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## Message from the Program Director

Dear Members of the ICEd Program Community,

We hope you're having a great spring semester and enjoying the warmer weather despite these turbulent times for higher education and our sector specifically. At TC, we're getting ready for CIES in Chicago and look forward to connecting with many of you there and being together as a community. All ITS presentations can be found [here](#)!

This newsletter highlights the outstanding achievements of our community members who are making a global impact on education. We hope you enjoy reading about our students' experiences on a study abroad course in Costa Rica, alum Payal Arora's time at TC and her upcoming keynote at CIES 2025, as well as the outstanding accomplishments of our current students and faculty.

We aim to highlight all the inspiring stories from our network in our [alumni profiles](#). To help us, we would be grateful if you could take a moment to fill out [this survey](#). This will help us update your contact details, learn about your interests, and gather any positive updates you'd like to share with our dynamic community.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the newsletter, and I look forward to seeing everyone at CIES in Chicago! For more regular updates about ICEd between newsletters, be sure to follow us on X at [@TC\\_ICeducation](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and LinkedIn!

**Garnett Russell**

Associate Professor and Director

International and Comparative Education Program (ICEd)

## Student and Alumni Highlights



### [Harold J. Noah Distinguished Alumni Award](#)

We are thrilled to announce that this year's recipient of the Harold J. Noah Award for Distinguished Alumni of Teachers College is [Professor Tavis D. Jules](#), Professor, Loyola University Chicago; co-editor (with Florin D. Salajan, also TC alum) of the Comparative Education Review.

Professor Tavis D. Jules, a 2008 doctoral graduate of the International Educational Development program, has made extraordinary contributions to the field of international and comparative education. Since joining Loyola University Chicago in 2011, he has become an internationally renowned expert on regionalism and education policy, the Caribbean region, the Maghreb region, Small States research, globalization, the Fourth Industrial Revolution, international higher education, and decoloniality. He published numerous books and journal articles, including three textbooks in comparative and international education.

The Harold J. Noah Award celebrates alumni like Professor Tavis D. Jules, who continue to make a profound impact in education worldwide.



### [ITS PhD Alum Payal Arora to Deliver Keynote at CIES 2025](#)

Payal Arora (ITS '09) is a Professor of Inclusive AI Cultures at the Department of Media and Cultural Studies at Utrecht University, based in the Netherlands. With a career spanning two decades, she co-founded the Inclusive AI Lab,

focusing on debiasing technology, and FemLab, which explores the feminist futures of work. Arora's research centers on the ways young people, specifically from marginalized communities in the Global South, engage with digital tools in their everyday lives.

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### [Camille Fabo Awarded CIES Student Paper Award](#)

Camille Fabo has been honored with the prestigious CIES Education in Conflict and Emergencies Special Interest Group (EiCE SIG) Student Paper Award. This award recognizes exceptional research by undergraduate and graduate students who explore the role of education in conflict-affected areas. It acknowledges studies on how education operates amid armed conflict and natural disasters, the rebuilding of educational systems after crises, and the connections between education, peace-building, justice, and resilience in these affected settings.

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### [Experiences from Study Abroad in Costa Rica](#)

In January 2025, a group of 16 graduate students from Teachers College, Columbia University embarked on a transformative academic journey to Costa Rica. Organized by the Office of Global Engagement in collaboration with the United Nations University for Peace (UPEACE) and led by Prof. Garnett Russell from the International and Comparative Education Program (ICEd), this ten-day study abroad program explored the intersections of education, conflict, and peacebuilding.

## Faculty Highlights



### [The Rise of Knowledge Brokers in Global Education Governance: A Spotlight on its Co-Editor, Chanwoong Baek](#)

The recently published book, *The Rise of Knowledge Brokers in Global Education Governance*, co-edited by Chanwoong Baek and Gita Steiner-Khamsi, is the sixth volume of the NORRAG Series on International Education and Development. Examining the evolving roles of knowledge brokers in education at a time when there is a greater emphasis on evidence-based policymaking, the book discusses the various organizations and actors across the world that have expanded and redefined their roles around knowledge brokerage.

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### [Mary Mendenhall Receives the Jackie Kirk Outstanding Book Award](#)

The Comparative and International Education Society (CIES) has awarded the Jackie Kirk Outstanding Book Award to Mary Mendenhall, Associate Professor of International and Comparative Education at Teachers College, along with co-authors Gauthier Marchais, Yusuf Sayed, and Neil Boothby, for their book, *Education and Resilience in Crisis: Challenges and Opportunities in Sub-Saharan Africa*. The award-winning book offers a clear account of the key academic, policy and practice questions on education in crisis contexts and considers our capacity to develop just and resilient education systems.

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### [NYC Council Funds Development of Latine Studies Curriculum](#)

Future New York City public school classrooms will immerse students in a curriculum centered on Latinidad cultures and histories, thanks to a new collaboration between TC's Edmund W. Gordon Institute for Advanced Study, United Way of New York City (UWNYC) and the Hispanic Federation. TC's Regina Cortina, Professor of Education, who is co-leading the project with fellow faculty member Limarys Caraballo (Ed.D. '12).



### [New Report Published by Prof. Garnett Russell: Youth Perspectives on Transitional Justice in Colombian Education](#)

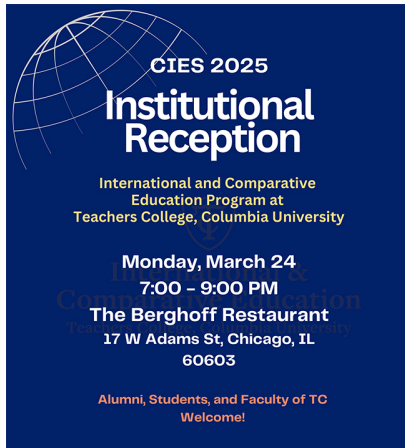
A recent publication, *Transitional Justice and Education in Colombia: The Perspective of Youth*, authored by a diverse team of researchers led by Prof. Garnett Russell, offers a groundbreaking analysis of the intersection between transitional justice (TJ) and education in post-conflict Colombia. This policy report was recently launched through an online event at Teachers College and aims to shed light on how schools play a pivotal role in fostering peacebuilding and addressing structural inequalities rooted in decades of armed conflict.

## Program News



### [An Inside Look at TC's Midwinter Climate Institute](#)

At the largest sustainability event recorded at TC, hundreds of NYC Public School teachers gained critical tools for meaningful climate education.



### [CIES 2025](#)

We're excited to reconnect with many of you at CIES 2025 in Chicago! Join us for our institutional reception on Monday, March 24, from 7:00 to 9:00 PM at The Berghoff Restaurant, located at 17 W Adams St, Chicago, IL 60603. We look forward to seeing you there!

## Alumni Profiles

Please complete [this short survey](#) if you would like your profile to be featured on the [ICEd Program's website](#). If your profile is featured but outdated, please fill out the survey again for us to update your information.

Thank you! Stay tuned for the Fall 2025 newsletter!

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You are receiving this email as a member of the International and Comparative Education program alumni community. If you have questions or comments, please contact [iceinfo@tc.columbia.edu](mailto:iceinfo@tc.columbia.edu).

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