THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO.

UNM Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Division of Community Behavioral Health

in collaboration with the

New Mexico Behavioral Health Services Division
&
New Mexico Second Judicial District Court

Postdoctoral Fellowship in Forensic Psychology

Program Brochure (2021 – 2022)

Fellowship Director:
Jaymes Fairfax-Columbo, JD, PhD
Assistant Professor
UNM Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
Email: JFairfaxColumbo@salud.unm.edu

Application Deadline: January 14, 2021

Fellowship Overview

The University of New Mexico Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Division of Community Behavioral Health, in collaboration with both the New Mexico Behavioral Health Services Division and the New Mexico Second Judicial District Court, designed a Postdoctoral Fellowship to provide Early Career Professionals advanced training in forensic psychology. The Fellowship is a one-year training position in which Fellows gain experience in both forensic mental health assessment (FMHA) and mental health policy work. Regarding FMHA, this experience occurs via evaluative work with New Mexico's Second Judicial District Court, as well as work with private-practice referrals. The primary goal of the Fellowship is the development of skills necessary to conduct high-quality FMHAs. By the end of the training year, Fellows should be able to demonstrate competency regarding:

- Forensic ethical principles

- Forensic mental health assessment, including familiarity with specialized forensic assessment instruments (FAIs)

- Forensic evaluation report writing

- Interdisciplinary communication and consultation

- Fundamentals of mental health case law

During the training year, Fellows will also gain mental health policy experience via consultative work with New Mexico's Behavioral Health Services Division. Policy activities include:

- Facilitating an ongoing learning community developed for current competency to stand trial evaluators who are contracted with the New Mexico Behavioral Health Services Division

- Developing and delivering trainings on forensic assessment and issues related to the intersection of criminal justice and behavioral health

- Providing consultation regarding FAIs

- Providing consultation regarding evidence-based approaches to forensic evaluations and best practices in FMHA

- Participating in a state clinical policy work group
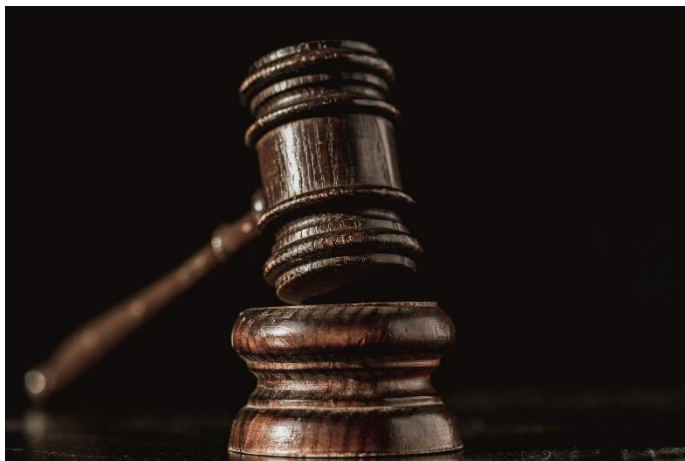
Rotations

As described above, Fellows will obtain advanced training in both FMHA and mental health policy. Fellows will complete two six-month rotations: (1) the Second Judicial District Court rotation, and (2) the New Mexico Behavioral Health Services Division rotation.

Second Judicial District Court Rotation
Under the leadership and supervision of New Mexico Court officials and licensed forensic psychologists, Fellows will conduct court-ordered competency to stand trial evaluations for pre-trial defendants in New Mexico's Second Judicial District Court. Fellows will have the opportunity

to learn from different psychologists in order to experience both a breadth of style and diversity of forensic practice. Fellows will perform an array of tasks, including (but not limited to): selecting, administering, scoring, and interpreting psychological tests; authoring forensic evaluation reports; proving expert consultation to the Court; providing testimony and/or recommendations in court cases and hearings, and supervising Masters-level Court Clinicians and/or practicum students.

Notably, all competency evaluations conducted by the Fellows are court-ordered, and thus are not private referrals by either defense attorneys or prosecuting attorneys. This setup allows Fellows to practice conducting and completing competency evaluations in objective and impartial fashion, without concern of the influence of adversarial allegiance. This is particularly advantageous during training, allowing Fellows to focus fully on honing and mastering evaluative skill under conditions ideally suited to emulate best practices in FMHA. All evaluation reports prepared by Fellows shall comply and be in accordance with the State of New Mexico's Interagency Behavioral Health Service Requirements and Utilization Guidelines, New Mexico statutes, national professional standards, and applicable court rules and law.

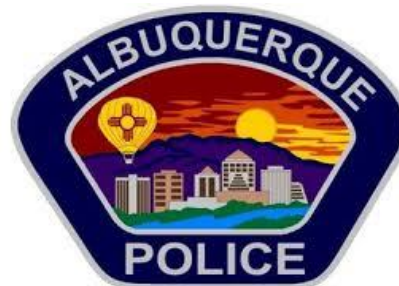New Mexico Behavioral Health Services Division Rotation
Fellows will also assist the efforts of the New Mexico Behavioral Health Services Division (BHSD) on various policy-related issues. Typical activities include co-facilitating the competency evaluators learning community, reviewing behavioral health bills for proposed legislation, and drafting white papers on mental health-related topics. Acting in this capacity provides Fellows a unique opportunity to learn about and be involved in policy and the intersection of the criminal justice system and the mental health system at the systemic/organizational level. Fellows will have opportunities to consult and build relationships with employees of the State and the Court and will develop and hone skills in communication, leadership, and administration while supporting and working with the New Mexico Behavioral Health Services Division.

During this rotation, under the leadership and supervision of UNM faculty and licensed forensic psychologists in the community Fellows will also complete a variety of both criminal and civil forensic evaluations. Common referral questions include mitigation for sentencing, criminal responsibility, future dangerousness, psychological damages/personal injury, etc. Fellows will have the opportunity to learn from different psychologists in order to experience both a breadth of style and diversity of forensic practice. Fellows will have the opportunity to obtain experience conducting forensic evaluations in multiple settings in both urban and rural areas, including correctional,

psychiatric hospital, and private practice settings. Training will include *in vivo* supervision by the Fellow's forensic supervisor, as well as a weekly supervision session.

Additionally, during this rotation Fellows will have the optional opportunity to work with the Albuquerque Police Department (APD) and its Crisis Intervention Team (CIT). In this role, Fellows will obtain experience working with Crisis Intervention Unit Detectives and Clinicians, engaging in such activities as going on home visits, doing wellness checks, and going out on crisis calls. Fellows will also work with a forensic psychologist doing pre-employment evaluations for APD recruits.

Didactic Training

In addition to hands-on training, the Fellows' training experience is supplemented by UNM's and BHSD's collaborative Law and Mental Health (LMH) didactic series. The LMH series includes weekly didactic seminars covering a breadth of topics including forensic assessment; the legal system; landmark cases; criminal law; civil law; correctional and community forensic psychology/psychiatry; and child and adolescent forensic psychiatry. The didactic series is taught by UNM psychology and psychiatry faculty; UNM law faculty; researchers/academics from outside institutions; and private practice forensic psychologists. Many lecturers are internationally-recognized forensic psychology/psychiatry experts. Notable presenters have included past presidents of the American Psychology-Law Society; past presidents of the American Board of Forensic Psychology; authors of books in Oxford University Press's popular *Best Practices in Forensic Mental Health Assessment* series; federal judges; and renowned forensic and clinical psychology academics/researchers. The LMH didactic series is attended by a wide variety of individuals nationwide, encompassing postdoctoral psychology fellows, psychology graduate students, psychologists, law students, attorneys, social workers, and medical residents.

Mock Trial

In the final month of the training year, Fellows will participate in a mock trial with the aid of volunteer attorneys and a judge. Fellows will select an evaluation that they have completed over the year to defend in Court. The supervisor that worked with a Fellow on the case selected will work with the attorney playing the role of defense counsel to help prepare the Fellow for direct examination, and another forensic psychologist will work with the attorney playing the role of the prosecutor to develop cross-examination questions. This experience will provide the opportunity for Fellows to gain experience in being an expert witness under simulated courtroom conditions.

Fellowship Term and Salary

Two Fellows will be hired for the 2021-2022 training year. The Fellowship represents a 12-month commitment, commencing September 2021 and terminating August 2022. Commencement and termination date are somewhat flexible, based on individual circumstances. Salary for the fellowship year is determined according to NIH guidelines. For FY2020 it is approximately $52,000.00. Funding to attend a professional conference may also be available, pending approval.

Application Qualifications

All applicants need demonstrate the following *minimum qualifications*:

- Completion of an APA/CPA-approved pre-doctoral internship program prior to the Fellowship start date

- Conferral of a doctorate degree in clinical, counseling, or school psychology (or a combination program) from an APA/CPA-approved doctoral program prior to the Fellowship start date

- Eligibility to work in the United States

Additionally, the following represent *preferred qualifications*:

- Forensic psychology specialization or experience during graduate training

- Experience conducting psychological and forensic evaluations

- Knowledge of forensic issues in psychology

- Experience working with individuals with serious mental illness (SMI)

- Experience working with correctional or forensic populations

- Experience working with individuals with substance abuse issues

- Experience with psychological testing

- Educational and teaching experience with a variety of trainees

Our Fellowship team is committed to increasing diversity among healthcare professionals and leaders in New Mexico.

Application Materials and Procedure

To apply, please email the following materials to Jaymes Fairfax-Columbo, JD, PhD at JFairfaxColumbo@salud.unm.edu by **January 14, 2021**:

- A current curriculum vitae (CV)

- Cover letter addressing minimum and preferred qualifications, as well as a candidate's background, career trajectory, and career interests

- Three letters of recommendation from academic/professional references, emailed directly by references to Jaymes Fairfax-Columbo, JD, PhD (JFairfaxColumbo@salud.unm.edu)
    - Applicants should also send Jaymes names and contact information (email and phone number) for all references

- A sanitized evaluation report, preferably forensic in nature, and preferably regarding competency to stand trial

Due to precautions taken to stem the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, all interviews will occur via Zoom videoconference. Interview offers will be sent by the last week in January, with interviews scheduled shortly thereafter.

Questions prior to application can be directed to Jaymes Fairfax-Columbo, JD, PhD via email (JFairfaxColumbo@salud.unm.edu).

Note: UNM is participating in the Uniform Acceptance Date (UAD) process for forensic fellowships. The UAD is February 22, 2021. Under the UAD process, offers may be extended at any time prior to February 22, 2021. However, applicants are not required to accept an offer prior to that date. Please be advised that the UAD is distinct from the Uniform Notification Date (UND) utilized by the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC).

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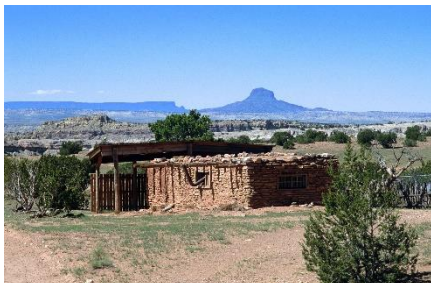## Living and Working in Albuquerque, New Mexico

Perhaps just as important as a Fellow's training experience is the location in which it occurs. Fellowship can represent a challenging year and having a supportive community and an abundance of recreational activities at one's disposal can ease stress levels and greatly enhance the training year. Additionally, many Fellows obtain jobs in-and-around the location they complete their Fellowship training, making location a pivotal factor in an applicant's selection process.

To that end, Albuquerque (ABQ) is an excellent place to live and work. ABQ is consistently regarded as one of the best cities to live in in the United States, and for good reason! ABQ enjoys a low cost of living—always a plus for those in postdoctoral training programs. ABQ also enjoys year-round sunshine and warm weather (though still with weekend skiing at one's disposal), excellent food, loads of craft beer, adventurous nightlife, gorgeous landscapes and hiking, rafting on the Rio Grande, a hot air balloon festival—these are just a sample of the awesome things that come along with living in The Duke City!

In addition to ABQ, the surrounding area hosts a wide array of recreational activities. Whether taking in the Pueblo Revival architecture of Santa Fe; exploring the famed Taos Pueblo and taking in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains in Taos; hiking, snow sports, or fishing in the Jemez Mountains; or driving the Turquoise Trail; the area surrounding ABQ offers an abundance of adventure. Additionally, for those looking to trek beyond NM's boundaries, Albuquerque International Sunport is easily accessible, is a Southwest Airlines hub, and offers flights to numerous domestic destinations.

Aside from offering a cornucopia of recreational activities, ABQ/NM boasts a unique cultural heritage. Converging influence from Native American, Hispanic/Latino, and Western Frontier cultures manifests itself in an extremely diverse population, unforgettable celebrations and traditions, stunning art and architecture, and distinctive cuisine. With its combination of culture and pristine natural beauty, it is only fitting that New Mexico is known as the Land of Enchantment!

Fellowship Training Team

Faculty

Deborah Altschul, PhD

Deborah Altschul, PhD is a psychologist who is an associate professor at the University of New Mexico's Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, where she serves as a Vice Chair of Community Behavioral Health Research. Her work is primarily focused on examining the connection between behavioral health disparities, cultural competency, consumer outcomes, and evidence-based practice. She works closely with tribal communities and the state of New Mexico's children and adult behavioral health authorities, helping to develop a sustainable, culturally competent behavioral health infrastructure. She is currently working with the Pueblo of San Felipe on their implementation and evaluation of several SAMHSA grant initiatives and an NIH research study related to suicide prevention and behavioral health services. Prior to working in New Mexico, she worked at the University of Hawaii Department of Psychology's Mental Health Services Research, Evaluation, and Training Program, where she worked on the state's cultural competency plan and a project making cultural adaptations to evidence-based practices for Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, and Asian populations. She was also the head of the Consumer Assessment Team, aimed at involving individuals with serious mental illness in study design, data collection, analysis, interpretation, and report writing. She completed a post-doctoral fellowship with the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors aimed at improving racial and ethnic disparities in mental health services and worked with the State of Colorado on public policy as a post-doctoral fellow.

Caroline (Carli) Bonham, MD

Carli Bonham, MD is a psychiatrist with interest in access to care and developing community partnerships. She has worked as a psychiatrist in the United Kingdom and rural Australia and has been on faculty at UNM since 2010. Along with Deborah Altschul, she oversees the Division of Community Behavioral Health in the UNM Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, which addresses health disparities among individuals with mental illness in New Mexico through community-partnered research, clinical, and educational initiatives. In the Division, she also serves as a Vice Chair of

Community Behavioral Health Policy. Additionally, she serves as the psychiatric consultant for the New Mexico Behavioral Health Collaborative. Clinically, she provides direct care through the UNMH Assertive Community Treatment team and to rural communities through the UNM Telebehavioral Health program.

Jaymes Fairfax-Columbo, JD, PhD

Jaymes Fairfax-Columbo, JD, PhD is an Assistant Professor in UNM's Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and is the Fellowship Director. He graduated from Drexel University's joint-degree program in Law and Clinical Psychology (forensic concentration) in 2019. He completed his pre-doctoral internship at Springfield Hospital Center in Sykesville, MD, and a completed a Postdoctoral Fellowship in Forensic Psychology at Bridgewater State Hospital in Bridgewater, MA. His clinical interests include forensic mental health assessment, competency restoration, and reentry of both criminal offenders and psychiatric patients. Regarding forensic mental health assessment, his evaluative work has included a wide variety of referral questions with both juveniles and adults, including: civil commitment, competence to stand trial, competence to waive *Miranda* rights, criminal responsibility, personal injury, state and federal sentencing, and violence/sexual violence risk. His research interests include competency restoration, forensic mental health assessment, mental/behavioral health policy, psychopathy, reentry, therapeutic jurisprudence, and violence risk assessment. He has authored and co-authored numerous publications and presentations regarding forensic topics, as well as regarding addiction/substance abuse. Recreationally, he enjoys practicing Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, yoga, hiking, and eating great food (namely, doing the former three in an attempt to counteract his love of the latter).

Brian Isakson, PhD

Brian Isakson, PhD is a clinical psychologist and Associate Professor at the University of New Mexico Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. There, he is the clinical director of behavioral health integration and expansion and the clinical director of the Division of Community Behavioral Health. He supervises Forensic Psychology Postdoctoral Fellows in clinical, policy, and research activities. He is also on the executive committee for the Pre-Doctoral Psychology Internship Program, where he also provides supervision. His research, clinical, and training interests include reactions to trauma, torture, and other stressful life events; trauma-informed systems of care; child maltreatment prevention; refugee mental health; child-serving systems of care, and behavioral health and primary care integration.

Jim Ellis, JD

Since joining the UNM law faculty in 1976, Distinguished Professor Emeritus Jim Ellis, JD has worked on behalf of people with mental disabilities in the civil and criminal justice system. He has filed briefs in over 2 dozen cases in the U.S. Supreme Court, and in 2002 argued *Atkins v. Virginia*, in which the high court held that the execution of individuals with intellectual disability violates the Eighth Amendment's prohibition on cruel and unusual punishment. Ellis taught full time at the School of Law for four decades, specializing in Constitutional Rights, Introduction to Constitutional Law, Rights of Children, Criminal Law, along with Mental Health and Intellectual Disability Law and Mental Disabilities in Criminal Cases. When not teaching, he has spent his

career writing articles and amicus briefs and appearing before congressional committees and state legislative committees across the country arguing for the rights of people with disabilities. UNM students have frequently been invited to participate in this work, including each of the briefs to the Supreme Court. For this work, Ellis has received numerous national awards, including the National Law Journal's "Lawyer of the Year" honor in 2002. Other honors include the Paul Hearne Award for Disability Advocacy from the American Bar Association, the Call to Action Award by the ARC of the United States, the Champion of Justice Award by the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and recognition by the National Historic Trust on Mental Retardation as one of 36 significant individuals in the field of mental retardation in the 20th Century. He has served as law reporter for the A.B.A. Criminal Justice Standards project and president of the American Association on Mental Retardation (now known as the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.) Ellis' interest in mental disability dates to his service at the Yale Psychiatric Institute as a conscientious objector. After law school at the University of California (Boalt Hall), he worked at the Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law in Washington, D.C., before joining the UNM law faculty.

Community Faculty

Julie M. Brovko, PhD

Julie M. Brovko, PhD is an assistant clinical professor at the University of New Mexico, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, and a clinical associate in the Department of Psychology. She is part of UNM's forensic psychology post-doctoral fellowship training committee. She supervises doctoral students in the clinical psychology program. She also co-teaches two case law and mental health courses at the UNM School of Law. She helped to develop and currently oversees the New Mexico District 2 Pilot Competency to Stand Trial project. She has a private forensic practice and takes both federal and state cases focusing on both criminal and civil topics. She earned her PhD in Clinical Psychology from UNM.

William (Bill) E. Foote, PhD, ABPP (Forensic)

Bill Foote, PhD has been a forensic psychologist in private practice in Albuquerque, New Mexico since 1979. He has taught at the University of New Mexico Department of Psychology, Department of Psychiatry, and the UNM School of Law. He has held several professional offices including the President of the New Mexico Psychological Association, Representative on APA Council, member and chair of the APA Committee on Legal Issues, member and chair of the APA Committee on Professional Practice and Standards, President of Division 31, President of the American Psychology-Law Society (Division 41), and President of the American Board of Forensic Psychology. He is the author of many peer-reviewed professional articles and book chapters. He is the co-author, with Jane Goodman-Delahunty, of two books on psychological evaluation in sexual harassment and employment discrimination cases. His third book with Jane Goodman-Delahunty, *Understanding Sexual Harassment: Evidence-Based Forensic Practice*, is a second edition of the award-winning 2005 APA Press sexual

harassment volume. He enjoys singing first tenor in the acapella men's group DeProfundis, playing guitar and mandolin, traveling, hiking, and fly fishing.

David J. Ley, PhD

David J. Ley, PhD holds a doctorate degree in clinical psychology and is a board-certified sex therapist. Since 2012, he has served as an Expert Witness in numerous high-profile forensic matters around the country regarding claims involving sexual behaviors. He is Executive Director of New Mexico Solutions, a large community health mental health nonprofit and has also testified as an Expert Witness regarding Medicaid and mental health services. He has published numerous academic and mainstream books and articles and also appears in national media ranging from the Daily Show to Time Magazine and the New York Times.

Simone Viljoen, PhD

Simone Viljoen, PhD is an adjunct instructor in the psychology department and a clinical assistant professor in the psychiatry department. She is also part of UNM's forensic psychology post-doctoral fellowship training committee. In these roles, she supervises the clinical work of post-doctoral students and teaches undergraduate courses in Introduction to Forensic Psychology and Alcohol Use Disorders. She is also a clinical psychologist working in private practice specializing in forensic psychology. Her professional work has included the delivery of training and workshops in law and mental health-related topics to various agencies. She has co-authored a book chapter and several publications related to violence risk assessment and management, in particular, the use of protective factors in these assessments; gender issues in forensic psychology; and diagnostic issues in personality disorders. She has also presented over 45 conference presentations on topics related to mental health and psychology and the law.

Jeffrey (Jeff) Younggren, PhD, ABPP (Clinical)

Jeff Younggren, PhD, a Fellow of the American Psychological Association and a Distinguished Member of the National Academy of Practice, is a clinical and forensic psychologist. He is also a clinical professor at the University of New Mexico Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. He has extensive forensic experience in trauma, child abuse, memory, delayed recall, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Military Court Specialty, Military Forensic Psychology, general forensic issues, and general court-martial cases. He earned his clinical psychology PhD from the University of Arizona. He has published extensively on law and ethics and recently edited the book *Forensic Psychology in Military Courts* published by the APA. He is currently on the committee to revise APA's Specialty Guidelines for Forensic Psychologists and has served on a previous revision committee. Additionally, he serves as a Risk Management Consultant to The Trust, a position that he has had for over 20 years.

<u>Other Instructors</u>

Ann Delpha, JD

Ann Delpha, JD is an attorney who specializes in the intersection of law and mental disabilities—both mental illness and intellectual disability—pertaining to both adults and children. A Staff Attorney at the UNM School of Law who worked on the school's Innocence and Justice Project, and currently works on the Leaffer Border Justice Initiative, she has taught Criminal Law, Constitutional Rights I and II, and has co-taught Mental Disabilities in Civil Cases and Mental Disabilities in Criminal Cases with Distinguished Professor Emeritus Jim Ellis. She has also been counsel on numerous briefs before the U.S. Supreme Court regarding the implementation of *Atkins v. Virginia* - representing disability organizations in *Hall v. Florida* and *Moore v. Texas*. She has co-authored an extensive article on the best clinical practices for diagnosing intellectual disability in the context of implementing *Atkins* and is currently collaborating on a textbook explaining the principles of mental health law for forensic mental health practitioners.

Lisa Y. Schatz-Vance, JD

Lisa Y. Schatz-Vance, JD is Deputy General Counsel with the Second Judicial District Court (SJDC). During her tenure, she has implemented two new programs—the Assisted Outpatient Treatment program and the Competency Project. Prior to joining the SJDC, Lisa represented people with disabilities in both individual and class action litigation against jails and prisons. A 2001 recipient of a National Association for Public Interest Law (NAPIL) Equal Justice Fellowship, Lisa worked with the Judge David L. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law in Washington, D.C., addressing the criminalization of persons with mental illness. She is a graduate of New York Law School.

Tiffany Wynn, MA, LPCC

Tiffany Wynn, MA, LPCC, is the Deputy Director of Treatment and Programs at the Behavioral Health Services Division of the Health and Human Services Department. She has served her communities as a therapist, clinical director, and executive director. Her fields of service have included adolescent and adult mental health and substance use, forensic and neuropsychology, and intensive trauma care. She has been a graduate faculty in Counselor Education for eleven years. She and her teams oversee all state-funded behavioral health services, including but not limited to specialty BH (IOP, CCSS, ACT, AARTC), Peer Support Services, Native American, Veteran, Sexual Assault, and LGBTQ. Her research includes intersectional approaches to behavioral health services and outcomes, as well as gender, neuroscience, trauma, and adventure-based psychotherapy.