

A stylized illustration of a plant with teal leaves and stems, set against a dark blue background with orange accents. A large red circle is centered on the image, containing the event title and details.

2024 Trauma and Thriving Symposium

Friday, April 19, 2024
1:00pm - 5:00pm
UTSA Downtown Campus

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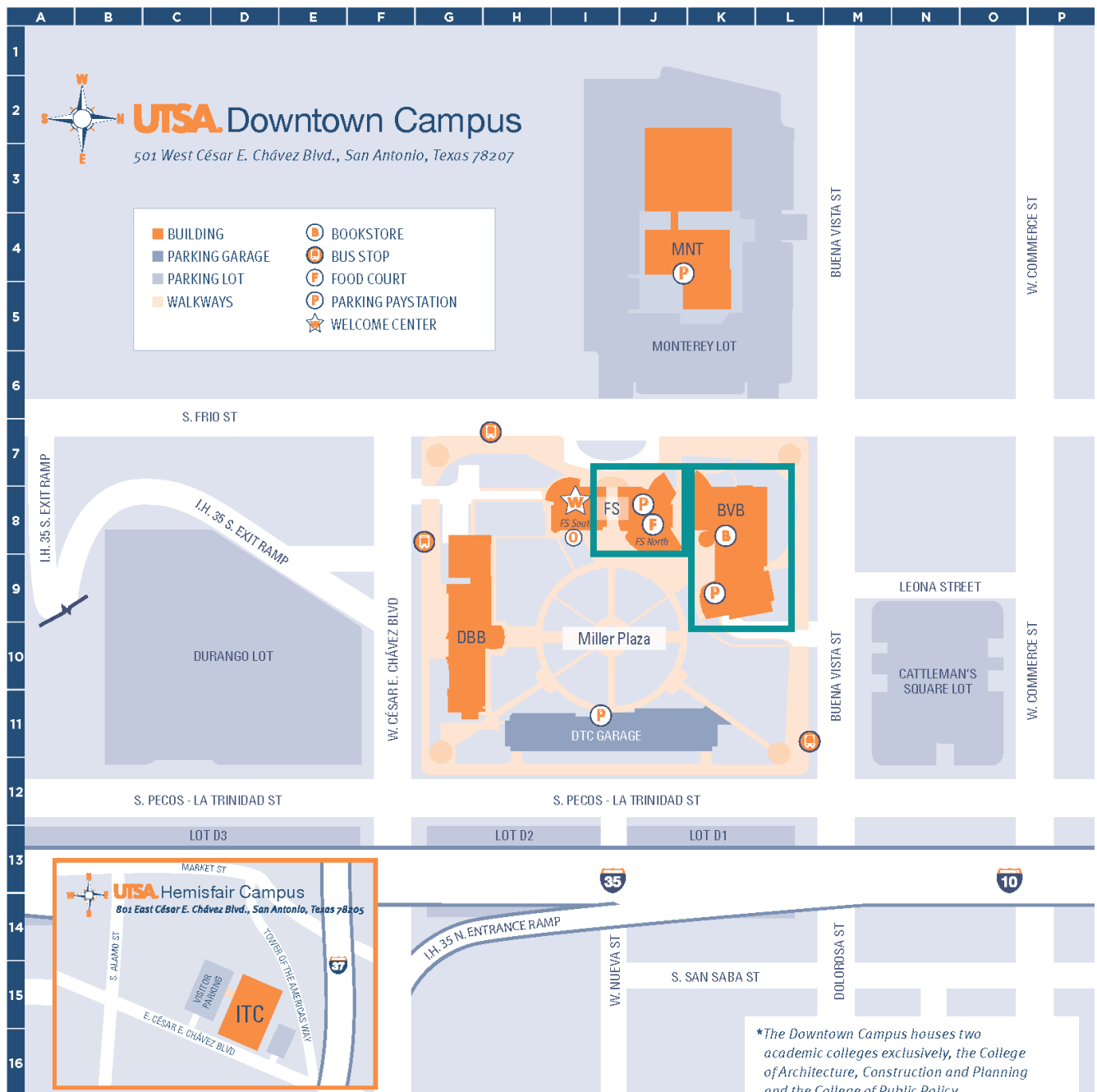


UTSA

The University of Texas at San Antonio™

**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**

DEPARTMENT OF COUNSELING



REV 09/18/17

**Registration located in Frio Street Building

KEY

BVB	Buena Vista Street Building	K8
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> College of Liberal and Fine Arts Downtown Advising Center Extended Education Library P-20 Initiatives Police Department Testing Services Theater Vice President for Community Services 	
DBB	Durango Building	G9
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Campus Fitness Center College of Education and Human Development Conference Center College of Public Policy* Institute for Economic Development Southwest Room Tomás Rivera Center for Student Success 	

FS	Frio Street Building	I8
	NORTH WING	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administration Bookstore Disability Services Food Court Office of Vice Provost for UTSA Downtown Riklin Auditorium Student Health and Counseling Services Writing Lab 	
	SOUTH WING	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Campus Services/Parking Office College of Sciences One Stop Enrollment Center Fiscal Services Registrar Veteran Certification Office 	

UTSA Downtown Campus Parking Map



Symposium Schedule

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Welcome

Keynote Address

Toni McKinley, LPC
Executive Director, Magdalene House

Megan McPheron,
Master Clinician, Roy Maas Youth Alternatives
Frio St. Building - Room 1.406

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Content Sessions

Supervision Best Practices
Dr. John Harrichand & Dr. Claudia Interiano-Shiverdecker
Buena Vista Building - Room 1.312

Creativity in Trauma Counseling
Lorelei Voronin
Frio St. Building - Room 1.406

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Poster Presentations and Internship Fair

Buena Vista Building - Room 1.338

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Unveiling the Multidimensional Impact of Sex Trafficking: Insights from Survivors' Experiences

Dr. Devon Romero, Dr. Claudia Interiano-Shiverdecker, &
Dr. Priscilla Rose Prasath
Frio St. Building - Room 1.406

5:00 pm

Final Remarks

Keynote Speaker

Toni McKinley, LPC



Toni is the Executive Director at Magdalene House Austin, and has the honor of walking alongside those who experienced sex trafficking, giving them the support and empowerment they need for therapeutic recovery, furthering their education, and entering the workforce to become independent. Before working at Magdalene House of Austin, she served as the Director of Trauma Informed Care at the Texas Juvenile Justice Department and focused on helping youth increase their chances of success while making our communities safer. She also served as the Therapeutic Director of a Texas nonprofit that provided long term housing to minors of sex trafficking.

Her specialty is in the neuropsychology of trafficking trauma. Toni started in this field of work as a trauma counselor to first responders, combat veterans, and women who have been trafficked. She has developed and implemented trauma informed care training for various stakeholders nationally and locally. She is a member of the Travis County Commercial Sexual Exploitation Youth (Advisory Board, the Human Trafficking Survivor Leader Council, The Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force, the Central Texas Coalition Against Trafficking, an advisory board member for the Austin 20, and the ACF Region VI Human Trafficking Group. She is also the Co Chair of the National Council of Juvenile Family Court Judges Advisory Committee.

As a licensed counselor, Toni has counseled those who have been trafficked and struggled with SUD and helped their families with the aftermath of the trafficking trauma that their loved ones suffered. Her training as a TBRI (Trust Based Relational Intervention) practitioner and an EMDR (Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing), Motivational Interviewing (plus DBT (Dialectical Behavioral Therapy) trained therapist, has given her the therapeutic skills needed to work one on one with those who have been trafficked. Her book, *What Happened to Me: Healing for Sex Trafficking Survivors*, was written to facilitate the healing process of those she works with. It now helps service providers and survivors nationwide.

Toni's lived experience of trafficking fuels her to empower others with her knowledge on a personal and professional level. Her speaking is authentic, unique, and educational. She has spoken for numerous organizations; you can find her TEDx talk about trafficking prevention online titled "A Locket Full of Hope." She has spoken at The Status of the Commission of Women at the United Nations and trained service providers of trafficked girls in Sonagachi, Kolkata, India. Toni also received the Hero Award and The Texas Governor's Human Trafficking Prevention Award.

Keynote Speaker

Megan McPheron, MS, LPC-S, LMFT-S



Megan McPheron, MS, LPC-S, LMFT-S has been working with traumatized youth, specifically youth in the child welfare system. She has been licensed for over 20 years. She is certified in TF-CBT (Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavior Therapy) and a TBRI practitioner (Trust Based Relational

Intervention). Megan is the Master Clinician at Roy Maas Youth Alternatives. She has been working with trafficking victims for 5 years since being at RMVA. She oversees the Family Counseling and Resource Center, provides therapy to youth at our Emergency Shelter and our Transitional living program, and supervises graduate level interns. Megan has an 8-year-old son that keeps her busy when not at work. Megan is involved in her church's Altar Guild and teaches Sunday School. In her spare time, she likes to read and watch the Real Housewives franchise.



Content Sessions

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

1. Supervision Best Practices

Dr. John Harrichand & Dr. Claudia Interiano-Shverdecker

This session is offered to site-supervisors and clinical supervisors. Participants will gain knowledge of the rights and responsibilities of supervisees and those of supervisors. Participants will gain knowledge on best practices for clinical supervision including using online platforms in supervision.

1 CEU for LPC

2. Creativity in Trauma Counseling

Lorelei Voronin

This session offers attendees the opportunity to explore evidence-based research on art therapy interventions for trauma. They'll gain insight into three specific therapeutic art directives tailored for individuals who have experienced trauma. Additionally, practical guidelines for effectively integrating creativity into trauma work will be provided, enhancing attendees' ability to implement these techniques in their practice.

1 CEU for LPC or Certificate of Attendance for Students

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

1. Unveiling the Multidimensional Impact of Sex Trafficking: Insights from Survivors' Experiences

Dr. Devon Romero, Dr. Claudia G. Interiano-Shiverdekcer, & Dr. Priscilla Prasath

Sex trafficking is a type of human trafficking with significant physical, behavioral, and mental health consequences. With exposure to at-risk populations, counselors can increase the identification and treatment of sex trafficking. This research education session introduces findings from a phenomenological study with sex trafficking survivors on the impact of sex trafficking. Understanding the multidimensional impact of sex trafficking is crucial to counselors.

1 CEU for LPC or Certificate of Attendance for Students

Poster Presentations

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Pathways to Healing: Navigating
Re-Integration, Building Resilience and
Cultivating Post-Traumatic Growth

Shandra Harris

Long-Term Effects of Attachment
Disruption on Children

Michelle Muenich

Enhancing Post-Traumatic Growth in Sex
Trafficked Youth Through Equine Group
Therapy

Christine Mayorga

The Association Between Foster Care
Youth and Child Sex Trafficking

Arianna Robinson

Relationships after Sex-Trafficking: In
The Words of Survivors

David Thompson, Travis Walker,
Dr. Claudia G. Interiano-Shiverdecker,
Dr. Devon E. Romero, Dr. John J. S. Harrichand,
& Jessica Martin

No CEU or Certificates of Attendance offered for Poster Presentations.

Stop by and connect with Professionals leading the
creation of a new Texas Counseling Association
Local Chapter! Sign up to get exclusive details
on upcoming events, professional development
opportunities, and ways to get involved. Visit our
table and let's start something amazing together!



Internship Site Fair

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm



Looking for a practicum or internship site? Check out the Internship Site Fair and connect with prospective site supervisors from a number of affiliated-sites.

Anew Family Counseling Center
Bexar County Juvenile Probation
Bluebonnet Trails Community Services
Camino Real Community Services
Career Services, Texas State University
Children's Alliance of South Texas
Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas
Communities in Schools of Central Texas
Communities in Schools of San Antonio
Counseling4Life
Ellie Mental Health
Franklin Training and Consulting
Innova Recovery Center
Methodist Healthcare Ministries
Nueva Vida Behavioral Health Associates
Palo Alto College
River City Advocacy
Texas A&M University - San Antonio, Student Counseling
Center The Center for Health Care Services
Triple H Equitherapy
UTSA Student Success Center
Wellness 360 Counseling Center at UTSA

Presenters



John J. S. Harrichand, Ph.D., LPC-S, LMHC, NCC, CCMHC, ACS, CCTP

Assistant Professor, University of Texas at San Antonio

CAST Research Lab Affiliate Faculty

John J. S. Harrichand, Ph.D., LPC-S, LMHC, NCC, CCMHC, ACS, CCTP is a distinguished professional with a rich and diverse background. Born and raised in Guyana, South America, his academic journey began at the University of Toronto at Scarborough, where he earned an Honors Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology and Integrative Biology.

Subsequently, he pursued a Master of Arts in Counselling at Providence Theological Seminary in Otterburne, Manitoba, Canada. He achieved a CACREP-accredited Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision from Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia. Currently, Dr. Harrichand serves as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Counseling at The University of Texas at San Antonio. His research expertise spans three critical areas: i) Culturally Responsive Counseling Practices – focused on empowering minoritized communities; ii) Educating Early Career Counselor Educators – in their teaching and supervision roles; and iii) Leadership and Advocacy Development – particularly those from ethnic minority backgrounds. <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/John-Harrichand>



Claudia G. Interiano-Shiverdecker, Ph.D., LPC

Assistant Professor, University of Texas at San Antonio

CAST Research Lab Co-Founder

Dr. Claudia G. Interiano-Shiverdecker is an Assistant Professor at the University of Texas at Antonio. She received her master's degree in clinical mental health counseling from the University of Wisconsin-Stout and a

Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. She is a Licensed Professional Counselor in Texas specialized in providing bilingual counseling services to Spanish-speaking populations. Previously, she was a licensed psychologist in Honduras and worked with Spanish-speaking adolescents. Her research primarily focuses on (a) social justice and multicultural considerations for marginalized communities, particularly the Latinx community; (b) counseling competencies to work with trauma and specific populations vulnerable to trauma; (c) advocating for underrepresented populations in higher education and (d) bilingual counseling and supervision. Since 2015, she has been involved in some capacity with both large externally funded or institutionally funded projects focused on advocating for refugees, sex trafficking victims, and bilingual counselors. She has been published in several peer-reviewed professional journals, has co-authored several book chapters, and has presented numerous presentations at international, national, regional, state, and local conferences. She is also the co-author for the textbook, *Preparing Culturally Efficacious Bilingual Counselors Through Theory and Case Studies*. She co-leads the Bilingual Counseling Certificate and teaches a Spanish internship course for the certificate program.

Presenters



Lorelei Voronin, LPC, ATR

Children's Alliance of South Texas

Child and Family Trauma Therapist & Site Supervisor

Lorelei Voronin is a Licensed Professional Counselor in Texas and a Registered Art Therapist with a Master of Science in Art Therapy from Florida State University. Her professional experience has been in trauma and art therapy at different mental health facilities, including long term residential, as well as crisis and partial hospitalization programs for children and adults. Lorelei is currently a Child and Family Trauma Therapist and Clinical Supervisor at the Children's Alliance of South Texas, Child Advocacy Center. She is trained in Trauma-Focused

Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) and incorporates her expertise in art therapy when working with children who have experienced recent or complex trauma. Lorelei has co-authored art therapy research publications and presented on art therapy interventions with trauma at the American Art Therapy Association's Annual Conference. Lorelei is very passionate about the benefits of art therapy and TF-CBT in reducing Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder symptoms and increasing resiliency in children.



Devon E. Romero, Ph.D., LPC, NCC

Assistant Professor, University of Texas at San Antonio

CAST Research Lab Co-Founder

Dr. Devon E. Romero is an Assistant Professor and Director of the Counselor Education and Supervision Doctoral Program in the Department of Counseling. She obtained her master's degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision from the University of Alabama. As a National Certified Counselor and Licensed Professional Counselor in Texas, Dr. Romero has specialized experience with trauma, neurofeedback, marriage and family counseling, and child and adolescent counseling. Dr.

Romero's research primarily focuses on studying trauma among historically marginalized, at-risk and underserved populations including: (a) children and youth and (b) sex trafficking utilizing complementary interventions and evidence-based outcome research for informing counselor training, research, and practice. Dr. Romero has over a decade of experience working with and managing large federally funded projects, smaller externally funded projects, and institutionally funded research. She currently serves as the Project Director of a sex trafficking focused program with the purpose of increasing clinical placements for counselors-in-training in medically underserved communities funded for \$396,705 by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. She is the co-founder of the Counselors Against Sex Trafficking Research Lab (www.castrl.com) and serves as the Chapter Faculty Advisor for the Sigma Alpha Chi Chapter of Chi Sigma Iota.

Presenters



Priscilla Rose Prasath, Ph.D., LPC

Assistant Professor, University of Texas at San Antonio
CAST Research Lab Affiliate Faculty

Dr. Priscilla Rose Prasath (Ph.D., LPC, MBA, GCSC; co-PI) is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Counseling. She graduated with a Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision from Ohio University. Dr. Prasath is a Licensed Professional Counselor and has been providing clinical counseling for over 10 years to diverse client populations. The overarching focus of her research agenda is to augment counselor competence in the promotion of mental health and well-being by leveraging a strengths-based positive psychological lens, spanning two interrelated research pathways: (a) training and program development and (b) innovative counseling and teaching practices. She has pursued nearly \$1.137 million in competitive research funds and authored 29 peer-reviewed publications and over 75 conference presentations. She holds several leadership positions including Director of the Strengths and Wellbeing – Innovation Research Lab and affiliate faculty at CAST Research Lab at UTSA, and President-Elect and Secretary of the Association for Specialists in Group Counseling (ASGW), a national division of the American Counseling Association (ACA). She is the recipient of the Texas Counseling Association (TCA) Research Award, Professional Advancement Award by ASGW, Professional Writing Award by TCA, and nominee of UTSA Presidential Teaching Excellence Award, both in 2023 and 2021. She serves as the training consultant for the THECB grant awarded to Dr. Romero and Dr. Interiano-Shiverdecker, where she coordinates sex trafficking-specific training for students at UTSA. Due to her expertise in curriculum development, she has been invited to be a part of large program development initiatives at departmental, university, and professional levels.



Symposium Evaluations

Please use the QR Codes below to access the Exit Surveys for each session attended. You must complete a Sign-in Survey and an Exit Survey for each session attended in order to receive your CEU certificate or Certificate of Attendance.

SIGN-IN SURVEY

Sign-in surveys will be available at the start of each presentation via a QR code shared via PowerPoint and when entering the session room.

EXIT SURVEY

Exit Surveys will be available at the conclusion of each session and in the program below.

QR CODES TO EXIT SURVEYS

KEYNOTE



SUPERVISION



CREATIVITY



SEX TRAFFICKING



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**Counselors Against Sex
Trafficking Research Lab**

www.castrl.com



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DEPARTMENT OF COUNSELING

Department of Counseling

www.education.utsa.edu/counseling



Special thanks to the University of Texas at San Antonio's Department of Counseling, the Counselors Against Sex Trafficking Research Lab, representatives from the emerging south central region chapter of the Texas Counseling Association, our presenters, and Laurel Ridge Hospital!!

An abstract graphic design featuring a central red circle with the text "Thank you!" in a yellow, serif font. The background is a dark blue circle with orange segments at the top and bottom. Teal and yellow leaves are scattered around the central circle, and several curved lines in teal and red sweep across the composition.

Thank you!