

Fellowship in Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry



Virginia Commonwealth University

Richmond, Virginia

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Welcome to Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry at VCU!

We believe this program reflects a compelling array of experiences, advancing our fellows' education as clinicians, educators, researchers and leaders in the field. Our faculty are committed to a broad array of patient populations and models of care, allowing our trainees to experience both general and specialized C-L training. VCU is an empowering institution that celebrates its community, and which encourages collaboration and innovation. It is a special place, nestled in a hidden gem capital city 😊

We're glad you're here!



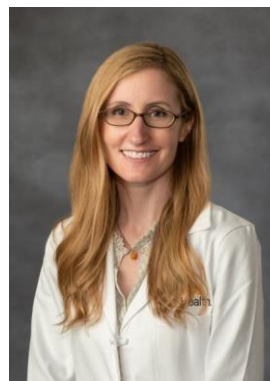
Staff Directory



James Levenson, MD

Rhona Arenstein Professor
of Psychiatry

Fellowship Program Director



Melissa Bui, MD

Associate Professor
of Psychiatry

Associate PD

C-L Psychiatrist.....[Liaison]

Alex Ambrose, DO [Women's Mental
Health, Clozapine Clinic]

Melissa Bui, MD [Critical Care Psychiatry]

Daniel Higgins, MD [Infectious Disease]

James Levenson, MD [Ethics, Outpatient]

Lauren Mahoney, MD [Neuropsychiatry]

Bushra Mubashshir, MD [WMH, Outpatient]

Sample Monthly Didactic Schedule

August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Key

-  • Weekly supervision and review of the literature with Dr. Levenson
-  • Biweekly didactics with Dr. Bui (30 minutes every other Friday) including QI/Research supervision and career planning
-  • Consultation-Liaison Literature Seminar (weekly)
-  • Grand Rounds (September – May)
-  • PGY-4/5 Case Based Didactics
-  • Monthly Case Conference

Other didactic opportunities

- Didactics from other training programs (Addiction Medicine, C&A Psychiatry, Health Psychology, Psych Residency, non-Psych specialties)
- Monthly ACLP Webinar (Case Conference and Journal Club)

Expectations for Scholarship

(Must complete Clinical, Teaching and Career, and either Research or QI)

Domain	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Final
Clinical	Lead the C-L team's clinical work, delegate tasks and keep the team on track	Lead the C-L team and begin to lead table rounds	Lead table rounds each day Perform a safety analysis as part of a monthly Case Conference	Jr. Attending in increasing intervals	Comfort at all levels of patient care, including leading an interdisciplinary team
Research	Identify a research question, make necessary contacts, apply for any necessary permission	Create a Statistical Analysis Plan. Begin to mock up tables of possible results. Consider journals for publication	Contact journals with sample abstract to evaluate interest. Submit publication	Complete the peer review process and consider expanding publication into additional pieces	Published manuscript, possibly other deliverables (e.g. poster, book chapter)
QI	If not completing a full research project above, identify a QI question, make any necessary contacts and apply for any necessary permission	Create a PDSA plan and timeline to fit within the fellowship year. Consider conferences where the work might be presented	Submit results for consideration as a poster or conference presentation	Present!	Poster vs conference presentation vs other
Teaching	Informal student teaching each day	Develop a list of C-L focused subjects you can teach about (with supporting evidence), and deliver to each Clerkship group	Seek out additional teaching opportunities within the residency program, psychiatry clerkship or other groups	Complete a finished product such as a Grand Rounds presentation or a curriculum that can be used for future groups of trainees.	Grand Rounds presentation or evidence-based curriculum, or other educational tool
Career	Begin to craft components of a future position, including geography, patient population, clinical environment, etc.	Update CV and compose a cover letter. Begin to make connections with potential future employers	Secure and complete interviews. Identify areas for negotiation	Secure a contract	Employment 😊

Sample Schedule Templates (may be combined or modified)

1. General C-L with Specialty Liaison

2. Critical Care Psychiatry focus
3. Outpatient/Collaborative Care

Sample 1 – General C-L Fellow	
Site	West 11 – General C-L
Outpatient Liaison (Clinic site)	Massey Cancer Center
Inpatient Liaison (Quarterly meetings)	Neurology
% Inpatient Consult Service (Clinical)	65%
% Outpatient Liaison Clinics	20%
Nonclinical responsibilities *Individual supervision *Journal Club, Grand Rounds, Case Conference, Other Didactics *Research and/or QI *Safety review *Curriculum development	15%

Definitions of Key Terms

Clinical – Review weekend signout and chart review, assign cases, proactive outreach with any concerns. See cases (prioritize high risk)

C-L Table Rounds – Goal is to gain progressively more experience leading rounds over the course of the year

Outpatient Clinic – Embedded/collaborative care or outpatient referral to psychiatry clinic

Teaching – Formal and informal teaching of students and residents

Walk Rounds – Participate in team meetings as needed, availability for supervision of trainee documentation or questions

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning (8:00 – 12:00)	Clinical care, C-L Table Rounds	Teaching, Clinical Care	Outpatient Clinic – Massey Cancer Center	Clinical care, C-L Table Rounds	Proactive Neurology Consults
Midday (12:00 – 1:00)	Supervision Dr. Bui	Fellow-Led C-L Case Conference	C-L Literature Seminar	Supervision Dr. Levenson	Grand Rounds
Afternoon (1:00 – 4:30)	C-L Walk Rounds	C-L Walk Rounds	C-L Walk Rounds	C-L Walk Rounds	C-L Walk Rounds

Critical Care Psychiatry (CCP) focus

Some fellows may wish to be fully embedded in a critical care psychiatry training model. The majority will likely prefer to integrate proactive CCP with more general C-L. An integrated schedule may include blocks of CCP-dedicated clinical exposure for a period of weeks or months, followed by a general schedule as above.

Sample 2 – Critical Care Psychiatry	
Site	West 11 * CCH 3 & 4
Outpatient Liaison (clinic site)	Pulmonology – post-ICU
Inpatient Liaison (quarterly meetings)	Medical Respiratory ICU
% Inpatient Consult Service (Clinical)	75%
% Outpatient Liaison Clinics	10%
Nonclinical responsibilities *Individual supervision *Journal Club, Grand Rounds, Case Conference, Other Didactics *Research and/or QI *Safety review *Curriculum development	15%

Opportunities for Liaisons during Fellowship

-Women's Mental Health	-Cardiology
-Infectious Disease	-Neurology
-Critical Care Psychiatry	-Bariatric Medicine
-Oncology	-Transplant
-Incarcerated patients	-Burn/Trauma
-Hepatology/Renal/GI	-Primary Care
-Sheltering Arms Rehabilitation	-Surgical subspecialty

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning	ICU Table Rounds Clinical care	ICU Table Rounds Clinical care	ICU Table Rounds Clinical care	C-L Table Rounds Clinical care	ICU Table Rounds Clinical care
Midday	Supervision Dr. Bui	Fellow-led C-L Case Conference	C-L Literature Seminar	Supervision Dr. Levenson	Grand Rounds
Afternoon	Clinical care, Teaching, Scholarship	Clinical care, Teaching, Scholarship	Post-ICU Clinic	C-L Table Rounds, Clinical care	Clinical care, Teaching, Scholarship

Outpatient/Collaborative Care

Some fellows may wish to integrate an outpatient-focused track within dedicated subspecialty inpatient training. An integrated schedule may include blocks of Outpatient/Collaborative Care-dedicated clinical exposure for a period of weeks or months, followed by a general or liaison-specific schedule as above.

Sample 3 – Outpatient/Collab Care	
Site	West 11 * Pavilion
Outpatient Liaison (Clinic site)	Primary Care
Inpatient Liaison (Quarterly meetings)	Internal Medicine
% Inpatient Consult Service (Clinical)	45%
% Outpatient Liaison Clinics	40%
Nonclinical responsibilities *Individual supervision *Journal Club, Grand Rounds, Case Conference, Other Didactics *Research and/or QI *Safety review *Curriculum development	15%

Opportunities for Models of Care during Fellowship

- General Reactive Psychiatric Consultation
- Liaison Psychiatry (Attending regular interdisciplinary meetings)
- Embedded Psychiatric Consultation (Rounding with the team)
- Proactive Psychiatric Consultation (Pre-determined screening criteria, screen an entire population)
- Outpatient Collaborative Care (Consulting to primary care clinicians on their patients with comorbid psychiatric pathology)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning	Clinical care, C-L Table Rounds	Clinical care, C-L Table Rounds	Subspecialty Clinic – Bariatric Medicine	Clinical care, C-L Table Rounds	Outpatient Collaborative Care Clinic
Midday	Supervision Dr. Bui	Fellow-led C-L Case Conference	C-L Literature Seminar	Supervision Dr. Levenson	Grand Rounds
Afternoon	Outpatient Collaborative Care Clinic	Clinical care, C-L Table Rounds	Outpatient Collaborative Care Clinic	Outpatient Collaborative Care Clinic	Outpatient Collaborative Care Clinic

Information about RVA!

Richmond, VA is a medium-sized city in the mid-Atlantic region of the U.S. Fellows tend to live in either Richmond or Henrico, though there are many neighboring cities and counties with good commute times. Given its central location, robust economy, and lower than average cost of living, Richmond is a wonderful place to visit and to settle down!

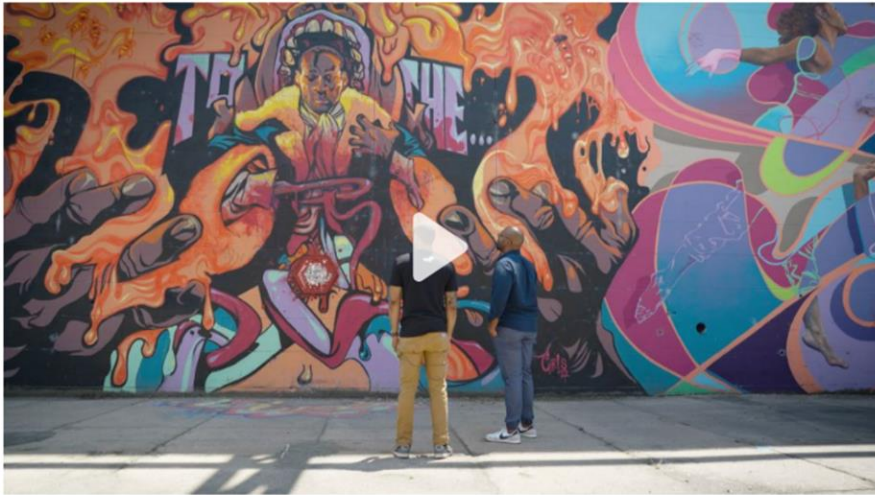
City	2-Bedroom Apt Rent	Median home value	Average home price per square foot	Average commute time (minutes)	Monthly daycare cost
Atlanta, GA	\$1,928.00	\$378,167.00	\$251.00	39	\$2,668.00
Baltimore, MD	\$1,684.00	\$249,000.00	\$170.00	29.4	\$2,622.00
Boston, MA	\$5,690.00	\$845,986.00	\$708.00	40	\$2,799.00
New York, NY	\$6,957.00	\$875,000.00	\$1,519.00	43	\$3,034.00
Richmond, VA	\$1,586.00	\$390,380.00	\$255.00	22.1	\$1,500.00
Washington, D.C.	\$2,770.00	\$740,000.00	\$528.00	41	\$2,363.00
National Average	\$1,884.00	\$414,000.00	\$234.00	26.8	\$1,374.00
*Values obtained through Google Gemini on 6/11/2025					

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 Story by Kari Smith | Video by Demetrius Pipkin, Jeremy Moorhead and FJ Feng, CNN
 8 minute read · Updated 7:47 AM EDT, Mon June 24, 2024

28 comments



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Richmond, Virginia (CNN) — This dynamic city on the James River deserves more of the tourist attention enjoyed by the nation's capital two hours to the north.



Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden

<https://www.lewisginter.org/>



Carytown District

<https://discoverrichmondtraveltours.com/things-to-do-in-carytown-richmond-va/>

2024 - #1 on CNN's Best Cities to Visit:

<https://www.cnn.com/travel/richmond-virginia-best-towns-america>

Thank you so much for visiting our site, and please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions!



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Please use the following QR code to view a short video about our C-L service and to meet our wonderful team!

