

SPP Roster 2025-26

Students

Jamie Almodovar



Jamie is a Connecticut native. She earned a BA in English from Sacred Heart University and an MSW from Columbia University. She began her career in social work at the Department of Children and Families. After living for a few years in Montreal, she returned to Connecticut where she provided therapy to adolescents and their families in home and then in residential settings before landing her current position writing forensic evaluations for juvenile court. In 2019, she also began providing individual therapy to adults. She is looking forward to deepening her understanding of how to empower people to live their desired lives with freedom and meaning, grace and dignity. In her free time, she enjoys walking on trails with her dog, riding horses, and basking in the arts.

Dan Camacho



Dan Camacho (he, him) is a third-year Yale Psychiatry resident in the Neuroscience Research Training Program. He went to college and began graduate study at the University of Michigan, and then continued to the MD/PhD program at the University of Chicago with a specialization in immunology. He is originally from Connecticut and returned to Connecticut for psychiatry residency in 2022. His current research aims to understand how interactions between immune cells and the nervous system affect the brain and behavior in animal models. He is also a study physician at Yale's Alzheimer's Disease Research Unit. Outside of work, his hobbies include gardening, reading, and tabletop gaming. He plays the cello and is searching for a violist to play in a string quartet.

Chris Carlino



Chris is a licensed professional counselor working in private practice based in Wolcott CT. He primarily works with adults and couples on concerns related to mood management, healing from trauma, thriving in their relationships, and finding fulfillment in life. He is also an adjunct instructor in the counseling program at Fairfield University, and previously at the University of Bridgeport. A subjective exploration of an individual's complex inner world has become a cornerstone of his work. He is excited for the opportunity to immerse himself in these powerful theories and clinical skills through the WNEPI program, and to join a society of professionals who share a lifelong fascination with exploring the human condition.

Michael Izdebski



Michael was born in Florida but (thankfully) raised in Connecticut, and is a recent graduate of Fairfield University's Clinical Mental Health Counseling program. During his time there, he presented a study on the effects of Climate Change on Mental Health at their Research Symposium and worked with faculty in researching and writing a contributing chapter to a book on Ethical Decision Making in Trauma-Informed Care. Currently, he works in outpatient care at MCCA—providing individual and group therapy for vulnerable individuals struggling with substance use, homelessness, and mental health issues—and has recently opened his private practice in Norwalk, Connecticut. Originally studying Philosophy at Central Connecticut State University, he found a particular interest in the Eudaimonic and Existential philosophers as well as Philosophy of Mind, creating a natural pathway toward continuing his life path in psychotherapy. Dovetailing these interests in his work, he strives toward aiding clients in creating a deeper sense of understanding and acceptance of the self, a deeper appreciation for existence, and a pursuit of a life well-lived. In his free-time, you might see him reading, writing, or obsessing over whatever cat is nearby.

Laila Knio



Laila is a PGY-3 psychiatry resident at Yale University. She was born in Beirut, Lebanon and moved to the US in 2006. She describes herself as being made of and from diverse identities, among them Sunni Muslim, Christian, Middle Eastern, and American. She went to medical school at UNC-CH, and took a gap year to complete the Columbia Narrative Medicine Master's program. She is passionate about the systemic integration of Narrative Medicine in post-graduate medical education, and her research focuses on qualitative and quantitative evaluation of Narrative Medicine interventions in health-care settings. Her scholarship focuses on Narrative Medicine theory and medical ethics - including psychiatric futility and medical aid-in-dying. She is published in *Intima*, *Synopsis*, *Voices in Bioethics*, *KevinMD*, and other academic journals. At Yale, Laila is involved in undergraduate medical education. She has chaired APA sessions on the notion of medical futility in severe substance use disorders, and the use of Narrative Medicine workshop curricula in residential eating disorders settings. She most recently presented work at the Association for Advancement of Philosophy and Psychiatry titled "Fleishman is in Trouble: On Sadness, Unrealistic Moods, and Existential Choice in Psychiatry." Clinically, she is interested in work that crosses the space between psychiatry and medicine, including CL-psychiatry, eating disorders, and palliative care. She is drawn to psychodynamic psychotherapy by the drive to be a master receiver of stories - to hear what is quiet, or unsaid. She is eager to join SPP to dissect notions of suffering and better understand what to do about it.

Younji (YJ) Lee



They (they/them pronouns) are a third year psychiatry resident at Yale and currently doing their outpatient year at Yale Student Mental Health and Counseling. They majored in Hispanic Studies at Dartmouth College and remained there following undergraduate to attend the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth. Through the experience in the Long Term Care Clinic program at Yale, they found their passion for psychodynamic psychotherapy. In addition, they are interested in gender affirming mental health care. They plan to pursue child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship following residency.

Jeremy Levenson



Jeremy is a PGY-3 resident in psychiatry at the Yale School of Medicine. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 2012. He has a degree in medicine from the Icahn School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai in New York City. He is also working on a PhD in anthropology from UCLA.

Victoria Lewis



Victoria (they/she) is a fourth-year resident in the Albert J. Solnit Integrated Child, Adolescent and Adult Psychiatry Program at Yale. Prior to starting residency, they completed training in social welfare and public policy where they worked as a substance use treatment counselor and developed policy recommendations for increasing access to medications for opioid use disorder in the Los Angeles County jails. They are passionate about working with LGBTQIA+ populations and addressing health disparities perpetuated by the pathologization of this community. In particular, Victoria is interested in the use of psychodynamic psychotherapy for the treatment of substance use disorders and how to integrate harm reduction principles into this work, with a particular focus on LGBTQIA+ youth who use substances.

Stephen Osika



Shae Rowlandson

Shanicka Reynolds



Shanicka was born in NYC but raised in Bloomfield, CT - a suburb right outside of Hartford. She spent her entire educational career thus far in CT (UCONN for undergrad, Quinnipiac for medical school, and now Yale for residency). She loves to explore, whether it's music, food, places, or hobbies. What drew her to psychiatry was her curiosity about people – how we think, feel, build connections, make decisions, and the why behind it all. She is drawn to psychodynamic psychotherapy specifically because of its exploration of the unconscious mind and its emphasis on relationships. The spirit of exploration is celebrated, and we are allowed to look deeper at what is present and ponder about what we cannot see, and this aligns with my spirit of adventure!

Meghan Vandewettering



Meghan Vandewettering, MD is a third-year Psychiatry resident at Yale. After obtaining her bachelor's degree in Biochemistry and Biophysics from Oregon State University, she spent two years teaching English in Madrid, Spain. She earned her medical degree at Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) where she served as President of the Student Council, spearheading initiatives to improve resources for victims of gender-based violence and discrimination.

Dr. Vandewettering has a professional interest in psychodynamic and psychoanalytic psychotherapy, enriched through her engagement with the Western New England Institute for Psychoanalysis. She is committed to a psychodynamic approach that fosters depth and presence in patient care, seeing it as integral to therapeutic work in psychiatry. In addition to her medical career, Dr. Vandewettering is a skilled glass mosaic artist, avid reader, and home chef."

Sarah Yang



Sarah Yang (she/her) is a third-year psychiatry resident at Yale working primarily at the VA outpatient clinic this year. She majored in chemistry at Emory University and spent a couple of years in cardiac research before attending medical school in Portland, Oregon. She earned a master's in clinical research while in medical school and studied the social support of veterans with depression. Her current interests as a psychiatry resident include child and adolescent psychiatry, forensics, and psychotherapy.

Faculty

Bonnie Becker



Bonnie is a clinical psychologist in a psychoanalytically-oriented psychotherapy private practice in New Haven. She graduated from the SPP in 2015 and as an Academic Associate in the adult program from Western New England in 2021. Bonnie teaches and supervises in the SPP and in the Department of Psychiatry at Yale with residents and psychology fellows. Bonnie serves on the SPP Program committee and Continuing Education committee at WNEP.

Chris Leveille



Chris is a clinical psychologist and graduated from adult training in 2017. Aside from his involvement in SPP and duties on the Institute board (currently president), he works in private practice with adults/older adolescents in Woodbury. He also works as a consultant for Social Security disability determination.

Janet Madigan

Wendy Peterson



Wendy has been an advanced practice nurse (APRN) in psychiatry since 1997 but completed her Master's degree in Psychiatric Nursing in 1979. She has worked as an administrator, teacher and clinician. She worked at the VA in New Haven for 10 years as an APRN in the outpatient psychiatry dept and was on the faculty of the Yale School of Medicine, Dept of Psychiatry, supervising 4th year psychiatry residents and psychology interns. She spent 20 years in the psychiatric outpatient clinic at Middlesex Hospital and has had her own private practice since 2008. She is a 2020 graduate of the WPNES Psychodynamic Psychotherapy course and is happy to participate in the Society's education committee. She lives in Katonah, New York and continues to have a private practice using teletherapy.

Jenifer Nields



Prakash Thomas



Prakash is a psychoanalyst and adult & child psychiatrist with a private practice at 303 Whitney Avenue in New Haven. He is faculty at the Western New England Institute and assistant clinical professor at Yale Medical School through the Child Study Center. He lives with his family in Guilford, is an erstwhile fly fisherman, and enjoys hiking with his dog.

Brian Tobin

Brian is a training and supervising analyst at the Western New England Institute for Psychoanalysis. He is a psychiatrist and an assistant clinical professor in the Department of Psychiatry. His clinical interests include intensive psychodynamic psychotherapy, mid-life transitions, and adult's professional and personal inhibitions.

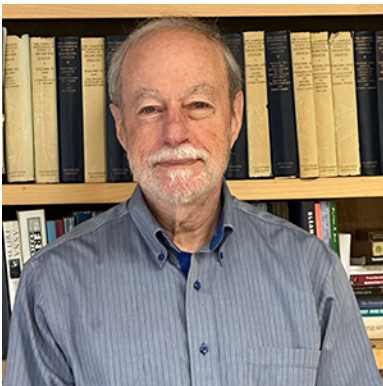


Jennifer Myer

Jennifer is a psychiatrist and psychoanalyst with a private practice in New Haven and an attending in the Psychiatric Emergency room at the West Haven VA. She is on faculty at the Institute, chair of the Admissions Committee and active in the Psychoanalytic society. With Brian she leads the Studies in Psychotherapy program. Her interests include the impact of suicide on the clinician, transition from training to private practice and women's self-concept in later life.

We are delighted and honored to accept the role of co-chair of the Studies in Psychodynamic Psychotherapy. As many of you know, Studies in Psychotherapy is a two-year program geared towards early to mid-career therapists who are interested in psychodynamic theory and technique. Our goal and hope for the future is to welcome a broad array of mental health care workers into our analytic community.

Robert White



Bob is a psychiatrist in private practice with a mix of psychoanalytic, psychotherapy, and medication patients, now working part-time. He has been active in the Society, serving as its president for 2 years and chair of Studies in Psychodynamic Psychotherapy for the past 10 years. He is on the faculty at the Institute and teaches courses for the candidates. He supervised psychiatric residents in the long-term psychotherapy program at Yale for many years until retiring last year. Internationally, he has participated in working parties committees for the IPA. He has written numerous articles on Bion, Green, fairy tales, and group process. He plans a book on fairy tales to be published in 2025.

Erica Weiss



Erica is an adult psychiatrist and psychoanalyst with a private practice in New Haven. She did her psychiatric residency training at Yale and psychoanalytic training at WNEIP. Currently, Erica is serving as Co-chair of the CSPP/WNEP joint conference committee and secretary of the Society.