



Lindsay Smart Ph.D.

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Lindsay Smart was born and raised in Coronado, California, a small beach and military community. Her father is African American and her mother is European American, and Dr. Smart identifies as biracial. Sports have always been a significant part of Dr. Smart's life growing up, and she went on to play college soccer at the University of Portland. It was through sports that she first became aware of the field of psychology, likely a first step towards her graduate training at the University of Denver in Clinical Psychology, and her current profession as a Licensed Clinical Psychologist.

Through a lifetime of playing team sports, Dr. Smart was coached to understand that no matter how good you are at something, you can't win a game all by yourself, and as such we all have a responsibility to others beyond our own needs. This is one value that has largely guided Dr. Smart's educational pursuits, clinical training, and professional activities and have also led her to the diversity, equity and inclusion work that she does today.

Mentorship has also played a significant role in Dr. Smart's professional trajectory. She had the positive experience of receiving mentorship from three women in her undergraduate psychology degree program who supported her through the challenges of being a student-athlete while also helping her to see the potential of a career in psychology. The experience of receiving mentoring from supportive women is one that resonated with Dr. Smart and has continued to contribute to her efforts in creating formal and informal mentoring opportunities to aid in the recruitment and retention of diverse faculty here at the UNM HSC.

As a biracial individual going through the process of applying to and interviewing at graduate programs, it was clear to Dr. Smart that the more education she pursued, the less she was seeing people who looked like her or who belonged to underrepresented groups in the US. Then and now she continues to recognize the need for not only clinicians who are able to competently and empathetically provide health services to culturally diverse populations, but also the need for racial and ethnic minority clinicians themselves that better reflect the cultural diversity of the US and the world. This is an endeavor that Dr. Smart seeks to put at the forefront of her work with the HSC Office for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion to ensure that there is increased diversity representation among the faculty in all the health professions.

If there is anything that Dr. Smart hopes to do in her role, it is to work towards ensuring the campus at UNM HSC reflects the diversity and vibrancy of all the communities within New Mexico as well as the world.

