

2020 Halias Safety Symposium - Panelists

Panel 1: Teletherapy

Sara Brown, Senior Writer, The Chronicle of Higher Education

Sarah Brown joined The Chronicle of Higher Education in 2015, where she's a senior reporter focusing on campus culture. Her current areas of focus are student mental health and Title IX, and she's also written about race and diversity issues, Greek life, and student activism. Brown is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and has written for several newspapers, including The New York Times and Bloomberg News. She appears occasionally as a guest on broadcast media programs and speaks at journalism and higher-education conferences.

Sherry Benton, Ph.D., ABPP is the Founder and Chief Science Officer of TAO Connect, Inc.

Dr. Benton guides the development of TAO treatments, conducts research related to its effectiveness, and helps write the content for the online modules. Dr. Benton developed the prototype for TO while serving as the Director of the counseling center at the University of Florida. She has been a psychologist, professor, researcher, and mental health care administrator for 30 years. She has published over 30 research articles in refereed journals, has delivered numerous professional presentations, has been the president of two national professional organizations. She is a fellow in the American Psychological Association, past Vice President for Practice of the Society of Counseling Psychology (APA Division 17), and President Emeritus of the Academy of Counseling Psychology. She is board certified by the American Board of Professional Psychology, and is a member in the International Women's Forum (IWF), an invitation only organization of diverse and accomplished women from 33 nations and 6 continents.

Dr. Elisa Bolton, Ph.D., Associate Director \ Training Director, University of New Hampshire Psychological and Counseling Services (PACS)

Elisa Bolton has nearly 24 years of experience training mental health professionals in the provision of trauma focused treatments and treating individuals who are struggling with the impact of military and civilian trauma, relationship issues, anxiety, depression, and substance abuse. She is the Associate Director of Psychological and Counseling Services at UNH and is leading UNH's effort to introduce a comprehensive in person suicide prevention training for all faculty, staff and students. Bolton completed her Ph.D. at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Panel 2: Behavioral Health

Yvonne Meyer, Associate Director for Public Safety at Swarthmore College, Board of Directors, International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA) and North Atlantic Regional Director

Yvonne Meyer currently sits on the Board of Directors for the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA) as the North Atlantic Regional Director. She has been an active member of IACLEA since 2007 with work on current and past committees including the Membership Development Committee, Two-Year Institutions, Training, and the Awards and Recognition Committee. In 2007 she was awarded the IACLEA Award for Merit.

Presently, Ms. Meyer is the Associate Director for Public Safety at Swarthmore College, but she has worked for several colleges and universities in the past. This work has provided her with a wide breadth of knowledge as well as the ability to increase her depth of understanding in the concerns of smaller campus communities. She has brought the knowledge of Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) officer training programs to each agency. This program has proven to be successful as a way for public safety employees to meet the growing mental health needs of the campus community. The training provides a better understanding for public safety employees to provide the information needed for high performing Behavioral Intervention Teams.

AD Meyer began working in emergency services in 1994, but made the transition to Police Officer after attending the Illinois State Police Academy in 2003. She obtained her Bachelor degree in Public Safety Management, and earned her Master of Public Administration soon afterwards. She worked her way up the ranks while working at Parkland College in Champaign, IL and graduated of the Northwestern University's – Center for Public Safety School of Police Staff and Command in 2010. In 2013 she took on her first role as a Police Chief when she was named the Chief of Public Safety at Cape Cod Community College in Barnstable, MA. She successfully transitioned the department from a security department to a recognized Special State Police Department before moving back into the Midwest.

During her tenure in campus law enforcement, AD Meyer has successfully adapted large scale plans to the needs of the smaller university with limited resources. Using her foundation in community policing, she effectively brings campus communities together to build a safer campus.

Paul Dean, Chief of Police and Associate Vice President for Public Safety and Risk Management for the University of New Hampshire

Paul H. Dean is the Chief of Police and Associate Vice President for Public Safety and Risk Management for the University of New Hampshire. Chief Dean is a 35 year veteran of law enforcement and holds a Master's of Science in Leadership and, Bachelors of Science with honors in Criminal Justice Management from Granite State College. Chief Dean is a graduate of the 186th Session of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, VA and The Babson College Command Officer Training program in Wellesley MA.

Chief Dean serves as an adjunct instructor for the University of New Hampshire Homeland Security Program. Chief Dean serves with the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators as an instructor in terrorism and emergency management related issues.

Chief Dean services on the Board of Directors of the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA) and as co-chair of the IACLEA Homeland Security & Domestic Preparedness Committee.

Chief Dean is the President of the New Hampshire Campus Law Enforcement Administrators Association, Executive Board member of the NH Chiefs of Police-Strafford County Representative, Advisory Board member of the FBI National Academy in Quantico VA and, The United States Department of Homeland Security State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Government Coordinating Council (SLTGCC) and as an Executive Board member of the NH Joint Terrorism Task Force.

Chief Dean serves on the UNH President's Leadership Council and, numerous campus committees to include the Student, Faculty and Staff Behavioral Intervention teams and, is the chairperson of the University Emergency Group.

Panel 3: Veterans

Amy M. Cook, Administrator, Division of Community Based Military Programs, NH Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services

Amy Cook is Administrator of the New Hampshire Division of Community Based Military Programs at the Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services. She is responsible for coordinating statewide strategies, opportunities for innovation and effective braiding of resources between government agencies, federal partners and local service providers in order to benefit NH Veterans and their families. Amy's family celebrates a significant military history filled with honorable military contributions—a Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, two Pearl Harbor Survivors, the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Army, the Massachusetts National Guard, combat in all major conflicts dating back to the Boxer Rebellion and World War I. She has witnessed first-hand the resilience and achievements of military families, but also the struggles and unique obstacles they can face. As Administrator at the Department of Military Affairs & Veterans Services, she uses knowledge her family members' experiences and embraces opportunities to facilitate meaningful collaborations between military and civilian groups in order to benefit New Hampshire's military families and honor those who have served. Amy's involvement in the NH Veteran community also includes serving as the Governor-appointed Team Lead for the SAMHSA *Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide among Service members, Veterans and their Families*, Governor-appointed representative to the NH Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission, Co-Chair of the NH Suicide Prevention Council-Military & Veterans Committee, Facilitator of the NH Military Leadership Team and a voting member of the following: Legislative Commission on Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) & Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), Governor's Commission on Alcohol & Drug Abuse, Prevention, Treatment and Recovery--Joint Military Task Force, and Justice Involved Veterans Task Force.

Karen Gilbert (USAF Veteran), Director, Military and Veteran Services, University of New Hampshire

Karen has worked at the University of New Hampshire for 30 years. Much of that time was spent in the office of Student Affairs as the Assistant to the Vice President. In 2011, Karen began spending 15 hours a week supporting the Veteran student population. Due to Karen's success in developing the Veterans Program, a Director position was created and advertised. Karen interviewed and was pleased to become the full-time Director in 2015. Karen has been successful in obtaining much needed grant funds used to develop and continue the popular VET Connect Orientation program. She was invited to be a guest speaker at the Association of College Unions International in 2011 about her work with veterans in higher education.

Karen joined the United States Air Force in 1982. She was stationed at Keesler Air Force Base in Mississippi and transferred to Mather Air Force Base in California in November of 1982 where she remained until she separated in 1985. Karen was a Personnel Readiness Specialist with responsibilities in preparing airmen for deployment. During her time in service she received the meritorious award as well as a medal of service upon separation.