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***POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM IN  
ADULT AND PEDIATRIC CLINICAL NEUROPSYCHOLOGY***

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**Member Program of the Association of Postdoctoral Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology (APPCN)**

**The Neuropsychology Postdoctoral Fellowship Program is accredited in Clinical Neuropsychology by the Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation/Commission on Accreditation (CoA) of the American Psychological Association**

***Questions related to the program's accredited status should be directed to the Commission on Accreditation:***

***Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation***

***American Psychological Association***

***750 1st Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002***

***Phone: (202) 336-5979 / E-mail: [apaaccred@apa.org](mailto:apaaccred@apa.org)***

***Web: [www.apa.org/ed/accreditation](http://www.apa.org/ed/accreditation)***

**Division of Neuropsychology website: <https://www.mcw.edu/departments/neurology/divisions/neuropsychology>**

<sup>1</sup> The Medical College of Wisconsin is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

## *Our Institution*

The Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) Mission: We are a distinguished leader and innovator in the education and development of the next generation of physicians, scientists, pharmacists and health professionals; we discover and translate new knowledge in the biomedical and health sciences; we provide cutting-edge, collaborative patient care of the highest quality; and we improve the health of the communities we serve.



In 2019, MCW celebrated its 125th anniversary of the institution's founding. MCW is a major national research center and is the largest research institution in the Milwaukee metro area and 2nd largest in Wisconsin.

MCW providers practice at three major affiliates – The Froedtert & Medical College of Wisconsin regional health network, Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, and the Zablocki VA Medical Center. There are approximately 1,650 MCW physicians as well as more than 800 nurse practitioners, physician assistants and other healthcare practitioners that provide care to our patients. In addition, there are 1,400 students pursuing MD, PhD, MS and MPH degrees. For more information visit [FACTS Spring 2019 at https://infoscope.mcw.edu/FileLibrary/2017/InfoScope-2017/Brand-Central/MCWfacts2019.pdf](https://infoscope.mcw.edu/FileLibrary/2017/InfoScope-2017/Brand-Central/MCWfacts2019.pdf).

**Froedtert Hospital**, the primary adult hospital, is a Level 1 Trauma Center and nationally recognized academic medical center. Froedtert is a 500-bed facility that delivers advanced medical care and state of the art treatment and technology. Froedtert & MCW are at the forefront of new technology and care in many areas, including cancer, heart and vascular diseases, brain injury and disorders, spinal cord injury, transplant, limb reattachment, gastrointestinal diseases, diabetes, epilepsy, and women's health. In 2016, Froedtert Hospital and MCW ranked as one of the top four academic medical center in the nation as well as 1 of 5 nationally to be recognized for excellence in outpatient care. **Children's Hospital of Wisconsin (CHW)** is the principal pediatric hospital affiliate of MCW. CHW is a Level 4 Epilepsy Center and was the 3<sup>rd</sup> pediatric hospital to receive the designation Diagnostic Imaging Center of Excellence. CHW also ranks among the best in the nation by US News and World Report in specialties that include Neurology and Neurosurgery, Cancer and Cardiology. CHW has also been listed among the 20 most innovative Children's Hospitals by Parent Magazine in 2018. CHW has one of the few Level 1 trauma centers in the country that is devoted to pediatric patients. MCW physicians are on staff at the **Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center**, a major hospital affiliate of MCW since 1946.

MCW invests significantly in expanding its community mission to build strategic community-academic partnerships that have the greatest impact on Wisconsin's most critical health needs. MCW faculty and staff, along with approximately 600 community organizations, partner in more than 2100 community outreach activities. MCW had 42 new discoveries and inventions reported in FY 2018.

## Our Program

The Division of Neuropsychology was founded in 1979 and is located at the Medical College of Wisconsin in the Hub for Collaborative Medicine (HCM) building that was recently completed and occupied in December 2017. Neuropsychology, one of four Divisions in the Department of Neurology, is directed by Sara J. Swanson, PhD, ABPP and consists of eight adult and seven pediatric neuropsychologists; the clinical background and research interests of the faculty are presented below. The Training Director is Amy Heffelfinger, PhD, ABPP and the Assistant Training Director is Julie Janecek, PhD, ABPP. The Education Coordinator is Jenny Her. The Division also includes psychometrists who provide training and supervision in test administration, scoring, and testing logistics, graduate-level practicum students who participate in evaluation and testing, and other dedicated support staff who are responsible for scheduling, checking insurance, and billing procedures.



The Division of Neuropsychology offers two-year postdoctoral fellowships in pediatric and adult neuropsychology. The postdoctoral fellowship program begins and ends around the first of July (September 1<sup>st</sup> if internship concludes end of August). The goals and objectives are listed below in Table 1. Education and evaluations are competency-based. The purpose of the training program is to provide doctoral-level psychologists with sufficient clinical and research competencies to practice independently in the specialty of clinical neuropsychology. Our postdoctoral training program is a member of the Association of Postdoctoral Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology (APPCN; *The Clinical Neuropsychologist*, 1993, 7, 197-204) and adheres to the Houston Conference (HC) standards (*Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology*, 1998, 13, 160-166) for specialty training in clinical neuropsychology. The program is accredited by the American Psychological Association. The HC education plan “is predicated on the view that the training of the specialist in clinical neuropsychology must be scientist-practitioner based, and may lead to a combined, primarily clinical practice, or primarily academic career (p. 1).” As applied to clinical neuropsychology, the scientist-practitioner model envisions an integration of science and practice at all levels of training, including both programmatic and competency-based components. The model recommends a sequence of education and training that begins at doctoral and internship levels, and concludes in postdoctoral fellowship, that is designed to enable independent practice in the specialty of clinical neuropsychology. Our postdoctoral fellowship provides a full-time training experience that is designed to complete the sequence of education and training necessary for independent practice in the specialty of clinical neuropsychology. The program builds on the knowledge and skills acquired in graduate and internship levels by providing advanced instruction and supervised clinical, research, and teaching experiences designed to achieve the HC exit criteria, i.e., advanced understanding of brain-behavior relationships and advanced competencies in the neuropsychological evaluation, treatment and consultation to patients and professionals in the specialty of clinical neuropsychology. It is a goal for graduates of our program to be eligible for licensure and certification in clinical neuropsychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology.

The primary method of training is experiential, by providing clinical service, consultation, teaching, and accomplishing scholarly projects. Our training also integrates the fundamentals of basic and cognitive neuroscience, neural development, neuropathology, and neuropsychology through didactics to facilitate advanced knowledge about neurobehavioral systems and behavioral manifestations of pathological states. The program stresses a flexible battery approach to neuropsychological assessment that is tailored to addressing referral questions and clinical issues uncovered during the interview, generating meaningful recommendations, and working closely



with referring professionals in development of a treatment plan. Typically, multiple cognitive domains are assessed in varying levels of depth, depending on the nature of the clinical issues, the severity of deficit, and the adequacy of patient compliance and tolerance. In some populations, a short battery or a fixed battery approach is used to efficiently answer referral questions or as part of a multidisciplinary clinical research protocol. Brief but thorough and informative clinical reports that speak to the referral question are written. Consultation to inpatient services and outpatient medical clinics is emphasized. Intervention is primarily focused on educational/therapeutic feedback provided to patients and caregivers about neuropsychological findings and diagnostic conclusions, and translation of assessment conclusions into meaningful recommendations and referrals. Clinical training is divided into adult and pediatric tracks, and fellows are recruited to one or the other track. This division facilitates mastery of the set of advanced knowledge and skills considered necessary for independent practice in clinical neuropsychology with adult or pediatric populations.

### ***Fellowship in Adult Neuropsychology:***



#### **Clinical Locations:**

- Froedtert Hospital, 9200 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee WI 53226
- Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center, 5000 W. National Avenue, Milwaukee WI 53295

The adult neuropsychology fellowship emphasizes assessment of the full range of neurobehavioral disorders including dementia, confusional states, primary amnesia, attentional disorders, aphasic disorders, and frontal lobe disorders, among other focal brain disorders of both the dominant and nondominant hemisphere. Common clinical populations include head trauma, primary dementias, seizure disorders, brain tumors, multiple sclerosis, stroke, learning disabilities, Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, hydrocephalus, and pseudoneurologic and somatic symptom disorders. The majority of referrals come from departments of neurology, neurosurgery, psychiatry, and geriatrics on the campus of the Milwaukee Regional Medical Center, in addition to geriatric, general medicine, Herma Heart, and organ transplant programs on campus. Also, occasional referrals are received from regional colleges, attorneys, disability insurance companies, and private practice physicians and psychologists. The Neuropsychology Division maintains an active involvement in a number of interdisciplinary programs including the Neurology department's Interdisciplinary Memory Assessment Clinic, Mild Traumatic Brain Injury Clinic, Deep Brain Stimulation, Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus, Comprehensive Epilepsy Surgery, and Neuro-oncology programs. In addition, the division is involved in the evaluation of patients being seen by specialists treating multiple sclerosis, movement disorders, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, and congenital heart conditions. Neuropsychology faculty and fellows conduct intracarotid amobarbital testing and clinical functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) for determination of hemispheric representation of language and memory functions in epilepsy surgery candidates. Faculty and fellows conduct intra-operative mapping during awake tumor surgeries using NeuroMapping. Fellowship training is provided through sequential assignment to four 6-month clinical rotations, in addition to routine responsibilities for assisting with inpatient consultation services. The four rotations are:

- 1) ***Memory/Neurodegenerative Disorders:*** The goal of this rotation is to develop a working knowledge of common neurological and psychiatric disorders affecting memory function and aid in differential neurobehavioral diagnosis of different types of dementia. Fellows also become independent in the consultation and disposition planning of patients presenting with memory complaints. Fellows will work alongside faculty and neurologists in the Interdisciplinary Memory Assessment Program (IMAP) clinic, conduct outpatient

memory disorder's evaluations and provide inpatient and outpatient work-ups for normal pressure hydrocephalus.

- 2) ***Comprehensive Epilepsy Service***: During the epilepsy rotation, fellows develop a working knowledge of common seizure disorders, the effects of seizures on cognition, and how neuropsychological assessment can be used to assist in selection of patients for surgical treatment of their epilepsy. Fellows also learn to conduct and interpret intracarotid sodium amytal testing and fMRI for lateralizing language and memory and predicting cognitive outcome after epilepsy surgery.
- 3) ***General Clinical Service***: On this rotation, fellows develop a working knowledge of common developmental, neurological and psychiatric disorders that are associated with impairments in cognitive and emotional capacities. Fellows in this rotation become independent in the neuropsychological assessment, differential neurobehavioral diagnosis, consultation and disposition planning of patients presenting with a variety of acquired and developmental conditions.
- 4) ***TBI / Medicolegal Evaluation Service***: The training goals of this rotation are to 1) obtain a working knowledge of the evaluation, triage and treatment of adult patients during the first few weeks and months following traumatic brain injury, and 2) learn the role of the neuropsychological evaluation in medicolegal cases involving civil, criminal, and disability issues for individuals claiming impairments in cognitive and emotional functions. Fellows in this rotation provide evaluation, triage and treatment to adult patients during the first few weeks and months following injury. The aim is to assist patients with returning to work and school, and their pre-injury lifestyle.

Inpatient training experience is obtained at Froedtert Hospital. These evaluations are conducted to aid in differential diagnosis of neurobehavioral syndromes and for determining capacity for medical decision making.

In addition to these four primary rotations, there is opportunity to participate in several specialty clinics. The ***Neuro-Oncology Cognitive (NOC) Clinic*** provides evaluation of brain tumor patients at the time of diagnosis but prior to treatment in order to establish a neurocognitive baseline. These patients are then followed throughout their treatments and for some time afterwards to monitor for potential tumor and/or treatment related effects on cognitive and emotional functioning and to assist in treatment planning. In addition to brain tumor patients, patients with other forms of cancer are seen in the clinic for evaluation and treatment planning. The clinic is staffed by a neuropsychologist who works closely with a group of neuro-oncologists, radiation oncologists, medical oncologists, and neurosurgeons. The ***Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus (NPH) Clinic*** provides testing to aid in differential diagnosis of NPH and to assess for cognitive change prior to and following spinal taps and lumbar drain procedures. This information is used to aid in determining which patients will benefit from shunting. For patients who proceed to shunting, testing is repeated prior to and following the neurosurgical intervention. This clinic employs a collaborative team including a neurologist, neuropsychologist, physical therapist for gait assessments, and neurosurgeon. Fellows see the NPH cases during their Memory Disorders rotation. The ***Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) Clinic*** involves evaluation of patients who are considered candidates for DBS treatment for movement disorders. The aim of these evaluations is to identify any cognitive or psychiatric issues that may increase risk for poor outcome with DBS. The clinic also performs post-operative testing to establish neuropsychological outcome and assist with continued treatment planning as needed. Our neuropsychologists work as part of a multi-disciplinary team that consists of neurology, neurosurgery, psychology, psychiatry, nursing, and rehabilitation.

Approximately 65% of clinical work is outpatient and the remaining inpatient. Currently there are four fellows in the adult track.

## *Fellowship in Pediatric Neuropsychology:*



### Clinical Locations:

- Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, 8920 W. Connell Court, Milwaukee WI 53226

The Pediatric Neuropsychology Postdoctoral Fellowship offers the opportunity to acquire and refine neuropsychological assessment, diagnostic, and consultation skills in pediatric populations from 0-18 years of age. Developmentally focused from birth through adolescence, clinical emphases are in epilepsy, brain tumors, acute neurological injury and disease including traumatic brain injury, stroke, and infectious processes, hydrocephalus/spina bifida, common and rare genetic disorders including sickle cell disease, and congenital heart disease. Within these medical contexts, differential diagnosis of various neurodevelopmental disorders, including Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Specific Learning Disorder, and Autism Spectrum Disorder are considered. The Division is actively involved with Children's Wisconsin (CW), the primary children's teaching hospital in the region for the Medical College of Wisconsin that also is located on the campus of the Milwaukee Regional Medical Center. Across all rotations, fellows complete neuropsychological assessments in our outpatient clinic for neurological, genetic, and medical disorders. For general outpatient referrals, fellows participate in primary rotational assignments that include:

1) **Medical and Neurosurgical Evaluation Rotation:** While on this rotation, fellows will have an emphasis on conducting evaluations with patients who may be candidates for resective surgery to treat intractable epilepsy, brain tumors, and vascular malformations. Fellows participate in the weekly multidisciplinary 1) epilepsy surgery, 2) brain tumor, and 3) vascular conferences that include neurology, neurosurgery, genetics, pathology and radiology. Fellows will participate in mapping of language and memory functions via extra-/intra-operative stimulation mapping or intracarotid amobarbital (Wada) testing. There may also be opportunities to observe fMRI language mapping and magnetoencephalography (MEG). Fellows will also participate in the Neuro-Oncology Multidisciplinary Team which provides a pre-surgical/treatment evaluation for brain tumor patients to establish a neuropsychological baseline. Fellows will also evaluate patients post-surgically and throughout/post treatment to monitor for potential tumor and/or treatment related effects on cognition and emotional functioning and to assist in treatment planning. In addition to brain tumor patients, patients with other forms of cancer are seen in this clinic for evaluation and treatment planning.

2) **The Preschool and Infant Neuropsychological Testing (P.I.N.T.) Clinic Rotation:** Provides comprehensive neuropsychological evaluations for children under 6 years of age who are referred with neurological, medical, and developmental concerns. Emphasis is on holistic evaluation of the young child, including neuropsychological function development, parent and child relationships, and psychosocial factors. This rotation also includes participation in the Autism Diagnostic Clinic and Neurological Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Follow-up Clinic (NeuroNICU). The Autism Diagnostic Clinic provides evaluations for children under the age of 6 for whom the primary question is whether or not the child has an Autism Spectrum Disorder. The assessment includes clinical interview, brief cognitive evaluation, and observation of the child in play with parents and peers. All participating providers and psychometrists participate in the observations and discussion of each patient for diagnostic clarity. The evaluation also provides detailed recommendations to help families

navigate the autism treatment options. In the NeuroNICU clinic fellows provide neuropsychological evaluations for infants, toddlers, and preschool graduates of the NICU who sustained neurological injury or complications in a multidisciplinary format.

- 3) **The Complex Syndromes Rotation:** Emphasis on responding to physician referrals for evaluation of children with rare and difficult to diagnose disorders. This will frequently include characterizing cognitive profiles for children with genetic disorders, epilepsy syndromes, and differential diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorders. This rotation will include specialized training on in-person and video assessments, such as, the ADOS-2 and BOSA. Fellows also participate in multidisciplinary consultations within the Neurogenetic Clinic and the Nelson's Rare and Undiagnosed Diseases Network.
- 4) **The Acute Neuro (AcN) Rotation:** Focuses on understanding and identifying cognitive dysfunction that occurs in acquired neurological injuries and infection (e.g., TBI, stroke/hemorrhage, encephalitis). This includes documenting functioning during acute, subacute, and postacute phases of recovery. In an inpatient setting, the fellow provides consultation, targeted neuropsychological assessment, monitoring of cognitive functioning and recommendations to aid ongoing cognitive recovery and support discharge planning. Fellows also conduct outpatient neuropsychological evaluations for children and adolescents in sub- and post-acute phases of recovery. Emphasis is placed on interdisciplinary collaboration with neurological, medical, and rehabilitation teams at Children's Wisconsin.

### **Additional Opportunities**

- The **Sports Concussion Clinic** allows the fellow to work in the off-site Sports Concussion Clinic. Fellows will participate in this interdisciplinary clinic that includes sports medicine physicians, a psychologist, physical therapists, and athletic trainers in assessing and managing acute and chronic concussion symptomatology.
- Fellows often have opportunity to participate in **Medical Legal Evaluations** as well. Opportunity to follow patients for re-evaluation can be provided after initial evaluations of children and adolescents.

Currently, there are four fellow positions in the pediatric track.

### ***Educational, Teaching, Supervision and Leadership Opportunities***

Fellows are required to attend and participate in the Division's weekly Neuropsychology Seminar, Journal Club and Case Conference, and the Department of Neurology's weekly Grand Rounds. Additional opportunities include Epilepsy Case Conference, Neuro-Oncology Case Conferences, Neuroradiology Conference, Physical Medicine and Rehab Conference, the annual Ethics for Psychologists course, MCW's Biomedical Statistics course, bedside neurology or neurosurgery rounds, and observations of brain cuttings and neurosurgical procedures. The fellow can elect to learn more about state-of-the-art neuroimaging techniques (e.g., brain mapping, quantitative structural (NeuroReader) and functional MRI, positron emission tomography, diffusion tensor imaging, MEG, and magnetic source imaging) and participate in weekly seminars and lab meetings on functional imaging. Opportunities are available for gaining familiarity with electrophysiologic diagnostic procedures, including electroencephalography, extra-operative grid mapping of eloquent cortex, evoked potentials and neuromuscular studies. The fellow also will gain experience in teaching, supervising and mentoring psychology graduate students during their practica within the clinics. Faculty supervise the fellows supervising the graduate students in order to help them learn how to conduct supervision. Additionally, fellows often provide mentoring for the graduate students in the internship application and interview process. Finally, senior fellows often take on leadership opportunities related to the didactic series, addressing short term clinical problems, and are offered the opportunity to apply for competitive leadership opportunities in national neuropsychological organizations including APPCN, AACN, NAN, and SCN.

### ***Research***

Training in basic, translational and clinical research and, to a lesser extent, cognitive neuroscience is provided. Several faculty members are actively involved in the Center for Imaging Research ([www.mcw.edu/CIR.htm](http://www.mcw.edu/CIR.htm))

studying memory, language and attention functions in both healthy and clinical populations with weekly research workgroups and multidisciplinary seminars. Large databases are available from the Comprehensive Epilepsy Program (adult and pediatric), the PINT clinic, Brain Tumor (pediatric), Congenital Heart Disease (adult and pediatric), and Autism. Three faculty members are investigators within MCW's Brain Injury Research Program and have a number of archival datasets and ongoing projects on concussion/mild traumatic brain injury in athlete and veteran populations. There are ongoing studies of the early development of neuropsychological functions in neurological disorders, with an emphasis on attention and executive function. The fellow may collaborate on an ongoing research project or initiate an independent project. Team research is common. It is expected that this activity will lead to production of a scholarly work, such as presentation of results at a scientific meeting and publication in a peer-reviewed journal. Fellows are expected to commit a minimum of 10% or 4 hours per week to their research.

### ***Supervision and Evaluation Procedures***

Supervision is provided on all aspects of the clinical, research and teaching activities. Day-to-day supervisory responsibility is typically rotated among the teaching faculty so that the fellow is exposed to different expertise and professional styles. Progress towards achieving competencies is evaluated every 6 months, using the MCW Evaluation Scale. Feedback for these reviews is presented in person. If the fellow has not achieved the Minimum Level of Achievement, a Competency Development Plan is implemented. Formal written evaluations of rotational progress are provided on a quarterly basis with results feeding into the semiannually end of rotation evaluations. In addition, each fellow is assigned a professional mentor during the first months of the program. The mentor learns the fellow's career aspirations and education and training history and forms a plan with the fellow and the Training Director to achieve both the program and the fellow's personal goals. We do not use distance education technologies for training and supervision.

### ***Responsibilities and Time Commitment***

Fellows are expected to interview and evaluate patients with neurobehavioral disorders and participate in all activities that are necessary to make an inpatient and outpatient clinical service operational (e.g., informal consultation, participation in case conferences, etc.). Participation in several didactic exercises (see above) is required. Fellows are expected to make presentations in the Neuropsychology Seminar, Applied Neuropsychology Seminar, Neuropsychology Case Conference, and Neurology Grand Rounds, and assist in the instruction and supervision of psychology practicum students. The fellows are also expected to participate in some type of research activity and/or complete a scholarly exercise during their training. In some cases, a fellow's salary may be partly supported by funded research, therefore requiring their assistance with grant-related activities. Lastly, the fellows are asked to help develop the curriculum for the Neuropsychology Seminar Series and participate in the evaluation of the program through periodic evaluation of supervisors and the curriculum.

On average, clinical activities consume approximately three to four days of the week. Fellows are encouraged to reserve at least a half of a day per week for research activities. The remainder of time is consumed in various didactic and informal educational activities. Weekly time requirement is about 40-60 hours.

### ***Benefits***

Fellows are provided a stipend, health insurance, optional dental/vision insurance and life insurance. Fellows have 20 days of paid time off (vacation and professional including conferences, tests, and job interviews) and sick leave which accrues 2 days/month and balance carries forward. A \$500 annual expense account is provided that may be used to purchase educational materials or attend a professional meeting. Windows laptop PCs are available for word-processing (MS Office) and data analysis (SPSS).



## ***Requirements of Potential Fellows***

Only applicants with APA- or CPA-approved psychology (or related areas of study) graduate programs and internships are considered for the fellowship. Given the recent development of more internship programs in psychology, exceptions may be made for applicants in internship programs undergoing initial accreditation review. Post-doctoral fellows must have completed their dissertation prior to beginning the fellowship. Preferred applicants have completed training at the graduate and internship level consistent with a Major Area of Study as described in the Taxonomy for Education and Training in Clinical Neuropsychology (Sperling et al., 2017). At the graduate level this includes a minimum of 1) three neuropsychology courses, 2) two neuropsychology practica, 3) additional coursework, practica, or didactics in neuropsychology, and 4) dissertation or research project in neuropsychology. At the internship level, the applicant would have had at least 50% of training time in clinical neuropsychology and 2) didactic experiences consistent with Houston Conference guidelines for knowledge and skill. Generally, only applicants who completed an internship that was at least 50 percent neuropsychological training are considered. Applicants with these credentials are generally well-prepared for the rigor of our program; thus, these credentials serve as the principal criteria for selecting post-doctoral fellows for interviews and also in final ranking. As Houston Conference Guidelines and continuing beliefs in the field encourage, however, there are multiple pathways to become a clinical neuropsychologist. Because of this, we also consider applicants with a level of training consistent with an Emphasis or Experience in Clinical Neuropsychology at the doctoral and/or internship level. At a minimum, an applicant needs to have 1) one neuropsychology course or 2) one clinical neuropsychology practicum, and 5% - 10% of supervised experience in clinical neuropsychology and/or didactic training in order to be considered.

The ideal fellow applicant is one with a solid foundation of general clinical knowledge and skills, coursework in lifespan neuroscience, human neuropsychology, and neuropsychological assessment, practicum and internship training in neuropsychological assessment. Enthusiasm and capacity for taking advantage of the unique education and training opportunities at MCW is also considered through individual interview, review of letters of recommendations and the nature of prior training experiences. Approximately 5 to 10 applicants are interviewed for every position available.

## ***Application Procedures***

Application involves electronic submission of a curriculum vita, a copy of graduate school transcripts, two sample reports, and three letters of recommendation. Those who have not defended their dissertation are asked to have their dissertation chair provide written verification of their expected defense prior to the start of the fellowship. Deadline for submission of application materials is usually December to mid-January prior to the start of the academic year. Interviews of selected candidates will take place virtually in January and February prior to match day. The Program participates in the National Match. Deadlines for ranking programs and the Match date will be published annually by National Matching Services ([www.natmatch.com](http://www.natmatch.com)), the same organization that manages the match for psychology internship programs. Rules for the Match are essentially identical to those for the internship program match.

## *Neuropsychology Faculty*



**Joseph L. Amaral, Ph.D.** is an Assistant Professor of Neurology. He specializes in the evaluation and treatment children with neurological and developmental disorders, with a particular focus on genetic disorders, autism spectrum disorder, and children with complex medical histories. Dr. Amaral's research interests include exploring cognitive and social development in children with Autism Spectrum Disorder, with an emphasis on how contextual factors affect task performance. Current projects examine motor coordination, socialization, mental flexibility, language development and learning patterns.



**Benjamin Brett, Ph.D.** is an Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery and Neurology with training background in translational traumatic brain injury (TBI) research. Dr. Brett's current research focuses on identifying the mechanisms and pathways by which cumulative mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI) and repetitive head impacts (RHI) place individuals at risk for long-term neurological sequelae later in life. His research interests also include examining health and lifestyle factors throughout the lifespan that intensify and attenuate the risk of later life decline associated with cumulative mTBI/RHI. Dr. Brett is co-investigator on a number of multicenter studies examining acute and chronic effects of mTBI with numerous conference and peer-reviewed publications.



**Julie A. Bobholz, Ph.D., ABPP-CN** is a Clinical Professor of Neurology and is board certified in Clinical Neuropsychology (American Board of Professional Psychology). Dr. Bobholz specializes in the evaluation and treatment of adults with neurological and behavioral disorders. Her work has been presented at several national conferences and published in peer-reviewed professional journals. Dr. Bobholz also plays a leading role in the neuropsychological evaluation and research development of patients who are candidates for deep brain stimulation but also focuses much of her work with patients who have multiple sclerosis.



**Alissa M. Butts, Ph.D., ABPP-CN** is an Assistant Professor of Neurology and is board certified in Clinical Neuropsychology (American Board of Professional Psychology). Dr. Butts is Associate Chair of the Student Affairs Committee of the American Academy of Clinical Neuropsychology and has been an item writer for the American Board of Professional Psychology Clinical Neuropsychology Written Examination. Dr. Butts specializes in the assessment of young and older adults with cognitive deficits associated with a variety of neurologic and other medical conditions and conducts intraoperative cognitive evaluations during awake brain tumor surgeries to assist with functional mapping and monitoring. Dr. Butts' primary research interests include neurocognitive and neuroimaging correlates of neurodegenerative syndromes, including typical and atypical presentations of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. Dr. Butts also researches neurocognitive effects of cancer and cancer treatments, including various brain cancers. She is involved in multi-center cancer studies, is a Consulting Editor for *Aging, Neuropsychology, and Cognition*, and holds a Research Collaborator position with the Mayo Clinic. She has published in her research areas and has been Co-Investigator on several NIH studies.



**Christy Casnar, Ph.D.** is an Assistant Professor of Neurology. She specializes in the evaluation of young children with medical and neurodevelopmental disorders, with a focus on genetic disorders, autism spectrum disorder, congenital heart disease, and epilepsy. Dr. Casnar's research interests focus on characterizing neurocognitive and psychosocial functioning in children with complex neurological and developmental disorders. To date, her research has focused on characterizing social and executive functioning challenges in young children with Neurofibromatosis type 1 and children with epilepsy and autism. Her work has been presented at international and national conferences and published in peer-reviewed professional journals.



**Lisa L. Conant, Ph.D.** is an Associate Professor of Neurology. Her research interests include neuropsychological functioning and neuroimaging in epilepsy, genetic and environmental influences on aspects of cognitive and brain development, and functional neuroimaging of speech and language functions, with a particular emphasis on dyslexia. She has been the principal investigator on studies funded by the National Institutes of Health, the Epilepsy Foundation of America, Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin, and other sources. She is a co-investigator in the Language Imaging Laboratory. Her work has been presented at national conferences and published in peer-reviewed professional journals.



**Amy Heffelfinger, Ph.D., ABPP-CN** Professor of Neurology, Neurosurgery, and Pediatrics, is board certified in Clinical Neuropsychology (American Board of Professional Psychology), is the Director of the Postdoctoral Training Program, and is the Section Head for the Pediatric Neuropsychology Clinic. She is the past President for the Association of Postdoctoral Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology (APPCN) and has been active in formalizing competencies and competency-based assessment for Clinical Neuropsychology at the fellowship level. She specializes in research and evaluation of infants and preschool children with neurological, neurosurgical and emotional/behavioral disorders through the Preschool and Infant Neuropsychological Testing (P.I.N.T.) Clinic. Her current research is investigating neuropsychological profiles of preschool assessment, outcomes of early neuropsychological assessment, and neuropsychological outcomes from pediatric brain tumors, sickle cell disease, spina bifida and autism. Consideration for impact of psychosocial and race/cultural factors is included in research. Her work has been NIMH funded, presented at national conventions, and published in peer reviewed journals.



**Julie K. Janecek, Ph.D., ABPP-CN** is an Assistant Professor of Neurology and is board certified in Clinical Neuropsychology (American Board of Professional Psychology). She is the Assistant Director of the Postdoctoral Training Program in Clinical Neuropsychology. She specializes in the evaluation of adults with neurobehavioral disorders, and has clinical interests in epilepsy, memory disorders, head trauma, and movement disorders. Her research interests include the study of cognitive outcomes following epilepsy surgery and the development and implementation of behavioral interventions for individuals with mild cognitive impairment. Her work has been presented at national conferences and published in peer-reviewed journals.



**Jennifer I. Koop, Ph.D., ABPP-CN** is an Associate Professor of Neurology, Neurosurgery and Pediatrics. She is board certified in Clinical Neuropsychology and Pediatric Neuropsychology (American Board of Professional Psychology). She is an elected member of the Executive Committee of the Society of Clinical Neuropsychology and is on the MCW Committee for Professionalism and Faculty Council. She specializes in the evaluation and treatment children with neurological and developmental disorders, with a particular focus on epilepsy as well as cognitive development in preschool and early childhood years. She is an active member of the multidisciplinary pediatric comprehensive epilepsy program and completes intracarotid amobarbital (Wada) testing, extra- and intra-operative language mapping as needed. Her current research investigates the cognitive effects of 1) epilepsy surgery, 2) pediatric brain tumors, particularly posterior fossa tumors, and 3) community interventions on early neuropsychological development. Her work has been presented at national conferences and published in peer-reviewed professional journals.



**Michelle Loman, Ph.D.** is an Assistant Professor of Neurology. Her background includes research focusing on the effects of early deprivation on neurodevelopment. She specializes in the evaluation and treatment of children with neurological, medical, and neurodevelopmental disorders with a particular focus on traumatic brain injury, congenital heart disease, and epilepsy. She is interested in investigating neuropsychological functioning in patients with 1) congenital heart disease, 2) traumatic brain injury, and 3) epilepsy. She is also involved in pediatric concussion research. Her work has been presented at several national conferences and published in peer-reviewed professional journals.



**Michael McCrea, Ph.D., ABPP-CN** is a Professor of Neurosurgery and Neurology and Co-Director of MCW's Center for Neurotrauma Research (CNTR). He is board certified in Clinical Neuropsychology (American Board of Professional Psychology) and is a past president of the American Academy of Clinical Neuropsychology and the APA Society of Clinical Neuropsychology. He is an active researcher of the acute and chronic effects of mild traumatic brain injury, with numerous publications, national and international lectures, and past and current extramural funding. He serves as principal investigator on several large, multi-center studies investigating the acute and chronic effects of traumatic brain injury.



**Lindsay Nelson, Ph.D., ABPP-CN** is an Associate Professor of Neurosurgery and Neurology and a board-certified clinical neuropsychologist. Her background includes translational research in personality/psychopathology and traumatic brain injury (TBI). Her research is currently focused on learning why patients have different outcomes after TBI with a goal of designing more personalized and effective treatments. She has led studies funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin (AHW) program, and other sources. She actively participates in multicenter studies of sport-related and community TBI, with numerous conference and community presentations and peer-reviewed publications.





**Sara Pillay, Ph.D.** is an Assistant Professor of Neurology. She specializes in understanding language reorganization after stroke in patients with aphasia using neuropsychological data, neuroimaging, and electrical stimulation techniques. In addition, she has interest in developing and testing language paradigms for use during intraoperative electrical stimulation mapping and electrocorticography. Her work has been presented at several national and international conferences and published in peer-reviewed professional journals. She is currently a co-investigator in the Language Imaging Laboratory and a member of the Southeastern Wisconsin Stroke Rehabilitation Center.



**Sara J. Swanson, Ph.D., ABPP-CN** is the Division Chief and Professor of Neurology. She is board certified in Clinical Neuropsychology (American Board of Professional Psychology) and has served on the American Board of Clinical Neuropsychology, as a national oral board examiner, and on the American Academy of Clinical Neuropsychology board of directors executive committee. She specializes in the clinical evaluation of adults with neurobehavioral disorders, epilepsy, head trauma, normal pressure hydrocephalus, memory, somatoform and attention deficit disorders. She conducts intracarotid sodium amobarbital testing and clinical fMRI for localization of language and memory prior to epilepsy surgery. Her research interests involve the use of functional MRI in epilepsy surgery candidates and predictors of cognitive outcome after temporal lobectomy. She has published in these areas and been a co-investigator on several NIH studies of fMRI in epilepsy, most recently the FATES (Function MRI in Anterior Temporal Lobe Epilepsy) multi-center study.



**Laura Umfleet, PsyD, ABPP-CN** is an Assistant Professor of Neurology. Her background includes research focusing on the investigation of various psychometric properties of the Wechsler intellectual scales, performance on selected neuropsychological measures in patient populations (e.g., memory disorders), and clinical or psychometric issues relating to symptom validity testing. Her current research program focuses on the investigation of early biomarkers for neurodegenerative conditions to inform clinical practice and future interventional studies. Further, she is collaborating with cardiologists to study normal versus abnormal aging in adults with congenital heart disease. Her work has been presented at national conferences and published in peer-reviewed professional journals. Dr. Umfleet specializes in the evaluation and treatment of adults with neurological, behavioral, and developmental disorders, with specific clinical interests in mild cognitive impairment, neurodegenerative conditions, and congenital heart disease.



**Elisabeth Vogt, Ph.D.** is an Assistant Professor of Neurology. She specializes in the evaluation and treatment of children with neurological, medical, and neurodevelopmental disorders with a particular specialization in acquired neurological injury and infection, hematology/oncology, and cognitive development in infancy and preschool years. Dr. Vogt's research program focuses broadly on the investigation of psychometric properties of neuropsychological measures with a focus on performance and symptom validity. She is also establishing a research project focused on cognitive outcomes of acquired neurological injury and infection. She has presented at national conferences and has published in peer-reviewed journals.

## **MCW Competencies and Competencies**

### **Competency 1) To train residents to have foundational competencies unique to Clinical Neuropsychology but common across functional domains**

**Element A)** To train residents to have foundational competencies in professionalism

**Element B)** To train residents to have foundational competencies in assessment, treatment, and consultation as it relates to individual and multicultural differences

**Element C)** To train residents to have foundational competencies in ethical neuropsychological practices

**Element D)** To train residents to have foundational competencies in professional relationships

**Element E)** To train residents to have foundational competencies with skills to critically evaluate and integrate research relevant to clinical practice (Level I)

**Element F)** To train residents to have foundational competencies to produce scholarly work

### **Competency 2) To train residents to have advanced skill in neuropsychological assessment, treatment and consultation sufficient to practice on an independent basis**

**Element A)** To train residents to have advanced skill in neuropsychological assessment

**Element B)** To train residents to have advanced skill in neuropsychological intervention and consultation

### **Competency 3) To train residents to have advanced understanding of brain-behavior relationships**

**Element A)** To train residents to have advanced understanding of neuroanatomy and neural systems

**Element B)** To train residents to have advanced understanding of neuropsychological functions

**Element C)** To train residents to have advanced understanding of neuropsychological development across the lifespan

### **Competency 4) To provide training in teaching, supervision, and mentoring**

**Element A)** To provide training in teaching, supervision and mentoring

### **Competency 5) To educate residents regarding the business practices of Clinical Neuropsychology**

**Element A)** To provide education regarding insurance and billing issues, clinical productivity, and practice management

### **Competency 6) To educate residents regarding Psychology and Neuropsychology's governing bodies, boards, and organizations**

**Element A)** To educate regarding Psychology and Neuropsychology's governing bodies, boards, and organizations