

Humanties @ work in the Community, Health & Tech Industries

Cross-Disciplinary Conference
7th edition

*Cultivating Compassion, Civil Discourse,
& Embracing the Power of Language*

University Club

April 12, 2024

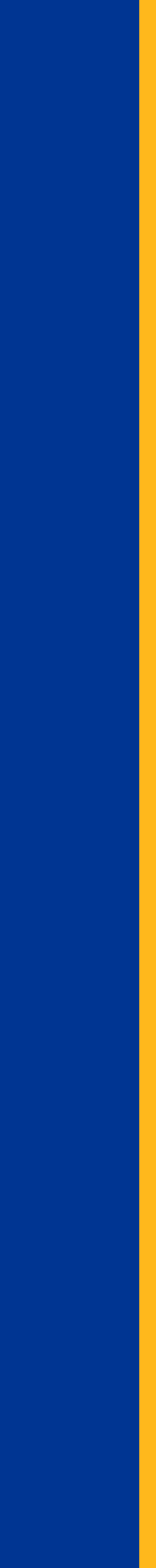
With compassion, empathy, and cultural humility as our guiding values, we strive to improve life and work for all by fostering an inclusive environment where everyone has the opportunity to develop essential skills for success and feels a profound sense of belonging.



UPMC HEALTH PLAN



UPMC | MAGEE-WOMENS
HOSPITAL





Humanities @ Work in the Community, Health
& Tech Industries

***Cultivating Compassion, Civil Discourse, &
Embracing the Power of Language***

7th Edition Cross-Disciplinary Conference Program
April 12, 2024

The University Club
123 University Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15260

Contact Soudi for all questions: soudia@pitt.edu



<https://www.linguistics.pitt.edu/2024-humanities-at-work-disciplinary-conference>

Welcome,

We are delighted to welcome you to the 7th edition of our cross-disciplinary conference related to the *"Humanities at Work in the Community, Health, and Tech Industries"*. This gathering serves as a convergence point for the University of Pittsburgh's diverse schools, healthcare institutions, and community and tech industry partners. One of our primary goals is to expand educational opportunities for students and interns facilitating an appreciation for the application of humanities perspectives, skills, and analytical approaches, while also crucially increasing opportunities for them in the marketplace, and fostering creativity and innovation.

At the very core of this cross-disciplinary conference, we also emphasize building relationships, connections and fostering empathy to improve life and work for all. We recognize that regardless of our specialization, our collective efforts must strive to create a healthy, safe, diverse, and inclusive environment for everyone, and the humanities play a vital role in this respect. The humanities help us to hear, connect with, and develop empathy for the experiences of others, and to center the voices of those most vulnerable to exclusion. Through the humanities, we gain a deeper understanding of the world we live in, increasing our chances to solve problems, make new discoveries, and build trust with the communities we serve.

As Chancellor Joan Gabel highlighted early this year, the University of Pittsburgh is firmly rooted in our core values: community, compassion, and a welcoming spirit. This year's timely theme, "Cultivating Compassion, Civil Discourse, and Embracing the Power of Language," in alignment with the Year of Discourse and Dialogue, aims to establish profound connections, promote inclusivity, and enhance the overall well-being of individuals and communities. Our aim is to cultivate a profound understanding of how compassion, when embraced, can yield a positive impact on our community and transcend the barriers that often divide us. Furthermore, the theme recognizes the inherent power of language for effective cross-cultural communication and understanding.

Our cross-disciplinary conferences are specifically branded to serve as a hub or gathering point, bringing together alumni, interns, students, faculty, staff, community, and industry partners to engage in conversations and highlight cross-disciplinary work between the humanities and other fields, both inside and outside academia. Our cooperative environment aims to facilitate the sharing of knowledge through research and education. When we organize an event like this, we set ambitious goals that extend beyond the conference day, and even the journey towards the conference becomes an opportunity to renew relationships, establish new partnerships, or expand existing ones. We are grateful for the valuable contributions of all attendees, who took time out of their busy schedules and traveled from various parts of the country to support education and training of students, host interns, and engage in work and research to empower diverse communities. We highly value our brand and partnerships and view these annual gatherings as an opportunity to cultivate an interdisciplinary community of practice.

Student success is a major focus in our cross-disciplinary conferences. We highlight experiential learning opportunities for students and concrete ways in which we can integrate the humanities with technology, medicine, engineering, and other related fields. This is particularly important now as the humanities, despite their values highlighted above, continue to face an uphill battle in the employment sector. Going by Einstein's metaphor that all disciplines of human knowledge are "branches from the same tree", we want to engage our students in cross-disciplinary training opportunities to prepare them for versatile careers (The National Academies of Science, 2018; Harper, 2018). This is especially important now considering changing trends in employment. Teaching them skills like creativity, critical thinking and collaboration will serve them in almost any career they pursue.

The planning of this cross-disciplinary conference has been a culmination of several years of work, research, and community partnership. It builds on the success of the Humanities in Health Initiative at Pitt, which was launched in 2016, and the existing internship program within the Dietrich School of Arts & Sciences. In addition, the Board on Higher Education and Workforce of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine conducted a study in 2018 focused on better understanding the impact of an integrated educational approach on students, which has further informed our methodology. The University of Pittsburgh has a strong emphasis on the value of humanities and cross-disciplinary work. Furthermore, the goals of this conference align with the Strategic Plan for the University of Pittsburgh, particularly with regards to creating an institutional environment and culture that celebrate interdisciplinary collaborations and team accomplishments.

Acknowledgments: Organizing Committee and Contributors

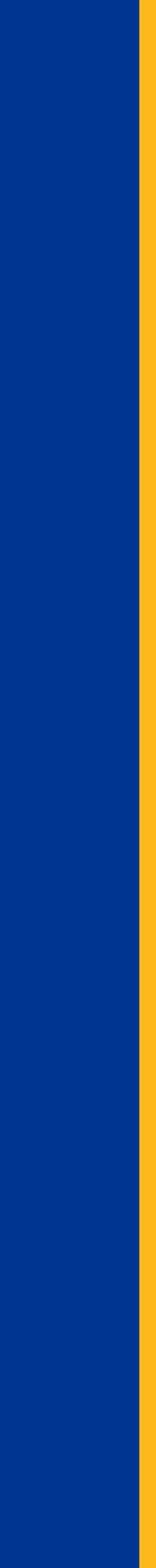
I would like to take a moment to thank everyone who made this conference possible. Many people contributed time and effort into planning it from its conception to today's final product. The organizing committee exemplified the spirit of collegial partnership, and I am particularly very thankful for the outstanding and engaged collaboration of Dr. Judy Chang and Dr. Gayle Rogers. I am also grateful to my department chair, Dr. Scott Kiesling, and all my colleagues. This project has supported students and interns to expand their horizons through diverse cross-disciplinary collaborations and has provided opportunities for all of us — faculty, students, staff, and community partners — to push boundaries and come together to solve problems facing our society. Today, we will also acknowledge, with awards, the exceptional contributions of our partners to our internship program and the Humanities @ Work project.

We were able to organize this conference and offer it at no cost to you thanks to generous support from our sponsors: UPMC Health Plan, The Forbes Funds, Magee Womens Hospital, Year of Discourse and Dialogue, the University of Pittsburgh's David C. Frederick Honors College, the Department of English, the Department of Linguistics, the Department of Ob/Gyn and Reproductive Sciences, Edge Fearless Learning, and the Dietrich School of Arts & Sciences. Additionally, I am thankful to all our speakers today who took time from their busy schedules to share their experiences and insight. Some of our speakers and attendees have traveled from far away to be here. I am thankful to all my colleagues, students, and interns. I am grateful that my team has been awarded one of the first ever Pitt Seed Grants to grow this program and to contribute to the strategic mission directly and actively at Pitt. This institutional endorsement has allowed us to grow since then.

The following people helped bring all the pieces together: University Center for Teaching and Learning; Alexandra Rodwick, Dorothy Sherman, and Janine Walker (Event Coordinators); Dann Varley (Web Developer); the Blue and Gold Society; Delaney Hawk (Department Administrator); Kristin Hopkins (Fiscal Director, Humanities Division); JJ Collins and Danielle Olcott (University Club Conference Services); and conference volunteers.

Finally, two students, Harmony Arungwa and Zainab Kabir, were recently recruited as Conference Note Takers and tasked with capturing the essence of the conference through their creative writing.

**Abdesalam Soudi, PhD, Project Director,
on behalf of the Conference Organizing Committee**



Opening Remarks:



Joe McCarthy, PhD

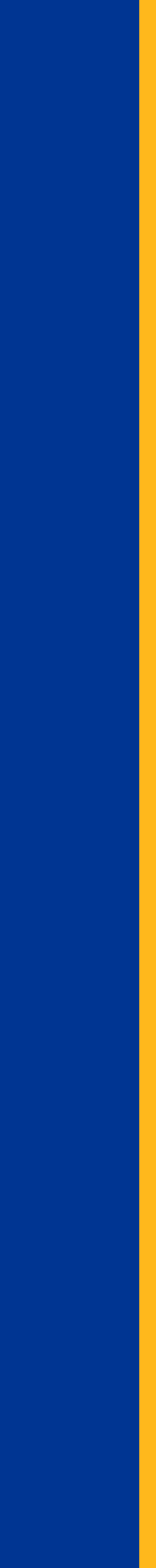
Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor
University of Pittsburgh

As provost and senior vice chancellor, Joseph J. McCarthy has primary responsibility for the University of Pittsburgh's academic mission, including supporting scholarly excellence among more than 5,700 faculty members and academic success among nearly 34,000 undergraduate, graduate and professional students on all five campuses.

Prior to this role, McCarthy served as vice provost for undergraduate studies, focusing on enhancing the academic experience of Pitt's undergraduates. This work included developing and facilitating programs to improve student satisfaction and retention, student success, and the overall learning environment (quality of programs, dissemination of opportunities, undergraduate advising and mentoring, and diversity of perspectives and people). In addition, he and his team coordinated the review of programs and policies affecting undergraduate education and collaborated with University committees, including the Provost's Advisory Committee on Undergraduate Programs and the Enrollment Management Steering Committee.

McCarthy is also the William Kepler Whiteford Professor in the Swanson School of Engineering's Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering. A member of Pitt's faculty since 1998, he has been recognized for his contributions to teaching and curriculum development and for his leadership of undergraduate research programs. In 2008, he earned the Carnegie Science University Educator Award for developing and implementing the innovative "Pillars" curriculum that reshaped undergraduate education in chemical engineering. His other accolades include the Swanson School's Outstanding Educator Award (2012) and the Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award (2015).

McCarthy holds a PhD in chemical engineering from Northwestern University and a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from the University of Notre Dame.



Keynote:



Anantha Shekhar, MD, PhD

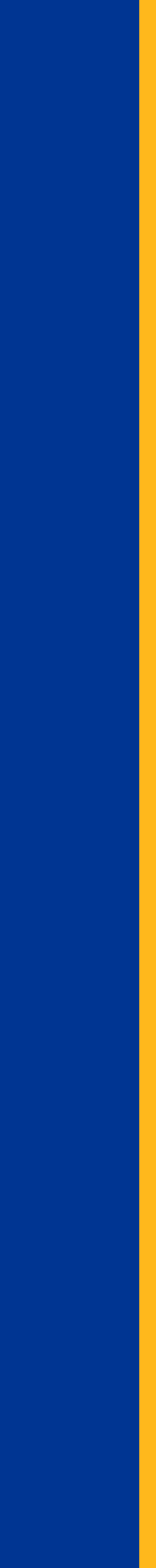
Senior Vice Chancellor for the Health Sciences, John and Gertrude Petersen
Dean, School of Medicine
University of Pittsburgh

Anantha Shekhar is senior vice chancellor for the health sciences and John and Gertrude Petersen Dean of the School of Medicine. He is a nationally recognized educator, researcher and entrepreneur with major contributions in medicine and life sciences.

At Pitt, Shekhar leads all six health sciences schools that, for more than a century, have led education and research in their respective fields, propelling scientific discovery and clinical innovation that advance human health. Education at the schools of the health sciences—Dental Medicine, Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, and Public Health—emphasizes individualized curricula and interprofessional team-based instruction to train students in the core competencies of their chosen health professions, while also preparing them as advocates, innovators and stewards of responsible, inclusive health care delivery. Shekhar's responsibilities include shaping the careers of more than 6,200 faculty and staff members, as well as the academic success of approximately 6,000 students annually, all while supporting Pitt's position as a top-ranked recipient of National Institutes of Health (NIH) research funding. He also works closely with UPMC, a \$24 billion world-renowned health care provider and insurer, to ensure that health care delivery, biomedical research and education—already among the nation's elite—continue to flourish.

Innovation, transformation and successful collaborations across the private, public, and philanthropic sectors have defined Shekhar's distinguished career. His areas of expertise include basic and clinical research on the effects of stress, stress-induced psychiatric disorders, and clinical psychopharmacology. His laboratory developed several translational models for psychiatric disorders and identified novel targets for neuropsychiatric disorder treatments now in commercial development. Grants from NIH, private foundations and commercial collaborations have supported his research. He has coauthored more than 250 original scientific papers published in leading basic science and clinical journals and is a founder of multiple biotech companies developing novel therapies.

Shekhar is an elected member of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Forum on Drug Discovery, Development, and Translation. Shekhar, who was born in India, earned his medical degree at St. John's Medical College, Bangalore, and PhD in neuroscience at Indiana University.



Plenary Session:



Jeannette South-Paul, MD, DHL(Hon), FAAFP

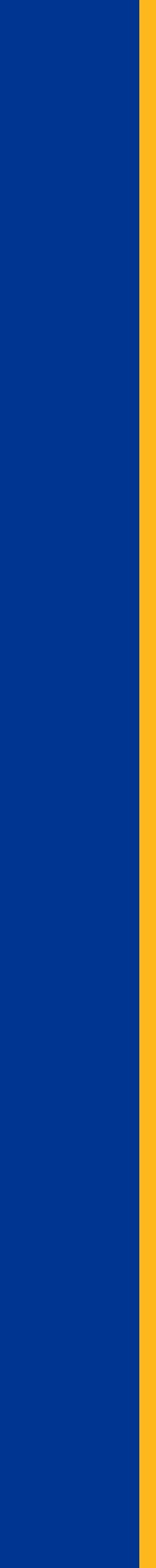
EVP and Provost
Meharry Medical College

Dr. Jeannette E. South-Paul joined Meharry Medical College as the Executive Vice President and Provost in December 2021. Prior to this appointment, she was the Andrew W. Mathieson UPMC Professor and Chair of the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine from 2001 – 2020 retiring from Pitt in 2020. Prior to joining the faculty at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and UPMC, she served as a Medical Corps officer in the U.S. Army, retiring in 2001 while serving as Chair of Family Medicine at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences and previously as Vice President for Minority Affairs at the same institution.

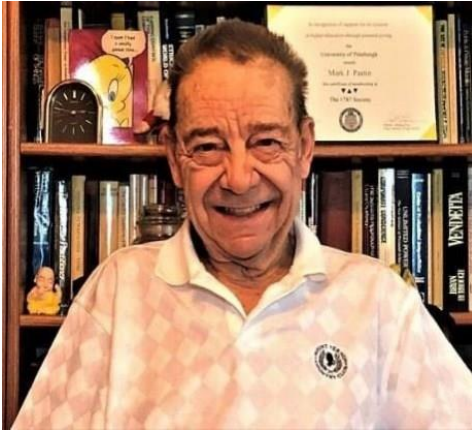
Dr. South-Paul has served in leadership positions in the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM), the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), and the Association of Departments of Family Medicine (ADFM) to include serving as President of the Uniformed Services Academy of Family Physicians (USAFP) and the STFM.

After more than 10 years of service as a member of the Meharry Medical College Board of Trustees, Dr. South-Paul stepped off the Board to begin her new leadership role. She is excited to collaborate with the academic leaders of the four schools (Medicine, Dentistry, Graduate Studies, and Applied Computational Sciences) of this historic institution as she continues to serve in academe. She is a member of the National Academy of Medicine, the Gold Humanism Society, and the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honorary Society

Dr. South-Paul is a sought-after speaker by academic, clinical and community organizations as well as health industry groups who are seeking perspectives on health disparities, workforce diversity, leadership and racial and social justice.



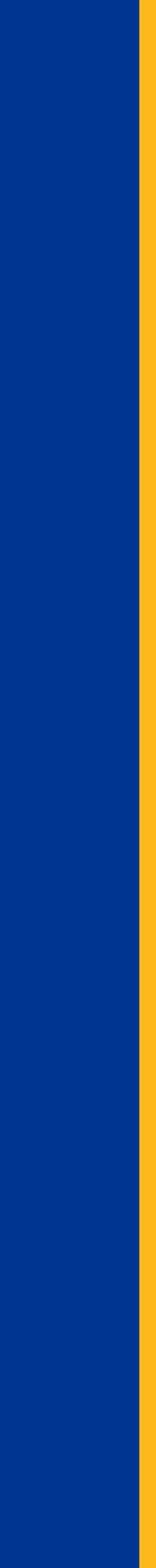
Plenary Session:



Mark J. Pastin, PhD
President
Council of Ethical Organizations

Mark J. Pastin, Ph.D., founder and President of the Council of Ethical Organizations, has advised major corporations and governments on significant ethics and compliance issues since 1973. In addition to his experience as an ethics and compliance advisor, Pastin has served as a member of the faculty and administrator at universities including Indiana University, the University of Michigan and Johns Hopkins. The Council is a non-profit organization dedicated to practical approaches to ethics and compliance issues. The Health Ethics Trust is one of the Council's well known operating entities.

Mr. Pastin received his B.A. (summa cum laude) from the University of Pittsburgh and his Ph.D. from Harvard University (Lewis Award). Prior to serving as President of the Council, he served as Professor of Management and Director of the Lincoln Center for Ethics at Arizona State University where he is currently Professor of Management Emeritus. In his academic role, Mr. Pastin authored numerous peer reviewed articles and several books. He has served on several corporate boards and currently serves on five such boards.



Plenary Session:

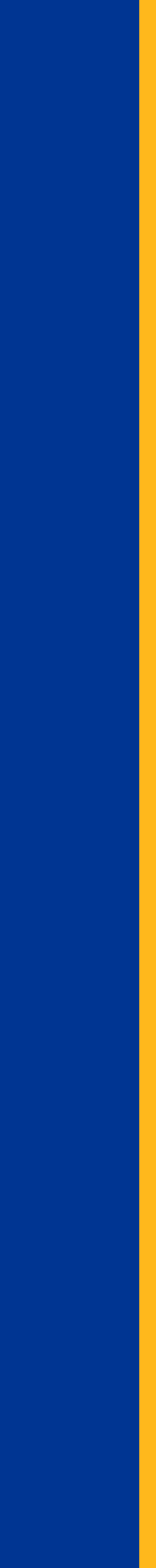


Fred Brown
President and CEO
The Forbes Funds

Fred Brown is President & CEO of The Forbes Funds, a supporting organization of The Pittsburgh Foundation, and a philanthropic organization focused on strengthening the management capacity and impact of community nonprofits in the Pittsburgh area. Mr. Brown previously served as the President & CEO of the Homewood Children's Village, a non-profit that takes a multi-generational approach to improving quality of life in Pittsburgh's Homewood neighborhood; and previously worked at the Kingsley Association developing green/sustainable communities through holistic visioning, resident capacity building, community empowerment, micro/macro planning and sustainable redevelopment implementation.

Mr. Brown has been a climate justice trainer, environmental justice leader, policy analyst, adjunct professor, dean of students, teacher, coach, mentor, certified Juvenile Justice Judge's trainer (TOT), certified conflict mediation and resolution trainer (TOT), master consultant, supervisor, director, and executive director of non-profit organizations since 1987.

He has helped to rewrite public policy through the Transportation Equity Network (WIN) that revised federal guidelines regarding public participation and transportation equity and recently helped designed a web-based environmental/energy reduction tool that teaches community residents how to strategically and pragmatically reduce their energy use through weatherization efforts, retrofits, alternative energy practices and monitoring energy use; creating models for green sustainable communities-via the Imagine Larimer Software and the use of SMART Board technology. A frequent speaker, trainer, coach, mentor, and consultant; Mr. Brown has a BS in Education from Indiana University of PA, MSW from the University of Pittsburgh, and was a doctoral candidate working on a PhD in SW and an MPH from the University of Pittsburgh.

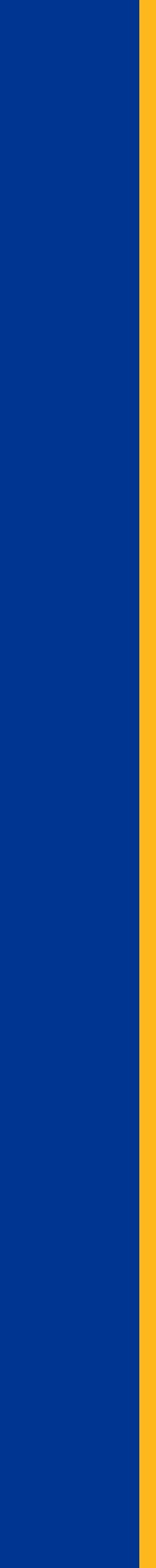


Plenary Session:



Jack Sidnell, PhD
Professor of Anthropology
University of Toronto

Jack Sidnell (Toronto, 1998) is professor of anthropology at the University of Toronto where he specializes in the comparative, ethnographic and historical study of social interaction and language use. In 2022, he published, *Consequences of Language: From Primary to Enhanced Intersubjectivity* with MIT Press (co-authored with NJ Enfield). His forthcoming book is titled, *Language Reform and Revolutionary Consciousness: Remaking Self and Society under Socialism in Vietnam*.



Recognition of Industry, Community Partners and Collaborators

We are very grateful to our partners and colleagues for working collaboratively to build strong and lasting relationships with our program, as well as providing interns with practical work experience, mentoring, and professional development opportunities. We also appreciate that these opportunities translate into supporting the talent needs of various host organizations and providing them with a humanities perspective. We take immense pride in our internship partnership.

To date, we have recognized 18 partners for their exceptional dedication and collaborative efforts. Today, we carry on our tradition of recognizing the exceptional contributions of our partners and colleagues to our internship program and the humanities @ work project. Recipients of these awards will be announced during lunch.

Outstanding Industry Partner Award
Outstanding Collaborator Award
Outstanding Community Partner Award

Linguistics Research and Internship Support Fund

The Pitt Linguistics Internship Program is a pioneer in the country in preparing students for challenging careers where linguistics is part of the solution, training them in a supportive environment, and strengthening Pitt Linguistics-industry partnerships to facilitate the exchange of knowledge through research and education. These internship experiences are highly impactful and play a pivotal role in empowering students to secure employment post-graduation.

However, not all students have uniform access to these opportunities, especially in cases where compensation is not provided, and students may have financial responsibilities to manage. Considering this, we established this Scholarship Fund in 2022 to provide support and broaden accessibility

We are very grateful to all our donors. Thanks to their support, we are excited to share that we have already awarded 9 scholarships and intend to grant even more in the upcoming years.

Fall 2022 Internship Grant Recipients:

Caiden Dietz
Mayah Mbangah
Meghan Bucheral
Tarna Batelman

Spring and Fall 2023 Internship Grant Recipients:

Ava Szalla (Undergraduate)
Nicholas Wixom (Undergraduate)
Goldie Segol (Graduate)
Hana Howell (Undergraduate)
Clio Begnal (Graduate)

Office Hours with Community & Industry Partners (Opportunities for Students & Interns)

Drop-in Office Hours

April 12, 2024

Theresa Kowcheck

Director of Literacy, Edge

Location: The University Club Library

8:30am- 9:00am

Cristen Hughes

Head of Solutions Architecture Amazon Web Services

Location: The University Club Library

11:15am - 11:45am

Randi Moore

Taxonomist

Govini

Location: The University Club Library

8:30am – 9:00am

Derry Moore

Lead Linguist

Decodis

Location: The University Club Library

11:15am- 11:45am

Janelle J. Christensen

Medical Anthropologist

Project Manager

Division of Geriatric Medicine

Location: The University Club Library

2:30pm- 3:00pm

Morning Speech Events

8:00	Registration, Networking and Continental Breakfast (Ballroom A)
8:50	Conference Overview: Abdesalam Soudi, PhD
9:00	Opening Remarks: Joe McCarthy, PhD, Provost & Senior Vice Chancellor, University of Pittsburgh Executive Sponsor Remarks: UPMC Health Plan
9:30	Keynote Speech: Words Matter: Language, Compassion and Fostering Community. Anantha Shekhar, MD, PhD, Senior Vice Chancellor for the Health Sciences John and Gertrude Petersen Dean School of Medicine, University of Pittsburgh
10:15	Snack Break
10:30	Plenary Session: Fostering Cultural Humility Jeannette South-Paul, MD, DHL(Hon), FAAFP EVP and Provost Meharry College
11:15	Plenary Session: The “Dumb” Path from the Humanities to Business Mark Pastin, PhD President Council of Ethical Organizations
12:00	Lunch - Buffet (Ballroom A) Remarks by Nicola Foote, PhD, Dean, David C. Frederick Honors College, Professor, Pitt Graduate School of Public and International Affairs Remarks by Dr. Judy Chang, MD MPH President & CEO of The Forbes Funds, Fred Brown: Transformative Leadership Recognition of Partners: Scott Kiesling, PhD, and Abdesalam Soudi, PhD

Humanities @ Work in the Community, Health & Tech Industries
Afternoon Speech Events

1:00- 1:45	<p>Plenary Session: On Understanding and the powers of language</p> <p>Jack Sidnell, PhD, Professor of Anthropology, University of Toronto</p> <p>Speaker Introduction: Scott Kiesling, PhD</p>
2:00-3:00	<p>Cross-Disciplinary Panels: Exploring Interconnected Discourses</p> <p>Panel 1: Compassion in Community</p> <p>Moderator: Abdesalam Soudi, PhD</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Catherine G. Cordova, PhD, Director of Community Engaged Learning - David C. Frederick Honors College• Ena Lebel, Esq. Executive Director, Pittsburgh Legal Diversity & Inclusion Coalition• Angela Williams, Executive Director - Charles Street Area Corporation• Cristen Hughes, Head of Solutions Architecture, AWS• Susan Baida, Executive Director, Jamie Scanlon, Project Manager, The Collaboratory Against Hate
3:00-3:15	<p>Snack Break</p>
3:15- 4:15	<p>Panel 2: Exploring The Power of Language & Narrative</p> <p>Moderators: Judy Chang, MD MPH; Abdesalam Soudi, PhD</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Saket Rao, Behavioral Scientist & Tony Jiang, Senior Behavioral Science Analyst-HRW, London, England, NYC, USA• Alisa Khan, MD, MPH, Director, Language Equity Program, Boston Children's Hospital; Assistant Professor, Harvard Medical School• Ashley Karlin, PhD, Senior Technical Writer - Salesforce• Gaetan Sgro, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine - Division of General Internal Medicine, University of Pittsburgh• Theresa Kowcheck, Director of Literacy, Edge

4:15-5:15

Panel 3: Unite and Ignite: Engaging Students, Interns, Alumni, and Partners

Moderators: A. Soudi, PhD & Gayle Rogers, PhD

Panelists - Pitt undergraduate & graduate interns:

- Riley Hesbacher, Undergraduate Intern
- Ebonee Rice-Nguyen
- James Paul, Undergraduate Intern
- Mary Kathleen Dryer, Graduate Intern
- Harmony Arungwa, Undergraduate Intern

Office Hours with Industry and Community Partners; Check page 20

- Theresa Kowcheck, Director of Literacy - Edge
- Cristen Hughes, Head of Solutions Architecture - Amazon Web Services
- Randi Moore, Taxonomist - Govini
- Derry Moore, Lead Linguist - Decodis
- Janelle J. Christensen, Medical Anthropologist - Project Manager, Division of Geriatric Medicine

5:15

Closing

Featured Speakers

Ena Lebel, Esq.

Executive Director, Pittsburgh Legal Diversity & Inclusion Coalition



Ena has the firm belief that we can inspire, empower, and connect people to change the world. As the Executive Director of the Pittsburgh Legal Diversity & Inclusion Coalition, a non-profit organization committed to increasing the diversity of legal talent in Pittsburgh, she is a champion of social justice, equality, and inclusion. Ena has served as the PLDIC's Executive Director since July 2021 and seen the organization's membership grow from 40 law firms and legal departments to over 60 entities.

Ena is a dedicated and versatile client-service professional with extensive experience across non-profit, legal, and consulting environments. Recently, she served as a Project Consultant for Common Impact, a national non-profit organization that connects corporate employees to nonprofit organizations with proven models to tackle the greatest challenges our communities face.

Ena is also an advocate for women's rights as a Board Trustee at Women's Law Project, a nonprofit public interest legal organization working to defend and advance the rights of women, girls, and LGBTQ+ people in Pennsylvania and beyond, and as Board Chair for Healthy Start, Inc., an organization supporting infant and maternal health in the Black community.

Ena started her legal career as a corporate attorney, first with Drinker Biddle & Reath (now Faegre Drinker) in Philadelphia and most recently, in Pittsburgh, with Strassburger McKenna Gutnick & Gefsky. She has experience advising for-profit and non-profit clients on how to maximize their organizational initiatives, strengthen their corporate governance practices, and grow their businesses, all while complying with the law.

Ena received her undergraduate degree from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and her law degree from the Washington College of Law at American University. She is a native of suburban Cleveland, Ohio and has lived in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania for over a decade where she currently resides in the Squirrel Hill neighborhood with her husband, daughter, and son.

Tony Jiang, MSc

Senior Behavioral Science Analyst – HRW New York



Tony Jiang is part of the behavioral science team at Healthcare Research Worldwide (HRW), where he is tasked with deciphering the how's and the why's behind HCP and patient decision-making. His role consists of advising clients on the importance of language in driving behavior change. With a blend of industry experience and a MSc in Behavioral Economics, Tony offers a unique perspective on how psychological and linguistic factors can influence healthcare outcomes.

Cristen Hughes

WWSO | Solutions Architecture Leader AWS Industries | Telco Amazon Web Services



Cristen Hughes is the Head of Solutions Architecture at Amazon Web Services (AWS). She has been a leader in technology for over 25 years, focused primarily on big data, analytics, AI/ML, containers, and modernization solutions for customers. Cristen earned a Bachelor's degree in Statistics and Psychology from Penn State University. She worked at Price Waterhouse for 3 years, and SAP for 20 years. At SAP, Cristen led a global team responsible for Data Architecture, Value Engineering, Cloud Customer Success, and AI/ML. In her 4 years at AWS, Cristen has led multiple Specialist Solutions Architecture teams, helping to solve the most strategic customers challenges across Enterprise, Gaming, ISV, Digitally Native Business, Startups, and Global Industries. Cristen lives in Pittsburgh, PA with her 3 kids (ages 17, 15, 13), her husband, Clay, and 2 French Bulldogs. She spends her winters on the ski slopes, and her summers on the soccer and field hockey fields.

Susan Baida, Executive Director, The Collaboratory Against Hate

Susan Baida is the inaugural Executive Director of the Collaboratory Against Hate (CAH), a research and action center that seeks to develop effective interventions to inhibit every stage in the creation and growth of extremist hate as well as to minimize its impacts. A partnership between Carnegie Mellon University and University of Pittsburgh, CAH leverages the strengths of both campuses to develop and support innovative multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary and cross-university research that translates into real time interventions. Susan works with academic leaders and external partners to build multidisciplinary research, foster growth, fundraise and manage daily operations.

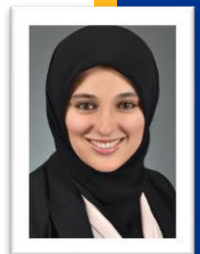


Prior to this role, she served as Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at UPMC where she developed and implemented systemwide strategy for its 40+ hospitals and 92,000+ employees that addressed increasing workforce diversity, minimizing health inequities for underserved communities, and deepening community partnerships. During the first half of her career, she was a global marketing executive for Fortune 500 companies in the cosmetics and hotel industry and then left corporate life to co-found a healthcare technology venture addressing the needs of family caregivers of aging parents inspired by her personal experience. Parallel to her career, she volunteered in her community serving as director for Manhattan Community Board, an advisor to the Mayor's office where she chaired the Human Services committee and passed resolutions to address affordable housing, same sex marriage, class size reduction, homelessness, etc.

She currently serves on the board of directors for Women's Center and Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh, La Promesa Foundation, the Pittsburgh Women's Alliance, and the Pine Richland Anti-Racist Parent Coalition. She graduated from Emory University with a BA in Liberal Studies. She received executive leadership training from Vassar College through Estee Lauder Companies and DEI leadership training from Inclusant, LLC.

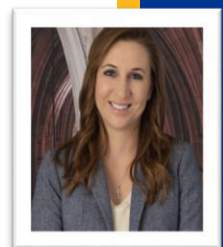
Alisa Khan, MD, MPH, Boston Children's & Harvard Medical School

Alisa Khan, MD, MPH is a pediatric hospitalist and health services researcher at Boston Children's and an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School. She studies family engagement, family communication, patient safety, and language equity. She is the PI of two ongoing multicenter RCTs, an AHRQ-funded R01 of a multilingual family safety reporting tool (I-SHARE) and a PCORI-funded study of an intervention to improve communication and safety for hospitalized children who speak languages other than English (I-PASS LISTEN).



Catherine Cordova, Ph.D Director of Community Engaged Learning David C. Frederick Honors College, University of Pittsburgh

Dr. Catherine Cordova serves as Director of Community Engaged Learning in the David C. Frederick Honors College at the University of Pittsburgh. She has leadership and teaching experience in higher education at the public university and community college settings, and has held leadership roles in the non-profit sector and various organizations. Dr. Cordova has extensive experience in curriculum development and instruction as it relates to community engaged learning, career decision-making self-efficacy, and mentoring. As President Emeritus of the International Mentoring Association, Dr. Cordova has partnered with the U.S. and Bolivian Embassies to conduct international mentor training. She has also designed and overseen various programs meant to assist students in their transition to college and understands the important intersection of college and career skills. Additionally, Dr. Cordova has served as Vice President of Strategic Initiatives and Educational Impact at a non-profit focused on higher education access for underserved and migrant worker communities.



Derry Moore, Lead Linguist, Decodis



Derry Moore is the Lead Linguist at Decodis, a social research and impact measurement company. As head of speech signal analysis, he uses acoustic-emotion analyses and sociolinguistics to help Decodis's clients better understand their beneficiaries in their own voices. He has applied these skills to speakers of English, Spanish, Guarani, Hindi, Tamil, Telegu, Bangla, Xhosa, Zulu, Sotho and Afrikaans and continues to expand his work in different languages. Derry also has extensive experience in writing instruction, coaching, and consulting.

Theresa Kowcheck, Director of Literacy, Edge



As director of literacy, Theresa develops Edge's curriculum, trains teachers, and oversees program development. She has 18 years of experience, working with students who have dyslexia and other language-based learning differences. She has been with Edge for 12 years, while it was formerly The Center for Multisensory Learning. Theresa received her bachelor's and master's degrees in special education from West Liberty University. As a Dyslexia Practitioner, she is certified to train teachers in structured literacy at the institutional level. She has been training with the Orton-Gillingham method since 2007, and as a Certified Level practitioner, she is authorized to provide Orton-Gillingham instruction. Theresa is currently a fellow-in-training, learning about diagnostic instruction, supervision, and curriculum development, so she can train and certify teachers in the Orton-Gillingham approach.

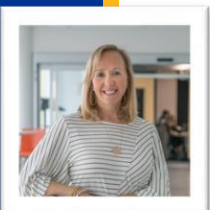
"What is so outstanding about Edge, is that we are serving a population of students that would not necessarily have the means to afford or get to our after-school and summer programs. We have developed educational opportunities for individuals to learn about the science of reading and structured literacy. We provide personalized and ongoing training for the tutors we hire, to ensure all the students we serve will receive the support and resources they need in order to accelerate their skills for learning to read. I have been blessed to have taught hundreds of children in a language that they can understand as they are."

Ashley Karlin, Ph.D., Senior Technical Writer - Salesforce



Dr. Ashley Karlin is a senior technical writer at Salesforce and is currently based in Raleigh, North Carolina. In 2021, after nearly a decade as a professor at the University of Southern California where she taught and studied writing for the health sciences, Dr. Karlin took a leap and transitioned to a career in technical writing. She loves to share about her experiences as a career changer and humanist in tech. She holds a Ph.D. in Rhetoric from Carnegie Mellon University, and is excited to be back "home" to share her path with the next generation of humanities students in Pittsburgh.

Jamie Scanlon, Project Manager, Collaboratory Against Hate (CAH)



Jamie Scanlon is Project Manager for the Collaboratory Against Hate (CAH) where she collaborates with academic, community, corporate, government and philanthropic organizations to foster both research and actions dedicated to combating extremist hate groups. Jamie began working at Carnegie Mellon University in 2018 and has earned numerous awards and recognitions for her work with CAH and CMU's CyLab. Jamie holds the Project Management Professional (PMP)® certification, a degree in Business Management, and is currently finishing a degree in Policy & Management at CMU.

Saket Rao, MSc, Behavioral Scientist – HRW London, England

Saket, a behavioral scientist at Healthcare Research Worldwide (HRW), specializes in the intersection of behavioral science and linguistic analysis. With a focus on healthcare market research, his expertise lies in deciphering human behavior through language nuances. Saket holds an MSc from the London School of Economics, where his distinguished dissertation on linguistic markers of suicide ideation earned him a distinction.



Angela Williams, Executive Director - Charles Street Area Corporation

Angela Williams is the Executive Director of Charles Street Area Corporation, a nonprofit community-based development organization on the Northside of Pittsburgh. Angela earned two Master degrees from Duquesne University in Business Administration and Corporate Communication, and a Bachelor's of Science in Business Administration from Chatham University. Angela studied location theory in relation to funding disparities for black-owned businesses in Pittsburgh and developed a model for building wealth for black businesses in Pittsburgh.



In 2012, Angela was honored for Outstanding Commitment & Leadership to Charles Street Area Council, the resident-led community group, because of her passion and motivation to mobilize residents to be civically engaged in community development. Under her leadership, the community has received equitable improvements that increase the neighborhood's sustainability. Currently, CSAC is preparing to construct affordable for-sale homes in Charles Street Valley as a part of a comprehensive community development plan.

Angela is an advocate for unheard voices and for vacant land transformation and stewardship and has been recognized by Grounded for transforming vacant lots into gardens and public meeting spaces. Recently, Angela was distinguished by the City of Pittsburgh Mayor's Office for commitment and dedication to the community. Angela serves on two boards: the Northside Leadership Conference and Pittsburgh Community Services Inc. Because Angela has seen the power of unified voices in community development, it motivates her to use her skills, knowledge and passion for improving neighborhoods. Angela welcomes conversations about partnerships that will strengthen the community, and create equitable opportunities for minorities and underserved people.

James Paul, Undergraduate Intern

James Paul is a sophomore English writing and law, criminal justice, & society double major at the University of Pittsburgh who works as a freelance journalist. Born in South Africa and raised in Washington, DC, James found his footing in Pittsburgh on the internship traveling roadshow by working across various publication, including the Pittsburgh City Paper, the Pittsburgh Media Partnership, and Pittsburgh Magazine. His coverage interests are criminal justice and public policy. After graduating, James plans to attend law school before finding work as a full-time journalist.



Randi Moore, PhD, Taxonomist, Decision Science for Govini



Randi is a Taxonomist in Decision Science for Govini, a defense acquisition software company. She has worked as a Taxonomy Analyst and Lead Analyst for Google Shopping and Contract Linguistic Analyst for Grammarly. Her experience in categorization analysis and research comes from her time as a Semantic Typologist studying spatial language, culture, and cognition in Mesoamerican languages. She has led international research projects coordinating linguistics field research all over the world as both Research Assistant and Project Administrator. She has also taught undergraduate linguistics courses, led research labs, served as a writing center tutor, and taught ESL in community colleges. Randi has her PhD in Linguistics from University at Buffalo, and her MA and TESOL certification from Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA.

Gaetan Sgro, MD



Dr. Sgro is an Academic Hospitalist at VA Pittsburgh, an Associate Program Director for the UPMC Internal Medicine Residency Program, and Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine (UPSoM).

He is a clinician and a writer who serves as the Site Director of the My Life, My Story Program at VA Pittsburgh and Co-Director of the Area of Concentration in the Medical Humanities and Ethics at UPSoM. He is the recipient of teaching awards including the Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award, the Golden Apple Teaching Award and the 2022 Carl R. Fuhrman Clinical Educator of the Year Award. His creative writing has been recognized by Glimmer Train's Short Story Awards for New Writers and has appeared in the The Bellevue Literary Review, Hippocampus Magazine, Hektoen International, The Healing Muse, Annals of Internal Medicine, JAMA, and in the Best New Poets Anthology.

Harmony Arungwa, Undergraduate Intern, Conference Note Taker



Harmony Arungwa is a senior honors student at the University of Pittsburgh studying English Writing and a Linguistics Research Intern working with UMPC. Her early experiences in the humanities sparked her interest in creative writing and intersectional studies. This led to both a double minor in Chemistry and French Studies and research experience in patient-physician communication. In today's conference, Harmony also brings her writing creativity as the Conference Note Taker, tasked with capturing its essence.

Zainab Kabir, Undergraduate Student, Conference Note Taker



Zainab Kabir is a junior/rising senior at the University of Pittsburgh, majoring in Psychology with a minor in Sociology. Her passion is understanding the intricacies of human relationships and social dynamics. She is currently volunteering at the CREAR lab, which focuses on research that discusses the impact of interpersonal dynamics and sociocultural factors on the academic and psychological wellness of adolescents. Zainab aims to pursue a master's degree in I/O Psychology post-graduation, envisioning a career dedicated to the practical applications of psychological principles in organizational settings. In today's conference, Zainab also brings her writing creativity as the Conference Note Taker, tasked with capturing its key aspects.

Riley Hesbacher, Undergraduate Intern

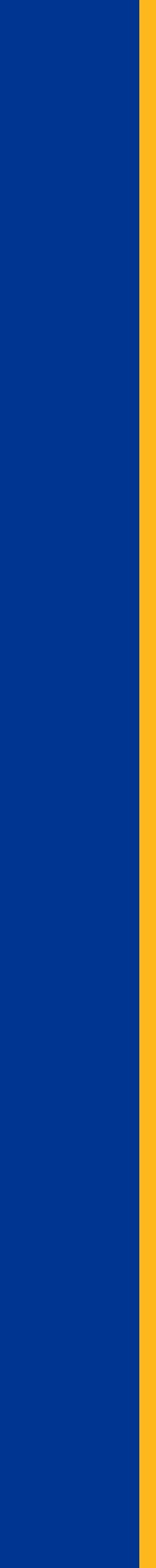
Riley Hesbacher is a student at the University of Pittsburgh, where she is pursuing studies in German and Linguistics with a focus on computational linguistics. In addition, she has a keen interest in speech technologies, which led her to her current position as a Linguistics Intern at Tobii Dynavox, a pioneering company specializing in speech-assistive devices for individuals with disabilities. Within this role, Riley collaborates with the software and content development teams to enhance language support for users worldwide.



Mary Kathleen Dryer, Graduate Intern

Mary Kathleen is a graduate student of Applied Linguistics with a focus in Data Science and Second-Language Pedagogy at the University of Pittsburgh. She holds a bachelor's degree in Political Science and Linguistics from the same institution. Some of her academic interests include syntax, phonetics and phonology, and the history and politics of the Middle East and North Africa. In the last year, she has worked as an intern for Edge Fearless Learning, a literacy support agency based in Wheeling, West Virginia, and for Solventum, a Pittsburgh-based company developing speech-to-text applications intended to optimize clinical point of care. She is passionate about using linguistic insight to drive innovation in education, policy, and technology.





Notes

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