

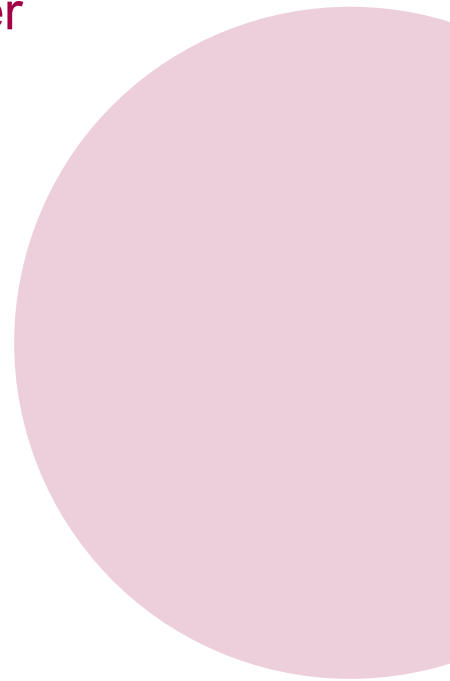
29<sup>th</sup> Annual Faculty Day Conference and  
Awards Ceremony

# CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Wednesday, May 20, 2026  
Brooklyn College Student Center

Luncheon (Noon to 1:45 p.m.)  
w/ Roundtables and Posters!  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor

Learn  
Discuss  
Meet  
Enjoy Faculty Day  
Conference



# Welcome to Faculty Day!

The Faculty Day Conference provides a unique college-wide opportunity to foster connections with our colleagues and improve the quality of intellectual and social life here on campus. Each year this day gives us a chance to engage in dialogue about academic and pedagogical activities with our colleagues from remarkably diverse disciplines.

Thank you for joining us at the 29th Annual Faculty Day Conference and contributing to Brooklyn College's professional and intellectual vitality.

Enjoy!  
Mariana Regalado (Library) and Malka Simon (Art)  
Committee Co-chairs

## Morning Sessions (10:30 a.m. to Noon )

### Lines of Inquiry: Digital Innovation for the Classroom

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**Moderator:** Malka Simon, Art

- Melissa Panek, Global Languages, Literatures & Cultures, "Chatting with L'Esprit des Mots: Effective AI Use in Elementary French Classes"
- Xianfang Zeng, Management, Marketing & Entrepreneurship, "Designing GenAI-Assisted Learning: Evidence from Marketing Courses"
- John Schembari, Childhood, Bilingual & Special Education, "Using AI Mini GPTs to Increase Student Teacher Growth and Achievement"
- Norman Eng, Childhood, Bilingual & Special Education, "GenTPA: Using AI to Evaluate Teacher Performance"

This panel presents explorations of how generative AI is reshaping teaching and learning across diverse contexts, highlighting practical, research-informed approaches to using AI to support student growth, instructional design, and performance evaluation.

### Data for Research Fun

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**Moderator:** Mariana Regalado

- Christian Martinez, Psychology, "Reproducible Research Using R: The Impact of Open Data and Open Resources"
- Hyuna Park, Finance, "Analyzing Digitized Financial Statements Using Computer Science Tools"
- Katherine Chuang, Computer & Information Science, May Cheung, Health & Nutrition Sciences, Margarethe Horlyck-Romanovsky, Health & Nutrition Sciences, Anjana Saxena, Biology, "Diversity in Health and Diseases: Examples of Using the All of Us Research Platform from Multiple Disciplines"

A showcase of how faculty from diverse disciplines are using data-driven methods and open tools to advance research and discovery. From reproducible science and financial analysis to large-scale health datasets, the panel highlights creative, cross-disciplinary approaches that make complex data more accessible, transparent, and impactful.

## Roundtable Discussions (Noon to 1:45 p.m.)

The roundtables are meant to be informal discussions. Grab some food and find a topic that interests you. If you have interest in more than one topic, feel free to move around between tables.

### Career Exploration and Readiness: Sharing Ideas and Strategies

- Hosted by Martha Nadell, English

### Academic Freedom at Brooklyn College and Beyond

- Hosted by Naomi Schiller, Anthropology, Beth Evans, Library, and Madeleine Fox, Sociology

### When You've Been Targeted: Dealing w/ Online Harassment

- Hosted by Rosamond King, English and Frans Albarillo, Library

### Beyond Compliance: Advancing Accessibility for Faculty with Disabilities at Brooklyn College

- Hosted by Yoon Joo Lee, Childhood, Bilingual & Special Education

### Faculty Development: Reflections on Advocacy Practices

- Hosted by Abdelaziz Elmadani, School Psychology, Counseling & Leadership

### Connecting the Dots: Interdisciplinary Opportunities in the New Neuroscience BS Program

- Hosted by Sreyashi Samaddar, Biology

### Executive Coaching for Aspiring Educational Leaders: Cultivating Collaboration, Reflective Practice, and Career Goals

- Hosted by Gerald Maraia, School Psychology, Counseling & Leadership

## Academic Posters (Noon to 1:45 p.m.)

Presenters available during the luncheon period to discuss their work.

### Teaching for the 21st century: Recreating the Graduate Classroom

- Pamela Walker, Childhood, Bilingual & Special Education

### An Interdisciplinary Integration of Anatomy and Visual Culture

- Patricia Cai, Health & Nutrition Sciences
- Brian Geraghty, Health & Nutrition Sciences

### From Transition to Transformation: The First Year of Effective Teaching in Brightspace

- Mariya Gluzman, Library/AIT

### Beyond "Age-Appropriate": Learning from Children as Co-Researchers

- Valerie Weisler, Children & Youth Studies

### Empowering School Counselors: Cyberbullying in the Digital Age

- Sailee Karkhanis, School Psychology, Counseling, & Leadership

- ✓ **Single-Use Plastics at BC**
- ✓ **Resistance to the Use of Nuclear Power: The Case of Indian Point**
- ✓ **The Environmental Impacts of Fast Fashion**

- Yehuda Klein, Economics and students from Behavioral Economics and Climate Change: A Macaulay College Honors Seminar

### Promoting Career Readiness Across the English Department

- Sophia Bamert, English
- Martha Nadell, English

### Breaking the Labor Market Barrier: The Lived Experiences of Immigrant Women Entering the United States (U.S.) Workforce

- Avion Henry Spencer, Childhood, Bilingual & Special Education

### From Idea to Open Textbook: New Grants to Support OER Creation at Brooklyn College

- Frans Albarillo, Library, Emily Fairey, Library, Margaret Miller, Library

### Centering Community: We are Maracatu Everyday

- Dale Byam, Africana Studies

MORE IN THE AFTERNOON



## Afternoon Sessions (1:45 to 3:15 p.m.)

### Mediated Narratives: Intersections in Cinema, Art, and Stage

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**Moderator:** Melissa Panek

- Novel Idea Sholars, Art, “Diógenes Ballester Rodríguez: Black Sublime Encounters with Matter and the Unseen”
- Lexi Turner, Feirstein Graduate School of Cinema, “Ritual, Reception and Redemption in *Begotten* and *You with Your Memory are Dead*”
- Susan Myburgh, Theater, “*Susantjie* – The Evolution from Process to Product”

This panel brings together perspectives from art, film, and theater to examine how stories are shaped through different creative mediums. The talks consider artistic process, materiality, ritual, and audience experience, tracing how ideas move from experimentation to finished work across visual and performative practices.

### Examining Inclusion: Perspectives on Diversity, Justice, and Access

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**Moderator:** Meral Kaya

- Hyun (Hannah) Nam, Psychology, “What is Diversity for? Examining the Links between Diversity Rationales, Psychological Discomfort, and Perceptions of Racial Injustice”
- Pedro de la Cruz Albizu, School Psychology, Counseling & Leadership, “Exploring Multilingual Learner Parents’ Language Program Choices in New York City Public Schools”
- Abdelaziz Elmadani, School Psychology, Counseling & Leadership, “Social Justice Journey: Reflections on Advocacy in Teaching”
- Lee Ann Fullington, Library, “Listening to Hard of Hearing Colleagues: Insights from Interviews”

Panelists examine how belonging and diversity are understood, experienced, and navigated across educational, psychological, and workplace contexts. Through research on racial justice, multilingual family decision-making, advocacy in teaching, and accessibility for hard-of-hearing colleagues, the talks highlight both personal and structural dimensions of inclusion.

## Faculty Awards Ceremony (3:30 p.m.)

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Presentation of the Claire Tow '52 Awards for Excellence in Teaching, Awards for Outstanding Faculty Service, Awards for Excellence in Scholarly and Creative Achievement, and the Tow Award for Excellence in Mentoring.

### Faculty Reception to Follow

*Hosted by President Michelle J. Anderson*

Boundless Brooklyn — The Campaign for Student Success