

## CLINICAL NEUROPSYCHOLOGY EXTERNSHIP

### The Center for Neuropsychological Services (CNS) – Northwell Health

This program is a general outpatient neuropsychology practice that serves clients from age 3-years-old through the lifespan. CNS offers adult-focused and pediatric-focused externship tracks, and opportunities for a lifespan experience are also available. Externs gain experience with neuropsychological assessment of pediatric and/or adult clients with a variety of neurologic, medical, and psychiatric illnesses.

- Adult assessments include neurodegenerative disorders, epilepsy, traumatic brain injury, autoimmune disorders, cancer, and psychiatric conditions (e.g., depression, anxiety, adjustment-related concerns).
- Pediatric evaluations commonly address diagnostic issues related to neurodevelopmental disorders such as learning disability, ADHD, intellectual disability, and autism spectrum disorder, as well as acquired disorders including cancer, hematologic diseases, and traumatic brain injury.

Opportunities also exist for neuropsychological consultation on inpatient psychiatry units to assist in differential diagnosis.

The program utilizes a hypothesis-testing approach to assessment and may use flexible neuropsychological batteries. Externs will participate in all aspects of assessment including interview, exam administration, report writing, and feedback to clients and professionals. These activities are all performed under a high degree of supervision from a licensed psychologist specializing exclusively in neuropsychology. Externs are trained alongside clinical psychology interns specializing in neuropsychology and neuropsychology postdoctoral fellows. Trainees may also participate in extensive didactic programs that include a weekly neuropsychology seminar that is conducted jointly with neuropsychologists and trainees across Northwell Health, as well as Neurology and Psychiatry Rounds. Psychology trainees are also provided with BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ specific mentorship and support opportunities throughout the academic year.

#### ***Supervisors:***

- General adult-focused (1 position): Christine J. Lee, PhD
- General adult-focused or lifespan (1 position): Philip Watson, PhD
- Pediatric-focused (1 position): Julia Chen, PhD

#### ***Requirements to Apply to the Clinical Neuropsychology Externship***

The applicant must be a candidate in good standing in a Ph.D. or Psy.D. psychology program in clinical or other relevant area of professional psychology or be enrolled in a qualified re-specialization program.

All neuropsychology externships require a time commitment of at least 2-days (16 hours) per week over a 12-month period. July starts are preferred, to coincide with the start of the internship training year. The program abides by the rules set by PSYDNYS for recruitment and training.

#### ***To Apply:***

Email the following materials to Philip Watson, Ph.D. at [pwatson1@northwell.edu](mailto:pwatson1@northwell.edu)

- Letter of Interest indicating track applying for (can apply for multiple tracks)
- CV
- Two letters of recommendation
- One sample report

**Faculty biographies:**

**Julia Chen, PhD:** Dr. Chen (she/her) is a pediatric neuropsychologist at The Center for Neuropsychological Services (CNS) at Northwell Health. She specializes in neuropsychological evaluation of children, adolescents, and young adults with neurological, neurodevelopmental, psychiatric, and other complex medical conditions. She has specialized training in early neurodevelopmental assessment of children as young as 18 months of age, executive functioning coaching, and serving patients in inpatient rehabilitation following brain injury. In her role as a clinician, Dr. Chen helps children, their families, schools, and healthcare team better understand their unique strengths and challenges in the context of their medical history and environment, and to move toward feasible next steps to improve current functioning and future development.

Dr. Chen is passionate about increasing access to culturally-responsive neuropsychological care, and training the next generation of neuropsychologists to be ready to serve our evolving communities. She currently serves as co-secretary of the Asian Neuropsychological Association Advocacy Committee. She has also contributed to research focusing on the care of children on the autism spectrum, congenital heart disease, and severe brain injury. Dr. Chen completed her two-year postdoctoral fellowship in pediatric neuropsychology at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), and her predoctoral internship at the Kennedy Krieger Institute/Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in pediatric psychology and neuropsychology. She earned her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Connecticut with a concentration in neuropsychology, and bachelor's degree from Columbia College at Columbia University.

**Christine J. Lee (Chrissy), PhD:** Dr. Lee (she/her) is a proud second-generation Korean American who was raised in New York City. She is humbled to be the first in her family to graduate post-secondary education at Barnard College of Columbia University where she studied neuroscience and gender studies. She went on to earn her doctoral degree in Clinical Psychology with specialization in Neuropsychology and Health Psychology from The Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology of Yeshiva University. Dr. Lee is a published author in peer-reviewed journals centering research on gender and racial mental healthcare disparities and neuropsychological assessment. As one of the few bilingual neuropsychologists nationally, Dr. Lee provides a well-needed service of neuropsychological evaluation for Korean-speaking adults, in addition to providing services across the lifespan in English at CNS at Northwell Health. She also provides culturally-affirming psychotherapy and neurocognitive rehabilitative intervention.

In her role as Co-Chair of the Psychology Division's Council for Anti-Racism and Equity (CARE), she is involved with coordination and development of various causes and initiatives, including the Women's Mentorship Series, creating social and mentorship opportunities for BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ staff and trainees, the promotion of culturally-inclusive supervision and clinical practices, and providing education related to decolonizing practices within psychology. She also holds membership in various neuropsychology professional groups including the Queer Neuropsychological Society, the Hispanic Neuropsychological Society, and serves on the Asian Neuropsychological Association Education Committee where she assisted in the development of, and continues to coordinate the Mentorship Program

**Philip Watson, PhD:** Dr. Watson is the director of The Center for Neuropsychological Services, where he is involved with program operations and clinical activities. In his clinical work, Dr. Watson sees children and adults with cognitive concerns occurring from a medical, neurologic, or psychiatric condition. In his larger role at Northwell Health, Dr. Watson oversees all psychological assessments at Zucker Hillside Hospital and is the supervising neuropsychologist at Zucker Hillside Hospital's Early Treatment Program. In his clinical capacities, he is involved in training psychology students at the extern, intern, and fellow levels, and is involved in training psychiatry residents in cognitive assessment.

Dr. Watson is also involved in several research capacities, as the overseeing neuropsychologist in the Division of Psychiatry Research and is involved in a collaborative manner in studies involving autoimmune disorders at The Feinstein Institutes for Medical Research and pediatric brain tumor at Cohen Children's Medical Center. Dr. Watson was appointed as Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell in 2019. Dr. Watson has presented his research findings in multiple peer-reviewed journals and at many international conferences.

Dr. Watson obtained his Bachelor of Arts, summa cum laude, in psychology from Queens College. He obtained a Master of Arts and Master of Philosophy en route to his Ph.D. in clinical psychology, where he specialized in neuropsychology. Dr. Watson completed a clinical internship in neuropsychology at Northwell Health and a two-year post-doctoral fellowship in neuropsychology at Northwell Health's Zucker Hillside Hospital.