**Mars Scharf**

they/them

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**EDUCATION**

**University at Buffalo, The State University of New York Buffalo, NY**

*PhD in Clinical Psychology August 2024 - anticipated May 2030  
Advanced Certificate in Developmental Science*

* GPA: 3.82 out of 4.00
* Clinical sites: UB Psychological Services Center

**University of Rochester Rochester, NY**

*Bachelor of Arts in Psychology May 2022  
Minor in Health, Behavior, and Society; Concentrations in Biology and American Sign Language*

* GPA: 3.86 out of 4.00
* Cum Laude, High Distinction in Psychology

**HONORS AND AWARDS**

* Arthur A. Schomburg Fellowship, 2024
* University of Rochester Psychology Honors Research Program, 2022
* University of Rochester Dean’s List, 4 out of 8 semesters
* Research and Innovation Grant, 2018

**PUBLICATIONS**

* Shovestul, B. Scharf, M.Liu, G. Dodell-Feder, D. Social defeat and psychosis-related outcomes: Associative and experimental tests related to the nature of defeat, specificity of outcomes, and psychosis-proneness. Psychiatry Research Communications 3 (4). 2023

**PRESENTATIONS**

* Hadush, B., Scharf, M., Fan, R., Epstein, L., Hughes, B., Masoud, R. , Moding, K., Ventre, S., Anzman-Frasca, S. Caregiver Perspectives on How Pediatricians Can Promote Healthy Eating Behaviors in Early Childhood​. Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program Research Symposium, Buffalo NY, July 2025.
* Scharf, M., Bowker, J., Anzman-Frasca, S. Effects of Sleep Duration, Timing, and Disruption on Children’s Eating Behaviors: A Literature Review. University at Buffalo Ingestive Behavior Day, Buffalo NY, May 2025.
* Scharf, M. Evaluating the Impact of Social Exclusion on Psychotic-Like Experiences. University of Rochester Undergraduate Research Exposition, Rochester NY, June 2022.

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

**Child Health and Behavior Lab (PI: Stephanie Anzman-Frasca) Buffalo, NY**

*Graduate Research Assistant August 2024-present*

* *Led teams of research assistants during study visits with participating families.*
* *Conducted interviews with parents about children’s eating, and with parents and restaurant staff about program implementation.*
* *Conducted literature review and composed research proposal for clinical area second-year project.*

**Michael Lowe Lab at Drexel University Philadelphia, PA**

*Research Coordinator June 2022-May 2024*

* *Organized the launch of the multisite NIH-funded POWERS study: oversaw training and registration of study staff, wrote training materials and manuals, and implemented study protocol.*
* *Coordinated study visits at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania with nursing staff at the Center for Human Phenomic Science, entered data from biological measurements taken by nurses.*
* *Administered psychological tasks and tests to study participants.*
* *Administered activity and sleep monitoring with participants using Actigraph and zMachine monitors, analyzed resulting data in their respective softwares.*
* *Recorded quantitative data using Excel and analyzed it in SPSS.*
* *Designed and distributed study advertisements.*
* *Trained and supervised undergraduate research assistants in screening, consenting, and task administration.*
* *Reviewed CVs, conducted interviews, and processed paperwork to hire the study’s nutritionist, research coordinator, and three research assistants.*
* *Performed administrative tasks for the Lowe lab (such as managing and reporting finances, scheduling meetings, and licensing a psychological scale to other researchers).*

**University of Rochester Honors Program in Psychology Rochester, NY**

*Honors Thesis Researcher August 2021-May 2022*

* *Searched for, evaluated, and selected measures for the study.*
* *Administered psychological tasks and tests to participants.*
* *Recorded quantitative data using Qualtrics and analyzed it in R.*
* *Wrote up the paper for the study in thesis format and verbally defended it to a panel of program advisors.*

**Social Cognition & Psychopathology Lab (PI: David Dodell-Feder) Rochester, NY**

*Research Assistant June 2019-May 2022*

* *Administered psychological tasks and tests to participants.*
* *Screened participants for eligibility over the phone and scheduled appointments.*
* *Kept track of participants’ data and sent them updates.*
* *Conducted literature reviews on lab-relevant topics.*

**Mount Hope Family Center Project FLIGHT (PI: Melissa Sturge-Apple) Rochester, NY**

*Research Assistant May 2021-August 2021*

* *Performed qualitative coding on behavioral data (videos of mothers and children performing tasks).*
* *Met with a team weekly to discuss the project’s goals and progress and increase inter-rater reliability.*

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

***Guest Lectures:***

* Psychology 101, University at Buffalo. *Substance Use Disorders*. April 28, 2025.

***Teaching Assistantships:***

**University at Buffalo Psychology Department Buffalo, NY**

*Teaching Assistant August 2024-May 2025*

* *Met with students one-on-one to provide individualized support.*
* *Graded assignments and quizzes.*
* *Proctored exams across the department.*

**University of Rochester Biology Department Rochester, NY**

*Teaching Assistant August 2020-December 2021*

* *Taught recitations and conducted review sessions.*
* *Met with students one-on-one to provide individualized support.*
* *Created, administered, and graded quizzes.*
* *Graded and administered exams.*

**SERVICE**

**Jacobs School of Medicine STEM Ambassadors Buffalo, NY**

*STEM Ambassador June 2025 - present*

*Led hands-on science activities with local children and participated in science education outreach events in the community.*

**Child Health and Behavior Lab DEI Committee Buffalo, NY**

*Committee Member January 2025 - present*

*Coordinated education and service activities of the lab in the Buffalo community.*

**Clinical Psychology Admissions Committee Buffalo, NY**

*Committee Member February 2025*

*Scheduled activities and meetings and matched applicants with student hosts to welcome prospective students to the UB clinical psychology PhD recruitment weekend.*

**Application Statement Feedback Program Online**

*Statement Editor October 2024*

*Provided constructive feedback for the research and personal statements of applicants to clinical psychology PhD programs who are underrepresented minorities and/or lack access to mentors.*

**Mighty Writers Philadelphia, PA**

*Volunteer March 2023-December 2023*

* *Assisted at the Mighty Writers after school academy supporting youth in low-income school districts.*
* *Provided help with homework and coaching on writing projects, with the goal of developing the students’ voice and clarity in writing.*
* *Provided constructive feedback on students’ internship and college admissions essays.*

**CAMPUS AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

**Rochester Museum and Science Center Rochester, NY**

*Discovery Guide August 2017-May 2022*

* *Engaged with visitors of all ages, primarily children 3-13, by providing helpful information, answering questions, and giving directions.*
* *Performed interactive science demonstrations and presentations.*
* *Provided leadership and support in emergency situations.*
* *Created a welcoming and educational atmosphere for visiting families.*

**University of Rochester Undergraduate Film Council Rochester, NY**

*Publicity Chair Spring 2019- May 2022*

* *Planned club events and coordinated co-sponsorships with other groups.*
* *Planned and ran meetings with the other members of the executive board.*
* *Managed the club’s online presence including Facebook, Instagram, and our website.*
* *Designed and distributed flyers and social media posts for upcoming events.*

**University of Rochester Varsity Pep Band Rochester, NY**

*Social Chair Fall 2020- Fall 2021*

* *Planned club events and coordinated co-sponsorships with other groups.*
* *Managed the club’s online presence including Facebook, Instagram, and our website.*

**PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

* Society for Health Psychology (APA Division 38) Student Affiliate, joined 2025
* Psi Chi psychology honors society, inducted 2020

**TRAININGS**

* *Behavioral Health Evaluations/Letters for Gender-Affirming Medical Care.* Tess M. Kilwein, PhD, ABPP, CMPC, December 2024.
* *Forensic Evaluation Training.* Asylum Medicine Training Initiative, July 2025.

**SKILLS**

* Proficiency in R, SAS, SPSS, REDcap, Stata, Qualtrics, Zotero, EndNote, and the Google and Microsoft Office Suites
* Graphic design of physical and online recruitment materials and infographics
* Editing support and constructive feedback on writing

**REFERENCES**

* Stephanie Anzman-Frasca

Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Science

Email: [safrasca@buffalo.edu](mailto:safrasca@buffalo.edu)

Phone: (716) 829-6692

Relationship: Research/primary mentor, 2024 - present

* Julie Bowker

Professor, Department of Psychology, University at Buffalo

Email: [jcbowker@buffalo.edu](mailto:jcbowker@buffalo.edu)

Phone: (716) 645-0187

Relationship: Academic mentor, 2024 - present

* Michael R. Lowe, PhD

Professor, Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, Drexel University

Email: [ml42@drexel.edu](mailto:ml42@drexel.edu)

Phone: (215)553-7116

Relationship: Supervisor, 2022-2024