

DYSON COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

44<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
*of the*  
SOCIETY OF FELLOWS



SATURDAY, March 1, 2025  
PACE UNIVERSITY  
ONE PACE PLAZA  
NEW YORK, NY

THE SOCIETY OF FELLOWS  
DYSON COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
PACE UNIVERSITY

44<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
SATURDAY, March 1, 2025  
ONE PACE PLAZA

FULL-DAY SCHEDULE

9:30 a.m. Registration and Breakfast—Student Center

*Buffet in Student Center.*

10:00 a.m. Annual Meeting Welcome—Student Center

10:15 a.m. Plenary Presentations—Student Center

11:45 a.m. Break

12:00 p.m. Poster Session—Main Lobby

1:00 p.m. Luncheon—Student Center

*Buffet in Zannino Room. Beverages & Dessert in Student Center.*

2:00 p.m. First Concurrent Afternoon Panel Sessions 1 through 7—Fifth Floor

3:00 p.m. Break

*Light Refreshments on Fifth Floor.*

3:15 p.m. Second Concurrent Afternoon Panel Sessions 8 through 14—Fifth Floor

4:15 p.m. Break

4:30 p.m. Awards Reception—Student Center

*Buffet in Student Center.*

Transportation: Bus departs from Goldstein Fitness Center on Pleasantville campus at 8:30 a.m. and returns from Frankfort Street Lot on New York campus at 5:30 p.m.

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*THE EXECUTIVE BOARD ACKNOWLEDGES WITH GRATITUDE ALL FACULTY SPONSORS, JUDGES,  
AND MODERATORS FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE SOCIETY OF FELLOWS OF DYSON COLLEGE.*

THE SOCIETY OF FELLOWS  
DYSON COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
PACE UNIVERSITY

44<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

9:30 a.m. **Registration and Breakfast**—Student Center

10:00 a.m. **Annual Meeting Welcome**—Student Center

Judith Pajo, PhD  
Chair, Society of Fellows of Dyson College

Tresmaine Grimes, PhD  
Dean, Dyson College of Arts and Sciences

10:15 a.m. **Plenary Presentations**—Student Center

*Sex-Specific Differences in Metabolite Production*  
Kristen Benes; Faculty Sponsor: Rita Upmacis, PhD

*South Korean Radical Feminism and the Use of Humor as Non-Violent Activism*  
Nicolette Frattellone; Faculty Sponsor: Joseph Lee, PhD

*Reality Bites Back: The Portrayal of Plus Size Bodies in Reality Television*  
Sara Cressman; Faculty Sponsor: Melvin Williams, PhD

*Que Se Vayan Ellos: Bad Bunny's Impact on Puerto Rican Activism and Resistance*  
Jasmine Cintrón Soto; Faculty Sponsor: Emily Welty, PhD

Faculty Moderator: Stephanie Hsu, PhD

11:45 a.m. **Break**

12:00 p.m. **Poster Session**—Main Lobby

Presiding, Judith Pajo, PhD  
Chair, Society of Fellows of Dyson College

*Moringa-Infused Herbal Teas as Functional Beverages: Antioxidant Activity and Phenolic Content Evaluation*  
Blen Alemayehu; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Antioxidant Properties of Taurine and Catalin Eye Drops:  
Discriminating between ROS-Producing and Alkylating NRF2 Activators*  
Morgan Amos; Faculty Sponsor: Irina Gazaryan, PhD

*Analysis of Fluoride Content in Ready-to-Drink Tea Using an Ion-  
Selective Electrode*  
Isabella Birjandi; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Quantitative Analysis of Iron Content in Fortified Cereals Using Atomic  
Absorption Spectroscopy*  
Elizabeth Daley; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Melatonin Inhibits Circumnutation in Arabidopsis Thaliana*  
Samara Durgadin; Faculty Sponsor: Eric Brenner, PhD

*Decoding Heart Failure III: Can Abnormal Enzyme Activity in Lung and  
Kidney Reflect Heart Pathology?*  
Anita Eldho; Faculty Sponsor: Charlene Hoegler, PhD

*Forever Chemicals in Our Food: What is the Risk?*  
Hannah Engelmeyer; Faculty Sponsor: S. Perl Egendorf, PhD

*Antioxidant Activity of Turmeric Tea Samples*  
Mia Flores; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Analysis of Sex-Dependent Differences in Urinary Metabolites*  
Matthew Giang; Faculty Sponsor: Rita Upmacis, PhD

*Comparative Analysis of Pediatric Medications Using ATR-FTIR  
Spectroscopy and Multivariate Statistical Techniques*  
Angela Gould; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Avocado Herbal Teas: A Comparative Study of Antioxidant Activity*  
Kimiko Katzaroff; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Decoding Heart Failure II: Can Abnormal Enzyme Activity In Liver And  
Spleen Reflect Heart Pathology?*  
Manpreet Kaur; Faculty Sponsor: Charlene Hoegler, PhD

*Utilization of Assay and GC-MS Analysis of Antioxidant and Chemical  
Composition of Commercial Propolis Samples*  
Elisabeth Kharon; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Regional Differences in the Antioxidant Properties of United States  
Propolis Samples*  
Gedalya Kolesin; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Assessing Fluoride Levels in Bottled Water and Red Bull: Implications  
for Consumer Safety*  
Julia McReynolds; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Geographical Variability in the Antioxidant Properties of Propolis from Europe*

Ayman Mhamdi; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Antioxidant Properties of Ginger-Based Herbal Teas: A Comparative Analysis of Phenolic and Flavonoid Content*

Cate Mittweg; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Enhancing Antioxidant Intake Through Wellness Teas: A Quantitative Analysis*

Isaac Nasimov; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Monitoring Expired Pharmaceuticals Using FTIR-ATR Spectroscopy: A Rapid and Non-Destructive Analytical Approach*

Jovan Palinkas; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Optimizing Extraction Protocols for Bioactive Compounds in Cannabis: A GC-MS Comparative Study*

Thomas Panzera; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Spectroscopic Characterization and Authenticity Assessment of Bonne Maman Fruit Preserves Using ATR-FTIR and Multivariate Statistical Analysis*

Camille Perrier; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Multivariate Analysis of the ATR-FTIR of Honey Samples*

Natalie Rodrigues; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Absorbance Differentiation of Propolis Extracts Using Multivariate Analysis: Principal Component and Hierarchical Cluster Analysis*

Anne Roy; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Chemical Profiling and Authenticity Assessment of Essential Oils Using ATR-FTIR Spectroscopy and Multivariate Statistical Analysis*

Amiya Swink; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*The Investigation of Spirulina as a Component in Skin Products*

Justin Wong; Faculty Sponsor: JaimeLee Rizzo, PhD

*Spectroscopic and Multivariate Analysis of Common Blood Pressure Medications*

Amy Yarygina; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

Faculty Judges: Matthew Aiello-Lammens, PhD; Zafir Buraei, PhD; Eduardo Chan, PhD; Eric Chang, PhD; Nanjie Deng, PhD; William Eaton, PhD; Brian Evans, EdD; Wei Fang, PhD; Lisa Fastenberg, PhD; Emilio Fernández, PhD, Michael Finewood, PhD; Matthew Ganis, PhD; Paul Griffin, PhD; Nira Herrmann, PhD; Sue Huang, PhD; Sergey Kazakov, PhD; Richard Schlesinger, PhD; Yana Shvartsberg, PhD; Meng Xu, PhD; Alfred Ward; PhD.

1:00 p.m. **Luncheon**—Student Center

Roundtable 1: How to Become a Fellow  
Hosted by Brandyn Heppard, PhD

Roundtable 2: Where Could You Go From Here: Exploring Prestigious Awards to Further Your Research and Creative Projects  
Hosted by Moira Egan, PhD

Roundtable 3: Alumni Fellows Reunion

Roundtable 4: Weekend Seminar Reunion

*Start your own conversations at the other tables!*

2:00 p.m. **First Concurrent Afternoon Panel Sessions 1 to 7**—Fifth Floor

**Session A1**      **Recent Poems: A Reading by Four Poets**

English      *Poetry Panel: Kendall Elmiger, The Wound We Call Living*  
CIVIC W510      Kendall Elmiger; Faculty Sponsor: Helane Levine-Keating, PhD

2:00 p.m.–      *Good Starry Night: Poetry Panel Reading*  
3:00 p.m.      Janet Gerges; Faculty Sponsor: Helane Levine-Keating, PhD

Collection of Poems  
Sarah Kincaid; Faculty Sponsor: Helane Levine-Keating, PhD

A Poetry Collection  
Cori Magsby; Faculty Sponsor: Helane Levine-Keating, PhD

Faculty Moderator: Helane Levine-Keating, PhD

**Session A2**      **Questions of Queerness and Performativity**

Performing Arts      *HALO or The Obsession with Superficial Success*  
& Philosophy      Brendan Lin; Faculty Sponsor: Cosmin Chivu, MFA

& Anthropology      *Theater and Intimacy in Motion*  
CIVIC W505      Claire Clay Wild Munley; Faculty Sponsor: Brandyn Heppard, PhD

2:00 p.m.–      *For the Record: Art and AIDS, Politics and Pinkwashing*  
3:00 p.m.      Percy Hillier; Faculty Sponsor: Brandyn Heppard, PhD

*Queering Religion: Religion As a Third Space*  
Holly Winn; Faculty Sponsor: Judith Pajo, PhD

Faculty Moderators: Cosmin Chivu, MFA; Brandyn Heppard, PhD

**Session A3**

Literature &  
Anthropology

CIVIC W511

2:00 p.m.–

3:00 p.m.

**Urban Histories and Contemporary Narratives**

*Forced Marriage, Exhibition, and Prostitution: Uncovering the History of Trafficked Women in Lower Manhattan*

Molly Dunne; Faculty Sponsor: Sid Ray, PhD

*Rhythms of Resistance: The Migration of the Argentine Tango as a Study of Socio-Cultural Exploitation and Political Dissent*

Emilia Gillen; Faculty Sponsor: Sid Ray, PhD

*Urban Rhythms and Culinary Connections: Navigating Freshman Identity Through Food and Music Festivals*

Benjamin LeBlanc; Faculty Sponsor: Judith Pajo, PhD

*A Sense of Home: Exploring Community and the Architecture of Belonging in Riverdale, New York*

Yariel Pena; Faculty Sponsor: Judith Pajo, PhD

Faculty Moderator: Ying Wang, PhD

**Session A4**

Anthropology

CIVIC W514

2:00 p.m.–

3:00 p.m.

**Religious Encounters: Culture, Conflict, and Community**

*God as a Shield: Is Faith Among Interfaith Relationships Enough to Bring Peace?*

Kristina Krichmaryov; Faculty Sponsor: Judith Pajo, PhD

*How Does Policy Making on Religion Affect our Interactions?*

Lia Brito Machado; Faculty Sponsor: Judith Pajo, PhD

*Shared Values, Divergent Beliefs: Interpreting Religious Doctrine in Interfaith Relations*

Raajasvi Thakker; Faculty Sponsor: Judith Pajo, PhD

*The Cultural Aspect of Religion*

Zoe Justin; Faculty Sponsor: Judith Pajo, PhD

Faculty Moderator: Judith Pajo, PhD

**Session A5**

Peace and  
Justice Studies

CIVIC W513

2:00 p.m.–

3:00 p.m.

**Resilience and Resistance**

*Longing and Liberation: Diasporic Iranian Jewish Zionism, Identities, and Trauma*

Ariana Somen; Faculty Sponsor: Garrett FitzGerald, PhD

*"Đà, con nhớ chứ": Caring for Our Loss and Grief as Second-Generation Asian Americans*

Anna Dziem Tran; Faculty Sponsor: Emily Welty, PhD

*Third Places: Cultivating Collectivism and Community in Universities*

Aidann Gia Bacolodan; Faculty Sponsor: Emily Welty, PhD

*Zines as a Tool of Political Education*

Mary Clare Hyland; Faculty Sponsor: Emily Welty, PhD

Faculty Moderator: Emily Welty, PhD

**Session A6**

Criminal  
Justice &

Economics

CIVIC W503

2:00 p.m.–

3:00 p.m.

**Science and Society**

*An Examination of Compassion, Fatigue and Trauma with First Responders Involved in Criminal Cases*

Cami Barba; Faculty Sponsor: Cathryn Lavery, PhD

*Opioid Abuse in Appalachia: An Intersectional Epidemic*

Izzy Vargas-Soto; Faculty Sponsor: Sam Baruch, MA

Faculty Moderator: Cathryn Lavery, PhD

**Session A7**

Economics

CIVIC W504

2:00 p.m.–

3:00 p.m.

**Dollars and Decisions**

*Fashionomics: What is the Effect of Credit Card Usage on Clothing Consumption?*

Carson Gordon; Faculty Sponsor: Mary Kaltenberg, PhD

*How do ESG Scores Impact Firms' Profits?*

Emma LaFleur; Faculty Sponsor: Kier Hanratty, PhD

*Icy Profits: The Effect of Offense on NHL Franchise Valuation*

Jude Yurcich; Faculty Sponsor: Eric Osborne, PhD

Faculty Moderator: Kier Hanratty, PhD



3:00 p.m. **Break**—Water Bubbler in Center Hallway on Fifth Floor

3:15 p.m. **Second Concurrent Afternoon Panel Sessions 8 to 14**—Fifth Floor

**Session B8** **Cuba Encounters: Economy, Culture, and Society**

Anthropology  
& Economics

CIVIC W505

3:15 p.m.–

4:15 p.m.

*Resilience and Reform: The Case for Cuba*

Ahmad Alexander; Faculty Sponsor: Judith Pajo, PhD

*Family and Foe: Connections and Exchanges Between the U.S. and Cuba*

Isabella Galeano Carvajal; Faculty Sponsor: Judith Pajo, PhD

*The Facade of Cuba*

Oliver Ng; Faculty Sponsor: Judith Pajo, PhD

*Economic Challenges in Cuba from a U.S. Student's Perspective*

Joseph Sanfilippo; Faculty Sponsor: Mark Weinstock, CBE

*The Essence of Cuba: More Than Meets the Eye*

Vianey Torres; Faculty Sponsor: Mark Weinstock, CBE

&

Guest Panelist: Rachel Perez

Faculty Moderators: Greg Colman, PhD; Daniel Greenberg, PhD;  
Judith Pajo, PhD; Mark Weinstock, CBE

**Session B9** **The Art of the Short Story Today: A Reading by Three Fiction Writers**

English

CIVIC W514

3:15 p.m.–

4:15 p.m.

*1-2 Short Stories of Fiction Creative Writing*

Savannah Ford; Faculty Sponsor: Helane Levine-Keating, PhD

*Two Original Short Stories: "Delta" and "The Truth"*

Nyx Krisberg; Faculty Sponsor: Helane Levine-Keating, PhD

*Margaret*

Kerry McGouran; Faculty Sponsor: Helane Levine-Keating, PhD

Faculty Moderator: Helane Levine-Keating, PhD

**Session B10      Writing and Translating Poetry**

English

CIVIC W503

3:15 p.m.–

4:15 p.m.

*Translating Contemporary French Written Art: Poems and Songs by Anne Talvaz, Stromae, and Ben Mazué*

Anna Dziem Tran; Faculty Sponsor: Eugene Richie, PhD

*An Imposter at the Palace Door - A Poetry Collection*

Janet Gerges; Faculty Sponsor: Eugene Richie, PhD

Faculty Moderator: Eugene Richie, PhD

**Session B11      Global Philosophies of Religion**

Philosophy and  
Religious  
Studies

CIVIC W513

3:15 p.m.–

4:15 p.m.

*Immaterialism, God, and Christianity: An Analysis of George Berkeley's Epistemology in A Treatise Concerning the Principles of Human Knowledge*

Ethan Feil; Faculty Sponsor: Eddis Miller, PhD

*Duality and Immanence: Exploring the Convergence of Vasubandhu's Three Natures and Georges Bataille's Theory of Animality*

Carolyn Hendricks; Faculty Sponsor: Eddis Miller, PhD

*A Comparative Analysis of Dharmakīrti's and Anselm's Views on the Authority of God*

Aastha Pujara; Faculty Sponsor: Eddis Miller, PhD

Faculty Moderator: Eddis Miller, PhD

**Session B12      Sport Communication, Culture, and Society**

Communication  
and  
Media Studies

CIVIC W511

3:15 p.m.–

4:15 p.m.

*An Analysis of the 2018 Humboldt Broncos Bus Crash*

Adrianna Matrone; Faculty Sponsor: Melvin Williams, PhD

*An Analysis of the Raygun Breakdancing Controversy at the Paris 2024 Olympics*

Scarlett Allen; Faculty Sponsor: Melvin Williams, PhD

*An Analysis of Lia Thomas v. World Aquatics*

Jada Comanda; Faculty Sponsor: Melvin Williams, PhD

*An Analysis of the College Recruitment Scheme*

Elizabeth Whelan; Faculty Sponsor: Melvin Williams, PhD

Faculty Moderator: Melvin Williams, PhD

**Session B13****Intended and Unintended Economic Effects of Social Policy**

Economics

CIVIC W510

3:15 p.m.–

4:15 p.m.

*The Effect of Restricting Abortion Access on Women's Participation in the Labor Force*

Brooklyn Bynum; Faculty Sponsor: Eric Osborne, PhD

*The Impact of Income Inequality on Sport Achievement: Cross-National Analysis of Winter Olympic Games*

Evan Frazier; Faculty Sponsor: Veronika Dolar, PhD

*Property Tax Cap Limits Effect on Fiscal Discipline*

Grace McGrath; Faculty Sponsor: Kier Hanratty, PhD

*The Case for Universal Preschool*

Margaret Walsh; Faculty Sponsor: Ric Kolenda, PhD

*How Worldwide Governance Quality Affects U.S. Direct Investment Abroad?*

Viktoriia Yevtushenko; Faculty Sponsor: Eric Osborne, PhD

Faculty Moderator: Veronika Dolar, PhD; Ric Kolenda, PhD

**Session B14****Boundaries and Intersections**Women and  
Gender Studies

&amp; Psychology

& Peace and  
Justice Studies

CIVIC W504

3:15 p.m.–

4:15 p.m.

*How to Challenge Gender and Racial Boundaries: Bring a Ball of Yarn*

McKenna Crenshaw; Faculty Sponsor: Cynthia Delgado, PhD

*Let's Play!: Understanding How Flirting in College Females is Related to Play and Emotional Well-Being*

Duygu Kondakci; Faculty Sponsor: DaSean L. Young, PhD

*Disability, Accessibility, and Intersectionality: Why We Need an Intersectional Lens When Creating College Campuses*

Jaden Rittweger; Faculty Sponsor: Garrett FitzGerald, PhD

Faculty Moderator: Cynthia Delgado, PhD

4:15 p.m. **Break**4:30 p.m. **Awards Ceremony**—Student Center

Presiding, Judith Pajo, PhD

Chair, Society of Fellows of Dyson College

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Initiation Ceremony**

Wed, April 30, 2025  
6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m., One Pace Plaza  
Pace University, New York

### **Weekend Seminar**

Fri–Sun, October 10–12, 2025  
Stony Point Center  
Stony Point, New York

### **Transactions—Call for Papers**

Full-length research papers and artistic projects submitted to the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in 2025 are considered for publication in Volume 26 of Transactions. Students interested in having their work published are encouraged to revise their Annual Meeting papers with the help of their faculty sponsors and submit their revised work (or new entries) of 20 pages max length to [sof@pace.edu](mailto:sof@pace.edu) by **Friday, May 31, 2025**.

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The Society of Fellows began in the fall of 1980 with a weekend seminar devoted to questions in applied ethics. The first class of fellows inducted at the formal inauguration of the society in December 1981 was named after distinguished philosopher and Pace faculty member William Barrett. Since then, a new class has been inducted annually and named after a member of our society who has made a significant contribution to the ideals that we hold important. To date, more than 700 students, faculty, and alumni hold the distinction of Fellow of Dyson College.

The Society of Fellows is the premier honors organization in Dyson College. The society fosters dialogue and scholarship across the fields of the arts and sciences through enriching experiences for students with exceptional academic and artistic abilities. The Society of Fellows provides students with opportunities to develop intellectual interests and present their research and creativity to the university community. Membership in the Society of Fellows gives recognition to advanced levels of student participation and achievement. Faculty who participate in Society of Fellows events and sponsor students also receive recognition as fellows.

Each fall the Society of Fellows sponsors the *Weekend Seminar* in which students, faculty, and alumni engage in discussions on a chosen topic in a casual, off-campus setting—usually in upstate New York. At the *Annual Meeting* of the Society of Fellows, which is a one-day student conference held in early spring, students showcase their faculty-mentored scholarly research and artistic projects. *Transactions*, the official publication of the fellows, features outstanding work written by Pace University students under the sponsorship of faculty members, many of whom are fellows. New members are recognized at the *Initiation Ceremony* held at the end of the spring semester. [Visit our website for more information about the Society of Fellows.](#)