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**COLLEGE OF
SCIENCE & ENGINEERING**

INSTITUTE OF BEHAVIORAL RESEARCH



2021 ANNUAL REPORT



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History of the IBR

The Institute of Behavioral Research (IBR) was established in 1962 by Dr. Saul B. Sells to conduct research on personality structure, personnel selection, social interactions, and organizational functioning.



PICTURED ABOVE: George Joe, Richard Demaree, D. Dwayne Simpson, John Ball, Saul B. Sells, and Y. P. Low

This pioneering work used first-generation computers to assess personality theories through large-scale factor analyses, develop performance-based selection criterion for airline pilots, and formulate personal distance needs for humans during long-duration space missions for NASA. In 1968, the IBR was invited to develop and conduct the first federally-funded national evaluation of the newly formed community-based system for treating heroin addiction in the U.S. This work helped define methodological standards for addiction treatment process and follow-up outcome studies in natural field settings,

leading to the IBR's participation in all three major national treatment effectiveness studies funded by the National Institute of Health (NIH) from 1968 through 2001. Conceptual frameworks emerging from this research for evaluating treatment dynamics, outcomes, and change—both at the individual client and organizational functioning levels— have yielded assessment and intervention resources as well as implementation strategies now being used internationally.

Dr. Sells began to formulate plans for establishing a center for applied behavioral research soon after joining the TCU Department of Psychology in 1958. His paper on “interactive psychology” [American

Psychologist, 1963, 18(11), pp. 696-702] foretold his commitments to merging interests in personality profiles, selection techniques that could predict performance outcomes, and organizational functioning with real-world applications. Dr. Sells implored fellow scientists “to consider more seriously the dimensional nature of the behavior repertoire and the

LEFT PAGE: George Joe, Richard Demaree, D. Dwayne Simpson, John Ball, Saul B. Sells, and Y. P. Low

BELOW: Dr. George Joe working on statistics in 1969.



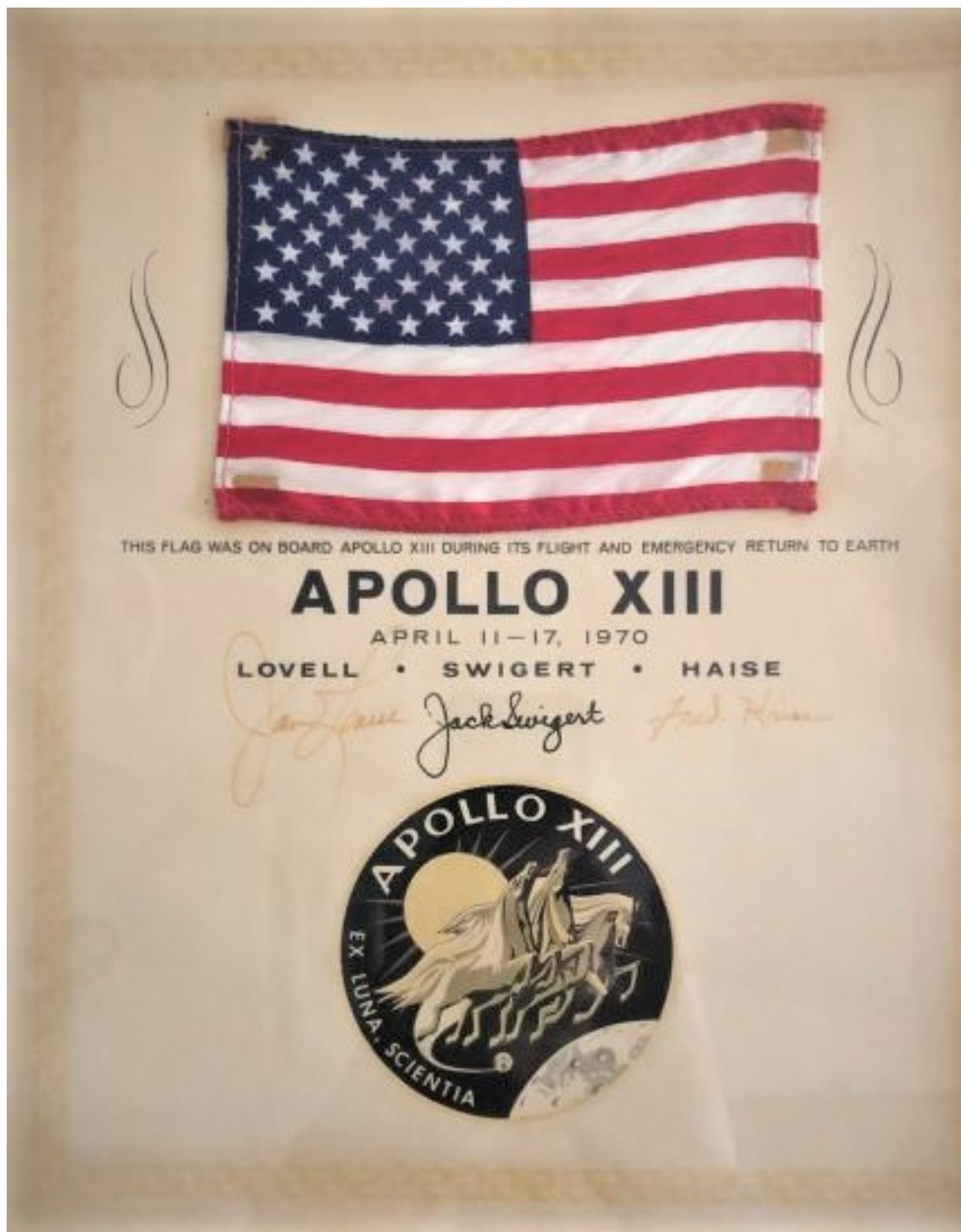
measurement characteristics of his apparatus, as well as the dimensions of the environments in which ‘the behavior occurs’ within multivariate analytic process models” (p. 698).

Following establishment of the IBR in 1962, Dr. Sells served as its director until his retirement 20 years later. Dr. Sells received his Ph.D. from Columbia University in 1936 and was trained under Robert S. Woodworth and Edward L. Thorndike. He recruited Robert I. Watson and Phillip H. Dubois to serve as members of his first IBR Advisory Council. Dr. D. Dwayne Simpson, a student of Dr. Sells and a member of the IBR faculty since 1970, became director in 1982 and, subsequently, moved the IBR to Texas A&M University when Dr. Sells retired.

In 1989, the IBR was re-affiliated with TCU, continuing the long-standing tradition of providing training opportunities for graduate students in health services research. The IBR received the designation of “Center of Excellence” in 1996 for providing valuable training opportunities in graduate and post-graduate education and contributing to the professional success of many former students and staff members in both academic and applied research leadership positions.

Dr. Patrick M. Flynn became director in April of 2009 and strengthened the collaborative relationship with TCU’s Department of Psychology as well as continued the long-standing tradition of providing training

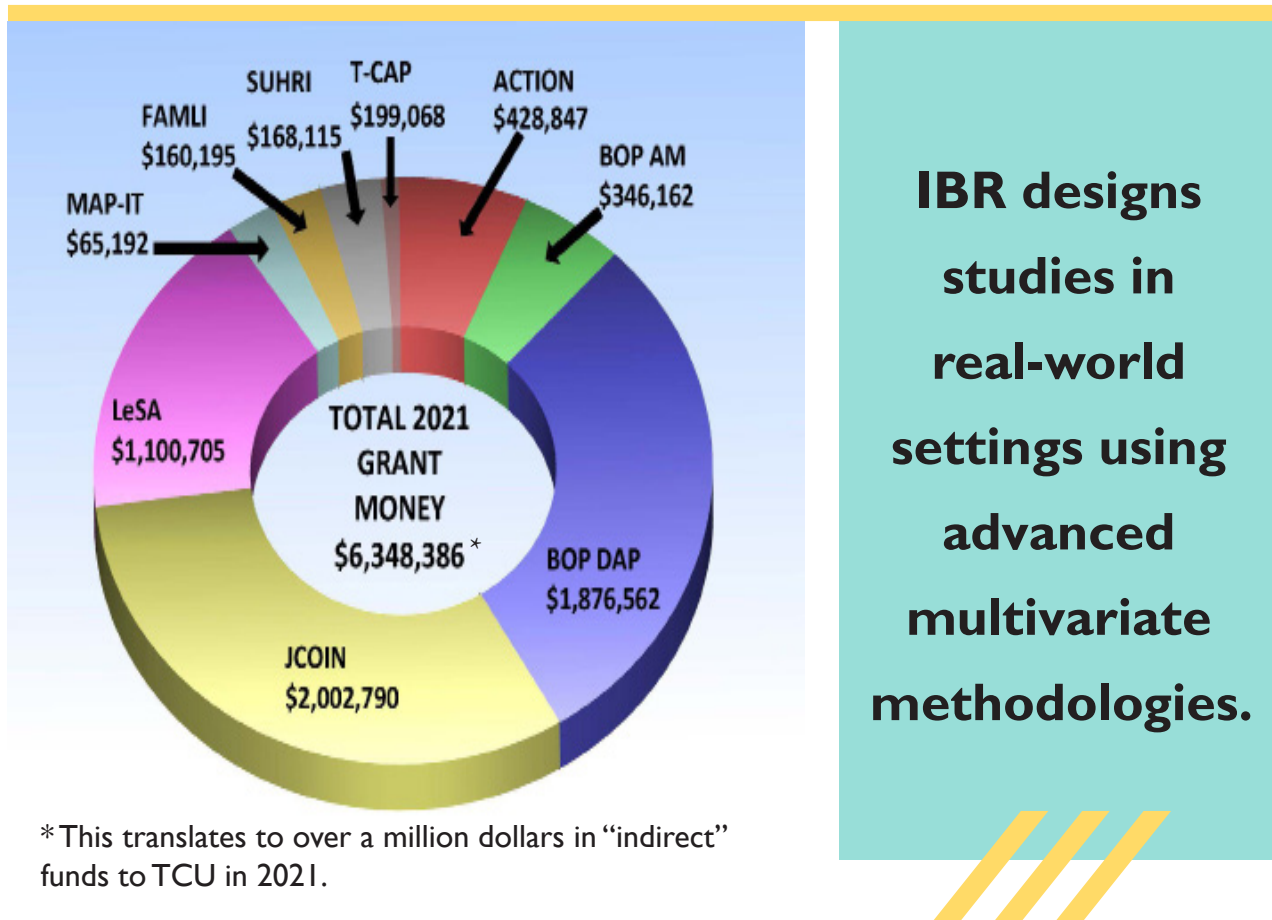
opportunities for IBR graduate students in health services research. Dr. Kevin Knight became director in 2019, serving as the fourth IBR director in its long history.



PICTURED ABOVE: The American Flag that accompanied the Apollo 13 crew into space and was presented to the IBR in appreciation for Dr. Sells' work on astronaut selection criteria.

Mission & Objectives

The mission of the IBR is to evaluate and improve health services that address substance use as well as related mental health and social problems.



Research staff at the IBR has given special attention to addictions, treatment, and the evaluation of cognitive and behavioral interventions. Research interests in recent years include a focus on areas of significant public concern — especially addiction treatments for justice-involved populations (both adult and youth). Other areas of interest include: prevention efforts in the spread of HIV and related infections among substance users, the implementation of evidence-based practices, organizational functioning, and process research. The IBR is housed within TCU’s College of Science and Engineering (CSE). Common research, training goals, and interests have and continue to align the IBR with the CSE’s Department of Psychology. At the IBR, research scientists function much like other university faculty members in that the director is a psychology professor, and all IBR scientists hold graduate faculty appointments.

**Generate and
disseminate knowledge
that impacts policy
decisions at local, state,
national, and
international levels.**

**Provide undergraduate
and graduate students
with critical
methodological and
substantive
research training.**

The IBR scientific strategy is organized around conceptual frameworks synthesized from existing knowledge as evidenced by both the TCU Treatment Model as well as the TCU Program Change Model.

These two frameworks help staff visualize the foundations of our treatment and organizational research protocols, identify emerging issues that deserve attention, and integrate new findings with existing knowledge. Implementing innovations from field-based studies depends heavily upon partnerships with treatment systems and honoring commitments to address their needs. The ability to provide useful and meaningful feedback to researchers, funding agencies, and policymakers is a vitally important element of science. In particular, scientific publications are strategically planned, integrated with other studies from relevant literature, and structured to effectively communicate salient findings.

**Raise the research
reputation and visibility
of TCU through scientific
and public health
contributions.**

**Facilitate collaboration
among scientists
to achieve their
highest scholarly
potential.**

**Our primary goal is to
help people who
have, or are at risk for,
a substance use disorder
by conducting studies of
health services in
community and
correctional settings.**

Finally, products developed from funded research (i.e., intervention manuals, assessments, presentations, and integrative summaries) are made available without cost to treatment providers, interested researchers, and the general public for non-commercial purposes. IBR researchers believe that dissemination and sustained implementation of science-supported innovations deserve as much attention as discovery.

Kevin Knight, PhD Director



Research Focus:

Conducting research with substance-using, justice-involved populations is the focal point of Dr. Knight's work.

Brief Biography:

Since joining the IBR faculty in 1991, Kevin Knight has served as the Principal Investigator on research projects funded by the National Institute of Drug Abuse, the National Institute of Justice, and the National Institute of Corrections.

Dr. Knight currently serves as a Multiple PI on the Justice Community Opioid Innovation Network (JCOIN): TCU Clinical Research Center project, and as a Multiple PI on the Addressing Risk Through Community Treatment for Infectious Disease and Opioid Use Disorder Now Among Justice-Involved Populations (ACTION). These studies include the development, implementation, and psychometric testing of tools that are provided to the field at no cost for non-commercial use. He also is leading the Bureau of Prisons contracted evaluation studies designed to assess the impact of selected federal programs on recidivism reduction.

In addition to serving on journal editorial boards, Dr. Knight participates in advisory activities for organizations addressing criminal justice, substance use, and related policy issues. He also is a TCU School of Medicine and a Psychology professor and holds the S. B. Sells Endowed Chair of Psychology.

2021 Highlighted Service Activity:

Grant reviewer for multiple NIDA, SAMHSA, and OJJDP study sections.

2021 Highlighted Publications and Presentations:

Knight, D., Becan, J., Olson, D., Painter Davis, N., Jones, J., Wiese, A., Carey, P., Howell, D., **Knight, K.** (2021). Justice community opioid innovation network (JCOIN): The TCU research hub. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 128. DOI: 10.1016/j.jsat.2021.108290

Lehman, W. E. K., Pankow, J., Muiruri, R., Joe, G. W., & **Knight, K.** (2021). An Evaluation of StaySafe, a tablet app to improve health risk decision making among people under community supervision. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 130. DOI: 10.1016/j.jsat.2021.108480

Taweh, N., Schlossberg, E., Frank, C., Nijhawan, A., Kuo, I., **Knight, K.**, Springer, S. A. (2021). Linking Criminal Justice-Involved Individuals to HIV, Hepatitis C, and Opioid Use Disorder Prevention and Treatment Services Upon Release to the Community: Progress, Gaps, and Future Directions. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 96. DOI: 10.1016/j.drugpo.2021.103283

Papamalis, F. E., Dritsas, I., & **Knight, K.** (2021). The Role of Personality Functioning on Early Drop out in Out-patient Substance Misuse Treatment. *Substance Use & Misuse*, 56(8). DOI: 10.1080/10826084.2021.1908358

Knight, K. (2021, September). Institute of Behavioral Research. Presentation made to the TCU College of Science and Engineering Advisory Board.



**George Joe, EdD
Sr. Research Scientist**

Research Focus:

The components of the treatment process, evaluation models for treatment effectiveness, etiology of drug abuse, and statistical methodology are the primary focus of Dr. Joe's research.

Brief Biography:

George Joe originally joined the IBR in 1969. In 1983, he became a Research Scientist for the Behavioral Research Program at Texas A&M University and later returned to TCU in 1989. He is a senior statistician for the IBR and specializes in the application of univariate and multivariate statistical methods, analytic modeling of data, questionnaire development, sample selection, and survey research. Dr. Joe's professional work includes over 100 professional journal publications. He was a member of the NIDA Treatment Research Subcommittee and Special Emphasis Panels, and is a frequent reviewer for professional journals. Dr. Joe serves as the lead Investigator on the BOP Multiple Program Participation evaluation.

2021 Highlighted Service Activity:

Journal reviewer for *Addiction*, *AIDS and Behavior*, and the *Journal of Substance Abuse and Treatment*.

2021 Highlighted Publications and Presentations:

Lehman, W. E. K., Pankow, J., Muiruri, R., **Joe, G. W.**, & Knight, K. (2021). An evaluation of StaySafe, a tablet app to improve health risk decision making among people under community supervision. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 130. DOI: 10.1016/j.jsat.2021.108480

Danica Knight, PhD Sr. Research Scientist



Research Focus:

Dr. Knight has focused her research on developing trauma-informed prevention interventions for youth in juvenile justice; improving substance use screening, assessment, and treatment services for justice-involved youth; understanding organizational factors associated with the adoption, implementation, and use of best practices; and testing strategies for improving identification and coordination of substance use treatment programs and other health services.

Brief Biography:

Since joining the TCU's IBR in 1992, and TCU's Karyn Purvis Institute of Child Development in 2019, Danica Knight has served as the Principal Investigator or as a Multiple PI on several research projects funded by NIDA (the National Institute of Drug Abuse), the National Institute of Justice, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Active research projects include Justice Community Opioid Innovations Network (JCOIN), Preventing Opioid Use Among Justice-Involved Youth as they Transition to Adulthood: Leveraging Safe Adults (LeSA), Family Assessment, Linkage, and Motivation Intervention or FAMLI, and Substance Use and Health Risk Intervention for Justice-involved Youth (SUHRI).

Dr. Knight has published over 70 peer-reviewed papers, developed two treatment interventions (the Partners in Parenting program and the Treatment Readiness and Induction Program), and given over 150 presentations at local, national, and international conferences. In 2021, she served as a Grant/Contract Reviewer for the National Institutes of Health, National Institute on Drug Abuse/National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

2021 Highlighted Service Activity:

Journal reviewer for Drug and Alcohol Dependence, Journal of Behavioral Health Services Research, Implementation Science, and the Journal of Substance Abuse and Treatment.

2021 Highlighted Publications and Presentations:

Knight, D. K., Becan, J. E., Olson, D., Davis, N. P., Jones, J., Wiese, A., Carey, P., Howell, D., & Knight, K. (2021). Justice Community Opioid Innovation Network (JCOIN): The TCU research hub. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 128. DOI: 10.1016/j.jsat.2021.108290

Wasserman, G. A., McReynolds L. S., Taxman, F., Belenko, S., Elkington, K. S., Robertson, A., Dennis, M. L., **Knight, D. K.**, Knudsen, H. K., Dembo, R., Ciarleglio, A., Wiley, T. A. (2021). The missing link(age): Multilevel contributors to service uptake failure in youths on community justice supervision. *Psychiatric Services*, 72(5), 546-554. DOI: 10.1176/appi.ps.202000163

Knight, D. K., Yang, Y., Tinius, E., & Young, S. (2021, October). Adaptation and feasibility of a trauma-informed intervention to leverage relationships in preventing opioid use among Justice-involved youth. American Public Health Association Annual Conference.

Becan, J. E., Joseph, J., Young, S., Crawley, R., & **Knight, D. K.** (2021, June). Development of the Family Assessment, Motivation, and Linkage (FAMLI) Intervention. Annual Conference for the College on Problems of Drug Dependence (83rd CPDD Annual Conference), June 21-24.

Yang, Y., Shelley, L. T., Joseph, E. D., Tinius, E., Young, S., **Knight, D. K.** (2021, June). Feasibility of a pilot study on a prevention intervention for opioid use among justice-involved youth and their families. Annual Conference for the College on Problems of Drug Dependence (83rd CPDD Annual Conference), June 21-24.



Wayne Lehman, PhD Sr. Research Scientist

Research Focus:

Dr. Lehman's major research efforts have focused on organizational improvement and change strategies in drug treatment programs, technology transfer, and strategies for reducing HIV risk behaviors in criminal justice populations.

Brief Biography:

Wayne Lehman has been a Senior Research Scientist at the IBR since 2009. Dr. Lehman began as a graduate research assistant in 1978 and worked as a research scientist for the Behavioral Research Program at Texas A&M University from 1982 to 1989. He returned to TCU IBR as a scientist for 13 years conducting research on substance use in the workplace and assessment of organizational factors of drug treatment programs. In 2002, he went to work as a senior statistician for the Litigation Support Services division at a consulting firm in Colorado, and subsequently as a statistician with Project Safe at the University of Colorado in Denver where he conducted research on HIV prevention among out-of-treatment drug users in Colorado and the Ukraine. Since returning to the IBR in 2009, he is been PI for the DRR-1 and DRR-2 Projects developing and testing a curriculum to improve decision-making around health risk behaviors among people in prison-based substance use disorder treatment and a mobile app for improving decision-making around health risk behaviors for people on probation. He has also recently helped to develop a mobile app for the Iowa Department of Corrections and is currently lead Investigator on the Bureau of Prisons Residential Drug Abuse Program evaluation. In addition to these activities, he serves on the editorial board for the Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment and has served as a reviewer for NIH study sections and special emphasis panels.

2021 Highlighted Service Activity:

Journal reviewer for the Journal of Substance Abuse and Treatment and grant reviewer for NIH special emphasis panel in response to "Mobile Health: Technology and Outcomes in Low and Middle Income Countries".

2021 Highlighted Publications and Presentations:

Lehman, W. E. K., Pankow, J., Muiruri, R., Joe, G. W., & Knight, K. (2021). An Evaluation of StaySafe, a tablet app to improve health risk decision making among people under community supervision. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 128. DOI: 10.1016/j.jsat.2021.108290

Muiruri, R., Pankow, J., Bonnette, B., Goldberg, G., Knight, K., & **Lehman, W. E. K.** (2021). Methodological Considerations for Conducting Research in Correctional Settings: A Field Perspective. *IBR Technical Report*.

Welsh, W. N., Dembo, R., **Lehman, W. E.**, Bartkowski, J. P., Hamilton, L., Leukefeld, C. G., & Wiley, T. (2021). Critical Factors Influencing Interorganizational Relationships Between Juvenile Probation and Behavioral Health Agencies. *Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Services Research*, 48, 233-249. DOI: 10.1007/s10488-020-01066-7

Pankow, J., Muiruri, R., **Lehman, W.**, Wiese, A. L., & Knight, K. (2021, June). Telehealth-Clinical Advocacy Project (T-CAP): An Intervention for Police Deflection Programs Facilitating Opioid Treatment. Poster Presentation at the College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD).

Becan, J. E., Wiese, A. L., & **Lehman, W.** (2021, April). Preliminary Efficacy for the Mapping Approaches for Implementation Transfer (MAP-IT) in Promoting Agency Selection of Implementation Strategies. Poster Presentation at the Academic & Health Policy Conference on Criminal Justice Health (ACCJH).

Jenny Becan, PhD Research Scientist



Research Focus:

Dr. Becan's research focuses on developing treatment readiness interventions for youth in juvenile justice and community services, using implementation science approaches to improve substance use services for justice-involved adults, and developing agency-level interventions to promote adoption of evidence-based practices in adolescent treatment settings.

Brief Biography:

Since joining the IBR as a graduate student in 2006 and then as faculty in 2010, Jennifer Becan has served as the Principal Investigator (PI) or as a Multiple PI on several research projects funded by NIDA (the National Institute of Drug Abuse). Active research projects include Justice Community Opioid Innovations Network (JCOIN, Project Director), Family Assessment, Linkage, and Motivation Intervention (FAMLI, Investigator), Substance Use and Health Risk Intervention for Justice-involved Youth (SUHRI, Multiple Principal Investigator), and Mapping Approaches to Prepare for Implementation Transfer (MAP-IT, Principal Investigator).

Dr. Becan has published over 30 peer-reviewed papers, developed two interventions (Mapping Approaches to Prepare for Implementation Transfer; Family Assessment, Linkage, and Motivation Intervention), and given over 70 presentations at local, national, and international conferences.

2021 Highlighted Service Activity:

In 2021, she served as a Grant/Contract Reviewer for Substance Abuse Mental Health Service Agency; serves on the Addiction Health Services Research conference planning committee; and is Co-Lead for the Implementation Strategies panel of the Clinical Trials Network Special Interest Group.

2021 Highlighted Publications and Presentations:

Knight, D. K., **Becan, J. E.**, Olson, D., Davis, N. P., Jones, J., Wiese, A., Carey, P., Howell, D., & Knight, K. (2021). Justice Community Opioid Innovation Network (JCOIN): The TCU research hub. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 128. DOI: 10.1016/j.jsat.2021.108290

Becan, J. E., Joseph, J., Young, S., Crawley, R., & Knight, D. K. (2021, June). Development of the Family Assessment, Motivation, and Linkage (FAMLI) Intervention. Annual Conference for the College on Problems of Drug Dependence (83rd CPDD Annual Conference), June 21-24.

Adams, Z. W., Taylor, B. G., Flanagan, E., Kwon, E., Johnson-Kwochka, A. V., Elkington, K. S., **Becan, J. E.**, & Aalsma, M. C. (2021). Opioid Use Disorder Stigma, Discrimination, and Policy Attitudes in a National Sample of U.S. Young Adults. *Journal of Adolescent Health*, 69(2), 321-328. DOI: 10.1016/j.jadohealth.2020.12.142

Becan, J. E., Wiese, A. L., Lehman, W. & Bryant, L. (2021, April). Preliminary Efficacy for the Mapping Approaches for Implementation Transfer (MAP-IT) in Promoting Agency Selection of Implementation Strategies. Poster Presentation at the Academic & Health Policy Conference on Criminal Justice Health (ACCJH).

Becan, J. E., Sease, T., Ayebaze, A., Proffitt, R., Knight, K., Knight, D. (2021, October). Development of the Substance Use and Health Risk Intervention (SUHRI) for Justice-Involved Youth. Presentation at the Addiction Health Services Research Conference, virtual.



Jen Pankow, PhD, CADC Research Scientist

Research Focus:

The majority of Dr. Pankow's research centers on developing and testing interventions designed to address behavioral and other healthcare treatment needs for justice populations.

Brief Biography:

Dr. Jen Pankow celebrated her 11th anniversary in 2021 as a member of the TCU IBR investigator team. Her research is informed by her clinical background as a substance use treatment counselor with Gateway Foundation and Westcare agencies at the Illinois Sheridan Correctional Center and as case manager with TASC Inc. In the past decade, she has collaborated on multiple large-scale federal research initiatives as Project Director: the 6-year Criminal Justice Drug Abuse Treatment Studies (CJ-DATS 2) protocols, the 6-year Sustainable HIV Risk Reduction Strategies for Criminal Justice Systems Project (DRR2), and recently, on the 5-year ACTION study comparing two models of linking and retaining individuals recently released from custody to the continuum of community-based HIV and Opioid Use Disorder prevention and treatment services.

Currently she serves as PI on the Telehealth-Clinical Advocacy Project (T-CAP) funded by NIDA. The two-year project is a feasibility study testing a multidisciplinary telehealth intervention integrated within a state-supported police opioid diversion program. Additional roles include Investigator on the Juvenile Justice Translational Research on Interventions for Adolescents in the Legal System (JJ-TRIALS). She also is lead Investigator on the Bureau of Prisons Medication-Assisted Treatment evaluation.

2021 Highlighted Service Activity:

IBR Faculty sponsor for the IBR Undergraduate Student Lab—Student Overview of Applied Research (SOAR).
IBR Qualitative Coordinator, Trainer, and Analyst. IBR Training Academy Coordinator.

2021 Highlighted Publications and Presentations:

Lehman, W. E. K., **Pankow, J.**, Muiruri, R., Joe, G. W., & Knight, K. (2021). An Evaluation of StaySafe, a tablet app to improve health risk decision making among people under community supervision. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 128. DOI: 10.1016/j.jsat.2021.108290

Muiruri, R., **Pankow, J.**, Bonnette, B., Goldberg, G., Knight, K., & Lehman, W. E. K. (2021). Methodological Considerations for Conducting Research in Correctional Settings: A Field Perspective. *IBR Technical Report*.

Pankow, J., Muiruri, R., Lehman, W., Wiese, A. L., & Knight, K. (2021, June). Telehealth-Clinical Advocacy Project (T-CAP): An Intervention for Police Deflection Programs Facilitating Opioid Treatment. Poster Presentation at the College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD).

Yang Yang, PhD Research Scientist



Research Focus:

Dr. Yang's research interests include substance use treatment for justice-involved individuals, health disparities, and advanced research methodology.

Brief Biography:

Dr. Yang is a graduate of the IBR and joined the IBR as a Research Scientist in January 2020. Before returning to the IBR, she served as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. She served as a PI on an externally funded project looking at factors associated with health-risk behaviors among young adults.

Dr. Yang serves as an Investigator and Project Director for the LeSA project. She also is lead Investigator on the Bureau of Prisons Drug Education evaluation.

2021 Highlighted Service Activity:

Journal Reviewer: Child Abuse & Neglect; Criminal Justice and Behavior; Journal of Child and Family Studies (Associate Editor)

2021 Highlighted Publications and Presentations:

Knight, D. K., **Yang, Y.**, Joseph, E. D., Tinius, E., Young, S., Shelley, L., Cross, D. R., & Knight, K. (2021). Preventing opioid use among justice-involved youth as they transition to adulthood: Leveraging safe adults (LeSA) protocol paper. *BMC Public Health*, 21(1), 1-17. DOI: 10.1186/s12889-021-12127-3

Stearns, E. A. & **Yang, Y.** (2021). Women's peer to peer support inside a jail support group. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 38(11), 3288-3309. DOI: 10.1177/02654075211030333

Yang, Y., Li, M., & Lin, H-C. (2021). Parental psychological control, social capital, substance use, and driving under the influence among college students: sex differences. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*. DOI: 10.1007/s10826-021-02036-9

Yang, Y., & Perkins, D. R. (2021) Association between childhood adversity and criminal thinking: the role of attachment, *Psychology, Crime & Law*, 27(8), 796-814, DOI: 10.1080/1068316X.2020.1850724

Yang, Y., Razuri, E., Tinius, E., & Knight, D. (October 2021). Adaptation and feasibility of a trauma-informed intervention to leverage relationships in preventing opioid use among justice-involved youth. American Public Health Association Annual Conference.

Yang, Y., Shelley, L., Joseph, E. D., Tinius, E., Young, S., Knight, D. (June, 2021). Feasibility of a pilot study on a prevention intervention for opioid use among justice-involved youth and their families. Annual Conference for the College on Problems of Drug Dependence (83rd CPDD Annual Conference), June 21-24, virtual conference.



Jenni Lux, PhD

Assoc. Research Scientist

Research Focus:

Dr. Lux's research interests include the design, implementation, and efficacy of correctional interventions and actuarial-based risk and needs assessment instruments, translating research into practice, and more generally, correctional treatment and rehabilitation.

Brief Biography:

Dr. Lux received her Ph.D. in criminal justice from the University of Cincinnati and is currently an Associate Research Scientist with the IBR. Before joining the IBR in May 2021, Dr. Lux was a Research Associate with the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute (UCCI). At UCCI, she provided training and technical assistance to adult and juvenile corrections professionals at the federal, state, and local levels on evidence-based practices and actuarial risk/needs assessment instruments. Dr. Lux also has experience designing and leading research and evaluation studies using experimental and quasi-experimental methods; collaborating with agencies to create performance measures; managing and analyzing complex administrative data; and preparing technical reports and scholarly articles.

Dr. Lux serves as an Investigator for JCOIN and the lead Investigator on the BOP Anger Management project.

2021 Highlighted Service Activity:

Serves as an adjunct online instructor for the University of Cincinnati.

2021 Highlighted Publications and Presentations:

Rhine, E., & Lux, J. L. (2021). Changing Ohio corrections. *Victims & Offenders*, 16(7), 950-966. DOI: 10.1080/15564886.2021.1970668

Randi Proffitt, PhD Assoc. Research Scientist



Research Focus:

Dr. Proffitt's research interests include studying how commonly deemed "bad" health behaviors are viewed in research, clinical practice, and policy by shedding light on the adaptive nature of these behavioral responses to environmental stimuli. Specifically, she is interested in how unpredictable and resource depleted childhood environments impact health and health decision-making during adolescence, emerging adulthood, and adulthood. Areas of interest include risky sexual decision-making and sexually transmitted infections, adherence to HIV and Hepatitis C infection prevention strategies (e.g., PrEP), and other risky health behaviors such as substance use in high-risk populations.

Brief Biography:

Dr. Proffitt is a graduate of the TCU Experimental Psychology program with a focus in evolutionary health psychology. She joined the IBR as an Associate Research Scientist in June 2021, serving as an Investigator and lead over the Mobile Health Unit (MHU) arm of the randomized controlled trial Addressing Risk Through Community Treatment for Infectious Disease and Opioid Use Disorder Now Among Justice-Involved Populations (ACTION). She also serves as a Investigator on Substance Use and Health Risk Intervention for Justice-Involved Youth (SUHRI) project as well as lead Investigator on the Bureau of Prisons Non-Residential Drug Abuse Program evaluation. Before working at the IBR, she served as a Visiting Lecturer at the TCU Honors College and an Assistant Professor of Medical Education in the TCU School of Medicine. Prior to earning her PhD, Randi worked as a research coordinator at the University of North Texas Health Science Center, Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine and Cook Children's Health Care System conducting research with under-resourced populations in Fort Worth.

2021 Highlighted Service Activity:

Journal Reviewer: Health Psychology; Archives of Sexual Behavior

2021 Highlighted Publications and Presentations:

Gassen, J., White, J.D., Peterman, J.L., Mengelkoch, S., **Proffitt Leyva, R.P.**, Prokosch, M.L., Eimerbrink, M.J., Brice, K., Cheek, D.J., Boehm, G.W., & Hill, S.E. (2021). Sex differences in the impact of childhood socioeconomic status on immune function. *Scientific Reports*, 11(1), 1-10. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-021-89413-y>.

Becan, J., Sease, T., Ayebaze, A., **Proffitt, R.**, Knight, K., & Knight, D. (2021) Development of the Substance Use and Health Risk Intervention (SUHRI) for justice involved youth .Addiction Health Services Research Conference, virtual.



Elaine Tinius, MSW, LCSW Sr. Public Health Research Associate

Brief Biography:

Elaine joined the IBR team in January 2020. She transitioned from a background of social work, where the majority of her career had been rooted in the child welfare arena, directly serving families and vulnerable youth. She has completed both undergraduate and graduate studies in Social Work, and is a TBRI practitioner.

Elaine has a passion for combatting abuse and neglect, focusing on effective ways to support and impact children, youth, and families. Her experience includes investigations, permanency work, as well as family preservation, implementing foster care systems, curriculum facilitation, and partnering with the legal system in numerous capacities.

Elaine believes all young people deserve and are meant to connect to a positive, caring, supportive, and nurturing caregiver. She works to advocate, educate, and empower others to be more trauma informed, believing everyone possesses their own unique catalogue of experiences. Elaine joins the IBR as the Project Coordinator for the LeSA study.

2021 Highlighted Publications and Presentations:

Knight, D. K., Yang, Y., Joseph, E. D., **Tinius, E.**, Young, S., Shelley, L., Cross, D. R., & Knight, K. (2021). Preventing opioid use among justice-involved youth as they transition to adulthood: Leveraging safe adults (LeSA) protocol paper. *BMC Public Health*, 21(1), 1-17. DOI: 10.1186/s12889-021-12127-3

Knight, D. K., Yang, Y., **Tinius, E.**, & Young, S. (2021, October). Adaptation and feasibility of a trauma-informed intervention to leverage relationships in preventing opioid use among Justice-involved youth. American Public Health Association Annual Conference.

Yang, Y., Shelley, L. T., Joseph, E. D., **Tinius, E.**, Young, S., Knight, D. K. (2021, June). Feasibility of a pilot study on a prevention intervention for opioid use among justice-involved youth and their families. Annual Conference for the College on Problems of Drug Dependence (83rd CPDD Annual Conference), June 21-24.

Public Health Research Associates



Ahrein Bennett, MPH

Ahrein Bennett joined the IBR in August 2021. Previously, she worked at a county health department as an Epidemiologist, Specialist for infectious disease control. Also, at the health department, she managed youth-based organizations under a state grant which aimed to prevent justice involvement.

Ahrein earned her Master's in Public Health from the University of North Texas Health Science Center. Additionally, she is Certified in Public Health (CPH) and is a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES). Her primary career interest is improving quality and access to healthcare for individuals that have been systematically excluded and neglected throughout history and in present times.

Ahrein joins the IBR as the Project Coordinator for the ACTION and T-CAP studies.



Anthea Ayebaze, MPH

Anthea Ayebaze joined the IBR in July 2021. Previously, Anthea worked at the Bridge Breast Network as a Program Evaluation Intern, and also volunteered with Tarrant County Public Health Department as a Contact Tracer at the start of the Covid-19 pandemic.

She earned her Master's in Public Health with a concentration in Epidemiology from the University Of North Texas Health Science Center. She is also Certified in Public Health (CPH). Her primary interests are health equity and global health. She aims to help improve access to and quality of healthcare for underserved individuals, and help empower and support marginalized communities as they improve their health.

Anthea joins the IBR as a Project Coordinator for the SUHRI study and Community Health Worker on the ACTION study.

Public Health Research Associates



Ashley Gainey, MS, LPC-A

Ashley Gainey joined the IBR in October 2021. She transitioned from an addiction treatment center where she served as the Special Projects Coordinator for the Rural Communities Opioid Response Program. Also, at the addiction treatment center, she worked as both a Prevention Specialist and a Graduate Practicum Student for Counseling Psychology.

Ashley earned her Master's in Psychology with an emphasis in Counseling from Angelo State University. Additionally, she is a Licensed Professional Counselor-Associate (LPC-A) and Certified in Self-Management and Recovery Training (SMART). She has a passion for serving underserved and underrepresented communities and has experience in working across the continuum of care for substance use in Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery.

Ashley joins the IBR as the Project Coordinator for the JCOIN and FAMLI studies and a patient navigator for the ACTION project.



Lacee Bills, BSW, LBSW

Lacee Bills joined the IBR in January 2022 as a Public Health Research Associate on the LeSA project. She transitioned from a foster care child placing agency where she served as the Manager of Foster Care Services. While at the child placing agency, Lacee also held roles in supervision and direct case management.

She is a Licensed Bachelor of Social Work and is a TBRI Practitioner. She has a passion for working with children and families who have been impacted by different levels of trauma and helping them find healing and connection.

Public Health Research Associates



Sabrina Roberson, MPH

Sabrina Roberson joined the IBR in August 2021. Previously, she worked in mental health for MHMR (My Health My Resources) as a Senior Rehab Specialist and Case Manager. While at MHMR she assisted acute mentally ill adults with managing their illness and accessing resources in the community. Sabrina has dedicated over 20 years in mental health serving children, adolescents, and the adult population. She earned her Master's in Public Health from the University of Purdue Global.

As a public health professional, her primary career interest includes using evidence-based research to improve health outcomes within her community. Sabrina is also passionate about helping the underserved community access healthcare and other services needed to live a healthier life.

Sabrina joins the IBR as a Public Health Research Associate for the LeSA and BOP Project.



Chelsea Wood, MPH

Chelsea Wood joined the IBR in November 2021. Previously, she worked at JPS Hospital's Trauma Services as a Violence and Injury Prevention Intern focusing on pre-program planning of a hospital-based violence interruption program. Efforts of this program targeted at-risk individuals in areas of Tarrant County to reduce high rates of penetrating injuries seen in the JPS emergency department.

Chelsea is Certified in Public Health (CPH). Her primary interests are health equity and taking a cultural perspective on public health and social issues. She aims to connect underserved individuals to the resources they need and educate others about the importance of culture as it relates to healthcare.

Chelsea joins the IBR as a research associate for the JCOIN study and a Patient Navigator for the ACTION study.

Marketing and Digital Content Coordinator

Ashley West, MS

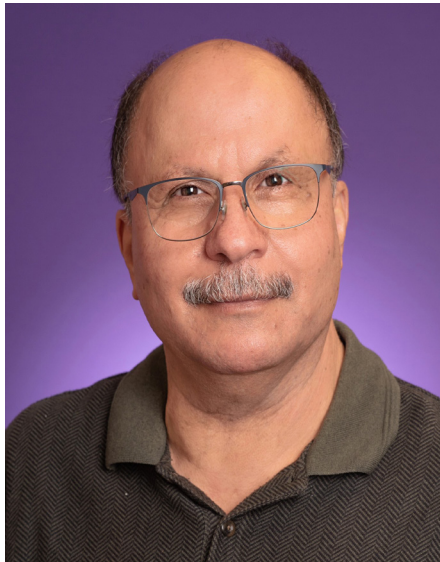
Ashley West joined the IBR in November of 2021. Prior to joining the IBR, she was responsible for branding and content management at TCU's Karyn Purvis Institute of Child Development. In her role at the KPICD, she also supported graduate and undergraduate students, curriculum development and relationships with the university as a whole.

She is passionate about communicating powerful stories through many forms of media and understands the importance of making materials accessible to all individuals.

Ashley joins the IBR as the Marketing and Digital Content Coordinator.



Data Manager



Mansour Salami, MS, IS

Mansour Salami joined the IBR in September of 2021 as a Data Manager, applying his data processing and data management skills in the behavioral research field. Prior to joining IBR, Mansour was a Senior Research Analyst at Dallas College – El Centro Campus (formerly El Centro College) where he provided institutional research data and information in support of administrative decision-making and strategic priorities.

He received an MA in mathematics from Arizona State University, an MS in computer science from University of Central Texas, and a BS in mathematics from Karaj College.

Full-time Research Assistants



Heather Hines, BS

Heather came to the IBR in November of 2021 as a Research Assistant assigned to the FAMLI and SUHRI projects. As a Research Assistant Heather aids IBR principle investigators and staff by carrying out research duties.

Heather earned her Bachelor of Science in Health Education with an emphasis in Public Health from Texas Woman's University in 2019 and is pursuing a career in public health as a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES). Previously Heather was a Peace Corps Volunteer addressing the HIV/AIDS epidemic in South Africa and a Contact Tracer for Dallas County Health and Human Services during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Viridiana Munoz, BS

Viridiana Munoz joined the IBR in February 2021. She transitioned from Tarrant County Juvenile Services where she served as a Juvenile Probation Officer, Institutional Probation Officer, and Console Control Officer in the Detention Unit. Also, at Tarrant County Juvenile Service, she served as a Pre-Supervision Court Intake Secretary in the Court Intake Unit.

Viridiana earned her Bachelor's in Criminal Justice from Texas Wesleyan University and obtained a Paralegal Certificate from TCU. Currently she is pursuing her Master's in Clinical Psychology from University of Texas at Tyler. She has also been involved in Trauma Informed Care and Trust Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) training. She has a passion for serving the underserved and underrepresented communities, as well as the at-risk populations.

Viridiana joins the IBR as a Research Assistant for the FAMLI, LeSA, and SUHRI studies.

Full-time Research Assistants



Jarrod Nelson, BA

Jarrod joined the IBR in November 2021 as a Research Assistant. Currently at the IBR, Jarrod is a Field Research Assistant for the ACTION study and assisting in the BOP study. In this role, he assists IBR principal investigators, project directors, and teams by carrying out research activities according to established research protocols (such as field-based recruiting, data collection, and intervention activities).

He earned his Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Texas A&M University in 2021 and is pursuing a career in Clinical Psychology within the criminal justice system.



Felix Stiggers, BS

Felix joined the IBR in February 2021 as a Research Assistant. Currently, at the IBR, Felix's primary focus is the Leveraging Safe Adult or "LeSA" Grant funded by NIDA with a primary outcome in preventing the initiation and/or escalation of substance use in youth involved in the juvenile justice system. Felix's background is in working with at-risk youth, leadership development, and Trust Based Relational Intervention. Felix has served as the Program Director at Hope Farm, Inc at Morningside for over five years.

Felix earned his Bachelors of Social Work from Jarvis Christian College in 2015 and is both a certified in Human Subjects Research and is a TBRI Practitioner.

Part-time Research Assistants



Kristen Adams, BS

Kristen joined the IBR in August 2021 as a Field Research Assistant. Currently working remotely in Williamson County through the IBR, Kristen's primary focus is LeSA, a NIDA-funded project. Kristen previously worked in county juvenile services, youth empowerment organizations, and community mental health services, working directly with clients in both outpatient and inpatient settings. Kristen is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and founder of GTX Teen Therapy, where she provides clinical services to adolescents and parents. Kristen earned her Bachelor of Science in Sociology from TCU in 2006 and Master of Science in Social Work from Columbia University in 2009.



Sam Dehner, BS

Samantha Dehner joined the IBR in August 2021. Samantha currently works on the LeSA (Leveraging Safe Adults) project as a Research Assistant as her field placement for her graduate program. She has previously worked as a behavioral health technician at a co-occurring residential addiction treatment center, as well as interning at a day rehabilitation program for adults with serious and persistent mental illness (SPMI) where she facilitated psychoeducation and skills building groups.

Samantha earned a Bachelor of Science in Social Work from the University of Nebraska at Omaha in 2021. She is currently pursuing a Master of Social Work at TCU. Samantha has a passion for mental health and the destigmatization of mental illness.

Part-time Research Assistants



Lynzie Ferguson, BA

Lynzie joined the IBR in February 2021 as a Research Assistant for the LeSA Project.

Lynzie has almost a decade of experience with Tarrant County MHMR and earned a BA in Psychology and Sociology from Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops, BC.

Audrey Gandy, BA

Audrey Gandy joined the IBR in February 2021. She has previously worked directly with clients in community mental health services in both outpatient and inpatient settings.

Audrey earned her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of North Texas in 2017.

Audrey joins the IBR as a Research Assistant for the FAMI Project.

Part-time Research Assistants



**CallieAnn
Simpson, BS**

CallieAnn joined the IBR team in August 2021 as a Research Assistant and currently serves on the LeSA study.

Before her time at the IBR, CallieAnn has worked in community mental healthcare and crisis work where she served as a crisis counselor, community liaison, and certified sexual assault survivor advocate. She has been also involved in trauma informed policy, curriculum writing, and training.

CallieAnn completed her undergraduate degree in social work from Tarleton State University and is currently pursuing her graduate degree in social work, from TCU.



**Jessica Sanchez,
MA**

Jessica joined the IBR in January 2021 as a Research Assistant on the LeSA Project. She previously worked in the social service field for 15 plus years in all different sectors within nonprofit, education, research, and profit field.

Jessica is a TBRI Practitioner and earned her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Barnard College in 2005, her Masters of Arts in Public Administration from Metropolitan College in 2014, and her Masters of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy from Liberty University in 2020.

Part-time Research Assistants



Ana Benitez

Ana Benitez joined the IBR in January 2022 as a bilingual Field Research Assistant. At the IBR, Ana's primary focus is the ACTION study. Ana is a second-year STEM Scholar and Honors student at TCU, where she is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics.



ABOVE: Viridiana Munoz, Felix Stiggers, Elaine Tinius, CallieAnn Simpson, and Sabrina Roberson

BELOW: Goodies and supplies for LeSA meetings



Operations Coordinator

Holly Harrelson

Holly joined the IBR in 2021 as the Operations Coordinator. She manages the day-to-day operations, maintains financial records, and coordinates the administrative and financial functions of the IBR.

Prior to joining IBR, Holly served as an Administrative Assistant for University Advancement, where she coordinated the administrative functions of TCU's School and College Development program. In addition to her budgetary expertise, Holly has experience in project management, strategic planning, and business administration.



Administrative Support Assistant

Keely Self

Keely Self joined the Institute of Behavioral Research in December of 2021. As an administrative support assistant, she serves as the primary receptionist for the front office and assists with project-specific clerical tasks. Keely has worked at TCU since 2017 and previously held positions in the John V. Roach Honors College and the TCU and UNTHSC School of Medicine.



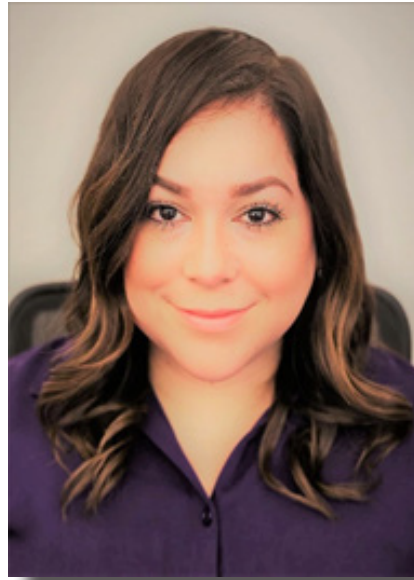
Research Support Specialists



**Audrey Armstrong,
MA, LSSP**

Audrey joined the IBR in 2019 as a Research Support Specialist and works on various projects, manages publication and manuscript submission, maintains a bibliographic database for the research scientists, and assists with software support.

Previously, Audrey served as a Licensed Specialist in School Psychology for over 20 years across 4 Texas school districts. She conducted psycho-educational evaluations within the public school setting, designed and led multiple staff development events, and served as Lead Psychologist for 3 years.



Mandy Soto, BS

Mandy joined the IBR in 2019 and serves in the role of Research Support Specialist, implementing project administrative duties, supporting budget management, and assisting in the development of intervention materials. Mandy has a BS degree in economics with a minor in business administration.

Graduate Students



Amanda Wiese, MS

Amanda is a fourth-year graduate student in the Experimental Psychology, Ph.D. program. She assists IBR researchers with the startup of new grants, with significant effort dedicated to the NIDA-funded project — Justice Community Opioid Network (JCOIN):TCU Research Hub. She has also been participating in the Texas Violent Gang Task Force led by the Dallas County Community Supervision and Corrections Department, helping lead evaluation efforts on their intervention project. She is currently working on her dissertation and is scheduled to defend during Summer 2022.



Elizabeth Joseph, MS

Elizabeth is a third-year graduate student in the TCU Experimental Psychology PhD program. She is currently assisting with the LeSA and FAMLl projects. She has experience as a student researcher for the Pennington Biomedical Research Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in a pediatric obesity lab. She is currently preparing for her qualifying examination this upcoming spring in addition to serving as a teaching assistant for the course “Trauma and Behavior.”

Graduate Students



Thomas Sease, BS

Thomas is a second-year graduate student in the TCU Experimental Psychology program. He is currently assisting with the SUHRI and ACTION projects. He is also working on proposing his thesis and plans to defend this Summer 2022.



Stephanie Villaire, BS

Stephanie is a first-year graduate student in the TCU Experimental Psychology PhD program. She is currently assisting with the ACTION project. She has experience as a student researcher for the Karyn Purvis Institute of Child Development at TCU.



Lillyan Shelley, BBA

Lillyan is a second-year graduate student in TCU's Experimental Psychology PhD program, working closely with both the KPICD and IBR. Her IBR activities have focused on assisting with the LeSA project. Prior to coming to TCU, she worked as a student researcher for the Social Influences and Health Behavior lab as well as the Personality, Emotion, & Social Cognition lab at the University of Houston.



IBR Research Projects



ACTION Project

Full Title:

Addressing Risk Through Community Treatment for Infectious Disease and Opioid Use Disorder Now Among Justice-Involved Populations

Principal Investigators:

Kevin Knight, Ph.D., TCU IBR;
Sandra Springer, MD, Yale School of Medicine; and
Ank Nijhawan, MD, UT Southwestern Medical Center

Duration:

Grant was awarded on August 01, 2021 and will conclude on July 31, 2026.

Funded by:

Project funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (Grant # U01DA053039) in the amount of \$11,113,030 total (TCU portion \$2,377,690) over 5 years (9/30/2020-7/31/2026).

Target Population:

Individuals with a history of opioid or other substance use who are recently released from the justice system and returning to the community.

Purpose and Progress:

Reentry is a high risk transition period and a critical opportunity to link individuals to HIV prevention and treatment and opioid use disorder (OUD) service providers. Recognizing the health risks posed by opioid and stimulant use among justice-involved populations, ACTION Project will test the effectiveness of two interventions; Mobile Health Unit vs. Patient Navigation models to improve adherence along treatment and prevention service cascades of care. Primary outcomes are time to initiating post-release PrEP for HIV prevention and ART medication for HIV treatment during a 6-month intervention period.

During 2021, the TCU Mobile Health Unit was purchased and delivered and the ACTION team conducted a community needs assessment with providers and probation to identify services gaps and barriers that impede linking individuals to services. The results of the needs assessment provided valuable insight to inform several aspects of the interventions development and planning for roll out in Spring 2022.

Building community partnerships in Tarrant County

- Community Needs Assessment (surveys and focus groups) with justice and provider respondents
- Monthly Stakeholder Meetings networking opportunity
- Mobile Health Unit at the IBR preparing for pilot roll out Spring 2022
- Tarrant County Resources Guide to services in 77 zip codes



Centered in Care
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MEDICINE

Community reentry from incarceration represents a critical opportunity to link at-risk individuals to vital HIV prevention and treatment and opioid use disorder (OUD) services. Thus, the ACTION study specifically focuses on screening, linkage, and service adherence for these individuals along the treatment and prevention service cascades of care. This study is a 5-year, multisite research project that engages community partners and examines the effect of patient navigation (PN) versus mobile health units (MHU) on HIV, substance use, and related outcomes in communities in Connecticut (New London and Windham/Tolland Counties) and Texas (Tarrant and Dallas Counties).

Specific Aims

Aim 1: (Intervention Effectiveness) is to compare the effectiveness of PN vs. MHU service delivery on outcomes such as time to PrEP/ART medication following release from custody.

Aim 2: (Implementation) is to evaluate PN and MHU feasibility, acceptability, sustainment, and costs. Barriers to service access across the community provider spectrum will be assessed as well.



LeSA Project

Full Title:

Preventing Opioid Use Among Justice-Involved Youth as They Transition to Adulthood: Leveraging Safe Adults (LeSA)

Principal Investigator:

Danica Knight, Ph.D.

Duration:

Grant was awarded on August 31, 2019 and will conclude on August 31, 2024.

Funded by:

Project funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (Grant # 1UG3DA050250/ 1UH3DA050250) in the amount of \$5,039,504.

Target Population:

The target population focuses on youth between the ages of 15 and 18 who are aging out of juvenile justice (JJ) centers and transitioning back into their communities after a period of detainment in a secure treatment or correctional facility.

Purpose and Progress:

The study uses Trust-Based Relational Intervention® (TBRI®, a relational, attachment-based intervention that promotes emotional regulation through interaction with responsive, trained adults) as a prevention intervention targeting youth at risk for SU (especially non-medical use of opioids). This project has 3 phases. Phase 1 involves the adaptation of TBRI for JJ youth and their caregivers. Phase 2 examines both the effectiveness of the adapted TBRI for preventing opioid misuse and the comparative utility of three support formats: (1) TBRI Training only, (2) TBRI Training + Structured Coaching, or (3) TBRI Training + Responsive Coaching (triggered by the youth's need/risk). Approximately 360 youth/caregiver dyads are being recruited at Phase 2. Phase 3 examines the barriers and facilitators of TBRI sustainment among the participating facilities. Staff provide input via focus groups and surveys at three times across the period of the project. TCU works with administrators and staff at each JJ facility to implement a sustainment plan, which includes developing in-house TBRI expertise.

During 2021, progress has been made at each of the 3 phases.

Phase 1: The TBRI curriculum was adapted and pilot-tested with 8 youth/caregiver dyads from 2 residential facilities. Feedback from these youth/caregiver dyads was solicited and integrated in the adapted TBRI® curricula. Data on feasibility were presented at a national conference and a manuscript is in progress.

Phase 2: Participant recruitment and enrollment is ongoing at 10 participating facilities.

Phase 3: Staff from participating facilities are providing input on trauma-informed practices within JJ contexts via focus groups and surveys. Feedback from focus groups is being provided regarding barriers and facilitators to TBRI implementation and recommendations.

Youth Comment

"I'm given voice and encouraged to speak up for my needs and learning how to communicate to my family about my needs when I go home."

"I gained being able to talk to my mom and looking her in the eyes and actually talking to her. And we also learned how to say I'm sorry and when it's appropriate, and I gained that —also phrases."

Caregiver:

"This is the missing piece."

"... [what we learned in TBRI] began to empower us to speak up for him in a way that we hadn't before, because we felt that we were now part of the team and request information."

Full Title:

Justice Community Opioid Innovation Network

Principal Investigators:

Kevin Knight, Ph.D., Danica Knight, Ph.D.

Duration:

Grant was awarded on July 15, 2019 and will conclude on April 30, 2024.

Funded by:

Project funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (Grant # 1UG1DA050074) in the amount of \$10,691,513 over 4 years.

Target Population:

Local community stakeholders (parole departments, health providers) within 18 communities in three states, and individuals who have a history of opioid use that they serve.

Purpose and Progress:

Recognizing the current opioid crisis among justice-involved individuals and the need to intervene at the intersection of justice and community health, JCOIN is positioned to explore multiagency strategies to improve access to and retention in substance use and medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) treatment among adults with a history of, or at risk for, using opioids (or other substances) who are reentering communities after a period of incarceration and released on supervision.

During 2021, the JCOIN team helped build multi-agency workgroups in New Mexico to promote capacity building and interagency collaboration; and designed resource guides with innovative and best practices, as well as needs assessment and agency evaluation measurement curriculum.



JCOIN multi-agency coalition building

- Tools to build multi-agency collaboration including a comprehensive needs/gaps analysis
- Involvement of a diverse suite of state-level corrections, provider, and academic experts
- Resource guide to improve knowledge and utilization of innovative and best practices for substance use treatment services
- Local service provider guides to expand linkage and referral choices

JCOIN Justice Community Success Stories:

Workgroup study kick-off meetings, held virtually and in-person, have been critical for building relationships between parole staff and health providers within the community, learning about services and resources available to promote continuum of care for individuals on parole, and developing a mutual sense of ownership in the service provision process.

As a result of these meetings, workgroup members have been more open to shifting previously-held beliefs and perspectives. In one study community, for example, workgroup members from probation and parole and a local treatment provider nurtured motivation and trust upfront by taking the time to understand each agency's mission, goals, and priorities. These efforts, in turn, opened the door for the treatment provider to share observed clinical outcomes about MOUD services with probation and parole staff. Parole members within this community were receptive to taking this new perspective back to their local offices to promote changes in local policy and practice around these efforts.

SUHRI Project

SUHRI app for smart phone, tablet, or computer

- Self-paced highly interactive game-based activities
- Flexibility for the individual youth to select high risk scenarios/topics of personal relevance
- Immediate feedback on decision making scenarios regarding substance use and risky sex
- Opportunity to explore pros/cons of various decision making choices
- Resource directory to local service providers



Full Title:

The Substance Use and Health Risk Intervention for Justice-involved Youth

Principal Investigators:

Jennifer Becan, Ph.D., Danica Knight, Ph. D.

Duration:

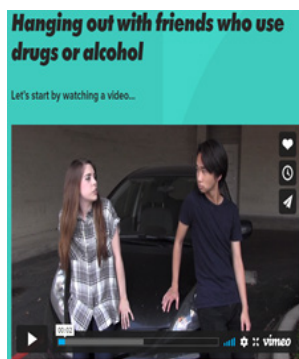
Grant was awarded on September 30, 2019 and will conclude on August 31, 2022.

Funded by:

Project funded by the National Institute of Health and National Institute on Drug Abuse (Grant # 1R34DA048065-02) in the amount of \$594,949.00 over 3 years.

Target Population:

Youth on community supervision who have a history of opioid, alcohol, or other substance use.



Purpose and Progress:

This project offers an approach for youth who have used substances to think differently about tricky sensitive situations in a way that is fun, relevant, and app-based. The app allows youth to consider decision making without a risk of disclosing anything to their probation officer or a family member on sensitive topics such as how to get help for their substance use problem or pros/cons of getting tested for a sexually transmitted infection.

During 2021, focus groups were conducted with staff and youth at the participating local juvenile justice center. Feedback from these groups, as well as meetings with expert field consultants helped to adapt existing evidence based practices for app based tools specific to youth decision making. Significant progress was made with the app-developer, with plans to rollout spring 2022.

Juvenile Justice Staff Comments on SUHRI app:

"{the topics are similar to} some of the things the kids have been through. So it would be good to have some positive things to help them see/view their life in a different way."

"Kids need to see examples about how choices impact things in their life. They need to hear these things, ones they wouldn't think of."

Full Title:

Family Assessment, Motivation, and Linkage Intervention

Principal Investigator:

Danica Knight, Ph.D.

Duration:

Grant was awarded on June 10, 2019 and will conclude on April 30, 2022.

Funded by:

Project funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (Grant # 1R34DA049079) in the amount of \$566,298.00 over 3 years.

Target Population:

Youth on community supervision who are in need of substance use treatment, and the youth's caregiver who supports access to treatment.

Purpose and Progress:

Justice agencies need strategies to help families to address barriers that sometimes make participating in services outside the justice system difficult. The youth-caregiver FAMLI curriculum is intended to help identify and offset both logistical and motivational roadblocks that might prevent seeking substance use treatment.

During 2021, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the FAMLI curriculum was further re-conceptualized for flexible delivery as either in-person or fully virtual. Additional juvenile justice partners were pursued. The fully staffed FAMLI team started Youth-caregiver recruitment Winter 2021.

Juvenile Justice Staff Comments on FAMLI activities:

"Being educated and shown things from a different perspective [is impactful]. [The activities will] help them process getting treatment or going to therapy...it'll help parents see how they can support their kids throughout this process."

"The activities [are fun], [they] will be good because it lowers [families'] defensiveness."

FAMLI Project

**FAMLI curriculum for in-person or virtual sessions**

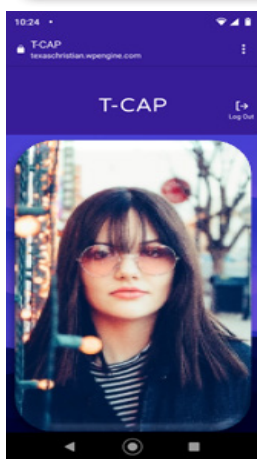
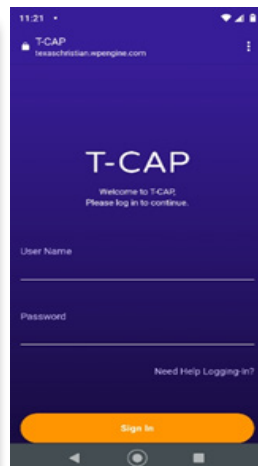
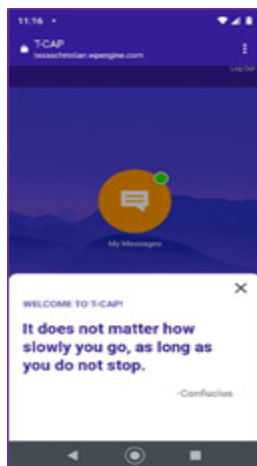
- Engaging youth-caregiver sessions
- Uses motivational interviewing techniques
- Promotes problem recognition around substance use and readiness for starting treatment
- Opportunity to process family-specific logistical and motivational barriers to starting treatment
- Flexible delivery as either in-person or virtual (equipment available during sessions, as needed)
- Resource directory to local service providers

Jeopardy-Style Trivia Game**Escaping the Downward Spiral Game**

T-CAP Project

T-CAP app for smart phone, tablet, or computer

- Live video sessions with coaching
- Motivational Interviewing
- Assertive Referrals
- Clinical Advocacy
- Messaging



Participant Comments:

I was able to see [MYT-CAP COACH] throughout the [TELEHEALTH] call... I had not gone back to my job yet because of COVID. And I think that we actually had one of the best conversations. I was so appreciative, like I was crying at the end because I am so thankful. And without [THE OPIOID DIVERSION TREATMENT PROGRAM], again, without [T-CAP TELEHEALTH], without all these people, the support system is so important. That's most important in my opinion, that support system.

—Study Participant

Full Title:

Telehealth – Clinical Advocacy Project

Principle Investigator:

Dr. Jen Pankow

Duration:

Grant was awarded on August 1, 2019 and concludes July 31, 2022.

Funded by:

Project funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (Grant # R21DA048232-01) in the amount of \$365,598 over 3 years.

Target Population:

Individuals with opioid use disorder receiving treatment services through a police opioid diversion program.

Purpose and Progress:

The Telehealth-Clinical Advocacy Project (T-CAP) examines the impact of integrating clinical telehealth services within a police opioid diversion program via a mobile application. The app focuses on the need to provide participants with rapidly available professional level clinical services to augment existing diversion program substance use treatment services.

The T-CAP research team conducted trainings with study coaches and site visits with the diversion program staff and law enforcement agencies during 2021. The all-virtual T-CAP intervention was rolled out in June 2021 while COVID restrictions were still in effect in the study site. One coach observed that individuals at higher risk for relapse are more receptive to the extra support that T-CAP provides during recovery.

MAP-IT Project

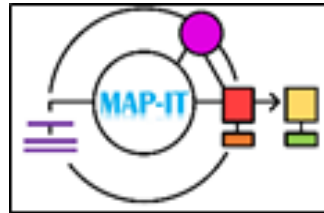
Full Title:

Mapping Approaches to Prepare for Implementation Transfer

Principal

Investigators:

Jennifer Becan, Ph.D.



Duration:

Grant was awarded on August 30, 2018 and concluded on August 31, 2021.

Funded by:

Project funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (Grant # 5R21DA044261) in the amount of \$368,090 over 2 years.

Target Population:

Clinical and direct care staff at residential and juvenile justice secure settings with substance use services.

Purpose and Progress:

Organizations that offer behavioral health services could benefit from an intervention approach that provides clear guidance regarding implementation preparedness. Mapping Approaches to Prepare for Implementation Transfer (MAP-IT), is an intervention that promotes skill development among leadership and frontline staff for ongoing agency-driven deliberate preparations for EBP implementation.

During 2021, the team presented a summary of preliminary efficacy for the MAP-IT curriculum at the 14th Academic & Health Policy Conference on Correctional Health.

MAP-IT agency implementation readiness curriculum

Clinical and Scientific Contributions

The MAP-IT approach was able to help agencies:

- discretely identify and prioritize agency-specific challenges standing in the way of successful implementation; and isolate strategies to target those challenges.
- improve in more areas of experienced challenges than the agencies who were not randomized to receive the MAP-IT curriculum.

This project suggests that agencies who deliberately prepare for the adoption of new practices are better able to deal with challenges faced during implementation.

Treatment Program Staff Comments on the MAP-IT Training

"I think it's invaluable to have the ability to have these [tools to identify challenges and applicable strategies]. It's going to help us make informed decisions... A lot of stuff that's just anecdotal. And as we get into the weeds of things, kind of thinking what's working or not. But here we have something concrete, data numbers to support what our decision should be and the direction that we should be going and how to actually handle it. I think it helps support what it is that we're doing practically."

"I think it's so easy for us to just get ... inundated with the day-to-day activities, different fires to put out. It is good to take a step back, be able to, again, even put it on paper right in front of us and be able to look at the different strategies that would be helpful for us [as agency leadership]."

BOP Project

Full Title:

Bureau of Prisons Program Evaluation Studies

Principal Investigator: Kevin Knight, Ph.D.

Duration: The Bureau of Prisons (BOP) project includes 2 contracts awarded in September 2021; base year concludes August 2022, with up to 2 additional option years for the Anger Management and 4 additional option years for the Drug Abuse Programs contracts.

Funded by: Project funded by the BOP (Contract #s 15BNAS21D00000425 and 15BNAS21D00000666); total combined amount of \$2,222,724 in base year.

Target Population: The target population for this project includes people incarcerated in federal prisons who have participated in the BOP programs being evaluated as well as comparison samples for each program of people who were eligible for participation in the program but declined to participate. De-identified archival data will be requested from BOP for a five-year time frame for each program.

Purpose and Progress: The purpose is to help the BOP maintain its compliance with the First Step ACT of 2018 by conducting an evaluation of the Bureau's drug abuse treatment programs: Drug Education (DE), Residential Drug Abuse Program (RDAP), Non-Residential Drug Abuse Program (NRDAP) and Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT), as well as evaluating outcomes for people who have participated in two or more of these programs; as part of a separate contract, we will also evaluate the BOP's Anger Management (AM) programs.

BOP Drug Abuse Programs (DAP)

(base year plus 4 subsequent option years) will address a core set of research questions across each task, including:

1) Do enrolled program participants (regardless of length of program participation) have better program-related outcomes than do comparable non-participants?

2) Do program completers have better outcomes than do program non-completers?

2a) Is program dose (i.e., time in program, number of sessions) related to outcomes?

3) What pre-program variables (e.g., social determinants) are associated with program placement, completion and outcomes?

3a) What risk, need, and responsivity factors are used for program placement?

3b) What static/dynamic risk and criminogenic needs factors are associated with program completion and outcomes?



BOP Project (cont'd)

Task I: Drug Education (DE; Lead- **Y. Yang**)

– For the base year, the proposed evaluation will target two primary objectives: (1) assess participant knowledge acquisition; and (2) determine if participants are more likely than non-participants to request drug treatment.

Task II: Non-Residential Drug Abuse

Program (NRDAP; Lead- **R. Proffitt**) – The base year evaluation will address three objectives, (1) determine what percentage of NRDAP participants complete the program; (2) assess and compare graduates of the program to those who did not complete the program; and (3) compare program graduates with eligible individuals that did not participate in the program.

Task III: Residential Drug Abuse

Program (RDAP; Lead- **W. Lehman**) – The evaluation of the RDAP will address three objectives: (1) determine what percentage of RDAP participants complete the program; (2) assess program graduates who have accessed follow-up services compared to those who did not complete RDAP, to identify predictors of program completion and behavioral change; and (3) examine the discriminating characteristics (e.g., risk level) of program participants completing the Community Treatment Services (CTS) reentry component of RDAP in a Residential Reentry Center (RRC) or Home Confinement.

Task IV: Medication-Assisted Treatment

(MAT; Lead- **J. Pankow**) – Primary aims for the base year MAT study will focus on (1) examining program fidelity, (2) program placement, and (3) medications, dose, and adherence. The goal is to provide the Bureau with evidence of program efficacy that support improvements in curricula, treatment protocols, and program operations and oversight, as well as informing the development of analytic plans for subsequent evaluations in 2-5 years.

Task V: Multiple Program Participation

(MPP; Lead- **G. Joe**) – Evaluates multiple program participation (e.g., participation in two or more drug programs) and considers interactional and additive effects of multiple program participation. The primary objective examines program participation by comparing subsamples with an untreated comparison group to identify predictors of behavioral change.

BOP Anger Management (AM) (base year plus two subsequent option years)

Task: Anger Management (AM; Lead- **J. Lux**) – Anger management is a key component of prison programming because it has been linked to violent behaviors such as criminal behavior, self-harm, conflict in custodial settings, and failure to adjust to community supervision post-release. Specific research questions include:

- 1) what factors predict referral to and participation in AM services;*
- 2) is participation in and completion of AM associated with improved outcomes (institutional misconduct, institutional adjustment, recidivism); and*
- 3) what individual-, program-, and institutional-level factors are associated with improved outcomes?*

The planned analyses examine the impact that these existing programs have on improving long-term, post-release public safety outcomes as well as identify factors that have impacted the treatment process and were found to be associated with short-term outcomes.



Undergraduate Student Lab S. O. A. R.

(Student Overview of Applied Research)

2021 marked the return to SOAR Lab activities for TCU undergraduate students during the fall semester. The IBR-hosted SOAR Lab features monthly meetings (Tier 1 activity) that are open to all students, and a more immersive research opportunity for interested students, available as an independent study IBR apprenticeship (Tier 2 activity). Both Tiers provide mentoring opportunities with graduate students and senior researchers.

SOAR Lab Program Goals

Provide students with an opportunity...

- Learn about our IBR graduate student program
- Participate in discussions with experienced researchers
- Engage in activities aimed at preparing students for advanced degrees in experimental psychology

Tier 2: IBR Apprenticeship Opportunity

IBR SOAR Lab students in the Tier 2 program have an opportunity to apply for hands-on experience on a large-scale research project. Placement decisions are for a semester assignment, and students will receive course credit for this Independent Study research experience. Interested students should contact Dr. Jen Pankow (j.pankow@tcu.edu) for more information about monthly meetings and Tier 2 activities.



Tier 1 Monthly SOAR Lab Activities

Collaborate with IBR graduate students in conducting IBR research projects ...

- Students experience writing a proposal, data collection, and analyzing and reporting results
- Present projects at Student Research Symposium (SRS) in 2022



ABOVE: Graduate students - Elizabeth Joseph, Amanda Wiese, Thomas Sease, and Stephanie Villaire.

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES

As a member of the TCU College of Science and Engineering, the IBR continues its commitment to the highest standards of scientific scholarship. IBR offers Ph.D. graduate students a valuable opportunity to train and learn, through close partnerships with faculty researchers in the areas of behavioral and health services research. Graduate and postgraduate training is carried out in close collaboration with the Department of Psychology and other departments at TCU resulting in publications and professional presentations. Since IBR does not award academic degrees, its students must meet all requirements of the department in which an advanced degree is to be awarded. A limited number of stipends are awarded on a competitive basis.

IBR IN THE MEDIA

STEERING PAST TROUBLE

*—from an article by Heather Zeiger
appearing in the TCU Endeavors Magazine.*

Danica Knight employs trust-based interventions to help troubled youth. Effective interventions are the goal of Knight and her research team, including project director Yang Yang and project coordinator Lainey Tinius. As part of a new National Institute on Drug Abuse-funded research project, they are testing whether their intervention programs in justice facilities can curb drug abuse once a juvenile returns home.

This project is a joint venture between the Purvis Institute and the Institute of Behavioral Research and is part of the National Institutes of Health's Helping to End Addiction Long-Term, or HEAL, initiative. The federal program is a multidisciplinary effort to find science-based solutions to the opioid crisis in the United States.

The overarching goal of Knight's project is to right the ship for struggling young people so they can steer past dangerous behaviors like opioid abuse.

The answer, more often than not, means dealing with childhood trauma through interventions that involve the whole family.



PHOTO BY Leo Wesson

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2021 Annual Report composed by
Kevin Knight and Audrey Armstrong with input from all IBR staff.