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E. James Baesler, Ph.D. (University of Arizona, 1990) is Associate Professor of Communication at Old Dominion University’s Department of Communication and Theatre Arts in Norfolk, VA. He has been engaged in investigating the relationship between communication and prayer for the past decade, and has published his findings in journals such as: Journal of Communication and Religion, Journal of Ecumenical Studies, Presence: An International Journal of Spiritual Direction, Review of Religious Research, and Women and Therapy. His first scholarly book (2003, Edwin Mellen Press, Studies in Religion and Society, Volume 64) is entitled: Theoretical explorations and empirical investigations of communication and prayer. Contact: jbaesler@odu.edu

Jannette Berkley-Patton, PhD, Assistant Research Professor. I am a new NIH investigator serving as research assistant faculty in the Psychology Department at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. I've recently received an NIH Supplement to Promote Diversity in Health Related Research and am working in the areas of: 1) translating HIV/AIDS clinical trial research on antiretroviral therapy adherence to real world settings and 2) HIV/AIDS prevention and Black churches in the KC area. Contact: berkleypattonj@umkc.edu

Joseph Ciarrocchi, Ph.D., is Professor and Chairperson of the Department of Pastoral Counseling, Loyola College in Maryland. He received his doctorate in clinical psychology from The Catholic University of America and also holds a graduate degree in theology. He has served as Director of Taylor Manor Hospital’s Substance Abuse and Gambling Treatment Program and Director of Inpatient and Outpatient Services for the Saint Luke Institute, a psychiatric rehabilitation program for religious ministers. He has written five books including, The Doubting Disease: Help for Scrupulosity and Religious Compulsions; and, Counseling Problem Gamblers: A Manual for Individual and Family Therapy. His recent empirical work investigates the relationship between religion and spirituality with positive psychology variables such as subjective well-being, hope, optimism, self-regulation, and resilience in clinical and non-clinical populations. Contact: jciarrocchi@loyola.edu

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Dawn Dailey, R.N., Ph.D., graduated with a doctorate of philosophy in nursing from the University of California San Francisco in 2006. Her dissertation was titled Social Stressors and Personal Resources Associated with Perinatal Outcomes among African American Women. This research examined psychosocial stressors (perceived discrimination and lifetime trauma), psychosocial resources (spirituality and social support), and their relationship to perinatal outcomes along with other known correlates of perinatal outcomes. Her areas of interest are maternal child health, health disparities and perinatal outcomes, social inequalities, and health enhancing strengths. She currently holds the position of public health program manager with Contra Costa County Family, Maternal and Health Programs. Contact: dedailey@sbcglobal.net

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Henry L. Edmonds, MEd., is a pastor and educator, whose ministry has taken him from rule areas of North Carolina to remote areas of Africa. With a background of sit-ins, marches, and demonstrations, Edmonds has always been a human rights activist. With a background in human and civil rights, he has brought his experience to bear on the issues of Alzheimer’s disease. As coordinator of the African-American Community Outreach Program at the Bryan Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center, he seeks to create health/faith partnerships targeting health disparities, and procurement and retention of African-Americans in clinical studies. Contact: hledmond@duke.edu.

Karen Lenore Edwards, MS, Ph.D., received her training (general with clinical emphasis) in psychology from Howard University, Washington, D.C., and a Ph.D. with specialties in social/organizational & clinical psychology from the University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio. Dr. Edwards is a tenured associate professor of psychology, A&S Department of Psychology, University of Cincinnati, where she teaches graduate and
undergraduate courses (e.g., Consciousness/Mind: Transpersonal Psychology and Psychotherapy; Psychology of Religion, Psychology of Self, Africana Psychology, and Religion, Spirituality, Health & Wellness), and is currently in the process of developing a “gender-based Self-Reclamation theory” through a virtual reality simulation research project. Her work has been published for example, in the “Journal of Black Psychology,” the “Journal of Religion and Health,” and the texts “African American Mental Health” and “Research Measures for Black Populations” edited by the late Reginald Jones. She is working on two books at present which bring together thirty years of study within the areas of culture, gender, psychic phenomena, cognitive neuroscience, and spirituality/religion. Contact: oneworldthrutheone@fuse.net.

Sandra Tennison Gillan, M.Div., D.Min, is a hospital chaplain, who earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Texas Woman’s University in Denton, Texas in 1980 and a Master of Divinity from Brite Divinity School at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas in 1995. She completed a one year post-doctoral fellowship in Substance Abuse Specialty. In 1999, she earned a Doctor of Ministry degree from Graduate Theological Foundation in Donaldson, Indiana. She is a Board-Certified member of the Association of Professional Chaplains (APC), and Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries (ACM). She has been a chaplain at the Dallas VA for 12 years. Thus, in that context she has developed presentations for the hospital staff and community on the subject of spirituality and health. Contact: sjgillan@juno.com

Mark Killmer, M.Div., is a marriage and family therapist (MFT) and a pastoral counselor working on a Psy. D. He is the executive director of a Samaritan Counseling Center doing therapy, training and administration. Previously, he has been mental health chaplain and director of clinical in a residential treatment center. He is an ordained Presbyterian clergy person. He earned a B.A. in religion from Duke, M.Div. from Vanderbilt, post-masters in MFT from the Marriage Council (UPA) and a Psy.D. (soon) from the Graduate Theological Foundation. He has 6 quarters of CPE and AAMFT Approved Supervisor status. His dissertation focuses on religious coping, stress and clergy. He and his colleagues have designed a one-year pilot project of intensive spiritual practices for clergy with an outcome study to ascertain if these practices activate religious coping mechanisms that reduce the negative effects of stress. Contact: jmk62653@sbcglobal.net

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Sultan Ali Lakhani, M.D., M.P.H., is director of geriatric psychiatry, Virginia Commonwealth University. I graduated from Dow Medical college, Karachi in 1979. Has an MPH from The Johns Hopkins University in 1989. Completed residency in Psychiatry at Virginia Commonwealth University(VCU) Health System, Richmond in 1994 and Fellowship in Geriatric Psychiatry in 1995. Currently, I am the Director of Geriatric Psychiatry, Associate Medical Director Inpatient Psychiatry and Associate Director of Geriatric Psychiatry Fellowship at VCU Health System, Richmond, Virginia. I am Boarded in Adult Psychiatry and Psychosomatic Medicine, My research interest is in Spirituality in Dementia. Contact: LakhaniMD1@aol.com
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Nancy McCoy, MDiv, is a chaplain in the VA New Jersey Health Care System, interested in spirituality and amputees suffering from loss of limbs. I am an ordained Elder of the UMC serving the Oklahoma Conference and the Florida Conferences of the UMC over 21 years; Hospital chaplain at City of Faith in Tulsa, OKla. And Hillcrest Medical Center, two units of CPE, Volunteer in Mission to Cuba and Tibilisi, of the republic of Georgia, formerly the Soviet Union. In my last pastorate, Senior pastor, lead the church from 400-600, started a Stephens ministry program, the DISCIPLE BIBLE study. A new preschool for infants to 4year old with the program plans for a new 4,000 sq. ft. education wing. I graduated with B.S. in biology-pre-medicine, cum laude, taught high school and junior high science; attended Oral Roberts University School of Theology, M. DIV. Presently adjunct professor for the third and fourth year medical students at UMDNJ as they rotate through the Gen. Medicine clerkship teaching spirituality, cultural issues and patient health care. Contact: nancy.mccoy2@va.gov

Deborah Anne McMahan is health commissioner, Fort Wayne-Allen County Dept of Health, Fort Wayne, IN. Currently serving as the Health Commissioner of the Fort Wayne – Allen County Department of Health, which is a community of approximately 332,000 residents. I completed a Medical Doctorate and Internal Medicine Residency at Indiana University, followed by a three year fellowship in Health Outcomes Research at the Regenstrief Institute. I strongly believe in holistic medicine and the integral relationship between religion and health. I am in the process of developing a model for a faith based medical clinic that will have two primary objectives. The first is to provide compassionate healing to insured, federally insured, and uninsured residents in a medically underserved area of our community. The second objective is to provide a work environment for healthcare providers and staff that will facilitate servant leadership in the delivery of healthcare, increasing their own job satisfaction and consistency of care. The Workshop on Religion and Health will provide an excellent opportunity to further develop the clinic concept and begin to identify the measurement tools and potential consultants that will be useful in measuring the impact this clinic will have on both patients and the healthcare providers that serve them. Contact: ddebmcmahan@aol.com


Robert L. Miller, Jr., Ph.D. Dr. Miller is a social work researcher and assistant professor at the University of Albany. He examines spirituality in the lives of African Americans affected by AIDS. He has examined HIV prevention efforts of African American clergy within their congregations and coping strategies for African American women over 50 living with AIDS. He currently explores spiritual agency as a framework for HIV prevention among black gay men. Dr. Miller earned a Doctor of Philosophy and Master’s Philosophy from Columbia University, a MSW from the University of Pennsylvania, and completed course work at Union Theological Seminary in New York City. Contact: rmiller@albany.edu

Deborah S. Mobley, RN, MSN, is pursuing a doctorate in healing through Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) School of Nursing. She also completed her undergraduate degree in nursing and graduate degree in nursing administration at VCU. She completed an Executive Fellowship in Patient Safety through the VCU. Debbie completed her studies as a Faith Community Nurse and Coordinator through Shenandoah University. Work experiences include former Director of Performance Improvement, VCU Health System, regulatory compliance, patient safety, quality, and trauma emergency nursing. Currently serves as adjunct faculty in the VCU Schools of Nursing and Health Administration. Research interests include patient safety and faith community nursing. Contact: Nursemobley@verizon.net.

Aaron B. Murray-Swank, Ph.D., is a psychologist and Assistant Professor at the University of Maryland School of Medicine in the Department of Psychiatry. He is also a research investigator in the Veterans Affairs Capitol Health Care Network Mental Illness Research, Education, and Clinical Center (MIRECC). He received his Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Bowling Green State University, and completed post-doctoral training in the VA Special Fellowship Program in Advanced Psychology and Psychiatry. Dr. Murray-Swank’s research and clinical work focuses on family psychoeducation services and other recovery-based programs for adults with serious mental illness. In 2005, Dr. Murray-Swank was awarded a 3-year VA Health Services Research Career Development award to study the implementation of family psychoeducation services for persons with schizophrenia and their families. Dr. Murray-Swank’s current research also examines the role of spirituality in the lives of people with mental illness and their caregivers, and experiences of stigma among persons with serious mental illness. Contact: Aaron.Murray-Swank@va.gov

Nichole Murray-Swank, Ph. D., is Assistant Professor of Pastoral Counseling. She has her PhD and MA from Bowling Green State University, and her BA from the University of Notre Dame. Dr. Murray-Swank is a clinical psychologist who specializes in the intersection of spirituality, religion, and psychology. Her primary research and clinical interests focus on spirituality, sexual abuse, and trauma, as well as the integration of spirituality in the counseling process. She has published several articles in this area and has presented her work at national and international conferences. Dr. Murray-Swank has also developed a spiritually-integrated treatment manual for survivors of sexual abuse (Solace for the Soul: A Journey Towards Wholeness©). She leads a research group entitled TRUST (Together Researching and Understanding Spirituality and Trauma) that focuses on research projects and clinical training in the area of spirituality and trauma. She teaches research methods and counseling courses at Loyola, and serves on the
Research Committee. She also serves as a Research Board Member for the Art of Living Foundation, an international NGO devoted to humanitarian aid. She is a member of the American Psychological Association, American Counseling Association, and the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies. Contact: namurrayswank@loyola.edu


Johnrice (JR) Newton, B.A., R.N., Senior Research Nurse, UT Southwestern Medical Center, Department of Family and Community Medicine, 6203 Harry Hines Blvd, Dallas, Texas. My career in caring for others started with my obtaining my B.A. degree in Social Welfare. I moved that passion into nursing by receiving my R.N. training. After receiving training in Basic Parish Nursing and Parish Nurse Coordinator’s Training, I have had experience working with a large non-profit in Dallas as a Parish Nurse for an indigent inner city church and its surrounding community. Currently I work for UT Southwestern Medical Center Dallas in the department of Family and Community Medicine as a Senior Research Nurse with the GoodNEWS Program. I feel that this workshop will assist me greatly to understand the logistics of research and strengthen my contribution to our grant writing team. Contact: Johnrice.Newton@UTSouthwestern.edu

Patrick O’Connor, M.D., M.P.H., is practicing physician within HealthPartners Medical Group and Senior Clinical Investigator at HealthPartners Research Foundation. He is an active member of ICSI and is co-author of ICSI guidelines on the following clinical topics: diabetes mellitus type 2, obesity management in mature adolescents and adults, hypertension, lipid treatment, and lipid screening. He has recently completed a 3-year appointment as a coauthor of the American Diabetes Association's clinical practice recommendations document, the national diabetes treatment guideline, published each January in Diabetes Care. In recent articles in JAMA, Health Services Research, American Journal of Managed Care, Diabetes Care, and other journals, Dr. O’Connor advocates the tailoring of evidence-based clinical recommendations to the realities of primary care practice and the need to customize care to the needs of individual patients. Contact: Patrick.J.OConnor@HealthPartners.Com

Jayasree Reddi, M.D. I have been working as staff psychiatrist at John Umstead Hospital in Butner, North Carolina, for last nine years managing people with chronic and persistent mental illness. Prior to that I worked at Community Mental Health Center of Southeastern Connecticut in both Norwich and New London for three years. This involved working in a Crisis Center, a Partial Hospitalization Program and Outpatient Clinics. I have my MBBS degree from India and completed Psyche Residency at Norwich Hospital in Connecticut. Over the course of my career I began to realize and deeply appreciate the role of spiritual practices including Yoga and meditation. I believe that my research interest in this discipline in those with severe mental illness is a natural development based on my background. Contact: jayasree.reddi@ncmail.net

Eugenio Restrepo, M.Div, Ph.D. candidate. I was born in Bogotá, Colombia. I am married and have two children. I have been a Covenant missionary to Malaga Spain for ten year. I have developed a Center for leaders and pastors for Christian ministry, particularly among Gypsies

John Roseman, M.D. I am a fourth year resident in the Massachusetts General/McLean Hospital Adult Psychiatry Residency Training Program in Boston (Harvard). This year I am the administrative chief resident at McLean, a position that combines administrative, clinical, teaching, and research responsibilities. Long before medical school, I studied religion while an undergraduate at Princeton, focusing on modern Christian ethics, particularly Just War theory, in addition to briefly studying a variety of world religions. Currently, I am interested in understanding how people with chronic psychiatric illness integrate having mental illness with their sense of self and identity. In particular, I am interested in how religious belief and practice helps in this process. Contact: jroseman@partners.org

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Jame Schaefer, Ph.D., from Marquette University. I am a systematics/ethics theologian at Marquette University with an academic line dedicated to relating religion and science. Undergraduate students who brave my basic theology-natural sciences course prompted my interest in the medicine-religion relationship, and that interest lead to a successful interdisciplinary teleconference with Drs. Koenig and Maedor in Spring 2004, some in-depth research, a lecture tour in Kenya and Tanzania during summer 2004 on constructively relating religious faith and medical treatment to heal the patient, and a Grand Rounds lecture at the Medical College of Wisconsin in April 2005. Through agreement between Marquette’s colleges of Arts & Sciences and Nursing, I have been drafted to develop a seminar on religion, spirituality, and health care to be offered in Fall 2007 to students in Nursing’s new doctoral program (also open to Religious Studies doctoral students), so will be thinking seriously about that task while attending the workshop next week. Eventually I would like to accept an offer to teach a religion-medicine course at a new medical school in Tanzania and plan to be more informed about sub-Saharan religions when preparing to present a paper on this topic at the American Academy of Religion in November. Contact: jame.schaefer@marquette.edu.

Peter W. Shaughnessy, Ph.D., is Emeritus Professor of Medicine in the Division of Health Care Policy and Research, and former Director of the Center for Health Services Research, at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. As a health policy or health services researcher, and mathematical statistician, his main interests have been in deriving clinical/policy implications from research; improving health and support care for the elderly and impoverished; applying statistical and epidemiological methods; designing research studies; conducting large-
scale, empirical research to assess cost-effectiveness of health interventions/innovations; evaluating patient outcomes and quality of care/life; applying multivariate risk adjustment; and conducting team-oriented, prospective studies involving both secondary and primary data collection and analysis. Dr. Shaughnessy has been awarded between $60 and $70 million in funded research as a principal investigator. He became a certified spiritual director after retiring for health reasons in 2004. Although a novice in research on spirituality, religion, and health, he recently has become interested in this field. Assuming his health is stabilizing, he is hoping to contribute in this new research field (for him), perhaps by collaborating with others. Contact: pws@evcohs.com

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