
New England Future Faculty Workshop

**August 2 - 3, 2023
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. ET**

***Planning Committee and
Speaker Biographies***



2023 Planning Committee

*In alphabetical order

Planning Committee



[Postdoc Page](#)

Michael "Mikey" Bergman, Postdoctoral Research Scientist, Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Northeastern University

Dr. Bergman graduated recently with his PhD from Northeastern University with published research on the self-assembling proteins involved in human vision. As a post-doctoral researcher, he is now translating these skills and knowledge to elucidate the protein photonic mechanisms behind cephalopod camouflage. Mikey is focused on pursuing an academic career and seeking tenure-track faculty positions in research. He has been an advocate for outreach, diversity, inclusion, equity, and respect, having been recognized through a leadership award from the American Chemical Society as well as a travel award for the recent National Diversity in STEM conference. Previously serving as president of the Graduate Student Association and assisting the university as an academic technologies scholar, he is passionate about student development and equitable opportunity at all levels.



[Faculty Page](#)

Penny Beuning, Chair and Professor of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Northeastern University

Dr. Beuning's research on DNA damage tolerance and protein engineering has been recognized with a Cottrell Scholar award, a National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER award, an American Cancer Society Research Scholar Grant, and the 2015 Chemical Research in Toxicology Young Investigator award. Dr. Beuning has been active in efforts to enhance the recruitment and retention of groups traditionally underrepresented in the sciences. She is a councilor for the American Chemical Society (ACS), serves on the ACS Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs, and is on the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Research Corporation for Science Advancement. She holds a PhD from the University of Minnesota and a BA from Macalester College.

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Bénédicte (Béné) Gnangnon (she/her), Postdoctoral Associate, Boston University

Béné joined the Professional Development & Postdoctoral Affairs (PDPA) office as a postdoctoral associate in February 2022, after completing a PhD and a first postdoc in STEM. She spent the rest of the year 2022 creating badges for PhD Progression, an online professional development program for PhD students, communicating about Skillsmatch – a tool created by EMSI/Burning glass to match job seekers’ skill set and interests with career areas – and (co-)organizing workshops for PhD students. She transitioned to the Postdoc Academy project in 2023, to create new faculty toolkits and activities for postdocs and their mentors to have productive and meaningful conversations on the topics covered by the two MOOCs of the Postdoc Academy.



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James Gould, Director, HMS/HSDM Office for Postdoctoral Fellows, Harvard Medical School

Dr. Gould has been implementing research, career, and professional development programs and policies for Harvard medical trainees since 2011. He has spoken and published on career and professional development topics in a variety of local and national forums, including his book, *Making the Most of the Postdoc*, due out later this summer. Prior to Harvard Medical School, Dr. Gould completed two postdoctoral fellowships at the National Cancer Institute of the National Institutes of Health, where he chaired the Fellows & Young Investigators Association. He holds a PhD from the University of Louisville School of Medicine and a BS from Clarion University of Pennsylvania.

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Dekel Luban, Program Coordinator, ADVANCE Office of Faculty Development, Northeastern University

Dekel recently joined the Northeastern University ADVANCE team after previously working in higher education, arts administration, and the non-profit sector. She earned a MA in political science from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and a BS in psychology from Boston University.



Evelyn Panagakou, Education, Outreach, and Diversity Coordinator, Network Science Institute, Northeastern University

Dr. Panagakou aims to enrich traditional teaching strategies in STEM with state-of-the-art pedagogical findings. She is a strong advocate of developing high-quality, challenging yet personalized, and enjoyable educational experiences that enable students to feel part of an active and caring community, develop critical thinking, and discover the beauty of mathematics and science. Since 2018, she has been one of the organizers of the Network Science and Education Satellite Symposium at NetSci. She holds a PhD in physics from National & Kapodistrian University of Athens, an MS in applied mathematics from University of Massachusetts Amherst, and an MS in applied developmental and educational psychology from Boston College.

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Yadilette Rivera-Colón, Assistant Professor of Biology, Undergraduate Research Coordinator, Bay Path University

Dr. Yadilette Rivera-Colón is a researcher and educator who found her calling working in research laboratories. She earned her doctorate in molecular and cellular biology in 2013 from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, where she researched structural and biochemical properties of human lysosomal enzymes. Upon completion of her doctorate, she became an IRACDA postdoctoral fellow at the PENN-Professional Opportunities for Research and Teaching, at the University of Pennsylvania, where she focused on biochemical studies of protein acetyltransferases. Most importantly, her career has been shaped by her passion for teaching. In her words, “I am a rebel teacher.” A native of Puerto Rico and a first-generation college graduate, Dr. Rivera-Colón has a strong personal drive to connect with Latinas and other underserved populations to share her love of science.



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Sam Stokoe, Program Manager, ADVANCE Office of Faculty Development, Northeastern University

Sam serves as the program manager in the ADVANCE Office of Faculty Development and focuses on cultivating opportunities for faculty members’ personal and professional development. These ideas are reflected in programs that provide faculty members with resources to be successful in their roles as teachers, student supporters, and researchers. Sam earned a Bachelor’s degree in hospitality management from Endicott College and a Master’s in higher education in student affairs from Salem State University. She joined Northeastern University from the Travelers Insurance Talent Acquisition office with a professional background in learning and development, and university relations.

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Rebecca Willits, Professor and Chairperson of Chemical Engineering, Northeastern University

Dr. Willits is chair and professor of Chemical Engineering at Northeastern University. Her research interests include 3D environments that control cell response, with a particular emphasis on increasing nerve regeneration/decreasing neurodegeneration. Her lab seeks to understand the behavior of cells in vitro and enhance neural cell response in vivo. She has received grants from National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, and the Margaret F. Donovan Endowed Chair for Women in Engineering at the University of Akron. Willits earned a PhD in chemical engineering from Cornell University.



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Diedra Wrighting, Executive Director, ADVANCE Office of Faculty Development, Northeastern University

Diedra Wrighting is a scientist and educator dedicated to creating environments that foster community, belonging, and persistence. As executive director of ADVANCE Office of Faculty Development at Northeastern since 2019, she collaborates across the university to create dynamic and impactful programming that assists faculty to thrive. Her current research focuses on how mentoring relationships foster belonging and persistence in STEM fields. In 2016, Dr. Wrighting became a certified mentor trainer by the Center for the Improvement of Mentored Experiences in Research and the National Research Mentoring Network. She facilitates workshops on being an effective mentor and getting the most out of mentoring relationships. These workshops promote awareness of identity and culture to foster belonging and career persistence for aspiring researchers of diverse backgrounds. Dr. Wrighting holds a BS in biology from Howard University and a PhD in genetics from Harvard Medical School.

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Alexandria (Alex) Yen, Postdoctoral Associate, Boston University

Alexandria (Alex) Yen, PhD is a postdoctoral associate in the Professional Development & Postdoctoral Affairs (PDPA) office at Boston University. She is funded by two professional development projects, the Postdoc Academy and the Inclusive STEM Teaching Project. Through these two projects, she assists in running learning communities, leading facilitator trainings, and overseeing marketing and outreach of the Postdoc Academy. She was trained as an art historian specializing in Roman art and archaeology and received her MA and PhD from Boston University and BA from the University of Southern California.

An abstract painting with vibrant, textured colors. The background is a mix of warm oranges and yellows on the left, transitioning into deep blues and greens in the center, and bright reds and pinks on the right. The brushstrokes are visible, creating a sense of movement and depth. A white horizontal line is positioned below the subtitle.

Speakers

*In alphabetical order

Speakers



[Personal Page](#)

José Angel Araguz, Assistant Professor of English, Suffolk University

José Angel Araguz, PhD is the author most recently of *Rotura* (Black Lawrence Press, 2022). His poetry and prose have appeared in *Prairie Schooner*, *Poetry International*, *The Acentos Review*, and *Oxidant | Engine*, among other places. He is an assistant professor at Suffolk University where he serves as editor-in-chief of *Salamander* and is also a faculty member of the Solstice Low-Residency MFA Program. He blogs and reviews books at *The Friday Influence*. His debut lyric memoir, *Ruin and Want*, is forthcoming from Sundress Publications. Also forthcoming is *La Esperanza Espera*, a collection of poems in Spanish published by Valparaiso Ediciones.



[Faculty Page](#)

Donathan L. Brown, Vice Provost for Faculty Diversity, Northeastern University

As vice provost for faculty diversity, Dr. Brown works collaboratively with the Office of Academic Affairs and academic deans to lead, envision, and implement proactive diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives in support of Northeastern University's strategic diversity action plans.

Prior to Northeastern, Dr. Brown was at the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) as assistant provost and assistant vice president for the Office of Faculty Diversity and Recruitment. Among other accomplishments and initiatives while at RIT, he developed and executed a nationwide faculty recruitment model that created strategic collaborations with historically Black colleges and universities, and Hispanic-serving institutions, along with predominately White institutions.

Speakers



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Amanda Bryant-Friedrich, Dean, Graduate School Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Wayne State University

Dr. Amanda Bryant-Friedrich is dean of the Graduate School and professor of pharmaceutical sciences at Wayne State University. Prior, she was a professor of medicinal and biological chemistry and chemistry at the University of Toledo and served as vice provost for Graduate Affairs and dean of the College of Graduate Studies. She obtained her doctorate in pharmaceutical chemistry at the Ruprecht-Karls Universität Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany under Professor Richard Neidlein, followed by postdoctoral training at the Universität Basel, Basel, Switzerland, under Professor Bernd Giese. From 2000-2007 she held the positions of assistant and associate professor at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan before moving to the University of Toledo. She is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and The American Chemical Society, and an academic leadership fellow of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.



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Catherine Clark, Associate Professor of History and French Studies, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

Dr. Clark is a cultural historian of modern Europe, who has written widely about the histories of modern France and its visual culture. She began at MIT in the Global Studies and Languages section as assistant professor of French studies before moving to History, where she received tenure in 2020. She currently serves as faculty director of MIT's Programs in Digital Humanities. Her research is largely concerned with how the visual produces knowledge—both in the past and in contemporary historical practices. Dr. Clark earned a PhD in history from the University of Southern California, an MA in French cultural studies from Columbia University's Reid Hall in Paris, and a bachelor's degree in history from Swarthmore College.

Speakers



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Tovah Day, Assistant Professor of Biology, Northeastern University

Tovah Day is an assistant professor in the Biology department at Northeastern University. Her lab, the Day Lab, investigates the molecular role of G quadruplex DNA in genome stability and human disease. G quadruplexes are non-canonical DNA structures that form readily in repetitive, guanine-rich sequences. While they play an important role in normal cellular physiology, G quadruplexes also trigger genome instability and are associated with cancer. Tovah was awarded a National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER award in 2022, and won a 2023 College of Science Excellence in Teaching Award.



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Lindsey Hanson, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, Trinity College

Lindsey Hanson is an assistant professor of chemistry at Trinity College in Hartford, CT. She holds a BS in chemistry from Duke University and a PhD in biophysical chemistry from Stanford University, and she was a postdoctoral scholar at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. At Trinity, she teaches introductory, physical, and biophysical chemistry with a focus on integrating research experiences into the classroom and laboratory. Building on her graduate work on nanostructured biological interfaces and her postdoctoral work on the effect of pressure on the optical properties of nanoscale materials, her interdisciplinary research group focuses on understanding the interconversion of mechanical forces and optical properties of nanomaterials in order to develop novel mechanical sensors and actuators for biological and structural applications.

Speakers



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**Nisha Iyer,
Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering,
Tufts University**

Dr. Nisha Iyer is an assistant professor in the Department of Biomedical Engineering at Tufts University. Her research interests are at the intersection of developmental biology and regenerative medicine, using stem cells to understand and advance neural repair. She received her BS from Johns Hopkins University and PhD from Washington University in St. Louis in biomedical engineering. Her lab focuses on how regional specificity impacts development, degeneration, and regeneration in the central nervous system and beyond, developing biomanufacturing strategies and organoid technologies to direct cell therapy research.



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**Zachary Joachim,
Assistant Professor of Philosophy,
Denison University**

Zach Joachim's areas of research lie in the global history of philosophy: late modern European philosophy (1781– 20th c. CE), which begins in the wake of Kant's Critique of Pure Reason, and classical East Asian philosophy (6th c. BCE –221 BCE), which ends in the creation of imperial China. In late modern philosophy, his work focuses on interpreting the phenomenological tradition inaugurated by Edmund Husserl, illuminating its connections to both German idealism and analytic philosophy. Dr. Joachim teaches, among other courses, Ancient Chinese Philosophy, Phenomenology, Existentialism, and a first-year writing course on the idea of a human life.

Speakers



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Tiffany Joseph, Associate Professor of Sociology and International Affairs, Northeastern University

Dr. Joseph is an associate professor of sociology and international affairs at Northeastern University. Her research explores the micro-level consequences of public policy on individuals, immigrants' health, and healthcare access, comparative frameworks of race and migration in the Americas, and the experiences of faculty of color and women in academia. She is the author of *Race On the Move: Brazilian Migrants and the Global Reconstruction of Race* (Stanford Press, 2015) and her research has been published in various peer-reviewed journals and media outlets. She currently serves as the graduate program director for her department and a deputy editor for the *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*. Dr. Joseph earned both a PhD and a MA in sociology from the University of Michigan.



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Paul Kasili, Professor, Bunker Hill Community College, Lecturer, Northeastern University

Dr. Kasili received his BA, majoring in chemistry, with a minor in biochemistry, at Coe College, Cedar Rapids, IA, and his PhD, in the life sciences at the University of Tennessee-Oak Ridge National Laboratory (UT-ORNL) Graduate School of Genome Science and Technology (GST), Knoxville, TN. Dr. Kasili completed two post-docs at ORNL in nanobiosensors and biomedical imaging and at the Brigham and Women's/Harvard Medical School in method development for nano-imaging applications. He worked in the biotech industry as a sr. application scientist for Cambridge Research & Instrumentation (now Perkin Elmer), as a field application scientist for MDS Analytical Technologies (now Molecular Devices) and worked in the non-profit sector as the director of exchange and training for Seeding Labs.

Speakers



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**Swathi Kiran,
Founding Director, Center for Brain Recovery,
Office of the Provost, Boston University**

Dr. Kiran's research interests focus around lexical semantic treatment for individuals with aphasia, and bilingual aphasia, and the neuroimaging of brain plasticity after a stroke. She has over 150 peer-reviewed papers and has appeared in journals such as *Brain and Language*, *Aphasiology*, *Journal of Speech Language*, and *Hearing and Cortex*. Her work is funded by the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Kiran earned a PhD and an MA in speech language pathology from Northwestern University.



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**Pamela P. Martinez, Assistant Professor of
Microbiology, School of Molecular & Cellular
Biology, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign**

Pamela Martinez is an assistant professor in Microbiology and Statistics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA. Prior to that, she was a postdoctoral fellow at the Center for Communicable Disease Dynamics at Harvard School of Public Health, and she received her PhD in ecology and evolution from the University of Chicago. Her research focuses on applying mathematical and computational tools to study the population dynamics of human infectious diseases. She is particularly interested in understanding the impact of climate, pathogen diversity, and social inequality on disease transmission.

Speakers



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Ewa Matyczyk, Assistant Professor of Modern & Contemporary Art History, University of North Carolina, Wilmington

Ewa Matyczyk is assistant professor of modern and contemporary art history at the University of North Carolina, Wilmington. She holds a PhD in the history of art and architecture from Boston University, and an MA in art history from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Her research interests include issues of memory, identity, public space, and community-building; and the relationships between public art, and the built environment, and their intersections with the theory and practice of everyday life. Her book project, *Intervention, Memory, and Community: Public Art and Architecture in Warsaw Since 1970* examines a series of exhibitions, performative interventions, monuments, and public art initiatives. In 2021-2022 this project was supported by the Humanities+Urbanism+Design Initiative at the University of Pennsylvania.



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Marilyn Minus, Professor and Chair, Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, Northeastern University

Dr. Marilyn Minus is a professor and chair of the department of mechanical and industrial engineering at Northeastern University in Boston, MA, USA. She also leads the Macromolecular Innovation in Nanomaterials Utilizing Systems or MINUS Laboratory. She obtained her BS and PhD in polymer, textile, and fiber engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology. Dr. Minus's research revolves around sustainability, aiming to develop high-performance, energy-efficient lightweight materials. Additionally, she investigates natural hierarchical systems to design and manufacture structural materials. The MINUS-lab has received substantial funding of over \$10M from various agencies such as NSF, AFOSR, ARO, ARL, and DARPA. Dr. Minus has received accolades including the NSF CAREER award and the Georgia Tech Council of Outstanding Alumni Award.

Speakers



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Heather Mooney, Visiting Assistant Professor, Le Moyne College

As a visiting assistant professor in criminology, anthropology, and sociology at Le Moyne College in Syracuse, NY, Heather employs interdisciplinary content, critical theories, and rigorous sociological methods to engage and inspire undergraduates. As a devoted instructor and advisor, she emphasizes mentorship and transparency, effective communication skills, social science research and methods, analytic and critical thinking abilities, as well as informed social justice and community engagement. Her current project examines race and gender in the production and consumption of true crime, a genre that typically features and is engaged by white college educated women between the ages of 18 and 35.



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Amanda Napior, Doctoral Candidate in Religion & Society, Boston University

Amanda J.G. Napior is a doctoral candidate in the Graduate Program in Religion, where she is writing an ethnographic and historical dissertation on rehabilitation and religion in modern corrections. Drawing upon the scholarly traditions of American religious history, phenomenological anthropology, and critical race, gender, and sexuality studies, Amanda is exploring the lived and historical connections between faith in the possibility of personal transformation and systems of incarceration in the United States. She has been published in *The Journal of Ritual Studies* and *Journal of Correctional Education*. Amanda holds an MDiv from Harvard Divinity School with a focus on Christianity, and a BA in religion, with an emphasis on American religious history, from the University of California at Santa Barbara.

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Toyoko Orimoto, Associate Professor of Physics, Northeastern University

Dr. Orimoto is an experimental particle physicist conducting research with the CMS Experiment at the Large Hadron Collider at the CERN laboratory in Geneva, Switzerland. Prior to joining the Northeastern faculty, Dr. Orimoto was a fellow at CERN (2009-2012) and the Robert A. Millikan fellow at the California Institute of Technology (2006-2009). She holds a PhD and BA in physics from the University of California, Berkeley.



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Carolyn Ruppel, (Acting) Senior Science Adviser to the Chief Scientist of the US Geological Survey (USGS)

Dr. Ruppel is currently the acting senior science adviser to the chief scientist of the US Geological Survey (USGS). She has been a research geophysicist at the USGS in Woods Hole since 2006 and leads the Gas Hydrates Project, which focuses on climate and energy aspects of natural methane hydrates. She received her PhD at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and was as a postdoctoral scholar at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution before joining the faculty at Georgia Tech, where she received tenure in 2000. While still at Georgia Tech, she spent nearly three years as a National Science Foundation program officer. Ruppel is a fellow of the Geological Society of America and has been active in informal mentoring of younger scientists for ~25 years.

Speakers



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Niya Sa, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, College of Science and Mathematics, University of Massachusetts Boston

Niya is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Massachusetts Boston. She received her PhD from the Analytical Chemistry program at Indiana University-Bloomington, where she worked on understanding fundamental ion transport phenomena in confined regime. She began working as a postdoc in the Electrochemical Energy Storage Department at Argonne National Lab. Her initial research at Argonne was focused on designing and characterizing battery electrolytes and cathode materials for beyond lithium ion battery technologies. She joined the University of Massachusetts in Fall 2017 and her current research areas of interests include probing the electrochemical interfaces for energy materials and new electrolyte design for next-generation energy materials.



[Research Gate Page](#)

Laura Senier, Associate Professor of Sociology & Health Science, Northeastern University

Laura Senier is an associate professor at Northeastern University, jointly appointed in sociology and health sciences. She holds a BA in American Studies from Colby College, an MPH from the Boston University School of Public Health, and a PhD in sociology from Brown University. Her research interests include the sociology of medicine and public health, community environmental health, and environmental justice. Her research identifies political, social, and economic barriers in research translation, or the effort to migrate discoveries into clinical and public health practice. She has studied organizational capacity in local and state public health agencies as they face a variety of challenges, for example, by forging cross-sectoral partnerships during the COVID pandemic or modernizing their chronic disease prevention programs in response to novel scientific discoveries.

Speakers



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Jenny Spencer, Assistant Professor, Department of Population Health, The University of Texas at Austin

Jenny Spencer's work uses econometric and decision science methods to focus on improving equity in cancer screening and prevention. Spencer completed her master's and PhD training at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she was a predoctoral fellow in the Cancer Care Quality Training Program at the Lineberger Cancer Center. Her dissertation, which focused on modeling the impact of HPV vaccination on disparities in HPV cancers by area poverty in the US, was awarded the Marci Campbell Award for Excellence in Cancer Population Sciences. After completing her PhD, Spencer completed a two-year postdoctoral fellowship with the Training in Oncology Population Sciences program at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute and the Harvard School of Public Health. Spencer joined the Department of Population Health in 2021, where she has expanded her work on HPV vaccination to additionally study inequities in cancer screening and cancer prevention by race, ethnicity, income and sexual orientation.



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Paul Whitford, Associate Professor of Physics, Northeastern University

Professor Whitford's research probes the energetic properties of biomolecular dynamics through a combination of theoretical modeling and high-performance computing (HPC). His investigations of biomolecular order-disorder transitions and energy transduction processes span from protein and ribonucleic acid folding, to large-scale conformational rearrangements in molecular machines. Since this work is at the interface of statistical mechanics, and areas of chemical and biological research, many investigations are performed in close collaboration with experimental researchers, which allows for quantitative comparisons of theoretical concepts and cellular dynamics.

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**Amanda Woerman,
Assistant Professor of Biology,
University of Massachusetts Amherst**

Amanda Woerman is an assistant professor of biology at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Her research focuses on protein misfolding and spreading in neurodegenerative diseases, particularly those caused by the proteins tau and alpha-synuclein. She is also the co-founder of Allagi Therapeutics, Inc., a gene therapy company with a personalized medicine approach to treating neurodegenerative disorders. Dr. Woerman is on the editorial board of *Acta Neuropathologica*, *PLOS Pathogens*, and the *Journal of Parkinson's Disease*. She has a BA from Ohio Wesleyan University in botany/microbiology and politics & government, and a PhD in molecular medicine from George Washington University.



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**Benjamin Woolston,
Assistant Professor, Chemical Engineering,
Northeastern University**

Dr. Woolston joined the Northeastern University Chemical Engineering department as an assistant professor in January 2020. He obtained his BSc in chemical engineering with honors at The Pennsylvania State University, where his undergraduate research, won the American Institute for Chemical Engineers (AIChE) National Student Paper Competition. As an National Science Foundation (NSF) graduate research fellow, Dr. Woolston received his PhD in chemical engineering in 2017 from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His postdoctoral work was conducted in the chemistry and chemical biology department at Harvard University, where he studied microbial metabolic pathways and enzymes that contribute to the stability of health-associated lactobacilli in the human vaginal microbiota.

Speakers



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Katia Zolotovskaya, Assistant Professor of Art and Design with a joint appointment in Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Northeastern University

Katia Zolotovskaya is an assistant professor of art and design with a joint appointment in chemistry and chemical biology at Northeastern University. Katia is an architect, biologist, and bio-design researcher. She holds a PhD in computation from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), where her dissertation focused on design and computation with biologically active materials. Katia's research focuses on the impact of biotechnology on everyday life and the ecosystems we live in, as well as the implications of this emerging technology. In her research, she collaborates with material scientists, synthetic biologists, and computational designers to develop practical ways for artists and designers to engage with biological materials and systems. Katia is joining Northeastern after three years in an assistant professor position at Rhode Island School of Design where she taught sustainable material innovation and spatial design and led research initiatives focusing on technological innovation for sustainability and community engagement.
