



Welcome to the May newsletter. In this issue, you'll learn how to:

- **Attend** MediaFest 2025
- **Hear** from immersive tech experts at the DFI Speaker Series
- **Visit** the MODES Volume 2 exhibit
- **Engage** with Open Practices groups
- **View** AI self-paced courses and webinar recordings **Congratulate**
- DFI graduates!

## Join us for MediaFest 2025!

- **Date:** May 2, 2025 (Friday)
- **Time:** 4:00-6:00 PM
- **Location:** Smith Learning Theater, Russell Hall 4th Floor

Join us for MediaFest 2025 — [MASCLab](#)'s annual celebration of media, multimodal scholarship & community imagination at Teachers College.



This year's theme is *Hope and Sustenance*, and we're excited to showcase the creative and critical work of MASCLab members at the intersection of media and social change. From digital research and documentary storytelling to dance performances and experimental media, MediaFest celebrates the many ways we explore and express what it means to build a more just world.

Join us for an interactive evening of hands-on engagement. Come experience, move, watch, and make alongside us!

[Register](#)

## DFI Speaker Series: Nursing education with immersive technology and AI

- **Date:** May 5, 2025 (Monday)
- **Time:** 12:00-1:00 PM
- **Location:** Smith Learning Theater, Russell Hall 4th Floor

You are invited to attend the DFI Speaker Series with Drs. Wendy Trevor and Jason Coley, coauthors and recipients of a \$770,000 Federal Congressional Community Project Funding grant to create the Reimagining Nursing Virtual Reality Simulation Hub and Center for Academic Innovation at Maria College. The project's aim is to aid student nurse clinical competency development and confidence and further retention of newly licensed graduates in the workplace during the critical first two years when 33% of new nurses leave the profession.



## DFI Speaker Series



**Dr. Wendy Trevor**



**Dr. Jason Coley**

In their talk, Drs. Coley and Trevor will share how additional possibilities for the use of Extended Reality (XR) have been identified that promote individualized and collaborative learning. This has led to XR integration which provides graduate-level occupational therapy students experiential learning opportunities, to prepare them for work with pediatric patients and further inquiry-based and situated learning through interactive realistic-like environments.

Register

## MODES Volume 2: DFI Gallery exhibit

- **Open: April-June 2025**
- **Time: Open for walk-ins Monday-Thursday: 9AM - 5PM and Friday: By appointment** | Faculty who want a guided tour of this exhibit by DFI staff can request this [here](#)
- **Location: DFI Gallery, Russell Hall 5th Floor**



**DFI welcomes you to MODES: A Multimodal Dissertations Exhibit (Volume 2).**

What can multimodal research look like, and how might that shape the form a dissertation takes? As part of an ongoing effort to archive, showcase, and discuss multimodal dissertations, this exhibition highlights five dissertations from scholars associated with Teachers College. From album, to dance, to archive, to note-taking, to exhibition, each of these examples finds a way to build off the written page.

This exhibit explores how scholars bridge the gap between research, practice, and audience with their creative dissertations. The alternative modes of scholarly expression provide insight into different ways data can be collected and responded to in a mediated, digital, multimodal world.

[See the first volume of MODES here](#), then visit the DFI Gallery to see MODES Volume 2.

## Open Practices: Invitation to participate

We invite you to *Open Practices*, a place for collective inquiry into questions about educational practice.





Part reading group, part experimental practice, Open Practices is open to students, faculty, and practitioners navigating the crisis of educational practice. Rather than engaging with specific fields or authors, we look at general themes of practice accessible to non-specialists:

- **Puppets:** ongoing group studying the theory and practice of puppets in education (currently working towards publishing an edited book).
- **Gestures:** interested in our everyday gestures (currently beginning study of André LeroiGourhan's influential book *Gesture and Speech*).
- **Diagrams:** new; interested in the practice of mark-making as a way of thinking that moves beyond simple representation or explanation.

If you are interested in joining in or just being kept in the loop, you can find more information at [openpractices.org](https://openpractices.org). All are welcome!

[Click to learn more](https://openpractices.org)

## DFI Self-paced AI courses

DFI's Zoom offerings and webinars are on hiatus over the summer. In the meantime, you can continue your learning with the [AI in 30-Minute Series](#) self-paced courses! In addition, recordings of past synchronous webinars are available to view.

[Click to learn more](#)

# Congratulations to DFI graduates!

The Digital Futures Institute would like to congratulate students on their May 2025 graduation, including the following DFI staff members! In alphabetical order:



## The Next DFI Newsletter



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