



# FACULTY NEWS AND NOTES

April 2026



**Teachers College**  
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY



## Sharon Chang

### Honor/Award

- 2026 American Educational Research Association (AERA) Mentorship & Mentoring Practices SIG Distinguished Paper Award
- The AERA Mentorship & Mentoring Practices SIG (Special Interest Group) Distinguished Paper Award recognizes outstanding research contributing to the understanding of mentoring within educational contexts.



## Chia-Yi Chiu

### Journal Publication

- Paper published in Psychometrika
- Chiu, C.-Y., Köhn, H. F. & Wang, Y. (2026). Plausible and proper multiple-choice items for diagnostic classification. *Psychometrika*, 91(1), 177-198. (<https://doi.org/10.1017/psy.2025.10074>)
- Psychometrika is the flagship journal of the educational testing and measurement



## Carol Ewing Garber

### Book Publication

- Tricoche BT, Caceres BA, Shaw LJ, Garber CE, Konigorski S, Kolli S, Fuchs TJ, Ensari I. Physical activity phenotypes in endometriosis using unsupervised learning via functional mixture models. *BMC Womens Health*. 2025 Dec 11;26(1):29. doi: 10.1186/s12905-025-04087-2. PMID: 41382090; PMCID: PMC12802236.
- This is the first study to investigate and report distinct physical activity (PA) profiles among a nationally-representative sample of individuals living with endometriosis using objectively-estimated PA. Identifying phenotypes (characteristics) based on within- and between-individuals may help identify those at risk and inform the development of personalized interventions aimed at promoting PA and improving health outcomes in this population.
- <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s12905-025-04087-2>



## Tamara Handy

### Journal Article

- Handy, T., & Kozleski, E. (2026). Crossing boundaries towards expansive learning: methodological affordances of video data. *International Journal of Research & Method in Education*, 1-18.
- This article shows how instead of collecting video data in extractive ways, video data can be used to support participant understandings of their own contexts during field work and consider transformative possibilities.
- <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/permissions/10.1080/1743727X.2026.2641461>



## Kara G. Hollins

### Article

- Hollins, K. G., & Lawless, M. C. (2026). Performance-based feedback to enhance teachers' inclusive practice. *Theory Into Practice*, 1–13.  
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/00405841.2025.2607942>
    - Inclusive education demands that all students are afforded opportunities to learn and belong in classroom communities. Yet, barriers persist. The team argues that centering access, equity, and inclusion in a common classroom occurrence—the observation of teaching by a supervisor or coach—can advance these goals.
  - <https://www.tandfonline.com/eprint/RHH9NDWW6WXTUPFQW2Z4/full?target=10.1080/00405841.2025.2607942>
  - Schlessinger, S. L. & Hollins, K. G. (2025). Inclusive literacy instruction requires an eclectic approach. *Language Arts*, 103(2), p. 109-114.
    - This article advocates integrating the Active View of Reading, Culturally Sustaining Pedagogy, and Universal Design for Learning for holistic literacy development and inclusive classrooms.
  - [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/401749078\\_Perspectives\\_on\\_Practice\\_Inclusive\\_Literacy\\_Instruction\\_Requires\\_an\\_Eclectic\\_Approach](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/401749078_Perspectives_on_Practice_Inclusive_Literacy_Instruction_Requires_an_Eclectic_Approach)
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## Ioana Literat

### Journal Special Issue

- Teachers College Record Special Issue: “Narratives of Belonging: Amplifying Equity and Community in Doctoral Education”
  - Co-edited with Professor Haeny Yoon, this special issue brings together TC doctoral students' writing with honesty and courage about identity, vulnerability, and what it means to belong in the academy—through essays, autoethnography, visual art, music, sculpture, photography, and game design. This work emerged from a two-year Provost-funded mentorship initiative and represents a sustained commitment to reimagining doctoral communities as sites of belonging and equity.
- <https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/tcza/128/1>

### Journal Publication

- Digital Ecologies of Hope: A Natural History of Emerging Media Futures
  - Together with students from the Media & Social Change Lab (MASCLab), the team published, “Digital Ecologies of Hope: A Natural History of Emerging Media Futures,” a collaborative field guide documenting how young people and communities around the world use digital media as a site of care, resilience, and collective imagination. The project brings together 14 researchers from across the lab to catalog everyday practices of hope—from Sudanese youth holding thesis defenses amid civil war to transgender youth archiving voice transitions on TikTok—using the creative format of a naturalist field guide.



## Ioana Literat (cont.)

### Public Communication

- Experts issue warning as teens increasingly turn to AI for more than just homework
    - Literat was quoted in an ABC7 New York segment on teens' growing reliance on AI for homework and emotional support, cautioning that AI-generated work can create false confidence in students who produce polished outputs without genuine understanding.
    - <https://abc7ny.com/post/experts-issue-warning-teens-increasingly-turn-ai-more-homework/18617188/>
  - NYC public schools OK AI use in NYC public schools OK AI use in lesson plans, not grades or lesson plans, not grades or discipline
    - Literat was quoted in the New York Daily News on the NYC DOE's newly released AI guidance for public schools, welcoming its nuanced 'traffic light' framework while urging that the next phase prioritize the risk of cognitive offloading.
    - <https://www.nydailynews.com/2026/03/24/nyc-public-schools-ai-guidance-lesson-plans-grades-discipline/?share=icasc0plwwddyecclclld>
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## Patricia Martínez-Álvarez

### Editorial Introduction

- Martínez-Álvarez, P., Sullivan, A. L., Thorius, K. K., & Lindo, E. J. (2026). A retrospective analysis: The evolving mission of Exceptional Children. *Exceptional Children*, 92(3). <https://doi.org/10.1177/00144029261425768>
  - A retrospective analysis of research published in *Exceptional Children* during 2025.
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## Gemma Moya-Galé

### Research Article

- Choi, J., Moya-Galé, G., Hwang, K., Hirschberg, J., & Levy, E. S. (2026). Automatic speech recognition for intelligibility assessment in children with dysarthria. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*, 1-17.
- In this article, different models for automatic speech recognition are explored to assess intelligibility in children with cerebral palsy.



## Anna Neumann

### Chapter in 2025 volume of an annual series

- Neumann, Anna. "Translating Myself: An Immigrant Scholar's Journey through Post-Holocaust Terrains." In *Higher Education: Handbook of Theory and Research*, Vol. 41, edited by Laura W. Perna. Cham, Switzerland: Springer, 2025. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-86738-5\\_1-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-86738-5_1-1)
  - Anna Neumann has published an autobiography recounting her early life in Israel and South Texas, as an immigrant to the U.S., and as the daughter of two Holocaust survivors. She describes how her own and her family's histories have shaped her as a person and as a scholar.
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## Sonali Rajan

### Peer-Reviewed Journal Publications

- Branas CC, Plumber I, Bennett R, Landes O, & Rajan S. (2026). Shooting-free days as a new metric of success in reducing firearm violence in US cities. In press at *JAMA Focus*.
  - Roberts LE, Bushover B, Rajan S, Aiello A, Miller M, Dodington J, & Morrison CN. (2026). Individuals' experience of violence in adolescence and firearm violence victimization in early adulthood. In press at the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*.
  - Azad HA, Goin D, Nathan LM, Goffman D, Rajan S, Reddy U, D'Alton ME, & Laraque-Arena D. (2026). Overdose, homicide, and suicide as causes of maternal death in the United States. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 394, 722-723.
  - Nishioka S, Huang CY, Rajan S, & Mehta R. (2026). Promoting social emotional learning through physical activity: An evaluation of a school-based program. *Education Sciences (Education and Psychology)*, published online ahead of print.
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## Juliana Ronderos

### Article Publication

- Ronderos, J., & Castilla-Earls, A. (2026). What Can English Tell Us? English Tense/Agreement Measures as Tools for Identification of Spanish-English Bilingual Children With Developmental Language Disorder. *American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology*, 1-17. [https://doi.org/10.1044/2025\\_ajslp-25-00223](https://doi.org/10.1044/2025_ajslp-25-00223)
  - This study examined whether English-only tense/agreement measures could reliably identify developmental language disorders (DLD) in Spanish-English bilingual children aged 4-7, finding that children with DLD consistently underperformed their typically developing peers across all measures. While these English-only measures offer useful descriptive insight into bilingual children's language development, the authors caution that they should not be used alone for diagnosis and work best as part of a broader, bilingual assessment approach.



## Juliana Ronderos (cont.)

### Article Publication

- Characterizing the Growth in Utterance Length, Grammaticality, and Subordination in Spanish and English in Bilingual Children
    - In this study, the team followed 100 Spanish-English bilingual children with and without developmental language disorder (DLD) over 2 years, finding that utterance length and syntactic complexity grew in both languages, while Spanish grammaticality remained mostly stable. Children with DLD showed the same growth trajectories as their typically developing peers but started from significantly lower baselines, underscoring the importance of assessing and monitoring spontaneous language measures in both languages.
  - [https://doi.org/10.1044/2025\\_LSHSS-24-00143](https://doi.org/10.1044/2025_LSHSS-24-00143)
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## Amra Sabic-El-Rayess

### Article Publication

- Sabic-El-Rayess, A., Joshi, V., & Li, S. (2026). Faith Leaders as Violence Prevention Partners: An Empirical Study of Professional Development for Building Campus Resilience to Hate. *International Journal of Educational Development*, 122, 103559.
  - Grounded in the Educational Displacement Model of Radicalization, this study positions faith leaders as vital violence prevention partners in higher education, demonstrating that self-awareness, emotional regulation, and interfaith cooperation deepen through multi-modal engagement, while attitudes rooted in longstanding belief structures require sustained immersion.

### Presentations & Public Engagements

- Joshi, V., & Sabic-El-Rayess, A. “Reaffirming Non-Violence as the Heart of a Democratic Way of Life.”
  - NY State Foundations of Education Association
- Sabic-El-Rayess, A. “Storytelling as a Portal to the Prevention of Hate.”
  - Keynote, TC Advancing Literacy Fest
- Book Talks: *The Cat I Never Named* & *Three Summers*
  - Innovative High School for the NCSLMA's HS Battle of the Books; and Bayles School District as part of Bosnian American Studies



## Patrick Schmidt

### Recent Articles

- Two articles published in the last 6 months, the first named, “Institutional Leadership Perspectives on the National Association of Schools of Music Accreditation” in collaboration with a colleague and a doctoral student in the Music Education program. And the other titled, “Making it Legible: Learning Challenges in the Closed System of Peer-Review and Editorship.”
  - The first article contributes to the broader discourse on accreditation in higher education, offering insights into the challenges distinct arts programs face when navigating external standards while striving for innovation and responsiveness to changing student needs. The second invites readers to consider the nature of and challenges presented by the lack of legibility and professionalization of peer-reviewing—especially within graduate education and early-career professionals—and how the field of higher music education may consider continua within which this dialogue can take place.
- Article 1:  
<https://scholarlypublishingcollective.org/uip/bcrme/article-abstract/doi/10.5406/21627223.246.01/407944/Institutional-Leadership-Perspectives-on-the?redirectedFrom=fulltext>
- Article 2:  
<https://act.maydaygroup.org/making-it-legible-learning-challenges-in-the-closed-system-of-peer-review-and-editorship/>



## Judith Scott-Clayton

### Honor/Award

- President-Elect, Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP)
  - Scott-Clayton was elected to serve a three-year term on AEFP’s leadership board, starting this year as President-Elect, with responsibility for organizing the 2027 conference in San Diego, and then progressing to President and then Past President.
- <https://aefpweb.org/elections>



## Yolanda Sealey-Ruiz

### Honor/Award

- Dr. Edmund Gordon Distinguished Lecture
  - As part of the dedication ceremony for the Linda A. and H. Kent Baker School of Education, on April 23 from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., Sealey-Ruiz will speak on “Censorship, Resistance, and Freedom Dreaming in Education” in Constitution Hall on American University’s main campus.
  - <https://www.american.edu/soe/edmund-gordon-lecture.cfm>

### Book Publication

- Bell, J., & Sealey-Ruiz, Y. (2026). Unpacking the racial literacy turn. In S. Battle, B. Bird, N. A. Cooke, K. Joseph, & J. I. Wu (Eds.), *Racial literacy in libraries*. Bloomsbury Academic.
  - Racial Literacy was first introduced at the turn of the 21st century with Lani Guinier's (2004) critical work in the United States that interrogated power dynamics and racial liberalism and France Winndance Twine's (2004) sociological work with white mothers of biracial children in the United Kingdom. Since then, racial literacy has often been understood as a practice where people display the ability to locate, interpret, make sense of, respond to, and disrupt racism at the individual and structural levels (Rogers & Mosley, 2006; Sealey-Ruiz, 2011, 2013; Skerrett, 2011, 2021; Stevenson, 2014; King, 2016; Bell et al., 2022). However, a recent racial literacy turn has been incited by Laura Chavez-Moreno (2022) that challenges who possesses racial literacy and how it is developed and understood.
  - <https://www.bloomsbury.com/us/racial-literacy-in-libraries-9798216170549/>



## Elaine Smolen

### Conference Presentations

- Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Conference
  - Smolen, E. R., Hartman, M. C., & Davenport, C. (2026, March). Basic concepts development for young DHH children: Anything but basic. Paper presented at Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) annual meeting, Jacksonville, FL.
  - Smolen, E. R., Hartman, M. C., Doyle, W., Cline, S., Farquhar, M., & Christensen, J. (2026, March). Validating a learning app for parents of DHH infants and toddlers. Poster presented at Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) annual meeting, Jacksonville, FL.
  - Davenport, C., Smolen, E. R., Suma, K., Romain, P., Bourque, R., Golinkoff, R., & Houston, D. M. (2026, March). Parental sensitivity and beyond: Building the foundation for language development in deaf and hard-of-hearing children. Paper presented at Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) annual meeting, Jacksonville, FL.



## Elaine Smolen (cont.)

### Conference Presentations

- Davenport, C., Smolen, E. R., & Houston, D. (2026, March). Language and literacy development in deaf and hard-of-hearing children: An ecological systems perspective. Poster presented at Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) annual meeting, Jacksonville, FL.
- Presentations with researcher and practitioner partners from the Foundation for Hearing Research, University of Georgia, UConn, Weingarten Children's Center, and Building Bridges.

### Honor/Award

- American Cochlear Implant Alliance
  - Elected to the American Cochlear Implant Scientific Program Committee. Along with colleagues in medicine, audiology, speech-language pathology, and education, will direct the scientific program for upcoming symposia on cochlear implantation for adults and children.



## Gita Steiner-Khamsi

### Book Publication

- Data for accountability. Global trends in school reform.
  - The five authors (Gita Steiner-Khamsi, Patricia Bromley, Rie Kijima, Kerstin Martens, Antoni Verger) of this open-access book trace the origins of using data for accountability in education back to the 1990s, demonstrating how various actors have adapted and tailored this trend, thus diversifying its use as a governance tool. They examine the rise of student testing, performance-based evaluation, and governance by numbers to reveal the political, economic, and pedagogical uses and abuses of data. Drawing on a variety of methods, theories, and disciplines, including macro-, meso-, and micro-level analyses, the authors illustrate how these instruments have taken root globally, why they persist, and how their meanings and effects vary across policy contexts.
- <https://www.elgaronline.com/monobook-oa/book/9781035349869/9781035349869.xml>

### Article

- Layers of Data, Layers of Skills Measurement in the E-Government Reform
  - This open-access, conceptual article investigates the rationales for the fascination with soft skills (social-emotional skills, responsibility, engagement, etc.), propelled by a large and diverse group of proponents, including international organizations—such as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the World Bank—that have a long-standing history with promoting hard skills, such as literacy and numeracy.
- <https://journals.library.columbia.edu/index.php/cice/article/view/14203>



## Gita Steiner-Khamsi (cont.)

### Honor/Award

- The Globalization and Education SIG (Special Interest Group) of the Comparative and International Education Society (CIES) selected the monograph “Time in education policy transfer. The seven temporalities of school reform” (Palgrave; 2025, open-access) for the Best Book Award.
  - [https://www.linkedin.com/posts/milanavernikova\\_congratulations-to-gita-steiner-khamsi-on-share-7444534413025034240-UNy4?utm\\_source=share&utm\\_medium=member\\_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAk-VJEBrGI1h3RmhBAJ83eaFKYw1B-Fmio](https://www.linkedin.com/posts/milanavernikova_congratulations-to-gita-steiner-khamsi-on-share-7444534413025034240-UNy4?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAk-VJEBrGI1h3RmhBAJ83eaFKYw1B-Fmio)
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## Derald Wing Sue

### Book Publication

- Breaking the Deadly Dance of Racism: Perpetrators, Targets, Bystanders and Allies
    - When racist incidents occur, silence and inaction are the norm—even among well-intentioned people who condemn racism. The book reveals why this complicity persists and provides practical tools to disrupt it. The link provides a video on the new book.
  - [https://players.brightcove.net/1922092229001/default\\_default/index.html?videoid=6391129437112](https://players.brightcove.net/1922092229001/default_default/index.html?videoid=6391129437112)
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## Youmi Suk

### Honor/Award

- Youmi Suk will be honored with two early-career awards—the AERA Division D Early-Career Award and the NCME Alicia Cascallar Award—as well as the Outstanding Reviewer Award for the Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics.



## Rachel Talbert

### Publication

- Wrong Rocks Counterstorying a Curriculum of Erasure in Manahatta/n
  - Feature Article in Journal of Curriculum Theorizing (published March 2026) highlights research with Lenape Center and Teachers College doctoral and masters students David Vining & Deanne Green (Curriculum and Teaching) and Neal P. Schick (Math, Science and Technology).
  - <https://journal.jctonline.org/index.php/jct/article/view/1173>

### Honor/Award

- Chosen as Content Lead New York State Department of Education Indigenous Education Briefs
  - Selected as curriculum content lead for statewide Indigenous Education Briefs on Land Acknowledgements and Days of Remembrance.



## Amina Tawasil

### Session Chair & Organizer

- Session Chair & Organizer, “From Tags to Murals: Graffiti as Community Practice,” The Society for Applied Anthropology Conference 2026, Albuquerque, NM
  - As part of the program committee at the 2026 SfAA conference, Tawasil brought together five graffiti-based organizations for a discussion exploring how graffiti practices have evolved from transgressive expression to powerful tools for community-building.
  - <https://appliedanthro.org/annual-meeting/program-details/theme-cosponsors-committee/>