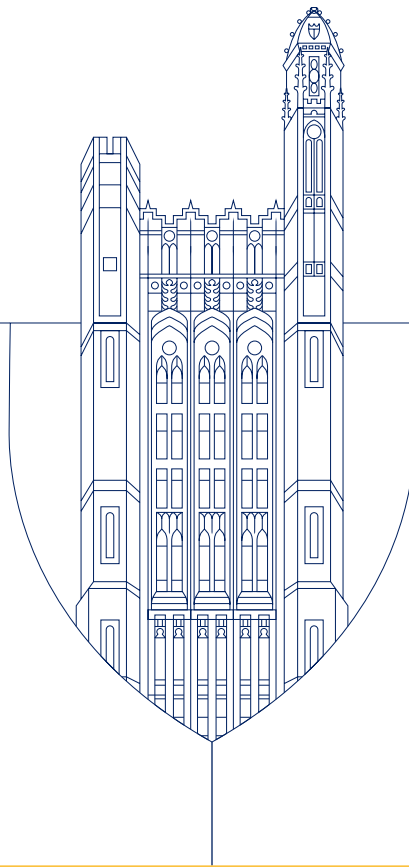




FACULTY NEWS AND NOTES

September 2026



Teachers College
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY



Prerna Arora

Honor/Award

- 2025 Article of the Year Award
 - Arora, P. G., Parr, K., Staubi, K., Soo Ping Chow, A., Coriano, V., & Baker, C. N. (2025). Development of the Cultural Adaptations Content Checklist: Measuring cultural adaptations to evidence-based psychological interventions for racial and ethnic minoritized youth. *School Psychology*, 40(2), 297-308. <https://doi.org/10.1037/spq0000651>
 - Inducted into Society for the Study of School Psychology
 - Membership status in the SSSP recognizes exceptional contributions to school psychology research over an extended period and a commitment to future service to the organization.
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Alex Bowers

Report Published

- Kandemir, E.N., Phan, L.H., Bowers, A.J., Saldaña, C., Halverson, R. (2026). From Files to Systems: How States Organize Their Public Education Data and Why It Matters. Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY. <https://doi.org/10.7916/71s4-4925>
 - Phan, L.H., Kandemir, E.N., Bowers, A.J., Saldaña, C., Halverson, R. (2026). Beyond Test Scores: Tracking School Improvement Initiatives Using Systems-Level Tools. Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY. <https://doi.org/10.7916/cxks-t530>
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Chia-Yi Chiu

Peer-Reviewed Journal Publication

- Nájera, P., Sorrel, M., Chiu, C.-Y., & Abad, F. (2026). Variable-length cognitive diagnostic computerized adaptive testing in small-scale assessments. *Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics*, 55(4), 908-937.
 - The proposed method advances computerized adaptive testing for cognitive diagnosis, making this cutting-edge assessment system feasible for use in small educational settings, such as classrooms.
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Jonathan Collins

Grant

- Award from the Carnegie Corporation to support the “Make Democracy Real”
 - Collins and The Center for Educational Equity received a 2-year, \$300,000 grant to support the continuation of Make Democracy Real (MDR). MDR is a civics education initiative in which students participate in school-wide participatory budgeting activities, while learning other political science concepts as applied skills for civic engagement.



Ellie Drago-Severson

Book Publication

- Leading Adult Learning 2.0: Building Capacity in Individuals, Teams, Schools and Systems
 - It is a book based on 30 years of research with leaders who serve in different capacities in education in the United States and in other countries.
 - https://www.amazon.com/dp/1071970364/ref=cm_cr_arp_d_btm?ie=UTF8



Alex Eble

Editorial Position

- Starting in October, Eble will be co-editor of the Economics of Education Review.



Rajashi Ghosh

Journal Publication

- Ghosh, R., & Helsing, D. (2026). Immunity-to-change coaching for critical consciousness development. Coaching: An International Journal of Theory, Research and Practice, 1-19. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17521882.2026.2716604>
 - This paper asks how coaches can invite coachees to question organizational assumptions and power relations without assuming that critical reflection is right for everyone, right now. Drawing on constructive-developmental theory, Immunity to Change, and critical and feminist coaching perspectives, the research team argues for calibrating challenge and support to developmental readiness rather than prescribing a single path toward critical consciousness.
- Terblanche, N., & Ghosh, R. (2026). Coaching leaders for transformative learning: a hybrid intelligence framework for integrating human and AI coaches. Journal of Work-Applied Management, 1-14. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JWAM-11-2025-0232>
 - This paper takes this question into AI in coaching: When should AI take the lead, and when is a human coach essential? Mapping AI and human coaching across Mezirow's 10 stages of transformative learning, the research team shows how AI can provide structure, consistency, and opportunities for reflection, while human coaches become especially important when transformation involves identity, emotion, trust, and deeper meaning-making.



Thomas Hatch

Book/Handbook Chapter

- Hatch, T., & Beltrán, J. (2026). Incremental Improvement and Transformational Change: Creating the Conditions for Learning and Well-Being in the Future. In: Goodwin, A.L., Hargreaves, A., Showunmi, V., Stone-Johnson, C., Weiner, J. (Eds) Third International Handbook of Educational Change. Springer.
 - https://link.springer.com/rwe/10.1007/978-3-031-88898-4_54-1#DOI
 - This Handbook chapter was published in May 2026.
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Laudan Jahromi

Journal Article Publication

- Aguilar, G., Umaña-Taylor, A. J., Jahromi, L.B., and Updegraff, K. (2026). Examining links between Mexican-origin mothers' cultural characteristics and their young children's Spanish oral language production. Early Childhood Research Quarterly, Advanced online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecresq.2026.08.005>
 - This study found that mothers' Mexican cultural involvement when their children were age 4 positively predicted children's Spanish oral language production at age 5, even after controlling for mothers' use of Spanish in mother-child interactions and efforts to socialize their young children to the Mexican culture. Mothers' use of Spanish and their cultural socialization efforts differentially mediated the association between their Mexican cultural involvement and their young children's Spanish language skills.
- Johnson, M., Brassard, M.R., Jahromi, L.B., Greer, R.D., Park, J. (2026). Maternal health habits and observed parenting behaviors in an autistic preschool sample. Research in Autism, Advanced online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.reia.2026.202902>
 - Parents of children with disabilities often report high levels of parenting stress and poor health habits. In a sample of parents of autistic preschoolers, this study found that parents' health habits were significantly related to quality of parent-child interaction behaviors in a mediational model with higher levels of health habits relating to lower levels of parental stress, which related to more instances of positive and fewer negative parenting behaviors during parent-child interactions.
- Kuy, N., Basch, C., Jahromi, L. B. (2026). Parental perspectives on oral health care for autistic children with Medicaid: A qualitative study. Health Education and Behavior, Advanced online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10901981261439001>
 - Children with special health care needs and disabilities experience disproportionately high rates of oral health problems, yet the underlying factors remain insufficiently explored. This qualitative study investigated the challenges and effective strategies parents use to support the oral health of autistic children enrolled in Medicaid. The findings highlight the complex relationship of individual, social, and systemic factors shaping oral health promotion for this population.



Naomi Lifschitz-Grant

Honor/Award

- Visual Arts Fellow at the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts
- As a Painting Fellow at the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts (VCCA), Lifschitz-Grant created a series of paintings during a residency that provided uninterrupted time and space to develop new work within a community of accomplished artists.
- <https://www.vcca.com>



Irina Lyublinskaya

Book Publication

- A Pedagogical Framework for K-12 AI Literacy Development, Validation, and Applications in Teacher Education
- This is a research monograph co-authored by Irina Lyublinskaya (Math program) and Xiaoxue Du (Class of 2022). The book introduces a new curriculum design framework for teaching AI literacy in K-12 classrooms, presents a literacy assessment framework to support K-12 teachers' evaluation of student AI literacy, and analyses a wide range of case studies to illustrate teacher implementation of AI literacy internationally.
- <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-032-23570-1>

Grant

- \$10,000 IES Study Abroad grant
- The grant will support students enrolled in the course AI Literacy for Educators to be held in Amsterdam in June 2027.

Associate Editor Appointment

- Associate Editor for the International Journal of Educational Research
- Invitation-only appointment to manage the peer-review workflow for submitted manuscripts, acts as a subject-matter expert, and make final publication decisions.
- <https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/international-journal-of-educational-research>



Patricia Martínez-Álvarez

Article: Editorial Introduction

- Martínez-Álvarez, P., Sullivan, A. L., Thorius, K. A. K., & Lindo, E. J. (2026). Research and advocacy for rightful education. *Exceptional Children*, 93(1). Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00144029261478736>
- This article is the editorial introduction for the first issue of volume 93 of *Exceptional Children: Research and advocacy for rightful education*.



Felicia Mensah

Book Chapter Publication

- Mensah, F.M. (2026). Black Lives Matter in the context of sustainability: Let's all breathe. In K. Tobin & K. Alexakos (Eds.), Embracing life and death: Diverse perspectives on living, dying, and beyond, Volume 2 (pp. 102- 118). Leiden, The Netherlands: Brill.
- In this chapter, Mensah educates, shares, contemplates, narrates, questions, and imagines for the Birth-Life-Death continuum requires all of this. She introduces poetry as well as historical and biblical figures to educate people about the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement. Then, Mensah addresses the big question of what sustainable living means in the context of the BLM movement and how she sees the movement as a continuum for the fight for justice.



Gemma Moya-Galé

Research Article

- Yoorhee, V., & Moya-Galé, G. (2026). Beyond individual features: Computational analysis of linguistic coordination in dementia speech. Brain Sciences, 16, 763.
- In this article the team explored how dementia disrupts not only individual linguistic features, but also the coordinative relationships between those features, which could become a more sensitive marker for tracking language changes over time.



Sonali Rajan

Journal Publication

- Diaz-Faes DA, Branas CC, & Rajan S. (2026). Firearm violence exposure as an adverse childhood experience. Lancet, 408(10552).
- Diaz-Faes DA, Rajan S, & Branas CC. (2026). Adolescent interplay of adversity and risk: An Ising network analysis of the 2023 YRBS. In press at Epidemiology.
- Caruso J & Rajan S. (2026). Teaching on the frontlines: A narrative inquiry of teachers' experiences with school-based trauma. Journal of School Health, 96(8).



Emily Rosenzweig

Journal Article

- Rosenzweig, E. Q., Beymer, P. N., Muenks, K., & Tuma, T. T. (2026). Two paths in persistence: Course and career motivations develop distinctly and relate to different precursors to career pursuit in college physics. *Developmental Psychology*.
- Published a paper in *Developmental Psychology* outlining how persistence in STEM majors across college is a function of two separate motivational development processes that interplay across students' experiences.

Grant

- Key role in NIH R35GM163754 Award: Enhancing Faculty Mentorship of PhD Students in Biomedical Research
 - Rosenzweig is serving as a consultant on a large award testing an intervention to motivate life sciences PhD mentors to address conflicts with their graduate students. The award PI is Erin Dolan at the University of Georgia.
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Beth Rubin

Honor/Award

- Fellowship, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science
- This award will support Rubin's 2-month collaborative research stay at Hiroshima University in Japan.

Grant

- Maher Charitable Foundation Grant
- This 3-year, \$834,456.75 grant will fund Rubin's Civically Engaged Districts Project, a community-engaged research and professional development initiative to deepen and support student-centered civic learning in public school classrooms.



Amra Sabic-El-Rayess

Grant

- 2026 Columbia Global Innovation Award, “AI and Education: Safety, Sense-Making, and Resilience in Schools”
 - Sabic-El-Rayess will lead the project as Principal Investigator, bridging AI safety with Educational Displacement Theory.
 - <https://global.columbia.edu/opportunities/faculty-opportunities/columbia-global-innovation-awards-2026-projects>

Peer-Reviewed Journal Article

- Democratic Values and Social Belonging Protect Against Radicalization in Western Democracies: A Hierarchical Cluster Heatmap Analysis (Belonging, SAGE, 2026)
 - The study shows those rejecting political violence report greater belonging, trust, democratic commitment, and agency, with religiosity often appearing within this prosocial, protective profile.
 - <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/30290805261477518>

Invited Professional Development

- Capstone Workshop, Teacher Institute, Holocaust Memorial Resource and Education Center of Florida
 - Sabic-El-Rayess delivered the Institute's capstone workshop, “Hatred Has a Final Destination: From the Bosnian Genocide to a Prevention Roadmap for American Educators.”
- Featured Session, 2026 Virtual Day of Learning, Holocaust Center for Humanity
 - Sabic-El-Rayess, with the Interfaith Lab's Associate Director Vik Joshi, delivered a featured session on the Bosnian Genocide for Washington State educators, sharing research-based hate prevention tools.
 - <https://www.tc.columbia.edu/articles/2026/september/preparing-educators-to-prevent-hate/>

Honor/Award, Invited Address

- Opening Remarks, Convention of Bosniaks in North America (Susreti)
 - Invited by the Congress of Bosniaks of North America, Sabic-El-Rayess delivered the opening remarks to an audience of more than 600 and was recognized by the Islamic Community of North American Bosniaks for her contributions.
 - <https://susreti.org/>



Yolanda Sealey-Ruiz

Book Publication

- Archaeology of Self: The Introspective Educator's Guide to Racial Literacy
- Published by Routledge. Released on June 29, 2026.



Elaine Smolen

Journal Publication

- Davenport, C., Smolen, E. R., & Houston, D. M. (2026). Language development in deaf and hard-of-hearing children: An ecological systems perspective. Audiology Research, 16(4), 103. <https://doi.org/10.3390/audiolres16040103>
- Published with colleagues from the University of Connecticut, this piece highlights the complex nested and networked systems that undergird language development for young deaf and hard of hearing children.



Youmi Suk

Honor/Award

- NAEd/Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowship
- Suk has been named a 2026 NAEd/Spencer Postdoctoral Fellow.
- <https://naeducation.org/awardee/youmi-suk/>



Amina Tawasil

Publication

- Tawasil, Amina. "The Graffiti Spray Can." In Writing Artifacts, edited by Cydney Alexis and Hannah J. Rule, Pp 130-137, (Routledge, June 2026).
- Tawasil has published a chapter in an edited volume entitled "Writing Artifacts."
- <https://www.routledge.com/Writing-Artifacts/Alexis-Rule/p/book/9781041084860>



Victoria Tilton-Bolowsky

Grant

- Davetrina Seles Gadson Health Equity Mini-Grant
- Tilton-Bolowsky was awarded a Davetrina Seles Gadson Health Equity Mini-Grant from the National Aphasia Association for a collaborative project with her colleagues at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine for a project titled, "A re-examination of the relationship between race, lesion size, and aphasia severity: A partial replication."
- <https://aphasia.org/research-grant-program/seles-gadson-health-equity/>



Sonya Troller-Renfree

Honor/Award

- David Kucharsky Early-Career Award from the International Society for Developmental Psychobiology
 - This Kucharski Early-Career Award is given to honor the memory of David Kucharski, a promising young investigator in the field of Developmental Psychobiology.
 - <https://isdpo.org/isdpo-awards/david-kucharski-early-career-award/>
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Hansun Zhang Waring

Journal Article

- Developing interactional competence in the era of ChatGPT. PASAA, 74, 177-191
 - An explanation of the affordances and constraints of using ChatGPT as a conversational partner for language learners in developing interactional competence.
- https://www.culi.chula.ac.th/Images/asset/pasaa_journal/file-79-1056-evxat2567518.pdf

Book Chapter

- Waring, H. Z. (2026). Conversation analysis and language teacher education. In T. Greer & M. Burdelski, M. (Eds.), The Routledge handbook of conversation analysis (pp. 344-357). Routledge.
 - A state-of-the-art review on conversation analysis and language teacher education.
 - Romig, M., & Waring, H. Z. (2026). Language in classroom communication. In H. Nesi & P. Milin (Eds.), The International encyclopedia of language and linguistics (3rd edition) (pp. 220-224), Elsevier.
 - An encyclopedia entry on classroom discourse co-authored with a doctoral student.
 - Frantz, K., & Waring, H. Z. (2026). Conversation analysis. In H. Nesi & P. Milin (Ed.), The international encyclopedia of language and linguistics (3rd edition) (pp. 236-240). Elsevier.
 - An encyclopedia entry on conversation analysis co-authored with a former TC doctoral student and current alumna.
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Sian Zelbo

Book Publication

- Manufactured Outrage: The Dismantling of School Integration in Reconstruction-Era New Orleans
 - Manufactured Outrage is a historical account of the dismantling of New Orleans' ambitious Reconstruction-era experiment in racially inclusive public schooling. It demonstrates how violence, media, and political theater brought about racial segregation by transforming this functioning, if fragile, system into one that appeared unsustainable.
- <https://cup.columbia.edu/book/manufactured-outrage/9780231226554/>