

Suzann Lawry, PhD

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Education

Georgia State University

- 1996 PhD in Clinical Psychology (Adult Track)
- 1993 completed 1st PhD coursework/training (Child and Family Track)
- 1990 M.A. in Clinical Psychology (Child and Family Track)

Davidson College

- 1984 B.A. in Psychology

Counseling in Private Practice Settings

Suzann Lawry, PhD: Maintained a private practice in both the Atlanta and Athens areas.

Counseling: Provide counseling for a caseload of 70% individuals, 30% couples; 35% students, 30% GLBT clients, and 20% ethnic/racial minorities. Typical concerns include depression, anxiety, sexual/physical abuse, educational/ career concerns, substance abuse, developmental transitions, and relationship issues.

Supervision: Provide weekly supervision for 1-2 post-doctoral interns as well as 2-3 Masters-level counselors each year.

Consultation/Programming: Offer a variety of services including in-service seminars, team building, critical incident stress debriefings for sexual assault, homicide, and terrorism, parenting programs, and colleague consultations for difficult clients. Clients have included Conoco, Deloitte Consulting, religious organizations, community organizations, local universities, and public schools.

Full-time Psychologist and Corporation Owner (1996-Present)

Behavioral Medicine Institute of Atlanta (1987-1995): Carried a part-time caseload of individuals, couples, families, and led an ongoing women's therapy group. Clients presented with a wide range of behavioral difficulties including anxiety disorders (PTSD, OCD, Phobias, Panic-Attacks), Eating Disorders, Depression, Chronic Pain, and Sexual Dysfunction.

Part-time Therapist and Statistician (1987-1995)

Counseling in University Settings

Georgia Institute of Technology Counseling Center: Counseled students in all areas of career, academic, personal, and social development. Students presented with a wide range of concerns that negatively impacted their ability to succeed in school, including anxiety, depression, learning-disabilities, traumatic events, relationship difficulties, substance abuse, family issues, and indecision about their major and/or career paths. Led student therapy groups and provided outreach programs as needed for student organizations and housing. Served as a liaison between departments when needed to address a student or faculty concern.

Part-time Interim Staff: (1997, 1998, 2005, 2006)

Part-time Practicum Student: (1994, 1995)

University of Georgia Counseling and Testing Center (currently known as C.A.P.S): Completed APA-approved pre-doctoral internship. Carried a full-time caseload of students struggling with depression, anxiety, academic performance, individuation issues, substance abuse, relationship issues, and choosing a major/career concerns. Led anxiety management group, LGBT group, and an ACOA group. Provided supervision of a master's level student. Developed and presented a wide range of outreach workshops for the university community. Conducted various career seminars and taught the use of the career resource center. Completed psycho-social assessments and worked as a liaison between students and other university systems as needed.

Full-time Pre-doctoral Intern: (1995- 1996)

Georgia State University Psychotherapy and Behavior Therapy Clinic: Provided counseling for students from the Atlanta community in a university training clinic. Presenting concerns included academic problems, depression, anxiety, and trauma. Completed full psycho-educational assessment batteries to discern best treatment practice.

Part-time Practicum Student (1989-1995)

Georgia State University Child and Family Therapy Clinic: Provided counseling for families and students at a university training clinic. Difficulties ranged from marital discord, to pre-marital counseling, to parenting skills. Provided assessment for students and children to identify academic and psychological blocks to their success, and worked with school systems to address those needs.

Part-time Practicum Student (1987-1991)

Counseling in Hospital Settings

Charter Brook Hospital: Conducted assessments, individual counseling, and family therapy for an adolescent inpatient hospital specializing in substance abuse and addictions. A significant portion of the adolescents had other diagnoses as well including eating disorders, anxiety, and depression. Led a variety of groups including multi-family groups, parent orientation, young women's group, and adolescent therapy groups. Taught 12-Step Study Groups, Co-Dependency Groups, Drug Education and the Medical Model of Addiction.

Part-time Family Therapist (1990-1992)

Part-time Mental Health Specialist (1986-1989)

Grady Hospital and Emory University Department of Psychiatry: Provided individual and family counseling for 8-12 year old underprivileged girls who had been sexually abused in a treatment comparison study.

Part-time Practicum Student and Research Assistant: (1991-1993)

Teaching and Guest Lecturing Experience

University of Georgia Counseling and Psychological Services; Emory University Counseling Center; Emory Department of Psychiatry/Grady Hospital; Georgia Institute of Technology Counseling Center: Provides invited seminars for counseling center's training programs for practicum students, interns, and post-doctoral candidates on a variety of topics: Time Limited Treatment of Trauma, The Use of Creativity in Counseling, The Business Side of Counseling, The Difficult Client, and Managing Staff Burn-Out.

Guest Lecturer (1996-present)

Argosy University Psychology Program: Taught two courses for undergraduate psychology students. Interviewing Skills was a course designed to develop students' abilities to conduct a helping interview with a special emphasis on cross-cultural competency. Research Methods was a course designed to teach students basic statistics, how to be a discriminating reader of psychological research, and how to translate their own research questions into a testable research project.

Part-time Adjunct Faculty (2002-2003)

Morehouse School of Medicine: Provided lectures on research design and the use of relaxation and biofeedback in the treatment of anxiety disorders, PTSD, and chronic pain for Morehouse psychiatry interns at the Behavioral Medicine Institute of Atlanta. Encouraged the development and use of treatment outcome measures in medical practice.

Guest Lecturer (1990-1995)

Research and Data Management Experience

Behavioral Medicine Institute of Atlanta: Provided statistical expertise to ongoing research projects in a private practice setting. This included managing a large, nation-wide database, supervising data entry, translating research questions into experimental designs, completing appropriate analyses to assess effectiveness of assessment and treatment models, and preparing manuscripts for publications and presentations. Utilized SAS and SPSSX on both mainframe and PC.

Part-time Statistician and Data Manager (1989-1995)

Grady Hospital and Emory University Department of Psychiatry: Worked on a Children Trust Fund Grant in a comparative treatment outcome study. Coordinated data gathering, created and managed local database, completed statistical analysis on treatment effectiveness, and contributed to manuscripts and presentations.

Part-time Research Coordinator (1991-1993)

Publications, Posters, and Manuscripts

Barber, J. and Lawry, S. (2006) The Intersection of Psychology and the Legal Process: Focus on Domestic and Sexual Violence Against Women. Paper for Published Manual of the GPA Joint Family Law Institute Conference: Sandestin, Florida.

Lawry, S. (1997). "The Controversy Over Using Therapeutic Touch with Adult Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse", in Edward Smith, Pauline Clance, and Suzanne Imes (Eds) The Healing Power of Touch, USA: Gilford Press.

Lawry, S. (1996). Healing the Splintered Self: A Look at Creativity in Healing from Childhood Sexual Abuse. A Dissertation. Georgia State University: Atlanta, GA.

Abel, G., Lawry, S., Osborn, C., and Warberg, B. (1994). Categorization of Individuals Involved in Professional Sexual Misconduct: Implications for Treatment. Paper presented at the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers 13th Annual Research and Treatment Conference: San Francisco, CA.

Hazzard, A., Celano, M. and Lawry, S. (1993). A Short-term Cognitive Treatment Study for Sexually Abused Children and Their Non-Offending Caretaker. Presented at the Southeastern Conference for the Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse: Atlanta, GA.

Wilson, K., Abel, G. and Lawry, S. (1993). Depression and Paraphilic Sexual Arousal. A Poster presentation at the International Association for Behavior Analysis: Miami, FL.

Lawry, S. (1990). The Interactional Nature of Resistance: It's Not Just the Client. A Master's Thesis. Georgia State University: Atlanta, GA.

Smith, Suzann. (1984) Gender Stereotypes in Psychotherapy. An Honors Thesis. Davidson College: Davidson, NC.

Barton, C., Smith, S., Barron, M. (1984). Perceptions of Competence and Empathy: An Exploration of the Interaction Between Therapist Gender and Therapeutic Style. A poster presented at the American Psychological Association: Atlanta, GA.

Presentations, Outreach, Inservice Trainings

Select Outreach Programs for Students. University of Georgia, Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia State University, and the Art Institute of Atlanta.

Bite into a Lemon: a workshop to harness the power of the mind/body connection for coping with stress, test anxiety, social anxiety, and enhance well being.

Sexual Harassment: What it Is and What it is Not: a discussion about sexual harassment on college campuses, prevention, and reporting options.

Mirror, Mirror on the Wall: a workshop using students' favorite fairy tales to explore their hero(ine), their shadow, and life scripts that can be utilized to succeed in college.

Magic Circles: a slide presentation and experiential workshop that taps into the centering and integrating powers of the archetypal Mandala as a way to manage college stress.

He (or She) Who Laughs, Lasts: a fun workshop on the value of laughter, a balanced life style, and where to find fun on campus.

Developing Your Third Eye, Without Plastic Surgery: a workshop designed to facilitate stress management through teaching guided imagery and meditation.

"To Sleep, To Sleep, Perchance to Dream...": a workshop series for students to develop better sleep hygiene, achieve more restful sleep, and unlock the wisdoms of their dreams.

Finding Light in Your Shadow: a workshop for female students exploring feminine archetypes and their relevance for living a more vibrant, empowered, and meaningful life.

When I Grow Up... Oops, I am! Help!: a workshop designed to facilitate student exploration of their personalities, choice of majors, and the world of work.

Eat! Drink! And be Merr..Miserable?: a workshop on early warning signs and the impact of eating disorders & substance abuse, and, yes, what you can do about it for yourself or a friend.

Select Inservice Trainings for Psychologists and Mental Health Professionals.

Lawry, S. (1995-present). Understanding the Art and Science of Treating the Adult Survivor of Childhood Sexual Abuse. A training seminar for professionals that has been updated over the years and continues to be requested and presented in various settings.

University of Georgia Counseling and Psychological Services, Emory University Counseling Center, Georgia Institute of Technology Counseling Center, Georgia State University Clinical Program, West Georgia College, Western Carolina Counseling Center, Georgia Southern Counseling Center, Fulton County Mental Health Clinic, Consortium for Addiction Recovery Programs.

Lawry, S. (2008). When Helping Hurts. A training seminar to address secondary PTSD and burn-out in therapists that work with victims of torture and political refugees. Winn Way Mental Health Center: Atlanta, GA.

Lawry, S. (2001). Passages: Reflections on Personal Growth, Career Transitions, and Self-Care for Psychologists: a ½ day workshop examining personal and career development during internship and years following for a reunion of interns spanning 15 years of training. University of Georgia Counseling and Testing Center: Athens, GA.

Lawry, S. (2000). Healing for Healers: United We Stand; Divided We Burn-Out: a full day inservice on self-care and team building for a counseling center retreat. The center was in transition, was experiencing high turnover, and this workshop was designed to build a foundation from which their systemic changes could be addressed. Georgia Southern Counseling Center: Statesboro, GA.

Select Presentations from Professional Conferences

- Lawry, S. (2007). Bones, Rocks, and Stars: Moments You Can Hold. Keynote Address. Georgia Social Workers Annual Conference: Atlanta, GA.
- Barber, J. and Lawry, S. (2006). Are We There Yet? A Surprising Look at the Status of Women. Georgia Psychological Association Joint Family Law Institute Conference: Sandestin, FL.
- Lawry, S. (2005). A State Psychological Association Stands Up Against Discrimination. An Invited Address. American Psychological Association: New Orleans, LA.
- Lawry, S. and Reviere, S. (2002). Therapist as Mother: An Exploration of the Impact of Pregnancy, Childbirth, and Mothering on Clinical Work and Professional Identity: a ½ day workshop examining the complex personal and professional dynamics that arise as a therapist moves through pregnancy, child birth, and maternity leave for their clients and their own professional identity. Georgia Psychological Association: Atlanta, GA.
- Lawry, S. (2001). Them Bones: A Wandering into the Role of Creativity in Negotiating Burn-Out. A ½ day presentation on the role of creativity in alleviating the therapists' helplessness and burn-out as well as teaching ways to re-vitalize the work with clients by accessing the creative process. Georgia Psychological Association: Asheville, NC.

Select Presentations for the Public

- Lawry, S. (2007) Talking to Kids About the Hard Stuff. Keynote Address. MEGA Parenting Conference. Atlanta, GA.
- Lawry, S. (2006) Opening to Your Body's Creative Wisdom. Presented at Reclaiming "Beauty": Celebrating Every Body Conference. Atlanta, GA.
- Lawry, S. (2001). The Impact of 9/11 and What About the Kids?. Interview on WSB Radio and presentations with parents at local public school, , Atlanta, GA.
- Lawry, S. (1998). Talking with Your Kids About Sex Education and Sexual Abuse. Oakgrove Elementary School Parenting Program. Atlanta, GA.
- Lawry, S. (1994-1997). You are the Boss of Your Body. A safety program for pre-school and elementary aged children to prevent sexual and physical abuse. UNICEF: Success by Six; Georgia State University's Child Development Center, Atlanta, GA.; St. Timothy's School, Stone Mountain, GA.

Professional Organizations

Georgia Psychological Association

Positions, Contributions, and Awards

Student Volunteer (1987-1995)

Member (1996-present)

Board Member for the Division of Women Psychologists (2004-2007)

Chair for the Division of Women Psychologists (2006)

Board Member for the Georgia Psychological Association (2006)

Annual Conference Planning Committees (2003 and 2004)

Conference Chair for Division of Women Psychologists Conference (2005) "Empowering Women as Agents for Social Change: One Woman at a Time". Atlanta, Georgia.

Presentations at GPA Conferences – see select examples above

Presidents Award (2006) Received for leadership with regard to GPA's response to the Georgia Marriage Amendment which included developing a public position paper, creating a power-point presentation that was used at state wide town-hall meetings, coordinating efforts with community organizations, and writing a brochure for legislators and the public to address stereotypes and misinformation.

Fellow (2007). Received for a career of contributions to the organization including being part of GPA's 9/11 Response team, 3 Conference Planning Committees, developing a Low-Cost Referral Guide, leadership in the Women's Division, and leadership in GPA's response to the Marriage Amendment and membership on the Board

American Psychological Association

Member (1996)

Working Group for Counseling Psychology (Div 17)'s Section for LGBT Issues (2009) contributing to the development of a national power-point presentation that is slated to be available for use by state psychological associations in January 2010.

Presentations at APA Conferences – see select examples above