



The Human Experience: Research, Creative Work, and Interdisciplinary Dialogue

Annual Spring Conference Office of Research and Graduate Education Pace University

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

NYC Campus

This inclusive conference brings together scholars, artists, practitioners, and graduate students from across disciplines to explore the human experience through research, creative work, and interdisciplinary dialogue. Participants exchange ideas, share innovative projects, and build new collaborations that bridge fields and connect universities with broader communities. The program highlights diverse perspectives to deepen conversations around today's most pressing social, cultural, and technological challenges. Presentations and discussions span themes such as collaboration and community engagement, creativity and pedagogy, behavior and health, interdisciplinary scholarship, technological innovation, and other work that advances understanding of the contemporary human experience.

Conference Program Chair

Anna Beskin, PhD (Director of Faculty and Graduate Research, Office of Research and Graduate Education)

Conference Associate Program Chair

Manaswi Soni, MS (Graduate Research Program Coordinator, Office of Research and Graduate Education)

Conference Track Chairs

Collaboration and Community Engagement Co-Chairs: **Garrett FitzGerald, PhD** (Assistant Professor, Peace and Justice Studies Program, Dyson, NYC) and **Anne Toomey, PhD** (Associate Professor, Environmental Studies, Dyson, NYC)

Creativity and Pedagogy Co-Chairs: **Amanda Flynn, Ed.D., M.Ed., MM** (Adjunct Assistant Professor, Program Head Pace Musical Theatre, Sands, NYC; PAVA-Recognized Vocologist) and **Tanya Wiggins, EdD** (Associate Professor, School of Education, NYC)

Behavior, Health, and Society Co-Chairs: **Nikita Krishnan, PhD** (Clinical Assistant Professor, Dyson, Pleasantville), **Barbara A. Mowder, PhD** (Professor, Psychology Department, Dyson, NYC; Director, Parent Child Institute), and **Michael Tursi, PhD** (Assistant Professor, Psychology, Dyson, Pleasantville)

Interdisciplinary Collaboration Co-Chairs: **Maria Iacullo-Bird, PhD** (Assistant Provost for Research, Center for Undergraduate Research Experiences; Clinical Professor of History, Dyson, NYC) and **Erica Johnson, PhD** (Professor and Associate Chair, English, Dyson, NYC)

Technology and Innovation Co-Chairs: **Julia Eisenberg, PhD** (Professor, Undergraduate Program Chair, Management and Management Science, Lubin, Pleasantville) and **Jessica Magaldi, JD** (Professor, Legal Studies and Taxation, Lubin, NYC)

Graduate Student Submissions and Posters Co-Chairs: **Poonam Doshi, PhD** (Assistant Professor, Psychology; Program Director, PhD in Mental Health Counseling, Dyson, Pleasantville), **Christopher Godfrey, PhD** (Associate Professor; Director, Clinical Psychology (Health Care Emphasis) PhD Program, Dyson, NYC) and **Sharon Wexler, PhD, RN, FNGNA, FNYAM** (Professor and Department Chairperson, Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

General Conference Planning Committee

David Paul Benjamin, PhD (Professor; Director of PhD program in Computer Science, Seidenberg, NYC), **Sean Coughlin** (AVP, Public Affairs, NYC), **Daniel Farkas, PhD** (Professor, Information Technology, Seidenberg, Pleasantville), **Paul Griffin, PhD** (Associate Professor; Department Chairperson, Psychology, Dyson, Pleasantville), **Sethu Karthikeyan, PhD** (Associate Professor, Communication Sciences and Disorders, College of Health Professions, NYC), **Patrick McGuigan, DPS** (Clinical Professor; Director, Doctoral Program in Business, Lubin, Pleasantville), **Margot Pollans, JD** (Gilbert and Sarah Kerlin Distinguished Professor of Environmental Law; Faculty Director, Pace Food Law Center, Joseph P. D'Alessandro Faculty Scholar, Haub Law, WP), **Christine Romano, PhD** (Assistant Professor, MS in Counseling, Dyson, Pleasantville), **Sonia Suchday, PhD** (University Director of Research and Graduate Education, Office of Research and Graduate Education; Director of Operations, The Pace Center for Global Health; Professor, Psychology, Dyson, NYC), **Denise Tahara, PhD** (Department Chairperson and Associate Professor, Health Science Director, Health Informatics, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville), **Rebecca Tekula, PhD** (Interim Associate Provost of External Engagement and Faculty Opportunity/ Executive Director, Wilson Center for Social Entrepreneurship), **Michele Zaccario, PhD** (Professor and Department Chairperson, Psychology, Dyson, NYC)

Breakfast & Opening Remarks

8:30 a.m.–9:50 a.m.

15 Beekman, Bianco Room

Please join us for breakfast, connect with colleagues old and new, and settle in as we kick off the day with opening remarks and a preview of the exciting sessions ahead.

Breakout Session 1A

Parenting Young Children During COVID-19: Research Pathways and Clinical Implications

10:00 a.m.–10:50 a.m

1 Pace Plaza, Student Center West

This panel presents research from the Parenting Young Children During COVID-19 dataset, a large study of 1,511 parents examining family functioning, parenting, and caregiver well-being during pandemic-related stress. Presentations explore links among psychological distress, socioeconomic factors, and parenting, alongside gender differences and preschool disruptions. Findings highlight how stress shapes parenting and informs culturally responsive assessment, prevention, and intervention across clinical, school, and community settings.

*Moderator: **Barbara A. Mowder, PhD** (Professor, Psychology Department, Dyson, NYC; Director, Parent Child Institute)*

Parenting Young Children During COVID-19: Dataset Overview and Research Opportunities

Presenters: **Barbara A. Mowder, PhD** (Professor, Psychology Department, Dyson, NYC; Director, Parent Child Institute) and **Masha Voronchenko** (Doctoral Student, Psychology, Dyson, NYC)

This presentation provides an overview of the Parenting Young Children During COVID-19 dataset, including sample characteristics, measures administered, and domains assessed. Emphasis will be placed on the dataset's multidimensional structure and its capacity to support diverse research questions related to parenting, stress, and early childhood development.

Parental Stress, Depression, and Socioeconomic Status as Predictors of Positive Parenting

Presenter: **Masha Voronchenko** (Doctoral Student, Psychology, Dyson, NYC)

Parental Stress, Depression, and Socioeconomic Status as Predictors of Positive Parenting This presentation examines whether parental depression, parenting stress, and socioeconomic status predict the perceived importance of positive parenting behaviors. Guided by the Family Stress Model and Parent Development Theory, analyses explore direct and mediating pathways linking psychological distress and contextual stressors to parenting perceptions.

Demographic and Gender Differences in Parental Responses to the PBIQ-3

Presenter: **Annie E Girton, EdM** (Doctoral Student, Psychology, Dyson, NYC)

This project investigates whether male and female caregivers differ in their endorsement of positive and negative parenting behaviors as measured by the Parent Behavior Importance Questionnaire–Third Edition (PBIQ-3). Findings contribute to understanding potential gender-related patterns in parenting cognitions during periods of heightened stress.

Parental Responsivity Among Caregivers of Children Unable to Attend Preschool During COVID-19

Presenter: **Margalie Etienne, MEd** (Doctoral Student, Psychology, Dyson, NYC)

This presentation examines parenting behaviors associated with responsivity among caregivers whose children were unable to attend preschool during pandemic-related closures. The analysis considers how disruptions to early educational routines may have influenced parental perceptions, engagement, and adaptive responses during a critical developmental period.

Breakout Session 1B

AI Across Domains: Hierarchies, Social Impact, and Intelligent Agent Design

10:00 a.m.–10:50 a.m

1 Pace Plaza, Student Center East

This session brings together cutting-edge research exploring how artificial intelligence is transforming technical systems, organizational practices, and human–agent collaboration. Presentations examine the use of large language models to generate planning hierarchies, emerging patterns of AI adoption in social enterprises, and the role of design patterns in shaping the behavior of intelligent agents across diverse real-world contexts.

*Moderator: **Jessica Magaldi, JD** (Professor, Legal Studies and Taxation, Lubin, NYC)*

Generative AI and Hierarchies

Presenter: **Jonathan I. Lee, MS** (Clinical Assistant Professor, Information Technology, Seidenberg, NYC)

This presentation explores how large language models (LLMs) can enhance AI planning by generating hierarchical structures that improve efficiency and interpretability. Focusing on Hierarchical Task Network (HTN) planning, the study examines whether LLMs can translate flat planning domains into meaningful hierarchies. Using experimental comparisons with human-designed models, findings highlight both the promise and limitations of LLM-driven approaches in advancing intelligent, scalable planning systems.

AI in Social Enterprise: Adoption Patterns and Configurational Pathways

Presenter: **Noushi Rahman, PhD** (Professor, Management and Management Science, Lubin, NYC)

This study examines how social enterprises across global contexts are adopting artificial intelligence to advance mission-driven goals. Using configurational analysis of 50+ organizations, it identifies patterns of context-, leadership-, and strategy-related conditions associated with five dimensions of AI usage: scope of AI, human–AI collaboration, AI stakeholder engagement, type of AI technology, and AI maturity. The findings show multiple pathways to AI adoption, shaped by scale, geographic reach, governance form, and leadership characteristics.

Patterns for a New Generation: AI and Agents

Presenters: **Pauline Mosley, DPS** (Professor, Information Technology, Seidenberg, Pleasantville) and **Mary Tedeschi, DPS** (Clinical Assistant Professor, Information Technology, Seidenberg, NYC)

This presentation explores how design patterns can guide the behavior of AI agents in human–machine collaborative systems. Drawing on the Active Inference Framework, the authors demonstrate how structured patterns enable LLM-based agents to reason, adapt, and coordinate actions without rigid programming. The work highlights new possibilities for integrating human insight with AI capabilities across domains such as education, software development, and organizational decision-making.

Breakout Session 1C

The Brain Is the Ocean We Live in

10:00 a.m.–10:50 a.m

1 Pace Plaza, W505

This interactive mixed-media presentation, inspired by the presenter's recent poetry collection, [The Brain is the Ocean We Live In](#) featured at Poets' House NYC, explores how creative writing can help individuals access and reimagine lived experiences. Through spontaneous "speaking in draft" exercises, participants will write, share, and reflect together—shifting from observers to creators. The session fosters community while highlighting the healing, expressive, and restorative power of the arts.

Presenter: **Catalina Florina Florescu, PhD** (Adjunct Professor, English, Dyson, NYC)

Moderator: **Amanda Flynn, Ed.D., M.Ed., MM** (Adjunct Assistant Professor, Program Head Pace Musical Theatre, Sands, NYC; PAVA-Recognized Vocologist)

Breakout Session 1D

Workshop: Drawing the Human Experience: Neurographica as a Reflective Practice in Nursing Education

10:00 a.m.–10:50 a.m

1 Pace Plaza, W620

This workshop introduces Neurographica, an arts-based reflective practice, as a tool for engaging the human experience in nursing education. Blending neuroscience, mindfulness, and creative expression, it supports self-awareness, emotional regulation, and reflective insight. Participants explore how structured drawing fosters meaning-making and embodied reflection, highlighting creativity as a powerful, inclusive approach to inquiry across educational, clinical, and interdisciplinary contexts.

Presenter: **Esmira Yusufova, MSN, RN, CNE, CHSE, AHN-BC** (Doctoral Student, Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

Faculty Mentor: **Catherine Finlayson, PhD, RN, OCN** (Associate Professor, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

Moderators: **Maria Iacullo-Bird, PhD** (Assistant Provost for Research, Center for Undergraduate Research Experiences; Clinical Professor of History, Dyson, NYC) and **Erica Johnson, PhD** (Professor and Associate Chair, English, Dyson, NYC)

Breakout Session 2A

Digital Parenting Workshops

11:00 a.m.–11:50 a.m.

1 Pace Plaza, Student Center West

This presentation shares current research being conducted by the Parent-Child Institute (PCI) at Pace University's NYC Psychology Department. Over the last year, PCI members have developed and implemented research examining the evidence base of developmentally sensitive parenting workshops. Grounded in Parent Development

Theory, six workshops correspond to developmental stages of parenting children from infancy through adulthood. Each workshop follows a structured format covering developmental processes, parenting challenges, and key parenting behaviors.

*Moderator: **Barbara A. Mowder, PhD** (Professor, Psychology Department, Dyson, NYC; Director, Parent Child Institute)*

Parent Development Theory

Presenter: **Barbara A. Mowder, PhD** (Professor, Psychology Department, Dyson, NYC; Director, Parent Child Institute)

The first presentation in this panel focuses on the Parent Development Theory (PDT). Definitions of parents and parenting are discussed along with the major parenting characteristics of bonding, discipline, education, general welfare and protection, responsiveness, and sensitivity. Based on thousands of parent participant responses, the PDT forms a framework from which researchers as well as practitioners can conceptualize parents, parenting behavior importance, and positive parenting.

Parenting Workshop Design

Presenters: **Lisa Sholomon, MA** (Doctoral Student, Clinical Psychology with Health Emphasis) and **Masha Voronchenko** (Student, Psychology)

The second presentation speaks to the design of the parenting workshops. Each of the six workshops is tailored to parenting children at one of six stages of development (infants/toddlers, preschoolers, elementary school aged children, adolescents, late adolescents, adult aged children). The workshops embrace a biopsychosocial framework, outlining parenting challenges and positive parenting recommendations which occur at each of the six stages of development.

Examples of Digital Parenting Workshops

Presenter: **Masha Voronchenko** (Doctoral Student, Psychology)

The third presentation presents some examples from the parenting workshops. The workshops employ a TED-talk style of presentation and follow a consistent parent workshop framework. This organized, informative, and inviting approach provides one way for participants to think about, consider, and weigh their parenting attitudes, priorities, and values.

Parenting Workshops Research Design

Presenter: **Barbara A. Mowder, PhD** (Professor, Psychology Department, Dyson, NYC; Director, Parent Child Institute)

The final presentation discusses the research design associated with examining the evidence-base for the six parenting workshops. This presentation outlines the research design employed, pre- and post- test design, the demographic questions asked of participants, reliability and validity of the parenting behavior importance questionnaires, and the overall, brief workshop evaluation focusing on what the participants might have found informative.

Breakout Session 2B

Advancing Equity in Education: Mentorship, Design Justice, and Teacher Agency

11:00 a.m.–11:50 a.m.

1 Pace Plaza, Student Center East

This panel explores innovative approaches to advancing equity across higher education and K–12 contexts. Presentations examine persistent gaps in mentorship for Hispanic faculty, the integration of design justice in interdisciplinary student projects serving marginalized communities, and collaborative research empowering teachers of multilingual learners. Together, these works highlight systemic barriers and transformative practices that foster inclusion, amplify agency, and promote culturally responsive, community-centered solutions in education.

Moderator: **Garrett FitzGerald, PhD** (Assistant Professor, Peace and Justice Studies Program, Dyson, NYC)

Mentorship in the Minority Professoriate

Presenters: **Linda Carozza, PhD, CCC-SLP, FNAP** (Associate Professor, Communication and Sciences and Disorders, College of Health Professions, NYC) and **Jennifer Rosenstein, MSLIS, MA** (Director, Beekman Library, NYC), and **Kiara Medina, BS** (Master's Student, Communication Sciences and Disorders, College of Health Professions, NYC)

Career advancement for Hispanic professionals entering the professoriate remains an overlooked issue in efforts to diversify academia. First highlighted in a 2002 JHHE article, it continues to be a pressing concern. The Pace BIPOC committee, with me as lead author, found minimal progress in recent findings. While strategies were proposed, significantly more intentional, targeted efforts are needed to attract, retain, and promote graduate students and future faculty of color.

Adapting a Design Factory for Design Justice in Advancing Community Equity

Presenter: **James P. Lawler, DPS** (Professor, Disability Studies and Information Technologies, Seidenberg NYC)

Business designers often overlook community benefits, especially for disadvantaged consumers. This presentation shows how a CIS 161 Design Factory engages cross-disciplinary students in design justice, emphasizing equity and inclusion. Through community-based projects, students co-create products and services for marginalized groups, including African American, elderly, Hispanic, LGBTQ+, and disabled populations. The approach highlights culturally informed, empathetic design practices that reshape systems while teaching students to prioritize diverse perspectives and inclusive outcomes.

Equity through Agency: Transforming Instruction for Multilingual Learners via Collaborative Research

Presenters: **Tasha Darbes, PhD** (Associate Professor, School of Education, Pleasantville), **Laura Kaplan, PhD** (Clinical Assistant Professor, School of Education, NYC), and **Larissa Teixeira da Costa** (Graduate Student, MS, TESOL, Pace University)

In this presentation, the ongoing grant-funded project *Empowering Teachers of Multilingual Learners* is showcased, examining how prescriptive, commodified literacy curricula affect teacher agency, pedagogy, and professional identity. Using a Participatory Action Research framework, K–12 educators serve as co-researchers, navigating tensions between standardized mandates and students' linguistic needs. Preliminary classroom observation data illustrate impacts on engagement, while the presentation highlights PAR's role in fostering partnerships and challenging top-down educational models.

Breakout Session 2C

Human Trafficking: The Roles of Law and Healthcare in Assisting Victims and Survivors

11:00 a.m.–11:50 a.m.

1 Pace Plaza, W505

This panel discussion will address the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 and major U.S. anti-trafficking initiatives and operational challenges facing law enforcement in preventing victims from prosecution and rather promoting justice and recovery. The discussion will also include a look at how healthcare providers can provide trauma-informed nutrition care to victims and support, treat and assist individuals who have been manipulated by and deprived during their captivity.

Presenters: **Christen Cooper, EdD, RDN** (Associate Professor, Program Founding Director, Nutrition and Dietetics, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville), **Cathryn Lavery, PhD** (Professor, Department Chairperson, Criminal Justice, Dyson, NYC), **David Mulcahy, MA** (Adjunct Professor, Criminal Justice, Dyson, NYC; Supervisory United States Probation Officer, Southern District of New York)

Moderator: Christen Cooper, EdD, RDN (Associate Professor, Program Founding Director, Nutrition and Dietetics, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

Breakout Session 2D

Needs, Outcomes, and Barriers to Care for Medically Fragile Infants and Toddlers

11:00 a.m.–11:50 a.m.

1 Pace Plaza, W514

Preterm and medically fragile infants face complex health, developmental, and psychosocial risks. Although survival rates have improved, they remain vulnerable to neurodevelopmental delays and poorer outcomes. Early intervention and coordinated follow-up care can improve trajectories, yet disparities in access to services persist due to social determinants of health. This panel examines interdisciplinary data from a major NYC medical center to explore outcomes, clinical needs, and barriers to equitable care and early intervention access.

Moderator: Michele Zaccario, PhD (Professor and Department Chairperson, Psychology, Dyson, NYC)

Overview of Neonatal Care, Assessment, and Outcomes

Presenter: **Michele Zaccario, PhD** (Professor and Department Chairperson, Psychology, Dyson, NYC)

Advances in neonatal care have improved survival and quality of life for premature and medically fragile infants. However, many remain at risk for neurodevelopmental delays across cognitive, motor, language, sensory, and social-emotional domains. Evaluating these profiles helps identify early intervention targets. Ongoing follow-up through childhood and adolescence is essential to detect emerging challenges, while consistent access to care and supportive services remains critical for optimizing long-term outcomes.

Return to NICU Follow-Up: A Multifactorial Analysis

Presenter: **Jenna Saviano, MA, MSED** (Doctoral Candidate, School-Clinical Psychology, Dyson, NYC)

NICU follow-up programs are essential for monitoring preterm and medically fragile infants and connecting families to early interventions, yet loss to follow-up remains a challenge. This study of 193 infants in a NYU program (2021–2023) examined predictors of attrition using medical record data. Findings showed early attendance was the strongest predictor of continued engagement, highlighting the need for strategies that promote consistent participation to improve continuity of care and developmental outcomes.

Health Disparities and Early Intervention in Preterm Infants

Presenter: **Samantha Pescatore, MA, MS** (Doctoral Candidate, Clinical Psychology, Dyson, NYC)

Preterm infants face increased risk of health complications and neurodevelopmental delays due to factors such as low birth weight and organ immaturity. Early intervention can improve developmental and social outcomes, yet disparities in access persist due to social determinants of health. This study used retrospective data from an NYU follow-up program to examine how these disparities affect access to services and cognitive outcomes, highlighting the need to address inequities in care for this high-risk population.

Breakout Session 2E

Creative Pathways to Clinical Excellence: Innovative, Human-Centered Strategies in Nursing Education

11:00 a.m.–11:50 a.m.

1 Pace Plaza, W620

This panel explores innovative, creative approaches to nursing education that integrate visual, reflective, and experiential learning. Presentations highlight strategies such as drawing-based pedagogy for endocrinology, metaphorical associative cards to foster empathy and clinical judgment, and competency-based audio assessments to strengthen patient communication. Together, these approaches emphasize engaging both cognitive and emotional domains, promoting deeper understanding, clinical readiness, and human-centered care in nursing practice.

*Moderator: **Amanda Flynn, Ed.D., M.Ed., MM** (Adjunct Assistant Professor, Program Head Pace Musical Theatre, Sands, NYC; PAVA-Recognized Vocologist)*

Paper Dolls as Pedagogy: Learning Endocrinology Through Drawing

Presenter: **Cindy Paradiso, PhD, RN-BC, CNE** (Assistant Professor, BS Nurse Education, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

This presentation introduces an innovative teaching strategy in which nursing students use paper-doll illustrations to represent endocrine disorders. Rather than memorizing content, students translate complex pathophysiology into visual features through group-based, hands-on activities without using words. Peer presentations encourage interpretation and discussion. This creative, low-stress approach promotes active learning, critical thinking, and deeper understanding while demonstrating that rigorous education can be engaging and enjoyable.

Metaphorical Associative Cards (MAC) as a Tool for Empathy, Communication, and Clinical Judgment in Nursing Education

Presenter: **Esmira Yusufova, MSN, RN, CNE, CHSE, AHN-BC** (Doctoral Candidate, Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

Faculty Mentor: **Catherine Finlayson, PhD, RN, OCN** (Associate Professor, Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

This presentation explores the use of Metaphorical Associative Cards (MAC) to enhance empathy, communication, and clinical judgment in nursing education. Through simulation and classroom examples, MAC cards support reflection, emotional awareness, and decision-making in complex scenarios. By using visual metaphor and narrative, students express perspectives that may otherwise remain unspoken. This flexible, low-cost approach fosters emotional intelligence, perspective-taking, and psychologically safe learning environments.

A Competency-Based Assessment: Voice of a Nurse

Presenter: **Elizabeth (Liz) Berro, PhD, RN, CHSE, CNE** (Assistant Professor, Program Director (ABS), BS Nurse Education, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

This presentation introduces “Voice of a Nurse,” an innovative assessment addressing gaps between theoretical knowledge and patient communication. Students respond to clinical prompts through brief audio recordings, translating complex concepts into clear, empathetic explanations. Evaluated on accuracy, communication, and professionalism, this method simulates real clinical interactions. Embedded in course technology, it offers a practical, competency-based approach to preparing nursing students for effective, patient-centered care.

Breakout Session 3A

Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Human Experience: Health, Society, and Data-Driven Insight

12:10 p.m.–1:10 p.m.

1 Pace Plaza, Student Center West

This panel explores interdisciplinary approaches to understanding the human experience across global health, social science, and data analytics. Presentations examine HIV prevention perspectives in rural Uganda, the value of interdisciplinary thinking in research and teaching, and the use of location analytics to study social and environmental patterns. Together, these works highlight how integrating diverse methods and perspectives deepens insight, informs practice, and fosters more holistic, context-driven research.

*Moderators: **Maria Iacullo-Bird, PhD** (Assistant Provost for Research, Center for Undergraduate Research Experiences; Clinical Professor of History, Dyson, NYC) and **Erica Johnson, PhD** (Professor and Associate Chair, English, Dyson, NYC)*

“Some people fear injection and others don’t want to swallow tablets, while others forget”: Health care provider perspectives on the PrEP (dapivirine) ring in rural Uganda (“ProPrEP”)

Presenters: **Erica L Gollub, DrPH MPH** (Professor, Health Sciences, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville) and **Marie Lourdes Charles, EdD, RN-BC, FNYAM** (Associate Professor, BS Nurse Education, College of Health Professions, NYC)

This presentation examines healthcare provider perspectives on the dapivirine (PrEP) ring for HIV prevention among adolescent girls and young women in rural Uganda. Using focus group data from 60 providers, findings highlight strong support for the ring as a discreet, non-hormonal option, alongside concerns about stigma, access, and policy barriers. The study underscores the importance of provider engagement and community context in expanding HIV prevention options and advancing health equity.

Interdisciplinary Thinking: Impact on Research and Teaching

Presenter: **P.V. Viswanath, PhD, MBA** (Professor, Graduate Program Chair, Finance and Economics, Lubin, NYC)

The presentation outlines two interdisciplinary projects: (a) financial behavior among internal migrants in India, using a sociological lens, and (b) comparative Vedic and Talmudic exegesis, examining how interpretation both shapes and reflects societal needs. It reflects on their value for disciplinary growth and for fostering students’ appreciation of the interconnected nature of human experience, with emphasis on relevance for Lubin faculty and students.

Location Analytics for Interdisciplinary Research

Presenters: **Daniel Farkas, PhD** (Professor, Information Technology, Seidenberg, Pleasantville) and **Namchul Shin, PhD** (Professor, Information Technology, Seidenberg, NYC)

This presentation introduces Location Analytics as an interdisciplinary framework for exploring how place shapes human experience. Drawing on data from sources such as the U.S. Census, open data portals, and social media, it demonstrates how spatial analysis supports research across disciplines. The session highlights accessible tools and

emphasizes how mapping and visualization can reveal patterns, enrich interpretation, and inspire new interdisciplinary questions.

Breakout Session 3B

Community Innovation and Engagement: Creative, Technological, and Educational Pathways for Social Impact

12:10 p.m.–1:10 p.m.

1 Pace Plaza, Student Center East

This panel highlights interdisciplinary approaches to community engagement and social innovation across environmental, artistic, educational, and correctional contexts. Presentations explore urban composting as a tool for sustainability, participatory performance amplifying local histories, AI-driven support for early-career teachers, and a service-learning program connecting parenting education with animal-assisted therapy in prisons. Together, these projects demonstrate how collaborative, community-centered initiatives can address systemic challenges and foster transformative social impact.

*Moderator: **Anne Toomey, PhD** (Associate Professor, Environmental Studies, Dyson, NYC)*

Community Composting: Stories of Urban Transformation

Presenters: **S. Perl Egendorf, PhD** (Assistant Professor, Department of Environmental Studies and Science, Dyson, NYC), **Alexa Castro** (Undergraduate Student, Environmental Studies, Dyson, NYC), **Vern Chaney** (Undergraduate Student, Environmental Studies, Dyson, NYC), **Ruby-Summer Marshall-Shkymba** (Undergraduate Student, Environmental Science, Dyson, NYC), **Emma Patrick** (Undergraduate Student, Environmental Studies, Dyson, NYC), and **Harry Warren** (Undergraduate Student, Environmental Studies, Dyson, NYC)

Composting plays a vital role in reducing waste, advancing environmental justice, and building sustainable communities, yet remains underfunded and undervalued. In this presentation, Environmental Studies students and their professor share insights from a senior capstone in collaboration with NYC composters, exploring composting's histories, challenges, and futures through research, fieldwork, and community engagement.

Sound, Place, and Participation: A Case Study in Community-Driven Performance

Presenter: **Adrienne Kapstein, MFA** (Associate Professor, Program Head: BA Acting and Directing; BFA Performance Making, Performing Arts, Sands, NYC)

This presentation examines *The Society of Historic Sonic Happenings (SHSH)*, a participatory performance project blending theater, technology, illusion, and community engagement. Using the premise that sound persists in place, audiences uncover local histories through interactive "sonic artifacts." Developed through community workshops, SHSH highlights underrepresented voices and explores how collective memory, place and storytelling intersect.

Project Marty: An Early-Stage Idea to Use AI to Support New Teacher Learning and Retention

Presenters: **Christine D. Clayton, EdD** (Professor, School of Education West, School of Education, Pleasantville) and **Jennifer Cuddapah, EdD** (Professor, Education, Hood College)

Teacher shortages are worsened by high attrition, especially among early-career educators in under-resourced schools. This presentation introduces an early-stage concept for an AI-powered platform offering "just-in-time" support tailored to new teachers' needs. Designed to complement human mentorship, it draws on learning science, design principles, and adult learning theory for new teacher learning and support.

The Holy Grail: Combining Teaching, Research and Service in A Case study of Parenting, Prison & Pups

Presenter: **Kimberly Collica-Cox, PhD** (Distinguished Professor, Criminal Justice, Dyson, NYC and Pleasantville)

Projects integrating teaching, research, and service enhance student learning while addressing community needs. This case study examines Parenting, Prison & Pups (PPP), a program combining parenting education and animal-assisted therapy for incarcerated parents, supported by undergraduate assistants. Findings highlight benefits for students, parents, and families, suggesting such innovative programs can address mental health challenges and strengthen family connections during and after incarceration.

Breakout Session 3C

Reimagining Education: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Creativity, Sustainability, and Student Agency

12:10 p.m.–1:10 p.m.

1 Pace Plaza, Lecture Hall West (2nd fl)

This panel explores innovative, interdisciplinary approaches to education that integrate the arts, business, and social sciences to enhance student learning and career readiness. Presentations examine art's role in business education, modular curricula supporting sustainability in dance careers, and open pedagogy in macroeconomics. Together, they highlight how experiential, creative, and student-centered practices foster autonomy, employability, and deeper engagement with the human experience across diverse fields.

*Moderator: **Tanya Wiggins, EdD** (Associate Professor, School of Education, NYC)*

Viewing Business Through a Different Lens: Art in Business Education

Presenters: **Dennis Sandler, PhD** (Professor, Marketing, Lubin, NYC) and **Mary Long, PhD** (Professor, Marketing, Lubin, NYC)

This presentation examines how integrating the arts into business education enhances creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving while fostering ethical, sustainable, and engaging workplace practices. It highlights a Pace University study abroad course in Scandinavia, where students explored corporate art use at SEBank in Stockholm, and draws on global examples from Brazil, Canada, Finland, France, and India to demonstrate how art supports interdisciplinary learning and real-world business insights.

Creating Employability, Autonomy, and Sustainability: A Modular Curriculum for Post-Secondary Dance Education

Presenter: **Karilyn Ashley Surratt, MA** (Adjunct Professor, Sands, NYC)

This presentation explores a modular curriculum designed to prepare pre-professional dance students for the complex, non-linear labor landscape of the performing arts. Drawing on 45 years of international scholarship, the model emphasizes entrepreneurial skills, off-stage roles, and interdisciplinary learning, fostering student autonomy, career readiness, and sustainable professional success while balancing technical, academic, and practical training in higher education dance programs.

Creating Knowledge That Lasts: Open Pedagogy in Introductory Macroeconomics

Presenter: **Veronika Dolar, PhD** (Associate Professor, Economics, Dyson, NYC)

This presentation explores the Archipelago Macroeconomics Project, an open-pedagogy, renewable assignment in a large introductory macroeconomics course at Pace University. Students collaboratively produced public-facing analyses of Caribbean economies, linking economic indicators to climate, history, and geography. The project fosters student agency, collaboration, and intellectual ownership, illustrating how interdisciplinary, place-based learning can enrich economics education while highlighting marginalized perspectives and the human experience of development, inequality, and environmental risk.

Breakout Session 3D

Using AI for Transforming Teacher Planning in K-12 Students' Learning

12:10 p.m.–1:10 p.m.

1 Pace Plaza, W605

Presenters: **Fran Falk-Ross, PhD** (Professor and Chair, School of Education, NYC), **Peter McDermott, PhD** (Professor, School of Education, NYC), and **Sharon Medow, MS** (Senior Lecturer, School of Education, NYC)

Moderator: **Peter McDermott, PhD** (Professor, School of Education, NYC)

This panel examines how K-12 teachers and teacher candidates integrate AI into instructional planning across grades and disciplines. Presenters showcase classroom examples—visuals, literacy activities, storyboards, and questions—highlighting AI's potential to enhance engagement, higher-order thinking, and interdisciplinary learning. Emphasizing teacher judgment, prompt design, and alignment with curricular goals, the session explores both the affordances and limitations of AI, presenting it as a creative partner that enables educators to focus on deeper, meaningful learning experiences.

Breakout Session 3E

Breath, Behavior, and Equity: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Respiratory Health and Human Well-Being

12:10 p.m.–1:10 p.m.

1 Pace Plaza, W623

This panel explores interdisciplinary approaches to respiratory health and well-being, linking environmental exposure, communication, and global disease patterns. Presentations examine the impact of biomass combustion on women's respiratory health, the epidemiology of chronic respiratory diseases in India, and innovative, performance-based communication strategies that enhance well-being. Together, they highlight how social, environmental, and behavioral factors intersect, emphasizing health equity, prevention, and the role of interdisciplinary solutions in improving outcomes and quality of life.

Moderator: **Michael Tursi, PhD** (Assistant Professor, Psychology, Dyson, Pleasantville)

Assessing the Impact of Biomass Combustion and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease in Women

Presenter: **Khubaib Ansari** (Graduate Student, Public Health, College of Health Professions, NYC)

Faculty Mentor: **Sonia Suchday, PhD** (University Director of Research and Graduate Education, Office of Research and Graduate Education; Director of Operations, The Pace Center for Global Health; Professor, Psychology, Dyson, NYC)

Biomass combustion exposes women in low- and middle-income countries to daily household air pollution, increasing risk of COPD, poor lung function, and chronic respiratory symptoms. Synthesizing multiple studies, this research highlights dose-related effects and shows that cleaner household energy can improve outcomes, while cookstoves alone offer limited benefit. Framed through health equity, it underscores how poverty, energy insecurity, and gendered labor shape respiratory health and the need for structural solutions.

From Performance to Public Health: An Interdisciplinary Behavioral Approach to Communication for Collective Well-Being

Presenter: **Diana Lote** (Adjunct Professor of Acting for FTVC, Sands)

This presentation looks at communication as more than just words—it's something that affects us behaviorally and even physiologically. It explores how acting-based techniques like character reframing, vocal modulation, and relational mirroring can improve real-life interactions. The findings suggest these approaches can reduce anxiety, increase clarity, and build trust. Overall, the research points to embodied communication training as a practical, scalable way to boost psychological safety, authenticity, and stronger, more effective relationships across different settings.

Chronic Respiratory Diseases in India: Epidemiology, Risk Factors, and Clinical Phenotypes

Presenter: **Amon Tapiwa Chikohora** (Graduate Student, Cybersecurity, Seidenberg, NYC)

Faculty Mentor: **Sonia Suchday, PhD** (University Director of Research and Graduate Education, Office of Research and Graduate Education; Director of Operations, The Pace Center for Global Health; Professor, Psychology, Dyson, NYC)

India faces a growing burden of chronic respiratory diseases (CRDs), accounting for 32% of global CRD-related disability despite representing 18% of the population. High prevalence, diagnostic gaps, and unique regional phenotypes—including post-tuberculosis lung disease and hypersensitivity pneumonitis—highlight the impact of non-smoking risk factors such as biomass fuel and occupational exposures. Addressing this crisis requires localized strategies: expanding spirometry access, promoting clean cooking fuels, enforcing occupational safety, and integrating long-term functional monitoring.

Lunch and Keynote Presentation

Systems Theories and Strands of Research for Human Flourishing

1:15 p.m.–2:30 p.m.

15 Beekman, Bianco Room

Welcoming Remarks: Sonia Suchday, PhD (University Director of Research and Graduate Education, Office of Research and Graduate Education; Director of Operations, The Pace Center for Global Health; Professor, Psychology, Dyson, NYC)

President's Remarks: Marvin Krislov, JD (President, Pace University)

Keynote Presenter: Alison A. Carr-Chellman, PhD (Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, Pace University)

The keynote presentation will highlight key areas of Provost Carr-Chellman's scholarly work, emphasize the value of interdisciplinary research, and examine the role of scholarship in advancing understanding and the contemporary human experience.

Alison A. Carr-Chellman, PhD, serves as the Provost and VP for Academic Affairs at Pace University. She has a long scholarly background with more than 175 publications, 200 presentations (including international invited addresses), \$8M in grants, and 14,000 google scholar citations. Prior to Pace, Provost Carr-Chellman served as Dean for 9 years at both University of Dayton and University of Idaho. She spent most of her formative years as a scholar at Penn State University, where she earned Associate and Full promotions and served as Program chair and Department Head.

Breakout Session 4A

Innovative Teaching Across Disciplines: Experiential Learning, AI, and Inquiry-Based Practices

1 Pace Plaza, Student Center West

2:40 p.m.–3:40 p.m.

This panel explores innovative approaches to teaching and learning across mathematics, media, and chemistry. Presenters share strategies for experiential learning that connect math to real-world contexts, the ethical integration of generative AI in media classes to foster critical thinking, and collaborative implementation of NGSS-aligned chemistry labs that promote inquiry and student engagement. Together, these cases highlight interdisciplinary, reflective, and student-centered approaches that prepare learners for complex, real-world challenges.

Moderator: Tanya Wiggins, EdD (Associate Professor, School of Education, NYC)

Experiential Learning and Mathematics

Presenter: **Shamita Dutta Gupta, PhD** (Professor and Associate Chair, Mathematics, Dyson, NYC)

This presentation explores community-based experiential learning in mathematics, connecting students to industries, service-learning, and real-world contexts. In courses such as Writing Enhanced Statistics, students develop portfolios, and in service-learning courses tutor high school students, and gain teaching experience. Field

trips to STEM-focused museums encourage students to observe and interpret the world through a mathematical lens. The approach fosters ownership of learning, strengthens analytical skills, and sparks unexpected, meaningful connections between mathematics and everyday life.

Integrating Generative AI Into Media Classes: Ethics and Future-Readiness

Presenter: **Melanie J. La Rosa, MFA** (Associate Professor, Media & Communication Arts, Dyson, Pleasantville and NYC)

This presentation examines the integration of generative AI (GenAI) in a Spring 2026 filmmaking course, emphasizing ethical use, disclosure, and critical engagement. Students explore GenAI for speculative writing, debates, and presentations, learning its limitations and potential to augment—but not replace—human creativity. By interrogating issues of copyright, authorship, and truth-telling, the course fosters critical thinking, prepares students for tech-driven media careers, and models a “human-in-the-machine” approach to film and storytelling.

Presentation Promoting Inquiry and Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) in New York State Chemistry Labs: A Classroom Collaboration of Pace Alumnus, an Undergraduate Student, and Graduate Faculty

Presenters: **Christine D. Clayton, EdD** (Professor, School of Education West, School of Education, Pleasantville), **Natalie Rodrigues** (Undergraduate Student, Chemistry, Dyson, Pleasantville), and **Kevin Ruffler, MS**, (Alumnus, Pace University, Pleasantville)

This study examines the implementation of Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) in New York secondary chemistry labs, focusing on Science and Engineering Practices (SEPs) that promote inquiry-based learning. Through collaboration between a Pace graduate teacher, faculty mentor, and undergraduate student, this classroom case study provides insights into effective NGSS integration to support student growth and deep understanding in the secondary chemistry classroom.

Breakout Session 4B

Civic Engagement in Interdisciplinary Perspectives

1 Pace Plaza, Student Center East

2:40 p.m.–3:40 p.m.

This panel highlights interdisciplinary civic engagement at Pace University, including formal civic engagement courses, courses integrating civic learning, and student leadership experiences. Presentations explore how course-based civic engagement and relate student leadership opportunities foster interdisciplinary learning and foster engagement with local and global communities. Discussions emphasize course design, assessment, best practices, and lessons learned, illustrating how experiential and civic engagement enrich student learning and societal impact.

*Moderator: **Garrett FitzGerald, PhD** (Assistant Professor, Peace and Justice Studies Program, Dyson, NYC)*

Storytelling as Civic and Community Engagement

Presenter: **Laura Tamman, PhD** (Clinical Assistant Professor, Political Science, Dyson, NYC)

This presentation examines the design and early outcomes of a community-engaged learning initiative supported by the Project Pericles Civic Story Lab. In partnership with Hell Gate, a worker-owned NYC news outlet, students in a Politics & Media course engage in civic journalism by covering public hearings, producing multimedia content, and reporting on issues affecting young people, fostering civic participation and public storytelling skills.

Integrating Voter Education and Volunteering Opportunities Into Non-Civic Engagement Courses

Presenter: **Erin Mysogland, MA, MSc** (Assistant Director, Center for Community Action and Research, NYC)

In this presentation Erin will share research-based best practices for integrating two forms of civic engagement, voter education and direct service, into courses, with a focus on courses that are not entirely community-based learning, or civic engagement, courses by design. Using case studies from multiple courses and CCAR experiential learning programs, Erin will discuss curricular development and provide an overview of associated student learning outcomes. Ultimately this presentation seeks to highlight the ways embedding civic and community engagement can be accessible and impactful for courses from any discipline.

Feminist Experiential Learning as Civic Engagement

Presenter: **Emily Bent, PhD** (Associate Professor, Women and Gender Studies, Dyson, NYC)

This presentation shares findings from Dr. Emily Bent's study of a Civic Engagement course centered on the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. Drawing on five semesters of teaching, it examines how shifts in the CSW context shaped student learning and course design. The session highlights lessons learned and demonstrates the value of feminist experiential pedagogy for interdisciplinary fields such as clinical sociology and women's and gender studies.

A Student Perspective on Developing Civic Engagement Skills Across Disciplines

Presenter: **Soleda Silva** (Undergraduate Student, Political Science and Justice Studies, Dyson, NYC)

This presentation draws on reflective essays from two civic engagement courses—Global Politics of Disarmament and Introduction to Peace and Justice Studies—alongside her work with the Center for Community Action and Research. Soleda examines how community engagement, policy advocacy, and student leadership intersect, highlighting how these experiences enhance academic learning, personal growth, and meaningful community impact.

Breakout Session 4C

Innovative Models and Methods: Media Sustainability, Digital Finance, and Human–Animal Insight

1 Pace Plaza, Zannino Conference

2:40 p.m.–3:40 p.m.

This panel explores innovative approaches across media, finance, and behavioral research. It examines franchise models sustaining hyperlocal journalism through TAPinto, analyzes Bitcoin's mathematical foundations and investment dynamics, and investigates dog–human social cognition using Zoom-based methodologies. Together, these studies highlight how novel frameworks—organizational, technological, and methodological—can address contemporary challenges and expand understanding in rapidly evolving social, economic, and scientific landscapes.

*Moderator: **Jessica Magaldi, JD** (Professor, Legal Studies and Taxation, Lubin, NYC)*

Can Franchising Save Local News? The Case of TAPinto

Presenter: **Katherine Fink, PhD** (Associate Professor, Graduate Program Director, Media & Communication Arts, Dyson, Pleasantville)

Hyperlocal news organizations face financial and managerial challenges that limit their ability to serve communities, contributing to the rise of “news deserts.” This study examines TAPinto, a U.S.-based network of over 90 franchise-operated hyperlocal news sites, to explore how franchise models can enhance sustainability. Findings from internal documents, press coverage, and employee interviews highlight the importance of interfranchisee collaboration and demonstrate how franchise theory explains TAPinto's longevity and resilience in a challenging media landscape.

Mathematics and Investment in Bitcoin

Presenter: **Qian Chen, PhD** (Clinical Assistant Professor, Mathematics, Dyson, NYC)

This study examines Bitcoin as a decentralized blockchain technology and potential long-term investment, highlighting its mathematical foundations and commodity-like properties, including scarcity, divisibility, and fungibility. Using quantitative data from cryptocurrency exchanges and statistical tools, alongside qualitative analysis of the Bitcoin whitepaper and related technologies, the research evaluates price trends, risk, and investor behavior. Findings provide insights into Bitcoin's technological significance, investment potential, and broader implications for finance, innovation, and the evolving digital economy.

Using Zoom to understand the dog-human relationship

Presenter: **Molly Byrne, PhD** (Assistant Professor, Psychology, Dyson, Pleasantville)

This research investigates dog cognition and its parallels with human social behavior, using novel Zoom-based methodologies to study dogs in their natural home environments. Traditional lab studies often limit subject diversity, but remote observation allows broader participation. Across three studies, dogs' understanding of joint activities, expectations of human interactions, and reconciliation behaviors were analyzed using BORIS software. Findings reveal how dogs' natural behaviors illuminate their social cognition and provide key insights into the human-dog relationship.

The Networking Reception

3:40 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

15 Beekman, Bianco Room

Join us at the Networking Reception to explore the Book Display, featuring works published by over 40 colleagues across diverse academic fields. Enjoy poster presentations, connect with peers from across the university, and celebrate the end of the semester with lively conversation, refreshments, and a well-deserved moment to unwind.

Poster Presentations

3:40 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

15 Beekman, Bianco Room

Poster 1

Artificial Intelligence-Enhanced Clinical Decision Support for Alcohol Withdrawal Syndrome: A Predictive Model Development Study

Presenter: **Aimee Smith, RN, FNP-BC, CCRN, CHSE** (Adjunct Professor and Doctoral Student, Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

Faculty Mentor: **Lin Drury, PhD** (Professor, Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

This presentation proposes a retrospective study to develop a machine learning model to predict alcohol withdrawal syndrome (AWS) using electronic health record data. Addressing limitations of current assessment tools, the model will analyze structured and unstructured data to improve early detection and risk stratification. Hypotheses include enhanced predictive accuracy, enabling proactive intervention, and reducing adverse

outcomes, while highlighting the role of AI in advancing clinical practice and supporting nurses in data-driven decision-making.

Poster 2

Supervision in Action: The Flexibility and Function of the Discrimination Model

Presenters: **Alysia E. Heckstall, MS, LMHC, LPC, NCC** (Doctoral Candidate, Mental Health Counseling, Dyson, Pleasantville), **Scotty French, MS, MHC-LP** (Doctoral Candidate, Mental Health Counseling, Dyson, Pleasantville), and **Tom Klapper, MS MHC-LP** (Doctoral Candidate, Mental Health Counseling, Dyson, Pleasantville), and **Sarah Seymour** (Doctoral Candidate, Mental Health Counseling, Dyson, Pleasantville)

Faculty Mentor: **Poonam Doshi, PhD** (Assistant Professor, Psychology; Program Director, PhD in Mental Health Counseling, Dyson, Pleasantville)

This presentation examines Discrimination Model of clinical supervision, highlighting its flexible approach to supporting counselor development. It explores how supervisors adapt roles—teacher, counselor, and consultant—and focus on intervention, conceptualization, and personalization skills. Emphasizing responsiveness to supervisee needs, the session demonstrates how the model fosters clinical competence, self-awareness, and effective, adaptive supervision practices.

Poster 3

Agentic Early-Warning Intelligence System for Silent System Failures

Presenters: **Aman Singh** (Master's Student, Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC) and **Ronak Pipaliya** (Master's Student, Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC)

Faculty Mentor: **Krishna Bathula, PhD** (Clinical Assistant Professor, Computer Science; Program Chair-Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC)

This presentation introduces the Agentic Early Warning Intelligence System, a multilayer AI approach to detecting hidden system failures. Integrating deep learning, anomaly detection, and retrieval-augmented reasoning, AEWIS improves early-warning lead time and operator trust. Findings demonstrate how agentic AI enhances predictive maintenance by translating complex data into actionable, explainable guidance for real-world decision-making.

Poster 4

"Be in Good Health": A Nurse-Led Faith-Based Intervention on Social Cohesion and Hypertension Management in Black Women in the Baptist Church

Presenter: **Angela Banfield, MPH, RN, BSN, BA** (Doctoral Student, Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

Faculty Mentor: **Sharon Wexler, PhD, RN, FNGNA, FNYAM** (Professor and Department Chairperson, Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

This presentation examines a nurse-led, faith-based intervention addressing hypertension among Black women through church-based community engagement. Using a quasi-experimental design, the study explores how social cohesion influences health behaviors and outcomes. Findings assess changes in blood pressure, treatment adherence, and social connectedness, highlighting the role of trusted community spaces in advancing health equity and improving chronic disease management.

Poster 5

AI-Driven Multimodal Mental–Physical Health Risk Prediction Early Intervention System

Presenters: **Komal Dodiya** (Master’s Student, Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC), **Aniket Patel** (Master’s Student, Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC), and **Vidhi Shiyani** (Master’s Student, Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC)

Faculty Mentor: **Krishna Bathula, PhD** (Clinical Assistant Professor, Computer Science; Program Chair-Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC)

This presentation introduces an AI-driven multimodal system for early prediction of interconnected mental and physical health risks. Integrating behavioral, psychological, and clinical data, the model uses multi-task machine learning, causal inference, and explainable AI to generate transparent insights. The project culminates in an interactive dashboard and API, supporting early intervention and more holistic, data-driven healthcare decision-making.

Poster 6

Impact of a Faith - Based Nurse - Led Educational Intervention on diabetes self-care among Black Churchgoers living with diabetes in Northern New Jersey

Presenter: **Ann Marie Sailsman, DNP, FNP-BC, MPH** (Graduate Student, PhD in Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

Faculty Mentor: **Sharon Wexler, PhD, RN, FNGNA, FNYAM** (Professor and Department Chairperson, Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

This presentation examines the impact of a 12-week, faith-based, nurse-led diabetes education intervention on self-care among Black/African American adult churchgoers with Type 2 diabetes. Using a quasi-experimental pre-test/post-test design, the study evaluates adherence to ADA-recommended self-care behaviors, including nutrition, exercise, medication, and glucose monitoring, while assessing the influence of socio-cultural factors, social support, and health outcomes such as A1C, blood glucose, blood pressure, and weight.

Poster 7

NeuroScan: A Federated Multimodal Fusion Architecture for Privacy-Preserving Early Detection of Cognitive Decline via Retinal Imaging and Speech Biomarkers

Presenters: **Farhana Azad** (Master’s Student, Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC), **Burhan Latief Dar** (Master’s Student, Computer Science, Seidenberg, NYC), **Manvendra Singh** (Master’s Student, Computer Science, Seidenberg, NYC)

Faculty Mentor: **Krishna Bathula, PhD** (Clinical Assistant Professor, Computer Science; Program Chair-Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC)

This presentation introduces NeuroScan, a federated multimodal deep learning framework for non-invasive early detection of neurodegenerative diseases. By fusing retinal fundus imaging and speech biomarkers through a Cross-Modal Gated Attention Fusion mechanism, NeuroScan dynamically weights each modality’s contribution. Evaluated on ODIR 2019, ADReSS, and ADNI datasets, it approaches the diagnostic accuracy of traditional neuroimaging while preserving patient privacy, offering an accessible, scalable solution for resource-limited clinical settings.

Poster 8

Soft Life or Survival? The Digital Rebranding of Black Womanhood in Online Culture

Presenter: **Elizabeth Revangil** (Master's Student, Media, Communications, and Visual Arts, Dyson, Pleasantville)

Faculty Mentor: **Kate Fink, PhD** (Associate Professor, Graduate Program Director, Media and Communication Arts, Dyson, Pleasantville)

This presentation examines the “soft life” movement on social media and its influence on representations of Black womanhood. Focusing on platforms like TikTok, Instagram, and Twitter, the study uses qualitative content analysis of posts and hashtags (#SoftLife, #BlackGirlLuxury) to explore how Black women use visuals, storytelling, and community discourse to reclaim narratives, challenge cultural expectations of strength, and redefine identity, highlighting digital media's role in promoting agency, resistance, and cultural self-definition.

Poster 9

The Effects of AWARE Program on Care Escalation Timeliness and Patient Outcomes in Acute Respiratory Deterioration within Medical-Surgical Settings

Presenter: **Farley Villarente, MSN, FNP, RN, CCRN** (Doctoral Student, PhD in Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

Faculty Mentor: **Sharon Wexler, PhD, RN, FNGNA, FNYAM** (Professor and Department Chairperson, Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

This presentation examines the AWARE Program (Assess early Warning signs, Anticipate deterioration, Respond, Escalate), a unit-based educational intervention designed to strengthen nurses' clinical reasoning for early recognition and timely escalation of acute deterioration in adult medical-surgical units. Using a quasi-experimental pretest-posttest design, it evaluates clinical reasoning competence and time to escalation, with secondary patient outcomes. Findings aim to demonstrate improved clinical reasoning and more timely escalation, contributing to better patient outcomes.

Poster 10

The Digital Nexus: Social Media, Marketing, and Intervention Strategies in Tobacco and Nicotine Use Among Generation Z

Presenter: **Hisha Alpeshkumar Patel** (Master's Student, Internet Technology, Seidenberg, NYC)

Faculty Mentor: **Sonia Suchday, PhD** (University Director of Research and Graduate Education, Office of Research and Graduate Education; Director of Operations, The Pace Center for Global Health; Professor, Psychology, Dyson, NYC)

This presentation examines how social media and digital marketing shape nicotine use among Generation Z. It explores the rise of e-cigarettes, heated tobacco products, and nicotine pouches, highlighting the influence of influencer promotion, algorithmic amplification, and psychosocial stressors. The study critiques existing regulatory frameworks and cessation tools, arguing for integrated strategies combining platform governance, tailored digital interventions, and mental health support to effectively reduce nicotine initiation and normalize healthy behaviors in this cohort.

Poster 11

ArXiv Navigator: Transformer-Based Multi-Label Domain Classification and Temporal Trend Modeling

Presenters: **Jayashree Johnson** (Master's Student, Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC), **Kethan Kiran Dosapati** (Master's Student, Computer Science, Seidenberg, NYC), and **Kamal Domandula** (Master's Student, Computer Science, Seidenberg, NYC)

Faculty Mentor: **Krishna Bathula, PhD** (Clinical Assistant Professor, Computer Science; Program Chair-Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC)

This presentation introduces a metadata-driven framework for analyzing publication trends across computer science sub-disciplines, using only titles, abstracts, and submission timestamps. Combining multi-label text classification with temporal growth modeling, the system analyzes 36,965 arXiv papers (2000–2025) to reveal interdisciplinary overlap, thematic clusters, and rapid growth in areas like AI/ML and Computer Vision. Deployed via a RESTful API and interactive web interface, it provides scalable, real-time insight into evolving research landscapes.

Poster 12

Assessing Knowledge of Sexually Transmitted Infections Among Biological Females Ages 14-24

Presenter: **Jennifer Winter, NP** (Graduate Student, PhD in Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

Faculty Mentor: **Sharon Wexler, PhD, RN, FNGNA, FNYAM** (Professor and Department Chairperson, Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

This presentation examines the impact of short educational videos on STI knowledge and risk perception among biological females aged 14–24. Using a longitudinal design, participants complete the STD-KQ before and after viewing culturally and linguistically tailored videos, with follow-ups at 6 weeks, 3 months, and 6 months. The study also explores how social determinants of health influence knowledge retention, risk perception, and the effectiveness of video-based interventions in promoting STI prevention.

Poster 13

The Impact of Health Disparities on the Neurocognitive and Developmental Outcomes of Children with Craniosynostosis

Presenter: **Julia Giambrone, MS** (Doctoral Candidate, Clinical Psychology (Health Care Emphasis), Dyson, NYC)

Faculty Mentor: **Michele Zaccario, PhD** (Professor and Department Chairperson, Psychology, Dyson, NYC)

This presentation examines how health disparities influence cognitive, developmental, and behavioral outcomes in children with single-suture, non-syndromic craniosynostosis undergoing neurosurgical intervention. Using data from the Weill Cornell Medicine Craniosynostosis Program, participants were grouped by surgical approach and age at surgery. Findings reveal significant differences in outcomes based on age at intervention and ethnicity, highlighting how systemic inequities affect treatment timing and neurocognitive development in this population.

Poster 14

Resilient Detection of Malicious C2 Beacons in ECH-Enabled TLS 1.3 Traffic Using Spatio-Temporal Graph Neural Networks

Presenters: **Lavanya Kalla** (Master's Student, Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC) and **Shivani Maddela** (Master's Student, Data Science, NYC)

Faculty Mentor: **Krishna Bathula, PhD** (Clinical Assistant Professor, Computer Science; Program Chair-Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC)

This presentation introduces a privacy-preserving framework for detecting malicious network activity without decrypting traffic or relying on metadata. The approach uses Fast Fourier Transform to isolate periodic heartbeat signals from noisy network telemetry, followed by a Spatio-Temporal Graph Neural Network to model dynamic network behavior. By distinguishing automated botnet traffic from human activity, this method demonstrates that effective cybersecurity can coexist with user privacy in modern network environments.

Poster 15

The Influence of Cognitively Distorted Thinking and Patriarchal Beliefs on Survivor Blaming Among Japanese Men

Presenter: **Mari Morimoto, MA** (Doctoral Student, Clinical Psychology (Health Care Emphasis), Dyson, NYC)

Faculty Mentor: **Elizabeth Jeglic, PhD** (Professor, Psychology, John Jay College)

This study examines sexual violence against women in Japan, a context with low reporting rates and limited research on perpetrators. Surveying 234 Japanese males, the study found significant links between patriarchal beliefs, cognitively distorted thinking, and rape myth acceptance. Younger men showed higher cognitive distortions, and salaried employees scored higher on patriarchal beliefs. Findings highlight risk factors that mirror Western patterns and can inform primary prevention strategies to reduce sexual violence in Japan.

Poster 16

The Effect of Gamification on Blood Pressure, HTN Health Literacy and Self-Care in Adults with Asymptomatic HTN

Presenter: **Marsha Williamson** (Graduate Student, PhD in Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

Faculty Mentor: **Sharon Wexler, PhD, RN, FNGNA, FNYAM** (Professor and Department Chairperson, Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

This study examines the impact of a hypertension (HTN) education game on blood pressure, HTN health literacy, and self-care among adults with asymptomatic HTN in urgent care settings. Using a quasi-experimental design with 70 participants, the study assesses game effectiveness, explores associations with age and education, and examines relationships between BP, literacy, and self-care. Findings aim to inform innovative, engaging strategies for improving hypertension management and patient outcomes.

Poster 17

The Impact of Nurse Residency Programs on Nurse-Sensitive Indicators

Presenter: **Megan Moreno, MSN, RN, CPHON** (Doctoral Student, PhD in Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

Faculty Mentor: **Catherine Finlayson, PhD, RN, OCN** (Associate Professor, Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

This study examines the impact of Nurse Residency Programs (NRPs) on patient outcomes by evaluating nursing-sensitive indicators (CLABSI, CAUTI, falls, and pressure injuries) on acute inpatient units in an urban hospital. Using a correlational pre-post design and secondary analysis of NDNQI data, the research assesses NGN unit presence and its relationship to NSI rates. Findings are expected to demonstrate that NRPs not only support novice nurse

development but also improve measurable patient outcomes, highlighting their dual benefit for education and quality care.

Poster 18

Historical Sexual Trauma Information Use in Psychiatric Inpatient Care: An Exploratory Multi-Case Study

Presenter: **Nadia Elliott-Hernandez, MSN, RN** (Doctoral Student, Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

Faculty Mentor: **Lin Drury, PhD** (Professor, Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville) and **Sharon Wexler, PhD, RN, FNGNA, FNYAM** (Professor and Department Chairperson, Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

This study explores how sexual trauma (ST) histories from childhood abuse are collected and utilized in psychiatric inpatient care. Using a multiple exploratory case study guided by Trauma-Informed Care principles, data will be gathered from clinician interviews, patient EHRs, and organizational documents to examine how ST information informs psychiatric diagnoses and nursing care. Findings aim to enhance trauma-informed assessment practices, improving patient-centered care and addressing gaps in recognizing and responding to sexual trauma in inpatient settings.

Poster 19

Automated Plant Disease Detection System

Presenters: **Pranjali Chandgadkar** (Master's Student, Computer Science, Seidenberg, NYC) and **Arjun Mahajan** (Master's Student, Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC)

Faculty Mentor: **Krishna Bathula, PhD** (Clinical Assistant Professor, Computer Science; Program Chair-Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC)

This presentation explores an automated machine learning system for real-time plant disease detection and severity assessment, aiming to support farmers and improve crop productivity in India. The workflow includes image preprocessing, feature extraction, and classification of disease stages—mild, moderate, and severe—using color, texture, and shape features. Evaluation metrics include accuracy, F1-score, and RMSE, with future goals to develop an agentic AI interface providing actionable recommendations alongside disease identification and severity estimation.

Poster 20

Beyond Detection: An Explainable AI Framework with Behavioral Intelligence for Financial Fraud Investigation

Presenters: **Prince Gupta** (Master's Student, Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC) and **Avantika Agrawal** (Master's Student, Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC)

Faculty Mentor: **Krishna Bathula, PhD** (Clinical Assistant Professor, Computer Science; Program Chair-Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC)

This presentation introduces an Explainable Fraud Investigation AI framework that integrates Behavioral Intelligence to enhance transparency and support human investigators. Using transaction patterns from the PaySim dataset, the system detects fraudulent activity and highlights key contributing factors. A Fraud Confidence Index combines risk, behavioral irregularities, and financial impact to prioritize cases, while an interactive Streamlit dashboard and case comparison tool demonstrate how explainable AI can improve trust, efficiency, and effectiveness in financial fraud investigations.

Poster 21

Signals in the Data: High-Risk Perinatal Complications and Postpartum Depression in an Urban Academic Medical Center: A Retrospective Case–Control Study

Presenter: **Rachel Robins** (Doctoral Student, Graduate Student, PhD in Nursing, College of Health Professions, NYU)

Faculty Mentor: **Catherine Scott Finlayson, PhD, RN, OCN** (Associate Professor, Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

This presentation examines postpartum depression (PPD), which affects about 1 in 7 women, among those delivering at an urban academic medical center in New York City. Despite routine screening, roughly 75% go untreated, increasing risks of suicide, impaired maternal functioning, disrupted bonding, and adverse child outcomes. Using 2023–2025 electronic medical records, the study analyzes EPDS scores, ICD-10 diagnoses, obstetric complications, prior mental health history, and demographic and socioeconomic factors to identify risk associations and disparities in PPD diagnosis and treatment.

Poster 22

Beyond Controlled Lip Reading: Generalization and Transformer-Based Temporal Modeling in Visual Speech Recognition

Presenters: **Ran Roffe** (Master's Student, Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC), **Ramakrishna Sonakam** (Master's Student, Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC), and **Will Torres** (Master's Student, Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC),

Faculty Mentor: **Krishna Bathula, PhD** (Clinical Assistant Professor, Computer Science; Program Chair-Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC)

This presentation explores visual speech recognition beyond controlled datasets by reproducing and extending LipSyncNet, a hybrid 3D CNN–EfficientNetB0 and Bi-LSTM architecture trained with CTC loss. The study validates performance on the GRID corpus, then evaluates cross-dataset generalization on LRS2 and LRS3-TED. Ablation studies examine Bi-LSTM removal and Transformer alternatives, assessing whether vision models combined with attention-based mechanisms can enhance generalization in real-world, unconstrained visual speech recognition scenarios.

Poster 23

Predicting Major Adverse Cardiovascular Events in South Asian Americans with Coronary Artery Disease: A Comparative EHR-Based Study Across Ethnic Populations

Presenter: **Renu Mathew, MSN, FNP-BC** (Doctoral Student, Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

Faculty Mentor: **Sharon Wexler, PhD, RN, FNGNA, FNYAM** (Professor and Department Chairperson, Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

This study examines coronary artery disease (CAD) and major adverse cardiovascular events (MACE) among South Asian Americans (SAA), a population at disproportionately high risk yet underrepresented in research. Using retrospective electronic medical records from a Bronx medical center, the analysis compares CAD prevalence and MACE outcomes between SAA, African Americans, and Hispanics. Multivariable regression and time-to-event analyses will identify demographic, clinical, and laboratory predictors, informing a risk prediction model to identify high-risk SAA individuals.

Poster 24

Hospital Ownership's Impact on Nurse-Sensitive Indicators and Clinical Patient Outcomes

Presenter: **Sean Ryan, MSN, FNP-BC** (Doctoral Student, Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

Faculty Mentor: **Sharon Wexler, PhD, RN, FNGNA, FNYAM** (Professor and Department Chairperson, Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

This study examines the impact of hospital ownership on nurse-sensitive patient outcomes, comparing investor-owned and not-for-profit hospitals in the United States. Using 2024 National Database of Nursing Quality Indicators (NDNQI) data, it analyzes associations between hospital ownership, organizational characteristics, and nursing workforce characteristics with clinical patient outcomes. Guided by Donabedian's Structure–Process–Outcome framework, the research evaluates how profit-driven pressures may influence patient safety and quality of care.

Poster 25

Survey of Transgender Patient Experience's in Healthcare

Presenter: **Shirley Beauvais, MSN, RN, NEA-BC** (Doctoral Student, Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

Faculty Mentor: **Sharon Wexler, PhD, RN, FNGNA, FNYAM** (Professor and Department Chairperson, Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

This study examines healthcare experiences of transgender individuals in the United States, focusing on barriers, facilitators, and satisfaction with care. Using an adapted online Community Health Survey, it explores how race, gender identity, and socioeconomic status intersect to influence access, quality, discrimination, and delays in care. Findings aim to inform strategies that improve transgender healthcare outcomes and guide nursing practice toward more equitable, culturally competent care.

Poster 26

When AI Teaches: How Learning Changes When Students Think with Machines

Presenter: **Soheyla Amirian, PhD** (Assistant Professor, Computer Science, Seidenberg, NYC)

This presentation explores how AI is reshaping student learning, reasoning, and information evaluation. It introduces the concept of *calibrated trust*, emphasizing thoughtful reliance on AI rather than blind acceptance or avoidance. Using a framework that highlights explanation clarity and uncertainty communication, the talk demonstrates how AI can act as a cognitive partner. Practical strategies for assignment design, feedback, and classroom practices are presented to support deep learning while integrating AI responsibly.

Poster 27

CAMELS: Conversational Agents in Multimodal Embedded Latent Space

Presenters: **Watson Blair** (MS Student, Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC), **Yekaterina Donegal** (MS Student, Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC), **Kiara Amir Jamal** (MS Student, Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC), **Arya Shyam Kurup** (MS Student, Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC)

Faculty Mentor: **Krishna Bathula, PhD** (Clinical Assistant Professor, Computer Science; Program Chair-Data Science, Seidenberg, NYC)

This presentation introduces CAMELS, a Multimodal Understanding pipeline and alignment framework designed for real-time, naturalistic human–computer interaction. Unlike traditional ASR pipelines, CAMELS preserves non-textual semantic cues such as tone, speech patterns, and behavioral context while enabling streaming comprehension. Using Parameter Efficient Fine-Tuning, temporal chunking, and Hypergraph Neural Networks, CAMELS models multimodal conversations in a shared latent space, supporting low-latency, context-aware responses and agentic AI for dynamic, real-time dialogue understanding and simulation-based learning.

Books Displayed

3:40 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

15 Beekman, Bianco Room

Publications authored by Pace University faculty within the past five years (2021–2026)

Inbal Abergil, MFA (Associate Professor, Media, Communications, and Visual Arts, Dyson, Pleasantville)

- *The Presence of Absence*, 2025

John T. Bandler, JD (Adjunct Professor, Law, White Plains)

- *Cyberlaw: Law for Digital Spaces and Information Systems*, 2025
- *Policies and Procedures for Your Organization: Build Solid Governance Documents on Any Topic ... Including Cybersecurity*, 2024

Janice Barringer (Adjunct Professor, Ballet, Current Dance in New York – BFA Musicals, Sands, NYC)

- *The Pointe Book* (co-authored with Sarah Schlesinger, 4th edition), 2023

Janetta Rebold Benton, PhD (Distinguished Professor, Art History, Dyson, Pleasantville)

- *What Makes Great Art?*, 2026
- *The History of Western Art*, 2023
- *How to Understand Art*, 2021

Laetitia Blanchard Rubio, PhD (Adjunct Professor, Modern Languages and Cultures, Dyson, NYC)

- *Por don Carlos. Textos Literarios, Imágenes y Sonidos de la I Guerra Carlista en Francia. Estudio crítico y corpus textual bilingüe, iconográfico y musical anotado*, 2025

Meaghan Brewer, PhD (Associate Professor, English, Dyson, NYC)

- *Conceptions of Literacy: Graduate Instructors and the Teaching of First-Year Composition*, 2021

Chris Campanioni, PhD (Lecturer, English, Dyson, NYC)

- *north by north/west (an attention to frequency)*, 2025

Alison A. Carr-Chellman, PhD (Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, Pace University)

- *Trends and Issues in Instructional Design and Technology* (co-edited with Robert A. Reiser and John V. Dempsey, 5th edition), 2025

Michelle Chase, PhD (Associate Professor and Latin American Studies Program Director, History, Dyson, Pleasantville)

- *The Cuban Revolution and the New Left: Transnational Histories of Gender, Sexuality & Family*, co-edited with Isabella Cosse, 2026

Riccardo Costa, MA (Adjunct Professor, Modern Languages and Cultures, Dyson, NYC)

- *Butterflies in the Brownstone*, 2026

Julian Costa, MS (Adjunct Professor, Information Technology, Seidenberg, NYC)

- *Coach of the Building*, 2025

Kimberly Collica-Cox, PhD (Distinguished Professor, Criminal Justice, Dyson, NYC and Pleasantville)

- *Women Corrections Executives: The Keys To Reaching The Top*, 2023

Andriy Danylenko, PhD (Professor, Modern Languages and Cultures, Dyson, NYC)

- *From the Bible to Shakespeare. Pantelejmon Kulish (1819–1897) and the Formation of Literary Ukrainian*, 2023

Lisa M. Denig, JD (Adjunct Professor, Constitutional Law, Criminal Justice, Dispute Resolution, Haub Law, White Plains)

- *Trial and Error: A Novel*, 2024

Veronika Dolar, PhD (Associate Professor, Economics, Dyson, NYC)

- *ECON MACRO: Principles of Macroeconomics*, co-authored with William McEachern (7th edition), 2024
- *ECON MICRO: Principles of Microeconomics*, co-authored with William McEachern (7th edition), 2024
- *Missing Voices in Economics*, 2026

Alvin Eng, MFA (Adjunct Professor, English, Dyson, NYC)

- *Our Laundry, Our Town: My Chinese American Life from Flushing to the Downtown Stage and Beyond*, 2022

Amanda Flynn, EdD, MEd, MM (Adjunct Assistant Professor, Program Head Pace Musical Theatre, Sands, NYC; PAVA-Recognized Vocologist)

- *So You Want To Sing Musical Theatre, Updated and Expanded Version*, 2022

Rosario (Roy) Girasa JD, PhD (Distinguished Professor, Legal Studies & Taxation, Lubin, Pleasantville)

- *Regulation of Cryptocurrencies and Blockchain Technologies: National and International Perspectives*, 2023
- *Regulation of Innovative Technologies: Blockchain, Artificial Intelligence and Quantum Computing* (co-authored with Gino J. Scalabrini), 2022
- *Artificial Intelligence as a Disruptive Technology: Economic Transformation and Government Regulation*, 2025

Terence Hines, PhD (Professor, Psychology, Dyson, Pleasantville)

- *The Psychology and Science of Pseudoscience*, 2025

Marcelo Hoffman, PhD (Adjunct Professor, Political Science, Dyson, NYC)

- *Foucault in Brazil: Dictatorship, Resistance, and Solidarity*, 2024

Jennifer L. Hofmann, DMSc, MS, PA-C (Director Didactic Education; Clinical Professor, College of Health Professions, NYC)

- *Mind Maps in Medical Pharmacology, 1st Edition A Study Resource and Review for PA, NP, and Medical Students and Clinicians*, 2024

Philip Kadish, PhD (Adjunct Professor, English, Dyson, NYC)

- *The Great White Hoax: Two Centuries of Selling Racism in America*, 2025

Narinder Kakar, JD (Distinguished Senior Fellow at the Global Center for Environmental Legal Studies, Law, White Plains)

- *Fulfilling the Sustainable Development Goals: On a Quest for a Sustainable World* (co-edited with Vesselin Popovski and Nicholas A. Robinson), 2021

- *Pathways to Sustainable Development: Implementing the Pact for the Future* (co-edited with **Anna Shostya, PhD** (Professor; Department Chairperson, Economics, Dyson, NYC), 2025

Thomas Keith, MFA (Adjunct Professor, Theater, Sands, NYC)

- *Early Stories by Tennessee Williams*, 2025
- *Robert Burns's Life on the Stage, a Bibliography of Dramatic Works 1842-2022*, 2022

Eric Kessler, PhD (Distinguished Professor, Management and Management Science, Lubin, NYC)

- *Global Leadership and Wisdoms of the World: Insights from 17 Language Cultures*, 2024

Adam Klein, PhD (Associate Professor and Associate Chair, Communication and Media Studies, Dyson, NYC)

- *Populism, Propaganda, and Political Extremism: Building the Rage Machine*, 2025

Kelley Kreitz, PhD (Professor, English, NYC; Interim Associate Provost of Academic Programs and Strategy)

- *Printing Nueva York: Spanish-Language Print Culture, Media Change, and Democracy in the Late Nineteenth Century*, 2026

Melanie La Rosa, MFA (Associate Professor, Media, Communication, and Visual Arts, Dyson, Pleasantville and NYC)

- *Contemporary Post-Production: Create, Cut, Collaborate, Color, Deliver*, 2025

John P Lamb, PhD (Adjunct Professor, Mathematics, Dyson, Pleasantville)

- *Building an Energy Sustainable Enterprise: Methodologies and Metrics* (co-authored with Sanjeev-Kumar Marimekala and Nina Godbole), 2024
- *Using AI to Find the Best Ways to Reduce Energy Use in an Enterprise - Methodologies and Metrics*, 2026

Joseph Tse-Hei Lee, PhD (Professor; Global Asia Studies Program Co-Director, History, Dyson, NYC)

- *Empire Competition: South East Asia As A Site Of Imperial Contestation* (edited with **Amy Freedman, PhD**), 2021
- *From Missionary Education to Confucius Institutes: Historical Reflections on Sino-American Cultural Exchange*, edited with Jeff Kyong-McClain, 2024
- *Resist! Democracy And Youth Activism In Myanmar, Hong Kong, And Singapore* (edited with **Amy Freedman, PhD**), 2024

Seong Jae Min, PhD (Professor, Communication and Media Studies, Dyson, NYC)

- *Navigating White News: Asian American Journalists at Work* (co-authored with David Oh), 2023
- *Rethinking the New Technology of Journalism: How Slowing Down Will Save the News*, 2022

Pauline Mosley, DPS (Professor, Information Technology, Seidenberg, Pleasantville)

- *Sphero BOLT Cybersecurity Labs - Educator Guide*, 2022

Laurice (Lauri) D. Nemetz, MA, BC-DMT, LCAT, ERYT500, C-IAYT (Adjunct Professor, BS Nurse Education, College of Health Professions, Pleasantville)

- *The Myofascial System in Form and Movement*, 2023

Mirjana Pantic, PhD (Associate Professor, Media and Communication Arts, Dyson, Pleasantville)

- *Digital News Literacy and Participatory Journalism: A Guide to Navigating Truth and the Information Landscape in the Digital Age*, 2026

Viktoria Paranyuk, PhD (Lecturer, Film and Screen Studies, Dyson, NYC)

- *Cinema of Sincerity: Soviet Films and Culture during the Thaw*, 2025

Raquel Plotka, PhD (Associate Professor, School of Education, NYC)

- *The Effects of COVID-19 on Early Childhood Education: Research and Lessons Learned*, 2024

Gina Scutelnicu Todoran, PhD (Professor and Department Chair, Public Administration, Dyson, NYC)

- *Managing Gender Inequity in Academia: A Guide for Faculty and Administrators*, 2024

Namchul Shin, PhD (Professor, Information Technology, Seidenberg, NYC)

- *The Consortia Century: Aligning for Impact*, 2024

Anne Toomey, PhD (Associate Professor, Environmental Studies, Dyson, NYC)

- *Science with Impact: How to Engage People, Change Practice, and Influence Policy*, 2024

Ying Wang, PhD (Associate Professor; Department Chairperson, Modern Languages/Cultures, Dyson, NYC)

- *Le handicap dans la littérature féminine au XIXe siècle en France*, 2025

Biographies of Conference Presenters

Avantika Agrawal is a Master's student in Data Science at Pace University with strong interest in machine learning and financial analytics. Focus areas include fraud detection and behavioral intelligence, with experience in data preprocessing, model development, and transforming analytical insights into practical, decision-support solutions.

Soheyla Amirian, PhD, is an Assistant Professor at Pace University's Seidenberg School of CSIS, specializing in human-centered AI and explainable machine learning. Her research examines how AI shapes human reasoning, trust, and decision-making, particularly in education and healthcare. She leads interdisciplinary projects and outreach initiatives focused on designing AI systems that enhance human understanding rather than replace it.

Avantika Agrawal is a Master's student in Data Science at Pace University with strong interest in machine learning and financial analytics. Focus areas include fraud detection and behavioral intelligence, with experience in data preprocessing, model development, and transforming analytical insights into practical, decision-support solutions.

Khubaib Ansari is a Graduate Student in the Public Health Program at College of Health Professions and focuses his research on public and environmental health, respiratory disease, and health equity, particularly the impact of structural and social determinants on vulnerable populations. He studies biomass combustion and household air pollution, examining links to COPD in women in low- and middle-income settings.

Farhana Azad is an MS Data Science student at Pace University's Seidenberg School of CSIS. Specializing in machine learning, predictive modeling, and data analysis, she applies Python, SQL, and data visualization skills to enhance decision-making frameworks. In the NeuroScan project, she leads retinal image analysis, training a Vision Transformer to extract neurodegenerative biomarkers from fundus imaging datasets.

Shirley Beauvais, MSN, RN, NEA-BC, is a healthcare leader and doctoral student with extensive experience in nursing leadership, clinical operations, and quality improvement. She oversees Central Sterile Processing and Endoscopy Reprocessing, focusing on patient safety, workforce development, and operational efficiency. Her research explores healthcare disparities among transgender individuals, examining how race, gender identity, and socioeconomic status affect access and quality of care.

Angela Banfield is a registered nurse specializing in chemotherapy, immunotherapy, and surgical oncology, with over 20 years of prior experience in public health focused on HIV/AIDS. A PhD student at Pace University, her work centers on reducing health disparities, with current research examining faith-based interventions for hypertension management among Black women.

Emily Bent, PhD, is Associate Professor of Women and Gender Studies at Pace University, NYC. Her research focuses on girl-led movements, human rights, and feminist activism. She collaborates with girl leaders at the UN and integrates her research into courses including WS 180, WS 297F, and WS 297X. She recently published on experiential pedagogies in *Clinical Sociology Review*.

Elizabeth (Liz) Berro, PhD, RN, CHSE, CNE, is an Assistant Professor and Director of the ABS program at Pace University. Her clinical background spans pediatric care from critical care to telehealth. She has published on nursing education, simulation, and poverty simulations, with a focus on innovative teaching and preparing undergraduate nursing students for practice.

Watson Blair is an MS in Data Science student at Pace University with over seven years of experience as a Full Stack JavaScript engineer.

Molly Byrne, PhD, studies social cognition and social learning across species, exploring evolutionary and domestication effects to uncover what is shared among mammals and what is unique to humans. Her research includes pet dogs, service dogs, and Australian dingoes, providing opportunities for dog owners to participate in studies on social behavior and learning.

Linda Carozza, PhD, CCC-SLP is an Associate Professor of Communication and Sciences and Disorders in College of Health Professions at Pace University and also holds a faculty appointment NYU Langone Health. She is a clinician-researcher specializing in adult neurogenic communication disorders, with research on Alzheimer's-related

language decline, quality-of-life communication approaches, PTSD, and leadership education for minority faculty, alongside books and numerous publications.

Pranjali Chandgadkar is an MS in Data Science student at Pace University, New York with a background in Instrumentation and Control Engineering at Vishwakarma Institute of Technology (VIT), India.

Marie Lourdes Charles, EdD, RN-BC, FNYAM, is a community health nurse, researcher, and educator with over 40 years of experience focused on advancing health equity in underserved communities. As co-founder of HEAL Haiti, she supports outreach and education initiatives, collaborates on NIH's All of Us program, and studies HIV prevention, including dapivirine ring uptake in Uganda.

Qian Chen, PhD, is Clinical Assistant Professor of Mathematics at Pace University, specializing in almost complex structures in smooth manifolds. She earned her PhD from the CUNY Graduate Center and has recently focused on Bitcoin, exploring its mathematical foundations and mentoring students in related research and conference presentations.

Amon Chikohora is a Graduate Student in Cybersecurity at Seidenberg as well as a Graduate Student Intern at the Pace Center for Global Health. Amon develops digital platforms and websites to support public health initiatives, highlighting environmental risk factors for chronic respiratory diseases and leveraging technology to address global health challenges.

Christine D. Clayton, EdD, is a Professor at Pace University whose work focuses on new teacher learning, inquiry, and professional development. With over two decades of experience in teacher education and previous leadership of a \$1.89 million grant for professional development of inquiry learning and teaching, she studies and designs scalable learning systems to better support and sustain teacher growth and effectiveness.

Kimberly Collica-Cox, PhD, is a Distinguished Professor of Criminal Justice at Pace University and Director of Jail-Based Services. An award-winning scholar and Inside-Out instructor, her work focuses on corrections. She has authored two books and over forty articles and received national recognition for innovation, public service, and research in criminal justice.

Christen Cooper, EdD, RDN, is the founder and professor of Nutrition and Dietetics in Pace University's Nutrition and Dietetics Program in the College of Health Professions. Her prior work includes work as a Legislative Assistant for women's health on Capitol Hill and a senior management consultant for healthcare in Brazil and the United States.

Jennifer Cuddapah, EdD, Professor of Education at Hood College, specializes in teacher preparation and educational leadership. With over 20 years of experience mentoring novice educators, she has led funded initiatives, including a \$1.44 million NSF Noyce grant. Her current research explores the ethical and pedagogical implications of artificial intelligence in education.

Burhan Latief Dar is a graduate student at the Seidenberg School of CSIS, Pace University, New York. His research focuses on federated learning, privacy-preserving ML, and AI in healthcare. He is the lead architect of the NeuroScan project, responsible for the federated infrastructure, CMGAF mechanism, and system design.

Tasha Darbes, PhD, is an Associate Professor in the School of Education and the is Principal Investigator of a Spencer Foundation-funded project on commodified literacy and multilingual learners. Recognized as a VITAL Educator, Professor Darbes works on AI-driven, culturally responsive education and digital humanities projects, including multimedia exhibits for youth, and has published on critical media literacy, immigration, education, and multilingualism.

Komal Dodiya is a Master's Student in the Data Science program and has experience in Machine Learning, NLP, Large Language Models, and data visualization using Tableau and PowerBI. Skilled in Python, SQL, and AWS, Dodiya focuses on building scalable data solutions and gaining insights.

Veronika Dolar, PhD, is Associate Professor of Economics at Pace University, teaching macroeconomics, inequality, and economics of gender, race, and class. Her research focuses on economic inequality, labor markets, health

economics, and experiential pedagogy. She co-authors economics textbooks and edited *Missing Voices in Economics*, bridging data-driven analysis with real-world social and environmental challenges.

Kamal Domandula is a Master's student at Pace University studying Computer Science and Data Science. He specializes in UI/UX Design and Data Analytics, focusing on building intuitive, data-driven digital experiences supported by dashboards and interactive visualizations.

Yekaterina Donegal is an MS in Data Science student at Pace University with a background in Psychology.

Kethan Kiran Dosapati is a Master's student at Pace University studying Computer Science and Data Science. He works mainly in Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Generative AI, and Agentic AI. He builds end-to-end AI systems including chatbots and intelligent agents designed for real-world deployment.

Shamita Dutta Gupta, PhD, conducts research spanning Number Theory, Actuarial Science, Financial Mathematics, and Mathematics Education. With 30 publications, she focuses on curriculum innovation, developing Learning Communities, Service Learning, WEC courses, and Experiential Learning modules. She actively engages with middle and high schools, coaching math clubs, and has received three Mathematical Association of America grants from 2023–2025.

S. Perl Egenderf, PhD, is an Earth and Environmental Scientist who studies urban soil dynamics and their intersections with food-, environmental- and climate-justice.

Nadia Elliott-Hernandez, MSN, RN, is a registered nurse specializing in psychiatry at NYU Langone Medical Center and a PhD student at Pace University. With experience in both inpatient and outpatient care, she is dedicated to promoting empathy, understanding, and patient-centered care for psychiatric populations. Her work focuses on humanizing psychiatric patients and advocating for compassionate, stigma-free treatment.

Margalie Etienne is a fourth-year PhD student in School Psychology at Pace University, a certified school psychologist with a master's degree in the field. She provides therapy and conducts psychological and educational assessments with children and adults. Her research at the Parent Child Institute examines parenting during COVID-19 and its impact on parent-child relationships.

Fran Falk-Ross, PhD, is Professor and Chair of Literacy Education at Pace University's School of Education, NYC. Her research focuses on middle school literacy, including new literacies like graphic novels, and she is widely published in professional journals such as those of the National Council of Teachers of English.

Dan Farkas, PhD, is a Professor of Information Systems in the Seidenberg School of Computer Science and Information Systems at Pace University. He is the founder of the AIS Special Interest Group on GIS (SIGGIS). His research focuses on interdisciplinary applications of GIS in areas such as conservation biology and criminal justice. He has developed GIS curricula at Pace and delivered workshops nationally and internationally. He holds a BA in History, an MS in Computer Science, and a PhD in Educational Technology from NYU, as well as an MS in Environmental Science and Policy from Johns Hopkins University.

Katherine Fink, PhD, is Associate Professor in Media, Communications, and Visual Arts at Pace University and Director of the MA in Communications and Digital Media program. She advises the Pace Chronicle and researches community journalism, nonprofit news, and open government. Fink earned her PhD in Communications from Columbia and previously worked 11 years as a radio journalist.

Scotty French is a PhD candidate in Mental Health Counseling at Pace University. His research interests include emotion regulation, identity development, and queer mental health, informed by experience in Dialectical Behavior Therapy-focused settings. With a background in quantitative psychology, Scotty has studied adolescent technology use and contributed to research on text-based communication, including parent-child interactions, couples, and conflict patterns.

Catalina Florina Florescu, PhD, has a doctoral degree in Comparative Literature/Medical Humanities from Purdue University. She is a published author of books on intersectionality, motherhood, health rights, as well as plays,

poems, short stories on topics that typically have at their core our being free and well in the world. She is a full adjunct professor in the English Dept. at Pace, NYC campus.

Julia Giambone, MS, (Doctoral Candidate, Clinical Psychology (Health Care Emphasis), Dyson) focuses on brain-behavior relationships and neuropsychological profiles. Aspiring to become a board-certified clinical neuropsychologist, she studies the impact of health disparities on neurocognitive outcomes while advocating for equitable healthcare access and system change in academic medicine.

Erica L Gollub, DrPH, MPH, is a Professor in the Health Science Department at College of Health Professions with over 30 years of research in sexual and reproductive health. Her work focuses on HIV/STI risk reduction for women globally, alongside studies on gender-based violence, firearm violence, and contraceptive policy, including recent research on microbicides to prevent HIV.

Prince Gupta is a Master's student in Data Science at Pace University, with strong focus on machine learning, explainable AI, and data-driven decision systems. Experience includes developing predictive models, automation workflows, and analytics solutions, with a particular interest in building transparent, scalable AI systems for financial risk and fraud investigations.

Alysia Heckstall is a PhD candidate in Mental Health Counseling at Pace University and a Licensed Mental Health Counselor in New York and Licensed Professional Counselor in New Jersey. She is a solo private practitioner whose work centers women from marginalized communities, with research focused on multiculturalism, identity, empowerment, counselor education, supervision, and equity-driven, culturally responsive care.

Kiara Jamal is an MS in Data Science student at Pace University with a background in Software Engineering.

Jayashree Johnson is a Master's student in Data Science at Pace University. Her work focuses on applied machine learning systems, research intelligence pipelines, and scalable deployment architectures. She is particularly interested in integrating modeling, experimentation, and real-world system design to build practical AI-driven tools.

Lavanya Kalla is a Master's student in Data Science at Pace University with a background in Electronics and Communication Engineering. Her expertise includes front-end development, predictive brain modeling, and unsupervised anomaly detection. She leads Team 11's capstone project, applying Spatio-Temporal Graph Neural Networks to detect malicious C2 beacons in ECH-enabled network traffic.

Laura Kaplan, PhD, is a Clinical Assistant Professor at Pace University. Her research examines bilingual education history, community activism, and anti-racist pedagogy, focusing on Latinx communities in the Bronx. She co-leads a Spencer Foundation participatory action research project, contributes to NYC DOE's Hidden Voices curriculum, and mentors students preparing educators for diverse urban classrooms.

Adrienne Kapstein, MFA, is a director, theater maker, and educator whose original work has been presented at Lincoln Center, Soho Rep, New Victory LabWorks, PS 122, as well as in Canada, Scotland, Ireland, Romania, Croatia, and China. She has published in leading theatre journals and is an Associate Professor at Pace University, where she leads programs in Acting, Directing, and Performance Making.

Tom Klapper is a PhD candidate in Mental Health Counseling at Pace University and a graduate of its master's program. He works as an LMHC-LP in private practice, providing counseling to clients across diverse ages and clinical presentations, with a focus on broad, inclusive mental health care.

Arya Kurup is an MS in Data Science student at Pace University with a background in Artificial Intelligence and Data Science.

Melanie La Rosa, MFA, is an award-winning filmmaker, professor, and author. Her documentary *How To Power A City* (2024) explores community renewable energy projects and airs on PBS in May 2025. Her writings include *Contemporary Post-Production* and *Communities and the Clean Energy Revolution*. She is a Public Voices Fellow on climate crisis and collaborates with institutions like The Nature Conservancy and the Smithsonian.

Cathryn Lavery, PhD, attended Iona College and was the first woman to graduate their MS degree program in Criminal Justice. She received her PhD in Criminal Justice from the Graduate Center/CUNY.

James P. Lawler, DPS, is Professor of Disability Studies and Information Technologies in the Seidenberg School of Computer Science and Information Systems of Pace University. He is engaged in Anti-Racist Education and Community Engagement on Design Factory projects engaging entrepreneurial students. Professor Lawler was awarded the Jefferson Award for Community Service for projects with people with disabilities in the City of New York.

Jonathan I. Lee, MS, is a Clinical Assistant Professor at Pace University's Seidenberg School of CSIS and a current PhD candidate. His research focuses on artificial intelligence and planning systems. He teaches courses in machine learning, data science, and programming, and is dedicated to advancing applied AI education.

Mary M. Long, PhD, is Professor of Marketing at Pace University's Lubin School of Business, teaching marketing, consumer behavior, and advanced marketing management. She has led International Field Study courses in Marketing to destinations such as Japan, Vietnam, and Scandinavia. Her research focuses on consumer behavior and services marketing. She earned her PhD from CUNY.

Diana Lote is a 20-year entertainment industry professional with experience in casting, production, talent development, and education across major U.S. markets. She is the founder of Common Thread Entertainment and has worked as a talent agent with CESD, Arcieri, DBA, and DDO. Her production credits include HBO, Netflix, and NBC. She co-founded VO Duo NYC and launched the Miami chapter of Naked Angels Theater Company. Diana also mentors emerging talent and teaches acting at Pace University's Sands College for the Performing Arts.

Shivani Maddela is a Master's student in Data Science at Pace University, completing her final semester. She holds a bachelor's from Bhoj Reddy Engineering College for Women, India, and previously worked as a data analyst intern. Shivani focuses on data analytics and machine learning, building expertise for a career in the data science field.

Arjun Mahajan is an MS in Data Science student at Pace University, New York with a background in Computer engineering at VIT Vellore, India. Laxmi Puneeth Kukkadapu is an MS in Data Science student at Pace University, New York with a background in computer science at Parul University, India.

Renu Mathew, MSN, FNP-BC, is a Family Nurse Practitioner at Montefiore Medical Center with 18 years of nursing experience, specializing in preventive cardiology. She focuses on culturally informed care, early risk detection, and reducing cardiovascular disparities among underserved populations. Renu earned her MSN from The College of New Rochelle and her BSN from L.T.C.N., Mumbai, and is dedicated to improving equitable cardiovascular outcomes through patient-centered care and research.

Peter McDermott, PhD, is Professor of Literacy Education at Pace University's School of Education, teaching graduate courses in disciplinary reading and digital technologies. A former Fulbright Scholar and NYS Reading Association president, his research focuses on digital literacies, with publications and presentations on technology-enhanced learning.

Sharon Medow, MS, is a clinical faculty member at Pace University's School of Education, NYC. With extensive NYC public school experience, she teaches reading and language arts to undergraduates and is recognized for her creativity, passion, and expertise in children's literature.

Kiara Medina, BS, is graduate student at Pace University's Communication Sciences and Disorders Program. She has a bachelor's degree from Brooklyn College. Kiara has always been interested in how mentorship may help marginalized students. While navigating through undergraduate courses, she discovered how little representation there is for minority students. Reading Professor Carozzo's article prompted this research.

Megan Moreno is currently in the 8th cohort of the PhD in Nursing program at Pace University in Pleasantville. She works at the Children's Hospital at Montefiore in the Bronx as a Unit Based Education Coordinator.

Mari Morimoto, MA, is a first-year Ph.D. student in Clinical Psychology. Her research focuses on sexual offending, prevention, and forensic populations. She conducted international research with Dr. Elizabeth Jeglic. Currently, she works with Dr. Baker, Dr. Kocas, and Dr. Choi. By combining neuroscience and forensic psychology, Mari aims to develop prevention strategies that support both victims and offenders of sexual crimes.

Pauline Mosley, DPS, joined Pace University in 2000, bringing extensive experience from academia and industry. Before Pace, she served a decade as a tenured Assistant Professor at Hostos Community College (CUNY), earning recognition for excellence in teaching and mentorship. Mosley's corporate experience at IBM and Brooklyn Union Gas provided insights into leadership, innovation, and organizational systems. She combines real-world expertise with academic rigor to create engaging, practical learning experiences. A dedicated mentor and educator, Mosley is deeply committed to empowering students and faculty, fostering professional growth, and advancing diversity in STEM and higher education.

Barbara A. Mowder, PhD, is a Professor in the Psychology Department at Pace University-NYC. She is also the Director of the Parent-Child Institute (PCI), a research lab in the Pace Psychology Department. She has written extensively on parenting and child development outcomes and currently is involved in PCI research regarding the efficacy of digital parenting workshops.

David Mulcahy, MA, is currently a supervisory United States probation officer for the Southern District of New York. He is also a member of the Joint Firearms Task Force and collaborates with the Witness Protection Program. He has worked in conjunction with federal task forces including High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF), and All Source Intelligence Center (ASIC).

Erin Mysogland, MA, MSc is Assistant Director of the Center for Community Action and Research at Pace University, NYC. She partners with students, faculty, and community organizations on civic engagement initiatives and teaches Introduction to Peace and Justice Studies, supporting projects on food insecurity, environmental justice, queer community building, and immigration rights.

Ronak Papaliya is a Master's Student in the Data Science program and focuses on AI-driven systems and data analytics. Research interests include scalable machine learning solutions, data modeling, and applying artificial intelligence to solve complex real-world problems across multiple domains.

Cindy Paradiso, PhD, RN-BC, CNE is an Assistant Professor of Nursing who teaches pathophysiology and pharmacology. With over 20 years of clinical experience, she also serves as a Clinical Quality Specialist. Her research focuses on medication safety, interprofessional education, and novice nurses' experiences, using qualitative methods. She is active in multiple professional nursing organizations.

Aniket Patel is a Master's student in the Data Science program and has a background in AI and Machine Learning. He specializes in ML algorithms, data engineering, and data analysis, with growing expertise in Agentic AI. Skilled in Python and SQL, Patel is passionate about building intelligent, data-driven solutions.

Hisha Alpeshkumar Patel is a Master's student in Human-Centered Design at Pace University with a background in IT. As a Graduate Assistant at Pace's Global Health Center, she manages digital platforms to share research and events. Her work spans interactive exhibits and student-focused platforms, with a focus on leveraging digital media to influence health behaviors and engagement through design, research, and creative storytelling.

Samantha Pescatore, MA, MS, is a Doctoral Candidate in the Clinical Psychology (Health Care Emphasis) program, serves as an adjunct assistant professor at Pace and CUNY, and is a Neuropsychology Intern at Northwell Staten Island University Hospital. Her clinical and research interests include neurorehabilitation, neurodevelopmental outcomes, health disparities, and access to care for medically complex children.

Noushi Rahman, PhD, is a Professor of Management at Pace University's Lubin School of Business. His research examines the intersection of strategy, social issues in management, and technology. He is presenting his research on AI usage patterns in social enterprises. His book, *Grey Zone Strategy*, is forthcoming from the University of Toronto Press (Rotman).

Elizabeth Revangil is a Haitian American MA candidate in Digital Media and Communications at Pace University. Her research examines the “soft life” movement, exploring how Black women use digital platforms to challenge traditional narratives of resilience, reclaim narrative authority, and reshape cultural identity. Her work bridges Black feminist theory, media representation, and digital identity performance.

Rachel Robins, MSN, CNM, is a Certified Nurse Midwife and Assistant Nurse Manager at NYU Langone Health, overseeing a high-acuity labor and delivery and antepartum unit. A PhD student and Jonas Scholar at Pace University, her research focuses on postpartum depression, perinatal complications, and maternal health disparities. She is committed to nurse-led research, team development, and improving maternal outcomes in urban populations.

Natalie Rodrigues is an undergraduate student, majoring in Chemistry, and is an aspiring STEM educator with strong experience in research and tutoring. She has received multiple Provost Student-Faculty Research awards and presented at national conferences, including the American Chemical Society. Her work includes honey analysis, spectroscopy, and propolis research, with a peer-reviewed publication, alongside experience as a substitute teacher and STEM tutor.

Ran Roffe is a Master’s student in Data Science at Pace University with a BSc in Engineering and an MBA in Finance and Insurance from Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. His experience spans classical machine learning, time series analysis, NLP, and organizational analytics. His research focuses on agent-based systems, emphasizing multi-agent architectures and their real-world applications.

Jennifer Rosenstein, MS LIS, MA is the Director of Beekman Library and holds master’s degrees from Syracuse University and Teachers College, Columbia University. She has also worked as a secondary school librarian and English teacher in the New York City public schools.

Kevin Ruffler, MS, is a High School Chemistry teacher at Hastings High School. Kevin earned his Master’s in Adolescent Education in 2025. He balances a strong scientific background with innovative teaching, advising student clubs, developing courses, and modernizing labs with vernier technology. Kevin’s dedication supports both student learning and academic engagement.

Sean J. Ryan is a doctoral student at Pace University’s Lienhard School of Nursing, focusing on health systems and patient outcomes. His research examines how hospital ownership, including for-profit and private-equity models, influences nurse-sensitive quality indicators and hospital-acquired conditions. Clinically trained as an advanced practice nurse, he integrates large datasets with practice-informed insights to inform policy and promote safe, high-quality nursing care.

Ann Marie Sailsman, DNP, FNP-BC, MPH, is a Clinical Assistant Professor in undergraduate nursing at Seton Hall University, NJ, with over 30 years in nursing, including 20 in academia. Her expertise spans OB, community and population health, pediatrics, psychiatry, and gerontology. She founded programs to support diversity in nursing and improve student literacy and has served as Co-PI on a RWJF grant integrating population health into nursing curricula.

Dennis Sandler, PhD, is Professor of Marketing at Pace University’s Lubin School of Business, teaching marketing, advertising, consumer behavior, and Field Studies in Europe. His research focuses on advertising, sponsorship, promotion, and sports marketing, with publications in top journals. He co-founded the AMA Sport Marketing Special Interest Group and has served as faculty advisor to AMA and AIESEC student chapters. He earned his PhD from NYU.

Jenna Saviano, MA, MEd, is a Doctoral Candidate in the School-Clinical Psychology program in Dyson and holds master’s degrees from Rutgers and Pace. She is currently a pre-doctoral intern at Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital. Her research focuses on predictors of loss to follow-up in preterm infants, with interests in early developmental risk, family systems, perinatal loss, and adult inpatient psychiatry.

Sarah Seymour is a PhD student in Mental Health Counseling at Pace University, where she also earned her master’s degree. A member of the Trauma, Social Processes, and Resilience Lab, her interests include emotional

understanding, resilience, secondary trauma, and advocacy within the counseling field. She holds an undergraduate degree from Mount Saint Mary College.

Namchul Shin, PhD, in Management (MIS), has 26 years of faculty experience. His research explores IT value, environmental sustainability, biodiversity, open data, GIS, and nonprofits, with publications in top journals including *Nature* and *Science*. He co-founded AIS SIGGIS, leads workshops, and has served as Faculty Fellow at Pace University's Provost's Office and Wilson Center for Social Entrepreneurship.

Vidhi Shiyani is a Master's Student of Data Science in Seidenberg and has a strong foundation in DBMS, Machine Learning, and Data Analysis. Skilled in Python, SQL, and data visualization tools, with experience working on structured data and analytical models. Shiyani is passionate about gaining insight and building efficient, data-driven solutions.

Lisa Sholomon, MA, is a second-year PhD student in the Clinical Psychology (Healthcare Emphasis) Doctoral Program at Pace University. She works as a research coordinator studying maternal and reproductive psychology, and she has experience in psychotherapy and assessment with people across the lifespan.

Soleda Silva is a sophomore double major in Political Science and Peace & Justice Studies at Pace University in New York City. She has completed two civic engagement courses and volunteered with the United Nations and Catholic Charities.

Aman Singh is an MS in Data Science student at Pace University with a background in machine learning, deep learning, and predictive maintenance systems. His work focuses on developing data-driven solutions in time-series analysis, anomaly detection, and industrial applications using advanced analytics and AI techniques.

Manvendra Singh is a graduate student at Pace University's Seidenberg School of CSIS with professional experience in financial services, specializing in compliance workflow automation. In the NeuroScan project, he leads the speech biomarker extraction pipeline, using Wav2Vec 2.0 for self-supervised feature learning from clinical speech recordings to detect early signs of cognitive decline.

Aimee Smith is a Simulation Educator and Adjunct Faculty for Lienhard School of Nursing, and a PhD in Nursing student. She is board certified in critical care nursing, simulation, and nurse practitioner practice.

Ramakrishna Sonakam is an MS Data Science student at Pace University with a BE in Electronics and Telecommunications from Mumbai University. He specializes in translating complex data into actionable insights, challenging assumptions, and designing practical, data-driven strategies and systems that deliver measurable, sustained value.

Karilyn Ashley Surratt, MA, explores a modular curriculum preparing dance students for the evolving performing arts labor market, emphasizing entrepreneurial skills, off-stage roles, and interdisciplinary learning. An adjunct professor at Pace and ABT® Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School, Karilyn was the first Indigenous American Radio City Rockette. She holds an MA from NYU and advocates for culturally responsive pedagogy and student career readiness.

Laura Tamman, PhD, is Clinical Assistant Professor of Political Science at Pace University, specializing in American and Urban Politics. Using quantitative methods, she studies political persuasion, race, and campaign effects. With over 20 years in political campaigns, she coauthored reports on Ranked Choice Voting, contributes to media outlets, and frequently provides expert commentary on NYC politics.

Mary Tedeschi, DPS is a Clinical Assistant Professor of Information Technology in Seidenberg and specializes in professional studies, pedagogy, and collaborative practice. Her work focuses on interdisciplinary learning, reflective practice, and the use of structured frameworks to enhance professional engagement and innovation across diverse organizational and educational settings.

Larissa Teixeira da Costa is pursuing her MS in TESOL at Pace University, focusing on technology and second language acquisition. Her research examines AI's impact on vocabulary development, and she serves as a graduate

research assistant on a Spencer Foundation project studying commodified literacy and its effects on teachers and multilingual learners, aiming to advance evidence-based AI integration in language learning.

Will Torres is an MS Data Science student at Pace University with a BS in Computer Science from Adelphi University. His research spans biostatistics, computational biology, and machine learning, including wearable sensor analytics, EEG-based emotion detection, gait analysis in Parkinson's patients, and computer vision for honeybee conservation. Professionally, he develops scalable ETL pipelines and interactive analytics applications, focusing on data-driven solutions in healthcare and ecology.

Farley Villarente, MSN, FNP, RN, CCRN, is a doctoral student of Nursing and a nurse educator at Montefiore Medical Center. His research focuses on early recognition and escalation of care in clinically deteriorating patients. He integrates education, innovation, evidence-based practice, research, and mentorship to advance nursing practice and improve patient outcomes.

P.V. Viswanath, PhD, MBA, is Professor of Finance in the Lubin School of Business. He is a great believer in the importance of multidisciplinary education. Although it is useful to be proficient in a specific discipline, it is important to know how that discipline can be enriched by insights from other disciplines, and ultimately how the disciplines are imbricated in society. He teaches two courses that embody this philosophy – one emphasizing the relationship between finance and the other areas of business; and the other exploring the embedding of finance in society.

Masha Voronchenko is a fourth-year PsyD candidate in School–Clinical Child Psychology at Pace University, also pursuing an MEd in School Psychology. She has clinical experience in psychotherapy and assessment with youth and adults. Her research examines parenting, family stress, and positive parenting, focusing on how stress, depression, and socioeconomic factors shape parenting and family support.

Marsha Williamson is a PhD student in nursing with over 20 years of clinical experience. She practices as a Family Nurse Practitioner in urgent care and teaches in a prelicensure nursing program. Her experience spans critical care, neurosurgery, and primary care. She focuses on engaging and educating students and communities to improve patient care and outcomes and is active in Sigma Theta Tau, the Nurse Practitioner Association, and the Eastern Nursing Research Society.

Jennifer Winter, NP, is a women's health nurse practitioner based in Newark, New Jersey, and serves as adjunct faculty at Rutgers University and Seton Hall University. Her work focuses on identifying and addressing health disparities affecting adolescent and young adult females, with an emphasis on improving sexual and reproductive health outcomes.

Esmira Yusufova, MSN, RN, CNE, CHSE, AHN-BC, NE-BC, is a Lecturer at SUNY Downstate and PhD candidate at Pace University. Her research focuses on virtual reality for spiritual care education. A certified holistic nurse, she integrates creative and evidence-based approaches to foster emotional intelligence and resilience, and actively leads initiatives in simulation and mindfulness-based nursing education.

Michele Zaccario, PhD, is a Professor and Department Chairperson of Psychology, at Dyson, a licensed psychologist, and a researcher at NYU Langone Medical Center's Division of Neonatology. Her work focuses on psychological and neurodevelopmental assessment of high-risk infants and medically fragile youth. She teaches and mentors undergraduate, doctoral, and medical trainees in neuropsychology, assessment, and early childhood development.