



**FACULTY FOCUS**  
***2023***



A background image of a two-story house with a balcony and a street lamp. The house is light-colored with a dark roof and a dormer window. A balcony with a metal railing is visible on the second floor. A street lamp stands in front of the house. The address number 651A is visible on the house.

# ***TABLE***

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**4** A letter from GCU Provost, Janice Warner

**6** Keep moving forward

**8** Multiplying knowledge

**10** Walk a mile with me

**12** Articles, reviews, editings & recordings

**15** Books, reference books & book chapters





# **FACULTY FOCUS** ***OF CONTENTS***

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**17** Conference presentations, panels & poster sessions

**20** Faculty mentor for student research

**22** Grants, contracts, fellowships & awards

**23** Performances & exhibitions

**24** Professional services & appointments

**25** GCU presentations, panels & poster sessions



**August 2023**

Dear Colleagues and Friends:

Our faculty have once again demonstrated their ability to produce meaningful scholarship that establishes them as leaders in their fields. This year's Faculty Focus issue includes entries representing over 130 books, journal articles, conference presentations, grants, and creative works. Congratulations, especially, to Dr. Silvana Cardell for her achievements as a Guggenheim fellow, which supported choreographic research for Disposable Bodies, a multi-disciplinary dance work that premiered during the '22-'23 fellowship term.

Some faculty have produced work on their own, others have worked with renowned professional colleagues at other institutions, and many have worked in partnership with students. The latter makes the greatest impact on our exceptional student experience and sets our students apart. Students present their work not only at our annual Academic Excellence Celebration but also at regional and national conferences where they gain the experience of participating in a professional venue. We know from national research that student involvement in scholarship outside the classroom delivers pivotal experiences that shape their lives and careers.

Active scholarship supports excellent teaching and brings the excitement of new discoveries into the classroom. Once again, this year, our Virginia Graham Award for Teaching Excellence winner—Sarita Nemani—is an active researcher, bringing new insights into the field of Mathematics and inspiring her students. Congratulations, Dr. Nemani, for your achievements.

Wishing all a fulfilling academic year,

Janice Warner  
Provost



**Janice Warner, PhD**  
**Provost**





# KEEP MOVING FORWARD

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**Dr. Silvana Cardell, Associate Professor, was the Dance Department Director and Chair at Georgian Court from 2009 to 2022, when she took a hiatus to focus on her research. Her determination and persistence led her to receive a Guggenheim fellowship: the most prestigious and competitive award given by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation to exceptional individuals in any field of knowledge or art so they can freely create. We sat with Dr. Cardell to discuss her work and role at GCU.**

## HOW DOES IT FEEL TO HAVE RECEIVED THE GUGGENHEIM FELLOWSHIP?

It feels good, but it is a big responsibility. I received the award, but it also recognizes the community that has supported my work for years. This includes all my students, teachers, mentors, and dancers. It is a validation of years of hard work.

## WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR YOUR CAREER TO RECEIVE THE AWARD?

I am using the time and resources of the fellowship to develop a performance. During the fellowship term 2022-23, I developed Disposable Bodies, a new full-length multi-disciplinary dance work that spotlights the hierarchical relationships of human and animal bodies. It explores Judith Butler's fundamental question: Whose lives count as lives?

I question anthropocentric narratives, illuminating an urgent conversation about



new relationships with other species. Disposable Bodies proposes a new connection to the natural world, addressing the “animals” as “the other,” the nobodies, the most vulnerable, the forgotten. The issue of animal rights is both a social and environmental issue.

To create Disposable Bodies, I embarked on an extended research journey in 2016 while Cardell Dance Theater was touring a performance about immigration, among other performances.

Through conversations with immigrants and refugees, I discovered that after crossing the border, many worked in

slaughterhouses, enduring deplorable conditions. The title Disposable Bodies was inspired by an article highlighting the negative impact of factory farms and slaughterhouses on workers' and their communities' physical and mental health. The experiences of these workers led to trauma and perpetuated forms of dehumanization and exploitation. I realized that the pain and mistreatment of non-human animals are deeply connected to human oppression in various aspects of society.

## HOW DO YOU GET THESE MESSAGES ACROSS IN THE DANCE?

I create movement embodiments of ideas that stem from the performance theme. Examining the human/nonhuman hierarchical order of bodies, I looked for moments representing the skin, muscles, bones, and articulations in all animal bodies, including human bodies.

The performance, made of episodic installations, unfolds in layers of sound, movement, and images. I seek powerful, precise, interlocking movement turning into violent and desperate moments, in contrast with peaceful and disquieting moments. These movements are complemented by vast projections and settings that appear intermittently—grass, a giant pig, a wall of water, and a reflective floor that evolves from meditative openness to something caged and restricted.

The main prop is a gigantic inflatable pig, a little bit like the 'elephant in the room,' calling out what we don't want to acknowledge. We project images of factory farming and free and caged animals on the giant pig's body.

The dancers also create animals with their bodies. There are points in the dance

where several bodies come together to form one body, showing that we are all the same. At the end of the dance, I create an interpretation of the Garden of Eden, a utopian world where humans and animals can coexist without unnecessary violence. I envision a future where we don't hurt the earth and there is a chance for a promising future for all.

## WHAT IS THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE YOU FACED WHILE CREATING DISPOSABLE BODIES?

Because the core ideas of Disposable Bodies are difficult to embody, my biggest challenge is to address the theme with integrity. I want to create a poetic interpretation that will be more effective than graphic images which make people turn away.

## HOW ARE GCU STUDENTS INVOLVED IN THE DANCE?

I develop choreography techniques and create movement scores for each performance. The students that take my courses, especially Improvisation and Ensemble, participate in the movement research phase. I include my students in the research by sharing my findings with them when suitable.

In addition, I have hired GCU graduates such as Tyler Rivera, Hassan Syed, Mackenzie Morris, Ama Gora, and Megan Midgley, to name a few.

## HAVE YOU ALWAYS LOVED TO DANCE?

I started dancing when I was 12 years old. Before that, I focused on visual art, mostly drawing and sculpture. Two of my friends were ballet dancers, and I noticed that their configurations were very sculptural. I realized that dancing is like drawing—but with

bodies. I signed up for class, and when the teacher scheduled me for two days a week, I said, 'No, I am coming to class from Monday through Saturday!' I approach everything I do with this same determination.

My roots in visual art still come out in my choreography, as my dances are usually very pictorial.

## HOW DID YOU BECOME DIRECTOR OF DANCE AT GEORGIAN COURT?

I was attracted to the school's mission and the Sisters of Mercy, which aligned with my interest in social justice and women's rights.

When I got to GCU in 2009, the dance program was only loosely laid out. As the Program Director, I took the existing courses and tied them together with a vision and focus on choreography and performance. The first several years were intense but rewarding.

Early on, we offered a dance merit scholarship program that attracted excellent and committed dancers. I have always considered dance an equalizer that brings people together, so it was important to me that our program was inclusive.

## HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR TEACHING STYLE?

I am very involved with the students, guiding them and supporting them. I teach by example, with passion. I also inspire a lot of students to continue their education. We have many students who go on to obtain master's degrees and create exciting careers in dance.

## WHAT ADVICE DO YOU HAVE FOR YOUNGER CREATORS?

Keep moving forward. Do it and do it well, and eventually, you'll be successful. Who am I? I am no one, coming from Argentina alone, with no connections, nothing but my commitment to learn.

In addition, education is so important. Without an education, I could not do the work I do today.

## WHERE CAN PEOPLE LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR WORK?

Disposable Bodies will have additional performances at The Wilma Theater, Philadelphia's renowned venue, co-presented with the innovative Bryn Mawr College Performing Arts Series on October 6th at 7 p.m., October 7th at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., and October 8th at 2 p.m. Save the dates!

You can find more information on my website: [cardelldancetheater.com](http://cardelldancetheater.com)







# MULTIPLYING KNOWLEDGE

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**Dr. Sarita Nemani, Professor of Mathematics at GCU, has an arithmetic philosophy on teaching: she believes that when you pass knowledge onto one person, it will multiply as it is passed onto others. That is why she works so hard to meet the needs of each student, regardless of their level of knowledge when they enter the classroom.**

**The extraordinary care she shows her students is why Dr. Nemani was named the 2023 recipient of the Virginia Graham Award for Teaching Excellence. The award is presented to a faculty member, nominated by fellow faculty members, who demonstrates outstanding leadership, teaching, and mentoring skills and a strong commitment to inspiring and helping students.**

**We sat down with Dr. Nemani to discuss her role at GCU and her teaching philosophy.**

## **TELL US ABOUT THE JOURNEY THAT LED YOU TO BECOME A PROFESSOR OF MATHEMATICS AT GCU.**

I grew up in India, and in my community, girls were hardly allowed to pursue higher education. However, I was blessed that my grandmother recognized the importance of education and supported me, so I was able to get my Ph.D. Therefore, I've always seen education as a privilege.

When I joined GCU in 2007, the university's focus had been on women's leadership. As a child, I attended an all-girls school, so that environment was familiar. After learning about GCU's Mercy Core Values, I thought, "This is where I see myself."



I also enjoy teaching at a small university because I really get to know my students, and we feel comfortable with each other. GCU is a home away from home.

## **WHAT TYPE OF RELATIONSHIP DO YOU HAVE WITH YOUR STUDENTS?**

Due to the small class sizes at GCU, I can give attention to individual students based on their needs. For example, I had a student recently who understood the material very well, so I offered her more challenging work to help her grow. There were students who felt that the material was so challenging that they hesitated to attend class. In those cases, I tailored my lesson plans to cater to their learning style.



## DID YOU ALWAYS WANT TO BE A TEACHER?

I liked to play “teacher-teacher” when I was younger and pretended to run a classroom. I must have subconsciously known that this is what I was meant to do!

I always knew I loved math, which led me to teach. Math is like magic to me. I find critical thinking, logic, and puzzles all very exciting. I speak six languages and always say that math is my seventh “language.”

## HOW DID YOU FEEL WHEN YOU FIRST LEARNED YOU RECEIVED THE VIRGINIA GRAHAM AWARD?

I was very excited! It was a nice feeling, but it is hard to quantify. I am grateful to GCU for nurturing my growth and the growth of my fellow faculty members.

## WHAT IS ONE PIECE OF ADVICE THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO GIVE TO GCU STUDENTS?

Growing up, my mom would always tell me that knowledge is wealth. Nobody can steal that away from you. The more you spend, the more you gain. I want my students to know that they should share their knowledge with the world. It can be through any role – teacher, mom, dad, sister, brother, human. They will think they are giving, but they will receive even more. That is what I do every day. When I share knowledge with my students, I become an even happier person.



# WALK A MILE WITH ME

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**Dr. Lindiwe Magaya, Associate Professor in the School of Education, trains her students to approach their future students with empathy, no matter their ability or background. In her new memoir, Dr. Magaya extends that empathy to her childhood self. We sat down with Dr. Magaya to discuss her memoir, *The Guarded One: A Child's Journey Through War*, Trilogy Christian Publishing, 2022.**

## WHAT IS THE STORY BEHIND THE MEMOIR?

I grew up in Zimbabwe, formerly known as Rhodesia. During my childhood, the country was under British colonial rule, and a war was being fought for Zimbabwe's independence. I lived through the most difficult time in the war, and only my resilience and support system made it possible for me to survive. This memoir, written from the perspective of a girl child during the war in Zimbabwe, is the first of its kind. It focuses on many aspects of the war, including history, religion, education, mental health, and social injustice.

I always knew I wanted to tell this story, but I never before found the time. In 2021, I took a sabbatical leave during the COVID-19 pandemic and started writing the story. It took me six months, from August to January, to complete it.

## WHY DID YOU CHOOSE TO WRITE THE STORY AS A MEMOIR?

I felt it would be most impactful in this form. History can be really difficult to



process. Sometimes, we don't want to accept the facts, so a personal perspective is more digestible. I wanted to write from a child's perspective so that people would understand the effects of war on children. My intention is to encourage others in those difficult situations that resilience is possible, even as a child.

## HOW DID IT FEEL TO WRITE ABOUT DIFFICULT MEMORIES?

Some of the situations were very difficult, but I made it through. Before writing about them, I would think about those situations and cry. Since writing the book, I feel much better. The process of writing brought some healing to me. Others who have been in my situation say the same thing. The memoir has brought so much healing to them.



## **DID YOU CONDUCT RESEARCH TO WRITE THE MEMOIR, OR DID YOU WRITE ONLY FROM YOUR OWN EXPERIENCES?**

I had to conduct research because most of it happened when I was young, so I didn't fully understand it then. I researched the history of the war and the impact that the war had on children as well as adults.

I also interviewed my childhood friends in Zimbabwe to get their perspective. Interestingly, some of them had forgotten most things that I still remembered. They had forgotten details as simple as the food we ate at the time. My discussion with them would sometimes help them remember. I interpret this reaction to mean that they blocked out that time in their lives because it was so traumatic.

## **HOW HAS THE MEMOIR BEEN RECEIVED SINCE IT WAS PUBLISHED?**

Readers tell me that it is a rollercoaster of emotions. Because the story can be very painful, I also brought in a lot of humor. People laugh, cry, and experience the full range of human emotions. Most people have told me that they can't put it down once they start it.

My childhood friends are so supportive. I read one of the chapters to my friend, and I saw tears pouring from her eyes. She said, "Yes, I was there! Now that you read it, I remember. I had blocked it out completely."

I hear from many readers that it is important for them to have their stories represented on the page. In the book, I mention different places from my childhood, and people tell me they identify with them. The most common feedback I get from readers is that they feel like they are walking with me through the story. When I autograph

books, I say, "Walk a mile with me."

## **DID YOUR ROLE AS A PROFESSOR IN THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION INFLUENCE YOUR DECISION TO WRITE YOUR MEMOIR FROM A CHILD'S PERSPECTIVE?**

Absolutely! Teachers always meet students who have gone through trauma. We must understand trauma, identify it, and help students overcome it.

## **WHAT IS YOUR TEACHING STYLE?**

My students have said that I am very personable. I like to throw in jokes and make them laugh in class. They also say that I am understanding. I know that students have a lot of work to do, and I know that they have families. Therefore, I always accommodate them based on their needs.

## **WHAT IS ONE MESSAGE THAT YOU HOPE TO CONVEY TO READERS OF THE MEMOIR?**

War, while it can be justified in some situations, has a huge impact on children. It is key to support children who are in situations of war.

You can get a copy on Amazon [here](#). Those unable to purchase a copy can reach out to me at [Imagaya@georgian.edu](mailto:Imagaya@georgian.edu).

# ARTICLES, REVIEWS, EDITING & RECORDINGS

*Entries in blue represent work completed through faculty and student partnerships.*

## HACKENSACK MERIDIAN HEALTH SCHOOL OF NURSING & WELLNESS

### Vincent Chen, PhD

*Assistant Professor of Exercise Science*  
(2022, September 18). *Low intake of choline is associated with diminished strength and lean mass gains in older adults* [Article].

### Sachiko Komagata, PhD, MPT

*Director of Advising, Program Director, Department of Integrative Health & Exercise Science*  
(2023). *Kanpumasatsu: A superficial self-massage with a dry towel to enhance relaxation and immune functions* [Article]. *Journal of Interprofessional Education & Practice*.

### Suzanne McMurray, MA, RN, ITHC

*Adjunct Instructor, Department of Integrative Health & Exercise Science*  
(2022, November 17). *Integrative self care plan coaching*, [Article]. *Journal of Interprofessional Education & Practice*.

## SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES

### Mary Chinery, PhD

*Dean, Arts and Sciences, Professor of English*  
(2023, March). *About the shadow of a*

*doubt* [Article]. *Shaw Magazine for Friends and Partners*, Summer 2023, p. 11.

### Elissa Cutter, PhD

*Assistant Professor of Religious Studies & Theology*

(2022, September 12). *Seeking awe and wonder* [Blog Post]. Wabash Center Blog: Re/Kindling Creativity and Imagination.

(2022, December 6). *Journaling as a means of research* [Blog Post]. WIT: Women in Theology.

(2022, December 30). *Pope Francis and Mother Angélique: A feminist historical theology issue* [Blog Post]. WIT: Women in Theology.

(2023, January 30). *Teaching through journaling* [Blog Post]. Wabash Center Blog: Praxis: The Responsive & Expanding Classroom.

(2023, February 14). *Some guidance for writing conference proposals (for AAR)* [Blog Post]. WIT: Women in Theology.

(2023, March). *The predestination of humans and angels: Augustinus, tome III, book IX*, by Cornelius Jansen, translated by Guido Stucco [Review]. *French History* 37, no. 1, Pgs. 87-88.

(2023, April). *Storied places: Pilgrim shrines, nature, and history in early modern France*, by Virginia Reinburg [Review] *Jour-*



*nal of Religion in Europe* 16, no. 1–2, Pgs. 110–1.

**Russell McDonald, PhD**

*Associate Professor of English / Director, University Honors Program*  
(2023, January). *D. H. Lawrence and the literary marketplace: The early writings, Annalise Grice* [Book Review]. *Textual Cultures: Texts, Contexts, Interpretation*, Vol. 15(2), Pgs. 306–09.

**Nicola Meade, PhD, NCC, LCPC, LPC**

*Assistant Professor of Clinical Mental Health*  
(2022, November). *Looking back, moving forward: COVID-19 and Indian Country* [Article].

**Pamela J. Rader, PhD**

*Professor of English*  
(2022, Fall). “The “Strange Graft” and “Sumptuous Garden” of Marilyn Chin’s “Revenge of the Mooncake Vixen” [Article]. *The Rocky Mountain Review of Language and Literature*, Volume 76, Issue 2, Pgs. 244–260.

(2022, Fall). *Comics and the body: Drawing, reading, and vulnerability by Eszter Szép* [Review]. *The Rocky Mountain Review of Language and Literature*, Vol. 76, Issue 2, Pgs. 351–354.

(2023, Spring). *At home in the Anthropocene by Amy T. Proppen* [Review]. *The Rocky Mountain Review of Language and Literature*, Vol.77, Issue 1, Pgs. 120–123.

(2023, Spring). *Sage by Marilyn Chin* [Review]. *The Rocky Mountain Review of Language and Literature*, Vol.77, Issue 1, Pgs. 90–93.

**Eric Rosenberg, PhD**

*Assistant Professor of Applied Computing*  
With Y. Serbest. (2022, October 18). U.S. Patent #11,477,137 [Patent]. Managing phys-

ical resources for virtual network functions.

With A. Cheng and A. Gorbunova. (2022). *K-means with sampling for determining prominent colors in images* [Article]. *IC-TACT Journal on Soft Computing*, Vol. 13, DOI 10.21917/ijsc.2022.0390.

With A. Gorbunova and A. Cheng. (2002). *Color averaging techniques and trends explored through artwork* [Article]. *Int. J. of Arts and Technology*, Vol. 14, doi.org/10.1504/IJART.2022.125622.

**Johann Vento, PhD**

*Professor of Religious Studies, Theology, & Philosophy*  
(2023, March 1). *Remembering and resisting: The new political theology*. By Johann Baptist Metz. Edited by John K. Downey [Review]. *Theological Studies*, Volume 84, No. 1.

**Kristen Park Wedlock, MFA**

*Assistant Professor of Writing*  
With Adam Wolfsdorf and Roberta Lerner-Kang. (2023, January 24). *Navigating trauma in the English classroom* [Podcast]. *Teaching Today*, Columbia Teachers College.

## SCHOOL OF BUSINESS & DIGITAL MEDIA

**Meera Behera, PhD**

*Assistant Professor of Finance*  
With Vikram Nanda and Oded Palmon. (2022). *Disciplinary shocks: Say-on-pay and the role of large shareholders* [Article]. *Review of Quantitative Finance and Accounting*, Vol. 59, Pgs. 1453–1499.

**Ellen Bernhard, PhD**

*Assistant Professor of Digital Communication*  
(2022). *Bad Religion and the burlesque: Framing extremist rhetoric in “The Kids are Alt-Right”* [Article].

**Marci Mazzarotto, PhD**

Assistant Professor & Program Coordinator, Digital Communication

(2023, April). *Episode 19: Patrick Bixby, Nietzsche and Irish Modernism*. [Podcast]. New Books Network, Communication & Media Channel.

(2023, March). *Ming Chen's a shared universe* [Podcast]. Brontë Music Video Production Team, Garden State Film Festival.

(2023, February). *Episode 18: Patrick Bixby, unaccompanied traveler: The writings of Kathleen M. Murphy* [Podcast]. New Books Network, Communication & Media Channel.

(2023, January). *Episode 17: Patrick Bixby, license to Travel: A cultural history of the passport*. [Podcast]. New Books Network, Communication & Media Channel.

(2022). *Modifying board games in alignment with state standards to develop the geographic literacy of elementary level learners* [Article]. *The Social Studies*, DOI: 10.1080/00377996.2022.2114403.

(2022, October 6-8). *Learning by co-designing environmental (in)justice games*. [Article]. *Proceedings of the 16th European Conference on Games-Based Learning*, pp. 491-499, Lisbon, Portugal, Academic Conferences International Ltd.

**Hyuksoon Song, PhD**

Associate Professor & Director of Student Data and Program Evaluation

With Izci, B., Geesa, R. L., Chen, S (2022). *Home learning environments during the COVID-19 pandemic: Caregivers' and children's perceptions* [Article]. *Journal of Research in Childhood Education*, Pgs. 1-13.

With Napolitano, N. (2022). *Gamification and student motivation in the Chilean inner city* [Article]. *Journal of Interactive Learning Research*, Vol. 33(4), Pgs. 211-223.

## SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

**Nancy Sardone, PhD**

Professor of Education





# BOOKS, REFERENCE BOOKS & BOOK CHAPTERS

*Entries in blue represent work completed through faculty and student partnerships.*

## SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES

### **Russell McDonald, PhD**

*Associate Professor of English / Director, University Honors Program*  
(2023). *Modernist Literary Collaborations Between Women and Men* [Book]. Cambridge University Press.

### **Stephanie Rahill, PhD, NCSP**

*Associate Professor of Psychology & Counseling*  
With Tacovsky, H. (2023). *Teachers as change agents: Challenging future teachers to advocate for evidence-based principles of learning, development, and motivation* [Chapter]. In M. Yough, J. S. Vogler, & E. M. Anderman (Eds.). *Teaching to Prepare Advocates. Theory to Practice: Educational Psychology for Teachers and Teaching*,

### **Jaime Rivera Flores**

*Associate Professor of World Languages and Cultures*  
(2022). *Describing and perceiving sexual orientation based on linguistic cues* [Chapter] In John W. Schwieter and Jaime A. Rivera Flores (Eds.). *Readings in Language Studies. Volume 9. Engaging in Critical Language Studies*, Pgs. 141-168, Information Age Publishing.

With John W. Schwieter, PhD. (2022). *Readings in language studies. Volume 9. Engaging in Critical Language Studies* [Book]. Information Age Publishing.

### **Matthew Sheridan, EdD** **Assistant Professor**

With Thomas J. Lalka (2022). *DBA, Contemporary criminal justice careers: A comprehensive guide* [Book]. Rowman and Littlefield Publishers.

### **Heather Tacovsky, Psy.D., NCSP** **Assistant Professor**

With Rahill, S. (2023). *Teachers as change agents: Challenging future teachers to advocate for evidence-based principles of learning, development, and motivation*. [Chapter]. In *Teaching to Prepare Advocates*. Pgs. 33-50, Information Age Publishing.

### **Kristen Park Wedlock, MFA**

*Assistant Professor of Writing*  
With Adam Wolfsdorf, PhD. and Cassandro Lo, EdD (2022, November) *Navigating trauma in the English classroom* [Book]. NCTE.

## SCHOOL OF BUSINESS & DIGITAL MEDIA

### **Ellen Bernhard, PhD**

*Assistant Professor of Digital Communication*  
(2023). *Milo goes to college, Ellen goes to grad school: The series of events that turned an afterschool hobby into a hardcore pursuit of punk rock* [Chapter]. Konstantin Butz & Robert A. Winkler (Eds.). *Hardcore Research: Punk, Practice, Politics*, Pgs. 35-44.

**Marci Mazzarotto, MFA, PhD**

*Assistant Professor & Program Coordinator, Digital Communication*  
(2023, January). *Pedagogy of play: Fluxus in the college classroom* [Chapter]. *Reimagining the Humanities*, Parlor Press.

**Lindiwe Magaya, PhD**

*Associate Professor of Education*  
(2022, August). *The Guarded One: A Child's Journey Through War* [Book]. Trilogy Christian Publishing, Tustin, CA.

## SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

**Denise Furlong, EdD**

*Assistant Professor/Director of Reading Specialist Program*  
(2022, September 9). *Holistic professional learning in times of crisis* [Chapter]. *Handbook of Research on Activating Middle Executives' Agency to Lead and Manage in Times of Crisis*, IGI Global.





# CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS, PANELS & POSTER SESSIONS

*Entries in blue represent work completed through faculty and student partnerships.*

## SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES

### Scott H. Bennett, PhD

*Professor of History & Chair of the Department of History & Politics*

(2023, January 8). *The US army as a social laboratory in World War II* [Chaired Panel]. American Historical Association Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

(2023, May 30). *Secular nonviolence – the case of Igal Roodenko: radical pacifist, conscientious objector, and nonviolent activist for peace, justice & freedom* [Presentation]. Mercy Roundtable on Nonviolence, Salve Regina University, Newport, RI.

### Theresa Brown, PhD, BCBA-D

*Professor of Psychology & Counseling*

With Dianna Batalla and Emily Zupkus (2023, February 7). *School psychology students as service providers to at-risk undergraduates* [Presentation]. National Association of School Psychologists.

With Christine L. Clark (2023, February 9). *Parent experiences of grief when caring for a child with a diagnosed mental health disorder* [Presentation]. National Association of School Psychologists.

With Simunic, A., Stewart, L.M., Ombla, J., Nikolic, M., Tokic, A., Ljubici, M., & Sliskovic, A. (2023, May). *Predictors of work-family facilitation in parents of children with disabilities living in Croatia* [Paper]. 21st EAWOP Conference-The Future is Now, The Changing World of Work, Katowice, Poland.

With Sumner, K. E. (2022, September). *Using the four-term contingency for preparing*

*and supporting a neurodiverse workforce* [Poster Session]. ABAI 11th Annual International Conference, Dublin, Ireland.

With DeFilippo, S. (2022, June). *Evaluating the effectiveness of graphical feedback within behavioral skills training on BCBA® aspirants' visual analysis skills* [Paper]. Annual Science of Behavior Analysis Conference, New Brunswick, NJ.

### Paul Cappucci, PhD

*Professor of English*

(2023, May 27). *Driving through the fog of modernity: Mosquito extermination, progress, and the great American novel* [Presentation]. American Literature Association, Boston, MA

### Mary Chinery, PhD

*Dean, Arts and Sciences, Professor of English*

(2023, June 21-23). *Nellie Birdseye, Sarah Bernhardt's Hamlet, and the theatrical context of Willa Cather's 1926 "My Mortal Enemy"* [Presentation]. 18th International Cather Seminar, "Bright, Beautiful, and Alive": Willa Cather's New York Intersections, New York, NY.

### Elissa Cutter, PhD

*Assistant Professor of Religious Studies & Theology*

(2022, July 27). *Teaching/writing spark: Journaling* [Presentation]. Teaching and Learning Workshop for Early Career Religion Faculty Teaching Undergraduates, Wabash Center, Crawfordsville, IN.

(2022, November 19). *A feminine rhetoric of persecution: The strategic historiography of the nuns of Port-Royal* [Presentation].

American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

(2022, November 22). *"Not to obey you, of course, because that's anachronistic and misogynistic": Authorial intent in interpreting Buffy the Vampire Slayer* [Presentation]. American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

(2023, March 10-11). *Narratives of early modern Catholic reform: Spiritual and theological influences in the writings of the Port-Royal nuns* [Presentation]. Early Modern Roots of Newman's Religious World, Spring Symposium, National Institute for Newman Studies, Pittsburgh, PA.

### **Susan E.O. Field, PhD**

*Professor of Psychology, Chair, Department of Psychology & Counseling, Program Director, Transition & Career Studies*  
With Petroff, J. G., Lauren M. Jensen, & Kaitlyn C. Cuisinier. (2023, March 9-11). *Perceptions of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities: The relationship with contact* [Poster Presentation]. 2023 International Convention of Psychological Science (ICPS), Brussels, Belgium.

### **Nicola Meade, PhD, NCC, LCPC, LPC**

*Assistant Professor*  
(2023, November 3-4). *How race, gender, and power affect African-American female faculty retention* [Presentation]. Regional Conference for the Southern Association of Counselor Educators and Supervisors.

### **Pamela J. Rader, PhD**

*Professor of English*  
(2022, October 13-15). *Not terra nullius: Perspectives of country in contemporary Aboriginal Australian fiction* [Presentation]. Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association, Albuquerque, NM.

(2023, May 31). *Tilling soil, tilling roots: Sowing language of kinship*. [Presentation]. Mercy Roundtable on Nonviolence, Salve Regina University, Newport, RI.

### **Stephanie Rahill, PhD, NCSP**

*Associate Professor of Psychology &*

## **20 | FACULTY FOCUS**

### *Counseling*

With DiFoglio, N. & Sanders, B. (February 2023). *Expanding access for parents: Strategies for effective virtual meetings*. [Practitioner Conversation]. Annual Conference of the National Association of School Psychologists. Denver, CO.

With Tacovsky, H., Clark, C. & Winters, A. (February 2023). *From practitioner to trainer: Adjunct teaching for school psychologists*. [Practitioner Conversation]. Annual Conference of the National Association of School Psychologists. Denver, CO.

### **Anne Tabor-Morris, PhD**

*Professor of Physics*  
(2023, June 6). *Assigning an Adopt-a-Star to engage introductory-level college or high school astronomy students* [Poster Session]. American Astronomical Society (AAS) 242nd Conference, Albuquerque, NM.

### **Heather Tacovsky, PsyD, NCSP**

*Assistant Professor of Psychology & Counseling*  
With Dana Randolph-Pryce. (2023, February). *Combating the effects of teacher implicit bias on minority students* [Poster Session]. National Association of School Psychologists. Denver, CO.

With Nicole DiFoglio. (2023, February). *Meaningful transition supports for graduating students with Autism Spectrum Disorders* [Poster Session]. National Association of School Psychologists. Denver, CO.

With Amber Gorney, Tyrah Andrews, Tori Brokaw, Dana Randolph-Pryce. (2023, February). *Are we safe: The exploration of mass school shootings* [Poster Session]. National Association of School Psychologists. Denver, CO.

With Stephanie Rahill, Christine Clark and Amy Winters. (2023, February) *From practitioner to trainer: Adjunct teaching for school psychologists* [Practitioner Conversation]. National Association of School Psychologists, Denver, CO.

With Tara Rempel, MA (2023, February). *Food for thought: Increasing recognition*



*of eating disorders in schools [Practitioner Conversation]. National Association of School Psychologists, Denver, CO.*

**Kristen Park Wedlock, MFA**

*Assistant Professor of Writing*  
(2022, October 13-15). *Pretty funny: "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel" as a platform to undress class, crass, pearls, and privilege* [Presentation] 2022 American and Popular Culture South Association Conference, New Orleans: SPCA/SACA.  
(2022, November 17). *Navigating trauma in the English classroom* [Presentation]. Seunos: Pursuing the Light, National Council for the Teachers of English, Anaheim, CA.

With Victoria Black, BA (2022, November 11). *Panic prose – attention, narrative, and memory during crisis* [Presentation]. 2022 Annual Conference of the Mid-Atlantic Popular & American Culture Association, Virtual

With Adam Wolfsdorf, PhD (2023, May 23). *Trauma, repetition, and repair* [Presentation and Workshop]. Barnard College, Columbia University, New York, NY.

## SCHOOL OF BUSINESS & DIGITAL MEDIA

**Meera Behera, PhD**

*Assistant Professor of Finance*  
With Subhansu Mohanty and Odette Mohanty (2022, November). *Re-examining the seasonality in the developed and emerging equity markets using MSCI index* [Presentation]. 53rd DSI Annual Conference, TX.

**Ellen Bernhard, PhD**

*Assistant Professor of Digital Communication*  
(2022, December 3). *These are our friends, they're not commodities: Investigating the sub and pop culture connection at Gainesville's Fest* [Presentation]. Ninth Annual Punk Scholars Network Conference and Postgraduate Symposium, Middlesex University, London, UK.

(2023, April). *"We're going to the Fest!": Sense of place in the music of Gainesville's*

*Fest* [Presentation]. Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association, San Antonio, TX.

**Jinsook Kim, PhD**

*Associate Professor of Communication, Graphic Design & Multimedia*  
(2023, March 29-32). *Exploring closure In time: What can gestalt closure be in narratives on screen?* [Poster Session]. 17th International Conference on Design Principles & Practices, Newcastle, Lisbon, Portugal.

**Marci Mazzarotto, MFA, PhD**

*Assistant Professor & Program Coordinator, Digital Communication*  
(2022, November). *Subverting love: The lack of romantic payoff in NBC's "Community"* [Presentation]. Popular/American Culture Association in the South, New Orleans, LA

(2023, May). *Emotional visualization in "Punch-Drunk Love"* [Presentation]. Southwest Popular/American Culture Association: Summer Salon (Virtual)

## SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

**Lindiwe Magaya, PhD**

*Associate Professor of Education*  
(2022, June 28). *Intellectual and developmental disabilities in Zimbabwe: Stress and coping strategies* [Presentation]. Division of Special Education Services (DSES) on Inclusive Education, Global Leadership Summit on Inclusive Education. Breckenridge, CO.

**Nancy Sardone, PhD**

*Professor of Education*  
(2022). *Using cartoons to teach the C3 framework* [Presentation]. National Council of Social Studies Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

(2022, December 2-4). *Game ON: Learning how to modify commercial board games to fit the C3 framework in geography* [Presentation]. National Council of Social Studies Annual Conference. Philadelphia, PA.

# FACULTY MENTOR FOR STUDENT RESEARCH

*Entries in blue represent work completed through faculty and student partnerships.*

## HACKENSACK MERIDIAN HEALTH SCHOOL OF NURSING & WELLNESS

### **Vincent Chen, PhD**

*Assistant Professor of Exercise Science*  
With Mathias Madersbacher, Joseph Liberatore (2022, October 12). *Anaerobic threshold is not different among young and healthy adults regardless of gender, athletic status, and sport type* [Presentation]. American College of Sport Medicine Greater New York Chapter Fall Meeting.

## SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES

### **Scott H. Bennett, PhD**

*Professor of History & Chair of the Department of History & Politics*  
With George Malgeri (2023, Spring). *Crisis in Yemen: Civil war, war in Yemen, and Yemen as a proxy: how a domestic conflict became exploited to benefit foreign powers* [Paper Presentation]. GCU Academic Excellence Celebration

With Nicole Russo (2023, Spring). *Arthur F. Raper: The new deal from the old south to the new south* [Paper Presentation]. GCU Academic Excellence Celebration

### **Paul Cappucci, PhD**

*Professor of English*  
With Juliette Margolies (2023, April 18). *Move-*

*ment beyond the page: Walt Whitman, Isadora Duncan, and the beginning of modern dance* [Paper Presentation]. Academic Excellence Celebration, Georgian Court University.

With Catherine Quinn (2022, March 31). *Emily Dickinson and Taylor Swift: Setting standards in autonomous authorship* [Paper Presentation]. 19th Annual Undergraduate Research Colloquium of the New Jersey Women and Gender Studies Consortium, Georgian Court University. 2nd Place Award.

### **Pamela Rader, PhD**

*Professor of English*  
With Catherine Johnson. (2023, April 18). *Interdisciplinary approach to Medieval literature through art and music* [Presentation of a Digital Portfolio]. Academic Excellence Day, Lakewood, NJ.

With Amanda Ricci. (2022, April 26). *Comparing components and efficacy of school-based suicide prevention programs* [Poster Session]. Academic Excellence Day, Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ.

### **Kristen Park Wedlock, MFA**

*Assistant Professor of Writing*  
With Victoria Smith (2022, November). *Missing: Erasure poetry and visibility - bring me home* [Presentation]. 2022 Annual Conference of the Mid-Atlantic Popular & American Culture Association:



Virtual.

## SCHOOL OF BUSINESS & DIGITAL MEDIA

**Marci Mazzarotto, MFA, PhD**

*Assistant Professor & Program Coordinator, Digital Communication*

With Tyler Towns (2022, December). *Image generation* [Presentation]. SBDM Student Showcase.

With Courtney Fenty (2022, December). *The taxi* [Presentation]. SBDM Student Showcase.

**Meera Behera, PhD**

*Assistant Professor of Finance*

With Jack Milne (2022, December). *Seasonality trends: Airline industry* [Presentation]. SBDM Student Showcase.

## SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

**Lindiwe Magaya, PhD**

*Associate Professor of Education*

With Noami Olavarria (2023, April 18).

*Teachers' knowledge, perception, and implementation of multisensory strategies in the classroom* [Paper]. Academic Excellence Celebration, Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ.



# GRANTS, CONTRACTS, FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

*Entries in blue represent work completed through faculty and student partnerships.*

## HACKENSACK MERIDIAN HEALTH SCHOOL OF NURSING & WELLNESS

### **Vincent Chen, PhD**

*Assistant Professor of Exercise Science*  
(2022, Fall). American College of Sport  
Medicine GNYRC Student Involvement  
[Grant].

(2022, Fall). Hero's 2022 Teaching Grant  
for Digital Learning.

## SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES

### **Elissa Cutter, PhD**

*Assistant Professor of Religious Studies &  
Theology*  
(2023). "Teaching Ethics Through Advocacy  
and Active Citizenship". Wabash Center  
Summer Fellowship, funded by the Lilly  
Endowment, Inc.

### **Kristen Park Wedlock, MFA**

*Assistant Professor of Writing*  
(2022, Fall). Faculty Student Summer Re-  
search Award [Grant]. Academic Research  
Sub-Committee, GCU.

## SCHOOL OF BUSINESS & DIGITAL MEDIA

### **Marci Mazzarotto, MFA, PhD**

*Assistant Professor & Program Coordinator,  
Digital Communication*

Mercy at the Border Immersion Program,  
[Grant]. El Paso, TX/Ciudad Juárez, MX.

With Lindsey Kardashian & Brandon Ogrodnik.  
(2022-2023). Summer Research Grant,  
Documentary Short Film.





# PERFORMANCES & EXHIBITIONS

## SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES

**Silvana Cardell, MFA**

*Associate Professor*

(2022, October 27-October 30). *Disposable bodies* [Dance Performance/Installation].

Taller Puertorrique.

## SCHOOL OF BUSINESS & DIGITAL MEDIA

**Marci Mazzarotto, MFA, PhD**

*Assistant Professor & Program Coordinator,  
Digital Communication*

(2022, July). Director, Cinematographer, Editor. *Silence* [Music Video]. Official Selection, University Film and Video Association Conference.

(2022, October- 2023, February). Curator, *Flipping reality* [Solo Art Show]. Geis Gallery. (2023, March). Executive Producer, *Brontë* [Music Video]. Official Selection, Garden State Film Festival, Awarded "Best Home-Grown Music Video."

(2023, March). Producer, *Make my own fun* [Music Video]. Official Selection, Nyack International Film Festival. Awarded "Best Music Video."

(2023, March-April). Curator, *Detours* [Group Art Show]. Geis Gallery.

(2023, June). Producer, *Make my own fun* [Music Video]. Official Selection, Newark International Film Festival.



# PROFESSIONAL SERVICES & APPOINTMENTS

## HACKENSACK MERIDIAN HEALTH SCHOOL OF NURSING & WELLNESS

**Sachiko Komagata, PhD, MPT**

*Director of Advising, Department of Integrative Health & Exercise Science  
Associate Editor, Undergraduate Research Journal of Human Sciences at KON.*

Peer Reviewer, *Journal of Interprofessional Education and Practice.*

## SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES

**Scott H. Bennett, PhD**

*Professor of History & Chair of the Department of History & Politics  
(2022-2023). Member, Program Committee, Peace History Society Conference, October 26-29, 2023, Gwynedd Mercy University, Gwynedd Valley, Pennsylvania.*

(2023, January 1 to 2026, December 31).  
Board Member, Peace History Society.

**Johann Vento, PhD**

*Professor of Religious Studies, Theology, & Philosophy  
President, College Theology Society.*

**Kristen Park Wedlock, MFA**

*Assistant Professor of Writing  
With Adam Wolfsdorf, PhD (2023, March 1).*

*Navigating Trauma in the Humanities Classroom [Workshop]. NYU Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, NYC.*

(2023, March 31). *Trauma Conscious Classrooms: Critical Witnessing and Contemplative Poetics [Workshop].* School of Culture, Education, and Human Development at NYU, NYC.

With Adam Wolfsdorf, PhD (2023, June 15). *Trauma Conscious Learning Communities [Workshop].* Barnard College, Columbia University, NYC

## SCHOOL OF BUSINESS & DIGITAL MEDIA

**Ellen Bernhard, PhD**

*Assistant Professor of Digital Communication  
(2022, November). Editorial Board Member, Punk & Post-Punk.*

**Marci Mazzarotto, MFA, PhD**

*Assistant Professor & Program Coordinator, Digital Communication  
(2018-Present). Advisory Board Member, Americana: The Journal of American Popular Culture*

(2022). Peer-Reviewer, *The Information, Medium & Society Journal Collection*



# GCU PRESENTATIONS, PANELS & POSTER SESSIONS

*Entries in blue represent work completed through faculty and student partnerships.*

## HACKENSACK MERIDIAN HEALTH SCHOOL OF NURSING & WELLNESS

**Sachiko Komagata, PhD, MPT**

*Director of Advising, Department of Integrative Health & Exercise Science (2023, February 2). Mother Nature: Who are mothers? What do you expect? [Presentation].* Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ.

## SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES

**Scott H. Bennett, PhD**

*Professor of History & Chair of the Department of History & Politics (2022, September 22). Nonviolent activism and social justice [Inaugural Fellow and Speaker].* Mulcahy Institute for Social Justice Lecture, Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ.

(2023, March 20). *In Conversation with Joanne Sheehan: Joanne Sheehan: nonviolent activist for peace & justice.* [Presentation]. GCU Critical Concerns Week 2023 (Women) and Mercy Peace Forum, Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ.

(2023, April 12). *George Orwell: politics and writing* [Moderator & Introduction]. Humanities Forum "Orwell in the Age of AI

& Alternative Facts: Revisiting 1984," Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ.

**Lori Nixon Bethea, PhD, LPC, NCC, ACS**

*Assistant Professor of Psychology & Counseling*

(2022, September). *Navigating relational strengths of African American married couples during COVID 19* [Presentation]. Celebration of Faculty Scholarship, Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ.

(2023, April, 29). *Developing an achievable vision for your life* [Presentation]. Twelfth Annual Wellness Expo sponsored by Department of Integrative Health and Exercise Science, Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ.

**Elissa Cutter, PhD**

*Assistant Professor of Religious Studies & Theology*

With Mary Kate Holman (2023, March 22). *The recovery of women's voices in Catholic tradition: A conversation* [Presentation]. Georgian Court University, Critical Concerns Week, Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ.

**Pamela Rader, PhD**

*Professor of English*

With Bennett, Scott H and Kim-Reuter, J (2023, April 12). *George Orwell: politics and writing* [Panelist]. Humanities Forum "Orwell in the Age of AI & Alternative Facts: Revisiting 1984," Georgian Court Uni-

versity, Lakewood, NJ.

**Heather Tacovsky, PsyD**

*Assistant Professor of Psychology & Counseling* (2023, March). *Food for thought: Increasing recognition of eating disorders in schools* [Presentation]. Faculty Scholarship Celebration, Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ.

With Nicole DiFoglio (2023, April). *Meaningful transition supports for graduating students with Autism Spectrum Disorders* [Poster Session]. Academic Excellence Day, Lakewood, NJ.

**Kristen Park Wedlock, MFA**

*Assistant Professor of Writing* (2023, February 2). *Bodies of work: Poetry for collective change* [Presentation]. Blue and Gold Ideas Festival, Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ.

With Marci Mazzarotto, PhD, Pari Murthy, PhD, and Ellen Bernhard, PhD (2023, March 22). *9 to 5: The story of a movement* [Film Screening and Discussion], Critical Concerns Week: Women 2023, Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ.

With Russell McDonald, PhD (2023, April 13). *A place for the genuine: Raw and real with Marianne Moore* [Presentation and Workshop]. Dose of Poetry Series, SMJC Library, Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ.

With Victoria Rose Smith, BA (2023, April 18). *Missing/missed: An art and advocacy event* [Presentation and Workshop]. Dose of Poetry Series, SMJC Library, Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ.

With Victoria Black, BA (2023, April 18). *Panic prose -- narrative, time, and memory during crisis: An interactive gallery* [Poster]. Celebration of Academic Excellence, Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ.

## SCHOOL OF BUSINESS & DIGITAL MEDIA

**Ellen Bernhard, PhD**

*Assistant Professor of Digital Communication* (2023, March 16). *An ethnographic investigation into the sub and pop culture connection at Gainesville's Fest* [Presentation]. Celebration of Faculty Scholarship, Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ.

**Marci Mazzarotto, PhD**

*Assistant Professor & Program Coordinator, Digital Communication* (2023, March). *Mercy at the border: Immigration as a human rights issue* [Presentation]. Celebration of Faculty Scholarship, Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ.

(2023, March). *Film screening and discussion, 9 to 5: The story of a movement* [Host and Panel Moderator]. Critical Concerns Week, Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ.

With Ellen Bernhard (2023, May). *Popular culture in the classroom* [Presentation]. Faculty Development Day, Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ.

## SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

**Lindiwe Magaya, PhD**

*Associate Professor of Education* (2022, September 27). *Trauma, tragedy, and resilience: An analysis of "The Guarded One: A Child's Journey Through War"* [Presentation]. Celebration of Faculty Scholarship, Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ.





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