

## DCPA Student Executive Committee



**Sade Soares, Chair**

Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences

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Sade Soares is a third-year Clinical Psychology graduate student at Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS). She graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point with a Bachelor's of Science in Psychology. Following her graduation from West Point, Sade served as a Human Resources officer in the United States Army. She has eight years of Active Duty service and continues to be an Active Duty officer. During her time as an HR officer, Sade has held several leadership positions which included leading peers, enlisted members, and civilian government employees. Sade's military experiences have allowed her many opportunities to facilitate relationships among geographically isolated units, plan a wide range of organizational events, and engage in inter-organizational efforts.

Since beginning at USUHS, Sade has served as an interventionist on two studies: Preventing Obesity in the Military Child (POMC) and the Fitness and Lifestyle Improvement Program through Information Technology (FLIP-IT!). Sade's clinical interests include child and family issues, trauma, and psychosocial difficulties due to cultural factors. Her research interests include the intersectionality of historical trauma, cultural affiliation, and health factors. Sade is an avid volunteer and a new mother to a four-month-old son.



**Alix Mansbach, MS, Past- Chair**

George Washington University

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My name is Alix Mansbach and I am a fourth-year doctoral candidate in the Psy.D. program at George Washington University, a psychodynamically oriented program. Coming from a career as a social worker in New York City, I am very much enjoying this transition to a more clinical field and the variety of experiences I am fortunate to have throughout my training. My clinical interests include chronic and severe mental illness, trauma, forensic psychology, and on a lighter note, couples and family therapy. Currently I am an extern at the Psychiatric Institute of Washington, working with both adults and children, as well as St. Elizabeth's Hospital, working primarily with a forensic population. I am honored and excited to be coming on as the new chair-elect of the DCPA student Committee, and am looking forward to helping facilitate networking events, workshops, and of course, happy hours!



**Muhamed Hamza, MA, Campus Representative**

Argosy University, DC Campus

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Muhamed Hamza has a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology and a minor in pharmacology/toxicology from the State University of New York at Buffalo and a Master of Arts degree in Clinical Psychology from Argosy University, Washington, D.C. Currently, he is in his third year of the Doctor of Psychology program at Argosy University. Muhamed is interested in integrative healthcare, health psychology, as well as neuropsychology.

Muhamed has experience in neuropsychological and psychodiagnostic testing with adults and children. Currently, Muhamed is completing a psychology externship at a Pediatric Hospital, where he tests and treats children with a range of psychological issues. Muhamed

is excited to represent Argosy University in the DCPA and to build a social network and ties within the community.

Muhamed desires to one day be able to give back to the community through psychological services.



**Drew Lomax, MA, Ed.M., Campus Representative**

Howard University

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I am currently a second-year student pursuing a doctoral degree in Counseling Psychology at Howard University. I received a double Masters degree from Columbia University in Counseling Psychology and School Counseling. My interests include children and families, trauma, grief, and coping styles.

I am very excited to be a party of DCPA as a campus representative and look forward to the opportunities to interact with my fellow students, as well as other students and professionals through DCPA. I am excited to coordinate events and programs and spread

the word about DCPA programs to other Howard students.



**Alexandra Pilgrim, Campus Representative**

The Chicago School of Professional Psychology, DC Campus

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Alexandra Pilgrim is currently pursuing her Master's Degree in Industrial and Organizational Psychology at the Chicago School of Professional Psychology. She received her Bachelors of Science in Psychology from Virginia Commonwealth University. Alexandra also currently works as the Administrative Assistant for The Secure World Foundation in Washington D.C. Before joining SWF, she worked as a Program Supervisor at the Goodwill Workforce Development Center, helping individuals with various disabilities learn the appropriate skills to gain employment, and creating opportunities for them to join the workforce.

Her background is in the mental health field with five years of experience working for non-profit organizations supporting the special needs population and assisting with program development. She joined DCPA to develop working relationships with other professionals in the field, and looks forward to sharing opportunities and events with her peers.



**Don'Nika Jenkins, LGPC, Campus Representative**

Howard University

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I am a 2<sup>nd</sup> year Counseling Psychology Doctoral student at Howard University located in Washington, DC. As an undergraduate, I attended Morgan State University and received my Bachelor's Degree in General Psychology in 2012. As a graduate student, I attended The Chicago School of Professional Psychology and received a Master's degree in Counseling Psychology in 2015. As an early career professional within the field of counseling psychology, my clinical/research interests include promoting culturally competent assessments of minorities experiencing issues pertaining to colorism and also furthering the study of the color complex within minority cultures. As I join the DCPA team, I am excited to connect with other professionals and students within the field of psychology. In addition to this, I am elated to become a part of a team of mental health professionals dedicated to promoting mental health wellness throughout the DMV area.



**Kris Gebhard, Campus Representative**

George Mason University

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Kris (pronouns: they/them) is a doctoral student in the Clinical Psychology program at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA. After spending several years community organizing with trans and queer communities in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area, they came to psychology seeking to help make the field more accessible and resourceful to the LGBTQ community. Kris's research interests are interpersonal violence, intimate partner violence, hate violence against trans women, and research on masculinity relating to causes of male violence. One long-term goal of Kris's work is to do research that will allow them (and other psychologists) to serve as an expert witness in court cases when trans women are facing charges for defending themselves during hate

attacks. Kris is also interested in other research that will benefit the LGB, queer, and trans communities, especially work on resiliency, community resiliency, and empowerment.



**Tyler Hunter, MA, Campus Representative**

The Chicago School of Professional Psychology, DC Campus

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Tyler received a Bachelor's of Science in Psychology from Xavier University of Louisiana in 2012 and completed a Masters of Art in Forensic Psychology at Argosy University-ATL Campus in 2015. She is currently a second year PsyD student pursuing a Doctoral in Clinical Psychology. She hopes to continue with her concentration in forensic psychology. Her interests and goals include working with the government on profiling and assessing criminals, as well as providing expert testimonies in court cases. Tyler's current research interests include Mental Health disparities in the African American community, as well as the Transgender community.

Tyler is the founder and president of a new student interest group, The Minority Initiative, at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology, DC campus. This group promotes social justice, raises awareness of multicultural issues, and advocates for the youth and homeless population within the DMV area. Throughout her undergraduate and graduate career, she has been active in her communities, giving back to the homeless population and mentoring younger generations. In her free time, she enjoys traveling, spending time with family and friends, and exploring the Nation's Capital.

Tyler joined DCPA in order to network with other professionals and improve herself professionally. Tyler has been a part of DCPA for a little under a year and has attended several workshops and socials. As a campus representative, Tyler wishes to bring her own creative ideas and style to the organization, as well as embrace those of others.



**Sadaf Lotfalian, M.A., Campus Representative**

The Catholic University of America

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Sadaf Lotfalian is a third year Clinical Psychology doctoral student at The Catholic University of America (CUA). She got her B.A. in Psychology at the University of British Columbia, followed by her M.A. in General Psychology at American University. Her previous clinical positions took place at The Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, the New York State Psychiatric Institute, Community Connections, and Catholic University's Counseling Center. She is currently working as an extern at the Capital Institute for Cognitive Therapy as well as Children's National Medical Center's Eating Disorders Outpatient Clinic. Sadaf enjoys using an integrative approach that incorporates CBT and mindfulness-based strategies with humanistic/existential elements. Her clinical interests include anxiety and related disorders, identity development, self-esteem and

relationship concerns, and grief. Her chief research interest involves examining the effects of mindfulness-based interventions on mental health and consequent lifestyle changes.