POSTDOCTORAL PROGRAM IN CLINICAL NEUROPSYCHOLOGY
Clement J. Zablocki  VA Medical Center, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

This two-year fellowship program is a member of the Association of Postdoctoral Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology (APPCN), is compliant with the Houston Conference training guidelines, and meets necessary requirements for ABPP/ABCN board certification in Clinical Neuropsychology.

Accreditation Status

The postdoctoral fellowship program at the Milwaukee VA Medical Center is fully accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American Psychological Association as a one-year postdoctoral fellowship in clinical psychology. The first year of the neuropsychology fellowship falls within this program. We are not yet accredited as a two-year neuropsychology fellowship, though we are in the process of seeking that accreditation. Our site visit has been completed, and we are awaiting the decision from the Commission on Accreditation.

Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation
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Neuropsychology at Zablocki VAMC: The Neuropsychology program provides inpatient and outpatient services to the patients at Zablocki VAMC and its Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs) in rural Wisconsin. There are currently four clinical neuropsychologists on our staff, three of whom are board-certified. Consultations are received from inpatient services, including the Intensive Care Unit, all medical-surgical units, mental health, geriatric medicine units, the nursing home, spinal cord injury, transitional care, palliative care, and rehabilitation. Outpatient referrals are received from all primary care clinics, mental health programs, and specialty programs (Geriatric Medicine, Emergency Department, Vocational Rehabilitation, the Milwaukee Vet Center, Vets Place Central, Domiciliary, and the Compensation and Pension Board), and specialty clinics (Neurology, Neurosurgery, Orthopedics, Dentistry, Nephrology, Cardiology, Oncology, Transplant Services, Spinal Cord Injury, and Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation). In addition to general neurobehavioral diagnostic assessments, dispositional planning and rehabilitative services, Neuropsychology plays an integral role on the Polytrauma Support Clinic Team, in the operation of a specialty clinic designed to streamline assessment and treatment of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and other learning difficulties, a program for assessment of home-bound veterans, and in the deep brain stimulation and the normal pressure hydrocephalus programs for which pre- and post-operative evaluations are conducted for diagnostic, baseline and outcome investigations. Neuropsychology staff have a routine presence in neurology clinics for memory disorders and movement disorders, and serves as consultative support for the multiple sclerosis clinic, and in the multidisciplinary geropsychiatry/geropsychology clinic. Such involvement allows frequent with a number of disciplines and also provides a didactic venue to teach medical staff about neurocognitive, psychiatric and behavioral disorders.

The Neuropsychology Fellowship Program: The program centers around intensively supervised experiences in clinical assessment, consultation and intervention with patients representing a broad range of neurobehavioral disorders and pathologies. The training program aims to provide fellows with the knowledge and skills necessary for independent practice in the specialty area of clinical neuropsychology. Core competencies have been defined in the following areas: Ethical and Legal Standards, Professional Values and Attitudes, Communication and Interpersonal Skills, Individual and Cultural Diversity, Assessment, Intervention, Consultation, Clinical Supervision/Teaching, and Research/Program Evaluation. Within this framework, training emphasis is placed on timely and efficient neuropsychological assessment and consultation services to primary care, mental health and specialty medical programs at Zablocki VAMC and community based outpatient clinics. It is anticipated that the
fellow will spend 50-75% of their time gaining clinical experiences. The remaining time is devoted to didactics, research and elective educational opportunities targeted to complete the individual’s education and training needs.

The neuropsychology fellow is one of nine psychology fellows in our APA-accredited program. The other eight fellowship positions have the following areas of emphasis: geropsychology, palliative care, post-deployment mental health, residential rehabilitation, primary care, LGBT health care, and women’s health. Each postdoctoral fellow is assigned a major preceptor. The major preceptor has the responsibility for the overall coordination of the training experience, serves as a mentor and also typically supervises some of the clinical experience. Eric R. Larson, PhD., ABPP-CN serves as the major preceptor for the neuropsychology fellow.

**General Program Features:** The fellow will have the opportunity to observe, interview, and study individuals presenting with focal and diffuse brain disease, resolving and degenerative conditions, neural-developmental injury and abnormality, and episodic and chronic conditions. The fellow will also learn about the fundamentals of the neurological exam, neuroimaging, and other neurodiagnostic techniques with the goals of evaluating the affective and personality changes that commonly occur with neurological conditions and those that mimic neurological conditions and correlating interview data, observational impressions, test findings, report from caregivers, medical history, laboratory and neuroimaging findings in order to develop an integrated formulation of the individual’s neurobehavioral condition and likely course. The neuropsychology fellow will also learn to develop practical recommendations based on the case formulations, provide a range of interventions that are derived from knowledge gathered in the neurobehavioral interview and neuropsychological testing, and learn how neuropsychological knowledge can be used in primary care settings to facilitate problem-focused evaluation and triage for timely service coordination and delivery.

Primary education and training experiences are provided through the General Neuropsychology Consultation Service that receives referrals for inpatients and outpatients across the medical campus. Additional elective rotations are available through the Polytrauma Support Services, the ADHD Clinic, the Home Based Primary Care (HBPC) program, the Geriatric Evaluation and Management (GEM) Unit, the Geropsychiatry Clinic and Spinal Cord Injury Unit.

A unique aspect of this fellowship is that additional educational and training experiences are available through a cooperative training arrangement with the Postdoctoral Training Program at the Medical College of Wisconsin (see below for more detailed description of the primary and elective rotations). Each of the elective rotations will have a different primary supervisor, which serves to broaden the scope of training. Four of the rotations at MCW involve working with multidisciplinary teams for service delivery and will provide the fellow with an understanding and experience in developing relevant professional relationships for effective service delivery. These rotations can be supplemented by experiences in various MCW specialty care clinics in Neurology, including Cognitive Disorders, Epilepsy, Multiple Sclerosis and Movement Disorder Clinics, where trainees will learn how to flexibly apply what they have learned from more extensive evaluations and teach medical staff about how knowledge of each patient's cognitive functioning helps to improve veteran health care.

The fellow is expected to evaluate approximately three patients per week spanning all rotational assignments. The number may be adjusted up or down depending on degree of complexity and length of examination required to address the clinical issues at hand.

**Supervision:** The core neuropsychology supervisors have all completed postdoctoral residencies in neuropsychology. Supervision by each of these supervisors will be provided. Three additional staff members with postdoctoral training in geropsychology or rehabilitation psychology also have expertise in neuropsychological assessment of geriatric and spinal cord injury patients and can provide supervised experience in these areas. In addition to individual supervision within neuropsychology, the neuropsychology fellow and the other eight psychology fellows meet weekly for group supervision with the Director of the Psychology Training Program.
**Evaluation Feedback and Interventions:** A core component of neuropsychological intervention is providing educational feedback to the veteran, his/her family and medical personnel about the nature of identified neurocognitive deficits. Such feedback often involves implications for making decisions regarding career choice, educational options, learning obstacles and compensations, and social and community integration.

The fellow will be provided training in delivering feedback that facilitates learning by the veteran and his/her relatives and optimizes clinical outcome and psychosocial adjustment. Opportunities for training in cognitive rehabilitation techniques are available. The Neuropsychology program has access to the BRAIN TRAIN software for this purpose and collaborates with Speech Pathology in developing meaningful interventions for creating effective study skill habits and strategies of memory compensation. The clinical psychologist on the Polytrauma team can provide opportunities for training in interventions with TBI patients for psychotherapy and psycho-educational needs. Providing timely and appropriate psycho-educational information on mild TBI has been the strongest evidence-based practice linked to positive outcome after mild TBI at present. Symptom directed treatment to address problem areas such as sleep, depression, and anxiety/PTSD in TBI patients can include experience in empirically supported treatments with CBT and prolonged-exposure.

**Other Program Requirements and Options:**

**Program Evaluation Project:** In addition to their clinical experience, fellows will be expected to demonstrate competence by completing a program development or program evaluation project. Fellows are also asked to do three additional papers or presentations, one focusing on assessment issues, one on intervention issues, and one on bioethics. These usually involve activities such as a preparing and presenting a grand round, presenting a case conference, presenting a seminar for psychology interns, or presenting a staff development program. Other activities that have been accepted as satisfying this requirement have included the publication of a paper or book chapter, the presentation of a paper at meetings of professional organizations, or the preparation of literature reviews.

**Training in Supervision:** The postdoctoral fellow will also be provided with the opportunity to develop skills as a clinical supervisor. They will be assigned at least one practicum student during each training year and will receive supervised experience in providing supervision.

**Didactics:** Mandatory didactics include a weekly seminar for all postdoctoral fellows, the weekly Neuropsychology Case Conference, and the Neuropsychology Lecture Series offered to all interns and postdoctoral fellows at Zablocki VAMC. Additionally, all psychology fellows meet weekly for group supervision with the Director of the Psychology Training Program. Many optional didactics are available at Zablocki VAMC and other sites in Milwaukee (see Optional Didactics section below). The fellow is also required to attend a weekly Neuropsychology Seminar offered to residents and fellows in the Neuropsychology Program at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Additional didactics are available in the Neuropsychology Program at MCW, including Journal Club, and Case Conference with postdoctoral fellows at MCW, and various team conferences (e.g., tumor board, neuroanatomy review series, brain cuttings). See below for listing of additional optional didactic experiences available to the fellow.

**Research:** Although the program primarily emphasizes clinical experience, research opportunities are available including opportunities for collaborative studies with neuropsychology faculty members or other medical school faculty. There is an opportunity to collaborate with Dr. Judith Hudetz, Director of Anesthesia Research at the VAMC, assessing cognitive functions pre- and post-CABG with CPB, a line of research that has in the past three years generated several publications in respected journals. In addition, Dr. Piero Antuono is in the process of expanding an NIH funded Alzheimer research project to this VAMC in collaboration with one of our neuropsychologists. Opportunities with the Neuropsychology faculty currently include investigations on the natural recovery from mild traumatic brain injury, use of functional imaging techniques to better understand the effects of traumatic brain injury and other clinical pathological conditions, investigations on the relationships between migraine, photophobia and TBI, understanding the profile of attentional disturbances in various neurological (anesthesia, MTBI) and psychiatric (ADHD, PTSD) conditions, outcome prediction from somatoform symptom scales, and
evaluation of efficacy of treatment strategies for ADHD and postconcussion syndrome. The neuropsychology fellow also has the option of participating in ongoing research projects with the neuropsychology faculty at MCW.

Teaching: The Neuropsychology Service typically has 3-4 practicum students annually from regional universities, one of whom is assigned to the fellow for supervision. The fellow can also participate in the education of any clinical psychology intern who wishes to complete a rotation in neuropsychology. The fellow is provided with a variety of didactic teaching options, including making a presentation to interns in the weekly didactic series, presenting cases at Neuropsychology Case Conference, making presentations as a part of the MCW Neuropsychology Seminar or Journal Club, providing guest lectures to psychology graduate students at Marquette University, teaching MCW medical students about the interview techniques used in mental status examinations, and/or presentations in VA Grand Rounds or local training conferences.

Core Clinical Assignments

General Neuropsychology Consultation: Over 1200 veterans are evaluated in the Neuropsychology Clinic annually. Common referral questions include requests for differential diagnosis of psychiatric and neurobehavioral syndromes, determination of psychogenic contributions to clinical presentation, determination of functional competence and capacity for medical decision-making, vocational and academic programming, assistance with dispositional planning, and completion of Compensation & Pension evaluations. The fellow is provided with the opportunity to select the more interesting/educational cases that are referred to the Clinic. Assistance from psychometricians is available for about 50% of the fellow’s cases.

Inpatient Neuropsychology Coverage: The fellow takes a lead role in coverage of inpatient referrals. Case load generally varies from 2 to 6 inpatient consults per month. Consults are usually requested for medical decisionality or general functional competency and/or recommendations for placement at discharge or differential diagnosis. Test batteries are usually brief and often are done at bedside. Testing help by technicians in the Neuropsychology Clinic is sometimes available.

The Polytrauma Program: This service aims to provide timely evaluations and treatment to veterans who have recently returned from combat theatres (OEF/OIF) and who have with injuries to multiple organs systems. The Polytrauma Support Clinical Team is staffed by Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation physicians and a nurse practitioner, a social worker, clinical psychologist, speech therapist, occupational therapist, physical therapist and a neuropsychologist. The program has four clinics per week that serve the purpose of providing an in depth interview and assessment of multiple system injuries and lingering needs. A weekly interdisciplinary case conference enables planning for coordinated care and periodic re-evaluations of progress and obstacles. The focus in the clinic is one of multi-disciplinary triage and immediate planning of further evaluation and treatment in order to optimize re-integration of the veteran into the community. In the past year, over 250 veterans were evaluated in this clinic, all of whom were seen by a neuropsychologist who serves as the primary diagnostician for Traumatic Brain Injury and residuals from brain trauma. The clinical psychologist in the Polytrauma program provides psychoeducational and psychotherapy services to polytrauma patients.

AD/HD Clinic: Trainees will have the opportunity to participate in the attention and learning enhancement resource team (ALERT). This unique clinic is multidisciplinary and designed to ensure optimal assessment, pharmacological management, psychotherapy, and behavioral training for veterans with AD/HD and learning disorders. The ALERT team is comprised of members of psychology, neuropsychology, psychiatry, pharmacy, speech therapy, and nursing. Trainees will learn best evidence methods for diagnosing and treating these developmental disorders, and will have the option to facilitate individual and group based interventions designed to teach organization strategies, time management, and study skills, which are often impaired in patients with AD/HD/learning disorders. Accurately diagnosing and intervening at educational and occupational levels places neuropsychology in an active role in ensuring that these veterans successfully progress from their roles as soldiers to civilians who are well prepared to enter the work force. Intervention and appropriate treatment at their time of transition
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from soldier to civilian also allows us to prevent psychiatric deterioration that often follows these patients performing poorly in school or at work. One aim of this service (and a discussion point for other neuropsychological programs) is to expand the service delivery model to rural areas through use of tele-mental health technology.

**Neurology Outpatient Clinics:** The Neurology Clinic hosts a number of specialty clinics that welcome involvement from the Neuropsychology service. These include clinics for movement disorders, memory disorders, multiple sclerosis and ALS. Pre- and post deep brain stimulation surgery patients and patients selected for treatment of normal pressure hydrocephalus are evaluated. The fellow may observe the neurologist’s exams, conduct mental status exams, make appropriate referrals for more extensive neuropsych testing or mental health treatment, provide consultation to the neurologist and residents in the clinic and assist in patient and family counseling.

The fellow will receive experience in the General Neuropsychology Consultation Service throughout the full two-years of the fellowship, though the time devoted to this area will vary depending on the other clinical rotations. The fellow will complete 6-month rotations within the Polytrauma Clinic and the AD/HD clinic, and will also participate in at least one of the Neurology clinics for a 6-month period. The fellow is typically expected to evaluate approximately three patients per week spanning all rotational assignments, though this number may be adjusted up or down depending on degree of complexity and length of examination required to address the clinical issues at hand. Assistance from psychometricians is available for about 50% of the fellow’s cases.

**Optional Clinical Rotations**

**Home Based Primary Care (HBPC):** This program offers a range of primary care services to homebound veterans with chronic medical illness. The team generally serves geriatric patients, but younger veterans are admitted as well. The program census ranges from 200-225 veterans, and all services are provided to patients in their homes; both rural and urban veterans are served. Typical diagnoses include dementia, diabetes, multiple sclerosis, congestive heart failure and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. The majority of patients have psychiatric co-morbidities, such as depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, substance use disorders, and Axis II disorders. HBPC is an interdisciplinary team that includes primary care providers (nurse practitioners), nurses, social workers, a dietician, a pharmacist, physical therapy, a geriatric neuropsychologist, nurse practitioners and a physician Medical Director. Neuropsychological testing is frequently requested to provide information regarding the scope and severity of cognitive deficits, diagnostic clarification, and to determine a veteran’s capacity to make independent health care decisions and/or to live independently.

**Geriatric Evaluation and Management (GEM) Unit:** The GEM is a 10-bed inter-disciplinary assessment and short-term rehabilitation unit for Veterans over age 65 with complex medical and psychosocial histories. The primary objective is to promote maximum function for each patient within the least restrictive environment based upon a comprehensive, interdisciplinary assessment. Psychological and/or neuropsychological evaluations are completed on all patients admitted to the GEM. Each patient is reviewed at an interdisciplinary team conference at least weekly. The team includes senior staff and fellows in geriatric medicine, medical residents in geriatrics, medical students, and staff and trainees from Psychology, Social Work, Nursing, Physical Therapy, and Dietetics. The GEM team and the geropsychologist also work in close collaboration with the Consultation/Liaison Psychiatrist. Representatives from the team often meet with the patient and family members near the end of the patient’s hospital stay to provide feedback and to facilitate discharge planning.

**Compensation and Pension Examinations:** The fellow can participate in disability evaluations that involve neurocognitive claims from neurological or psychiatric conditions. Common neurological conditions include TBI, vascular and incidental neurodegenerative conditions. The fellow will learn the protocol for interview, record review, neurocognitive evaluation and report of functional status, limitations and restrictions.
**Spinal Cord Injury Unit and Clinics:** The fellow has the opportunity to follow rehab patients over several months of recovery, consult with other disciplines, observe physical, occupational and speech therapy, attend a weekly multidisciplinary case conference, and provide neuropsychological assessment of postacute brain injury and cognitive rehabilitation.

**Geropsychiatry/Geropsychology Outpatient Clinic:** This multidisciplinary clinic allows fellows to work with a number of psychiatry residents and attendings on each clinic day. The clinic consists of psychiatry attendings, psychiatry residents, a pharmacist, a social worker, psychologists, and neuropsychologists. One of the functions of the neuropsychologist in this setting is to detect and diagnose neurological dysfunction in geriatric patients with presumed primary psychiatric disorders. The fellow is involved in teaching neuropsychology to residents and helping them to improve their detection of early signs of dementia and other neurocognitive disorders. Psychiatry residents typically administer a screening measure of cognition and then consult with the neuropsychologist and fellow about whether additional testing would be helpful in designing a treatment plan for the patient. The fellow or practicum student administers a one hour neuropsychological battery and the fellow then provides feedback to the psychiatry resident and attending prior to the patient's next scheduled psychiatry appointment. The fellow also participates in multidisciplinary treatment meetings where diagnostic issues are discussed and treatment plans are refined. Geriatric psychotherapy and participation in outcome studies are also options in this rotation.

**Clinical Programs at the Medical College of Wisconsin:** Through a cooperative arrangement with the postdoctoral training program at MCW, the fellow has the opportunity to obtain training in clinical programs at MCW where there are 9 neuropsychologists, 6 of whom are board certified. Likewise, residents from MCW are given the opportunity to gain clinical experiences through the Zablocki postdoctoral program, thereby enriching the educational and training experiences of both postdoctoral programs. MCW offers a number of experiences that our fellows may find valuable. It is anticipated that one of particular interest to the VA fellow will be gaining experience in the Comprehensive Epilepsy Program where pre- and post-operative neuropsychological evaluations, functional imaging and Wada exams are considered integral to the program. The neuropsychologist in this program works with a team of epileptologists, neurosurgeons, social workers, clinical nurses and researchers. Another program is the Mild Traumatic Brain Injury Clinic that aims to provide transitional triage services for acutely injured patients until they are able to resume pre-injury work/academic and social lifestyles. Rehabilitation specialists and neuropsychologists operate this service and provide for the multidisciplinary diagnostic and treatment services. Also available at MCW is a comprehensive neuro-oncology service with an active research program investigating issues of neuro-cognitive outcome follow various treatments for primary brain tumors and chemotherapy for peripheral organ cancer (e.g., breast cancer). Opportunities to participate in medicolegal evaluations is also available.

**Available Didactics**

**Zablocki VAMC Required Didactics/Conferences:**

- **Neuropsychology Case Conference:** Weekly case conference devoted to review of neuropsychological cases in a format that is similar to ABPP/ABCN board exams. Fellows are required to attend this conference.

**Zablocki VAMC Optional Didactics/Conferences:**

- **Psychology Intern Seminar Series:** Two lectures per week with varying topics of psychological interest. The Neuropsychology Lecture series is embedded in this sequence.

- **Grand Rounds:** A hospital-wide conference offered monthly and geared for primary care and residency level education. Varying topics, occasionally of interest to neuropsychologists.
• **VHA National Educational Series:** A monthly electronic presentation prepared for national distribution with invited national experts on various issues associated with both physical and psychological trauma.

**Medical College of Wisconsin Didactics/Conferences:**

**Neuropsychology Didactics:**

• **Neuropsychology Seminar:** Tuesdays, 12-1:00. Taught by neuropsychology faculty and fellows at MCW. This series reviews common neurobehavioral syndromes, neuropathology, neuroanatomy, among other professionally relevant topics. **Fellows are required to attend this series.**

• **Neuropsychology Journal Club:** Thursdays, 8-9:00. Led by neuropsychology faculty and fellows at MCW. Discussant selects manuscript for review and rotates among faculty and fellows. **Fellows are required to attend this series.**

• **MCW Neuropsychology Case Conference:** Fridays, 12-1:00.

**Other Discipline Didactics:**

• **MCW Neurology Grand Rounds:** Fridays, 8-9:00am

• **MCW Weekly Brain Tumor Board:** Multidisciplinary brain tumor case conference, Wednesdays, 7:30-9, contact Dave Sabsevitz at MCW.

• **MCW Epilepsy Multidisciplinary Case Conference:** Tuesdays, 8-9:00am, contact Sara Swanson at MCW.

• **MCW Brain Cutting:** Opportunities to participate in pathological studies of brains. Fellows are periodically notified when pathology studies occur in the morgue at Froedtert Hospital.

• **MCW Neuroanatomy Lectures for Neurosurgery Residents:** Wednesdays, 7:30-9, the week after Labor Day through the spring; Led by Dr. William Cullinan from Marquette University.

• **VA Monthly Clinical Lectures for Geropsychiatry Residents:** Monthly lectures by geropsychiatrists, geropsychologists, and neuropsychologists for PGY 2 geropsychiatry residents. Examples of topics covered include: decisional capacity and guardianship, neuropsychology and psychotherapy with elderly patients, depression in elderly patients, differential diagnosis of dementia, etc.

• **VA Geropsychiatry Case Conference:** Case discussions presented by PGY 2 psychiatry residents. Cases are chosen that have emphasis on either pharmacological treatment or psychotherapy/psychosocial treatment. Results of neuropsychological assessment is discussed in the context of the patient’s comprehensive mental health treatment plan. Other participants in the series are from psychology, social work, and nursing.

• **MCW Psychiatry Grand Rounds:** Weekly rounds of varying interest to neuropsychologists. Presentations from Neuropsychology are invited.

• **Marquette University Neuroanatomical Dissection: Human Brain and Spinal Cord** Three-day-long neuroanatomy and neurochemistry course with brain dissection lab taught by Dr. William Cullinan, a neuroscientist at Marquette University. The course costs $850 and is offered in the summer each year. Enrollment is discounted for students and trainees at $650. For more information, visit: [http://www.marquette.edu/health-sciences/continuing-ed-neuroanatomical.shtml](http://www.marquette.edu/health-sciences/continuing-ed-neuroanatomical.shtml)

**Training Staff**

**Eric R. Larson, Ph.D., ABPP-CN (University of Cincinnati, 2002).** Dr. Larson is the Director of the Postdoctoral Fellowship program in Clinical neuropsychology, and serves as one of the core supervisors. Dr. Larson completed a predoctoral internship at the VA Medical Center, Cincinnati, and a postdoctoral fellowship in clinical neuropsychology at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Prior to joining our staff, he was an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Chicago, where he served
as the attending neuropsychologist for the Memory Center and provided general neuropsychological services for the University of Chicago Hospital. He is currently Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Dr. Larson’s primary clinical interests are the cognitive sequelae of dementia, Parkinson’s disease, traumatic brain injury, and psychiatric disorders. His primary research interests are: Anosagnosia (insight) and neurological disorders, cognitive social neuroscience, and the relationship between PTSD and dementia.

**Kathleen M. Patterson, Ph.D., ABPP-CN** (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 1993). Dr. Patterson is a staff neuropsychologist who will serve as one of the core supervisors. Dr. Patterson completed a predoctoral internship at the VA Medical Center, Milwaukee, and a postdoctoral fellowship in clinical neuropsychology at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Dr. Patterson’s primary clinical and research interests include Geriatrics, Demyelinating Diseases, TBI, ADHD/LD, CABG w/CPB and Cognition. She is currently a co-investigator on one international research project evaluating delirium after CABG with varying doses of ketamine. She is an Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Neurology at MCW.

**Angela Gleason, Ph.D., ABPP-CN** (University of Houston, 2004). Dr. Gleason serves as a neuropsychologist within the Outpatient Geropsychiatry and Cognitive Disorders Clinics. She will be one of the core supervisors. After completing a predoctoral internship at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, she completed a postdoctoral fellowship in clinical neuropsychology at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Prior to joining our staff, she worked for 10 years at Nebraska Medicine in Omaha. Dr. Gleason’s primary interests are in memory disorders, movement disorders, oncology, multi-disciplinary assessment, and communication of results with patients.

**Melissa Lancaster, Ph.D.** (Rosalind Franklin University, 2014). Dr. Lancaster is the neuropsychologist on the polytrauma clinic support team, and will provide supervision to fellows completing rotations in that area. She joined our staff this year, following completion of her postdoctoral fellowship in clinical neuropsychology at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Her primary research interests are in the areas of neurodegenerative disorders, and traumatic brain injury.

**Peter Graskamp, Ph.D.** (Marquette University, 2006). Dr. Graskamp is a clinical psychologist on the polytrauma team and also provides psychotherapy to patients in the ALERT program. He is available to supervise the fellow in providing psychotherapy and psycho-educational services. Dr. Graskamp’s clinical focus is on the impact of concurrent medical and psychological concerns, traumatic brain injury/concussion, multi-disciplinary team treatment, and symptom-focused psychological interventions. His current research interests include a study of the relationship between cognitive-behavioral stress management and the activity of implanted cardiac devices.

**Kristen Payne, Ph.D.** (University of Alabama, 2010). Dr. Payne is a psychologist on the Home Based Primary Care team, providing psychological assessment, psychotherapy, and caregiver support. She will supervise the fellow’s experience on this team.

**Heather M. Smith, Ph.D., ABPP-CG** (Ohio State University, 2002). In addition to serving as the Medical Center’s Lead Psychologist, Dr. Smith is the geropsychologist on the Geriatric Evaluation and Management Unit and Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the Medical College of Wisconsin. She will provide an elective rotation on this unit. Her primary clinical and research interests include dementia, geriatric neuropsychological assessment, caregiver self-care, interdisciplinary team communication, and psychology training and supervision.

**Stacy Weber, Ph.D.** (Palo Alto University, PGSSP, 2015). Dr. Weber is a psychologist on the Home Based Primary Care team, providing psychological assessment, psychotherapy, and caregiver support. She will supervise the fellow’s experience on this team.

**Roger D. Williams, Ph.D.** (Indiana State University, 1993). Dr. Williams serves as a psychologist for the VA Spinal Cord Injury Service and Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the Medical College of Wisconsin. He completed his internship and fellowship with specialization in neuropsychology and geropsychology at Central Arkansas Veterans Health Care System (CAVHS) in Little Rock, Arkansas. Following fellowship,
he was an Assistant Professor of Geriatrics and Director of Neuropsychology services at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. Prior to his current VA position, he was the Director of Postdoctoral Training at CAVHS. His primary clinical and research interests include neuropsychological assessment, dementia and related disorders, rehabilitation, multi-disciplinary training, clinical supervision, movement disorders, spinal cord injury as well as chronically debilitating medical and psychiatric disorders.

Medical College of Wisconsin Neuropsychology Clinic Staff

The primary supervisors of off-site clinical rotations at the MCW neuropsychology clinic will be:

**Sara J. Swanson, Ph.D., ABPP-CN** (Washington State University, 1989). Dr. Swanson is an Associate Professor of Neurology. She completed a predoctoral internship at the University of Washington School of Medicine and a postdoctoral fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology at MCW. She is board certified in Clinical Neuropsychology and specializes in the clinical evaluation of adults with neurobehavioral disorders, epilepsy, hydrocephalus, and head trauma and conducts intracarotid sodium amobarbital testing. Her research interests involve predictors of neurobehavioral outcome after temporal lobectomy, and functional MRI of language and memory in epilepsy surgery.

**Julie A. Bobholz, Ph.D., ABPP-CN** (Finch University of Health Sciences, 1998). Dr. Bobholz is an Associate Professor of Neurology. She completed a predoctoral internship at the University of Florida, Gainesville and a postdoctoral fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology at MCW. She is board certified in Clinical Neuropsychology and specializes in in the evaluation and treatment of adults with movement disorders and other neurologic/ neurobehavioral disorders, including head injury, multiple sclerosis, brain tumors, and memory disorders. She participates in the Deep Brain Stimulation program at MCW.

**David S. Sabsevitz, Ph.D., ABPP-CN** (Finch University of Health Sciences, 2003). Dr. Sabsevitz is an Associate Professor of Neurology and Director of Postdoctoral Education. He completed a predoctoral internship at the Long Island Jewish Medical Center and a postdoctoral fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology at MCW. He specializes in the evaluation and treatment of adults with neurological, behavioral, and developmental disorders. He is Director of the Neuro-Oncology Cognitive Clinic. His current research involves examining the structural and functional effects of cancer treatments on the brain, and examining the clinical utility of fMRI in the presurgical evaluation of epilepsy patients.

**Laura Umfleet, Psy.D.** (Roosevelt University, Chicago, 2012). Dr. Umfleet is an Assistant Professor of Neurology who completed an internship at University of Florida in Gainesville and a postdoctoral fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology at MCW. She specializes in neurocognitive test sensitivity and specificity in detecting temporal lobe epilepsy, dementia and malingering.

**Michael McCrea, Ph.D., ABPP-CN** (Univeristy of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, 1994). Dr. McCrea is a Professor of Neurosurgery who completed an internship at Vanderbilt University Medical School and a postdoctoral fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology at Northwestern University Medical School in Chicago in 1996. He specializes in traumatic brain injury and is a nationally recognized author and investigator on the topic of mild traumatic brain injury and sports and military-related concussion. Dr. McCrea has a joint affiliation with the Zablocki VAMC.
The fellowship is scheduled to begin on August 21, 2017.

**Stipend and Benefits:**

The current stipend is $43,804 for the first year and $46,172 for the second.

Fellows receive 13 days of annual leave and up to 13 days of sick leave per year. In addition, excused absence is typically granted for professional activities such as attendance at conferences or workshops. There are also 10 paid federal holidays. Fellows are eligible for health insurance at the same rates available to other full-time federal employees.

**Application & Selection Procedures**

A candidate for a fellowship must be a U.S. citizen who, by the beginning of the fellowship year, will have completed an APA-approved doctoral program in clinical or counseling psychology and an APA-approved pre-doctoral internship program. In reviewing applicants to the program, we look for candidates with solid backgrounds in both assessment and intervention whose background and experience is consistent with the area to be emphasized in the fellowship. Relevant research experience is a factor in selection, though relevant clinical experience is typically weighed more heavily.

This VA Center in its commitment to Equal Opportunity Employment and Affirmative Action encourages applications by minorities, women and handicapped persons.

**The following application material is required:**

1. A vita which describes the nature and extent of your previous clinical, academic, and research experience.
2. A cover letter describing your major interests and career objectives, including any particular areas you would wish to emphasize during the fellowship year.
3. Two examples of clinical reports.
4. At least three letters of recommendation from people familiar with your clinical work. One must be from one of your pre-doctoral internship supervisors.
5. A letter of support from your Internship Training Director indicating that you are in good standing to complete your internship and indicating the expected completion date. If you have already completed the internship you can send a copy of your internship certificate.
6. A graduate transcript.
7. If your transcript does not show the granting of the doctorate, a letter from the graduate program will be indicating your current status in the program and the timeline for completing the remaining program requirements. This letter should attest that all degree requirements are expected to be completed prior to the fellowship start date.

Application material should be submitted through the APPIC online application system for postdoctoral programs (APPA CAS). The applicant portal can accessed with the following link: [https://appicpostdoc liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login](https://appicpostdoc.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login)

**Further information, contact:**

Eric R. Larson, Ph.D., ABPP-CN  
Director, Postdoctoral Fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology  
Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center  
5000 W. National Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53295

Phone: (414) 384-2000, Extension 41656  
Email address: eric.larson@va.gov
**Deadlines:** Application materials are to be received by December 15, 2016.

**Interviews:** Interviews for the neuropsychology position will be conducted at the International Neuropsychological Society Annual Meeting in February. Interviews at our medical center can also be arranged. These interviews will be conducted prior to the INS meeting. If you are unable to visit, a telephone interview can be arranged.

**Selection:**

The neuropsychology position will be filled through the APPCN computer match process.