

CURRICULUM VITAE

Sara Bressi, Ph.D., L.S.W.
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Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Professor, 2024 to Present

Bryn Mawr College, Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research, Bryn Mawr, PA

Associate Professor, 2012 to 2024

Bryn Mawr College, Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research, Bryn Mawr, PA

Assistant Professor, 2006 to 2012

Bryn Mawr College, Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research, Bryn Mawr, PA

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Social Welfare, 2006

University of Pennsylvania, School of Social Policy and Practice, Philadelphia, PA

M.S.W., 2001

University of Pennsylvania, School of Social Policy and Practice, Philadelphia, PA

B.S. in Psychology, B.A. in Biology, 1998

Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia

Magna Cum Laud Graduate in Psychology

AWARDS AND GRANTS

Curriculum Development Award, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services

Administration (SAMHSA) with Janet Shapiro as part of the Behavioral Health and Child Development Initiative, 2017-2019

Faculty Research Fund Award, Bryn Mawr College, 2014-2015

Clowes Assistant Professorship in Science and Public Policy, Bryn Mawr College, 2009-2012

National Research Service Award, Principal Investigator, National Institute of Mental Health, 2003-2006

ADVANCED CLINICAL TRAINING

Institute for Relational Psychoanalysis of Philadelphia, Graduate of the Psychoanalytic Training Program, 2021

Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia, Graduate of the Adult Psychotherapy Training Program, 2008

CLINICAL POSITIONS

2008-Present **Psychotherapist**

Private Practice, Rosemont, PA

Provide relational psychotherapy and psychoanalysis to adolescents and adults

2018-2019 **Clinical Research Consultant**

Center for Families, Malvern, PA

Assisted with conceptualizing the treatment model for adolescents with co-morbid substance use and mental health disorders

2006-2010 **Outpatient Therapist**

Northwestern Human Services, Lansdale, PA

2003-2005 **Social Worker**

Vitas Hospice, Blue Bell, PA

2001 **Social Worker**

Medical College of Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia, PA

LICENSURE

Licensed Social Worker in Pennsylvania since 2001 (#SW123682)

COURSES TAUGHT AT BRYN MAWR COLLEGE

Current Courses in M.S.S. Program

Clinical Social Work Practice I and II

Theoretical Perspectives for Social Work Practice

Assessment and Psychopathology Across the Life Span

Psychoanalytic Theory and Social Work Practice

Current Courses in the Ph.D. Program

Research Methodology I

Past Courses in the M.S.S. Program

Foundation Practice I and II (2006-2020)

Relational Perspectives on Treating Vulnerable Populations (2018)

Integrated Health Care in Social Work Practice (2017)

Adult Development and Aging (Elective, Part of 2014 360 entitled *Identity Matters*) (2006-2016)¹

Integrative Practice for Advanced Standing Students (2007 thru 2017)

Research Informed Practice I (2007, 2012)

PUBLICATIONS

Articles in Peer-reviewed Journals

Sara K. Bressi (2024): Standing in the chasm: Therapeutic action for substance use and addicting, *Psychoanalytic Social Work*, Published online February 9th, 10.1080/15228878.2024.2310634

Bressi, S. (2023) Promoting self care for trauma awareness: A piloted teaching module for beginning generalist practice. *Social Work Education (Taylor Francis Group, London, UK)*, Published online January 30th, [10.1080/02615479.2023.2172719](https://doi.org/10.1080/02615479.2023.2172719)

Petros, R., Tuohy, M.K., Bressi, S., Kerrick, G. & Solomon, P. (2021) Measuring community integration: Development and psychometrics of the community connections and engagement scale. *Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Services Research (Springer, New York, NY)* 48 (July/4): 619-632, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10488-020-01095-2>

Wampole, D. and Bressi, S.K. (2020) Exploring a social work lead mindfulness-based intervention to address burnout among inpatient psychiatric nurses. *Social Work in Health Care (Taylor Francis Group, London, UK)*, 59 (8): 615-630, <https://doi.org/10.1080/00981389.2020.1827123>

Hutchison, C. and Bressi, S.K. (2020) Social work and psychedelic-assisted therapies: Practice considerations for breakthrough treatments. *Clinical Social Work Journal (Springer, New York, NY)*, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10615-019-00743-x>

Wampole, D. and Bressi, S.K. (2019) Exploring strategies for promoting trauma-informed care and reducing burnout in acute care psychiatric nursing. *Journal of Nursing Education and Practice (Sciedu Press, Ontario, Canada)*, 9 (5), 110-117, <https://doi.org/10.5430/jnep.v9n5p110>

¹ This course in 2009 was co-taught with Dr. Anjali Thapar, Full Professor in the Department of Psychology. Each semester the course is offered, it is open for enrollment by undergraduate students.

- Hutchison, C. and Bressi, S.K. (2018) MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD: Implications for social work practice and research. *Clinical Social Work Journal* (Springer, New York, NY), 48:421–430 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10615-018-0676-3>
- Bressi, S.K. & Vaden, E. (2017) Reconsidering self care. *Clinical Social Work Journal*, 45: 33-38 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10615-016-0575-4>
- Bressi, S. (2017) Unfreezing Disney's© Snow Queen: Consolation through vulnerability in a modern fairy tale. *Other/Wise: Journal of International Forum for Psychoanalytic Education*, Volume 2, Winter Edition. <https://ifpe.wordpress.com/2017/03/30/unfreezing-disneys-snow-queen-consolation-through-vulnerability-in-a-modern-fairy-tale/>
- Hanrahan, N., Bressi, S., Marcus, S., and Solomon, P. (2016) Examining the impact of comorbid serious mental illness on rehospitalization for medical and surgical inpatients. *General Hospital Psychiatry*, 42: 36-40 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.genhosppsych.2016.06.002>
- Labrum, T., Solomon, P. & Bressi, S. (2015) Physical, financial, and psychological abuse committed against older women by relatives with psychiatric disorders: Extent of the problem. *Journal of Elder Abuse and Neglect*, 27: 377-391 <https://doi.org/10.1080/08946566.2015.1092902>
- Nath, S.B², Alexander, L.B., & Solomon, P.L. (2012) Case managers' perspectives on the therapeutic alliance: A qualitative study. *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology*, 47:1819-1826 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00127-012-0483-z>
- Nath, S.B. & Marcus, S.C. (2012) Impact of psychotic disorders on discharge dispositions of adults 65 or older after a general medical inpatient stay. *Psychiatric Services*, 63: 333-337 <https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.ps.201100332>
- Nath, S.B., Wong, Y.L., Marcus, S.C., & Solomon, P.L. (2012) Predictors of health services utilization among persons with psychiatric disabilities engaged in supported independent housing. *Psychiatric Rehabilitation Journal*, 35: 315-323 <https://doi.org/10.2975/35.4.2012.315.323>
- Cullen, S.W., Nath, S.B., & Marcus, S.C. (2010) Toward understanding errors in inpatient psychiatry: A qualitative analysis. *Psychiatric Quarterly*, 81: 197-205 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11126-010-9129-z>
- Nath, S.B., Hirschman, K., Lewis, B., & Strumpf, N. (2008) A place called L.I.F.E.: Reframing advance care planning for African-American PACE enrollees. *Social Work in Health Care*, 47 (3): 277-292 <https://doi.org/10.1080/00981380801985432>
- Wong, Y.L., Nath, S.B., Solomon, P.L. (2007) Group and organizational involvement

² Prior surname

among persons with psychiatric disabilities in supported housing. *Journal of Behavioral Health Services and Research*, 34(2): 151-167 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11414-007-9052-8>

Nath, S.B. & Marcus, S.C. (2006) Medical errors in psychiatry. *Harvard Review of Psychiatry*, 14(4) :204-211 <https://doi.org/10.1080/10673220600889272>

Nath, S.B., Marcus, S.C., & Druss, B.G. (2006) Retractions in the research literature: Misconduct or mistakes? *Medical Journal of Australia*, 185 (3): 152-154 <https://doi.org/10.5694/j.1326-5377.2006.tb00504.x>

Bressi, S., Marcus, S.C., & Solomon, P. (2006) The impact of psychiatric comorbidity on general hospital length of stay. *Psychiatric Quarterly*, 77(3): 203-209 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11126-006-9007-x>

DiFranco, E., Bressi, S., & Salzer, M. (2006) Consumer-informed health communication efforts in psychiatric rehabilitation. *Psychiatric Rehabilitation Journal*, 29 (4): 251-257 <https://doi.org/10.2975/29.2006.251.257>

Book Chapter (s)

Sousa, C. and Bressi, S.K. (2024) “They don’t see anything but this kind of treatment:” Loss and reclamation of Palestinian childhood through the eyes of mothers. In H. Morrison (Ed.), *Lived Resistance Against the War on Palestinian Children*, Children, Youth, and War Series. Athens, GA: The University of Georgia Press.

Nath, S.B. (2013) Best practices for improving the health of persons with serious mental illness and co-morbid physical health conditions In V. Vandiver (Ed.) *Best Practices in Mental Health: A Pocket Guide*. Chicago, IL: Lyceum Books

Commentary

Nath, S.B. (2008) Commentary: Short stay hospitalizations do not increase readmissions compared with long stay. *Evidence-based Mental Health*, 11: 124

Book Reviews

Nath, S.B. (2008) Medicare: A policy primer. *Social Work in Health Care*, 46 (2): 92-94

Bressi, S.K. (2005) Social work research and evaluation: Quantitative and qualitative approaches. *Psychiatric Rehabilitation Journal*, 29 (1): 83-84

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Dawes, H.C. & Bressi, S.K. (2025) Time as wish: Reflecting on session length and frequency. Presentation to be presented at the American Association of Psychotherapists Institute and Conference, October 2025, *Baltimore, MD*
- Ochs, A. & Bressi, S.K. (2023) A critical period: Engaging persons with HIV in the psychotherapeutic relationship. Poster presented at the 42nd Annual Spring Meeting, Division 39 of the American Psychological Association, *New York, NY*
- Bressi, S.K. (2022) Standing in the chasm: A relational integration of substance use treatment in community settings. 41st Annual Spring Meeting, Division 39 of the American Psychological Association, *Virtual*
- Bogue, B. & Bressi, S.K. (2021) White clinicians navigating internal bias within way of being. Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, *Orlando, FL*
- Shapiro, J. & Bressi, S. (2020) Integrative pedagogy: Faculty collaboration in the design of a trauma-informed curriculum. Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, *Virtual*
- Dennelly, L. & Bressi, S.K. (2020) Understanding the relational implications of treating complex patients in integrated primary care settings. Poster presented at the Collaborative Family Healthcare Association's Annual Conference, *Virtual*
- Dennelly, L. & Bressi, S.K. (2019) Promoting trauma-informed primary care: The role of social work in physician education. Poster presented at the *American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA*
- Wampole, D. & Bressi, S.K. (2019) Exploring a mindfulness-based social work lead intervention to address burnout among inpatient psychiatric nurses. Poster presented at the 9th *International Conference on Social in Health and Mental Health, York, UK*
- Bressi, S.K. (2019) Tunnel visions: Resonance and its discontents. 40th Annual Spring Meeting of Division 39 of the American Psychological Association, *Philadelphia, PA*
- Bressi, S. & Shapiro, J. (2018) Teaching self care in social work education. Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, *Orlando, FL*
- Bressi, S. & Hanrahan, N. (2015) Readmission among older medical and surgical inpatients: The impact of serious mental illness. Poster presented the Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, *Orlando, FL*
- Labrum, T., Bressi, S., & Solomon, P. (2015) Socio-ecological factors associated with violence among persons with serious mental illness towards elders. Poster presented at the Gerontological Society of America Annual Conference, *Orlando, FL*

- Bressi, S. (2015) Breaking the ice: Vulnerability and developmental crises in Disney's Snow Queen. Presented at the International Forum for Psychoanalytic Education 26th Annual Interdisciplinary Conference, *Philadelphia, PA*
- Bressi, S. (2015) Lessons for the aging: The tensions between being, becoming, and belonging. Presented at the Society for Disability Studies Annual Conference, *Atlanta, GA*
- Nath, S.B. & Marcus, S.C. (2011) Assessing the impact of serious mental illness on the discharge disposition following a general medical stay. 15th Annual Society for Social Work and Research Conference, *Tampa, FL*
- Nath, S.B. & Coulter, J. (2010) The impact of serious mental illness on the discharge disposition of older adults following a general medical hospitalization. 63rd Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, *New Orleans, LA*
- Nath, S.B., Nath, S.R., & Gibfried, D. (2010) Wisdom in the supervisory hour: Clinical supervision and non-traditional students. 6th Annual International Interdisciplinary Conference on Clinical Supervision, *Garden City, NY*
- Solomon, P.L., Alexander, L.A., & Nath, S.B. (2009) Voices of case managers: What do clients find helpful, unhelpful, and want in the client/case manager relationship? 13th Annual Society for Social Work and Research Conference, *New Orleans, LA*
- Nath, S.B., Wong, Y.L., & Solomon, P. (2008) Utilization of medical care by persons with severe mental illness: A qualitative analysis. 12th Annual Society for Social Work and Research Conference, *Washington, D.C.*
- Bressi, S.K., Wong, Y.L., Solomon, P., & Marcus, S.C. (2006) Medical care of persons with serious mental illness. 10th Annual Society for Social Work and Research Conference, *San Antonio, TX*
- Druss B.G., Bressi, S.K. and Marcus SC. (2005) Retractions in the research literature: Misconduct or mistakes? Fifth International Congress on Peer Review and Biomedical Publication sponsored by the JAMA and BMJ Publishing Group, Chicago, IL
- Marcus, S.C. & Bressi, S.K. (2005) Medical errors in inpatient psychiatry: A qualitative study. Presented at the Annual Conference of Eastern Evaluation Research Society, *Absecon, NJ*
- Bressi, S.K. & Lewis, B. (2005) Exploring the needs of African-American frail elders at the end of life. 9th Annual Society for Social Work Research Conference, *Miami, FL*
- Bressi, S.K. (2004) Conceptualizing and measuring the quality of life of persons with serious mental illness. International Society for Quality of Life Studies Annual Conference, *Philadelphia, PA*
- Bressi, S.K. & Marcus, S. (2004) The impact of psychiatric comorbidity on outcomes of

hospitalization. Complexities of Co-occurring Conditions Conference of the National Institute of Mental Health, *Washington D.C.*

Wong, Y.L., Bressi, S.K., Tennille, J. (2004) Improving the content validity of group membership scale with persons with serious mental illness. 8th Annual Society for Social Work Research Conference, *New Orleans, LA*

Wong, Y.L., Bressi, S.K. & Tennille, J. (2003). Adapting measures of program characteristics for persons with serious mental illness in supported independent housing. 7th Annual Society for Social Work Research Conference, *Washington, D.C.*

OTHER SELECT SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION, INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND TRAININGS

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|-----------------|---|
| September, 2026 | Instructor, Introduction to Relational Psychoanalysis, 9 th Cohort of the Institute for Relational Psychoanalysis of Philadelphia |
| June, 2025 | Panelist, Three Perspectives on a Case, Philadelphia Society for Psychoanalytic Psychology, June 7 th , Haverford, PA |
| March, 2023 | Instructor, Relational Psychoanalysis and Community-Based Settings: How the Outside Gets In, Virtual, to 8 th Cohort of the Institute of Relational Psychoanalysis of Philadelphia |
| October, 2021 | Moderator, Trans-generational Transmission of Racial Trauma: Impediments to Knowing, Dialogues to Healing, featuring Jill Salberg and Kirkland Vaughns, Institute for Relational Psychoanalysis of Philadelphia, October 3 rd , 2021 |
| November, 2019 | Lead Organizer, Play for a Change: Therapeutic Action in Contemporary Child Psychotherapy Conference, Bryn Mawr College, November 8 th and 9 th , 2020 |
| April, 2019 | Invited Panel Chair for Feet on the Ground: Leading the Way for Community Psychoanalysis featuring Ghislaine Boulanger, PhD, NYU Postdoctoral Program; Jordan J. Dunn, MA, New School for Social Research; Almas (Ally) Merchant, PhD, Brightpoint Health |
| April, 2019 | Steering Committee Member for the Annual Meeting of Division 39 of the American Psychological Association, Philadelphia, PA |
| March, 2019 | Invited Panel Chair for Bryn Mawr Clinical Colloquium: Caring for Clients Using Opioids: Beyond the Recovery/Harm Reduction Binary. |

March, 2016	Presenter for Relational Approaches with Youth Continuing Education Series on Adolescent Mental Health for Bryn Mawr's Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research Professional Development Series
February, 2016	Advancing Your Career in Human Services: Taking the Next Step Continuing Education Course for Bryn Mawr College's Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research Professional Development Series
November, 2015 December, 2016 December, 2017	Developing Your Staff: How to Get Your Front Line Staff to Think, Feel, and Act Like Social Workers Continuing Education Course for Bryn Mawr College's Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research Professional Development Series
June 2015	Depression and Older Adults for Pennswood Village Retirement Community
April 2015	Separate while Connected: Professional Boundaries in Working with Vulnerable Persons for Comhar, Inc. Professional Development Series
November 2014	Becoming a Princess: Development Crises and Gender Construction in Media and Marketing to Young Girls for Bryn Mawr's Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research Professional Development Series
Jan-Feb 2012 Jan-Feb 2013	Co-Instructor: Certificate Program in Psychodynamic Psychotherapy, Continuing Education Course for Bryn Mawr College's Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research Professional Development Series
Oct-Dec 2011	Lead Instructor: Certificate Program in Psychoanalytic Psychology, Continuing Education Course for Bryn Mawr College's Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research Professional Development Series
April 2010	Understanding Behavioral Health Issues Among Community-dwelling Older Adults, for the Delaware Psychological Association, Wilmington, DE
December 2008	Understanding Behavioral Health Issues among Community-dwelling Older Adults, for Mercy Life, Philadelphia, PA
November 2007	Facing forward: Advance Care Planning among Frail Elders, for Bryn Mawr's Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research Professional Development Series

PEER REVIEWER

Disability and Rehabilitation
 Journal of Behavioral Health Services and Research
 Journal of Gerontological Social Work
 Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease
 Journal of Palliative Medicine
 Journal of Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Mental Health
 Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research
 Journal of Technology in Human Services
 Psychiatric Services
 Social Work Education
 Social Work in Mental Health

ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE

Service to the Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research

Doctoral Program in Social Work and Social Research

Director, 2023 to Present

Interim Director, Fall 2022

Admissions Committee for Doctoral Program, 2023 to Present

Teaching Group Convening and Standing Committees

Co-Convener of Clinical Social Work (2023-Present)

Convener of Foundation Practice Teaching Group (2012-2023)

Convener of Theoretical Perspectives in Social Work (2006-2009, 2018-Present)

AB/MSS Program Faculty Representative (2019 to Present)

Faculty Convener and Chair of Policy Committee (2017-2021)

Policy Committee (2008-2010, 2015-2017, 2021-2023, 2023 to Present)

Field Advisory Committee (2013-Present)

Faculty Representative to the Admissions Advisory Committee (2014-2018)

Curriculum Committee (2010-2012)

Faculty and Staff Searches

Assistant Director of Field Education Search Committee (2021)

Faculty Position Search Committee Member (2020-2021)

Faculty Position Search Committee Member (2019-2020)

Faculty Position Search Committee Member (2018-2019)

Faculty Position Search Committee Member (2017-2018)

Interim Foundation and Clinical Faculty Position Search Committee Member (2017-2018)

Co-Chair, Interim Foundation Practice Faculty Search (2013)

Ad hoc Committees

Pandemic Planning Group (Spring/Summer 2020)
 Trauma-informed Social Work Course Working Group (2018-2019)
 Dean's Strategic Planning Oversight Committee (2015-Present)
 Capital Campaign Committee (2015-2017)
 Co-Chair, AB/MSS Pilot Planning Group (2012-2018)
 Internal Assessment Group for CSWE Self Study (Summer 2014)
 Chair, Field Education Director Search (2013)
 Faculty Representative for Advanced Standing Admissions (2008-2014)
 Faculty Representative to the Centennial Campaign Committee (2013)
 Special Committee: GSSWSR Messaging Task Force (2009)

Service to the College

Standing Committees

Elected Member to the Committee on Appointments (2018-2022) (Chair, 2020-2021)
 Elected Member to the Nominations Committee (2015-2018) (Co-chair, 2017-2018) (2026-present)

College Faculty Searches

Member Transnational Italian Studies Department Search (2023)
 Member Psychology Department Search (2014)
 Diversity Representative to Anthropology Department Search (2013)

Ad hoc Service

Rebalancing Faculty Workload Committee (2024-2025)
 Board Task Force on Health Services (2014-2015)
 Committee on Appointments Faculty Retreat Planning Committee (2010)
 Faculty Workload Working Group (2010)
 Faculty Advisor to Active Minds (2006-2008)
 Provost's Faculty Retreat Planning Committee (2007)

Undergraduate Theses Supervision

Elizabeth Vandenburg, International Studies (2016)
 Jessica Coulter, Psychology (2008-2009)

Undergraduate Theses Reader

Anna Hartzell, Anthropology (2022)

DOCTORAL COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Jillian Neil, Outside Chair, Psychology Department, Successfully Defended Dissertation 2016
 Lindsey Dever, Outside Chair, Psychology Department, Successfully Defended Dissertation 2016
 Kristine Hitchins, Committee Member, Successfully Defended Dissertation 2011
 Michael Pfeiffer, Committee Member, Successfully Defended Dissertation 2016

Jessica Lee, Committee Member, Successfully Defended Dissertation 2016
Jillian Graves, Committee Member, Successfully Defended Dissertation 2016
Stacey Green, Committee Member, Successfully Defended Dissertation 2017
Rebecca Laster, Chair, Successfully Defended Dissertation 2018
Megan McCoy, Committee Member, Successfully Defended Dissertation 2021
Amy Stein, Committee Member, Successfully Defended Dissertation, 2022
Briana Bogue, Chair, Successfully Defended Dissertation, 2022
Lauren Dannelly, Chair, Successfully Defended Dissertation, 2023
John Edwards, Chair, Successfully Defended Dissertation, 2026
Anjali Bushan, Chair, Successfully Defended Dissertation, 2026
Christina Belknap, Chair, Successfully Defended Proposal, 2025
Marianna Folco, Chair, Successfully Defended Proposal, 2025
Ivy Rose Cardillo, Chair, Achieved Candidacy, 2026
Kara Mia Escobar, Chair, Achieved Candidacy, 2026