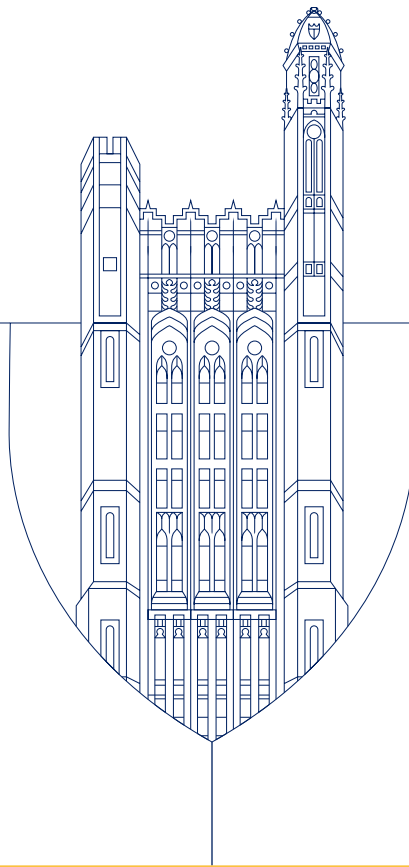




FACULTY NEWS AND NOTES

October 2026



Teachers College
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY



Prerna Arora

Grant

- Strategic Treatment Assessment for Youth (STAY): Youth and Caregiver Interviews
- 25K grant from The L.B. Research and Education Foundation. PI: Arora

Journal Article

- Developing a Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Rubric for School Psychology Graduate Training: A Pilot Study
 - School psychology (SP) training programs play a critical role in preparing future practitioners to support increasingly diverse K-12 student populations in the United States. One aspect of facilitating this development involves the critical examination of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) within graduate training. Funded by the DEI training grant at TC.
- https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s40688-026-00594-7?utm_source=rct_congratemail&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=nonoa_20260921&utm_content=10.1007/s40688-026-00594-7



Limarys Caraballo

Co-Edited Special Issue of English Journal

- ENGLISH JOURNAL: Youth Literacies for Change: Reimagining English Education through Youth Voice, Writing, and Research
 - The articles in this themed issue amplify the voices of youth who responded to an open call for manuscripts that highlight young people's creativity, critical inquiry, and activism. This issue reflects how youth literacy and learning practices—whether individual, in collaboration with peers, or intergenerational—might transform English education in and beyond classrooms. Collectively, these pieces highlight the transformative possibilities that emerge when youth are recognized not only as students, but as writers, researchers, collaborators, theorists, and creators of their own worlds.
- <https://publicationsncte.org/content/journals/ej/115/5>



Mykelle S. Coleman

Honor/Award

- 2026-2027 Dean's Fellowship for Teaching and Diversity
 - On behalf of the Faculty Executive Committee's Subcommittee on Race, Culture, and Diversity (RCD), the Office of the Provost and Dean of the College, and the Office of the Vice Dean for Research at Teachers College, Coleman's project "From Measures to Meaning: Culturally Responsive Assessment Practice" has been selected as a recipient of the 2026-2027 Dean's Fellowship for Teaching and Diversity.



Jonathan Collins

Grant

- Make Democracy Real (MDR) - A School-Based Simulation of Democratic Practice
 - Collins received a 2-year \$300,000 grant from the Carnegie Foundation to continue developing and implementing Make Democracy Real (MDR). MDR is a civics curricular module that teaches middle and high school students about democratic principles as applied skills, building around school-wide participatory budgeting.
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Alexandra Cooperstock

Book Chapter

- Rauscher, E., & Cooperstock, A. (2026). Spending in rural and non-rural districts. In T. Downes & K. Killeen (Eds.), The rural blind spot: Bridging the knowledge gap in education finance & policy (pp. 33-70). Emerald Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.1108/978-1-80686-789-920261009>
 - Nearly half (42%) of school districts in the United States are in rural areas and face challenges that may impact spending patterns. To understand spending changes and priorities, the team examines school district spending in rural and non-rural districts since 1995 and estimates effects of a near-random funding increase from passing a close tax or bond election on spending.
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Sonya Douglass

Grant

- NYC CORE Reparations Study
- The Black Education Research Center (BERC), founded and directed by Douglass, received a \$1.2 million grant from the New York City Commission on Racial Equity (NYC CORE) to conduct an interdisciplinary research study on reparations and racial justice in New York City.



Carol Ewing Garber

Journal Article

- Riebe D, Magal M, Kaminsky LA, Ross R, Phillips SM, Alhassan S, Arena R, Behm DG, Camhi SM, Church TS, Evans EM, Feito Y, Faigenbaum AD, Heymsfield SB, Hillman CH, Jankowski CM, Konrad A, Liguori G, Robinson LE, Shanely RA, Garber CE. The Components of Physical Fitness: A Roundtable Statement by the American College of Sports Medicine. Med Sci Sports Exerc. 2026 Aug 1;58(8):1827-1850. doi:10.1249/MSS.00000000000003997. Epub 2026 Mar 27. PMID: 42350265.
 - Garber is the senior author on a major American College of Sports Medicine consensus paper which provides an update on the concept of physical fitness.
 - <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/42350265/>
 - Jegminat, J., Shahnawaz, S., Rodrigues, J. et al. Robust forecasting of sedentary bouts in chronic pelvic pain disorders for on-device learning and real-time deployment. npj Womens Health 4, 30 (2026). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s44294-026-00156-5>
 - Along with researchers at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, the team developed an artificial intelligence (AI) approach using data from wearable devices that can forecast upcoming periods of prolonged sitting in women with chronic pelvic pain disorders.
 - <https://www.mountsinai.org/about/newsroom/2026/wearable-ai-forecasts-prolonged-sitting-in-women-with-chronic-pelvic-pain>
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Andy Gordon

Keynote Talks

- Gordon gave keynote talks at the III International Cerebral Palsy Congress, Campinas, Brazil and at the Korean Society of Pediatric Rehabilitation & Developmental Medicine in Seoul, Korea on How Neuroscience Informs Us About Rehabilitation.



Pam Koch

Honor/Award

- Helen Denning Ullrich Annual Award for Lifetime Excellence in Nutrition Education; President's Award Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior
- This award is given for excellence in the field of nutrition education and behavior. Koch is the third TC faculty member to receive this award following Isobel Contento and Joan Gussow. The President's Award is for someone who has provided outstanding service and leadership to the Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior. Koch is the first to receive both of these awards the same year.
- <https://www.tc.columbia.edu/articles/2026/september/tcs-pamela-koch-receives-top-honor-from-sneb/>

Umbrella Review

- Educational and programmatic components of effective school-based food and nutrition education: an umbrella review
- This umbrella review identifies and synthesizes the educational and programmatic components most consistently associated with effective school-based food and nutrition education (SBFNE) for children and adolescents and the results are being used to review organizations that provide food and nutrition education through a \$4 million grant investment in NYC Public Schools.
- <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/42394519/>



Jennifer Lena

Appointment

- Chair of the Faculty Publication Committee of Columbia University Press
- Lena has been appointed Chair of the Faculty Publication Committee of Columbia University Press.



Patricia Martínez-Álvarez

Journal Article

- Martínez-Álvarez, P., Arana, B., & Macías, K. C. (2026). A Speculative Design for Inclusive Biliteracy Spaces: Respite from Oppressive Learning Practices to Make the Impossible Plausible. Teachers College Record. <https://doi-org.tc.idm.oclc.org/10.1177/01614681261483960>
- The team investigated Varied Ways of Reading (VWR), a speculative afterschool biliteracy development program designed for preservice and in-service teachers to learn together and explore the biliteracies of multilingual children with and without disabilities. The multilingual children in the VWR program were agentively literate on their own terms as moments of freeing arose through their playful, carnival-like experiences that provided what the team theorizes as “respite.”



Gemma Moya-Galé

Honor/Award

- Meritorious oral presentation for “Espacios Compartidos: Culturally Responsive Support Groups for the Hispanic/Latiné Community with Parkinson’s Disease” at the American Speech Language and Hearing Convention.
- This presentation will explore strategies to foster community engagement for minoritized individuals with Parkinson’s disease and their families.

Research Article

- Moya-Galé, G., Hunter, J., Goudarzi, A., Maas, E., Escalada-Cebadero, L. (in press). User experience and acceptability of a web-based application to improve intelligibility in Parkinson’s disease. *International Journal of Language & Communication Disorders*.
- In this paper the team presents qualitative data on user experience in a treatment study that incorporated a novel technology to improve intelligibility in people with Parkinson’s disease. This is the first study to report on the use of noise-augmented automatic speech recognition to improve intelligibility in this population.



Kimberly Noble

Journal Article

- Raffington, L., Willems, Y. E., Sperber, J. F., Zarandooz, S., Costanzo, M. A., Notterman D. A., Mitchell, C., Tucker-Drob, E. M., Duncan, G.J., Fox, N.A., Gennetian, L.A., Magnuson, K.A., Troller-Renfree, S.V., Yoshikawa, H., Binder, E.B., Harden, K.P., Noble, K. G. (2026). Effects of a randomized controlled trial of unconditional cash transfers on epigenetic measures of aging and cognition in children and mothers. *Journal of Nature Human Behavior*. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41562-026-02568-4>
- This is the first U.S. study to investigate how a poverty reduction intervention via unconditional cash transfers might change biological indicators of aging. Baby’s First Years is a landmark randomized control study in which one thousand mothers with low income were randomized to receive either \$333/month or \$20/month. At age four, children whose mothers received the higher transfer showed epigenetic patterns associated with a slower pace of aging in adult samples. Because of the randomized controlled trial design, the researchers were able to conclude that these changes were caused by receipt of the higher cash transfer.



Sonali Rajan

Journal Article

- Isenberg-Landes O, Rajan S, Mohammed-Ali S, & Branas CC. (2026). Firearm violence and children, Special Issue: Imperatives for action and the impact of humanitarian crises affecting children, *Pediatric Clinics of North America*, 73(5):1023-1035.
 - Firearm violence is a global humanitarian crisis and a leading cause of death among children and adolescents. This article synthesizes epidemiologic data, subgroup disparities, psychosocial consequences, and evidence-informed intervention strategies. Particular attention is given to the after-school period, school and community-based interventions, and the role of pediatric clinicians in prevention.
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Giulia Ripani

Journal Article

- Abril, R. C. & Ripani, G. (2026). A grounded meta-analysis of research on marginalized music teachers. *Psychology of Music*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1177/03057356261460878>
 - Existing studies were synthesized into a cohesive theory to explain how marginalized music teachers navigate their professional lives.
- Matei, R., Ripani, G., Phillips, K., & Ginsborg, J. (2026). Validity testing of the Health Literacy Questionnaire on a sample of musicians in the UK. *Psychology of music* 54(5), 962–979. <https://doi.org/10.1177/03057356251371055>
 - Assessment of scale reliability and model fit of the Health Literacy Questionnaire (HLQ) on a sample of UK-based musicians.
- Matei, R., Ackermann, B., Allen, et al. (2026). Health promotion in tertiary music institutions: A position paper. *Arts Education Policy Review*, 1-26. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10632913.2026.2720853>
 - Participated in the development of a position paper involving 122 contributors across six continents and multiple disciplines. The paper offers recommendations for health promotion in tertiary music institutions.



Juliana Ronderos

Grant

- 2026 American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation Researcher-Practitioner Collaboration Grant
 - Ronderos and Paula Pineda were awarded the 2026 Researcher-Practitioner Collaboration Grant by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation for their proposal entitled “Bridging Research and Practice Through Community-Based Speech-Language Pathologist Training in Literacy.”

Journal Article

- Davison, K.E., Gray-Bauer, H, Liu, T. Ronderos, J., & Zuk, J. (2027). How you read the text matters: Caregiver oral reading prosody during shared reading relates to preschoolers’ language skills. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*, 78, 104-114. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecresq.2026.09.005>
 - Acoustic features of child directed speech (CDS) in caregiver-child conversational interactions are known to capture young children’s attention to language input and facilitate language learning. Emerging evidence suggests that caregivers’ use of CDS-like features when reading to their child, known as caregiver oral reading prosody, plays an important role in supporting preschoolers’ storybook comprehension.
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Amra Sabic-El-Rayess

Invited Address

- “Stepping into the Light of Story,” American Baptist College, Nashville
 - Delivered a keynote, with Vik Joshi, on storytelling’s capacity to foster understanding across differences.
- Keynote Address, Durham School of the Arts, North Carolina
 - Drawing on *The Cat I Never Named*, the keynote will center on memoir’s pedagogical power and the challenge of social media misinformation.
- Victory Afghanistan’s Guest Lecture
 - Shared her journey from conflict to scholarship with Afghan women pursuing education despite extraordinary barriers, affirming that their dreams, voices, and futures matter.

Moderator

- “AI and Global Development” panel at the Muslim World League’s AI for Everyone, with the Interfaith Lab as strategic partner
 - At the League’s gathering during UNGA Week, keynoted by Nobel laureate Malala Yousafzai, Sabic-El-Rayess moderated the panel with World Bank Group, UNHCR, and Dalberg.

Journal Article

- Joshi, V., Hruschka, T., & Sabic-El-Rayess, A. (2026). Radicalization in context: Risk and protective factors for terrorism vary across countries. *Psychology of Violence*. <https://doi.org/10.1037/vio0000724>
 - Across 59,758 adults in 53 countries, belonging, life control, confidence in democracy and science, civic activism, religiosity, and religious attendance emerged as protective factors against justifying terrorism.



Elaine Smolen

Moderated Panel

- Bridging lived experience and clinical practice: A panel of DHH professionals
 - Led panel of fellow deaf and hard of hearing professionals in auditory science and hearing healthcare. Presented in partnership with the American Cochlear Implant Alliance with colleagues from Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, the Mayo Clinic, Weill Cornell Medicine, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Sound Start Babies, and Westchester Medical Center.
 - https://www.audiologyonline.com/audiology-ceus/course/bridging-lived-experience-and-clinical-42436?_gl=1*1bacafx*_up*MQ.*_gs*MQ
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Gita Steiner-Khamsi

Invited Address

- Keynote at the international research conference "Disrupting In:Just Education"
 - The host is Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany. Steiner-Khamsi will hold the opening keynote presentation with the title "Social Justice in Education: A Sequential Analysis."
 - <https://www.fb04.uni-frankfurt.de/187729579.pdf>
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Amina Tawasil

Conference Presentation

- Tawasil, A. "Surveillance, Affect, and the Logic of Protection: Fragility and Hope in Muslim Ethnographic Fieldwork in Iran", MUSer 2026 Conference: "Muslims Between Fragility and Hope in an Age of Existential Crisis" Department of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Glasgow September 29, 2026
 - Presented a chapter of her second book manuscript from her research in the Islamic Republic of Iran at the University of Glasgow's MUSer Project.
 - <https://muserproject.co.uk/2026/08/04/muslims-between-fragility-and-hope-in-an-age-of-existential-crisis/>
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Dan Tomasulo

Journal Article

- A Breath of Hope: A Modified Tonglen Meditation for Practitioners
 - In "A Breath of Hope," Tomasulo presents Hope Breath, a three-minute modified Tonglen meditation that helps practitioners and clients shift from distress toward calm and attentiveness, with practical guidance for teaching it safely.
- <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s12671-026-02897-5>



Hansun Zhang Waring

Book Chapter

- Waring, H. Z., Tadic, N., & Reddington, E. (2026). Socializing gender at the dinner table. In R. Fitzgerald, R. Williams & T. Au-Yeung (Eds.), *New directions in membership categorization analysis* (pp. 120-137). Brill.
 - An (M)CA study on how gender is socialized at the dinner table.
- Demirezen, B., & Waring, H. Z. (2026). Disagreement Bingo. In N. Madarbakus-Ring & J. Ryan (Eds.), *New ways in teaching active listening* (pp. 263-267). TESOL Press.
 - A pedagogical activity designed in collaboration with Waring's then MA, now EdD student.