

DENÉE THOMAS MWENDWA, Ph.D.

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CURRICULUM VITAE

Education

06/2000-07/2001	Internship	Howard University Hospital, Washington, DC <i>APA-Accredited</i>
08/1999-08/2003	Ph.D.	Howard University, Washington, DC Department of Psychology <i>Clinical Psychology, APA-Accredited</i>
08/1996-08/1999	M.S.	Howard University, Washington, DC
08/1986-05/1990	A.B.	Trinity College, Washington, DC

Academic Positions

06/2017 – Present	<i>Professor</i> , Department of Psychology Howard University
05/2013 – 05-2017	<i>Associate Professor</i> , Department of Psychology Howard University
08/2007– 05/2013	<i>Assistant Professor</i> , Department of Psychology Howard University

Awards and Honors

04/2016	Howard University College of Arts and Sciences Excellence in Graduate Student Mentoring Award
08/2014 –present	National Science Foundation HU-ADVANCE-IT Fellow
07/2012-07/2013	State University of New York Downstate PRIDE Summer Institute Fellow, <i>National Institutes of Health, National Heart Lung Blood Institute</i>

RESEARCH

*indicates graduate student/advisee author

Publications

Sims, R.C., Cole, A.P., *Ali, M.K., Whitfield, K.E., & Skinner, J., **Mwendwa, D.T.** (2016). Examining the influence of measures of adiposity on cognitive function in middle age and older African Americans. *Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology*, *31*, 23-28.

*Ali, M., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Sims, R., Ricks, M., Callender, C.O., & Sumner, A. (2016). Age at immigration and kidney function among self-identified healthy Africans in the United States. *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*, *18*, 194-201.

Cole, A.P., Gill, J.M., Shivers, C.A., Fletcher, K.D., & **Mwendwa, D.T.** (2015). Brief Report: Understanding African-American College Students' H1N1 vaccination decisions. *Health Psychology*, *34*, 1185-1190.

Keen, L.D., Turner, A., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Callender, C.O., & Alfonso, A.L. (2015). Depressive symptomatology and respiratory sinus arrhythmia in a non-clinical sample of middle-age African Americans. *Biological Psychology*, *108*, 56-61.

*Gholson, G.K., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Sims, R.C., Callender, C.O., & Campbell, A.L. (2015). The combined influence of psychological factors on biomarkers of renal functioning in African Americans. *Ethnicity & Disease*, *25*, 117-122.

Sims, R.C., *Bennett, N.K., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, *Ali, M.K., *Levy, S.A., Callender, C.O. & Campbell, A.L. (2014). Executive functioning and negative eating behaviors in severely obese African Americans. *Ethnicity & Disease*, *24*, 328- 334.

*Ali, M.K., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Sims, R.C., & Whitfield, K.E. (2014). Mindfulness as a potential factor against negative affect in older African Americans. *Journal of Depression and Anxiety*, *S1*: 001. doi:10.4172/2167 1044.S1-001.

Mwendwa, D.T., *Ali, M.K., Sims, R.C., Lipscomb, M.W., *Levy, S.A., Callender, C.O., Campbell, A.L. (2013). Depressive and hostile personality styles are associated with inflammatory markers of cardiovascular disease in African Americans. *Brain, Behavior, & Immunity*, *28*, 72-78.

Mwendwa D.T., *Ali, M., Sims, R., Madhere, S., *Levy, S., Callender, C., & Campbell, A.L. (2013). Psychometric properties of the Cook Medley Hostility Scale and its association with inflammatory markers in African Americans. *Psychology, Health, and Medicine*, *18*, 431-444.

Sims, R.C., *Levy-Massey, S.A., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Callender, C.O., and Campbell, A.L. The influence of functional social support on executive functioning in middle-aged African Americans. (2011). *Aging, Neuropsychology, and Cognition* *18*(3), 1-18.

Mwendwa, D.T., *Gholson, G., Sims, R.C., *Levy-Massey, S.A., *Ali, M., Harrell, J., Callender, C.O., & Campbell, A.L. (2011). Coping with perceived racism: A significant factor

in the development of obesity in African-American women? *Journal of the National Medical Association*, 103, 602-608.

Mwendwa, D.T., Sims, R.C., Madhere, S., Thomas, J., Keen, L.D., Callender, C.O., and Campbell, A.L. (2011). The influence of coping with perceived racism and stress on lipid levels in African Americans. *Journal of the National Medical Association*, 103, 594-601.

Sims, R.C., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, *Ali, M.A., Thomas, J., Callender, C.O., & Campbell, A.L. (2010). Depressive Symptomatology: Relations to C-reactive protein in African-American Men, *Journal of Best Practices in Health Professions Diversity: Research, Education and Policy*, 3, 43-57.

Berg-Cross, L., **Mwendwa, D. T.**, *Crump, S. L., & *Griffith, R. (2007). Graduate school practica in primary care settings: Building identity and competencies. *The Register Report*. Washington, D.C: The National Register.

Manuscripts in Preparation

*Bygrave, D., Sims Wright, R. & **Mwendwa, D.T.** The influence of weight status on flow velocity and cognitive flexibility in young African-American women.

Winston-Proctor, C.E., Stitt, R.L., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Smith, S.T., Whetsel-Ribeau, P., & Hatley, L. Howard University ADVANCE-IT Experience Study: What motivates and prevents healthy living of STEM women faculty?

Mwendwa, D.T., *Herren, O., Wright, R.S., Fullum, T.M., Lipscomb, M.L., Callender, C.O., & Campbell, A.L. The biomechanisms that influence the effects of depressive symptoms on cognitive functioning in obese African Americans. *Appetite*.

Callender, C.O., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, *Gholson, G.K., Sims Wright, R., Keen, L.D., Adesibikan, B., Madhere, S., Apprey, V., Bonney, G., Micahel, M., Magnus-Lawson, B., Ivy, G., Idris-Suleiman, L., Hernandez, A., Herren, O., & Campbell, A.L. BMI, Waist Size, GFR: Black donor risk? *Ethnicity & Disease*

Winston-Proctor, C.E., Stitt, R.L., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Smith, S.T., Whetsel-Ribeau, P., & Hatley, L. HU ADVANCE-IT: Academic career stories of women STEM faculty.

Whitfield, K.E., Bruce, M., Sims Wright, R., Sims, M., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, & Aiken-Morgan, A. Cognition and CVD risk and mortality: Evidence from the Jackson Heart Study.

Refereed Published Abstracts

Herren, O.M., Levy, S., Ali, M., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Sims, R.C., Callender, C.O., & Campbell, A.L. (2013). The Relation between spirituality and religiosity on executive function in African Americans. *Psychosomatic Medicine*, 75(3), A-123.

Sims, R.C. & **Mwendwa, D.T.** Cognitive function in older African Americans: the skinny on fat. (2013). *The Gerontologist*, 53, (SI), 308.

Mitchell, D.S., Herren, O., Bygrave, D.C., N., Tudose, A., Warner, B., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, & Sims, R.C. (2014). Perceived stress, trait mindfulness, and memory associations among African Americans. *Psychosomatic Medicine*, A88.

Levy, S.T., Sharp, T., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, & Sims, R.C. (2013). Trait mindfulness and depressive symptomatology relations among African Americans. *Psychosomatic Medicine*, 75(3), A-61.

Sims, R.C. & **Mwendwa, D.T.** (2012). Cardiovascular and psychosocial influences on cognitive function in the S.O.C.A. study. *The Gerontologist*, 52(S1), 473.

Mwendwa, D.T., Bennett, N., Sims, R.C., Callender, C.O., & Campbell, A.L. (2012). Neurocognitive influences on negative eating behaviors among obese African Americans. *American Psychosomatic Society: Symptoms and Patient Reported Outcomes*, A-39.

Callender, C.O., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Sims, R.C., Bonney, G., Apprey, V., Lawson, Michael, M., & Campbell, A.L. (2012). Is There a Need for a Special Consent Form for African-American Kidney Donors? *Abstract published in the XXIV International Congress of the Transplantation Society*.

Ali, M., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Sims, R.C., Madhere, S., Levy, S., Gholson, G., Callender, C.O., & Campbell, AL. (2011). Empirically derived components of the Cook-Medley Scale and inflammation in African Americans. *American Psychosomatic Society: Biobehavioral Processes and Health: Understanding Mechanisms, Implementing Interventions*, A-47.

Levy, S., Sims, R.C., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Ali, M.K., Gholson, G., Callender, C.O., & Campbell, A.L. (2011). Coping with perceived racism and dispositional hostility indicators of cardiovascular disease risk in African Americans. *American Psychosomatic Society: Biobehavioral Processes and Health: Understanding Mechanisms, Implementing Interventions*, A-19.

Mwendwa, D.T., Callender, C.O., Sims, R.C., Hernandez, A., Mouton, C., & Campbell, A.L. (2010). High BMI, increased waist circumference, and elevated GFR: A new relative contraindication to African American kidney donation? Abstract published in *The XXIII International Congress of the Transplantation Society*, Supplement to Transplantation, 90, 2620.

National/International Conference Presentations

Herren, O., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Callender, C.O., & Campbell, A.L. (2016). The influence of spirituality on executive functioning in African Americans with depressive symptoms. 124th American Psychological Association's Annual Conference,

Denver, Colorado.

Bell, K.A., Herren, O., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Harrell, J.P., Campbell, A., & Hicks, L.H. (2016). The influence of depressive symptoms on hostility and HRV in African-American women. 124th American Psychological Association's Annual Conference, Denver, Colorado.

Winston-Proctor, C.E., Stitt, R.L., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Smith, S.T., Whetsel-Ribeau, P., & Hatley, L. (2016). Howard University ADVANCE-IT Experience Study: What motivates and prevents healthy living of women STEM faculty? 2016 National Science Foundation/GSE Program Workshop. Baltimore, MD.

Stitt, R.L., Winston-Proctor, C.E., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, & Smith, S.T. (2016). The Howard University ADVANCE-IT Experience Study: Unmasking Researcher subjectivity in the context of federally funded STEM equity institutional transformation. 2016 Society for Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology. Ramapo, NJ.

Herren, O., Lipscomb, M., Bygrave, D., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Callender, C.C., & Campbell, A.L. (2016). The biomechanisms that influence effects of depressive symptoms on cognitive functioning in African Americans. 37th Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions of the Society of Behavioral Medicine, Washington, D.C.

Ali, M., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, O'Connor, M.Y., Thoreson, C.K., Ricks, M., & Sumner, A.E. (2014). Being positive in the obesity epidemic: Optimism is linked to lower BMI in overweight and obese African Immigrants. 72nd Annual Scientific Meeting of American Psychosomatic Society, San Francisco, CA.

Mwendwa, D.T., Ali, M., Gholson, G., & Sims, R. (2014). The influence of sleep on the association between depressive symptoms and BMI in Middle-Aged African Americans. 72nd Annual Scientific Meeting of American Psychosomatic Society American Psychosomatic Society, San Francisco, CA.

Ali, M., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, O'Connor, M.Y., Thoreson, C.K., Ricks, M., & Sumner, A.E. (2014). Thinking of food is associated with body mass index in African immigrants. 35th Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions of the Society of Behavioral Medicine, Philadelphia, PA.

Ali, M., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Ramsey, N., Ricks, M., & Sumner, A. (2013). Optimism: A health protective factor in African immigrants? 121st American Psychological Association's Annual Convention, Honolulu, HI.

Levy, S.A., Mitchell, S.B., Jones, V.L., Bichay, K., Swain, D., Matthews, B., Sims, R.C., & **Mwendwa, D.T.** (2013). Psychometric Properties of the Mindful Attention Awareness Scale in a College-Student Sample. 121st Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association. Honolulu, HI.

Levy, S.A., Sharp, T., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, & Sims, R.C. (2013). Trait Mindfulness and Depressive Symptomatology Relations among African Americans. 71st Annual Meeting of the American Psychosomatic Society. Miami, Florida.

Herren, O., Levy, S., Ali, M., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Sims, R., Callender, C. & Campbell, A.L. (2013). The relation between religiosity on executive function in African Americans. 71st Annual Meeting of the American Psychosomatic Society. Miami, Florida.

Sims, R.C. & **Mwendwa, D.T.** Cognitive function in older African Americans: the skinny on fat. Gerontological Society of America 66th Annual Scientific Meeting. New Orleans, LA, November 2013.

Ali, M., Keen, L., Bygrave, D., Jones, V., Gholson, G., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Sims, R., Callender, C., Hicks, M., Sumner, A. (2012). Chronic Kidney Disease Risk In African Immigrants. 33rd Annual Meeting of the Society of Behavioral Medicine, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Brown, T.N., Bennett, N.K., Levy, S.A., Mitchell, D., Smith, S., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Sims, R.C. (2012). The Relation between Trait Mindfulness and Inhibition in A Community-Based Sample of African Americans. 33rd Annual Meeting of the Society of Behavioral Medicine, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Mwendwa, D.T., Bennett, N., Sims, R.C., Callender, C.O., & Campbell, A.L. (2012). Neurocognitive influences on negative eating behaviors among obese African Americans Poster presented at the 70th Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Psychosomatic Society. Athens, Greece, March 2012.

Ali, M., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Sims, R.C., Madhere, S., Gholson, G., Levy-Massey, S., Callender, C.O., & Campbell, A. (2011). Empirically Derived Components of the Cook-Medley Scale and Inflammation in African Americans. 69th Annual Meeting of the American Psychosomatic Society. San Antonio, Texas.

Ali, M., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Sims, R.C., Madhere, S., Callender, C.O., & Campbell, A. (2011). Empirically Derived Components of Hostility in a Community-Based Sample of African Americans. 119th Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, Washington, D.C.

Levy-Massey, S.A., Sims, R.C., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Ali, M.K., Gholson, G., Callender, C.O., & Campbell, A.L. (2011). Coping with Perceived Racism and Dispositional Hostility as Indicators of Cardiovascular Disease Risk in African Americans. 69th Annual Meeting of the American Psychosomatic Society. San Antonio, Texas.

Levy-Massey, S.A., Sims, R.C., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Callender, C.O. & Campbell, A.L. (2011). The Influence of Social Support on Executive Functioning in a Community-Based Sample of African Americans. 119th Annual Convention of

the American Psychological Association, Washington, DC.

Mwendwa, D.T., Callender, C.O., Sims, R. C., Mouton, C., Hernandez, A., and Campbell, A. (2010). High BMI, increased waist circumference and elevated GFR: A new relative contraindication to African American kidney donation? Poster presented at the XXIII International Congress of the Transplantation Congress, Vancouver.

Gholson, G., Ali, M., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Sims, R.C., Thomas, J., Callender, C.O., and Campbell, A.L., (2010). Race-Related Stress and Hostility: What underlies obesity in African-American women? Poster presented at the International Society on Hypertension in Blacks Annual Conference. Washington, DC.

Ali, M., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Thomas, J., Callender, C., Campbell, A. (2009, April). State/trait depression and anger/hostility as predictors of Interleukin-6 levels in African Americans. 15th Annual Black Graduate Conference in Psychology, New York, NY.

Thomas, J., **Mwendwa, D.T.**, Madhere, S., Morehead, D., Ali, M., Callender, C.O., & Campbell, A. (2008, December). Biopsychosocial predictors of obesity in African Americans. Poster presented at the National Institutes of Health Summit: The Science of Eliminating Health Disparities. National Harbor, MD.

Grant

Under Review

Funding Sponsor: Office of the Provost Howard University

Grant Title: *Psychosocial Neurocognitive Profiles of African-American Bariatric Patients*

Principle Investigator: Denée T. Mwendwa, Ph.D.

Co-Principal Investigator: Michael Lipscomb, Ph.D.

Co-Principal Investigator: Alfonso L. Campbell, Ph.D.

Funding Amount: \$26,250

Funding Sponsor: College of Medicine

Grant Title: *An Examination of Exercise Preferences and Correlates of Exercise Among African-American Prostate Cancer Survivors*

Principle Investigator: Teletia R. Taylor, Ph.D.

Collaborator: Denée T. Mwendwa, Ph.D.

Collaborator: Tamaro Hudson, Ph.D.

Funding Amount: \$85,150

Funding Sponsor: American Cancer Society

Grant Title: *Psychosocial Sequelae of Breast Cancer in African-American Breast Cancer Survivors*

Principle Investigator: Teletia R. Taylor, Ph.D.

Collaborator: Denée T. Mwendwa, Ph.D.

Funding Amount:

Funded Intramural Grants

Funding Sponsor: Office of the Provost Howard University

Grant Title: *Cardiovascular Risk and Cognitive Function in a Community-based Sample of Middle Age and Older African Americans*

Funding Amount: \$15,000

Principle Investigator: Denée T. Mwendwa, Ph.D.

Funding Sponsor: Office of the Provost Howard University

Grant Title: *The Information-Motivation Behavioral Skills Model of Medication Adherence in African Americans with Hypertension*

Funding Amount: \$50,000

Principle Investigator: Denée T. Mwendwa, Ph.D.

TEACHING

Graduate Level Course Instruction

Individual Psychotherapy II (2017-Present)

Individual Psychotherapy I (2007-Present)

Health Psychology (2009-Present)

Group Psychotherapy (2007-2014)

Undergraduate Level Course Instruction

Introduction to Clinical Psychology (2007-2013)

Psychology of Gender (2007-2009)

Abnormal Psychology (2007-Present)

Health Psychology (2015-Present)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Ad-Hoc Reviewer (*On-going*)

Annals of Behavioral Medicine

Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health

Psychoneuroendocrinology

Psychosomatic Medicine

Psychology, Health, & Medicine

Ethnicity & Health

Mentor

Howard University College of Arts and Sciences Honors Program, Mentor (2008-Present)

Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program, Mentor (2009-Present)

Howard University National Work Force Diversity Core Mentorship Faculty in STEM &

Biomedical Sciences for the Advanced College Summer Enrichment Program (ACSEP)
(2016-Present)

College and University Committee Service

- College of Arts and Science Academic Policy, Standards, and General Education Committee, *Member* (2011-Present)
- Graduate School Curriculum Committee, *Member* (2011-Present)
- Howard University Research Day, *Evaluator* (2013-Present)
- Howard University Faculty Scholars and Coaches Program, *Scholar Coach* (2016-Present)

Departmental Service

- Graduate Admissions Committee, *Chair* (2013-Present)
- Curriculum Committee, *Member* (2012-Present)
- Appointments, Promotion, and Tenure Committee, *Member* (2013-Present)
- Assessment Committee, *Member* (2013-Present)
- Faculty Search Committee, *Member* (2013-2015)
- Annual Leslie H. Hicks Research Symposium, *Evaluator* (2010-Present)

Professional Associations

American Psychological Association

Division 38, Health Psychology

Division 5, Quantitative and Qualitative Methods

Society of Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology

American Psychosomatic Society

Society of STEM Women of Color

Society of Behavioral Medicine

Trinity College Alumni Association

Howard University Alumni Association