# Erika M. Dawkins, Psy.D., M.Ed.

LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST (PS019046)

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# **EDUCATION**

#### WIDENER UNIVERSITY

Doctorate of Psychology – Clinical Psychology (2014) School Psychology Certification (2014) Pennsylvania Certified School Psychologist (PPID: #6020981)

#### WIDENER UNIVERSITY

Master of Education - Human Sexuality (2014)

#### WIDENER UNIVERSITY

Master of Arts - Clinical Psychology (2012)

#### HOWARD UNIVERSITY

B.S., Psychology, magna cum laude, phi beta kappa (2008)

**Research Interests:** People of Color and Interpersonal Relationships; microaggressions and intersectionality; sexuality and sexual experiences; Bipolar I and II; social media and impact on relationship development

#### DISERTATION

Dawkins, E. (2014). From inside the ivory tower: Exploring the microaggressions experienced by racial/ethnic minority women faculty in the STEM fields.

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While scientific investigations of microaggressions and intersectionality are slowly gaining popularity in the field of psychology, there is limited study of the experiences of minorities outside of the traditional helping professions. Currently, little is known about the unique experiences of microaggressions experienced by those managing multiple identities in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines within higher education. This intensive three-person case study utilized qualitative analysis to explore the lived experience of historically underrepresented racial/ethnic minority women faculty in the STEM fields, related to microaggressions. The study highlights the intersectionality of race and gender in their experiences, and what they articulate is important in improving the academe experience and climate for future minority women in STEM.

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

Dawkins, E. (2007). Interactions with Michael: A case study of interpersonal relationships related to multiracial identity development. Howard University Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program Journal of Research, 12, 40-46.

# WORK EXPERIENCE

# ADJUNCT FACULTY MEMBER

Widener University

Chester, Pennsylvania (August 2021-December 2021)

Co-taught Diversity course with a core faculty member. Recorded asynchronous work in addition to presenting synchronous class material. Developed course discussions and assignments related to diversity and challenging students to consider their privilege as they grow in their skills as a budding psychologist.

# DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND JUSTICE CONSULTANT

Institute of Graduate Clinical Psychology, Widener University

Chester, Pennsylvania (August 2020-August 2022)

Consulted with the Practicum and Internship Committee and the Director of the Institute of Graduate Clinical Psychology around issues of diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice as they arose. Provided expertise around sensitive issues, and advised department around language use, and approach to addressing the concerns of historically and currently marginalized groups.

# SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST (PPID# 6020981)

Widener Partnership Charter School

Chester, Pennsylvania (July 2018-August 2022)

The primary responsibility of the school psychologist is to conduct psychoeducational evaluations for kindergarten through 8th grade students at a partnership charter school. Additional duties include serving as chair of the Response to Intervention and Instruction (RtII) Child Study Team (CST). This team meets weekly to discuss grade span and individual student concerns related to academic and behavioral performance. As the school psychologist, there is also a responsibility to supervise the current doctoral level interns, and practicum students. Additional responsibilities may include but are not limited to conducting classroom observations, FBAs, 504 assessments and planning, participating in IEP meetings, performing teacher/staff consultations, working on multidisciplinary team, individual counseling sessions, conducting safety/self-harm assessments in crisis situations and providing push in classroom support services. The school psychologist is also responsible for processing the paperwork requested by the Social Security Administration for Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

# PRINCIPAL PSYCHOLOGIST AND OWNER

Revolutionary Perspectives, LLC

# Drexel Hill, Pennsylvania (January 2019-Present)

A counseling, coaching, and consulting firm dedicated to addressing your mental and sexual health questions and supporting healing one real conversation at a time. I am interested in all of the factors that come together to influence who you have become, to determine those that will impact who you ultimately determine you are destined to be. I work with individuals and groups in a number of different areas, including outpatient, inpatient, community mental health, corrections, and public and charter school settings. In addition to coaching and consulting, I provide integrated counseling in the areas of individual, couples, family, and group work. I have also served as a keynote speaker at a variety of venues such as colleges and universities, churches, women's groups, graduations, and field-related conferences.

#### **CLINICAL DIRECTOR**

Chester Community Coalition

# Chester, Pennsylvania (September 2019-Present)

The mission of the Chester Community Coalition is to heal the psychological and emotional impact of homicides and reduce trauma-related reactive violence in the City of Chester, PA. The Chester Community Coalition offers trauma-informed counseling, free of cost, to bereaved families of homicide victims and survivors of violence. Counseling takes place in a group format for 12 weeks, in fall and spring. Services are offered with the strictest confidentiality and commitment to compassionate care. As the Lead Therapist for the Healing and Strength group, I am responsible for cofacilitating one group with a Master's level counselor, and providing weekly supervision to each of the assigned counselors. I also am responsible for the revision of the weekly curriculum and structuring and providing supervision for additional groups in the community that Healing and Strength counselors may provide within the Chester area, at local schools and community organizations. I work closely with the Program Manager to see that the treatment needs of those interested in the Healing and Strength program are met, and to discuss how we may look to continue to grow as an organization.

# STS CLINICAL TEAM LEAD SUPERVISOR

Northeast Treatment Centers

# Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (June 2014-June 2018)

The STS Clinical Team Lead Supervisor functions as a supervisor for team leaders in addition to being a team leader for one or more schools. STS Clinical Team Lead provides clinical and management oversight for STS program. The primary task of the STS Clinical Team Leader is to ensure that services are provided and documented in a timely, coordinated and clinically effective fashion. The STS Clinical Team Leader provides clinical support through a combination of consultation and administrative activities, this entails collaboration with NET's agency; community based team members, school administrators and staff, as well as internal and external care managers. Several essential functions include: providing supervisory support and feedback to staff regarding their assigned clients; maintaining supervisory records; reviewing staff documentation; providing feedback and coaching to ensure that staff meet regulatory expectations for clinical documentation and billing practices; ensuring that staff adhere to quality and time guidelines for producing required documents; addressing consumer questions, concerns and complaints about service provision to the clients on their caseload; collaborating with evaluating psychiatrists/psychologists to produce updated evaluations; conferring with Program Director on problematic and high-profile cases/evaluations; and reviewing and resolving Incident Reports on clients within assigned caseload. Primary population is K-8<sup>th</sup> grade in an urban setting.

# INTERIM DIRECTOR OF SCHOOL-BASED SERVICES

Northeast Treatment Centers

# Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (October 2015-January 2016, June 2017-September 2017)

For a period of three months, duties pertaining to the STS Clinical Team Lead Supervisor were maintained while simultaneously serving as the Interim Director of School-based Services. Support and supervision were provided to three STS Clinical Team Leads. Several essential functions and responsibilities included: directing the activities and productivity

of the STS department; providing training and supervision of three team leads who supervise 5 schools; hiring, terminating and training staff; and working with the Vice President of Youth Behavioral Health around proposals, budget concerns, and daily operations of the STS program.

#### INTERN

# Widener University Partnership Charter School Chester, Pennsylvania (August 2013-June 2014)

Clinical training included individual and group therapy, and primary is conducting psychoeducational evaluations. Duties included conducting classroom observations, FBAs, participating in IEP meetings, performing teacher/staff consultations, weekly student RtII review meetings, working on multidisciplinary team, conducting weekly social skills group, individual counseling sessions and providing push in classroom support services. Population included kindergarten through eighth grade. All assessments were supervised by a certified school psychologist.

#### INTERN

# Widener University Counseling Center

# Chester, Pennsylvania (September 2012-June 2013)

Clinical training included individual therapy and testing experience. General caseload of 10-15 clients varying in length of treatment. Duties included intake evaluations, treatment planning, weekly caseload review, working on a multidisciplinary team, and attending a weekly case conference covering a variety of important topics for working with the college population. Primary population included 18+ undergraduate students, and graduate master's level students. Assessment opportunities, including report writing, were supervised.

#### PAID PRACTICUM STUDENT

# Fairmont Behavioral Health System

# Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (July 2011-June 2012)

Clinical training included individual therapy and group therapy experience. General caseload of 8-10 clients varying in length of treatment stay. Facilitated special topics groups when needed including process groups, relapse prevention, relationship building, and recreational groups. Primary population included adolescent females and males and women ages 18-30 with substance abuse and trauma histories often secondary to mental health diagnoses. Some assessment opportunities included chart review, intelligence and biopsychosocial interview.

#### PRACTICUM STUDENT

# Beverly Hills Middle School

#### Upper Darby, Pennsylvania (September 2010-May 2011)

Primarily a school psychology placement. Duties were to conduct achievement and intelligence testing for proper academic placement within the school. Provided brief counseling for students on a case-by-case basis. Conducted social skills building sessions with children having PDD. Provided some form of consultation to parents and teachers. Full report writing with supervision.

# PRACTICUM STUDENT

# Joseph E. Coleman Education Center, PENNCAPP Unit Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (September 2009-May 2010)

Clinical training time split between Coleman Hall, PENNCAPP Unit and Hoffman hall. Both facilities house a male forensic population. Hoffman hall is an in-prison treatment facility and the PENNCAPP Unit houses gentlemen who have violated their parole and have been sentenced to a 90 day lock down treatment program. Duties were to manage a caseload of individual, couple and family clients between the two facilities, as well as facilitate a special topics group and an anger management group of approximately ten gentlemen at a time each week. Co-facilitated once a week at Family Night, where supportive members of residents families participated in a psychoeducational group that covered a variety topics related to helping the resident transition back into the community.

#### PRACTICUM STUDENT

#### Carelink, Incorporated, STAR Program

# Norristown, Pennsylvania (October 2008-May 2009)

Co-facilitated groups on managing mental illness, relapse prevention, the offense cycle, and processing aggressive, problem behavior through film with an adult male population of sex offenders who were noted to have severe intellectual disabilities or mental health diagnoses. Also administered the SVR-20, a standard risk assessment measure and began training on the Hare Psychopathy Checklist.

### **BOARD MEMBERSHIP**

# **BOARD MEMBER**

**Better Living Center** 

Chester, Pennsylvania (December 2020-Present)

- Participate in reactivation of the board, and center for the Chester community
- Provide psychological expertise to structuring of programming for the Better Living Center

#### **BOARD MEMBER**

Life in Christ Ministries

Chester, Pennsylvania (July 2019-Present)

- Participate in planning meetings for church operations
- Keep meeting minutes for all board member meetings

# RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

#### Ronald E. McNair Scholar

• Ronald E. McNair Post Baccalaureate Program, Howard University, Washington, DC, Spring 2007. Conducted preliminary research during the summer of 2007 related to multiracial identity development and interpersonal relationships. Participated in GRE and graduate school preparation activities.

# Research Assistant

- Identity and Success Research Lab Undergraduate Research Assistant, Howard University, Washington, DC, 2006-2008. Assisted with ongoing projects and research within the lab related to multiracial identity development and the theory of race self-complexity. Served as Recruitment Phase Leader for PALS (Personality and Lives Study) Dr. Cynthia Winston, Department of Psychology.
- Dr. Deborah Roberts' Team, Howard University, Washington, DC, 2005-2006. Assisted in the collection of data for joint research with Dr. James Jones at the University of Delaware on the Universal Context of Racism; ran the experiment; participated in supplemental reading discussions. Dr. Deborah Roberts, Department of Psychology.

#### PROFESSIONAL AFFLIATIONS

- Pennsylvania Psychological Association, Member, 2020-Present
- American Psychological Association, APAGS Member, 2008-2014
- Pennsylvania Psychological Association, Student Member, 2010-2011
- Delaware Valley Association of Black Psychologist, Member, 2009-2011
- phi beta kappa, Gamma Chapter, 2008

# TELEVISION/RADIO PROGRAMMING APPEARANCES

Co-Host - <u>Instant Pleasure Radio Show</u>, WDNR 89.5, Widener University, Chester, PA, 2009-2014. Co-host of Widener University's Sex Talk Radio Show. Discussed a variety of topics on sexuality and sexual health every week. Helped to develop topic calendar, and research weekly topics prior to going on the air.

Multicultural Correspondent - <u>The Psycast Radio Show</u>, WDNR 89.5, Widener University, Chester, PA, 2009-2010. Special correspondent on Widener University's first psychology related broadcast. Presented/commented on various multicultural issues in psychology related to minorities as needed.

# LEADERSHIP/ORGANIZATIONAL INVOLVEMENT

- President/Facilitator, **Psychology NOIR**, Widener University, 2011 2014
  - o Adjunct Advisor, 2019-Present
- Member, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Rho Chi Zeta Chapter, Chester, PA, 2008-2016
  - Treasurer, 2009-2014
  - Graduate Advisor, Historian, 2008-2012
  - Parliamentarian, 2009-2012
- President, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Alpha Chapter, Howard University, 2007-2008
  3rd Vice President, 2006-2007
- Secretary, National Pan Hellenic Council, Howard University, 2007-2008

# **DISTINCTIONS**

American Psychological Association

- Minority Fellowship Program, Psychology Summer Institute Fellow, 2016
- -Minority Fellowship Program, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Pre-doctoral Fellow, 2010-2013
- APAGS/Division 31 Diversity Delegate, 2011
- Widener University Founders and Faculty Scholarship, 2008-2011
- College of Arts and Science Honors Association, Howard University, 2005-2008
- Howard University Legacy Scholarship, 2004-2008
- Dean's List, Howard University, Washington, DC, 2004-2008

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

# **Poster**

- Dawkins, E., Nath, S., & Prout, M. "From Inside the Ivory Tower: Exploring the Microaggressions Experienced by Racial/ Ethnic Minority Women Faculty in the STEM Fields." Poster presentation at the Widener University 2014 Graduate Student Research Symposium, Chester, PA, April 24, 2014.
- Dawkins, E., Terry, R., Winston, C., & Mangum, A. "What Does it Mean to be Multiracial?: An Exploratory Case Study of the Narrative Processing of Race Within Autobiographical Memories." Poster presentation at the Minority Fellowship Program Hour during the American Psychological Association 118<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, San Diego, CA, August 13, 2010.

### Oral - Research, Psychology

- Race Self Complexity and Interpersonal Relationships: Exploring the Melting Pot Relational Theory and Racial Self Identification of Multiracial Individuals, Presented at the Leslie H. Hicks Symposium, Howard University, Washington, DC 2008.
- Race Self Complexity and Interpersonal Relationships: Exploring the Melting Pot Relational Theory and Racial Self Identification of Multiracial Individuals, Presented at the College of Arts and Science 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Symposium on Undergraduate Research, Howard University, Washington, DC 2008.
- *Interpersonal Relationships and Multiracial Identity*, Presented at the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual McNair Scholars Research Symposium, Howard University, Washington, DC, August 2007.
- *Interpersonal Relationships and Multiracial Identity*, Presented at the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Rocky Mountain McNair Scholars Research Conference, Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, CO 2007.

#### Oral – Research, Sexuality

- Sex Flava: 101, Presented during the Black Student Union Week, Widener University, Chester, PA, September 21, 2010.
- College Relationships: 101, Presented during "The 1821 Experience" Pre-Orientation Program sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, Widener University, Chester, PA, August 24, 2010.

#### Oral - Community

- Understanding Deflection and Diversion from a Community Engagement Perspective, Presented at Chicago State University as a guest lecturer for Dr. Leigh R. Anderson, November 23, 2021
- Best Practices in Hospital-Linked Violence Intervention Community Service Perspective, Presented during the Chester Community Coalition Virtual Conference, Chester, PA, May 19, 2021
- Understanding Grief, Presented during the Grieving with Hope Conference, Life in Christ, Chester, PA, October 12, 2019

# References available upon request.