

Scientist of the Month



BLaST is supported by the NIH with the linked awards; TL4GM118992, RL5GM118990, UL1GM118991. UAF is an affirmative action / equal employment opportunity employer and educational institution: <https://www.alaska.edu/nondiscrimination/>

<http://alaska.edu/blast/>



Kimi Yatsushiro

Kimi, a second-year Graduate Mentoring Research Assistant (GMRA), is a fourth-year Ph.D. student in the University of Alaska Fairbanks - University of Alaska Anchorage Clinical - Community Psychology program. She was born and raised on O'ahu, Hawaii, and moved to Alaska in 2015 to gain more experience in rural mental health. She received her undergraduate degree in Psychology from the University of Hawai'i in Manoa. In her free time, she enjoys painting, reading, and cooking/burning food.

Research

Kimi's research interests span a wide range of topics, including maternal health and child development, postpartum depression, historical trauma, minority mental health, and non-Western psychological interventions. Currently she is working on a research project exploring the screening behavior of prenatal care providers in Alaska, Hawaii, and other rural/isolated communities. Her research is focused on adapting culturally sensitive postpartum wellness screenings in Alaska, utilizing data collected from her current study. Prior to joining BLaST, Kimi has worked with her previous mentors on two publications in the Encyclopedia of Couple and Family Therapy (2017 and 2018).

Mentoring

Kimi has mentored undergraduate students in many ways, as research assistant and data team leader in Dr. Kendra Campbell's Family & Preventative Health lab. Kimi's mentoring philosophy is based on a developmental approach to mentorship and supervision. Through this project and her own research, she has mentored four undergraduate students, including two from this summer in the Rural Alaska Honors Institute (RAHI) research course offered by BLaST, one BLaST Scholar, and one undergraduate student.

Teaching

Kimi's teaching experience has been varied including teaching assistantships (Psychology courses 101X, 240, 370, 440, & 485), and her leadership in the research labs. Kimi was also one of the students in the 2017 Asian American Psychological Association's inaugural Leadership Institute training in Las Vegas where she connected with other students of minority heritage for leadership development.



Above: Kimi Yatsushiro (r), is pictured with BLaST Scholar Hannah Wing (l), and two RAHI undergraduates (m) Angelica Firmin and Shaelynn Shettters in the college preparatory program, July, 2018.

