

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors.
Follow this format for each person. DO NOT EXCEED FIVE PAGES.

NAME: Yatsco, Andrea

eRA COMMONS USER NAME: AYATSCO

POSITION TITLE: Director of Operations, Assistant Professor, McWilliams School of Biomedical Informatics

EDUCATION/TRAINING

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	END DATE MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ	BA	12/2006	Psychology/Sociology
Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX	MA	05/2009	Criminology
Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX	PHD	05/2013	Criminal Justice

A. Personal Statement

My background and experience allow me to bring practical, clinical, educational, and managerial skills to this research opportunity and establishes me as an excellent candidate. My drive for scientific understanding paired with my compassion to create better systems with the goal of helping people is at the forefront of everything I do. I excel in my academic endeavors, and my degrees in Psychology/Sociology, Criminology, and Criminal Justice reflect diversified coursework to illustrate an ability to see the world through different, yet related, perspectives. I previously held a position as adjunct faculty at Becker College that allowed me to teach a variety of courses in the psychology, adolescence, correctional, criminal justice, and substance abuse genres. My biggest strength that sets me apart from my peers in the academic community is that I also have a wealth of personal experience working in professional positions offering direct care services. I began my counseling career in the Massachusetts Department of Correction and have also delivered residential style substance abuse treatment within the Worcester County Jail and House of Correction. Working as a counselor in a correctional environment has provided me a breadth of exposure to experiences and knowledge, allowing immersion within a culture and environment to better understand people and circumstances. I continued to expand and compliment my career with my work in the State of Vermont that involved daily interaction with at-risk youth, their families, criminal and family courts, the Department of Corrections, and community providers. My professional resume encapsulates the dynamic and multi-faceted approach needed to support direct patient care in a variety of settings and in different states and communities. Furthermore, I have acquired internationally recognized certification as a Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor (CADC), currently hold a License in Chemical Dependency Counseling (LCDC) in the state of Texas, hold a certification in Clinical Supervision (CCS), and completed coursework as a Certified Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Advocate (CMA). My biosketch will pinpoint some of the most recent work that I have done while working at UT Health Houston. My current position affords me the ability to draw on my clinical background alongside innovative research and groundbreaking projects. I have the esteemed opportunity of working for my mentor, Dr. James Langabeer, whose resume is both intimidating and encouraging for my own future in applicable research efforts to expand healthcare access and equitable public health outcomes in meaningful and scientifically driven methods. A more in-depth review of my Curriculum Vitae will highlight all the contributions I have made to the scientific field. Collectively, I have confidence that anyone can review my experience and contributions and recognize my capacity to carry out a funded research proposal that will live up to high expectations.

1. Yatsco, A. (2022, July). Addiction and justice involved populations: Science of substance use, medication assisted treatment, and coordinating systems of care. 3.0 CEU Oral presentation at Drug Impact Conference hosted by the Correctional Management Institute of Texas. Georgetown/Austin, TX.
2. Langabeer J, Yatsco A, Yeager J. (2019, September). Houston Emergency Opioid Engagement System (HEROES): A discussion around the opioid epidemic in Houston (Keynote Panel Speakers). Texas Association of Addiction Professionals (TAAP) 45th Annual State Conference; San Antonio, TX.
3. Langabeer J, Yatsco A, Champagne-Langabeer T. (2019, June) Leading with the first responder: A comprehensive approach to the opioid crisis in Houston. Academy Health (AH) Annual Research Meeting; 2019; Washington, DC.

4. Langabeer J, Yatsco A, Champagne-Langabeer T. (2019, April) Identifying and referring opioid users in comprehensive same day treatment. American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) 50th Annual Conference; Orlando, FL.

B. Positions, Scientific Appointments and Honors

Positions and Scientific Appointments

2021 -	Assistant Professor / Director of Operations, UT Health, Houston, TX
2019 - 2021	Program Manager, UT Health, Houston, Houston, TX
2018 - 2019	Post-Doctoral Fellow/Research Scientist, UT Health, Houston, TX
2017 - 2018	Family Services, State of Vermont, Barre, VT
2016 - 2017	Adjunct Professor, Becker College, Worcester, MA
2015 - 2017	Substance Counselor, Worcester County Sheriff's Department, West Boylston, MA
2013 - 2015	Female Services Counselor, Spectrum Health Systems/MA DOC, Framingham, MA
2012 - 2013	Graduate Research Assistant, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX
2009 - 2012	Graduate Research Assistant, Crime Victims' Institute / SHSU, Huntsville, TX
2008 - 2009	Administrative Assistant II, Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Huntsville, TX

C. Contribution to Science

1. My most recent clinical research work began at UT Health Houston in 2018, prior to my appointment to a faculty position in 2021. Peer-reviewed research directly resulting from the Houston Emergency Opioid Engagement System (Heroes), a national clinical trial that received original funding in December 2017, are listed below. The clinical trial has grown and adapted over time, with a recent publication that highlighted experienced stigma in mothers with an opioid use disorder.
 - a. Bakos-Block, C., Yatsco, A., Vega, F., Cohen, A. S., & Champagne-Langabeer, T. (2024). "My addiction doesn't define me" Experiences of stigma among mothers with opioid use disorder. *Pharmacoepidemiology*, 3(1), 57-68. <https://doi.org/10.3390/pharma3010004>
 - b. Langabeer, J., Champagne-Langabeer, T., Yatsco, A. J., O'Neal, M., Cardenas-Turanzas, M., Prater, S., Luber, S., Stotts, A., Fadial, T., Khraish, G., Wang, H., Bobrow, B., & Chambers, K. (2021). Feasibility and outcomes from an integrated bridge treatment program for opioid use disorder. *Journal of the American College of Emergency Physicians (JACEP)*, 2(2), e12417.
 - c. Yatsco, A., Champagne-Langabeer, T., Holder, T. F., Stotts, A. L., Langabeer, J. R. (2020). Developing interagency collaboration to address the opioid epidemic: A systematic review of joint criminal justice and healthcare initiatives. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 83, 102849. PubMed PMID: 32653668.
 - d. Yatsco, A. J., Garza, R. D., Champagne-Langabeer, T., & Langabeer, J. R. (2020). Alternatives to arrest for illicit opioid use: A joint criminal justice and healthcare treatment collaboration. *Substance Abuse Research and Treatment*, 14, 1-8. <https://doi.org/10.1177%2F1178221820953390>
2. Research emerging from the work of UT Health's HEROES project has also been presented nationally at various academic/professional conferences and my presentations have offered relevant evidence-based contributions to the field. Dispersing evidence-based research and networking at these large-scale events is crucial to driving best practices across the field of healthcare and substance treatment platforms and also has led to additional partnerships and collaboration.
 - a. Yatsco, A. (2024, March). Addiction is a brain disease: Using science to challenge stigma. 3.0 CEU Workshop presented at Alabama School of Alcohol and Other Drug Studies (ASADS). Annual Conference. Tuscaloosa, AL.
 - b. Yatsco, A. (2023, March). Treatment access in criminal justice settings: Challenges and opportunities. 1.0 CEU Oral Presentation at Texas Substance Use Symposium (TxSUS) Annual Conference. San Antonio, TX.
 - c. Yatsco, A. (2022, December). Public Health and OUD: Connecting emergency systems of care. 1.25 CEU Oral Presentation at Oklahoma Prevention and Recovery Annual Conference. Norman, OK.

- d. Langabeer J., Yatsco A., Yeager J. Houston Emergency Opioid Engagement System (HEROES): A discussion around the opioid epidemic in Houston (Keynote Panel Speakers). Texas Association of Addiction Professionals (TAAP) 45th Annual State Conference; 2019; San Antonio, TX.
3. As part of my graduate research work at Sam Houston State University, I worked alongside my mentor with the National Youth Survey Longitudinal Data set. I used that data set for my dissertation to explore the relationship between military service and longitudinal life outcomes related to delinquency and criminal offending, substance use, and intimate partner violence. Additionally, the mentorship lead to two peer-reviewed journal articles that contribute to the research on longitudinal adolescent and adult outcomes. (*publications are under maiden name, A. Weiss)
 - a. Franzese, R., Menard, S., Weiss, A., & Covey, H. (2017). Adolescent exposure to violence and adult violent victimization and offending. *Criminal Justice Review*, 42(1), 42-57.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0734016816679228>
 - b. Menard, S., Weiss, A., Franzese, R., & Covey, H. (2014). Types of adolescent exposure to violence as predictors of adult intimate partner violence. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 38(4), 627-639. PubMed PMID: 24594015.
 - b. Weiss A., An Examination of the Effects of Military Service over the Life Course on Offending Behavior and Life Outcomes (2013). [unpublished dissertation]. Sam Houston State University.
4. While working as a graduate research assistant at Sam Houston State University, I collaborated with the Crime Victims' Institute. One report focused on the victimization of intimate partner violence (IPV) and included information on replicating pilot efforts of assessing IPV in Texas. Another report examined impaired driving and the use of Ignition Interlocking Devices that included surveying judges throughout the state of Texas to assess preference and utilization of this tool for impaired driving cases. These research reports that were internally published and distributed to key stakeholders throughout the state of Texas. (*publications are under maiden name, A. Weiss)
 - a. Weiss, A., Kercher, G., (2011). Impaired driving, interlock devices, and judicial perspectives. Huntsville, TX: Crime Victims' Institute, Sam Houston State University.
 - b. Kercher, G., Weiss, A., Rufino, K., (2010). Assessing the risk of intimate partner violence. Huntsville, TX: Crime Victims' Institute, Sam Houston State University.
5. The importance of peer review to the scientific landscape is universally regarded as important to encourage authors to meet the accepted high standards of their discipline and disseminate research that avoids unwarranted claims, unacceptable interpretations or personal views, and appropriately vetted by expert review. I have served as a peer-reviewer for Journal of Interpersonal Violence, Youth & Society, International Journal of Drug Policy, Addiction Research & Theory, and International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health.

Complete List of Published Work in My Bibliography:

<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=NB5p-YAAAAJ&hl=en&oi=ao>