

# **Executive Committee**

## **Division on Asian Americans with Multiple Heritages**

2020 update

### Chair: Amy Kobus



As a Korean adoptee, Amy is excited about diversifying AAPA to include experiences of individuals from multiple heritages including transracial adoptees. She has previously served as the Secretary/Historian for both the AAPA Executive Board, as well as for DoAAMH. She has also served as Chair of the Diversity Committee of the Oregon Psychological Association. Currently she is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at Oregon Health & Science University. As Chair, her goals are to use her leadership skills to further satisfy the division mission of community connection, visibility, and inclusivity.

### Past Chair: Cirleen DeBlaere



As a biracial Taiwanese-Belgian American, Cirleen is enthusiastic about DoAAMH's mission to center the experiences of Asian and Pacific Islander Americans (APIAs) with multiple heritages in psychological science, practice, and advocacy. In addition to serving as Chair of DoAAMH, she has served as CoChair of the APA Division 44's Committee on Racial and Ethnic Diversity, Division 17's VP of Diversity and Public Interest, and copy editor of the AAPA newsletter from 2009-2017. As Past Chair, Cirleen continues to provide us her unique perspectives in leadership, intersectionality, and cultural humility in research and practice.

### Communications Chair: Max Tokarsky



As a Thai and Polish-American from Dayton, Ohio, Max enjoys meeting and serving fellow Asian Americans who identify with multiple heritage backgrounds. As Communications officer within DoAAMH, he manages our listserv and social media accounts. He participated in the AAPA Graduate Student Leadership Institute in 2017 and brings connections to the Ohio Psychological Association and the Minority Fellowship Program of the American Psychological Association. As Communications/Membership Chair of DoAAMH, Max desires to uphold the values of the division while supporting its membership to forge long-lasting bonds of support and connection.

## Secretary-Historian: Jessica M. Benson



As an individual who identifies as biracial, Jess is happy to have found a home within the AAPA community that centers on the experiences of Asian and Pacific Islander Americans from multiple heritages. She is excited to serve as the Secretary-Historian for DoAAMH during the 2020-2022 term. Jess has held other roles within AAPA, serving as a committee co-chair and as a poster judge for the 2019 AAPA convention. Jess is currently an Assistant Professor in Psychology at St. Olaf college and conducts research examining how individuals from marginalized backgrounds cope with experiences of discrimination. She is passionate about mentoring students and collaborating with others to better understand the influence of stigma and identity on academic achievement and personal wellbeing. Through her research and mentorship, she has learned the importance of supporting and advocating for students who hold intersectional identities. She hopes to use these experiences to further the mission of DoAAMH to provide a supportive and inclusive space for all members.

## Treasurer: Danielle Godon-Decoteau



Danielle is excited and honored to serve as Treasurer of DoAAMH. She is a visiting lecturer at Mount Holyoke College in the Psychology and Education department where she teaches undergraduate classes about Asian American psychology and the effects of racism on mental health. Danielle is a Korean American transracial international adoptee. Her research explores race, ethnicity, and culture; internalized racism; transracial adoption; and Asian American mental health. She currently serves as a co-chair for the Adoption Research and Practice Special Interest Group for Division 17. In the past, Danielle has served as Treasurer on the Board of Directors for Boston Korean Adoptees, Inc. from 2014 to 2017. As a member of the Executive Committee for DoAAMH, her goals are to raise awareness about the diversity of Asian Americans and the unique needs and experiences of multiracial and adopted Asian Americans.

## Student Representative: Annabelle Atkin



Annabelle is a PhD candidate in the Family and Human Development program at Arizona State University. Being mixed race with a Taiwanese and White background, Annabelle is passionate about supporting Multiracial individuals through advocacy and research. Annabelle's research focuses on the racial socialization, racial identity, discrimination experiences, and well-being of Asian American and multiracial individuals. As the student representative, she hopes to help create a network of researchers interested in studying Asian Americans with multiple heritages to increase the visibility of and advocate for this growing population.

## Student Representative: Adam Kim



Adam Kim is a transracially, transnationally adopted Korean American and a doctoral candidate in personality psychology at University of Minnesota. His research focuses on inter-minority solidarity and coalition-building, identity politicization, and the experiences of transnationally, transracially adopted individuals as they navigate identity, race, culture, and adoption. Outside of academia, Adam helps to lead a grassroots organization focused on advancing justice and building community for adopted individuals. Adam brings his experience with insider research and his background in community organizing to his role as a student representative for DoAAMH, hoping to help the division further promote excellence in research on the experiences of APIAs with multiple heritages, as well as serve APIAs with multiple heritages within AAPA.