

**CURRICULUM VITAE**

**Sara Bressi, Ph.D., L.S.W.**  
**Bryn Mawr College**  
**Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research**  
**300 Airdale Road**  
**Bryn Mawr, PA 19010**  
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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

#### **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)<sup>1</sup>  
 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 9<sup>th</sup>, 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 30<sup>th</sup>, [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>

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<sup>1</sup> 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.B<sup>2</sup>, 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

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<sup>2</sup> 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. (Accepted) 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 42<sup>nd</sup> 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. 41<sup>st</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> *International Conference on Social in Health and Mental Health, York, UK*
- Bressi, S.K. (2019) Tunnel visions: Resonance and its discontents. 40<sup>th</sup> 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 26<sup>th</sup> 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. 15<sup>th</sup> 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. 63<sup>rd</sup> 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. 6<sup>th</sup> 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? 13<sup>th</sup> 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. 12<sup>th</sup> 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. 10<sup>th</sup> 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. 9<sup>th</sup> 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. 8<sup>th</sup> 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. 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Society for Social Work Research Conference, *Washington, D.C.*

### **OTHER SELECT SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION, INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND TRAININGS**

June, 2025	Panelist, Three Perspectives on a Case, Philadelphia Society for Psychoanalytic Psychology, June 7 <sup>th</sup> , Haverford, PA
March, 2023	Instructor, Relational Psychoanalysis and Community-Based Settings: How the Outside Gets In, Virtual, to 8 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>rd</sup> , 2021
November, 2019	Lead Organizer, Play for a Change: Therapeutic Action in Contemporary Child Psychotherapy Conference, Bryn Mawr College, November 8 <sup>th</sup> and 9 <sup>th</sup> , 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, Spring 2023

#### ***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)  
 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)

### ***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 Proposal, 2024  
Anjali Bushan, Chair, Successfully Defended Proposal, 2024  
Christina Belknap, Chair, Achieved Candidacy, 2024