

2022 Workshop Participant Biosketches

(by alphabetical order of last name)



Chaimaa Aroui, M.D. Dr. Aroui is a young, qualified psychiatrist, sensitive to cultural diversity, with a very good command of various treatment plans but also a commitment to provide first-rate psychological support to patients and caregivers. Trained in both Ibn Rushd University Psychiatric Center in Casablanca, Morocco and Erasmus hospital in Brussels, Belgium, she currently works at the Ibn Rushd University Psychiatric Center as an adult psychiatrist. She is enthusiastic and eager to contribute to the success of the team through hard work, attention to details and excellent organizational skills. Dr. Aroui's main areas of interest are global mental health and human rights together with effects of spirituality on recovery in mentally sick patients.



Laura A. Baker, PhD. Dr. Baker is a Psychology professor at the University of Southern California, where she teaches courses in Contemplative Neuroscience, Human Sexuality and Behavioral Genetics. She earned her PhD in Psychology at

the University of Colorado, where she studied at the Institute for Behavioral Genetics. She directs a longitudinal twin study, funded by NIMH, investigating gene-environment interplay in externalizing behavioral problems and their social and neurophysiological risk factors. Dr. Baker aims to expand the twin study, which has rich longitudinal data on 750 twin pairs from ages 9-20 years, to investigate the role of spirituality and contemplative practices on mental health in adulthood. She is also a Certified Iyengar Yoga Teacher (CIYT) and teaches yoga and pranayama to students, faculty and staff at USC.



Nadzirah Ahamad Basri, Ph.D. Nadzirah is an Assistant Professor and Clinical Psychologist at the Department of Psychiatry at the Medicine Faculty of International Islamic University Malaysia. She holds a doctoral degree in Health and Behavioral Sciences from Kyushu University, Japan. She volunteers her time working in a non-governmental organisation advocating for mental well-being and living Islam as a way of life. She conducts psychotherapy with clients of various mental health disorders, and has always been passionate about spirituality which she finds as a way of connecting with her clients. Her research interest includes risks and protective factors to wishes to die, depression, anxiety and the role of religiosity/spirituality in mental well-being. She is a mother to five beautiful children.



Hemant Bhargav, M.D., Ph.D. Dr Hemant Bhargav is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Integrative Medicine at the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Bengaluru, India. He has completed a professional degree in modern medicine from Indira Gandhi Government Medical College (IGGMC), Nagpur, India. He has also completed a Diploma in Community Mental Health from NIMHANS followed by MD in Yoga and Rehabilitation and PhD in Yoga from Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthana (S-VYASA), Bengaluru. His research interests include exploring the therapeutic utility and neuro-biological basis of the practice and philosophy of yoga in mental and neurological healthcare.



Kay Lyn Carlson. Kay Lyn is a second-year Ph.D. student at Omega Graduate School where she is researching abortion trauma through the lens of Moral Injury. Other research interests include traumatic loss and betrayal trauma - after abortion. Kay Lyn earned her undergraduate and graduate degree in Social Work from Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas. She is the founder and director of Choose Grace International and provides professional & lay counseling education, training, and consultation services. She is also a phone consultant for a 24-hour pre/post-abortion crisis hotline and serves as the division leader for the American

Association of Christian Counselor's (AACC) Reproductive Loss and Sexual Trauma Network.



Rone-iff Carr. Rone-iff A. Carr, M.Div., BCC. Rone-iff has a BS in Business Marketing. He attended La Sierra University where he received his Masters of Divinity. He completed Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) at Providence Little Company of Mary, in Torrance, California. He is currently the Staff Pediatric Chaplain at MemorialCare Miller Children's and Women's Hospital and Long Beach Medical Center. He is also an Air Force Reserve Chaplain. His area of desired study is Religion with an emphasis in Social Justice. Rone-iff is asking the question, "In what ways has Christianity's indifference toward social justice issues contributed to and maintained societal norms of inequity?" The intersectionality of faith and social justice is evident within healthcare; from the benefits a patient receives by a Chaplain visit to the biases taught in institutions that prepare healthcare workers.



Giuliana Casanova, MSG, MSW, BA. Giuliana is a Peruvian-American Ph.D. Candidate and a doctoral fellow in Gerontology and Geriatrics at the University of

Porto in conjunction with the University of Aveiro in Portugal. She recently concluded her second master's degree in Social Gerontology where she graduated with honors and her research project was titled: The role of Spirituality in Later life: a study of older adult university students in Portugal. Giuliana hopes to continue her career as a researcher in the field of gerontology and plans to move back to the USA after concluding her studies abroad. Her research areas of interest are spirituality, healthy aging, and lifelong learning.



Duysal Askun Celik, PhD., M.B.A. Dr. Askun has been working in the areas of psychology, organizational behavior, and spirituality for several years. Specifically, she has been conducting research, publishing articles, books, and book chapters on the concept of Oneness, Consciousness, and Leadership. She has found it both valuable and useful to pursue the idea of oneness and consciousness also beyond the scientific realm and therefore carries out consulting, coaching and workshop sessions for the application of Oneness in our everyday lives. At the organizational level, she has tested a model where oneness behavior could act as a mediator between mindfulness and organizational citizenship behavior. Dr. Askun Celik is a professor of Psychology, Organizational Behavior and Industrial/Organizational Psychology and currently teaches at Baruch College, New York City College of Technology (CUNY) and Jones School of Business, Rice University. She also runs her own personal development platform called Group of Change (www.groupofchange.com).



Andre Cipta, M.D. Dr. Cipta serves as the Program Director of the Kaiser Permanente Palliative Medicine Fellowship and is an Assistant Professor at the Kaiser Permanente Bernard J. Tyson School of Medicine. His interest in caring for those in need previously led him to study social welfare in college, spend a year in seminary, and eventually to the field of palliative medicine where he finds profound meaning in caring for those with serious illness. He is particularly interested in addressing spiritual and existential distress in healthcare. His manuscript on this topic was recently published in the BMJ Supportive & Palliative Care.



Rodolfo Furlan Damiano, M.D. I am a 29 years-old Brazilian psychiatrist, who have a passion for research and spirituality since the beginning of the medical school. Currently I am under my PhD with the subject of Mental Health and COVID-19 at University of Sao Paulo (USP-SP). Moreover, I am psychiatry tutor of the USP-SP medical school and had been the chief resident of the same institution up to the beginning of 2022. So far, I have 24 published articles, with

most of them lying under the umbrella of Spirituality and Health. In addition, I edited 4 books and wrote 18 book chapters, most regarding Spirituality and Health. One of my most important books is the Spirituality Religiousness and Health: From Research to Clinical Practice, published 2019 by Springer.



Colonel Isaac Davidson, USAF. Col. Davidson is a Human Capital professional, enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1983, became an officer in 1991, and now serves as Chief of Strategy for Developing Resilient Leaders (DRL)--an Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC) strategic priority. He is assigned to the Directorate of Manpower, Personnel, and Services of Headquarters AFRC, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia, and leads research and implementation of the DRL strategies while probing in/outside DoD toward cost effective resilience options. He uses the military's Joint Targeting Cycle concept as a template likened to Healthcare's cyclical "Learning System," seeking to demonstrate progress toward military operational outcomes and a military Readiness Return on Investment through DoD's Total Force Fitness (TFF) 8 domains as framework—benefitting mission, service members and families.



Laura Deaton, RN, PhD candidate. Laura is a psychiatric nurse and third year doctoral student in the PhD Nursing Program at the University of Kentucky. She received her BSN from Belmont University in 2015 and has worked in multiple inpatient and outpatient psychiatric settings, particularly with children and adolescent populations. She is currently working as a psychiatric nurse at an inpatient behavioral health center in Lexington, KY. Her current research interests focus on health equity, mental health, and spirituality interventions.

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Edward Dick, M.D. Dr. Dick is a family physician at Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas. Doctor Dick earned his MD from Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, MPH from the UT Houston School of Public Health, and a Masters in Health Professions Education from the University of Keele. Dr Dick is the Director of Clinical Complex Care at MHM. The complex care team collaborates with a team of specialists in oral health, behavioral health, and social need support. Dr Dick's current research interest is better understanding how spiritual beliefs impact the "treatment resistant" patient who continues to struggle despite optimal social need support, behavioral medicine interventions, and full scope medical/oral health care.



Galen Durose, Jr., M.D. Dr. Durose is a second-generation rural physician who is dual board-certified in family medicine and integrative medicine. He is interested in working in and developing clinical spirituality as a field in healthcare and expanding awareness and care for spiritual abuse and related topics. In addition to his primary role as a country doctor, Dr. Durose has worked in a clinical capacity in both ethics and in the fields of abuse including domestic, sexual and spiritual abuse. His unique work in this field led to the production of a video for the PBS series “Voices in America”. During medical training Dr. Durose worked in laboratory research in immunology and pathology and is interested in pursuing clinical research in the field of spirituality and healthcare.



Alexa Fleet. Alexa is a social gerontologist who currently researches behavioral health integration under Dr. Harold Pincus at the New York State Psychiatric Institute. She completed her undergraduate work in Psychology at Barnard College and her master’s work in Sociomedical Sciences at Columbia’s Mailman School of

Public Health. At Columbia's Butler Aging Center, she specialized in social and historical determinants of health and the health of an aging society. Her core research interests are intergenerational cohesion and work and caregiving as determinants of health across the lifespan. She is interested in exploring how religious institutions can support the needs of our growing aging population and how public health can work closer with religion to increase health equity for all.



Rossangel Francisco. Rossangel is a 17-year-old rising high-school senior at The Convent of the Sacred Heart in New York City. As both a leader of her school's biology club and a parish organizer, Rossangel has always sought out a connection between her religion and science studies. During her junior year Interdisciplinary Research course, she gave a presentation titled *Prayer and Healing Through a Neurological Lens of Faith Biology*. This year-long study introduced her to faculty member Dr. Koenig, whose insight became a part of her final project. With a plan to pursue a career in research, she hopes to further understand designing and managing experimentation and analysis through the Religion, Spirituality and Health workshop.



Chaplain (CPT) Warwick Fuller. Capt Fuller was born in Honolulu, Hawaii. He grew up in Harrisburg, PA. Warwick earned a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies from Messiah College, Grantham, PA, in 2007 and his Master of Divinity, Magnum Cum Laude, from Evangelical Theological Seminary, Myerstown, PA, in 2010. Chaplain Fuller accessioned as a Chaplain to the Reserves in 2014 and joined the Active Army in 2016. He has served in a variety of units. Chaplain Fuller is an Ordained Anglican Priest. He has been married to Heather for 19 years, and they have four children. He is currently works at the Chief of Chaplains Initiative Group as head of Research and Development. He is interested in studying the impact Trinitarian Beliefs have on counseling and self-image.



Chaplain James Henrich. I'm completing my 11th year as a Staff Chaplain (certification/APC) at Arkansas Children's Hospital, Little Rock, AR. My primary areas of responsibility include the NICU, CVICU, and the Palliative Care team. I've a ThM (Dallas Theological Seminary) and 23 yrs. of vocational pastoral ministry in several non-denominational churches. My research interests are moral distress in nursing/medical staff, chaplaincy charting, parent perceptions of the

chaplain's role in a pediatric hospital, and the practice of shared-decision making in pediatric intensive care units.



Eunice Kamaara, Ph.D. Dr. Kamaara is a professor of Moi University, Eldoret, Kenya, and International Affiliate of Indiana University Purdue University, Indianapolis, IN. She holds a BA (Sociology & Religion), MPhil. (Religion), MSc. (International Health Research Ethics), and, PhD (African Christian Ethics). She conducts trans/multi-disciplinary community participatory research on gender, character values, religion, and holistic health, and has over 100 publications. She has served the World Council of Churches, the World Bank, United States Agency for International Development, the United Nations Population Fund, and Templeton World Charity Foundation Inc., among others. She has served on the International Board of Directors of Church World Service (New York, NY) and the Theological Bok network (Grand Rapids, MI). Currently, she serves on Medecines San Frontieres Ethics Review Board, and on the advisory board of Social Science Research Council (New York, NY). Dr. Kamaara is a Top 30 2019 WHO Africa health innovator (<http://innov.afro.who.int/innovators/professor-eunice-kamaara-25>).



Susan M. Kilonzo, Ph.D. Susan is an Associate Professor of sociology of religion at Maseno University, Kenya. Her PhD and Masters degrees are in Sociology of Religion. Her research and training areas are largely focused on the place of religious beliefs & orientations on social, economic, psychological, political, and spiritual development of communities. In 2008, Susan received Peace Research Training from University for Peace (Upeace), and has since been involved in peace research, mainly working with victims of violence. Her recent research focuses on role of religion and religious institutions in peacebuilding and conflict resolution, with special interest in responding to trauma. Further, Susan has researched, trained and consulted in the areas of Religion and Governance, Religion and Peacebuilding, Gender, and HIV and AIDS in Africa.



Do Hoon Kim, M.D. Dr. Kim is a professor in the department of psychiatry at Hallym University College of Medicine in South Korea. In 2000, he was trained as a visiting professor with Professor Ellinwood/Tong Lee at Duke University Hospital. He is interested in research on religion and spirituality and published

several papers on international journals as the lead author. His research interests are the biological effects of prayer (the imposition of hands, prayer in tongues, group prayer, etc.) on the human brain and body, and is interested in exploring factors involved in religious miraculous healing in Korean churches. He has published numerous papers on this topic.



Ni Made Taganing Kurniati, Ph.D. Aning is a Clinical Psychologist and Researcher at the Faculty of Psychology, Universitas Gunadarma, Indonesia. She studies forgiveness, culture, religion, mental health, and well-being flourishing. She is interested in culturally sensitive psychological intervention, which resulted in the development of the REACH Forgiveness Collectivistic, the adaptation of Worthington's model that considers harmonious values and interpersonal reasons. Together with a global team, she developed the online-based version of the do-it-yourself (DIY) REACH Forgiveness that is suitable for individual use and lockdown conditions. Funded by the Templeton Foundation Charity Fund (TWCF), this method is being examined cross-culturally in Indonesia, Hongkong, Colombia, South Africa, and Ukraine. In the communities, she promotes forgiveness through an online campaign and introduces REACH Forgiveness for Christians to Christian communities.

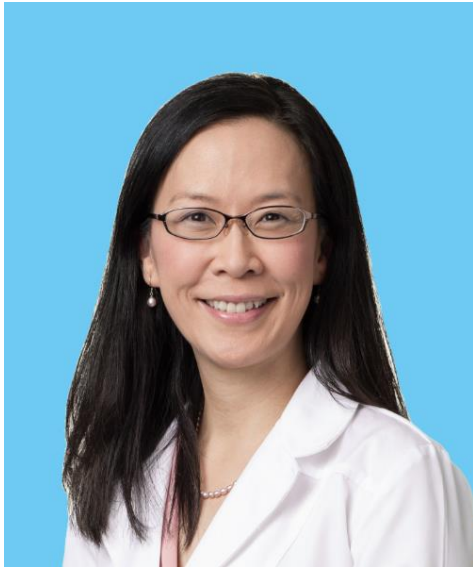


Sean J. LaBat, M.Div. Clinical staff chaplain at Central Virginia VA Medical Center in Richmond, Virginia. His main clinical areas are substance use disorder and mental health. He is also a chaplain with the US Navy reserve and has deployed to Djibouti and Somalia. LaBat's areas of research include the growth and development of the chaplaincy profession, intersections between spirituality care and psychology. He is currently working with behavioral health expertise at his hospital to develop a spirituality group protocol that will bring together spirituality practices and cognitive behavioral therapy modalities. His book, *Anton Boisen: Madness, Mysticism, and the Origins of Clinical Pastoral Education* was published last year by Rowman and Littlefield. He has a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Chicago and an M.Div. from St. Vladimir's Seminary in Yonkers, NY.



Veronica Place Leon, PhD, RN. Veronica works in Quality Management for the Veterans Administration Desert Pacific Healthcare Network (VISN 22) overseeing

various quality programs over eight hospital systems. She earned her Doctor of Philosophy degree in Nursing from the University of Arizona. Her dissertation work focused on the relationship between relational prayer, perceived stress, post-traumatic stress disorder, and resilience among medical flight crews. Her research interests include spirituality and wellness among physicians and nurses, holistic approaches to healthcare, psychoneuroimmunology, the long-term effects of trauma & stress, building resilience, and self-care.



Christine Liu, M.D. I enjoy working at UT Southwestern as an assistant professor of Family Medicine doing full-spectrum FP and OB care. Previously, I had the opportunity to work as a community medicine attending both domestically and abroad, serve on disaster relief and rural medicine trips internationally, and offer medical service to victims of human trafficking. I spent several years in East Asia with Samaritan's Purse. Spirituality is such an important part of patients' healing and providers' resiliency. In future research, I hope to promote the incorporation of spirituality in our conversations about wellbeing in the academic arena. Subtopics of interest that I hope to delve into include promoting refugee care and resiliency, as well as outreach and support of victims of abuse or trafficking.



Elaine C. Long, PhD, MBA. Dr. Elaine Long has a Business Psychology doctorate from The Chicago School of Professional Psychology; she is a holistic teacher and consultant for strategic and operational transitions and mind, body, and spiritual wellness. Her phenomenological study, *Faith at Work: People, Places, Practices, and Tools* including heuristics is a theoretically-grounded and empirically validated discovery of workplace spirituality, faith at work, and positive psychology. Paper presentation: *Workplace Spirituality: Literature Review and Opportunities for Future Scholarship* at Academy of Management, 2021. *How to Maintain Quality of Life in the VUCA World Exploring Resilience, Mindfulness, and Emotional Awareness* workshop for Midwest Academy of Management, 2020. Published a peer-reviewed journal, “Keeping a Clear Path to an Open Heart” in *Light on Ayurveda Journal of Health*, and is an Adjunct Professor of Qualitative Research.



James Stephen Meka, PhD. Dr. Stephen is a Professor of Computer Science & Engineering and is the Principal of WISTM Engineering College, Visakhapatnam. He is an Executive Council member of Andhra University and serves on various institution boards. James also acts as the Mentor of American Corner,

Visakhapatnam. He has three Masters in Computer Science & Engineering (MCA, MPhil(CS), MTech), a Master degree in Business Administration (MBA), and a Master in Divinity (MDiv). He obtained his Ph.D in Computer Science & Systems Engineering from Andhra University, India. James Stephen owns eleven patents and three copy rights in the field of Computer Science Engineering and its applications. He published over fifty quality research papers, and he authored nine books. He produced six Ph.Ds and is presently supervising ten research scholars at Andhra University. He is an expert in amalgamating technology with social needs to provide novel solutions. James was also a member of the Indian Higher Education Knowledge Delegation that traveled to the United States of America in 2018. He visited MIT, Harvard, New York University, University of Connecticut, and University of Pennsylvania. He gets frequent speaking opportunities on various secular and spiritual platforms in India and abroad. James is known as a passionate teacher, preacher, researcher, and as a social worker with a strong dedication towards community growth.



Yoo Sun Moon, M.D., M.P.H., Ph.D. I am currently working as a research fellow in the department of Psychiatry in Hallym College of Medicine in Chuncheon, South Korea. I graduated from Yonsei University College of Medicine and have worked as a family physician for about 20 years. I did my M.P.H. in University of North Carolina in 2001. I have participated in research in mental health for several years, especially on depression and dementia, and mental health and religion My current research interests are in spirituality/religiosity and (mental) health, and how they are interconnected.

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Ketevan Mosashvili, Ph.D. My formal education has been in Psychological Counseling (Bachelor's and Master's) concluding with PhD in Personality and Clinical Psychology in 2016. My early career started with diagnostics and counseling in children's hospital for seven years. Further I was trained in Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy as therapeutic approach. I have also received several methodological trainings in psychology of religion research during my PhD studies. Since 2014 I have been mostly concentrated on teaching at HEI and research. I currently work as Assistant Professor at Tbilisi State University in the country of Georgia (in the Caucasus region situated at the juncture of Western Asia and Eastern Europe) and am a counselor in high school. I also coordinate the Psychological Counseling Center at the university. My research interests are related to religiosity and spirituality as contributing factors for better mental health and meaning in life. I am also curious about values and prejudice formation.



Violet Naanyu, Ph.D. I am Associate Professor in the School of Arts and Social Sciences, Moi University, Kenya. I hold MA Sociology (Indiana University, USA), MA Medical Anthropology (Univ. of Amsterdam, NL), and PhD in Sociology (Indiana University, USA). I am currently undertaking a MSc in Global Bioethics. I serve as Co-Field Director of Research, Indiana University-Kenya Program (<https://www.ampathkenya.org/research>), Eldoret; Founder, AMPATH Qualitative Research Core; Member, Africa Ethics Working Group and Member, National Bioethics Committee, National Commission for Science Technology and Innovations, Kenya. I am particularly interested in implementation research and any evaluations designed to improve wellbeing and health care delivery in resource-limited settings. I am actively involved in international collaborative multidisciplinary community engaged research. My research utilizes mixed methods to understand and address factors affecting individuals' willingness to engage in health care. I am also interested in global bioethics and collaborative

evaluations designed to improve research and care delivery in resource-limited settings.



Rushil V. Patel, M.D. Rushil is a second-year hematology/oncology fellow at the Atrium Health Levine Cancer Institute. He graduated from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill School with his medical degree and completed internal medicine residency at Cone Health. At Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, he then completed a clinical fellowship in hospice and palliative medicine followed by the Frances Y. Tang Research Fellowship in Palliative Medicine. He is interested in the integration of palliative care for patients with hematologic disorders and the development of culturally-concordant palliative care interventions for patients with cancer who identify with South Asian religions.



Manuel Ramirez-Zea, MD, PhD. Dr. Ramirez-Zea is a Guatemalan MD and PhD in exercise physiology obtained at the Pennsylvania State University. He is the head of the Research Center for the Prevention of Chronic Diseases and Department of Nutrition and Chronic Diseases, at the Institute for Nutrition of Central America and Panama. He has implemented research projects on epidemiology and interventions on primary and secondary prevention of chronic diseases. Research interest areas: obesity; behavior change and healthy lifestyles;

mental and spiritual fitness; and cardiometabolic risk factors. He has mentored +50 undergraduate and graduate students. He has +130 publications in peer-reviewed journals and book chapters. He received the Science and Technology Medal, the highest distinction awarded by the Guatemalan government to professionals who excel in scientific research and technology.



Kathryn H. Schlegel. Kathi is beginning her doctoral studies, in the fall of 2022, in the Joint Doctoral Program at the University of Denver/ Iliff School of Theology. She earned a Master in Theological Studies, graduating with honors, from the Iliff School of Theology in June, 2022. Kathi is focusing on the intersection of psychology and religion with an emphasis on well-being, and religious/spiritual practices that expand resilience, particularly for those in the healthcare field experiencing trauma and burnout. Kathi is active in the Denver philanthropic community, participates in a quarterly Salon that she founded 20 years ago focused on discussing books, art, and music, and enjoys hiking, fishing, and skiing in the Colorado mountains with her husband of 33 years.

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Sandhya Seshadri, Ph.D. Dr. Seshadri is a Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Neurology, University of Rochester. She received her PhD in Health Practice Research from the University of Rochester School of Nursing. Her research focuses on the quality of life, well-being, and spiritual needs of adult patients and care partners of adults with serious neurological illnesses. With interest and expertise in qualitative research methods she has been a co investigator on several inter-professional research studies and programs. She is currently a co investigator and a member of a multi-disciplinary team working on a Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute funded national design and implementation project to implement team-based outpatient palliative care for Parkinson's Disease (PD) across 33 Parkinson's Foundation US Centers of Excellence. She is also a co-investigator on three other research projects that

pertain to palliative care and interventions to provide meaningful support to care partners. She has published and presented her work at local, national, and international conferences.



Juehyun Shin, MSN, RN, CWOCN. Juehyun is a first year Ph.D. student in Nursing at the University of Virginia. Born and raised in South Korea, she received a bachelor's degree in nursing there and worked as an intensive care unit nurse before emigrating to the United States. Since she started working as a wound, ostomy, and continence nurse, she has met people with different diagnoses in different care settings. She became interested in their coping mechanisms, especially religious/spiritual coping, which were common in some way even in various contexts. While the application of religion and spirituality in the healthcare system is mostly focused on the process of death, she found that many patients, especially adolescents, use it as a coping mechanism for life. The topic of her dissertation thesis is religious/spiritual coping of adolescents with chronic diseases, especially those with ostomy.



Olutayo Shodipo. I am an ordained Nigerian Baptist minister with years of experience in pastoral care and counseling, and educational ministry. I have

worked with churches, communities, hospitals, and schools in Nigeria and abroad for more than two decades. I have master's degrees in business administration, theology and religious studies, divinity, and a certificate in clinical pastoral education. I am currently a doctoral student at St. Stephen's College, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada, after which I will return to Nigeria in 2023 after I complete my doctorate. I am studying the topic of spirituality and health in people with developmental disabilities in the practice of pastoral care ministry, exploring how the understanding of the way Adults with Developmental Disabilities (ADDs) express their spirituality may impact the Pastoral Care ministry practices of the church.



Malik Muhammad Sohail, Ph.D. is an assistant professor of sociology at the University of Chakwal, Pakistan. He earned his PhD from the University of Sargodha and completed a doctoral fellowship at Harvard University. He is senior research fellow at the Center for Health Policy and Inequalities Research, and non-resident faculty scholar at the Center for Spirituality, Theology and Health at Duke University. His research interests include wellbeing, spiritual needs during illness, and religious/spiritual coping and health. He has been conducting studies among Muslim populations particularly in Pakistan. He has published more than 25 research papers in prestigious international journals. Currently he is working on the religious/spiritual needs of people living with disabilities.



Michelle Solomon, RN. Michelle is a Registered Nurse in Ontario, Canada. She has practiced mental health nursing for 12 years in acute care and community ambulatory settings. She also has experience as a course instructor in nursing, and researcher in mental health nursing. Michelle is the past founder and executive director of a peer support organization that worked to promote recovery in individuals affected by mental illness. She has earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Master of Science in Nursing from Western University and is currently a PhD candidate at Western. Her research interests include exploring spirituality and religion in youth living with mood disorders and psycho-social-spiritual factors affecting youth mental health.



Tobias Kvist Stripp, M.D., Ph.D. candidate. I am a licensed medical doctor with interest in public health research concerned with the interactions between religion, spirituality, existential orientations, and health. To study this, I am using large survey samples coupled with detailed national Danish register data. Since May 2020 I have been engaged as a PhD student at the University of Southern Denmark. During April-August 2022 I am affiliated with the Human Flourishing Program and the Epidemiology department at Harvard University by invitation

from Prof. Tyler VanderWeele. I am a highly motivated researcher and clinician with a deepfelt sense of purpose with my work.



Natasha Torlay. I'm currently attending as a Jungian Clinical Psychologist in a private office for 9 years in Sao Paulo, Brazil, and also studying for my PhD, in the Medicine College, guided by Mario Peres investigating "Religious and Spiritual Beliefs: meanings and representations associated with mental health". My Master's was focused on Clinical Psychology in a Catholic University. The thesis was named "The influence of religious-spiritual coping on the QOL of parents, after a loss of a child by violent causes" and had a great opportunity to present that in the Assoc, of Death Education Conf. in Pittsburgh 2018. I served as a volunteer in a hospital for a year at the Severe Grief and Coping Outpatient providing psychological assistance. Previously I worked with Human Resources. My interests are in R/S Beliefs associated to Mental Health the representation of God and the role of R/S in Trauma.



Rev. Kathy Turner, MDiv, BCC, APC. Kathy is an Ordained and Board-Certified Chaplain with the APC. She earned her Master's in Divinity from Duke University and achieved certification as a Mental Health First Aid instructor. She is currently a hospice chaplain with Novant Health and Hospice in Charlotte, NC. Kathy began her ministry as a chaplain in 2006 and has worked at John Umstead Psychiatric Hospital, UNC Hospitals, and Atrium Health. Prior to ministry as a chaplain Kathy earned her Bachelor's in Business from the University of Central Florida and ran her own company. Kathy reads many articles on mental wellness and faith but has always sought to find the answer to why and where the voice of God went and if it is disguised in what we call mental illness.



Emily VanderKlok. Emily is a pastor, speaker and research/ evaluation professional with an emphasis on international and multicultural spiritual formation. Emily received her master's degree in Spirituality, Cultural and Health from Western Michigan University and serves the Kingdom managing the

quantitative research and evaluation team for Compassion International. Emily and her husband Josh also co-pastor Res Life Holland conducting outreach and ministry to both the English speaking and Spanish speaking communities of West Michigan. With an additional 15 years of experience managing public health interventions for minority communities, Emily finds particular interest in researching the intersection of spirituality, culture and health.



Beatrice Williams, PhD. Beatrice is a licensed practicing clinical psychologist with over nine years of experience in research, education and clinical practice. She obtained her graduate and postgraduate education degrees in clinical psychology and public mental health from the University of Ghana, Accra and Stellenbosch University, Stellenbosch, South Africa. Currently, she is a doctoral candidate at Department of Psychology, University of Ghana. Beatrice is also a member of academic faculty at the Department of Psychiatry, University of Ghana Medical School. Her research interest is in suicidal behaviours, self-harm and social advocacy for adolescents and marginalized populations. Currently she is focused on research aimed at determining/describing the epidemiology of suicidal behaviours. Within the next couple of years she will be using the epidemiological knowledge in exploring suicide prevention strategies; particularly among adolescents and emerging adults enrolled in tertiary education.



Brady M. Wolfe. I am a current undergraduate student planning on going to medical school next Fall. I am a biology and religion double major at Wofford College and have taken courses on religion and medicine, studied medical and religious conflict with Christian Scientists, researched the religious (defined broadly) impacts of a child's illness experience, and am currently researching the narrative of the healthy child (as defined by Ninian Smart's typology). I enjoy researching and learning about the ways in which medicine and religion cause corroboration and/or conflict, researching how the field of biomedicine is itself religious, researching disability stigma, and looking at the importance of intercultural/interfaith communication in the clinical setting.

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Arturo E. Trew. Pastor.