

Biography

I am an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Miami with expertise in the treatment of emotional disorders in youth and the development and evaluation of evidence-based therapy protocols for children and adolescents with anxiety, depression and obsessive-compulsive disorders. I received my Ph.D. from the University of Mississippi and was a Research Assistant Professor at the Center for Anxiety and Related Disorders until 2008. I may be best known as the developer of the Unified Protocols for Transdiagnostic Treatment of Emotional Disorders in Children and Adolescents (UP-C and UP-A) and the author of more than 100 peer-reviewed publications on topics ranging from the measurement of youth anxiety and related constructs, to the co-occurrence of emotional disorders in children and adolescents, and evidence-based treatment approaches to these conditions. My currently funded work in this latter research domain includes effectiveness trials regarding treatment of youth emotional distress in community settings (including both community mental health clinics and preschools) and the application of the Unified Protocols to new populations and treatment conditions. I currently direct the Child and Adolescent Mood and Anxiety Treatment Program at the University of Miami, which provides UP-C and UP-A related clinical research services to the community. I am the University's current Chair of the Faculty Senate Committee on Equity and Inclusion. I am also currently the Science Committee Chair for Division 53 of APA and a former Child and Adolescent Anxiety SIG Leader for ABCT, and an active member of both ADAA and ABCT. My current research is supported by grants from NIH and other funding agencies in the United States and internationally.

Candidate Statement

I am honored to be considered for the Member-at-Large: Science and Practice position. As the current Science Committee Chair, I have had the opportunity to actively participate as a member of the Division 53 Board and learn first-hand how Division 53 and SSCAP can influence and support the delivery of evidence-based practices to an increasing large audience of trainees, early career professional and established practitioners in the community through advocacy, education and enrichment opportunities. Among other responsibilities, as Science Committee Chair, I also serve as a representative for SSCAP to the Coalition for the Advancement and Application of Psychological Science (CAAPS), which is already taking huge steps to make effective treatment strategies available to the larger population of psychology trainees and practitioners. Transitioning from the Science Committee to this MAL position fits ideally with my career goal to provide high quality training, consultation and implementation support in evidence-based practices for youth emotional disorders and act as a mentor and supportive peer in these activities. By personally providing training in evidence-based practices to those in academic medical centers, private practices, graduate programs, community mental health agencies, international providers and via efficacy and effectiveness trials, I have been able to see first-hand the many varied barriers clinicians face in adopting strategies that work with youth and families in need. As MAL, I hope to continue to innovate in our thought processes as a Board and larger community about how to overcome these barriers and promote adoption of effective treatment principles more broadly.