



ST. JOHN'S
UNIVERSITY



ST. JOHN'S
UNIVERSITY

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NEW FACULTY

2024

This brochure reflects all new, full-time faculty members at the time of publication.
Please visit www.stjohns.edu/newfacultybrochure for additional new faculty profiles.

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NEW FACULTY

2024

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Dear Colleague,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to St. John's University. You have been invited to join our faculty in recognition of your outstanding scholarly achievements, commitment to the University's mission, and dedication to your students.

As faculty, you are an integral part of a vibrant academic community built upon a strong foundation of Catholic and Vincentian values, where the success of our students is our main priority. Students come from across America and around the globe to our great

University to be taught and mentored by you and your innovative faculty colleagues who are dedicated to advancing their potential. Together, faculty and students create an engaging and inspiring learning environment, work in partnership on research and scholarly projects, engage in service to the University as well as the community, and so much more.

At St. John's, we are guided by our five-year University Strategic Plan—a plan that also belongs to you. It represents a living document with forward-thinking goals that aligns with and considers the rapidly evolving higher education landscape. You will find that we as a community do not shy away from challenges, but rather turn them into new opportunities as we propel our great University into the future.

I am confident that you will excel at St. John's, and we look forward to following your journey alongside your students. I encourage you to immerse yourself in what St. John's has to offer and to take advantage of the many professional development programs and educational and social events on campus.

As you embark on your career at St. John's University, I wish you great success. We, as faculty, have a great responsibility because what we do every day changes the lives of our students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon G. Møller'.

Simon G. Møller, Ph.D.

*Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs,
University Distinguished Professor,
and Provost Endowed Chair*



Teresa Delgado, Ph.D.

Dean and Professor
St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

“Through its distinctive faculty and curriculum, St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is committed to academic excellence as an expression of our Catholic, Vincentian, metropolitan, and global mission. Our renowned faculty of first-rate teachers/scholars engage the foundational knowledge, critical thinking skills, and creative possibilities to elevate student potential. We are thrilled to begin another academic year with a focus on the academic excellence we embody and cultivate in everything we do.”



Piper Corp, Ph.D.

Piper Corp joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication Studies in St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. She is an interdisciplinary rhetorician and educator whose research and professional background lie at the intersection of communication, science, and political life.

Dr. Corp studies the processes by which communities form collectively observable objects of understanding (e.g., species and diagnoses), with the aim of expanding public participation in those processes. Her dissertation and current book project study the rhetorical heritage and political significance of 17th-century natural history, making a historical and theoretical case for reimagining inquiry as a basis for democratic life. She now looks forward to extending this line of research to contemporary challenges concerning diagnosis, disability, and patient alienation.

Dr. Corp earned a Ph.D. in Communication from the University of Pittsburgh, an M.A. in English from George Mason University, and a B.A. in Biology from Cornell University. She is excited to join the St. John's community and welcomes the opportunity to converse and collaborate across disciplines.



Kisha Dasent, Ph.D.

Kisha Dasent joined St. John's University in the Fall of 2022 and is now a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication Studies in St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Dr. Dasent's research and teaching focuses on diversity, equity, and fostering inclusive communication, or what she has coined T.R.U.E. inclusion (Total Respect and Understanding for Everyone). She teaches courses in public speaking, small group communication, race and cultural communication, interpersonal communication, and nonverbal communication.

Dr. Dasent's interests lie in understanding the role of media in cross-cultural experiences, centering voices that have been historically marginalized, and exploring the role of communication in the construction and maintenance of social identities. Through her teaching and research, Dr. Dasent examines the historical disparities in academia, and how the role of media, culture, and lack of representation informs and guides societal views, behaviors, norms, and political action or lack thereof for marginalized groups. Her current research delves into the resilience of Black entrepreneurs, and Black music as identity and activism.

Dr. Dasent is a graduate of Howard University's Cathy Hughes School of Communication, where she earned her Ph.D. in Communication, Culture, and Media Studies. She has an M.A. in Communication Studies from Kean University and a B.S. in Human Resource Management/Public Administration from Empire State University.

**Heather E. Dunn, Ph.D.**

Heather E. Dunn joins St. John's University as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Core Studies, First-Year Seminar, in St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences after serving as an adjunct for several years. Dr. Dunn earned her Ph.D. in Visual Art: Philosophy, Aesthetics, and Art Theory from the Institute for Doctoral Studies in the Visual Arts.

Her research interests for her visual art and writing include how activism, biopolitics, and technological agency are changing our perception of public and private space, public and private identity, caregiving, gender roles, and family structure. Among her recent accomplishments are inclusion in *Parables of the Unknown*, a juried art show at the Jamaica Center for Arts and Learning in Queens, NY, where she also participated in an artist talk about her work, and the *SECAC 2023 Juried Exhibition* at the Try-Me Gallery in Richmond, VA. She also chaired the panel, "Artivism in Public Space" and presented the paper, "What is Artivism in Public Space?", both at the 2023 SECAC conference. She has also had her writing published in several books, including *The Revolution Will Be Live! Social Practice Art in Turbulent Times* and *"New Maternalisms": Tales of Motherwork (Dislodging the Unthinkable)*.

Dr. Dunn is currently working on a book and researching how art placed on existing art changes the meaning of space while also leaving traces of meaning and history.

**Gabreëlla Friday, Ph.D.**

Gabreëlla (Ella) Friday joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology (Criminology) in St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Her areas of specialization include time and social inequalities; jails and carceral studies; women, gender, and sexuality studies; social movements; and qualitative methods.

Dr. Friday's research centers on how time is used and manipulated by institutional and political actors to create and reproduce social inequalities, particularly in carceral spaces. She combined her roles as a community advocate and organizer with rich ethnographic research to understand and alleviate the conditions women faced in an upstate New York jail.

Dr. Friday is also the cofounder of the Jail Justice Initiative, which seeks to compare and differentiate jails from other forms of imprisonment, as well as understand how they have proliferated, expanded, or closed across the US. Her other research projects center on indefinite detention, the opioid crisis, and social movements.

Dr. Friday earned her Ph.D. and M.A. in Sociology from Binghamton University and her B.A. in International Affairs and Political Science from the University of Nevada, Reno. Prior to joining St. John's, she worked as a postdoctoral researcher dually appointed in the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs and the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity at Brown University.

**Kristine John, Ph.D.**

Kristine John joins St. John's University as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemistry (Environmental Studies) in St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. In 2021, Dr. John earned a Ph.D. in Earth and Environmental Sciences (Geology/Earth Science) from The Graduate Center of the City University of New York. She has previously served as an Adjunct Assistant Professor in St. John's Department of Core Studies, and has held academic positions at Long Island University,

Brooklyn College, CUNY, and the University of Guyana for a cumulation of more than 10 years.

Dr. John's research focuses on using water quality data for Habitat Suitability Modeling of Macroalgal blooms of *Ulva* sp. in Jamaica Bay, NY, using biomass data and Sentinel-2A satellite imagery to validate those models. She also looks at long-term trends in physical and chemical parameters of water quality to determine the ecological health of estuarine ecosystem.

**Robert Kozol, Ph.D.**

Robert Kozol joined St. John's University in the Spring of 2024 as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences in St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. He earned a B.S. in Marine Biology from the University of Rhode Island, and a Ph.D. in Biology at the University of Miami. He then went on to work as a Postdoctoral Fellow at Florida Atlantic University to study behavioral and molecular neuroscience.

Dr. Kozol's research utilizes a unique model organism, the blind Mexican cavefish, to study how the brain integrates and perceives stimuli. These fish exist as surface-dwelling eyed fish and cave-dwelling blind fish that react differently to light, sound, and smell. Dr. Kozol's lab utilizes this difference to investigate how changes in genes and neurons drive our perception of a stimulus, from bright light to bad smells. His lab's research will help us understand why some people have problems seeing, hearing, and smelling things in our environment.



Munira Mutmainna, M.A.

Munira Mutmainna joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Core Studies, First-Year Writing in St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. She earned her B.A. with Honors and M.A. in English before earning an additional M.A., focusing on TESOL and Linguistics, at Illinois State University. She is a candidate for a Ph.D. in Writing and Rhetoric at George Mason University (degree conferral August 2024), with her dissertation

focusing on technical health communication and the rhetoric of health for immigrant and international student communities.

Prof. Mutmainna's research interests encompass technical communication for multilingual and multicultural communities, marginalized and underrepresented groups in the US, narrative research and community-based research, with secondary interests in user experience, patient-centered design, and learner experience design. She is planning to conduct further research on health communication and access for diverse communities in the US healthcare system.

Prof. Mutmainna's dedication to impactful teaching and research has earned her an Outstanding Teaching Award and a prestigious Presidential Scholarship in her graduate programs. She intends to incorporate her understanding and experience with various underrepresented communities into her teaching to foster accessibility and inclusion.



Kyla Paolucci, M.F.A.

Kyla Paolucci joined St. John's University in the Fall of 2022 and is now a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Art and Design. She is a graphic designer based in New York City and has worked for companies including World Wrestling Entertainment and HBO.

After years of creating target-based marketing within the entertainment industry, Prof. Paolucci has become interested in reconstructing her design practice with a critical approach to cultural influences. As an educator, she encourages students to define their approach to graphic design through durational making and traditional methods. Her research explores how ethnographic approaches to design can reflect relational experiences and enrich commercial outcomes.

Prof. Paolucci earned her B.F.A. in Graphic Design from the Rhode Island School of Design and her M.F.A. in Graphic Design from the Vermont College of Fine Arts.



Efe Plange, M.A.

Efe Plange joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Core Studies, First-Year Writing in St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. She earned her B.A. in English from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in her home country of Ghana and an M.A. in Rhetoric, Theory, and Culture from the Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI. She is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Rhetoric and Composition at the University of Texas at El Paso.

Prof. Plange's research explores non-Western Feminist Rhetorical Practices, African Digital Feminisms, and Activist Politics in general. She is the recipient of Honorable Mention from the Coalition of Feminist Scholars in the History of Rhetoric and Composition for the 2023 Kathleen Ethel Welch Outstanding Article Award for her article, "The Pepper Manual: Towards Situated Non-Western Feminist Rhetorical Practices," which appeared in *Peitho* journal 23.4. She was selected for the Best of the Journals in Rhetoric and Composition 2022 for her *Peitho* article, which was one of 10 articles chosen nationally across the field of Rhetoric and Composition.



Rodney Sebastian, Ph.D.

Rodney Sebastian joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies in St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. He is an educator and scholar on Asian religions, specifically those connected with India and China.

Dr. Sebastian's dissertation research focuses on the intersection of politics, religion, and aesthetics in the northeast Indian state of Manipur. In his Ph.D. dissertation submitted at the University of Florida, he examined the sociopolitical structures and religious history that produced the Manipuri Rāsālīlā dance dramas.

He is also interested in themes of governance and statecraft articulated in classical Asian texts. Having lived in Singapore before moving to the United States, and completing a Master of Arts degree in Sociology at the National University of Singapore, he has worked on several publications on contemporary state-religion relations in Singapore. He is also a part of the Bhāgavata Purāṇa Research Project, hosted by the Oxford Center for Hindu Studies.

Previously, Dr. Sebastian served as an Assistant Professor at Manhattan College, where he taught courses such as Hinduism, Indian Epics, Chinese Religions, and Religion and Love. Besides academic work, Dr. Sebastian is interested in promoting interfaith dialogue to foster greater understanding and peace.



James D. Wolfinger, Ph.D.

Dean and Professor
The School of Education

“In The School of Education, we believe that no endeavor elevates humanity more than education. Every day, our first-rate faculty strives to provide an excellent education that translates into our graduates becoming the best teachers, leaders, and counselors in the New York City metropolitan area.”



Leo A. Gonzalez, Jr., Ph.D. '13C, '16GE

Leo Gonzalez, Jr. joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Counselor Education in The School of Education, after serving as an adjunct faculty member for two years.

Dr. Gonzalez is a National Certified Counselor and a Licensed Mental Health Counselor in New York. He provides counseling services to a diverse clientele, specializing in male mental health and anxiety disorders. His research interests include artificial intelligence and technology; Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) male mental health; corpus linguistics; and the use of pop culture in counselor education and supervision.

Dr. Gonzalez earned his Ph.D. in Counseling from Oregon State University. He is a double alumnus of St. John's University, holding a B.A. in Psychology and an M.S.Ed. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling.



Eleanor X. Mehta, Ph.D.

Eleanor X. Mehta joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Education Specialties in The School of Education. She earned a Ph.D. in Educational Theory and Practice and an Ed.S. in Special Education from the University of Georgia, an M.Ed. in Special Education from Vanderbilt University, and a B.A. in Elementary Education from Wheaton College (IL).

Dr. Mehta's research centers on the intersection of race, culture, gender, and disability, and pushes for asset-based approaches to working with culturally and linguistically diverse children and families. Specifically, her research focuses on immigrant families and children with disabilities using culturally situated qualitative methodologies. Her doctoral thesis, funded by the American Association of University Women, explored the ways of knowing Chinese immigrant mothers embodied as they raised their children with disabilities.



ST. JOHN'S
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THE PETER J. TOBIN
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS



Maciek Nowak, Ph.D.

Dean

Joseph H. and Maria C. Schwartz Distinguished Chair

Professor of Decision Sciences

The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

“Whether as a management trainee or a chief executive officer, the graduates of The Peter J. Tobin College of Business bring an entirely different dimension to today’s workplace. This is because our faculty elevate our students to bring to the corporate world a much-needed ethos centered around doing business for the betterment of others, pursuing profit and purpose.”



Aigberaodion (Aigbe) Akhigbe, Ph.D.

Aigbe Akhigbe joins St. John’s University as a tenure-track Associate Professor in the Department of Economics and Finance in The Peter J. Tobin College of Business. He earned his Ph.D. in Finance and M.B.A. from the University of Houston, and an M.S. in Engineering from the University of Southwestern Louisiana (now the University of Louisiana at Lafayette).

Dr. Akhigbe possesses extensive expertise in teaching a broad spectrum of finance disciplines. He excels in integrating practical financial techniques with comprehensive data analytics using premier databases such as Bloomberg, CRSP, Compustat, Morningstar, FDIC Call Reports, and Federal Reserve Y-9C (BHCK) reports.

Dr. Akhigbe’s robust experience ensures a dynamic and enriched learning environment for his students. He has an extensive publication record in leading finance and economics journals, with his work widely cited. He has served on the program committees of finance associations in various roles, including presenter, discussant, session chair, and track chair. Additionally, he has contributed to the academic community as a member of editorial boards and a reviewer for several prestigious journals.

Before joining St. John’s University, Dr. Akhigbe held full professorship positions at Florida Atlantic University, the University of Akron (as the Moyer Endowed Chair), and the University of the District of Columbia. He also served as a visiting faculty member at Miami University, adjunct faculty at the University of Central Florida, and senior research fellow at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.



Tracey Freiberg, Ph.D.

Tracey Freiberg joined St. John’s University in the Fall of 2020 and is now a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics and Finance, and the Associate Director of the Thomas J. Cox Jr. Honors Program in The Peter J. Tobin College of Business.

Dr. Freiberg’s research focuses on labor economics policy and benefits, with special attention to gendered outcomes and disparities across traditionally marginalized communities. Her research is interdisciplinary in nature: a blend of applied economics and policy analysis with a focus on federal- and state-level American labor policies. Outside of academia, she has more than 10 years of experience in insurance, financial services, consulting, and research.

Dr. Freiberg holds a Ph.D. in Public and Urban Policy from the Milano School of Policy, Management, and Environment at The New School.



**ST. JOHN'S
UNIVERSITY**

College of Pharmacy
and Health Sciences



Anne Y. F. Lin '84P, '86Pharm.D., FNAP

Dean and Professor

College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

“The College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences provides cutting-edge health science education that elevates students and communities. With our outstanding faculty and use of student-centered learning strategies that promote student success and academic excellence, our clinical laboratory science, nursing, pharmacy, physician assistant, and radiological sciences graduates are prepared to provide quality health care that positively impact the health of communities. Undergraduate and graduate students in the pharmaceutical sciences and pharmacy administration engage in biomedical and health outcomes research that advances the prevention, management, and cure of diseases. We are committed to empowering our students to reach their full potential to be in service to our communities.”



Lauren Anderson '13Pharm.D., BCACP

Lauren Anderson joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Clinical Professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice (Ambulatory Care Pharmacy) in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

For more than a decade, she has been dedicated to delivering high-quality, evidence-based care to underserved communities facing access challenges. She has served as a pharmacist at a Federally Qualified Health Center in Saint Paul, MN. Her current practice interests include primary care, substance use disorders, endocrinology, and cardiology.

Prior to joining St. John's, Dr. Anderson worked as a lecturer at the University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy and served as adjunct faculty at Saint Catherine University in the Physician Assistant and Nursing departments. She is passionate about mentoring future health-care providers, emphasizing pharmacotherapy knowledge and fostering inclusive learning environments through innovative methods like Team-Based Learning (TBL). Her research interests include the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, with a specific focus on TBL, inclusive teaching practices, and the use of educational games to enhance student engagement and outcomes.

Dr. Anderson earned her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from St. John's University in 2013 and completed her PGY-1 Residency with emphasis in Ambulatory Care at the University of Minnesota in 2014.



Rachel Anglade, M.S.N., R.N.

Rachel Anglade joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor/Industry Professional (Medical-Surgical) in the Department of Nursing in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. With nearly two decades of experience as a registered nurse, she has worked in various health-care settings, including cardiac and surgical intensive care units, informatics, and travel nursing along the East Coast. She earned a master's degree in Nursing Informatics from New York University, Rory Meyers School of Nursing, enhancing

her ability to integrate technology and data management into patient care.

Currently, Prof. Anglade is pursuing her Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree at Molloy University, driven by her passion for advancing nursing knowledge and improving patient care outcomes. This pursuit underscores her dedication to lifelong learning and staying at the forefront of evidence-based practice.

As an educator, Prof. Anglade has taught medical/surgical nursing and informatics, and led simulation labs. She has guided students through clinical experiences in hospital settings, providing hands-on learning opportunities and mentorship. She

is passionate about fostering a nurturing learning environment where students feel empowered to explore, question, and grow both personally and professionally. Her goal is to impart knowledge while instilling enthusiasm and dedication to the nursing profession, inspiring the next generation of health-care professionals.



Dia T. Bacon, M.S.N., R.N., CNE

Dia T. Bacon joins St. John's University's College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences in the Department of Nursing as a tenure-track Assistant Professor/Industry Professional (Fundamentals).

Prof. Bacon has nearly a decade of experience as a Cardiology Nurse in a top-rated New York City hospital. She is also a Certified Nurse Educator pursuing her Doctorate in Adult Education. She has found the transition to education

after being on the frontline during the pandemic as both exciting and a welcomed opportunity to educate and mentor the next generation of nurses. Prof. Bacon is experienced in teaching in the classroom, skills lab, simulation lab, and clinical setting. As a native of Queens, NY, she looks forward to being in her hometown working with fellow nursing colleagues and collaborating with interdisciplinary departments at this esteemed University.

Prof. Bacon earned a Master of Science degree in Nursing Education from Adelphi University's College of Public Health and Nursing.



Catherine Bell, D.N.P., R.N.

Catherine Bell joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor/Industry Professional (Maternity) in the Department of Nursing in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

Prof. Bell's research interests include her predoctoral work with reducing the incidence of hyperbilirubinemia in the exclusively breastfed newborn and shortening the length of the second stage of labor with the use of a

peanut ball. She continues to pursue her research interests in women's health by researching the physical and psychological impact of vulvar lichen sclerosis in postmenopausal woman.

Prof. Bell completed her Master of Science in Nursing Education, Patient Safety and Quality, at Southern New Hampshire University-Hooksett, NH, and earned a Doctorate in Nursing Practice from Chamberlain University-Downers Grove, IL. She is an active member of Sigma Theta Tau International. She has served as a past president for the Chi Gamma Chapter at SUNY Farmingdale, and current vice president for the Alpha Omega Chapter at Adelphi University.



Patricia Esquivias, M.S.N., R.N.

Patricia Esquivias joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor/Industry Professional (Fundamentals) in the Department of Nursing in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. With a solid foundation in adult medical-surgical and cardiology nursing, and a passion for educating the next generation of health-care professionals, she brings more than 16 years of clinical experience to the classroom.

Currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Nursing, Prof. Esquivias is dedicated to advancing both knowledge and research in the field of nursing and nursing education. She holds a Master of Science degree in Nursing Education from the State University of New York at Stony Brook, where she honed her expertise in curriculum development, instructional design, and student mentorship.

In her role as an educator, Prof. Esquivias is committed to fostering an environment of academic excellence and professional growth. She uses her clinical experience to provide real-world insights and mentorship to her students, preparing them for the challenges of modern health care.

Her research focuses on workplace violence and nurse job satisfaction.

Prof. Esquivias is a member of the Sigma Theta Tau Honor Society of Nursing and the American Nurses Association and actively participates on professional committees.



Mayeline A. Griffin, M.B.A., R.T.

Mayeline A. Griffin joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor/Industry Professional in the Department of Health Professions (Radiologic Sciences) in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. With extensive experience spanning nearly 15 years as a registered technologist, she holds advanced certifications in CT, MRI, and MR Safety. As a Certified Radiology Administrator, she brings a wealth of expertise in both technical and administrative realms, ensuring

the provision of top-tier education and mentorship to future generations of technologists. Prof. Griffin earned a Master of Business Administration degree with a concentration in Entrepreneurship from Monroe College, complementing her B.S. degree in Radiologic Sciences from Adventist University of Health Sciences.

Prior to joining St. John's University, she served as the Assistant Director of Radiology at White Plains Hospital, where she oversaw comprehensive inpatient and outpatient clinical operations. With a career rooted at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC), she ascended through various roles, starting as an entry-level Radiologic Technologist and progressing to leadership positions, including Assistant Manager at Westchester MSKCC. Throughout her career,

Prof. Griffin has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to excellence in leadership, patient care, and education. She eagerly anticipates inspiring and guiding students toward becoming distinguished technologists and experts in their field.



Nancy Jacob, M.B.A., PA-C '00P

Nancy Jacob joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor/Industry Professional in the Department of Health Professions (Physician Assistant program) in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. An alumna of St. John's University, Prof. Jacob earned her B.S. degree in Physician Assistant Studies in 2000 and her certification in Physician Assistant Studies from St. Vincent's Catholic Medical Center's Physician Assistant program that same year. She also holds a

Master of Business Administration degree with a concentration in healthcare management from Temple University's Fox School of Business.

Prof. Jacob began her career in emergency medicine at Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center. She transitioned to the University of Pennsylvania, where she spent seven years working in cardiac electrophysiology. She has practiced in the departments of surgery, radiology, internal medicine, cardiology, and gastroenterology. Prof. Jacob has worked clinically in both the outpatient and inpatient settings, as well as worked as a clinical preceptor in her prior roles. She has a special interest in health-care quality and safety.



Dana London, M.S.N., R.N.

Dana London joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor/Industry Professional (Pediatrics) in the Department of Nursing in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

Prof. London has clinical and leadership experience in Maternal-Child Health. As a registered nurse, she has worked in Pediatrics, Pediatric Emergency Department, Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

and Newborn Nursery. As a nurse leader, Prof. London has served as Clinical Nurse Manager of the Pediatric Unit, Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, and the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at NewYork-Presbyterian Brooklyn, and served as Interim Patient Care Director of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. In addition, she has taught clinical and simulation-based education scenarios for undergraduate and advanced nursing students.

Prof. London earned her M.S. in Nursing Administration from SUNY Empire State University and a B.S. in Nursing from Molloy University. Prof. London is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Nursing Practice at Aspen University. Her research interests focus on the social determinants of health.



Nadesha Muniz, M.S.Ed., PA-C '05P

Nadesha Muniz joined St. John's University in the Spring of 2024 as a tenure-track Assistant Professor/Industry Professional in the Department of Health Professions (Physician Assistant program) in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. Prof. Muniz is a certified Physician Assistant (PA) and has more than 18 years of experience in primary care, gastrointestinal, hospice, rehabilitation, and hospital medicine. She has mentored, trained, and precepted many health-care providers throughout her

career, and was nominated as Physician Assistant of the Year in Hospital Medicine at Huntington Hospital in 2023.

Prof. Muniz's research interests include potential frameworks for increasing the number of underrepresented health-care providers in medicine using an interdisciplinary approach. Her recent research explores the PA profession title change and the perceived impact of the title change on the PA profession and patient care/outcomes. She recently published an article, "How Do Physicians and Nurse Practitioners Perceive the Title Change for PA from Physician Assistant to Physician Associates?"

Prof. Muniz earned a Master of Science degree in Health Professions Education from Hofstra University, a Bachelor of Science degree from St. John's University, and a Certificate in Physician Assistant Studies from St. Vincent Catholic Medical Center.



Mario Tomei, M.D., M.B.A., M.H.A., CHSE

Mario Tomei joins St. John's University as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. Having earned a medical degree in 1999 from the Universidad de Guadalajara and completion of the Fifth Pathway Program at New York Medical College, his journey in the medical field has been both diverse and fulfilling. He earned his M.B.A. in Marketing/Finance and M.H.A. in Health Administration from Saint Joseph's University, equipping him with a unique

blend of skills that bridge the gap between health care and business.

Driven by an unwavering passion for teaching medical science, Dr. Tomei has dedicated himself to academia since 2014. His experience in both clinical practice and the business aspects of health care allows him to provide a well-rounded and practical education to his students. Dr. Tomei is committed to fostering an environment where future medical professionals can thrive, encouraging critical thinking, and promoting a comprehensive understanding of the medical sciences.

Dr. Tomei is devoted to mentoring the next generation of health-care leaders, ensuring they are well-prepared to face the challenges of an ever-evolving medical landscape. His goal is to inspire and equip his students with the knowledge and skills they need to make significant contributions to the field of medicine.



Kathryn Vavrica, M.S., R.T.

Kathryn Vavrica joined St. John's University in October 2023 as a tenure-track Assistant Professor/Industry Professional in the Department of Health Professions (Radiologic Sciences) in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. She earned her M.S. in Health Administration from Central Michigan University and is a licensed RT, CT, and MR technologist.

Prior to joining St. John's University, Prof. Vavrica worked in the field of radiology for 20 years, primarily as an MR technologist at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. She remains current with technology and patient care as a per diem MR technologist.

Prof. Vavrica's primary research interest is patient care with a focus on communication and its effect on diagnostic imaging. Another of her research interests is MR safety policies and procedures, given that MR is a relatively new modality in radiology and safety guidelines continuously evolve.



**THE LESLEY H. AND WILLIAM L.
COLLINS COLLEGE OF
PROFESSIONAL STUDIES**



Luca Iandoli, Ph.D.

Dean and Distinguished Chair

The Lesley H. and William L. Collins College of Professional Studies

“The Lesley H. and William L. Collins College of Professional Studies is a launchpad for innovators, entrepreneurs, and explorers—problem solvers who want to improve the world. As they graduate, we prepare students for careers in emerging and specialized professions, poised to excel in industries with diverse opportunities with a multidisciplinary focus on the digital transformation of the economy and society. Our Cyber Security, Design Factory, Film and Radio Center, Health Data, Homeland Security, Media Arts and Design, Television, and Virtual Reality and Game Development labs give the opportunity to learn, apply, and practice real-life scenarios using state-of-the-art technology and instruction.”



Rebekah Ansbro, J.D.

Rebekah Ansbro joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Division of Sport Management in The Lesley H. and William L. Collins College of Professional Studies. Prior to joining St. John's, Prof. Ansbro taught Sports Law to undergraduate students at George Mason University, her alma mater.

Prof. Ansbro's research interests lie in the intersection of sport and American competition law, with particular interest on exemptions from federal antitrust law and the interaction between antitrust and labor law. Her most recent work focuses on the history of Major League Baseball's century-long antitrust exemption, its validity, and its effect on the labor market in professional baseball.

Prof. Ansbro completed her J.D. at George Mason University, where she concentrated in Sports Law with a particular focus in Antitrust and Labor Economics. Prior to law school, she earned her B.S. and M.S. in Sport Management also at George Mason University, where she played Division I softball for the Patriots.



Giancarlo Crocetti, D.P.S., M.B.A.

Giancarlo Crocetti joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Division of Computer Science, Mathematics, and Science in The Lesley H. and William L. Collins College of Professional Studies.

Dr. Crocetti has taught at St. John's as an Adjunct Professor since 2015 and received the Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award in 2017. He has more than 25 years of experience in the private sector as a software engineer and data scientist, with the last 15 years in the pharmaceutical industry, where he served as Senior Associate Director of Analytics and Insight for Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals USA.

Dr. Crocetti's research interests include applying Natural Language Processing-based models in medicine, information retrieval, knowledge representation, and language models. His most recent work focuses on the learning outcomes when Large Language Models are used in a pedagogical setting and the issue of retraining the workforce to face the disruption due to the increased use of Generative AI.

Dr. Crocetti graduated from La Sapienza University in Rome, Italy, with an M.S. in Computer Science, and earned an M.S. in Data Mining at Central Connecticut State University, an M.B.A. in Executive Management and Strategy at Pace University, and a D.P.S. in Applied Computing at Pace University.



Yunjung (YJ) Kim, Ph.D.

Yunjung (YJ) Kim joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Division of Sport Management in The Lesley H. and William L. Collins College of Professional Studies. She earned a Ph.D. in Sport Studies—Sociology of Sport at Seoul National University.

Dr. Kim's research interests include sport and physical activity participation, body culture and media representation, and qualitative research approaches. Her

recent research explores the experiences of Korean women's participation in "aesthetic exercises" from a cultural and gender approach. In addition, she has examined the perspectives of women sport fans of women's volleyball.

Dr. Kim is a member of the International Sociology of Sport Association and the North American Society for the Sociology of Sport and has published in the *International Review for the Sociology of Sport* and *Sport in Society*.

Prior to joining St. John's, Dr. Kim was a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the University of Tennessee and a Postdoctoral Researcher at Seoul National University. She also worked with international students of the Dream Together Master Global Sport Management Graduate Program at Seoul National University from 2013 to 2023.



Daniel Lichtman, M.F.A.

Daniel Lichtman joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Game Development and Emerging Media in the Division of Mass Communication in The Lesley H. and William L. Collins College of Professional Studies.

Prof. Lichtman's research and creative work centers around community-oriented processes of interactive storytelling. He is particularly interested in how diverse communities can use techniques of game design to

tell stories about their own culture and heritage, and to speculate upon their possible futures. In one current project, Collective Futuring in Nebraska's Panhandle, Prof. Lichtman and collaborators are developing a purpose-built, 3D story-engine to facilitate workshops about healing and recovery with community members in rural Nebraska who are recovering from Substance Use Disorder.

Prof. Lichtman's projects have been published in *ACM Interactive Surfaces and Spaces* and *ACM Virtual Reality Software and Technology* and are supported by a National Science Foundation Research Experiences for Undergraduates grant. His work has been presented at BRIC Arts and Media House, The Queens Museum, ICA (London), CICA Museum (Korea), and other national and international venues.

Prior to joining St. John's, Prof. Lichtman previously served as Visiting Assistant Professor of Digital Studies at Stockton University. He earned an M.F.A. in Fine Art, with a focus on New Media Arts, from Goldsmiths, University of London.





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Ashley B. Armstrong, J.D., LL.M.

Ashley B. Armstrong joins St. John’s University School of Law as an Assistant Professor of Legal Writing. Prof. Armstrong has taught at New York University Law School, the Georgetown University Law Center, and, most recently, at the University of Connecticut School of Law. She also led the Human Rights Institute while at Georgetown. Prof. Armstrong’s scholarship focuses on refugee and human rights law, legal skills pedagogy, and lawyer well-being.

Prior to entering academia, Prof. Armstrong served as Chief Operating Officer at the National Whistleblower Center and as an inaugural Hillary Rodham Clinton Law Fellow at the Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security. She has volunteered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees’ Global Learning Center in Budapest, Hungary; Amnesty International; Human Rights First; and the Human Rights Foundation.

Prof. Armstrong earned her J.D. *cum laude* from Georgetown University Law Center, with certificates in Transnational Legal Studies and Refugee and Humanitarian Emergencies, and earned her LL.M. in Advocacy with distinction from Georgetown Law. Prof. Armstrong graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Cornell University with a B.A. in Government with a concentration in International Relations. She is admitted to practice law in the state of New York.



Tyler Rose Clemons, J.D.

Tyler Rose Clemons joins St. John’s University School of Law as a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Law. She teaches evidence, constitutional law, and other courses related to the intersection of law and identity.

Prior to joining St. John’s, she was an Acting Assistant Professor and Associate Director of Lawyering at New York University (NYU) School of Law.

Prior to joining academia, Prof. Clemons was a civil rights impact litigator at the Southern Poverty Law Center in New Orleans, LA; the US Department of Education Office for Civil Rights in Dallas, TX; and at the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law in Washington, DC.

Prof. Clemons graduated *summa cum laude* from the University of Mississippi with a B.A. in History and Broadcast Journalism. She earned her J.D. *magna cum laude* from Georgetown University Law Center.



Louis Jim, J.D., M.P.A.

Louis Jim joins St. John's University School of Law as an Associate Professor of Legal Writing. His current research focuses on the perpetuation of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) as outsiders through federal and state laws.

Prof. Jim is active in the AAPI academic community. He served as cochair of the Academic Committee of the Asian American Bar Association of New York;

authored the hypothetical for the 2021 Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition; and moderated a panel on "Amplifying Asian Voices" as faculty adviser to Albany Law's Asian Pacific American Law Students Association.

Prior to joining St. John's, Prof. Jim taught legal writing at Brooklyn Law School, where he served as faculty adviser to the Moot Court Honor Society and Prince Evidence Competition. He also served on the faculty of Albany Law School, where he received the Friend of the Class of 2021 Award and the Perino Award for service to the moot court program.

Before entering academia, Prof. Jim practiced law in the private and public sectors. He served as a New York State Assistant Attorney General; a litigation attorney at Bond, Schoeneck & King, PLLC; and a law clerk to the Hon. Neal P. McCurn of the US District Court for the Northern District of New York.

Prof. Jim earned his J.D. from the Syracuse University College of Law, and a master's in public administration from American University's School of Public Affairs.



Evelyn L. Malavé, J.D.

Evelyn L. Malavé joins St. John's University School of Law as a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Law. Prior to joining St. John's, she was an Associate Professor of Law at the Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University and an Acting Assistant Professor of Law at New York University School of Law.

Prior to entering academia, Prof. Malavé was a public defender at the Legal Aid Society of New York in

Brooklyn and Queens, NY. Her research focuses on the intersection of race, poverty, politics, and narrative in state criminal courts, with an emphasis on underscrutinized levers of decision-making.

Prof. Malavé earned her J.D. at New York University School of Law and her B.A. at Yale University.



Benjamin Sundholm, J.D.

Benjamin Sundholm joins St. John's University School of Law as a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Law. He teaches and writes about tort law, health law, law and technology, and legal philosophy. He is interested in the revisions to traditional tort doctrines that are needed in response to the use of increasingly sophisticated artificial intelligence technologies in a variety of contexts, including health care. He is also interested in questions about the nature of law.

Before joining St. John's, Prof. Sundholm was a Forrester Fellow at Tulane Law School and, prior to that, a Fellow of Medical Ethics at the Medical College of Cornell University. He earned his J.D. *cum laude* from the Georgetown University Law Center, where he was an Articles Editor for *The Georgetown Law Journal*; his M.A. in Philosophy from Georgetown University; and his B.A. *cum laude* from Bethel University. After law school, he worked as an associate in the New York office of Debevoise & Plimpton LLP.



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Caroline Fuchs '04MLS

University Librarian, Dean of Libraries, and Professor
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Emma Quinn, MSLIS

Emma Quinn joined St. John's University in the Spring of 2024 as a tenure-track Assistant Professor and Learning and Curricular Services Librarian in the University Libraries. Prior to joining St. John's, she served in New York University's Division of Libraries, where she focused on open access initiatives in the Collections department, and at the Lower East Side Tenement Museum.

Prof. Quinn's research interests include critical and inclusive pedagogy, information literacy instruction, open educational resources, and the history of gender and sexuality in the Irish diaspora. Before joining academia, she worked at an immigration law firm, preparing visa applications for artists and others in the entertainment industry.

Prof. Quinn earned an M.S. in Library and Information Science from Long Island University, an M.A. in Irish and Irish-American Studies from New York University, and a B.A. in History and Theology from Fordham University.