



ST. JOHN'S  
UNIVERSITY

# NEW FACULTY 2023

**ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE:  
EDUCATION THAT ELEVATES**





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. Indeed, we have an overriding responsibility to ensure that our students are challenged academically; are engaged inside and outside of the classroom; receive the mentorship, guidance, and help that they require; and feel a sense of belonging.

Our diverse student body comes from across America and from around the globe to be taught and mentored by you and your innovative faculty colleagues who are dedicated to elevating the potential of every student. 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.

I am fully confident that you will excel here, and we are excited to follow your journey alongside your students. You will soon discover that St. John's has a plethora of opportunities for you; I encourage you to immerse yourself in what the University has to offer, interact with your many colleagues, seek advice when needed, and take advantage of the many professional development programs available, as well as the numerous educational and social events on campus.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon G. Møller'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Simon G. Møller, Ph.D.**

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



# ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE OF  
LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES



## **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 the potential in each and every student. We are thrilled to begin another academic year with a focus on the academic excellence we embody and cultivate in everything we do.”*



## **Lauren Grebe, CCC-SLP '16G**

Lauren Grebe joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Instructor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders in St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Currently a Ph.D. candidate in the Speech Language Hearing Sciences department at the Graduate Center, City University of New York, Prof. Grebe's dissertation research relates to the theory of cognitive reserve in individuals with Primary

Progressive Aphasia (PPA) and Frontotemporal Dementia. She is investigating how different socio-behavioral proxies of cognitive reserve relate to changes in brain status and performance across neuropsychological measures in a longitudinally followed cohort of individuals with PPA.

Prof. Grebe earned her M.A. in Communication Sciences and Disorders from St. John's University and her B.A. in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology from Molloy College. She has practiced as a speech-language pathologist across various clinical settings, working primarily with adult and geriatric populations.



## **Orli Herscovici, Ph.D.**

Orli Herscovici joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science in St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. She completed her Ph.D. in Mathematics from the University of Haifa in Israel. After her Ph.D., Dr. Herscovici worked as a postdoctoral fellow at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology and at the University of Haifa.

Prior to joining St. John's University, Dr. Herscovici worked as a (postdoctoral) Visiting Assistant Professor in the School of Mathematics at the Georgia Institute of Technology. Her research interests include convex analysis and geometry, orthogonal polynomials and their applications, enumerative combinatorics, and q-calculus.



**Ester Navarro-Garcia, Ph.D.**

Ester Navarro-Garcia joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology in St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. She earned her B.A. in Language Translation and Interpretation from the University of Granada, Spain, and her M.A. and Ph.D. in Cognitive Psychology from Claremont Graduate University in Claremont, CA. She then went on to complete a postdoctoral

research fellowship in the Center for Applied Brain and Cognitive Sciences at Tufts University in Boston, MA.

Dr. Navarro's research interests lie at the intersection of language, individual differences, and social cognition. Her research explores how individual differences in cognitive abilities (such as reasoning) and sociolinguistic experiences (such as bilingualism) impact people's ability to understand and make decisions based on perspectives that differ from their own, such as holding different beliefs or ideas. Specifically, her research explores what makes people better or worse at understanding others' intentions and beliefs and how to use this knowledge to reduce polarization and foster communication.



**Hailey Riechelson**

Hailey Riechelson 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. She earned a B.A. in Environmental Science from Columbia University, served as a research assistant in geochemistry at The Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and is currently a candidate for the Ph.D. in Oceanography and Paleoclimate from

Rutgers University (anticipated conferral August 2023).

Prof. Riechelson's research uses chemical signals to reconstruct Earth's climate history to better understand present and future climate. Her past research involved field work at sea as part of oceanographic Expedition 379T. Her work has provided new insights into controls on Southern Hemisphere temperature and precipitation, as well as global CO<sub>2</sub>.



**Rev. Michele E. Watkins, Ph.D.**

Michele E. Watkins 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. She is a pastor, educator, scholar, and activist specializing in womanist systematic theology at the intersection of religion, culture, and social justice. Her expertise includes systematic, Black and womanist, and patristic

theologies, focusing on the connections between African American religion and Orthodox theology.

Rev. Dr. Watkins is the author of *Deification of the Desacralized: Critical Correlations Among Womanist & Orthodox Theologies* (under review by Fordham University Press) and coauthor of *Unmasking Racism: Coloring with Love for the Church, Community, and Academy* (United Methodist General Board of Higher Education, 2023). Her research explores the material and interreligious dynamics of deification and soteriology. She is a NEH Faculty Fellow at Fordham University's Orthodox Christian Studies Center.

Previously, she held academic positions at the University of San Diego and Iliff School of Theology in Denver, CO. Rev. Dr. Watkins is a provisional elder in the United Methodist Church and serves as the Executive Director of the Society for the Study of Black Religion. Additionally, she cochairs the Tillich: Issues in Theology, Religion, and Culture Unit of the American Academy of Religion. Rev. Dr. Watkins earned an M.Div. and a Ph.D. in Theology and Ethics from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, and a B.S. in Psychology from Howard University.



**Michael Zheng, Ph.D.**

Michael Zheng joined St. John's University as an Assistant Professor in the Institute for Core Studies in St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences in the Spring of 2023, and is now a member of the tenure-track faculty.

Dr. Zheng earned his Ph.D. in Chemical Physics from Columbia University. His research interests include quantum mechanics, quantum information, and pedagogical approaches to make the idea of quantum accessible to the general public. Prior to joining St. John's University, Dr. Zheng spent more than 20 years in the financial industry trading derivatives products. His nonacademic interests include running, hiking, and reading.



**ST. JOHN'S  
UNIVERSITY**

THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION



**James D. Wolfinger, Ph.D.**

Dean and Professor  
The School of Education

*“In The School of Education, we fundamentally believe in this year’s theme of ‘Academic Excellence: Education That Elevates.’ Our faculty strive every day for excellence in our classrooms because we know that translates into our students providing excellent learning experiences for children in schools across the New York City metropolitan region.”*



**Serafino (Fino) M. Celano '09Ed.D.**

Fino Celano comes to St. John's University as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Administrative and Instructional Leadership in The School of Education. He earned his Ed.D. in Educational Administration and Supervision from St. John's University. He also holds an M.A. in Literacy Education from Manhattan College and a Certificate of Advanced Study in Educational Administration from Hofstra University. Dr. Celano's

research interests include new teacher mentoring programs, trust, and teacher efficacy. Other areas of interest include curriculum and instruction innovation, and professional development models.

Dr. Celano has more than 30 years of experience as a public school administrator in New York, which includes serving in leadership roles as Superintendent of Schools and building Principal. He is the recipient of the St. John's University Leaders in Education Award (2013), St. John's Distinguished Alumni Award (2017), and the New York State P.T.A. Distinguished Service Award.



**Eunhye Choi, Ph.D.**

Eunhye Choi joined St. John's University during the Fall 2022 semester as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Education Specialties in The School of Education. She earned a Ph.D. in Special Education from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas; an M.A. in Clinical Psychology from Minnesota State University, Mankato; and a B.A. in Psychology from the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Her areas of interest include creative content development and media production for children and youth, educational technology, and advocacy and awareness raising for individuals with special needs, grief, trauma, and resilience. By means of an interdisciplinary approach that merges creativity and technology into education and research, she aspires to continuously advocate for individuals with special needs and other stakeholders, including families, teachers, and service providers.



**Qiana Spellman, Ed.D.**

Qiana Spellman joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Counselor Education in The School of Education. Prior to joining St. John's University, Dr. Spellman served as a certified school counselor with the New York City Department of Education for over a decade. Her research focuses on the impact of mental health stressors such as racism, discrimination, and

microaggressions on Black and Brown youth and its effects on BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) students' academic, social, and emotional experiences in schools. Dr. Spellman examines the use of hip-hop lyricism and spoken word as effective tools for healing, as well as the implementation of culturally relevant and social justice-informed, school-wide initiatives. She also explores the unique positionality of school counselors as educators.

Dr. Spellman earned her Ed.D. in Health Education and an M.S. in Community Health both from Teachers College at Columbia University, an M.S.Ed. in Bilingual School Counseling from LIU Brooklyn, and a B.S. in Psychology from Xavier University of Louisiana.



**Jenny Yang '13 Ed.D.**

Jenny Yang joined St. John's University in Spring 2023 as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Administrative and Instructional Leadership in the School of Education. Dr. Yang has more than a decade of experience in collaborating with high-need schools to create STEM enrichment programs for culturally and linguistically diverse students. She is the Co-Principal Investigator of Project WINGS, a federally funded grant

project between St. John's University and the National Center for Research on Gifted Education to create an accelerated math program for high-ability English learners in New York, Texas, and California.

Dr. Yang holds an Ed.D. in Instructional Leadership from St. John's University, where she specialized in the identification methods, assessment instruments, and curriculum designs for gifted students. Her doctoral thesis explored the impact of language scaffolding on English learners' acquisition of math and content-specific language. Her research focuses on the talent development of young children in mathematics, including intrinsic and extrinsic factors that can either promote or hinder the achievement trajectory of students. Dr. Yang actively engages with the broader community to promote the value of education and its societal impact. She frequently participates in workshops, conferences, and public lectures, sharing her expertise with teachers, school leaders, policymakers, and parents alike.



**ST. JOHN'S**  
**UNIVERSITY**

THE PETER J. TOBIN  
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS



**Maciek Nowak, Ph.D.**

Dean and Professor

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.”*



**Natalie Dixon, Ph.D.**

Natalie Dixon joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Accountancy in The Peter J. Tobin College of Business, after having served as a Visiting Assistant Professor last year. She earned a Master of Accountancy degree and a Ph.D. in Accounting from The University of Scranton.

Dr. Dixon’s dissertation research involves academic dishonesty. More specifically, her work focuses on finding effective solutions to aid administrators and the accounting profession to enforce ethical standards, with the objective to reduce fraud in accounting students—who are the next generation of professionals. Other areas of interest include corporate social responsibility and business ethics.



**Michael Herley, D.B.A. '96MBA**

Michael Herley joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor of the Practice in the Department of Business Analytics and Information Systems in the The Peter J. Tobin College of Business, after having served as a Visiting Assistant Professor last year. He earned a D.B.A. in Finance from Sacred Heart University’s Jack Welch College of Business & Technology, an M.B.A. in Corporate Finance from

St. John’s University, and an M.S. in Mathematics from Fairfield University.

Dr. Herley has more than 26 years of industry experience. Until June 2019, he was a Partner at Kekst CNC, when he left to launch an entrepreneurial venture and pursue an executive doctoral degree.

In the classroom, Dr. Herley focuses on practical applications and giving results meaning. His research leverages regime-switching models and machine-learning techniques to improve time-series econometric forecasts. His ongoing research projects focus on examining the relationship between financial and economic variables at different levels of market risk using self-exciting threshold autoregressive and Markov-switching models.



**Wenchu Li**

Wenchu Li joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Maurice R. Greenberg School of Risk Management, Insurance and Actuarial Science. She earned a master’s degree in Actuarial Practice from The Australian National University and is a candidate for the Ph.D. in Business Administration with a concentration in Risk Management and Insurance from Temple University (anticipated conferral August 2023).

Prof. Li's dissertation investigates how life insurers manage the financial risks sourced from providing variable annuities, the personal retirement savings product. Her current research examines life insurers' role as institutional investors and the sustainability of their investments. More broadly, she is interested in topics across actuarial science, corporate social responsibility, enterprise risk management, and behavioral finance. In addition to her academic pursuits, Prof. Li is also working toward earning the Associate of the Society of Actuaries (ASA) and the Fellow of the Society of Actuaries (FSA) designations.



### **Roy Weissman**

Roy Weissman joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor of the Practice in the Department of Management, Entrepreneurship, Consulting, and Operations in The Peter J. Tobin College of Business, after having served as a Visiting Assistant Professor last year. Prof. Weissman leverages his extensive industry experience as an entrepreneur and strategic executive to enrich the student

experience in the classroom.

Prof. Weissman's career spans two decades in the media, technology, and digital industries, where he has held senior management roles and worked with companies like Comcast, Verizon, Charter, Facebook, and Amazon. His expertise in strategic planning and resource allocation has driven business growth and competitive excellence.

Beyond his corporate and academic roles, Prof. Weissman is deeply involved in the entrepreneurial community. He has mentored more than 75 companies, including startups focused on education and technology. He has also supported University initiatives like the James and Eileen Christmas Business Plan Competition and the Pitch Johnny Competition. As a board member of the Veterans Arts & Sustainable Technologies Group, Inc., Prof. Weissman contributes to strategic planning to support veterans. His commitment to fostering entrepreneurship and technology advancement is a testament to his passion for innovation and growth.





**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 through the 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.”*



**Richard Castellino, M.S.N., R.N., AGPCNP-BC**

Richard Castellino joins the faculty of St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor/Industry Professional in the Department of Clinical Health Professions in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. He is a Board-certified nurse practitioner in adult health.

Prof. Castellino earned his M.S. in Advanced Practice Nursing from St. Joseph's University. He holds a B.S.

in Biological Sciences from Seton Hall University, and a B.S. in Nursing from Gwynedd Mercy University. He earned certificates in Executive Healthcare Leadership and Healthcare Change Management from Cornell University and is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Nursing Practice at Johns Hopkins University.

Prior to joining St. John's University, Prof. Castellino served at Manhattanville College as Clinical Assistant Professor of Nursing and Health Sciences.

Prof. Castellino has diverse experience in nursing, including medical-surgical, oncology, emergency, intensive care, and psychiatric and postoperative care, and held the position of Teaching and Research Registered Nurse in the Surgical Intensive Care unit at Stony Brook University Hospital. He is certified by the American Academy of Procedural Medicine in Platelet-Rich Plasma (PRP) injection, noninvasive facial aesthetics, and musculoskeletal ultrasound. His current research interests include trigger-point injection therapy and exosome use in PRP joint injection.



**Margaret Hickey, M.S.N., R.N., CDCES**

Margaret Hickey joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor/Industry Professional in the Department of Clinical Health Professions in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. She has extensive experience as a clinical nurse, quality specialist, and educator.

A registered nurse since 1993, Prof. Hickey worked in pre-operative and postanesthesia care before becoming an academic educator. She has taught nursing students in the clinical, laboratory, and classroom settings, and has experience in simulation-based education.

Prof. Hickey is certified as a diabetes educator, holds an M.S. in Nursing Education, and is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Nursing at Pace University. Her research interests include health literacy, diabetes management, and nursing education. As a lifelong resident of Queens, Prof. Hickey is proud to be part of the nursing faculty who are committed to building a successful baccalaureate nursing program at St. John's.



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



**Luca Landoli, Ph.D.**

Dean and Professor

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.”*



**Roberto (Rob) E. Cosentino '92SVC, '97G, '97L**

Roberto E. Cosentino joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Division of Legal Studies in The Lesley H. and William L. Collins College of Professional Studies. He graduated from St. John's University *summa cum laude* with a B.S. in Criminal Justice, and earned an M.A. in Government and Politics (concentration in Comparative Government and International Relations) and a J.D. degree (a combined degree program offered by St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the School of Law) also from St. John's University.

As a trial lawyer, managing attorney, and partner, he has resolved more than 100 cases at the trial stage and achieved numerous favorable verdicts for his clients in his 25 years of practice. Prof. Cosentino serves as a member of the Committee on Character and Fitness for the New York State Appellate Division, First Department. He is admitted to practice before the New York Bar, the Connecticut Bar, the Florida Bar, the Southern and Eastern United States District Courts, and the Supreme Court of the United States.

His research interests include tort reform, ethics, reducing the existence of two tiers of justice in the US, and comparative law, an area of law introduced to him while studying at the Università Degli Studi Di Firenze and working at a firm in Milan, Italy. He looks forward to teaching Legal Ethics, Civil Litigation, Torts, and Insurance.



**Emily (Newell) Keller, Ph.D.**

Emily (Newell) Keller joins St. John's 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 her Ph.D. in Kinesiology–Sport Management from The Ohio State University in 2016. Before joining St. John's, she was a faculty member at the University of Southern Maine and Georgia Southern University.

Dr. Keller's research centers on the intersection of sport and higher education, with a focus on international collegiate athletes, including their transition to US colleges and universities and experiences in the US workforce. Her most recent work focuses on Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) legislation and opportunities. Her preliminary research on international collegiate athletes' near exclusion from NIL opportunities was recently published in the *Journal of Sport Management*. She entered academia after several years working in intercollegiate athletics.



**Tzu-Ying (Michelle) Lo**

Tzu-Ying (Michelle) Lo joins St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Division of Criminal Justice and Homeland Security in The Lesley H. and William L. Collins College of Professional Studies. She is a doctoral candidate in Criminal Justice at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York (anticipated 2023). She holds a Master of Philosophy in Criminal Justice from the City University

of New York, a Master of Arts in Crime Prevention and Corrections from Taiwan's Central Police University, and a Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Affairs Policing from Taiwan's Central Police University. Prof. Lo served as a police officer in Taiwan for 12 years, reaching the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, before coming to the United States.

Prior to joining St. John's University, Prof. Lo was an adjunct instructor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, where she taught Quantitative Inquiry of Problems in Criminal Justice for undergraduates and Seminar in Crime Analysis and Crime Prevention for master's students. Her research interests include community policing, police legitimacy, victimization and misconduct in prisons, the victim-offender overlap, and juvenile justice.



**James E. McCabe, Ph.D.**

James E. McCabe joins the faculty of St. John's University as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Division of Criminal Justice and Homeland Security in The Lesley H. and William L. Collins College of Professional Studies. He earned his Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from the CUNY Graduate Center.

Prior to joining St. John's University, Dr. McCabe worked as an Associate Professor of Criminal Justice at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, CT He is also a 21-year veteran of the New York Police Department, where he held numerous command-level positions. His research interests include police organizational behavior, police resource allocation and deployment, police-community interactions, investigative encounters, and how the dynamics of enforcement affects crime levels, community safety, and satisfaction.



# ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY

## SCHOOL OF LAW



### **Michael A. Simons, J.D.**

Dean and John V. Brennan Professor of Law and Ethics  
School of Law

*“What defines the School of Law is the success of our graduates, and that success comes from the strength of our faculty: outstanding scholars, dedicated teachers, and experienced lawyers. The eight new faculty members we have welcomed this year bring a range of gifts that will make the Law School immeasurably better. Together, they will help propel St. John’s Law forward for years to come.”*



### **Anna Arons, J.D.**

Anna Arons joins St. John’s University School of Law as a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Law. She teaches evidence, criminal law, and courses related to family law. Prior to joining St. John’s, Prof. Arons was an Acting Assistant Professor of Lawyering and the Impact Project Director of the Family Defense Clinic at New York University (NYU) School of Law.

Before entering academia, Prof. Arons was a public defender in the family defense practice of Neighborhood Defender Services of Harlem, representing parents in cases where the government was attempting to remove their children from their care or otherwise impinging on their rights.

Prof. Arons graduated *summa cum laude* from Barnard College and then earned her J.D. from Yale Law School. After law school, she clerked for Judge Andrew Carter of the Southern District of New York.



### **Noa Ben-Asher, J.S.D.**

Noa Ben-Asher joins St. John’s University School of Law as a tenured Professor of Law. They hold an LL.B. from Bar-Ilan University School of Law (Israel) and an LL.M. and J.S.D. from New York University School of Law. Prior to joining St. John’s, Prof. Ben-Asher was the James D. Hopkins Professor of Law at Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University.

Prof. Ben-Asher’s research focuses on legal theory, social justice movements, gender and sexuality, and family law. They have authored more than 20 published law review articles and book chapters. Their forthcoming book, *Secular-Christian Social Justice*, is under contract with NYU University Press.



### **Elissa Germaine, J.D.**

Elissa Germaine joins the St. John’s University School of Law faculty as an Assistant Professor of Clinical Legal Education and the Associate Director of the Securities Arbitration Clinic.

Previously, Prof. Germaine spent 10 years teaching the Investor Rights Clinic at the Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University and four years serving as the Executive Director of John Jay Legal Services, where she managed the not-for-profit legal services firm that houses and runs Pace

Law's clinic and externship programs. She has also taught legal skills and legal writing at Pace and New York Law School.

Before academia, Prof. Germaine practiced law at Latham & Watkins LLP in San Francisco, CA, where she focused on securities litigation and arbitration, white collar defense and government investigations, and complex commercial litigation, with a significant commitment to pro bono work. She clerked for the Honorable John S. Rhoades, Sr. in the United States District Court, Southern District of California.

Prof. Germaine serves on the Investor Advisory Committee of the US Securities and Exchange Commission and recently completed four years of service on the National Arbitration and Mediation Committee of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority. She serves on the Editorial Board of the *Bar Journal* for the Public Investors Advocate Bar Association.

Prof. Germaine holds a B.A. from Dartmouth College and a J.D. from Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law.

#### **Philip Lee, J.D., Ed.M., Ed.D.**



Philip Lee joins the St. John's University School of Law faculty as a tenured Professor of Law. He previously taught at UDC David A. Clarke School of Law for 10 years, where he taught Property, Constitutional Law, Education Law, and Race and the Law. His scholarship focuses on academic freedom, diversity and educational access, higher education law, and property law and race. His work has appeared in a wide variety of law reviews, including *Emory*, *Ohio State*, *West Virginia*, *Utah*, and *St. Louis*.

Prof. Lee earned his J.D. at Harvard Law School and his master's and doctorate in education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. He also served as Assistant Director of Admissions at Harvard Law School, where he led the office's diversity outreach initiatives for four years. Before joining academia, he was a trial attorney in New York City—first in the New York City Law Department and later at a white-collar criminal defense firm.

#### **Mark C. Niles, J.D.**



Mark C. Niles joined St. John's University School of Law as a tenured Professor of Law in the Spring of 2023. He teaches and specializes in civil procedure, administrative law, constitutional law, and governmental liability. After earning a B.A. from Wesleyan University and a J.D. from Stanford Law School, Prof. Niles served as a clerk for the Honorable

Francis Murnaghan, Jr., of the US Fourth Circuit; as a litigation associate at the Washington, DC, firm of Hogan and Hartson; and as a staff attorney on the appellate staff of the Civil Division of the US Department of Justice.

Prof. Niles spent 12 years as a Professor at the American University Washington College of Law, the last six as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. From 2010 to 2013, he served as Dean and Professor of Law at Seattle University School of Law, after which he returned to the Washington College of Law in 2013. Beginning in 2019, he served for three years as Professor of Law at the Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University.

Prof. Niles has published numerous articles and essays on subjects including the Ninth Amendment, federal tort liability, civil and municipal liability for prosecutorial misconduct, and the impact of dramatic public events on the evolution of regulatory administration.

#### **Colleen E. Parker '03L**



Colleen E. Parker joins St. John's University School of Law as an Assistant Professor of Legal Writing. After earning a J.D. from St. John's University's School of Law *cum laude* and as a member of the *American Bankruptcy Institute Law Review*, she began her legal career as a commercial litigation associate with a large firm in New York City. After seven years as a litigator, she transitioned from litigation to focus

on special education law. She had her own firm and represented parents of children with disabilities in disputes with school districts and counseled them on their child's right to a free and appropriate public education.

Prof. Parker was also certified as an impartial hearing officer for the New York City Department of Education, where she heard disputes between the New York City Board of Education and parents. Most recently, she worked at St. John's School of Law as an Assistant Director of Career Development and taught Legal Writing I and II, Public Interest Drafting, and the Externship Seminar as an Adjunct Professor.

#### **Anjali Pathmanathan, J.D.**



Anjali Pathmanathan joins St. John's University School of Law as an Assistant Professor of Legal Writing. She comes to St. John's after earning her J.D. from Boston College Law School and serving nearly 10 years as a public interest attorney in New York. During that time, she worked predominantly as a public defender, beginning her career as a trial attorney for the Criminal Defense Practice of the Legal Aid

Society. She also worked as a program associate for the Vera Institute of Justice before becoming an appellate defense attorney for the Center for Appellate Litigation. As a senior appellate counsel for the past several years, Prof. Pathmanathan represented indigent clients convicted of high-level felonies on their post-conviction claims and direct appeals before the First Department of the Appellate Division.

Prof. Pathmanathan previously taught Appellate Advocacy at Brooklyn Law School as an adjunct professor and is interested in focusing her research on issues related to due process and the criminal legal system.



**ST. JOHN'S**  
**UNIVERSITY**  
UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES



**Abel Rodriguez, J.D.**

Abel Rodríguez joins St. John's University School of Law as a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Law. He holds a J.D. from Penn Law School, where he was a Toll Public Interest Scholar. Prior to joining St. John's, he taught at Villanova Law, Penn Law, and Cabrini University. His practice experience includes serving as the immigration specialist at the Defender Association and staff attorney at Nationalities

Service Center in Philadelphia, where he specialized in deportation defense for the formerly convicted.

Prof. Rodriguez's research focuses on race, migration, and the intersection of criminal and immigration law. His current research examines the inherent violence in the immigration enforcement system. His recent publications include "Lethal Immigration Enforcement" (2023), *The Road to Sanctuary: Building Power and Community in Philadelphia* (2022), and "Moral Theory and Turpitudinous Crimes in Immigration Jurisprudence" (2019).

He also holds a Master of Theological Studies from Harvard University and a Master of Arts in Latin American Studies from Stanford University.



**Caroline Fuchs '04MLS**

*University Librarian, Dean of Libraries, and Professor  
St. John's University Libraries*

*"The University Libraries is committed to upraising our students' academic success by honoring the diverse voices of scholarship in our communities as a means of empowering our students and faculty to freely discover, create, and share new knowledge."*



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