

Current Employment

- 2011- **Private Practice Psychiatrist**
- 2012- **New York University
Tisch Hospital**
Clinical Instructor in the Department of Psychiatry

Previous Employment

- 2009-2012 **Lenox Hill Hospital**
Assistant Attending Psychiatrist

Education and Training

- 2012 - present **Child and Adolescent Psychodynamic Psychotherapy Program**
Columbia Psychoanalytic Center
- 2013 **Dialectical Behavior Therapy Intensive Training Course**
Behavioral Tech, LLC
- 2012 **New York Presbyterian Hospital**
Columbia University/Cornell University
Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship
- 2010 **New York Presbyterian Hospital**
Payne Whitney Clinic, Cornell University
General Adult Psychiatry Residency
- 2007 **M.D. , Cornell University Medical College**
- 2006 **Ph.D. in Neuroscience, The Rockefeller University**
Laboratories of:
Dr. David Silbersweig, Functional Neuroimaging Laboratory, Department of Psychiatry,
Weill Cornell Medical School
Dr. Bruce McEwen, Laboratory of Neuroendocrinology, The Rockefeller University
- 1998 **Yale University, New Haven, CT**
B.S., *summa cum laude*
Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry

Honors, Fellowships, and Awards

- 2009-2010 Columbia Psychoanalytic Fellowship
- 2009-2010 DeWitt Wallace Research Scholar Program

2007-2009	Samuel W. Perry III, M.D. Award, Research Honorarium, Payne Whitney Clinic
2007	The Oskar Diethelm Prize for Excellence in Psychiatry, Weill Medical College of Cornell University
2006-2007	The Frances L. Loeb Medical Scientist Fellowship
2003-2005	The William Randolph Hearst Endowed Scholarship
2001-2003	NIH Training Grant: Biological Basis of Behavior (T32 07524)
1998-2001	NIH Medical Scientist Training Program Fellowship
2005-2006	(MSTP Grant. GM 07739)
1998	Phi Beta Kappa, Yale University

Professional Organizations and Licensure

American Psychiatric Association
 American Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
 American Medical Association
 New York Full and Unrestricted Licensure
 Board Certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology in General Psychiatry
 Board Certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

Research Experience

Clinical Research

2007
 Jan.-Mar. **The University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia**
 Dr. Marie-Paule Austin
Perinatal psychiatry: review of peri-natal (pre-partum and post-partum) depression screening.

Systems Neuroscience and Functional Neuroimaging

2009-2011 *Functional and Structural MRI of the Menstrual Cycle and premenstrual dysphoric disorder (PMDD) to elucidate the neurobiological substrates of PMDD symptomatology.*
 Ongoing collaborations with the laboratories of Dr. David Silbersweig and Dr. Emily Stern at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, MA and of Dr. Francisco Xavier Castellanos and Dr. Michael Milham at NYU.

2000-2006 **The Rockefeller University, Laboratory of Neuroendocrinology**
 Laboratory of Dr. Bruce McEwen (Ph.D. thesis lab)

2000-2008 **Weill Medical College of Cornell University, Department of Psychiatry**
 Laboratory of Dr. David Silbersweig (Ph.D. thesis lab)
Functional and Structural MRI of the Menstrual Cycle and premenstrual dysphoric disorder (PMDD) to elucidate the neurobiological substrates of PMDD symptomatology.
Functional and Structural MRI of Panic Disorder and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder to elucidate the neurobiological substrates of anxiety disorders

Molecular and Cellular Neurobiology

1999
 Summer **Sloan-Kettering Institute, Department of Pharmacology**
 Laboratory of Dr. Gavril Pasternak

Immunohistochemistry to explore distribution of varying opiate receptor splice variants in murine brain.

1998
Summer **The Rockefeller University**
Laboratory of Dr. Paul Greengard
Yeast two hybrid screen to further flush out signalling pathways in medial striatal spiny dopaminergic neurons; protein purification.

1994 and 1995
Summer **SUNY Stony Brook, School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry**
Laboratory of Dr. Robert Hitzemann
Genetic markers and density of D2 receptors in brain tissue of mice bred for response and non-response to haloperidol.

Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry

1996-1998 **Yale University, Department of Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry**
Laboratory of Dr. Steven Smith
Mutagenesis based on computer modeling and energy minimizations to explore physiology of membrane proteins using membrane NMR.

1997
Summer **Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Center for Functional Imaging**
Laboratory of Dr. Henry VanBrocklin
Radionuclide development for in vivo positron-emission tomography studies.

Journal Peer-Review Experience

2006 British Journal of Psychiatry
2005 Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS); Biological Psychiatry

Teaching Experience

2012 - **New York University Medical Center. Tisch Hospital.**
Supervising and teaching NYU psychiatry residents and medical students.

2007 - 2012 **New York Presbyterian Hospital**
Supervising and teaching Cornell medical students as a resident.

2001 - 2003 Fall **Weill Medical College of Cornell University**
Leader for second year medical student Brain & Mind course journal club.

2001 - 2005 **Functional Neuroimaging Laboratory**
NIMH Summer Educational Program, Weill Medical College of Cornell University
Taught functional and structural neuroanatomy, fundamentals of functional magnetic resonance imaging, and fundamentals of research psychiatric diagnosis (using SCID-IV) to summer students of all levels (high-school, college, medical, PhD, post-doctoral, and fellows).

Published

Protopopescu X and Gerber AJ. (2013, January). Bridging the Gap Between Neuroscientific and Psychodynamic Models in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. In *Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Clinics of North America. Psychodynamic Approaches to Psychopathology*, Vol 1: 1-31. Editors Ritvo R and Henderson SW. Consulting Editor Trivedi HK.

Protopopescu X, Austin M-P, Reilly N, Barnett B (2012) Screening and psychosocial assessment for perinatal depression, distress, and dysfunction in: [Perinatal Mental Health: A clinical guide](#) edited by Colin R Martin (Kindle Edition - Feb 8, 2012) - Kindle eBook

Tuescher O, Protopopescu X, Pan H, Cloitre M, Butler T, Goldstein M, Root JC, Engelien A, Furman D, Silverman M, Yang Y, Gorman J, LeDoux J, Silbersweig D, Stern E. (2011). Differential activity of subgenual cingulate and brainstem in panic disorder and PTSD. *J Anxiety Disord.* 25(2): 251-7_

Protopopescu X, Butler T, Pan H, Root J, Altemus M, Tuescher O, Polanecsky M, McEwen B, Silbersweig D, Stern E. (2008). Hippocampal Structural Changes across the Menstrual Cycle. *Hippocampus.* 18:985-988

Protopopescu X, Tuescher O, Pan H, Epstein J, Root J, Chang L, Altemus M, Polanecsky M, McEwen B, Stern E, Silbersweig D. (2008 May). Toward a Functional Neuroanatomy of Premenstrual Dysphoric Disorder. *Journal of Affective Disorders.* 108(1-2):87-94

Butler T, Pan H, Tuescher O, Engelien A, Goldstein M, Epstein J, Weisholtz D, Root J, Protopopescu X, Cunningham-Bussell A, Chang L, Xie X, Chen Q, Phelps E, Ledoux J, Stern E, Silbersweig D. (2007 Nov). Human fear-related motor neurocircuitry. *Neuroscience.* 150(1):1-7

Silverman M, Loudon H, Safier M, Protopopescu X, Leiter G, Goldstein M. (2007). Neural dysfunction in postpartum depression: An fMRI pilot study. *CNS Spectrums.* 12:853-862.

Protopopescu X, Pan H, Tuescher O, Cloitre M, Goldstein M, Engelien A, Yang Y, Gorman J, LeDoux J, Stern E, Silbersweig D. (2006, Mar 20). Increased Brainstem Volume in Panic Disorder: A Voxel-Based Morphometric Study. *Neuroreport.* 17(4):361-3

Protopopescu X, Pan H, Altemus M, Tuescher O, Polanecsky M, McEwen B, Silbersweig D, Stern E. (2005, Nov 1). Orbitofrontal cortex activity related to emotional processing changes across the menstrual cycle. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America.* 102(44): 16060-5

Protopopescu X, Pan H, Tuescher O, Cloitre M, Goldstein M, Engelien W, Epstein J, Yang Y, Gorman J, LeDoux J, Silbersweig D, Stern E. (2005). Differential Time-Courses and Specificity of Amygdala Activation in PTSD Subjects and Normal Controls. *Biological Psychiatry.* 57:464-473

Butler, T., Pan, H., Epstein, J., Protopopescu, X., Tuescher, O., Goldstein, Cloitre, M., Gorman, J., E., Ledoux, J., M., Stern, E. & Silbersweig, D. (2005, Aug 1). Fear-related activity in subgenual anterior cingulate differs between men and women. *Neuroreport.* 16(11):1233-1236

Public Policy

Wrote literature review for Australian national depression initiative:

beyondblue: the national depression initiative. (2008). Screening and assessment in the perinatal period for women experiencing, or at risk of, depression, psychological distress, and dysfunction: A review for the *beyondblue* Perinatal Mental Health Program. Appendix 3 in: *beyondblue* Perinatal Mental Health National Action Plan (NAP).

Presentations

“Functional MRI of PMDD and the Menstrual Cycle” X. Protopopescu, H. Pan, O. Tuescher, M. Altemus, M. Polaneczky, B. McEwen, E. Stern, D. Silbersweig. Society of Biological Psychiatry. 2006. Toronto, Canada.

Posters and Abstracts

“Differential Amygdalar, Orbitofrontal and Ventral Striatal Activity in Premenstrual Dysphoric Disorder: an fMRI-Study” X. Protopopescu, H. Pan, O. Tuescher, J. Root, L. Chang, M. Altemus, M. Polaneczky, B. McEwen, E. Stern, D. Silbersweig. Organization of Human Brain Mapping (OHBM). June 2006. Florence, Italy. *NeuroImage*, Volume 31, Suppl. 1

“Association Between Frontolimbic Function and Cortisol Levels in Response to Traumatic Stimuli” J. Root, O. Tuescher, H. Pan, X. Protopopescu, M. Goldstein, M. Silverman, J. Epstein, M. Altemus, M. Cloitre, J. LeDoux, B. McEwen, E. Stern, D. Silbersweig. OHBM. June 2006. Florence, Italy. NeuroImage, Volume 31, Suppl. 1

“Increased brainstem volume in panic disorder: a voxel-based morphometric study” X. Protopopescu, H. Pan, O. Tuescher, M. Cloitre, M. Goldstein, A. Engelien, Y. Yang, J. Gorman, J. LeDoux, D. Silbersweig, E. Stern. 35th Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience. November 2005.

“Dissociative memory loss and trauma-selective verbal memory in PTSD: an fMRI study” D. Zimmerman, O. Tuescher, X. Protopopescu, H. Pan, M. Goldstein, J. Epstein, Y. Yang, M. Cloitre, J. Gorman, J. LeDoux, E. Stern, D. Silbersweig. 35th Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience. November 2005.

“Psychological and physiological distress in PTSD: a functional MRI study.” O. Tuescher, X. Protopopescu, H. Pan, D. Zimmerman, A. Engelien, M. Goldstein, C. Klein, J. Epstein, Y. Yang, M. Cloitre, J. Gorman, E. Phelps, J. LeDoux, , E. Stern, D. Silbersweig. 35th Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience. November 2005.

“A silent event-related 3T fMRI study of gender differences in processing spoken words” A. Engelien, O. Tuescher, D. Zimmerman, H. Pan, T. Butler, M. Silverman, X. Protopopescu, W. Engelien, Y. Yang, E. Stern, D. Silbersweig. OHBM. June 2005. Toronto, NeuroImage, Volume 26, Issue 1, Suppl. 1

“The fMRI Correlates of Dissociative Memory Loss and Trauma-selective Verbal Memory in PTSD: A Paradoxical Convergence” D. Zimmerman*, O. Tüscher*, X. Protopopescu, H. Pan, M. Goldstein, J. Epstein, Y. Yang, M. Cloitre, J. Gorman, J. LeDoux, W. Hermans, E. Stern, D. Silbersweig (* joint first authors) OHBM. June 2005. Toronto, NeuroImage, Volume 26, Issue 1, Suppl. 1

“Gender differences in subgenual anterior cingulate cortex activity during instructed fear” T. Butler, H. Pan, J. Epstein, X. Protopopescu, O. Tuescher, M. Goldstein, M. Cloitre, Almut Engelien, Yihong Yang1, E. Phelps, J. Goreman, J. Ledoux, D. Silbersweig, E. Stern. OHBM. June 2005. Toronto, NeuroImage, Volume 26, Issue 1, Suppl. 1

“Substrates of anticipatory anxiety in the visual cortex” M. Silverman, O. Tuescher, H. Pan, X. Protopopescu, M. Goldstein, A. Engelien, J. Epstein, Y. Yang, J. Gorman, M. Cloitre, J. LeDoux, E. Phelps, E. Stern, D. Silbersweig. OHBM. June 2005. Toronto, NeuroImage, Volume 26, Issue 1, Suppl. 1

“Amygdala Activation to PTSD Related Words Follows an Inverse Time-Course in PTSD vs Normal Subjects.” X. Protopopescu, H. Pan, M. Goldstein, O. Tuescher, M. Cloitre, J. Gorman, J. LeDoux, W. Engelien, D. Silbersweig, E. Stern. OHBM. June 2004. Budapest, NeuroImage, Volume 22, Issue 1, Suppl. 1

“Amygdalar and orbitofrontal dysfunction in panic disorder: an fMRI study” A. Engelien, O. Tüscher, H. Pan, J. Gorman, M. Cloitre, M. Goldstein, X. Protopopescu, Y. Yang, J. Epstein, W. Engelien, H. Gu, H. Hochberg, E. Phelps, J. LeDoux, , E. Stern, D. Silbersweig. APA Annual Meeting. 2004. New York, NY.

“Anxiety and the search for safety: An fMRI study.” M. Silverman, O. Tuescher, H. Pan, X. Protopopescu, M. Goldstein, E. Stern, D. Silbersweig. 2004. Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Science. 45 (4), Suppl.

“PTSD related linguistic probes activate a mesotemporal limbic network in PTSD subjects in a time dependent manner” X. Protopopescu, H. Pan, M. Goldstein, M. Cloitre, J. Gorman, J. LeDoux, Y. Yang, W. Engelien, D. Silbersweig, E. Stern. The 9th International Conference on Functional Mapping of the Human Brain. June 2003. New York, NY

“Fearful Response to a Safe Condition in Panic Disorder: Abnormal Amygdalar and Orbitofrontal Activity with an Anticipatory Anxiety fMRI Paradigm” E. Stern, M. Cloitre, H. Pan, J. Gorman, M. Goldstein, X. Protopopescu, Y. Yang, J. Epstein, W. Engelien, H. Gu, A. Engelien, H. Hochberg, E. Phelps, J. LeDoux, D. Silbersweig. The 9th International Conference on Functional Mapping of the Human Brain. June 2003. New York, NY