problems: The Roles of Narcissism And Self-Esteem

Philip Desormeau
Supervisors: Norman Farb & Zindel Segal


Student Highlights

GRANTS, AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

AQSA ZAHID
1. Outstanding Trainee Poster Award ($200) Awarded by the International College of Psychosomatic Medicine
2. Bassili Graduate Award ($3,500) Graduate Department of Psychological Clinical Science, UTSC

DANIKA QUESNSEL
1. Bassili Graduate Award ($3,500) Graduate Department of Psychological Clinical Science, UTSC
2. Canada Graduate Scholarship (Doctoral) – SSHRC ($80,000)

JESSICA D’ARCY
1. Awarded the Koerner Scholarship
2. Canada Graduate Scholarship (Masters) – CIHR ($17,500)

MAYA AMESTOY
1. School of Graduate Studies Conference Grant ($640)
2. CPA Clinical Section Best Student Conference Presentation Award ($200)
3. CPA Clinical Section Student Travel Award ($300)

MELANIE MASCARENHAS
1. Canada Graduate Scholarship (Masters) – CIHR ($17,500)

ORLY LIPSITZ
1. UTSC Psychology Travel and Training Grant ($500)
2. UTSC Graduate Student Research Award - MA ($2,000)
3. Ontario Graduate Scholarship ($15,000)
GRANTS, AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

ROBERT AIDELBAUM
1. SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship ($60,000)

SHREYA JAGTAP
1. Ontario Graduate Scholarship ($15,000)

TAHIRA GULAMANI
1. Research Assistantship – University of Toronto Pedagogies of Inclusive Excellence Fund ($1000)

WILLEM LE DUC
1. UTSC Psychology Travel and Training Grant ($500)

TYLER BROWN
1. Mitacs Accelerate Fellowship ($90,000)

ETINOSA OLIOGU
1. Founders Award ($10,000)
This year, multiple faculty received new research grants. The department would like to recognize these faculty, as well as those faculty who currently hold grants awarded in previous years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recipient</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Best, Michael</td>
<td>CIHR (2022-2027) (Nominated Principal Applicant)</td>
<td>$956,250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Best, Michael</td>
<td>CIHR (2022-2026) (Co-Principal Applicant)</td>
<td>$852,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best, Michael</td>
<td>Bell Let's Talk - Brain Canada Mental Health Research Program (Co-Principal Applicant)</td>
<td>$950,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best, Michael</td>
<td>UTSC Faculty Supervisor Research Support Grant</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uliaszek, Amanda</td>
<td>Canadian Institutes of Health Research Transitions in Care Team Grant (Co-Applicant)</td>
<td>$906,394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zakzanis, Konstantine</td>
<td>MITACS Accelerate Ontario Research Fund (Sole Principal Investigator)</td>
<td>$90,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$3,794,644</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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2022 Publications

Research Papers (43)


2022 Publications (cont.)


2022 Publications (cont.)

Alphabetically sorted. Student names in bold, faculty names in bold and underlined, associate members in bold and italicized

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**Book Chapters**


