Nebraska Internship Consortium in Professional Psychology

Behavioral Pediatric Program
Munroe-Meyer Institute for Genetics and Rehabilitation
A University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research and Service
University of Nebraska Medical Center

Faculty

The Training Director for Psychology at the Munroe-Meyer Institute is Keith Allen, Ph.D. Additional faculty include: Dr. Evans, Ph.D. (Chair); Brett Kuhn, Ph.D.; Bob Larzerede, Ph.D.; Judy Mathews, Ph.D.; Jodi Polaha, Ph.D.; Mark Shrifer, Ph.D.; Rachel Valleley, Ph.D.; Bill Warzak, Ph.D.; Susan Witzczak, Ph.D. Their training and interests are described below:

Keith D. Allen, Ph.D.
Department of Psychology
University of Kansas, 1974
 specializes in area of special education, in particular, behavioral problems associated with autism spectrum disorders.

Joseph H. Evans, Ph.D.
Department of Psychology
University of Kansas, 1978
 specializes in assessment, intervention, and training of parents and teachers of children with autism spectrum disorders.

Brett R. Kuhn, Ph.D.
Department of Psychology
University of Kansas, 1987
 specializes in area of social skills training, particularly for children with autism spectrum disorders.

Bob Larzerede, Ph.D.
Department of Psychology
University of Kansas, 1987
 specializes in area of social skills training, particularly for children with autism spectrum disorders.

Jodi Polaha, Ph.D.
Department of Psychology
University of Kansas, 1996
 specializes in area of social skills training, particularly for children with autism spectrum disorders.

Judith M. Mathews, Ph.D.
Department of Psychology
University of Kansas, 1998
 specializes in area of social skills training, particularly for children with autism spectrum disorders.

William J. Warzak, Ph.D.
Department of Psychology
University of Kansas, 1998
 specializes in area of social skills training, particularly for children with autism spectrum disorders.

Rachel Valleley, Ph.D.
Department of Psychology
University of Kansas, 2011
 specializes in area of social skills training, particularly for children with autism spectrum disorders.

Mark D. Shrifer, Ph.D.
Department of Psychology
University of Nebraska, 1994
 specializes in area of social skills training, particularly for children with autism spectrum disorders.

Susan Witzczak, Ph.D.
Department of Psychology
University of Nebraska, 1997
 specializes in area of social skills training, particularly for children with autism spectrum disorders.

Overview

The Behavioral Pediatrics Program in the Munroe-Meyer Institute Department of Psychology consists of ten licensed psychologists who provide clinical services, research and training devoted to the assessment, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of children’s, adolescents and families with a wide range of behavioral health challenges as well as emotional, physical and cognitive difficulties.

Professional Development Training

Opportunities for professional development are provided through weekly research and professional development presentations, monthly interdisciplinary leadership seminars, regular case conferences and attendance at Pediatric Grand Rounds. A sample of recent topics from weekly professional development presentations include:

- Behavioral Management of Sleep Disorders
- Cultural Sensitivity in Multidisciplinary Services for Individuals with Disabilities
- Setting up a Behavioral Health Services
- Private Practice in Pediatric Psychology
- Behavioral Management of Medical Adherence
- Family-Centered Care
- Doing Clinical Research in a Medical Setting
- Management of Post-Traumatic Reactions to Terrorist Acts
- Family Adaptation to Diabetes
- Vita Preparation and Job Interviewing

Clinical Training

The Department of Psychology currently provides clinical services and consultation to a variety of established specialty clinics. Interns are typically involved in staffing many of these clinics at some time during their training experience. Services include:

- ADHD Diagnostic Clinic
- Ambulatory Pediatric Clinic
- Assessment Clinic
- Autism Diagnostic Clinic
- Cerebral Palsy Clinic
- Enuresis Treatment Clinic
- Feeding and Swallowing Team
- Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Clinic
- Medically Handicapped Children’s Program
- Myelodysplasia Clinic
- Neonatal Follow-up Clinic
- Neurobehavioral Clinic
- Neuropsychological Assessment
- Outreach Genetics Clinic
- Pediatric Pain Management
- Pediatric Sleep Disorders Clinic

Past interns have found positions in:

- Private Practice
- Medical/Hospital Settings
- Public Schools
- Academic Departments

Research Training

As a part of their training experience, all interns and post docs are expected to participate in ongoing interdisciplinary and clinical research. Past interns and post docs have published clinical research with their supervisors in a variety of academic, medical, and psychology journals, a sample of which is listed below: