

DYSON COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

42<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
*of the*  
SOCIETY OF FELLOWS



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2023

PACE UNIVERSITY

ONE PACE PLAZA

NEW YORK, NY

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

42<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2023  
ONE PACE PLAZA

FULL-DAY SCHEDULE

- 9:30am Registration and Breakfast—Student Center  
*Buffet in Zannino Room. Beverages in Student Center.*
- 10:00am Annual Meeting Welcome—Student Center
- 10:15am Plenary Presentations—Student Center
- 11:45am Break
- 12:00pm Poster Session—Main Lobby
- 1:00pm Luncheon—Student Center  
*Buffet in Zannino Room. Beverages and dessert in Student Center.*
- 2:15pm First Concurrent Afternoon Panel Sessions 1 through 7—Fifth Floor
- 3:15pm Break  
*Water in Lounge on Fifth Floor.*
- 3:30pm Second Concurrent Afternoon Panel Sessions 8 through 14—Fifth Floor
- 4:30pm Break
- 4:45pm Awards Reception—Student Center  
*Buffet in Zannino Room. Reception in Main Lobby following awards.*

Transportation: Bus departs from Goldstein Fitness Center on Pleasantville campus at 7:30am and returns from Gold & Spruce Street on New York campus at 5:30pm.

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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

42<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

9:30am      **Registration and Breakfast**—Student Center

10:00am      **Annual Meeting Welcome**—Student Center

Judi Pajo, PhD

Chair, Society of Fellows of Dyson College

Tresmaine Grimes, PhD

Dean, Dyson College of Arts and Sciences

10:15am      **Plenary Presentations**—Student Center

*Folklore from Harlem: A Collection of Poems*

Felicity Flores-Drew; Faculty Sponsor: Eugene Richie, PhD

*Superheroes: Representation of Philosophy and Politics in Media*

Varshita Korrapati; Faculty Sponsor: Brandyn Heppard, PhD

*A Spatio-Temporal Analysis of Trapa Natans and Native Submerged  
Aquatic Vegetation Distribution in the Hudson River*

Christopher Rafaniello; Faculty Sponsor: Wei Fang, PhD

*Politics, Relationships, and Moral Foundations*

James Kennedy; Faculty Sponsor: Courtney Gosnell, PhD

Faculty Moderator: Mark Weinstock, CBE

11:45am      **Break**

12:00pm **Poster Session**—Main Lobby

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

*Analyzing the Computational Electrostatics Function of Ethacridine to Topoisomerase I in Escherichia Coli*

Noor Aayla; Faculty Sponsor: Daniel Strahs, PhD

*Bodies @ Work*

Adam Mansur Al-Hatlani; Faculty Sponsor: Inbal Abergil, MFA

*Cream Formulations to Enhance Dermal Bacterial Resistance Using Dead Sea Mineral Mud*

Diana Bello; Faculty Sponsor: JaimeLee Rizzo, PhD

*Sex-Dependent Differences in the Production of the Vascular Lipid Signaling Molecule Prostacyclin*

Kristen Benes; Faculty Sponsor: Rita Upmacis, PhD

*Antioxidant Activity of Matcha Tea Samples*

Julie Bogad; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Unraveling the Mathematical Mystery of RSA*

Nora Broyles; Faculty Sponsor: Shamita Dutta Gupta, PhD

*Determination of the Calcium and Magnesium Content in Bottled Water*

Olivia Cullen; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Spectroscopic Determination of Caffeine Levels in Red Bull Samples*

Tamara Duval; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*The Natural Increase in Urbanization of the OECD*

Katherine Garcia; Faculty Sponsor: Todd Yarbrough, PhD

*Caffeine Determination of Pre-Workout Supplements*

Ethan Grimes; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Phenolic Profiles and Antioxidant Activity of Arizona Tea Samples*

Daphne Hernandez; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Antioxidant Activity of Commercial Bee Propolis Products*

Jessica Higgins; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Mechanism Of Anti-Ischemic Action of Edaravone*

Sara Hubbi; Faculty Sponsor: Irina Gazaryan, PhD

*Real-time Degradation and Swelling of Disulfide Cross-Linked Microgels at Different Concentrations of the Reducing Agent*

Angelina Italiano; Faculty Sponsor: Sergey Kazakov, PhD

*Antioxidant Activities of Commercial Tea Samples*  
Shaj Johnson; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Infrared (IR) Analysis of Commercial Bee Propolis Products*  
Kayla Lucas; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Synthesis of Unique Body Scrubs Made of Natural Oils for the Inhibition of Bacteria and Protection Against UV Radiation*  
Francesca Marchese; Faculty Sponsor: JaimeLee Rizzo, PhD

*Antioxidant Activity of Tulsi Tea Samples*  
Brandon Pedroza; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Quinine Content in Different Tonic Water Samples*  
Alena Romanova; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

*Antioxidant Capacity of Various Bee Pollen Samples*  
Carly Sullivan; Faculty Sponsor: Elmer Mojica, PhD

1:00pm **Luncheon**—Student Center

Roundtable 1: How to Become a Fellow  
Hosted by R. Emilio Fernández, PhD

Roundtable 2: Undergraduate Research Opportunities at Pace  
Hosted by Maria Iacullo-Bird, PhD

Roundtable 3: Prestigious Awards and Graduate Fellowships  
Hosted by Moira Egan, PhD

Roundtable 4: Public Scholarship & Community-Based Knowledge  
Hosted by Stephanie Hsu, PhD

Roundtable 5: How to Make a Lot of Money with Economics or Business Economics as Your Major  
Hosted by Mark Weinstock, CBE

Roundtable 6: Alumni Table

Roundtable 7: Weekend Seminar Reunion

Roundtables 8-20: *Start your own conversations!*

2:15pm **First Concurrent Afternoon Panel Sessions 1 to 7**—Fifth Floor

**Session A1 From Physics to Metaphysics**

Philosophy & Science *In Search of Late Cretaceous Coprolites and the Determination of Diets in a Terrestrial Ecosystem*

CIVIC W512 Brianna Hemmings; Faculty Sponsor: Zafir Buraei, PhD

2:15-3:15pm *Understanding Faunal Dynamics and Variation During the Cretaceous Terrestrial Revolution*

Veronica Kashua; Faculty Sponsor: Zafir Buraei, PhD

*Morality, Racism, and Kant*

Kenady Brown; Faculty Sponsor: Eddis Miller, PhD

*Spinoza and Somananda: A Cohesive Comparison of Monistic Philosophy*

Tyne Skelton; Faculty Sponsor: Eddis Miller, PhD

Faculty Moderator: Brandyn Heppard, PhD & Eddis Miller, PhD

**Session A2 The Art of the Short Story: 5 Fiction Writers, Part 1**

Creative Writing *Silence*

CIVIC W514 LilyAnne Bernard; Faculty Sponsor: Helane Levine-Keating, PhD

2:15-3:15pm *My Body of Water*

Mary Justin; Faculty Sponsor: Helane Levine-Keating, PhD

*Suite: "Skitzzy" and "What I Felt"*

Jay Servedio; Faculty Sponsor: Helane Levine-Keating, PhD

Faculty Moderator: Helane Levine-Keating, PhD

**Session A3 Refugees, Immigration, Citizenship**

Art & Social Sciences *Addressing What Stands in the Way: "Why Don't They Just Come Here Legally?"*

CIVIC W509 Aryaa Moudgal; Faculty Sponsor: Meghana Nayak, PhD

2:15-3:15pm *Puerto Rican Americans and their Answer to the Question: Statehood or Independence?*

Andrew Villardi; Faculty Sponsor: Judith Pajo, PhD

*In Ordinary Ink, Part 1*

Veronika Orlovska; Faculty Sponsor: Jillian McDonald, MFA

Faculty Moderator: Joseph Lee, PhD

First Concurrent Afternoon Panel Sessions 1 through 7, Continued

**Session A4**

**Employment, Unemployment and Hiring Practices**

Economics  
CIVIC W513  
2:15-3:15pm

*Ivy League Perceptions*  
McKenna Moore; Faculty Sponsor: Todd Yarbrough, PhD  
*Hurricane Sandy's Effect on Tourism Employment in New Jersey*  
Caterina Messina; Faculty Sponsor: Todd Yarbrough, PhD  
*Unemployment in the Entertainment Industry During an Economic Downfall*  
Melissa Rubio; Faculty Sponsor: Todd Yarbrough, PhD  
Faculty Moderator: Todd Yarbrough, PhD

**Session A5**

**Understanding Growth**

Economics  
CIVIC W515  
2:15-3:15pm

*The Hockey Wife Effect*  
Megan LeClair; Faculty Sponsor: Kier Hanratty, PhD  
*How Long do Movie-Watchers Want to Stay in Their Seats: Runtime of a Film and its Reviews*  
Cecelia Pruitt; Faculty Sponsor: Mark Weinstock, CBE  
*Bye-Bye Buybacks: The Effect of Corporate Stock Buybacks on Corporate Performance*  
Nicole Leonard; Faculty Sponsor: Todd Yarbrough, PhD  
*Bitcoin: Emergence of Global Investment Asset*  
Huy Nguyen; Faculty Sponsor: Todd Yarbrough, PhD  
Faculty Moderator: Kier Hanratty, PhD

**Session A6**

**Policies, Markets, and Social Goods**

Economics  
& Public  
Administration  
CIVIC W511  
2:15-3:15pm

*What's Public About Charter Schools*  
Margaret E. Walsh; Faculty Sponsor: Ric Kolenda, PhD  
*The Effect of Wildfires on Housing Market Outcomes: Evidence from California*  
Maria Andrukhiv; Faculty Sponsor: Todd Yarbrough, PhD  
*Zoning and City Revenues: Does Euclidean Zoning Impact Cities' Tax Revenues?*  
Jett Robert Meek; Faculty Sponsor: Todd Yarbrough, PhD  
Faculty Moderator: Ric Kolenda, PhD

First Concurrent Afternoon Panel Sessions 1 through 7, Continued

**Session A7      Issues in Health and Healthcare**

Economics  
& Public  
Administration

*Video Game Addictions: What Gaming Companies Do to Make  
Video Games Addictive*

Saurav Bhatt; Faculty Sponsor: Mark Weinstock, CBE

CIVIC W503

*The Role of Business Model Innovation in Impacting Social  
Determinants of Health*

2:15-3:15pm

Chandrasekhar Sharma; Faculty Sponsor: Tiffany Henley, PhD

Faculty Moderator: Tiffany Henley, PhD

3:15pm      **Break**—Water Bubbler in Lounge Area on Fifth Floor

3:30pm      **Second Concurrent Afternoon Panel Sessions 8 to 14**—Fifth Floor

**Session B8      Writing for Theater, Film, and Media**

Film and  
Screen Studies  
& Peace and  
Justice Studies  
& Communication  
Studies

*We Sleep, We Dream: Adapting A Midsummer Night's Dream*  
Alexandria Grigsby; Faculty Sponsor: Sid Ray, PhD

*Happy Holidays: A Theatrical Exploration of Reconciliation*  
Dante Dallago; Faculty Sponsor: Emily Welty, PhD

CIVIC W515

*Happy Holidays: A Theatrical Exploration of Reconciliation*  
Kalina Walaski; Faculty Sponsor: Emily Welty, PhD

3:30-4:30pm

*Rob & Ryan Takeover Wrexham AFC*

Sascha Ouaknine; Faculty Sponsor: Melvin Williams

Faculty Moderator: Emily Welty, PhD

**Session B9      The Art of the Short Story: 5 Fiction Writers, Part 2**

Creative Writing

*My Blue Ribbon*

CIVIC W514

Jack Niemczyk; Faculty Sponsor: Helane Levine-Keating, PhD

3:30-4:30pm

*Maman*

Zoe Schuman; Faculty Sponsor: Helane Levine-Keating, PhD

*Followed by Q & A with all five fiction writers from parts 1 and 2.*

Faculty Moderator: Helane Levine-Keating, PhD



Second Concurrent Afternoon Panel Sessions 8 through 14, Continued

**Session B10**

**Gender and Family in Literature and Society**

Humanities  
& Literature

*The History of the Gender Binary*  
Amanda Rodriguez; Faculty Sponsor: Angela Legg, PhD

CIVIC W512  
3:30-4:30pm

*Enclosed Ambiguities in Jane Austen's Emma*  
Cailyn Mickelsen; Faculty Sponsor: Sid Ray, PhD

*Hotspur and the Death of Honor: Exchanging Masculinities in Henry IV Pt 1*  
Cayla Quinn; Faculty Sponsor: Sid Ray, PhD

Faculty Moderator: Sid Ray, PhD

**Session B11**

**Power of Cinema: Past, Present, Future**

French &  
Film and  
Screen Studies

*The Ropes of Racism*  
Kristianna Jordan; Faculty Sponsor: Adelia Williams, PhD

CIVIC W509  
3:30-4:30pm

*The Glaring Gaze*  
Jazmyn Jones; Faculty Sponsor: Adelia Williams, PhD

*Ruination of Motherhood: Subversion of Domestic Life in Xavier Dolan's Mommy*  
Emily Wernick; Faculty Sponsor: Adelia Williams, PhD

*Technological Reproduction Revolution: Casual Movie Watching as Temporal and Spatial Travel Destinations*  
Mick Bongiovi; Faculty Sponsor: Ruth Johnston

Faculty Moderator: Adelia Williams, PhD

**Session B12**

**The Multiple Effects of Covid-19**

History  
& Psychology  
& Economics

*COVID-19 and Black Lives Matter Oral History Project*  
Madison Turunen; Faculty Sponsor: Maria Iacullo-Bird, PhD

CIVIC W511  
3:30-4:30pm

*The Effects of COVID-Related Bereavement on Sleep Disturbance in Young Adults*  
Nicole C. Maewsky; Faculty Sponsor: Anthony Mancini, PhD

*Covid-19 Effect on U.S. Airfares*  
Hackeem Alves; Faculty Sponsor: Todd Yarbrough, PhD

*The Effect of Covid-19 on the Gender Wage Gap in the Finance Industry*  
Kate Fong; Faculty Sponsor: Gregory Colman, PhD

Faculty Moderator: Anthony Mancini, PhD

Second Concurrent Afternoon Panel Sessions 8 through 14, Continued

**Session B13      International Economies and Comparisons**

Economics

CIVIC W513

3:30-4:30pm

*Why are Some Countries More Corrupt than Others? An Econometric Investigation of Factors that Affect Corruption Rates*  
Cristovao da Silveira Serafim; Faculty Sponsor: Sam Baruch, PhD

*The Godfather Part IV: The Study of Criminality & Resilience on the Criminal Market of Countries*

Courtney Koprowicz; Faculty Sponsor: Todd Yarbrough, PhD & Mark Weinstock, CBE

*The Role of Internet Access and Financial Literacy on Entrepreneurial Growth in Egypt*

Ryan Shehata; Faculty Sponsor: Mary Kaltenberg, PhD

Faculty Moderator: Joseph Morreale, PhD & Anna Shostya, PhD

**Session B14      Film Screening**

Art & Film and  
Screen Studies

CIVIC W503

3:30-4:30pm

*In Ordinary Ink, Part 2*

Veronika Orlovska; Faculty Sponsor: Jillian McDonald, MFA

Faculty Moderator: TBD

4:30pm      **Break**

4:45pm      **Awards Ceremony**—Student Center  
Presiding, Judi Pajo, PhD  
Chair, Society of Fellows of Dyson College

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Initiation Ceremony**

April 24, 2023 [tentative]  
6-8pm, One Pace Plaza  
Pace University, New York

### **Weekend Seminar**

Fri-Sun, October 6-8, 2023 [tentative]  
Location: Wisdom House, Litchfield, CT

### **Transactions—Call for Papers**

Full-length research papers and artistic projects submitted to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting in 2023 are considered for publication in Volume 24 of Transactions. Students interested in being published are encouraged to revise their Annual Meeting papers with the help of their faculty sponsors and submit their original papers or revised papers or new entries to [softransactions@pace.edu](mailto:softransactions@pace.edu) by **Wednesday, May 31, 2023**. To be reviewed and considered for publication, work needs to be emailed by deadline.

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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. More information about the Society of Fellows is available at <http://www.pace.edu/dyson/sof>.