



## Meet the 2017 – 2018 DoSAA Executive Board!



Mia

Chandni

Devika

Monika

Achu

Nida

Anil

Ankita

DoSAA (Division on South Asian Americans) is a division of the Asian American Psychological Association. It includes students and professionals committed to understanding social, emotional, political, and personal influences affecting South Asians in psychology, and seeks to influence change for the betterment of South Asian mental health.

**Gagan "Mia" Khera, Ph.D., Chair**, received her PhD in clinical psychology from The George Washington University. Her research interest in South Asians began as an undergraduate at Wellesley College. Currently, Mia is an Associate Professor in the Psychology Department at Curry College in Milton, MA. Recent projects: examining help-seeking behaviors among Asian American college students, multicultural education, retention of students of color at small colleges, and substance use among South Asians. She lives outside Boston with her husband and two children.

**Chandni Shah, Ph.D., Co Chair**, received her PhD in Counseling Psychology from Purdue University and participated in the APA MFP fellowship program to enrich her research skills. She is currently a psychologist at the Counseling Center at University of Maryland, College Park. Professional interests: South Asian community well being, intervention and prevention of sexual assault/relationship violence, and multicultural training.

**Devika Srivastava, Ph.D., Chair Elect**, received her PhD in Counseling Psychology from Fordham University in NYC. Her research and clinical interests on multicultural populations began in her undergraduate studies and have remained a passion. She is currently a Psychologist at the Harris Center (public health county services) conducting clinical outcomes, program evaluations for all MH, crisis, and IDD services, and mental health research supporting policy initiatives. Her interests include: Mental health policy, racial identity, multiculturalism, pain medicine, feminist psychology, mood disorders, and psychotic disorders.

**Monika Parikh, Ph.D., Membership**, received her PhD in Counseling Psychology from Washington State University. During her training, she worked with children, adolescents, families, and adults. Currently, she is a pediatric psychologist at Geisinger Medical Center, an integrated primary care clinic in Central PA. Areas of interests: integration of behavioral health into primary care, outcome research, group therapy, and training/education.

**Nida Mirza, Psy.D., Communications**, received her doctorate from the PGSP-Stanford Psy.D. Consortium and her undergraduate degree from Wellesley College. She currently works in private practice in San Francisco and Palo Alto, CA. Her areas of interest include multicultural and minority mental health, women's mental health, emotion regulation, evidence-based treatments, and telemedicine.

**Achu Johnson Alexander, M. A., Secretary Historian**, is a 5<sup>th</sup> year doctoral candidate in Developmental Psychology at Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts. Research interests: experiences of adulthood and family influences among 18-29 year olds. Currently, she is working on her dissertation, which aims to cross-culturally examine ways parents are involved in career planning of college seniors. In the past, she also worked with refugees and hopes to continue working in these communities.

**Anil Lalwani, M.S., Treasurer**, is pursuing his PhD in Counseling Psychology at Cleveland State University. Professional interests: preventative practices among international students, racial-ethnic minorities, and LGBTQ+ individuals. Anil is looking forward to promoting engagement of South Asians in the professional community.

**Ankita Krishnan, M.S., Student Representative**, is a 5th year Clinical Psychology doctoral student at Purdue University. Research areas: a) cultural adjustment and acculturative stress among Asian international students and b) the intersection between cultural factors and autism spectrum disorder. Through her work, Ankita hopes to increase awareness of cultural models within psychology.