

CLINICAL PSYCHIATRY TRACK



Diana Bartlett, MD, MA

MEDICAL: Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California

GRADUATE: Indiana University at Bloomington, Comparative Literature

UNDERGRADUATE: University of California at Berkeley, English Literature

Before medical school, Diana focused on languages and the art of literary analysis, published an anthology of American poetry translations while living in Chile, and earned a Master's degree in comparative literature for her thesis exploring *Architectural Metaphors for Memory in Saint Augustine's Confessions*. She gravitated toward autobiographies in which writers wove narratives to make sense of their struggles, and not surprisingly she entered medical school with a keen interest in psychiatry. While a post-bac student and working as a research fellow, she published on Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease in *JAMA Neurology* and on cannabinoid receptors in the *Journal of Neuroscience*, effectively widening the sophisticated lenses she uses to explore psychopathology. She conducted fieldwork and research in Guiyang and Kunming on cross-cultural differences in the training of psychiatrists, and in medical school she was the Humanities and Professionalism Chair.



Paula Bu, MD

MEDICAL: Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University

UNDERGRADUATE: Harvard College, Comparative Study of Religion

An Intel Science Talent Search Semifinalist, Paula showed an early prowess for basic science. She is equally conversant in theology, politics, public health, and clinical research. She has compared acquired macronutrient data on Pume foragers to existing data on Hadza hunter-gatherers, explored sustainable eating and contemporary American Jewish identity, directed a program for healthy eating among inner city kids in Boston, was Discussions Chair of Harvard's Interfaith Council, and while supported by competitive grants, studied abroad in Israel, India, Denmark, and Sweden. After graduation, Paula worked as a clinical research coordinator in gynecologic radiation oncology at the Brigham and Women's Hospital. In medical school she was selected for the Clinical and Translational Research track. Her most recent work has investigated the effects of curricular interventions on medical students' attitudes toward people with disabilities. She has published in *Brachytherapy*, *Neurology*, *International Journal of Gynecological Cancer*, *Gynecology Oncology*, *American Journal of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation*, and *Neurocritical Care*, and has presented her work nationally. Paula founded a palliative care program for medical students, served as president of the campus LGBTQ organization, and edited the university's literary magazine.



Xavier Diao, MD

MEDICAL: University of Maryland School of Medicine

UNDERGRADUATE: University of Maryland, Psychology & Biology

Born and raised in China, Xavier grew up in Singapore and moved to the United States for high school. He has been actively involved in clinical and basic science research, teaching, and leadership, and has won numerous academic scholarships. His work has investigated the effects of shared leadership and group processes on team effectiveness, explored the association between expected reward and neuronal activity in the rat substantia nigra, examined the genetic underpinnings of bipolar disorder and schizophrenia, assessed elements of surgical referrals for patients with degenerative mitral valve regurgitation, and was awarded an NIH-funded research internship to study metabolic indices in youth with prodromal psychosis. He has published in the *European Journal of Neuroscience*, and twice in the *Annals of Thoracic Surgery*, and presented at multiple conferences. After graduating college with dual bachelor's degrees in psychology and biology, Xavier was selected to participate in the Combined Accelerated Program in Psychiatry (CAPP), allowing him early and intensive exposure to clinical and academic psychiatry. Xavier is president of the campus LGBTIQ group, and he will graduate in the top of his class academically as well as for qualities of humanism and professionalism (Gold Humanism Honor Society).



Anne Hart, MD

MEDICAL: Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

UNDERGRADUATE: The Juilliard School, Cello

Growing up in Iowa, Oregon, and California, Anne began playing the cello at age four and was an accomplished performer before transitioning her focus to medicine. As the principal cellist of the Juilliard Orchestra and San Francisco Youth Orchestra, she has performed at numerous venues around the world, including the Aspen Music Festival, Carnegie Hall, Davies Symphony Hall (San Francisco), Smetana Hall (Prague), Berliner Philharmoniker (Berlin), and Gasteig (Munich). She also cultivated her interest in education and community engagement, establishing an educational initiative which offered free musical training and instruments to underprivileged Brazilian youth. Locally she served as a Gluck Service Fellow, performing throughout New York medical facilities, and also worked as a doula at Mount Sinai, providing support to patients undergoing elective or medically necessary pregnancy terminations. In medical school, Anne organized a highly successful elective course exploring the relationship between music and medicine from various perspectives including music therapy, music cognition, and the historical influence of disease on musical compositions. Her most recent projects address provider wellness as well as healthcare bias against patients with psychiatric illnesses, and she recently published a letter in *NEJM*. She has spent time in Ghana building orthopedic back braces for young children with spinal deformities. Anne enjoys biking, hiking, aquatic sports, and fostering animals. She has been elected as a member of the Gold Humanism Honor Society.



Thomas Hopkins, MD

MEDICAL: Medical University of South Carolina College of Medicine
UNDERGRADUATE: Wake Forest University

Tommy graduated from Wake Forest's psychology honors research program receiving one of its most competitive awards for superb academic achievement and extracurricular leadership. Upon matriculation at MUSC, he received the College of Medicine's Dean's Scholarship, one of only two full-tuition merit-based scholarships given each year, and he has fulfilled its promise in the numerous leadership roles he has maintained throughout medical school. He greatly expanded the middle and high school community outreach programs for psychiatry, received national recognition for his work with student neurology groups, and developed mentorship programs for medical students. He has worked in MUSC's Brain Stimulation Lab using a single deep brain stimulator in the Subthalamic Nucleus to successfully treat all comorbidities in a patient with treatment-resistant depression, OCD, and Parkinson's disease as well as conducted a long-term follow-up of patients with treatment-resistant depression who were successfully treated with epidural cortical stimulation, a novel means of stimulating the brain. He also investigated the role of the 5-HT_{1B} receptor in mediating food-oriented behaviors as a novel means of addressing the obesity epidemic, finding a significant effect on food-intake and food-seeking behavior. He has published in *Brain Research*, *Neurocase*, and *Brain Stimulation*. An avid soccer player, Tommy played throughout college, including on the university team while studying abroad in Rome.



Julia Katz, MD

MEDICAL: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine
UNDERGRADUATE: University of Pennsylvania, Biological Basis of Behavior

Born in Donetsk, Ukraine and raised in Israel, Julia served for 2 years as a medic and clinical sergeant in the Israel Defense Forces, before matriculating into the Honor's program at UPenn. Her collegiate research focused on the role of glutamatergic and serotonergic mechanisms in anxiety and social behaviors, working with Protocadherin-10 Haplo-insufficient mice and BALB/cj, both genetic mouse models of autism spectrum disorders. A leader in Penn Speaks for Autism, Julia helped establish an afterschool volunteering program in collaboration with special education instructors at other institutions, providing a structured and affordable place for children with autism to work on social and academic skills. She continued this work in medical school, co-leading a social skills group for children with ASD. Her research in medical school examined the developmental trajectory of reward processing deficits and social motivation in children and adolescents with autism spectrum disorders. She has published her work in *Behavioural Brain Research*, and she has been inducted into the UNC medical student research society. In her first 2 years of medical school, she volunteered with the Refugee Health Initiative for families relocating to the US under formal refugee status. Julia will graduate at the top of her class, and she is a member of AOA.



Justin Key, MD

MEDICAL: Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
UNDERGRADUATE: Stanford University, Biology

Justin has held longstanding passions for service, teaching, and writing. In college he was president of multiple community organizations, project coordinator for Stanford NAACP, and the 2009 Black Graduation Undergraduate Speaker. He taught public speaking to undergraduate and graduate students at Stanford, and he is driven to use public outreach to promote wellness and raise awareness about social issues, such as deconstructing race in healthcare and leading a program to expose genocide in Uganda. Before matriculating at Mount Sinai, Justin worked in non-profit consulting for education, health care, and criminal justice, and as a marketing manager, helped make science writing more accessible to consumers. He was simultaneously completing a science-fiction novel. In medical school Justin was a case manager at the Harlem free clinic, community service chair for Students for Equal Opportunity in Medicine, and a research fellow supported by AACAP's Campaign For America's Kids. He worked to test the validity of the newly developed Seaver Autism Sensory Assessment (SASA)—presenting his work at venues across the country. Justin is a professional fiction writer who graduated from the prestigious Clarion West Writing Workshop in Seattle, and he won the Mount Sinai Medical Student Psychosis Writing Prize. He is also a scuba diver.



Leela Mohey, MD

MEDICAL: Michigan State University School of Medicine
UNDERGRADUATE: University of Michigan, Brain, Behavior, and Cognitive Psychology

Leela's clinical and extracurricular motivations center on reducing barriers to care, and she has been committed to community service, and health policy, and teaching. Studying abroad in London, she focused on medical ethics, healthcare reform, cost control, resource allocation, and healthcare efficiency, comparing multiple international models. In medical school, she helped a local refugee family from Burma navigate the system and prepare for an upcoming childbirth, and she developed resources to teach incoming refugees about nutrition and health. She has mentored numerous youngsters across the socioeconomic spectrum, and she created a program for homeless youth, providing food and education about multiple issues including human trafficking, safe sex, and nutrition. She has published twice in *The American Surgeon*, once for her work on Liposarcoma of the Spermatic Cord as an unexpected finding of inguinal hernia repair. Leela has been nominated for election to Alpha Omega Alpha and induction into the Gold Humanism Honor Society.



Daniel Brice Reynolds, MD

MEDICAL: Medical University of South Carolina College of Medicine

UNDERGRADUATE: Clemson University & Université Catholique de Louvain, Economics

Attending his earliest primary education in an underserved school in Columbia, SC, Brice has been driven toward alleviating disparities in care through service, study, and research. He was one of the first students in Clemson's Transatlantic Exchange in Economics, earning dual degrees from Clemson and Louvain in Belgium, including a stint at Maastricht in the Netherlands. He has received numerous scholarships and accolades, including multiple awards for public speaking and debate. Prior to medical school, he was selected for a prestigious internship with Doctors Without Borders, blending his passion for international work with his drive to reach underserved communities. Soon thereafter, he volunteered in the Latino Perinatal Outreach Program while working full-time as a technician at the North Carolina Women's Hospital. He published health disparities research on diabetes in minority populations. He has also done research on perinatal psychiatry and on how a centering pregnancy program affects rates of breastfeeding. He has provided free weight-loss outpatient therapy for underserved populations, been certified as a Nurse Aide, and as a Presidential Scholar at MUSC, organized a women's health fair. He led mental health outreach and anti-stigma programs for middle and high schools, spearheading expansions to lower-income areas. Over three summers he planned and organized finances for medical service trips to Haiti. In high school Brice co-produced and starred in a full-length play based on the complete works of Shakespeare, performing for a sold-out 200-seat house in a three-night run. In college he hosted a weekly radio show for 2 years, and in medical school he performed improv and sketch comedy at local theatres.



Kelby Skelton, MD

MEDICAL: Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine

UNDERGRADUATE: Pennsylvania State University, Biobehavioral Health

Born outside Erie, PA, Kelby was second in her high school class and a competitive runner. Kelby is altruistic in the broadest sense of the word, believing strongly in the service aspects of medical practice and devoting much of her life to providing educational, emotional, and financial support to others in need. During college she was on the executive board and Director of Community Service of the Penn State Blue & White Society, with more than 10,000 student members across all years. She has worked in fundraising and donor relationships for the largest student run philanthropy in the world, and worked as a nutrition liaison for the Food as Medicine Program in Hershey. She was Chair of Community Service, an elected position, for her first 2 years of medical school, responsible for connecting the College of Medicine to the Hershey community. During her third year, she was one of 4 students selected to be the initial cohort in the new Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship. She performed research on ethnobotanical antioxidants, investigating whether blueberry extract can enhance the efficacy of liposomal ceramide therapy in treating AML by inhibiting escape mechanisms. She has analyzed the secretome of grapevine inoculated with agrobacterium to explore how to improve the resistance of grapevines to crown gall disease, and has analyzed estradiol uptake in mouse hippocampal cells. Between college and medical school, she was the office manager of a golf pro-shop and an Olde World Cheese Representative. She lifts weights and raises chickens (white leghorn, Rhode Island red, New Hampshire red, Americano).



Karen Yan, MD, JD

MEDICAL: New York University School of Medicine

LAW SCHOOL: Harvard Law School

UNDERGRADUATE: Harvard University, Economics

Born in Hong Kong, Karen immigrated to the United States for college, where she won several merit-based scholarships and graduated in the top five percent of her class. At Harvard Law School, she served as Editor of the *Harvard Journal of Law and Public Policy* and Primary Editor of *Harvard Women's Law Journal*. Following graduation, she became a member of the bar in three states and for seven years worked as a corporate attorney and business transactions associate in the US and abroad. She was a Manager of the Legal and Compliance Department of Shanghai Commercial Bank Limited in Hong Kong as well as an Associate at Day Pitney LLC, where she helped public companies navigate the Troubled Asset Relief Program following the 2008 financial crisis. With an extensive work experience and acquired global perspective, Karen sought more and matriculated at NYU for medical school, realizing in hindsight that psychology and human connectedness were a common vein through her experiences. She has been President of the NYU chapter of the American Medical Student Association, has researched variance in phototherapy for newborns, studied receptors for advanced glycation end products and foot function, and helped create a curriculum that integrates radiology teaching into internal medicine clerkships in order to better prepare students for residency. Her recent project involves examining the current state of law and ethics of forcible medication in psychiatry. She also studied drawing and painting at Parsons School of Design.

ENTERING PGY-2 RESIDENT



Jason Shimiaie, MD

RESIDENCY: The Mount Sinai Hospital, Internal Medicine

MEDICAL: Sackler University School of Medicine, New York State American Branch

UNDERGRADUATE: Emory University, Neuroscience and Behavioral Biology

After finishing his undergraduate degree in 3 years, Jason stayed on an extra year in Emory's Psychology Department to study spatial learning in the rat hippocampus. Matriculating at Sackler's American Branch in Tel Aviv, his research shifted to cardiology, where he studied the use of a novel combination of echocardiography and cardiopulmonary exercise testing as a more precise and physiologic model for diagnosing heart disease. He has published his work in *Chest*, the *American Journal of Cardiology*, *JACC Cardiovascular Imaging*, *JACC Heart Failure*, *Journal of the American Society of Echocardiography*, and *European Heart Journal Cardiovascular Imaging*. As a highly successful student researcher, he was given responsibility for training and managing other students across several other research projects. Additionally, Jason was president of the Sackler tutoring program, taught and mentored Ethiopian and Arab-Israeli adolescents from low-income families, and provided medical care for communities in the West Bank through Physicians for Human Rights. Two years ago, Jason matched into The Mount Sinai Hospital's Internal Medicine residency, where he is now completing his second year of training. While caring for complex and acutely ill individuals, he discovered a predilection for treating their emotional, cognitive, and behavioral ailments. Bringing a foundational education in neuroscience and broad internal medicine training to the field of psychiatry endows Jason with a unique perspective, which he hopes will develop into a future focus in psycho-oncology. Jason plays piano, guitar, and ukulele, has grown vegetables and spices on his roof in a converted bed, and graduated in the top 5% of his medical school class.

PHYSICIAN-SCIENTIST RESEARCH TRACK



Youngjung Kim “Rachel”, MD, PhD

MEDICAL & PHD: Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons
UNDERGRADUATE: Princeton University, Molecular Biology

Rachel Kim was born in Korea, and with her father’s diplomatic career, grew up in Ireland, Singapore, Honduras, and Germany. She moved to the US to attend Princeton for her undergraduate degree in Molecular Biology, where her research on *Drosophila* development with Elizabeth Gavis, MD, PhD, culminated in a senior thesis which earned the Crecca ’46 Best Senior Thesis Award, Departmental High Honors Distinction, a HHMI Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship, and a co-first author publication in *Developmental Biology*. During her MD/PhD at Columbia, Rachel worked with Lori Sussel, PhD, using mice models to characterize the participation of beta cells in triggering the autoimmune response in Type 1 Diabetes. Rachel discovered that a protein tyrosine phosphatase, Ptpn2, was upregulated in the beta cells of T1D-prone mice. Then, she generated mice carrying a beta cell deletion of Ptpn2 and demonstrated that the mutant beta cells have increased susceptibility to cell death in an autoimmune environment. She also worked with Domenico Accili, MD to investigate beta cell dysfunction in Type 2 Diabetes and metabolic syndrome in mice, resulting in co-authored papers in *Nature Communications*, *Cell Metabolism*, and the *Journal of Biological Chemistry*. Rachel has been exceptionally successful at bridging clinical and basic research. After graduating medical school, she spent this past year on a clinical research project investigating “Anorexia nervosa as a metabolic syndrome”, with Laurel Mayer, MD, effectively extending her basic science interests in molecular metabolism to the metabolic reprogramming during the treatment of patients with anorexia nervosa. Rachel’s academic excellence has been recognized with memberships in the Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Xi Honor Societies.

RESIDENCY + PHD RESEARCH TRACK



Lauren Lepow, MD

MEDICAL: McGovern Medical School at University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
UNDERGRADUATE: Columbia University, Neuroscience and Behavior

Lauren Lepow’s passion for neuroscience began in high school, when she started a long-lasting collaboration with Paul Schulz, MD, to learn about conducting translational research in neuropsychiatric illness. Her work in Dr. Schulz’s lab resulted in her first authorship of a paper in the *Journal of Clinical and Experimental Neuropsychology*. She continued to be involved in several research projects while attending Columbia University for her undergraduate degree in Neuroscience and Behavior, including a self-designed project investigating glucocorticoid effects on the oxytocin receptor expression in rat brains. During medical school, Lauren excelled academically, participated in numerous community outreach and leadership activities, and was inducted as a member of the Gold Humanism Honor Society. She also was recently selected for and completed a highly competitive research elective with Drs. Carlos Zarate and Larry Park in the Experimental Therapeutics and Pathophysiology Branch at the NIMH, where she completed a retrospective data-mining project on the antidepressant effects of ketamine and NMDA-antagonists; her first-author paper was published in *Journal of Psychiatric Research*. Lauren has presented her research at national meetings of the Society of Biological Psychiatry and the American Psychiatric Association.