

Fordham Office of Research Newsletter

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Spring 2020

From the Chief Research Officer

As we review the past five months, the entire academic year could be divided into before and after the ramped up response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Unlike anything previously seen by our community, its enormous impact was felt by all of Fordham University and the entire world.

Fordham ceased face-to-face instruction at 1 p.m. on Monday, March 9, due to the threat posed by the COVID-19 outbreak. Faculty were faced with the challenge of providing quality instruction in a very short span of time. On March 13, the decision to suspend face-to-face classes was extended through the end of the semester.

Father McShane’s emails have bolstered and steadied us as we all learn to cope with the effects of this horrible virus.

In an email sent on March 22 to faculty and academic staff, Provost Dennis Jacobs applauded the “creativity and ingenuity” of faculty in quickly making the transition from face-to-face to online instruction. The Office of Research would also add our thanks for all you do for Fordham in these difficult times.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with your questions or suggestions, and, most importantly, please stay safe.

George Hong, Ph.D.
Chief Research Officer and
Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs

Five Distinguished Research Awardees – 2020

These are the awardees for Distinguished Research listed by category. Please see pages 2 and 3 for more details on each one.

- Distinguished Research Award in the Humanities - *Dr. Kathryn Reklis*
- Distinguished Research Award in Interdisciplinary Studies - *Dr. Yi Ding*
- Distinguished Research Award for Junior Faculty - *Dr. Asato Ikeda*
- Distinguished Research Award in the Natural Sciences - *Dr. Thaier Hayajneh*
- Distinguished Research Award in the Social Sciences - *Dr. Iftekar Hasan*



Office of Research CRO Update	2020 Research Awardees	Research Day	SEL Talks	Columbia-NYU-IBM Fellows	Spotlight on Faculty	OSP Grants Reports
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2020 DISTINGUISHED RESEARCH AWARDEES:

Humanities: Dr. Kathryn Reklis

During her eight years at Fordham, Dr. Reklis has had significant success securing external grants in the humanities and modeling engaged humanities research. She is Co-Director of the Institute for Art, Religion and Social Justice, which she co-founded in 2009. From 2010-2018, she was a Research Fellow for the New Media Project at Union Theological Seminary, where she concentrated her work on theology, religious practice, and the teaching program on new media use and theology. As an intellectual visionary, Dr. Reklis's leadership encompasses innovative interdisciplinary methods of religious studies, teaching a wide range of topics concerning racial, gender, sexuality, and religious diversity while bringing together undergraduate and graduate students, and faculty. She has received total awards of \$145,820 in the past three years from the Henry Luce Foundation and other funding agencies and has published three refereed articles and book chapters and one book, forthcoming this spring.



Junior Faculty: Dr. Asato Ikeda

Dr. Ikeda's research interests lie in modern Japanese art in particular and Asian art in general, and the topics of imperialism/colonialism, war, fascism, museums, sex, gender, and sexuality. Her primary research is about Japanese paintings produced during the Second World War. Her productive scholarship has been published as a book *The Politics of Painting: Japanese Art and Fascism during the Second World War* from the University of Hawaii Press, which has been reviewed in major scholarly journals. She has also been active as a curator, and has been keen to engage with the public about important social and political issues through art. The most recent exhibition she curated was *A Third Gender: Beautiful Youths in Japanese Prints*, installed at Japan Society in Manhattan, in 2017. In the past three years, Dr. Ikeda has received external grants from the prestigious Franklin Grant American Philosophical Society and has presented research outcomes on two different projects in the form of a monograph, an art exhibition, and a blind peer-review journal article.



Interdisciplinary Studies: Dr. Yi Ding

In the past three years, Dr. Ding has published 29 peer refereed journal articles with focus on STEM learning and training issues in school psychology and pupil related services and has received external funding as co-PI from the U.S. Department of Education, totaling \$1,249,614. Her interdisciplinary research interests include learning disabilities, developmental disabilities, STEM learning, and special education and school psychology issues based on a multicultural perspective. Dr. Ding's research and grant activities have made a remarkable contribution to the Graduate School of Education and to the field of education at large. Her work increases the visibility of Fordham University's scholarly work at the federal level and advances the mission of the greater community of education.



2020 DISTINGUISHED RESEARCH AWARDEES:

Natural Sciences: Dr. Thaier Hayajneh

Dr. Hayajneh is the founder and director of Fordham Center for Cybersecurity and director of the cybersecurity programs at Fordham University. His research focuses on cybersecurity and networking, including wireless security, applied cryptography, blockchain and cryptocurrency, and IoT security, privacy, and forensics. His research was funded by NSA, DoD, NSF and he published over 85 papers in reputable journals and conferences. In the past three years, he produced over 40 journal articles and conference papers and has received four grants of more than \$840,000 from the National Security Agency and Department of Defense. Dr. Hayajneh's research efforts have enhanced the national and international reputation of Fordham through this research collaboration.



Social Sciences: Dr. Iftekar Hasan

Dr. Hasan is the Academic Program Director of the Gabelli School of Business Ph.D. program and the Co-Director of the Center for Research in Contemporary Finance. His recent academic accomplishments outside Fordham University include: the prestigious Changjiang scholar academic award in China; academic fellow recognition at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland; the Shimomora Fellow award in Japan; and academic fellow appointments at the Wharton School, the Stern School of Business, and the IWH Institute in Germany. Among his many notable academic engagements, he has served as a scientific advisor at the Central Bank of Finland and the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, and he has held visiting scholar positions at the Central Bank of France and the IMF. In the past three years, Dr. Hasan has published one book, three book chapters, and over 62 journal articles, of which 12 are in the very top journals in the profession. Dr. Hasan's academic research publications have so far generated around 19,000 google scholar citations with a H-Index of 68 and i-index of 216.



Inaugural Research Day – December 14, 2020

Fordham's 2020 Inaugural Research Day has been re-scheduled and will take place on Monday, December 14 from 11am – 4pm at the Law School. Along with presentations by the five distinguished research awardees (see pages 2 and 3) and a keynote speaker, guests will hear brief presentations from Fordham faculty on their research, and will be able to peruse a display of new books with Fordham authors and editors. Registration details are forthcoming. We look forward to seeing you there. Please mark your calendars.

Fordham University's Inaugural Research Day- Program

Monday, December 14, 2020
11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Lincoln Center Campus
Costantino, Law School (Second Floor)

11:00 am - 4:00 pm - Session I: New Book Exhibition (Outside of Costantino)

12:00 noon - 12:30 pm Lunch

12:30 - 1:10 pm - Session II: Distinguished Research Awards Ceremony

1. Introduction: Dr. George Hong, Chief Research Officer and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs
2. Opening Remarks: Reverend Joseph McShane, S.J., President
3. Awards Presentation: Dr. Dennis Jacobs, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
4. Presentations by the Awardees
 - Distinguished Research Award in the Humanities – Kathryn Reklis, A&S
 - Distinguished Research Award in Interdisciplinary Studies – Yi Ding, GSE
 - Distinguished Research Award for Junior Faculty – Asato Ikeda, A&S
 - Distinguished Research Award in the Natural Sciences – Thayer Hayajneh, A&S
 - Distinguished Research Award in the Social Sciences – Iftekhar Hasan, School of Business

1:10 - 2:15 pm - Session III : Keynote Speech

Chair: Dr. Jonathan Crystal, Vice Provost

Introduction: Dr. Laura Auricchio, Dean of Fordham College at Lincoln Center

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Daniel Alexander Jones [TBD], Associate Professor of Theatre at Fordham University, 2019 Guggenheim Foundation Fellow, and 2019 Helen Merrill Playwriting Award

Inaugural Research Day – December 14, 2020

2:30 - 3:30 pm - Session IV: Meeting New Book Authors

Part I: Humanities Books (Costantino Room A)

Chair: Dr. Eva Badowska, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Sciences and Associate Vice President, Arts and Sciences

Presenters:

- 1) Dr. Kirsten Swinth (Department of History), Book Title: *Feminism's Forgotten Fight: The Unfinished Struggle for Work & Family*
- 2) Dr. Daniel Soyer (Department of History), Book Title: *Jewish New York: The Remarkable Story of a City and a People*
- 3) Dr. Kirk Bingaman (Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education), Book Title: *Pastoral & Spiritual Care in a Digital Age: The Future Is Now*
- 4) Dr. Asato Ikeda (Department of Art History and Music), Book Title: *The Politics of Painting: Fascism and Japanese Art during the Second World War*

Part II: Social Science Books (Costantino Room B)

Chair: Dr. Yi Ding, Chair of the University Research Council

Presenters:

- 1) Dr. Nicholas Tampio (Department of Political Science), Book Title: *Common Core: National Education Standards and the Threat to Democracy*
- 2) Dr. Arthur Hayes (Communications & Media Studies), Book Title: *Communication in the Age of Trump*
- 3) Dr. Annika Hinze (Department of Political Science), Book Title: *City Politics: The Political Economy of Urban America*
- 4) Dr. Clara Rodriguez (Department of Sociology and Anthropology), Book Title: *America, As Seen on TV: How Television Shapes Immigrant Expectations Around the Globe.*

Part III: Interdisciplinary Studies Books (Costantino Room C)

Chair: Dr. Debra McPhee, Dean, Graduate School of Social Service

Presenters:

- 1) Dr. Tina Maschi (Graduate School of Social Service), Book Title: *Forensic Social Work: A Psychosocial Legal Approach to Diverse Criminal Justice Populations and Settings* (2nd edition)
- 2) Professor Tanya Hernández (Law School), Book Title: *Multiracials and Civil Rights: Mixed-Race Stories of Discrimination*
- 3) Dr. Sarah Lockhart (Department of Political Science), Book Title: *Migration Crises and the Structure of International Cooperation*
- 4) Dr. Allan Gilbert (Department of Sociology and Anthropology), Book Title: *Digging in the Bronx: Recent Archaeology in the Borough*

Fordham Social Innovation Research Fellow & Intern Program Symposium

The Fordham Social Innovation Research Fellow and Intern Program held a symposium at the Fordham Law School on February 12, 2020. It was a culmination of the research team efforts for the first cohort which formed early in the fall semester.

Agenda Opening remarks

Chair: **Dr. Donna Rapaccioli**, Dean, Gabelli School of Business

Opening Remarks: **Dr. Dennis Jacobs**, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Presentations by Fellows and Interns (20 minutes for each team followed by Q&A 10 minutes)

1. Su-Je Cho, Associate Professor, Curriculum & Teaching, GSE, **Kathleen Doyle**, Ph.D. Student, GSE, **Kijung Ryu**, Ph.D. Student, GSE, and **Camille Smith**, M.Ed. Student, GSE

Project Title: "Understanding the Needs of Sex Education for Students with Disabilities"

2. Eun-Hee Kim, Assistant Professor, Strategy & Statistics, Gabelli, **Mingying Cheng**, Ph.D. Student, Gabelli, **Rachel Wilwerding**, Ph.D. Student, Economics, A&S, and **Vivian Yang**, Junior, Marketing, Gabelli

Project Title: "Impact Investing, Materiality, and Corporate Environmental Sustainability"

3. Michael Pirson, Associate Professor, Leading People & Organizations, Gabelli, **Rachel Ceruti**, M.A. Student, International Political Economy and Development, A&S, and **Chiebuka Chioke**, Sophomore, Psychology, A&S

Project Title: "Social Innovation, Humanistic Management, and Impact Investing: Protecting Dignity and Promoting Well Being"

4. Marciana Popescu, Associate Professor, GSS, **Aidan Donaghy**, Junior, Humanitarian Studies and Anthropology, A&S, **Tanzilya Oren**, Ph.D. Student, GSS, and **Olivia Quartell**, Junior, Political Science, A&S

Project Title: "Innovative Paths to Successful Integration for Asylum Seekers and Refugees in NYC: Bridging the Gaps in Higher Education Institutions"

Afternoon Presentations after lunch (see next page)

Chair: **Dr. Maura Mast**, Dean, Fordham College at Rose Hill

Fordham Social Innovation Research Fellow & Intern Program Symposium

5. **Garrett Broad**, Assistant Professor, Communications & Media Studies, A&S, **Sophie Ambro**, Junior, Communication & Culture, A&S, **Randy Mueller**, Junior, Finance, Gabelli, and **Lindsey Register**, Senior, Communication & Culture, Environmental Studies, A&S

Project Title: "Social Innovation and Food Justice in Urban Agriculture Technology"

6. **Catherine Powell**, Professor, Law, **Daria Brosius**, J.D. Student, Law, **Gabriella Romanos**, J.D. Student, Law, and **Elias Wright**, J.D. Student, Law

Project Title: "Digital Civil Rights and Civil Liberties"

7. **Subha Mani**, Associate Professor, Economics, A&S, **Shambhavi Singh**, Senior, Economics, A&S, **Shelby Stinson**, Senior, Mathematics and Economics, A&S, and **Michael Wieck-Sosa**, Senior, Mathematics and Computer and Information Science, A&S

Project Title: "Targeting Teacher Absenteeism in India using Technology and Incentives"

8. **Fuhua Zhai**, Associate Professor, GSS, **Aihemaitijiang Maidina**, Ph.D. Student, GSE, **Naishuo Sun**, Ph.D. Student, GSS, and **Xiaoran Wang**, Ph.D. Student, GSS

Project Title: "Operation Parenting: An Innovative Social Group Model among Chinese Immigrant Parents of Children with Behavior Problems"

Closing Remarks

Dr. George Hong, Chief Research Officer and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs



Fulbright Scholars Presentation

On March 4, 2020, Ms. Aferdita Krasniqi, Outreach and Recruitment Officer, Europe/Eurasia Team Lead of the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program, made a presentation to faculty at the Rose Hill campus.

Faculty members representing the departments of Communications, Economics, History, Mathematics, and Philosophy, as well as faculty from the Graduate School of Social Services attended the 90-minute long event. Beginning with a presentation on the Fulbright history, Ms. Krasniqi discussed opportunities for teaching, research, and flexible initiatives in more than 140 countries, tips on how to craft a competitive application, including how to make contacts abroad and choosing the right country and award. The event included discussion of questions about the program.

Ms. Krasniqi joined the Institute for International Education (IIE) in June 2017 after 17 years as Cultural Exchanges Advisor at the U.S. Embassy in Kosovo. In 2020, she marked 20 years of working in the Fulbright Program.

In addition to the presentation at Rose Hill, in January, Ms. Krasniqi spoke to faculty members at Fordham's Lincoln Center campus. A separate presentation to students in January was sponsored by Fordham's Office of Prestigious Fellowships.



Socially Engaged Learning -- SEL Talks

This forum has been re-scheduled to October 29, 2020. The topic for this first event is “Immigration, Invisible Borders, Sanctuary, and Education.”

Program:

Fordham Socially Engaged Learning Talks (SEL Talks)

Topic: **Immigration, Invisible Borders, Sanctuary, and Education Studies**

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm, October 29, 2020 (Thursday)

Fordham University Law School, Room 7-119

Organized by the Office of the Provost

Sponsored by the Office of Research

Fordham Strategic Research Consortium on Global Studies

“No (body) is an island entire of itself; every (body) is a piece of the continent, a part of the main” -John Donne
What do these 400-year-old lines mean to us today?

Speakers:

Dr. Faustino Cruz, Professor and Dean of the Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, “Educating Immigrants for Social Engagement: the Role of Jesuit Catholic Universities”

Prof. Jennifer Gordon, Professor of Law, Law School, “Invisible Borders: How Wealthy Governments Keep Refugees Away”

Dr. Leo Guardado, Assistant Professor of Theology, “Nonviolent and Holy Resistance Against State Violence”

Dr. Annika Hinze, Associate Professor of Political Science and Director of the Center for Urban Studies, “Urban Rebels: Sanctuary Cities as a Challenge to Federal Immigration Law?”

Opening Remarks: **Dr. Dennis Jacobs**, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Fordham University

Discussant: **Dr. Oswaldo Benavides**, Founding Director of the Strategic Research Consortium on Global Studies, Professor and Chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Facilitator: **Dr. Ann Higgins-D’Alessandro**, Professor of Psychology

Fordham-Columbia-NYU-IBM Fellows and Interns, 2020

The Columbia-NYU-IBM Fellow and Intern program has a new cohort. The selection process has been completed, and those selected for 2020 appear below.

There are now nearly twice as many Research Interns as there were last year. Congratulations!

Research Fellow	Research Intern	Research Partner	Project	Program
Kimberly Hudson Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Education	Vanessa Castellanos (Ph.D.) Graduate School of Social Service	Erin Godfrey Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, Department of Applied Psychology	<i>APPROACH (Assessing Perceptions of Practice Roles, Orientations, and Change)</i>	<u>NYU</u>
Alesia Moldavan Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Education	Eleanor Erickson (MS) Graduate School of Education Nathaniel Pickering Doctoral Candidate Graduate School of Social Service	Jasmine Y. Ma Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, Department of Teaching and Learning	<i>Ontological Possibilities for Aesthetic Practices in Mathematics Education</i>	<u>NYU</u>
Yijun Zhao Assistant Professor, Department of Computer and Information Science, A&S	Shangjin Li (M.S.) Department of Computer and Information Science, A&S Jingjie Zhou (M.S.) Department of Computer and Information Science, A&S	Heath Pardoe NYU Langone School of Medicine	<i>Applying Deep Learning Techniques to Detect and Reduce Motion Artifacts in Brain MRI Images, A Preliminary Study</i>	<u>NYU</u>
Christopher Conway Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, A&S	Ana Rabasco (Ph.D.) GSAS Melanie Silverman (Ph.D.) GSAS	John G. Keilp Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, Department of Psychiatry	<i>Forecasting Suicidal Behavior with Intensive Longitudinal Data</i>	<u>Columbia University</u>
Michael Pirson Associate Professor, Gabelli School of Business (GSB)	Stephanie Goetz (MBA) GSB Urvesh Bhadani (MS) GSB	Jeffrey D. Sachs Center for Sustainable Development, Earth Institute	<i>Social Innovation, Laudato Si, Humanistic Management and Transformation of Business Education</i>	<u>Columbia University</u>
Sudip Vhaduri Assistant Professor, Department of Computer and Information Science, A&S	Jiarui Zhang (M.S.) Department of Computer and Information Science, A&S William Cheung (M.S.) Department of Computer and Information Science, A&S	Thomas Brunschwiler IBM Research GmbH –Zurich	<i>SmartAutoCough: Smartphone-based Automatic Cough Detection in Noisy Environments</i>	<u>IBM</u>

Intercultural Studies Forum I – Lunar New Year

This initiative led by Fordham’s Strategic Research Consortium on Global Studies on January 23, 2020 was designed to highlight key global events/holidays for important transnational communities that are a critical part of New York City’s historical and contemporary legacy. This inaugural event focused on the Lunar New Year, a common holiday in Asian and Asian American cultures.

Provost **Dennis Jacobs** gave welcoming remarks prior to the keynote speaker **Dr. Yiju Huang**, Associate Professor of Chinese Literature in Fordham’s Department of Modern Languages. Dr. Huang’s talk was titled “Ink & Brush: the Art of Creation during Spring Festival.” A roundtable discussion, chaired by **Dr. Hugo Benevides**, Founding Director of the Strategic Research Consortium on Global Studies, was held to discuss the significance of the varied traditions and personal reminiscences of three panelists drawing from their native countries at this particular holiday season. After dinner, those gathered enjoyed musical and dance performances, which were sponsored by the Chinese Student and Scholar Association at Fordham.



Faculty Research Abroad Program in Brazil

The third cohort of the Faculty Research Abroad Program (FRAP) to Brazil has been postponed due to the current travel restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The originally scheduled trip to Brazil was to take place this summer of 2020. The new projected time for the next FRAP will be in the summer of 2021.

FRAP Faculty & Students in Brazil

Name	Affiliation	Students	Topic of Research
Alleyne-Green, Binta	GSS	Kimberly L.B. Grocher (GSS Ph.D. candidate)	<i>The Impact of Intimate Partner Violence On Maternal Mental Health Among Afro-Brazilian Women</i>
Benavides, Oswaldo	A&S – Sociology/ Anthropology		<i>Caliban's Ventriloquism: Speaking in Tongues in the Global South</i>
Broad, Garrett	A&S – Communications and Media Studies	Marry Busquet Ferreira (MA Public Media program)	<i>Alternative Proteins and Food Tech Justice: Exploring Sustainable Transitions in the United States and Brazil</i>
Coles, Justin	GSE	Maria Kingsley (GSE Ph.D. candidate)	<i>Black Brazilian and American Youth's Collective Transnational Critical Literacies as Counter Structure to Educational and Societal Antiracism</i>
Fisher, Celia	A&S; Psychology; Ethics Center; HIV Institute	Aaliyah Gray (3 rd year PhD student in Applied Developmental Psychology program)	<i>Opportunities and Barriers to HIV and Sexual Health Care among At-Risk Women in Brazil</i>
Ikeda, Asato	A&S – Art History		<i>Modern Japanese Art/Visual Culture: A Global Perspective</i>
Lockhart, Sarah	A&S – Political Science		<i>The Global Compact for Migration: Changing Prospects for International Cooperation in Brazil</i>
Lyons, Damian	A&S		<i>Big Data and Artificial Intelligence based precision farming for disadvantaged farming terrains</i>
Miki, Yuko	A&S	Yunuen Cho (Political Science, Pre-Law Track & Latin American Latino Studies major, junior, FCLC 2021)	<i>African and Indigenous: A Global History of Slavery and Unequal Citizenship</i>
Sawalha, Aseel	A&S		<i>Women, Refugees and the Formation of a Global Art Scene in Amman</i>

Interdisciplinary Research Awardees

The objective of this funding opportunity is to provide funds to stimulate interdisciplinary and inter-school research. The larger objective is to allow faculty to leverage preliminary results obtained with this funding to enhance their external grant activities. Congratulations!

List of 2020 Interdisciplinary Research Award Recipients

PI, Co-PI	Department	Topic
Aminoff, Elissa Leeds, Daniel	Psychology CIS	Representing Human Relevant Context in Convolutional Neural Networks
Kundakovic, Marija Cham, Heining	Biological Sciences Psychology	Sex-specific effects of early-life stress on cocaine addiction vulnerability
Banerjee, Ipsita Roy, Amy Hoyt, Lindsay Yip, Tiffany	Chemistry Psychology Psychology Psychology	A Multimethod Assessment of Stress in College Students
Vhaduri, Sudip Yip, Tiffany	CIS Psychology	Uninterrupted Sensing and Automatic Detection of Spatio-Temporal Factors Towards a Better Reporting of Sleep Quality
Hernandez, Robb Sohn, Stephen Chin, Matthew	English English GSS	Transnational AAxL (Asian American by Latinx Digital Cultural Studies) through the Caribbean/New York Nexus

Social Innovation Fellows and Interns, 2020-2021

Awardee	School	Department	Intern	Project Title
Dougnon, Isaie	A&S	Modern Languages and Literature	Ashley Thermidor-Payne Christine Ibrahim Puri (Undergrads)	<i>Harnessing Local Knowledge: Farmers' adaptation to state water management and climate change in the West African Sahel</i>
McNelis, Paul	Gabelli	Finance and Business Economics (GSB)	Hanchi Zhang / Wei Zhang (Graduate Students)	<i>Reducing Risk in Financial Markets: Deep Learning as a Tool for Socially Responsible Investment?</i>
Raposa, Elizabeth	A&S	Psychology	Nicola Forbes / Kate Bartolotta (Graduate Students)	<i>Connected Futures: Testing Smartphone Delivery of an Innovative Curriculum to Promote Equity in Higher Education</i>
Sun, Meiping	A&S	Economics	Brendan McErlaine / Jing Wang (Undergrads)	<i>Sustainability and Transportation: Creating Equity in Social Landscape</i>
Vhaduri, Sudip	A&S	Computer and Information Sciences	Vinal Raja / Yugyeong Kim (Graduate Students)	<i>Smartphone-based Socio-Technical Solution Towards Low-Cost Large-Scale Remote Healthcare Management</i>

Spotlight on Faculty/Academic Staff

Clint Ramos

Fordham Designer is a 2020 USA Fellow



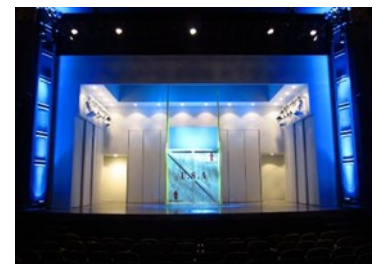
Clint Ramos – Fordham professor and 2020 USA Fellow in Theatre and Performance

[Clint Ramos](#), Fordham professor and 2020 USA Fellow in Theatre and Performance, speaks about this prestigious award, which includes a \$50,000 unrestricted grant. Ramos is a Professor of Theatre and the Head of Design at Fordham University. Ramos is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Ani ng Dangal Presidential Medal for dramatic arts from the president of the Philippines. He received this honor twice. Ramos earned an Outstanding Scenic Design nomination at the 2020 Lucille Lortel Awards for his work on the Public Theatre's SOFT POWER. He has designed productions, set and/or costumes for over one hundred theater, film, opera, and dance productions.

You were selected to be a 2020 USA Fellow in Theatre and Performance. Why is that important to you? *I think there are a couple of things that are notable about this year's Theatre and Performance fellows-- we are all people of color and I am also one of the few theatre designers who have gotten this fellowship (in its history). These two things really point towards a thrust in undoing some invisibility that both my person and chosen field implicitly carry. I do quite a substantial amount of advocacy of both diversity in the field and the plight of theatre designers, that receiving this fellowship really means an acknowledgment of the confluence of both. I thank the United States Artists and the Doris Duke Foundation for hearing our voices.*

How will the cash grant that comes with this award help you in your work? *Well this grant could not have come at a more fortuitous time. Of course, all of my theatre and film work have ceased to exist so this grant really is a life-saver right now as we face multifaceted uncertainty both economically and artistically. At the moment this grant is allowing me invaluable time to re-group and re-imagine the "what" and the "how" of the very thing to which I've devoted my life. Sustenance and sustainability are leasing vast amounts of real estate in my brain these days. I've always believed that sustaining the artists is sustaining the arts.*

Whose design work inspires your own work? *Overall I work very hard to be as malleable as possible so I expose myself to all designers. I especially love designers who are independent voices, they don't necessarily need to be revolutionaries but they need to be singular. I love the Belgian school of fashion like Ann Demeulemeester or Raf Simmons for their essentialism. I also love the Dutch-Chinese designer Fong Leng for her intricate sense of humor and wit. I get a lot of inspirations from artists like Petah Coyne and Darren Waterston, and photographers like Jurgen Teller and Wolfgang Tillmans. For theater designers, Eiko Ishioka is up there for me as well as Robert Israel. My teachers Paul Steinberg for his artistic distillation and Susan Hilfetry for her sense of logic and style.*



Scenic Design for "The Colored Museum", 2015
Huntington Theater,
Boston
Photo by Clint Ramos

Spotlight on Faculty/Academic Staff

James Stabler-Havener

Director of IALC and its community outreach



James Stabler-Havener
Director of IALC

James Stabler-Havener is the Director of [IALC](#) (Fordham's Institute of American Language & Culture), which offers English courses to Fordham students as well as adult learners in the community. In addition, Mr. Stabler-Havener has also partnered with a number of Fordham and community-based organizations for IALC's Community ESL Program (CESL). In 2018, IALC was awarded an annual \$100K Adult ESOL/Literacy contract by NYC's Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) Adult Literacy Program.

What is the work that this NYC grant supports, and why is it important?

More than 200 adults in the Bronx receive free literacy and ESL classes through IALC's Community ESL program (CESL). Students can attend free literacy classes at Our Lady of Mt Carmel Parish in the morning and on the Rose Hill campus in the evening. More than 40% of Bronx District 7 residents are foreign born and approximately 37% self-identify as having "limited English proficiency." This is Fordham's community, and similar rates can be found in surrounding districts. This impacts our neighbors' earnings/employability; further, the Department of Health notes that limited English proficiency also leads to higher rates of healthcare incidents since this population may have difficulty describing medical conditions and often avoids hospitals. For this reason, our curriculum focuses on practical language skills students need for work, health, and social settings. Students are pre-tested and post-tested each semester to measure educational gains. In order to maintain funding, we must show steady attendance and educational gains. We are proud to say the Community ESL program has been "far above standard" on all evaluation benchmarks.

What other funding sources have helped you in community outreach?

Each year, we have 70-100 people on a waiting list to join CESL classes. In 2019, with support from DAUR, we were awarded a \$116K grant from the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation to expand the Community ESL program. This enabled us to partner with another local parish and to offer additional classes in the morning and evening. Individuals have also donated funds and resources to help cover the cost of supplies.

What other help have you received in this important work?

Jesus Aceves-Loza, CESL program manager, has worked tirelessly to build connections throughout the Bronx and with other organizations in the city. For example, we were able to collaborate with the NYC Dept of Health to offer Mental Health First Aid training to our students--in their mother tongue. We have also been able to partner with the New-York Historical Society to offer free citizenship classes. Another partner offered "workers' rights" seminars. Roxanne de la Torre, Director of Campus/Community Leadership for Fordham's Center for Community Engaged Learning, helps connect us with student volunteers, and we are blessed to partner with the Jesuit scholastics in Ciszek Hall.

You have made clear the benefits of this community outreach. What have been the greatest challenges you face?

Our greatest challenges are in two areas: funding continuity and hardships faced by the students. 1) Our funding is limited and it is provided on an annual contract. There is a tremendous amount of paperwork and (weekly) reporting--as well as a bit of anxiety regarding the condition of the city budget. 2) Our students' circumstances can be quite difficult, and the pandemic has been merciless. The program operates outside Fordham's IT structure, so the switch to "remote learning" has meant teaching through WhatsApp. It's not ideal, but the students are engaged and the entire Community ESL program--staff, students and instructors--are incredibly dedicated.

Spotlight on Faculty/Academic Staff

Marc Conte

Fordham Economics Professor wins NSF Grant



Dr. Marc Conte – Fordham professor and NSF Grant Awardee

Thanks to a \$750,000 grant from the National Science Foundation, associate professor [Marc Conte, Ph.D.](#) is embarking on an ambitious five-year-long project, “Understanding the Coupling Between Climate Policy and Ecosystem Change,” a collaboration with Frances C. Moore, Ph.D., and Xiaoli Dong, Ph.D., both assistant professors in the Department of Environmental Science and Policy at the University of California, Davis. The study seeks to update and expand the current estimates of the cost of carbon on society.

Why is this particular research important?

Humans are a part of nature and derive great pleasure from the environment, as we have seen in our turn toward nature for solace during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our project aims to provide a more accurate measure of the costs of climate change, which poses a threat to society in many ways, including through damages to the natural world. We will do this by placing dollar values on the nonmarket benefits that we derive from nature and functioning

ecosystems, to include the climate damages to the natural world in the overall estimate of climate damages. Providing a more comprehensive understanding of the impacts of climate change is a necessary step to develop effective climate policy. We think that the challenge of credibly estimating these values must be taken on, given that the alternative is their omission from our climate-policy decisions.

What are the successes and challenges so far in this ambitious project?

Our ability to develop defensible methods to identify and then value climate impacts is partly determined by the extent of species and ecosystem services that have been studied and valued previously. So, our primary challenge is to develop and identify techniques to help us fill in the gaps of these existing studies in ways that are appropriate, novel, and replicable. While we are in the beginning phase of the project, we have identified some methods to accomplish this goal that seem to have merit, based on application in other contexts. Our key success is the assembly of a talented and motivated research team that possesses the expertise and enthusiasm to pursue our lofty goals.

When you say, “ecosystem services”, do you mean that you are placing a dollar value on things like clean air, clean water, mountains, and flowers?

You are correct that air and water filtration are examples of “ecosystem services.” This term describes the benefits that accrue to society from functioning ecosystems. The sight and smell of flowers and the ability to hike/climb mountains are “ecosystem services” as well. A less obvious example is the reduced flow of surface water following intense rainstorms due to vegetation on the landscape, which mitigates flooding downstream. The problem from an efficiency perspective is that many of these “services” benefit people with no say in the decisions that determine the amount of “services” provided. Furthermore, few of these “services” are market goods, meaning that there are no prices available as a signal of their value, exacerbating their under-provision.

What are the outcomes you and your collaborators hope to achieve?

A goal that we will be able to achieve is the publication of several academic papers in ecology, economics, and natural science journals, which we hope will promote additional consideration in each of these literatures of the valuation of nonmarket ecosystem services and the welfare impacts of climate change. A more ambitious outcome would be for our findings to impact the design of future climate policy. Existing analyses demonstrate that the time to act is now, and our efforts to make model outputs more accurate should provide further clarity about the net benefits of policies that meaningfully address climate change.

Spotlight on Faculty/Academic Staff

Monica Rivera Mindt

Fordham Professor and Neuropsychology Researcher



Dr. Monica Rivera Mindt,
Fordham professor and
researcher

[Monica Rivera Mindt](#), Ph.D., A.B.P.P. (Neuropsychology) is a Professor of Psychology and of the Latin American Latino Studies Institute at Fordham, and she is a Past-President of the Hispanic Neuropsychological Society. As a teacher, mentor, and researcher, much of her work focuses on bridging the gaps in the overall U.S. cognitive health profile with regard to underserved groups, such as Latinx, African American, LGBT and other overlooked minorities. Her current research grant portfolio exceeds \$1 million.

What neuropsychology research projects are you currently conducting?

The COVID-19 pandemic highlights a long-standing and urgent public health issue here in the U.S. -- the profound health disparities and lower health outcomes experienced by Latinx, African-American and other underserved minority populations. These disparities appear in compromised brain health, including increased risk for Alzheimer's disease, vascular dementia, and HIV-associated Neurocognitive Disorder. To that end, I am

currently Principal Investigator (PI) of a project funded by the NIH/National Institute of Aging and the Alzheimer's Association: the "Study of Aging Latinas/os for Understanding Dementia (SALUD)." SALUD means 'health' in Spanish, and this project is important to understand the risk and resilience factors for brain health for older Latinx adults.

I am very proud to serve as Co-PI and Mentor on two student-led studies. Vanessa Guzman (Fordham Clinical Psychology Doctoral Program [CPDP], 5th Year) and I are working on a NIH/National Institute of Minority Health & Health Disparities-funded study to understand the longitudinal effects of hypertension and HIV on cognitive aging in African-Americans. Micah Savin (CPDP, 2nd Year) and I are working on a National Science Foundation-funded study to understand the neurocognitive effects of LGBT minority stress in older persons living with HIV. Together, this work is dedicated to understanding and promoting brain health in underserved minority populations.

What are the successes and challenges you have had so far with this research?

A major challenge is that Latinx and other underserved minority populations are sorely underrepresented in research due to numerous barriers (e.g., cultural distrust; lack of bilingual investigators, examiners, and measures; outdated and culturally-insensitive research practices). This is a serious public health problem, because research needs to include these populations to better understand our current healthcare challenges and inform evidence-based interventions to improve health and brain health outcomes. A success within my program is my community-based, culturally competent approach to research. This approach has yielded strong engagement and retention of research participants from Latinx and other underserved minority populations, and I believe it will be critical for advancing public health in this country.

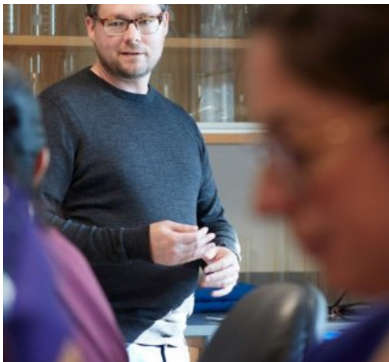
What are the outcomes you hope to achieve from your research?

Ultimately, I hope that my work serves to advance health and brain health equity for all people living here in the U.S. Because of my current personal recovery from COVID-19 infection, I am now also grappling with what it means to be living through this historic moment and what lies ahead for all of us. Regarding my research, I am eager to understand how the health and brain health of Latinx and other underserved minority populations will be affected by the pandemic both directly and indirectly through socioeconomic and other stressors. Regarding health policy, I am also deeply concerned about the looming 'second pandemic' of COVID-related mental health sequelae across the lifespan, but particularly for our children, adolescents, and young adults. If people are interested in learning more about my work, I hope that they reach out on Instagram or Twitter (@DrRiveraMindt).

In the News

[Professor's Research Highlights Last Acceptable Prejudice](#)

Patrick Verel of Fordham News covered how discrimination among employees 50 and older is the last acceptable prejudice in the workforce. **Carole Cox**, a professor at Fordham's Graduate School of Social Service, has spent a career studying gerontology and social policy. In 2015, she dedicated an entire chapter to employment and retirement in her book *Social Policy for an Aging Society, A Human Rights Perspective*. "Ageism remains the last form of discrimination that's widely accepted in our culture," she says, "and it's critical that we overcome it if we want to grow and thrive as a society."



[Research on rat control in cities makes media across the country](#)

Jason Munshi-South, professor of biological sciences, and Michael H. Parsons, visiting research scholar, discuss how rat populations in cities can be controlled by managing food-waste in a new piece published in *The Conversation*. Rats adapt to human food sources and reproduce accordingly. Thus, the less food there is available, the less a rat will reproduce.

[Students Map Genes on Zebrafish Embryos](#)

Fordham Lincoln Center Junior, **Eveline Murphy-Wilson** and her partner in the lab, junior **Jessica Caushi**, were tasked by **Alma Rodenas-Ruano**, Ph.D., assistant professor of neuroscience in the [Department of Natural Sciences](#) at Fordham College at Lincoln Center with creating an epigenetic map of the KCC2 Chloride transporter in neurons in developing zebrafish. In other words, they are using developmental neuroscience with the zebrafish to look into the mechanisms behind the nervous system.



[Research Internships Taking the Initiative](#)

As with any urban habitat, invasive species, both flora and fauna, are a constant problem for caretakers. **Kylie Rothwell** and **Julia Duljas**, natural science majors at Fordham College at Lincoln Center (FCLC), recently worked alongside those caretakers to learn about these species and habitat restoration.

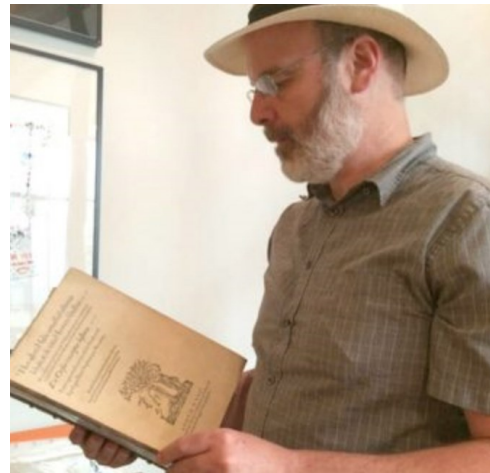
In the News

Two History Professors Earn Prestigious Humanities Grants

[Scott Bruce](#), Ph.D., and [Yuko Miki](#), Ph.D., both members of Fordham's department of history were recently awarded National Endowment for the Humanities grants, which will allow both of them to undertake ambitious new research projects.

Bruce, a professor of history, will use his grant to launch [The Lost Patriarchs Project: Recovering the Greek Fathers in the Medieval Latin Tradition](#), a massive cataloging project that could take as long as a decade to complete.

For Miki, an associate professor of history, the grant will give her time to write *Brazilian Atlantic: Archives and Stories of Illegal Slavery*, a book about illegal slavery in the 19th-century Atlantic World that she has been working on for several years.



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OFFICE OF RESEARCH
FORDHAM UNIVERSITY

OSP Grant Report (December 2019 – April 2020)

Investigator(s)	School/Area	Dept/Ctr	Agency/Sponsor	Title	Fiscal Year Total
Ballantyne, Nathan	ARTS & SCI	PHIL	John Templeton Foundation	Humility in Inquiry: Foundations in New Directions	\$712,464
Batisti, Anita	GED	CEP	New York State Education Department	Clinically-Rich Intensive Teacher Institute in Bilingual Education and English to Speakers of Other Languages (CR-ITI-BE/ESOL) Out of City	\$109,999
Batisti, Anita	GED	CEP	New York City Board of Education	Literacy Professional Development and Coaching Services	\$250,000
Budescu, David	ARTS & SCI	PSYCH	Office of National Intelligence-IARPA through University of Southern California	SAGE: Synergistic Anticipation of Geopolitical Events	\$50,788
Budescu, David	ARTS & SCI	PSYCH	Office of National Intelligence-IARPA through University of Southern California	SAGE: Synergistic Anticipation of Geopolitical Events	\$103,399
Cahill, Brendan	PRES AREA	IIHA	International Organization on Immigration	Development of Casa Azules in South America	\$80,000
Clark, Alan	ARTS & SCI	BIOSCI	Wildlife Conservation Society	Academic Counseling for Student Research Projects: Project TRUE	\$2,162
Clark, Alan	ARTS & SCI	BIOSCI	Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board	Evaluation of Proposed 26th Avenue North Overlook Beacon Effect on Migrating Birds	\$1,622
Cruise, Keith	ARTS & SCI	PSYCH	SAMHSA through University of Connecticut Health Center	The Center for Trauma Recovery and Juvenile Justice	\$40,000
Demacopoulos, George; Papanikolaou, Aristotle	ARTS & SCI	ORTHODOX	Henry Luce Foundation	Religion, Human Rights, and the Growing East/West Cultural Cold War	\$137,000
Dubrow, Heather	ARTS & SCI	ENGLISH	Axe-Houghton Foundation	Poets Out Loud	\$3,121
Farmer, Larry	GSS		New York State Office of Mental Health	Dean's Consortium of Schools of Social Work Evidence-based Practice in Mental Health	\$6,200
Fernald, Anne	ARTS & SCI	ENGLISH	Johns Hopkins University Press	Modernism/Modernity Editorship	\$20,000
Finnemann, Silvia	ARTS & SCI	BIOSCI	National Institutes of Health - NEI	Molecular Mechanisms of Outer Segment Renewal	\$275,849
Finnemann, Silvia	ARTS & SCI	BIOSCI	National Institutes of Health - NEI	Molecular Mechanisms of Outer Segment Renewal	\$41,286
Fisher, Celia	ARTS & SCI	ETHICS	National Institutes of Health - NIDA	HIV/Drug Abuse Prevention Research Ethics Training Institute	\$236,962
Fountain, Christine	ARTS & SCI	SOC/ ANTHRO	National Institutes of Health through Columbia University	Assisted Reproductive Technologies and Risk of Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities	\$60,043
George-Puskar, Annie	GED	C&T	NYC Early Childhood Research Network	Teacher Practices to Support Children and Families in the Transition to Pre-School	\$5,000
Heyman, Janna; Farmer, Lawrence	GSS		Westchester County Department of Social Service	Westchester Building Futures	\$343,500
Heyman, Janna; Ode, Diane	GSS		New York State Education Department	Liberty Partnership Program	\$450,000

OSP Grant Report December 2019 – April 2020

Investigator(s)	School/Area	Dept/Ctr	Agency/Sponsor	Title	Fiscal Year Total
Hornbeck, Patrick; Avishai, Orit	ARTS & SCI	THEO; SOC/ ANTHRO	Carpenter Foundation	Supporting Understanding, Affirmation, and Inclusion of LGBTQ+ Persons	\$60,000
Leeds, Daniel	ARTS & SCI	CIS	National Collegiate Athletic Association through the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine	Changing Attitudes about Concussions in Young and Emerging Adults	\$26,675
Maresca, Elizabeth	LAW	LITC	Department of the Treasury (IRS)	Low Income Taxpayer Clinic 2020	\$95,000
McKay, Dean	ARTS & SCI	PSYCH	B2 Ventures, LLC	Fear of Public Speaking - Phase 1	\$8,412
Minami, Haruka	ARTS & SCI	PSYCH	National Institutes of Health through Albert Einstein College of Medicine (AECOM)	Achieving Smoking Cessation Milestones in Opioid Treatment Patients	\$7,809
Nachbaur, Frederic	UNIV PRESS	PRESS	Furthermore Publishing - JM Kaplan	America's Last Great Newspaper War	\$5,000
Rubin, Berish	ARTS & SCI	BIOSCI	New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene	Screening chemical compound libraries for agents capable of preventing and/or treating osteoporosis	\$5,000
Rubin, Berish	ARTS & SCI	BIOSCI	FD Now	Familial Disautonomia	\$162,206
Schneider, Julia	ARTS & SCI	CHEM	Organic Syntheses, Inc.	Expanding the Hemesberger Reaction for the Synthesis of Polycyclic Heteroaromatic Organic Semiconductors	\$8,000
Schrier, Joshua	ARTS & SCI	CHEM	US Department of Defense through Haverford College	Synergistic Discovery and Design (SD2) Program	\$104,416
Singleton, Charles	WFUV	WFUV	Corporation for Public Broadcasting	Radio Community Service Grant - UNRESTRICTED	\$283,803
Singleton, Charles	WFUV	WFUV	Corporation for Public Broadcasting	Radio Community Service Grant - RESTRICTED	\$103,219
Stabler-Havener, James	PROVOST	IALC	Mother Cabrini Foundation	Institute of American Language and Culture - ESL Program	\$116,679
Wehr, John	ARTS & SCI	BIOSCI	US Department of Energy through Argonne National Laboratory	Epiphytic and Macrophyte Interactions in Glen Canyon	\$31,172