# Bridge to Faculty (B2F) Postdoctoral Fellowship

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

# University of South Carolina (USC)

- Founded in 1801, USC is located in Columbia—the vibrant state capital of South Carolina

- Offers **300+ degree programs**

- Holds **top R1 classification** from the Carnegie Foundation for "**very high research activity**"

- University researchers were awarded $237 million in grant funding in 2022

- Has **nation's #1 public Honors program**

- Ranked in **top 10% for African-American graduation rate among all public universities in US**

# USC Department of Psychology

- Housed in the College of Arts and Sciences
- Mission is to…
  - "*Advance psychology and achieve scientific excellence through **multidisciplinary team science**, impart knowledge and skills through **high quality instruction**, and promote **diversity, equity, and inclusion in all aspects of our profession**.*"

# USC Department of Psychology

- Psychology is a top undergraduate major at USC, with >1,500 majors

- New and rapidly growing Neuroscience major (~300 majors), co-led with the Department of Biological Sciences

- Four PhD concentrations:

  - Clinical-Community Psychology

  - Cognitive and Neural Sciences

  - Quantitative Psychology

  - School Psychology

# USC Department of Psychology



**Recent Assistant Professor faculty hires**

Dr. Michelle Brown

Dr. Sarfaraz Serang

Dr. Sarah Edmunds

Dr. Nada Goodrum

Dr. Daniel Cooper

Dr. Meeta Banerjee

Large and growing faculty (40+ tenure-track or tenured faculty), with **14 new TT or tenured lines since 2018**, including…

- Behavioral neuroscientists
- Cognitive neuroscientists
- Health psychologists
- School psychologists
- Clinical psychologists
- Community psychologists
- Quantitative psychologists

# Bridge to Faculty (B2F) Program

- New program sponsored by the *President's Office* and administered through the *Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion*

- Goal is to **attract, support, and retain scholars from groups historically underrepresented in their fields**

- B2F Program will…

  - Recruit promising early-career scholars into **research-focused 2-year postdoctoral fellowships**
  - Provide high level of **mentoring and support** to launch career
  - Enable scholar to **transition to a tenure-track faculty position** after successful completion of the postdoc

# 2023-2024 USC Bridge to Faculty Postdoctoral Fellows

- Psychology
- Social Work
- Biological Sciences
- Epidemiology & Biostatistics
- Women and Gender Studies
- Anthropology

- Mechanical Engineering
- Civil and Environmental Engineering
- Electrical Engineering
- Pharmacology
- Sports & Entertainment Management
- English Language & Literature

# Benefits of the B2F Postdoctoral Experience

◦ B2F Postdoctoral Fellows will receive…

  ◦ Professional development preparing the fellow for a full-time faculty position

  ◦ Training in research, pedagogy, and strategic engagement

  ◦ Additional mentorship from senior professors and university administrators

  ◦ Networking and connection-building with university administration

  ◦ Opportunities to engage and practice as an active member of the USC community
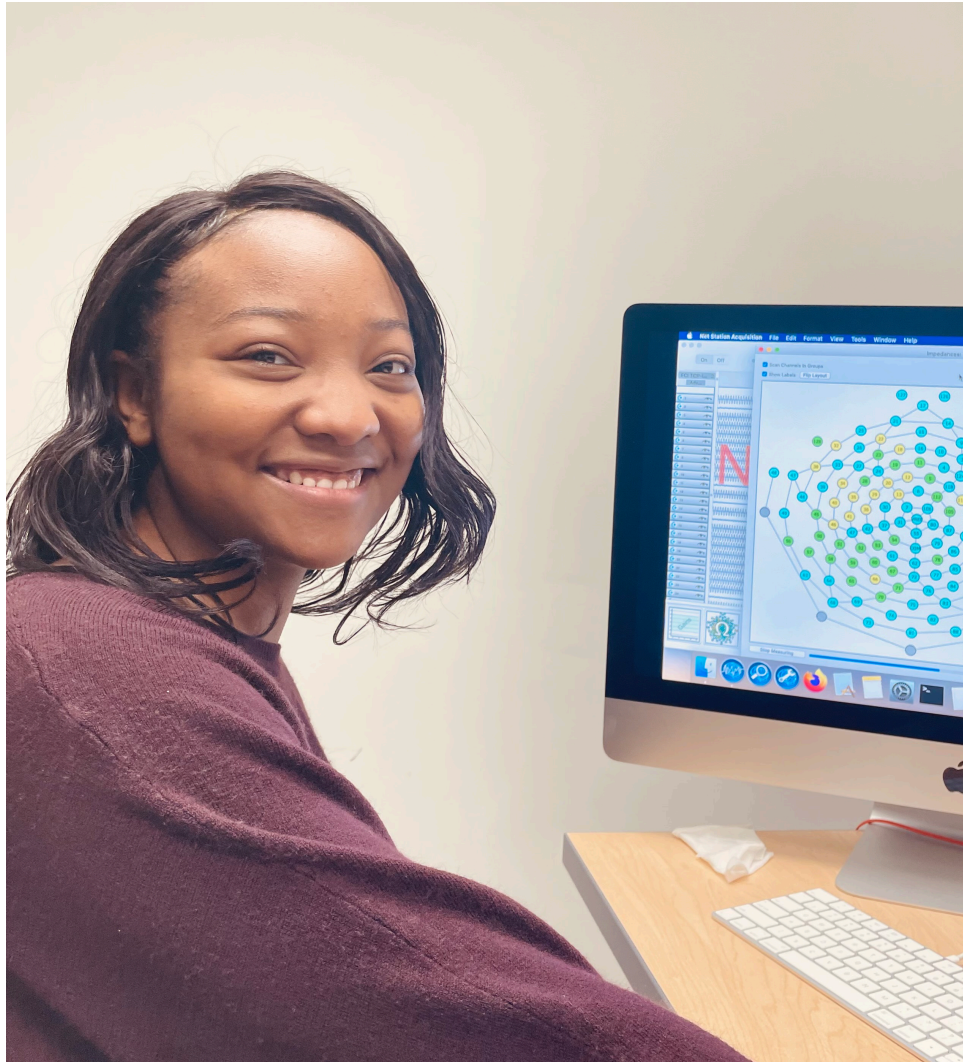
# Psychology B2F Scholar

◦ The successful candidate will contribute to diversity either as a historically underrepresented person in higher education and/or through the pursuit of scholarship that advances our understanding of issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion

◦ We are recruiting in 2 areas of departmental strength:

  ◦ **NEUROSCIENCE**

  ◦ **HEALTH EQUITY RESEARCH**

# Psychology B2F Scholar

**Is expected to:**

1. Establish a robust program of research

2. Participate in the intellectual life of the department

3. Meet regularly with faculty mentors

4. Participate in professional development opportunities

5. Collaborate across the college and university, when appropriate

# **Psychology B2F Scholar**

◦ Will work with 1-2 primary research mentor(s) to accelerate transdisciplinary efforts in basic, clinical, or intervention research in neuroscience and/or health equity

◦ Should aspire to become an independent researcher and productive faculty member at an R1 university

◦ Must be committed to teaching and mentoring diverse students at the undergraduate and graduate level

# Psychology B2F Scholar

○ A professional development mentorship team with experience mentoring underrepresented scholars will also support B2F scholar

○ Additional university and peer mentorship will be available via University-wide B2F Cohort events

# Psychology B2F Scholar

◦ Once top candidates are identified, our B2F committee will work to ensure that there is a strong match with a faculty research mentor

◦ Multiple existing labs within the Department of Psychology that are reach to welcome and support our B2F scholar

◦ Sample labs include…

# Brain Research Across Development (B-RAD) Lab

**Cailin Hudac, Ph.D.**

- PhD in Developmental Psychology from University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- Postdoctoral training at University of Washington
- Uses a variety of cognitive neuroscience techniques, including EEG/ERP, eye tracking, and fMRI to better understand how the brain changes as infants, children, adolescents, and adults learn about others
- Find out more at: **https://www.b-radlab.com/**

# Vento Lab on Aversive Learning

Peter Vento, Ph.D.

- PhD in Behavioral Neuroscience from University of Buffalo
- Postdoctoral training at the Medical University of South Carolina
- Examines brain pathways that underlie learning from punishment and subsequent inhibition of behaviors. Deficits in these processes have severe consequences and are hallmark features of mental disorders including substance abuse and anxiety disorders
- Find out more at: **https://www.theventolab.com/**

# Resilience, Equity, and Child Health (REACH) Lab

Nada Goodrum, Ph.D.

- PhD in Clinical Psychology from Georgia State University
- Postdoctoral training at the Medical University of South Carolina
- Examines parenting, family processes, and community context in families affected by stressors, as well as the impact of family stressors (e.g., trauma, HIV, substance use, racism) on children
- Find out more at: **https://www.nadagoodrum.com**

# The Healthy Futures Lab
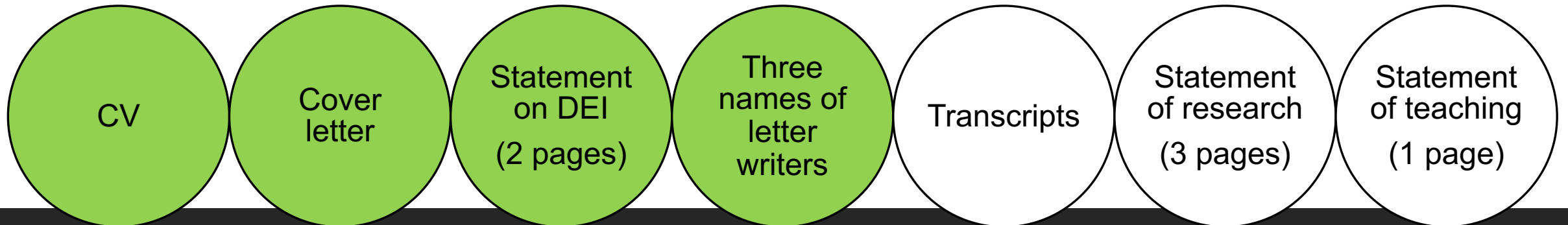
Sayward Harrison, Ph.D.

- PhD in Health Psychology from East Carolina University
- Postdoctoral training in the Arnold School of Public Health at USC
- Examines factors that contribute to health inequities in infectious disease outcomes, with a focus on HIV; Develops, implements, and evaluates interventions to improve prevention and treatment continuums for HIV and other infectious diseases
- Find out more at: **https://www.healthyfutureslab.com/**

# B2F Application Requirements

◦ Must have a PhD in Psychology, Psychological Sciences, Neuroscience, or a related field by August 16, 2023

◦ Must be eligible and authorized to work in the US without an employer-sponsored visa

◦ Review of candidates begins **March 1**

◦ Submission package should include:

Second stage candidates may be requested to provide:

CV

Cover letter

Statement on DEI (2 pages)

Three names of letter writers

Transcripts

Statement of research (3 pages)

Statement of teaching (1 page)

# Questions?
# Please reach out!



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Chair of B2F Search Committee