

## 2019 NYU SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES CONVOCATION STUDENT SPEAKERS



**UNDERGRADUATE: Adam Simon Lassner**  
**BS in Sports Management**  
**Preston Robert Tisch Institute for Global Sport**

An avid love of soccer led native New Yorker, Adam Lassner, to pursue the BS in sports management at the NYUSPS Preston Robert Tisch Institute for Global Sport. The student speaker at this year's Undergraduate Convocation ceremony at the Manhattan Center

Hammerstein Ballroom, he asserts, "I have always heard that if you do what you love, you will never work a day in your life, and this is the way I feel about sports. I'm a massive sports fan, and nothing could be more enjoyable or fulfilling than having a career in this field."

Lassner's passion for sports began while attending The Ramaz School in Manhattan, where he played on the soccer and hockey teams, and founded the Business of Sports Club. When it came to attending college, he chose the Tisch Institute because of the uniqueness of its undergraduate degree program, its deep industry connections, and its New York City location.

During his time at the Tisch Institute, Lassner has taken full advantage of all that an NYU education has to offer. In Spring 2017, he spent a semester abroad at NYU London, immersing himself in British soccer by attending matches and interning in communications at the Football Foundation, Great Britain's largest sports charity. "It gave me a clear understanding of fan culture in one of the deepest soccer markets in the world," he notes.

During Summer 2018, he interned at City Football Group in Singapore, an eye-opening experience. "It was a real challenge to pick up and move to the other side of the world alone. That being said, it ended up being a truly life-changing experience!"

This past semester, as a consulting intern for Lagardère, a sports and entertainment agency, he assisted in managing the sports sponsorships of numerous blue chip companies. Through it all, he has utilized the services of the NYU Wasserman Center for Career Development at NYUSPS. Advisers there reviewed his résumé and cover letters, as well as other documents prior to him going on interviews.

In addition to his pursuit of an undergraduate degree in sports, Lassner has followed his passion in other ways. He hosted two soccer-related shows on WNYU Radio—"The Other Football," which is a news-related program, and "Around the Grounds," which offers a fan's perspective on professional soccer. He also worked for the Tisch Institute on its social media team, helping to launch its Instagram account and to establish the weekly #FeaturedStudentFriday campaign, which reached more than 27,000 people on Facebook.

After graduation, Lassner hopes to go back to Asia to work for a soccer group. Proficient in Spanish, Hebrew, and intermediate Mandarin, he ultimately would like to run his own sponsorship agency that focuses on soccer.



**GRADUATE: Carmella Glover**  
**MS in Public Relations and Corporate Communication**  
**Division of Programs in Business**

A resident of Piscataway, NJ, Carmella Glover, this year's Graduate Convocation student speaker, has earned the MS in public relations and corporate communication (PRCC), offered by the NYUSPS Division of Programs

in Business. She accomplished this while juggling a plethora of personal and professional obligations. A wife and the mother of a 10-month-old daughter, she works full time at L'Oréal USA Luxury Skincare and Cosmetics.

Thanks to growing up in a military family, Glover has been able to successfully manage multiple responsibilities while remaining focused on her studies. "I learned early in my life to focus on the most important things and to prioritize," she notes, "and it definitely helps that I have a lot of support from my husband, my parents, and my employer."

Her mother, who has been an inspiration throughout her life, was a cosmetologist who went on to earn her doctorate degree in educational leadership. This sparked Glover's interest in a career in the beauty industry. She attended the New Jersey Institute of Technology, earning a BS in chemical engineering. Upon graduation, she was hired by Procter & Gamble as a materials, process, and design engineer in its luxury skincare business. Exposure to an industry that requires strategic promotion and the ability to communicate value to consumers inspired in her a new passion—to become a communications professional in this fast-paced field.

She applied exclusively to the MS in public relations and corporate communication at NYUSPS, drawn by its expert faculty and NYC location. Her educational experience has been empowering, teaching her the business skills that will prepare her for leadership roles in the field. Among the classes she sensed were most beneficial were those in the areas of crisis communication and PR consulting. "My PRCC education has fostered in me the confidence to transition from being a supply chain professional to assuming a role that is more public facing," she asserts.

In addition to juggling the demands of motherhood, work, and school, Glover has served as the social media chairperson for the PR League, a student-run organization. Furthermore, for the past 13 years, she also has been an active member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, participating in its community service programs.

Glover is currently employed as the senior launch manager for L'Oréal's luxury skincare and cosmetics. In addition, she leads the communications team and provides content for the company's internal website. "This business is always evolving and that energizes me," she notes. Her dream job is to serve as a chief communications officer for a PR firm that focuses on beauty. With her impeccable work ethic and the skills and knowledge she has acquired during her time at NYUSPS, she is sure to succeed.



## A MESSAGE FROM THE INTERIM DEAN

Dear Members of the NYU School of Professional Studies Community,

As the 2018–2019 academic year draws to a close, I can't help but marvel at all that has transpired, and all that we have achieved together. The NYU School of Professional Studies is stronger and more unified than ever before, and it is all because of you. Students, faculty members, administrators, and alumni have worked in collaboration to foster a deep sense of community and to continue to build upon the many successes that happen every day—in and outside of the classroom.

Your efforts, caring, and dedication during the academic year all culminate in the Convocation and Commencement ceremonies in which we participate. For those of you who are graduating, a new chapter is beginning—personally and professionally. For faculty members, staff, and administrators, it is a time to reflect—with great pride and joy—on all that has been accomplished in educating this next generation of industry leaders and innovators.

This newsletter focuses on the many wonderful achievements of our graduating students. It highlights their work in the classroom and commends their deep commitment to making NYUSPS, the University at large, and the world a better place. They take with them the talents, abilities, and knowledge that will empower them to succeed as they move forward, yet they leave behind a lasting legacy that ensures the mission of this School and the transformative education it provides lives on.

I want to offer my heartfelt congratulations to all 2,059 graduate and undergraduate students who are receiving their NYUSPS degrees and certificates this year. Cherish this milestone in your education and your life. We look forward to your continued engagement as NYUSPS alumni. Your insights, involvement, and connections will help us to provide a stellar education to those who follow in your footsteps.

To the NYUSPS community, I wish you a wonderful summer and I look forward to welcoming you back in the fall, when we will kick off the celebrations for the School's 85th Anniversary.

Sincerely,

**Susan Greenbaum**  
Interim Dean  
NYU School of Professional Studies

## BEST WISHES TO GRADUATING NYUSPS STUDENTS FROM THE NYUSPS FACULTY COUNCIL

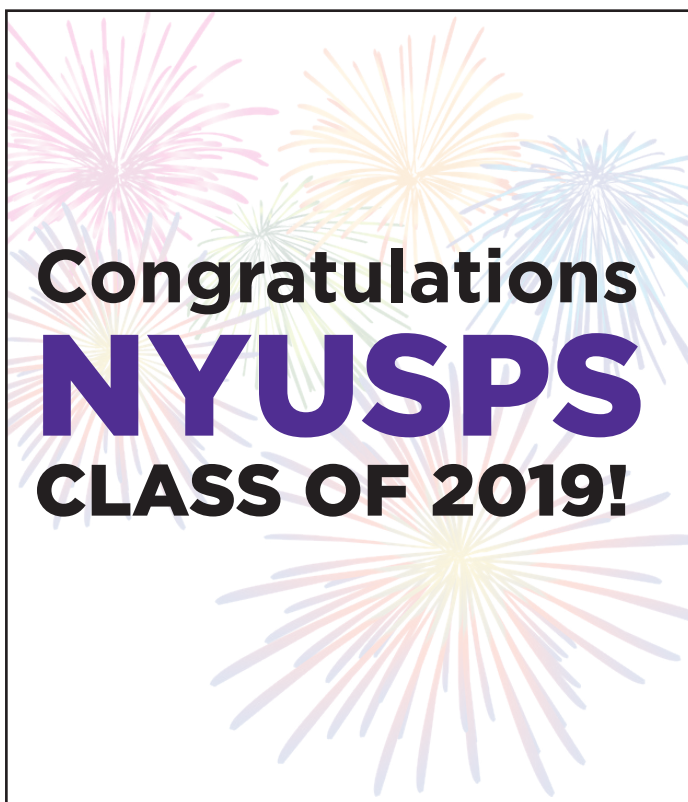


On behalf of the NYUSPS faculty, the Faculty Council warmly congratulates the graduating class of 2019. As your teachers and advisers, we hope you find what you have learned at NYUSPS to be valuable, no matter which direction you take. We urge you to stay in touch now that you are joining the diverse and vibrant community of NYUSPS alumni. We trust that your professional achievements will inspire future

students, and also will serve to keep NYUSPS on its toes as a school that addresses the evolving challenges of the city and of the global policy areas on which our teaching focuses. As the courageous abolitionist Harriet Tubman said, "Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world."

Congratulations, and we wish you every success in your future endeavors.

**Anne Marie Goetz**  
Faculty Council Chair  
Clinical Professor  
NYU School of Professional Studies  
Center for Global Affairs



## UNDERGRADUATE CONVOCATION SPEAKER



### Lindsey Pollak

**Acclaimed Author  
Expert on the Millennial Generation and  
the Multigenerational Workplace**

Lindsey Pollak is the leading expert on the millennial generation and today’s multigenerational workplace. Often called a “translator,” she advises both young professionals who seek to succeed in today’s work environment, and the organizations that want to recruit, retain, and engage them.

She first discovered her passion for guiding young people regarding their career paths and life choices during a stint as a resident assistant (RA) while earning her undergraduate degree. After graduating with her master’s degree, she was employed by WorkingWoman.com, a startup website, but realized her true calling was writing and giving speeches on the topic she knew best: how to be a young person figuring out what to do with your life. She launched a business advising teens and young adults, and speech by speech, article by article, blog post by blog post, she has grown that business into a globally recognized, multimedia brand.

Today, Pollak is *The New York Times* bestselling author of *Becoming the Boss: New Rules for the Next Generation of Leaders* and *Getting from College to Career: Your Essential Guide to Succeeding in the Real World*. Her speaking audiences and consulting clients have included over 250 corporations, law firms, conferences and universities, including Citi; Estee Lauder; GE; JP Morgan; LinkedIn; PwC; Shearman & Sterling; and Yale, Harvard, Wharton, and Stanford Universities.

Her latest book, *The Remix: How to Lead and Succeed in the Multigenerational Workplace*, was published by HarperCollins in May 2019. It is an essential guide for business leaders, entrepreneurs, and employees who need to navigate today’s multigenerational workplace, which spans more generations than ever before.

In addition to her writing and her public speaking engagements, Pollak also works with select brands as an influencer for media campaigns and social outreach, including Capital One, Hyatt Place, Levi’s, and Sprint. As a LinkedIn ambassador for six years, she created and delivered webinars that trained over 100,000 people to advance their careers using the platform. She also served for two years as chair of *Cosmopolitan* magazine’s millennial advisory board. Her advice and opinions have appeared in such media outlets as *The TODAY Show*, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, CNN, and NPR.

Pollak holds a BA in American studies from Yale University and an MA in women’s studies from Monash University, Melbourne Australia.

## GRADUATE CONVOCATION SPEAKER



### Neil Glat

**President, New York Jets**

Neil Glat was named president of the New York Jets in April 2012, and recently completed his seventh season with the team. He reports directly to Jets chairman and CEO, Christopher Johnson, and oversees all aspects of team business operations. During his tenure as president, he and his executive staff have focused on continuously improving the fan/consumer experience. Glat has elevated the organization’s gameday and off-field activities by building positive relationships with business partners and community leaders. He has spearheaded initiatives such as PilotVision, an in-stadium second screen experience; the Jets Rewards program; and the team’s investment in Sapphire Sport, a sports technology venture capital firm. He has played an instrumental role in the design of a new uniform—introduced in April 2019; fan-friendly stadium capital improvements; novel ticketing approaches; award-winning virtual reality offerings; a state-of-the-art mobile app; the Jets Fan Hall of Fame; new TV shows on

WCBS, SNY, and Facebook Watch; and the launch of Jets 360, an Emmy award-winning content platform.

Under Glat’s leadership the team also has implemented a year-round fan engagement calendar and has built strategic partnerships with Anheuser-Busch, Dell-EMC, ESPN, JetBlue, MetLife, the NYU School of Professional Studies, Pepsi, SAP, Ticketmaster, Toyota, Verizon, and Visa, among others. In addition, the team was an early mover and innovator in structuring a relationship with MGM.

Glat has led community-based initiatives, including the Jets Tackling Bullying program in partnership with STOMP Out Bullying. He has worked with players to advance several social justice nonprofits, and has launched the #JetsLunch program, which sends players into schools to have lunch with students to provide them with support and encouragement.

Prior to joining the Jets, Glat was the National Football League’s senior vice president of Corporate Development. He oversaw League strategic initiatives, Club business development, stadium development, and new business opportunities. He also negotiated secondary ticketing deals with Ticketmaster, which led to the creation of the NFL Ticket Exchange, and he conceptualized and secured approval for the launch of the NFL venture capital fund.

Before the NFL, Glat was a management consultant at McKinsey & Company, and an investment banker at Dillon, Read & Co. He currently serves as an LP advisory committee member for Sapphire Sport, a board member of the NYC Chapter of the National Football Foundation, and a committee member for the UJA-Federation’s Sports for Youth initiative. He also recently joined the Anti-Defamation League Sports Leadership Council. Glat has previously been actively involved on the Wharton Sports Business Initiative alumni advisory board. He was a two-time selection for the *Sports Business Journal* Forty Under 40 Award.

Glat earned a JD from Harvard Law School and a BS in economics from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. He is a native of Westchester County, NY, is married, and has twin daughters.



## Convocation 2019

Convocation is a rich, time-honored tradition at the NYU School of Professional Studies, during which we celebrate the accomplishments of our students. The Convocation ceremonies provide an opportunity for those who are graduating to celebrate with family members, administrators, and faculty members, who come together to acknowledge their impressive achievements, and to applaud the hard work and sacrifices they have made to enrich their lives and advance their careers through education.

The following pages provide a snapshot of those students who have been chosen to represent the graduating class because of their excellent academic performance, their willingness to be involved in the NYUSPS community, and their drive and determination to succeed. We wish them and the entire graduating class the best of luck as they venture out into the world and make their way personally and professionally.

## 2018-2019 CONVOCATION BY THE NUMBERS

### GRADUATE

#### Degrees and Certificates Awarded by the Graduate Divisions

##### MASTER'S DEGREES

MS in Construction Management	16
MS in Fundraising	2
MS in Global Affairs	116
MS in Hospitality Industry Studies	28
MS in Human Resource Management and Development	111
MS in Integrated Marketing	532
MS in Management and Systems	217
MS in Professional Writing	15
MS in Project Management	73
MS in Public Relations and Corporate Communications	145
MS in Publishing	38
MS in Real Estate	208
MS in Real Estate Development	77
MS in Sports Business	63
MS in Tourism Management	9
MS in Translation	24
<b>TOTAL MASTER'S DEGREES</b>	<b>1,674</b>

##### GRADUATE CERTIFICATES

Human Resource Management	1
Organizational and Executive Coaching	1
Real Estate	7
<b>TOTAL GRADUATE CERTIFICATES</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>TOTAL GRADUATE</b>	<b>1,683</b>

### UNDERGRADUATE

#### Degrees Awarded by the Division of Applied Undergraduate Studies (DAUS)

##### ASSOCIATE'S DEGREES

###### Associate of Arts and Associate in Applied Science

AAS in Health Administration	1
AA in Liberal Arts	17
AAS in Business	17
<b>TOTAL DAUS ASSOCIATE'S DEGREES</b>	<b>35</b>

##### BACHELOR'S DEGREES

BA in Humanities	9
BA in Social Sciences	69
BS in Applied Data Analytics & Visualization	2
BS in Digital Communications and Media	16
BS in Healthcare Management	14
BS in Information Systems Management	10
BS in Leadership and Management Studies	44
BS in Marketing Analytics	4
BS in Real Estate	7
<b>TOTAL DAUS BACHELOR'S DEGREES</b>	<b>175</b>
<b>TOTAL DAUS UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES</b>	<b>210</b>

#### Degrees Awarded by the Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality

BS in Hotel and Tourism Management	51
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#### Degrees Awarded by the Preston Robert Tisch Institute for Global Sport

BS in Sports Management	64
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#### Degrees Awarded by the Schack Institute of Real Estate

BS in Real Estate	51
<b>TOTAL UNDERGRADUATE</b>	<b>376</b>

To learn more about Gainful Employment Disclosure, visit [sps.nyu.edu/ged](http://sps.nyu.edu/ged).

## 2019 NYUSPS CONVOCATION AWARD RECIPIENTS AND FLAG BEARERS

### GRADUATE PROGRAMS

#### CENTER FOR APPLIED LIBERAL ARTS

##### MS IN PROFESSIONAL WRITING

###### Professional Writing Impact Award Laila Essmide Dreidame (Fall 2018)

The Professional Writing Impact Award is presented to a graduating student in the MS in Professional Writing program who has demonstrated a commitment to writing and communication endeavors that seek to impact society in positive ways. As the 2019 awardee, Laila E. Dreidame writes from a global-minded perspective and values ethical storytelling. In addition to her outstanding coursework, Dreidame's full-time role as the director of corporate and foundation relations at an NYC-based nonprofit allows her multiple opportunities to use writing as a way to foster understanding and empathy. She earned a Paul D. Coverdell Fellowship to support her graduate studies in the MS in Professional Writing program and completed a year of intensive leadership training at NYU. Prior to her graduate studies, Dreidame earned dual bachelor of science degrees in Spanish and international studies from the University of Scranton. Upon completion of her undergraduate studies, she served two years in the US Peace Corps as a rural education and community development officer in Madagascar and Zambia.

###### Flag Bearer

###### Shawn Berman (Fall 2018)

Shawn Berman was selected as the flag bearer for the MS in Professional Writing in recognition of his outstanding academic performance and his active participation as a student of this program. During his graduate coursework, Berman combined his writing skills and his interests in social media, literature, and sports to create compelling narratives across a variety of documents and media. He currently works as a copywriter in NYC. Prior to earning his graduate degree, Berman earned a BA in English from The College of Saint Rose.

##### MS IN TRANSLATION

###### Translation Academic Excellence Award Shazznic Beck (Fall 2018)

Shazznic Beck has demonstrated exemplary ability throughout her studies in the MS in Translation. She undertook a thesis

project that was imaginative, thorough, and challenging—subtling a documentary video that required exacting translation, as well as a mastery of technical requirements. Faculty members have recognized her for her excellent grasp of various approaches to translation and have applauded for her organization and project management skills. Beck earned a bachelor's degree in business from Southern Methodist University and a master's degree in French from Middlebury College. Since 2011, she has been a volunteer translator for non-profit organizations and was a participant in the Middlebury Translators' Conference during the summer of 2018. While studying in the MS in Translation, Beck took an interest in subtling, literary translation, and legal translation. She is currently working on building her career and her client base as a freelance translator and subtitler.

###### Flag Bearer

###### Leslie Buller

Leslie Buller has shown initiative and perseverance during her studies in the MS in Translation. Faculty members have praised the high quality of her translations, as well as her drive and focus in preparing for the professional areas she wants to pursue. She designed an independent study on lease and patent translation and undertook a thesis project translating legislation on France's social security program. Buller earned a bachelor of arts at Northwestern University, with majors in French and English. Having completed over 15 years of French language studies and having enjoyed multiple stints studying abroad in France, she is excited to embark on a career in translation. Though she plans to continue working in the hospitality industry for the time being, she envisions a part-time career freelancing in legal and business translation.

#### CENTER FOR GLOBAL AFFAIRS

##### MS IN GLOBAL AFFAIRS

###### Center for Global Affairs Excellence and Achievement Award

###### Sarah Busch

Sarah Busch is being recognized with the Center for Global Affairs Excellence and Achievement Award. With a concentration in global economy, her research centered on exploring new economic indicators and sustainable growth strategies in the era of climate change. She served as

the president of EPIC and received the Advisory Board Scholarship for her engagement and outstanding academic performance. She participated in a Global Field Intensive in Bolivia, where she studied the complexity of sustainable development. As part of her role as a Dean's Scholar, Busch mentored three high school students in the NYUSPS Aspire Program. Upon graduation, she plans to continue working at Aperture Investors, where she currently leads the digital outreach program and where she will focus on further deepening her knowledge of sustainable investing.

###### Center for Global Affairs Excellence and Achievement Award

###### Dean's Scholar

###### George W. Edwards

George Edwards has consistently maintained a high level of academic achievement during his time at the Center for Global Affairs (CGA). He was awarded the International Student Scholarship and is a two-time recipient of the CGA Advisory Board Scholarship. He gave back to the NYUSPS community through the Aspire program as a Dean's Scholar, and through his work as the president of the Human Rights and International Law League. Edwards had his work on statelessness published in the journal *Global Affairs Review*, and focused on the same topic for his thesis. In addition to his studies, he had the privilege of working at the NYUSPS International Student Support Center, and also completed internships at Parliamentarians for Global Action and at the International Center for Transitional Justice.

###### Center for Global Affairs Excellence and Achievement Award

###### Paul S. Harvey

While earning the MS in Global Affairs (MSGA), Spencer Harvey, who is originally from Canada, specialized in global gender studies. In January 2018, he participated in a Global Field Intensive in the United Arab Emirates, during which he conducted research on the intersection between gender, identity, and sexuality. During his time at the Center for Global Affairs (CGA), Harvey developed a research focus on gender and media, and ultimately produced a thesis on the news media's portrayal of female celebrities who utilize a political voice. In addition to his role as an MSGA student ambassador, he served as editor-in-chief of the *Global Affairs Review* and as the communications

director for CGA's Gender Working Group. Professionally, Harvey explored internship opportunities in communications and media with numerous organizations, including UNDP, The Rockefeller Foundation, and GLAAD. He also published works in *Global Affairs Review*, *Political Insights*, and *Women Across Frontiers*, and acted as an editor for an op-ed published in the *Financial Times*.

#### **Center for Global Affairs Excellence and Achievement Award**

##### **Dillan Jacobson**

Dillan Jacobson is the recipient of the 2019 Global Affairs Excellence and Achievement Award. Throughout her studies at the Center for Global Affairs, in addition to maintaining high grades, Jacobson took on numerous leadership roles, including president of the Gender Working Group (GWG), student ambassador for the Center for Global Affairs, and senior editor of the *Global Affairs Review*. She participated in two field research projects—one in the United Arab Emirates, studying Information Communication Technology (ICT) as a tool for women's empowerment, and the other in Colombia, exploring the perceptions of women survivors of the State's armed forces regarding the 2016 Peace Agreement. The findings from her research in Colombia will be published as a chapter in a larger peace-research anthology in the summer of 2019.

#### **Flag Bearer**

##### **Hussein Bakr Ibrahim**

Hussein Ibrahim is originally from the Kurdistan region of Iraq and traveled to the US in 2012 as a refugee. He enrolled in the MS in Global Affairs in Fall 2017, and pursued a concentration in peacebuilding. He soon became involved in the NYUSPS community, serving as the co-vice president of the Peace and Conflict Transformation Sub-Committee during his first semester, and as president of the Student Association for Global Affairs (SAGA) during the 2018-2019 academic year. Ibrahim also worked as a graduate assistant for Professor Thomas Hill, the director of the Peace Research and Education Program (PREP) within the Center for Global Affairs. He is grateful for his time at the Center for Global Affairs and is extremely honored to be a flag bearer.

## **CENTER FOR PUBLISHING**

### **MS IN PUBLISHING: DIGITAL AND PRINT MEDIA**

#### **Award for Excellence in Book Publishing Grace Rambo (Fall 2018)**

After pursuing a teaching fellowship in Italy, Grace Rambo returned to the US to enroll in the MS in Publishing: Digital and Print Media in 2017. During her time in the program, Rambo expanded her interests in the area of digital publishing, and completed her Capstone project on a digital-first comic book platform that emphasized diversified business strategies, direct-to-consumer marketing, and digital innovation. A dedicated student, Rambo received both the Judy Litchfield Memorial Scholarship and the W. W. Norton Scholarship in 2017. In addition to her academic achievements, she worked as a freelance translator, and interned for several publishing companies, including W. W. Norton and The Experiment, an independent nonfiction publisher. In 2018, Rambo joined The Experiment full time, and continues to pursue her interest in digital publishing in her role as digital production coordinator, which entails the oversight of the company's ebook program and metadata initiatives.

#### **Award for Excellence in Magazine and Digital Publishing**

##### **Lindsey M. Lanquist (Fall 2018)**

A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Elon University, Lindsey Lindquist enrolled in the MS in Publishing: Digital and Print Media in 2016 with already considerable experience, having interned at media outlets such as *O, the Oprah Magazine*; *NYLON*; *Mashable*; and *CBS Watch!* During her time at the Center for Publishing, she worked at Self.com and wrote 1,500 articles about culture, politics, health, beauty, food, and fitness. In 2017, Lanquist received the Hearst Scholarship for her commitment to magazine/digital media. Since June, 2018, she has worked in a senior lifestyle editor position at *StyleCaster*, overseeing a team of 10 freelancers. Lanquist looks forward to a career in digital media, working to create exciting and immersive content.

#### **Flag Bearer**

##### **Amanda C. Orozco**

Amanda Orozco is a dedicated student leader who has contributed greatly to the MS in Publishing: Digital and Print Media through her position as president of the

Publishing Students Association (PSA) for the 2018-2019 academic year. With the help of the PSA officers, she organized the PSA's Holiday Book Drive, collecting over 600 books to donate to nonprofit organizations such as Housing Works and Books Through Bars, as well as through other social and professional development events and book clubs. Orozco is a recipient of the prestigious Wiley Scholarship, and was selected to join two student volunteer trips to the Beijing and Frankfurt Book Fairs. She has interned at ACLS Humanities E-Book, the National Book Foundation, The Gernert Company, and Shreve Williams Public Relations. She currently works at Little, Brown and Company as a subsidiary rights assistant. Orozco is deeply committed to a long career in book publishing.

## **DIVISION OF PROGRAMS IN BUSINESS**

### **MS IN HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Academic Excellence Award in Human Resources Management and Development**

##### **Catherine Nicole Johansen (Fall 2018)**

The Divisions of Programs in Business is pleased to award Catherine Nicole Johansen with the Academic Excellence Award for the MS in Human Resources Management and Development. In addition to her academic achievements, Johansen is a major in the United States Marine Corps Reserve. After graduating from Loyola College in Maryland and completing officer candidate school, Johansen was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in August 2002. After six years of active duty including three deployments, she joined the Marine Corps Reserves in January 2008 and is currently the operations officer for Marine Wing Support Squadron 472. In 2011, she earned an MBA from the University of



Southern California. In her civilian career, Johansen has been a buyer for General Dynamics NASSCO, a consultant, and country manager of Australia and New Zealand for Gallup. She now has her own executive coaching practice.

**Leadership and Service Excellence Award In Human Resources Management and Development**

**Jessica J. Morris (Fall 2018)**

The Division of Programs in Business is pleased to award Jessica Morris with the Leadership and Service Excellence Award for the MS in Human Resources Management and Development program. Morris has not only demonstrated academic excellence but also has exemplified numerous leadership qualities. She has shown her ability to guide her classmates through extensive research processes, articulate her opinions with confidence, organize various ideas and viewpoints, delegate tasks among her teammates, and coordinate with her teams on how to best accomplish the assignments at hand and to provide effective deliverables on time. She has demonstrated leadership qualities outside of the classroom as well. Morris assisted her firm in attracting diverse talent by making her company's benefits more visible. She also has become involved with the local NYU alumni chapter so that she can further assist other graduates as they seek to cultivate many of the leadership skills that she has acquired during her time at NYUSPS.

**Flag Bearer**

**Ruba El Babir**

The Division of Programs in Business is pleased to have Ruba El Babir as the MS in Human Resources Management and Development flag bearer. She has built a strong global network by utilizing the diverse classroom experience that the program provides. In the classroom, she has been a supportive classmate and a particularly engaged student. In addition to performing strongly in her academic pursuits, she has served as a team leader in a variety of capacities in her classes. She also has taken the opportunity to build professional experience by serving as an HR specialist to supplement her graduate studies.

**MS IN INTEGRATED MARKETING**

**Academic Excellence Award in Integrated Marketing**

**Angelina Kim (Summer 2018)**

Angelina Kim has maintained an impressive standard of academic excellence during her graduate studies in the MS in Integrated Marketing. In addition to her educational pursuits, she is a performance-driven digital marketing executive with over 17 years of professional experience. Throughout her career, she has demonstrated strong leadership, strategic digital expertise, and stellar performance in managing complex, fully-digital campaigns for a diverse range of Fortune 500 companies. During her time within the Division of Programs in Business, Kim was afforded the opportunity to network across all disciplines, gaining a deeper understanding of how the strategic, creative, public relations, and analytical facets of marketing work together. The Integrated Marketing program enabled

her to gain a higher level of knowledge and skills to implement innovative and compelling marketing campaigns. We are pleased to recognize her hard work and dedication with the Academic Excellence Award in Integrated Marketing.

**Leadership and Service Excellence Award in Integrated Marketing**

**Graduate Convocation Student Leadership Award**

**Neha Madan Dembla**

During her studies in the Division of Programs in Business MS in Integrated Marketing, Neha Dembla has embodied many of the qualities that will allow her to succeed after graduation. While performing strongly in the classroom, she also has been deeply involved in student government at both the School and the University level. She served as an NYUSPS graduate student senator, in addition to serving on the Social Service Committee, the NYU Events Committee, the NYU Student Services Committee, the NYU Senate Committee on Organization and Governance, and the NYU Alumni Relations Committee. In her role as the NYUSPS graduate student senator, she represented the student body at the Student Senators Council (SSC), the Student Government Assembly, and the University Senate. As the chair of the NYU Alumni Relations Committee, she also worked with a team comprised of students from schools across the University, to build opportunities and to resolve issues concerning the relationship between current students and NYU alumni. We are thrilled to award Neha Dembla with the Leadership and Service Award for the MS in Integrated Marketing.

**Student Leadership Award**

**Sharanya Suresh Kumar**

Sharanya Suresh Kumra exemplifies the ideal student leader. She served on the Graduate Student Council for two years—first as the administrative vice president, and this year, as the vice president of operations. In both roles, she played an integral part in all of the Council's activities, including recruitment of volunteers, participation in and promotion of community service events and the Giving THANKS Dinner, the Winter Ball, the All-U Games, and Global Village. This year, she served as the election liaison to the NYU Student Senators Council, and oversaw the Council's constitution update and revision process. She also served at the University level for





two years as the alternate senator at large, on the NYU Student Senators Council, which represents graduate and international students. In addition, she served as an NYU Spirit Week ambassador for the NYU Violet 100, and as a member of the NYU Alumni Relations and NYU International Student Affairs Committees. For all she has contributed, she also was a recipient of the President's Service Award. We thank her for all of her efforts and hard work on behalf of NYUSPS.

#### **Flag Bearer**

##### **Leslie Hernandez**

During her time at NYUSPS, Leslie Hernandez has been an extremely dedicated student and has served as a leader both in and outside the classroom. She was chosen to be an NYUSPS Dean's Graduate Scholar, has mentored high school students participating in the NYUSPS Aspire program, and was one of a select number of students to participate in NYUSPS Real World courses. This opportunity provided the chance to build her professional skills by working closely with JetBlue. Hernandez also is a founding board member of Brooklyn RISE Charter School. Her academic achievements, stellar work ethic and desire to give to others make her the perfect flag bearer for the MS in Integrated Marketing.

#### **Graduate Convocation Banner Bearer**

##### **Rohini S. Tobaccowala**

Rohini Tobaccowala has been given the distinct honor of serving as the Graduate Convocation banner bearer. During her time in the MS in Integrated Marketing, she has maintained an excellent GPA and has developed a phenomenal rapport with faculty members and students. Because of her prior professional experience in the digital marketing and social media space, Tobaccowala also has been asked by Integrated Marketing faculty members to serve as a guest speaker on multiple occasions. She has made the most of her experience at NYUSPS, gaining a deeper understanding of marketing through her studies in the classroom and by completing an internship with Twitter in Los Angeles, CA. She exemplifies all that an NYUSPS education can provide, and therefore, is the perfect graduating student to represent the School during the Graduate Convocation ceremonies.

## **MS IN MANAGEMENT AND SYSTEMS**

### **Academic Excellence Award in Management and Systems**

#### **Commencement Video Graduate Student Profile**

##### **Michael D. Caligiuri**

Michael Caligiuri maintained an excellent academic record throughout his graduate studies at NYUSPS. He also is the first student from the School to be accepted into an NYU Global Research Institute by submitting a thesis during the Spring 2018 semester. The University-wide application pool for this opportunity included graduate degree and doctoral candidates, as well as NYU faculty members. Caligiuri was one of only four candidates selected to receive a one-year research grant. His accomplishments in the classroom, as well as his ability to conduct research that has been recognized by the University, make him the ideal graduating student to receive the Academic Excellence Award and to represent the School and the University in the NYU commencement video.

### **Leadership and Service Excellence Award in Management and Systems**

#### **Quangen Liu**

During his time at NYUSPS, Quangen (Daniel) Liu has demonstrated his desire and ability to lead in numerous ways. Liu served as the vice president of the MS in Management and Systems (MASY) student club for a year and a half. During his time in this role, he helped to elevate fellow students' professional and educational experiences, and worked to bridge the gap between the student body and School administrations. In Spring 2018, under his leadership, MASY hosted its first industry panel discussion for students. This event focused on career opportunities and industry trends. Several MASY alumni who hold management-level positions in their respective fields were invited to talk about their professional and educational experiences, while answering questions from students. Given the multitude of ways Liu has served the student body, we are thrilled to bestow upon him the MS in Management and Systems Leadership and Service Award.

#### **Flag Bearer**

##### **Zhiqing Yang**

The Division of Programs in Business is pleased to have Zhiqing Yang serve as the MS in Management and Systems (MASY) flag bearer. In addition to maintaining good grades, Yang has played an active role in the MASY program. In the classroom, she has used her previous professional experiences to organize and to lead

projects involving fellow classmates. She is able to delegate tasks to team members that allow them to explore their interests and build upon their strengths. Yang also has taken the time to connect with recent alumni from the Management and Systems program and to use these relationships as a way to gain experience from those who have gone on to successful careers.

## **MS IN PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

### **Academic Excellence Award in Project Management**

#### **Brandon Ryan Atwell (Fall 2018)**

The Division of Programs in Business is pleased to recognize Brandon Ryan Atwell with the Academic Excellence Award in Project Management. While maintaining a high level of academic performance during his graduate studies at NYUSPS, he also encouraged his classmate to consistently perform strongly. His ability to work in a diverse classroom setting was particularly noteworthy, and will serve him well as he pursues a career in an increasingly global marketplace. In addition to his academic studies, Atwell also represented the project management program by serving in the NYUSPS Graduate Admissions Office and by meeting with prospective students.

### **Leadership and Service Excellence Award in Project Management**

#### **Cagla Duzbasan (Fall 2018)**

Cagla Duzbasan has served as a leader in various capacities within the NYU community and in NYC. She has undertaken leadership roles in class activities and projects, and has started her own business with three other students—FALEZ 3D Printed Clothing—at Leslie E-Lab. Duzbasan is passionate about giving back. She volunteered at the 2018 Entrepreneurship Festival and at Repacks in Hunts Point - Food Bank for New York City. She also has helped to welcome 545 students from 95 countries while working as a coordinator for a Model United Nations conference. We are pleased to award her the Leadership and Service Excellence Award.

#### **Flag Bearer**

##### **Alejandro Andrés Abarzúa Martínez (Fall 2018)**

The Division of Programs in Business is pleased to have Alejandro Andrés Abarzúa Martínez serve as the MS in Project Management flag bearer. In addition to maintaining an excellent academic record during his graduate studies at NYUSPS, he also served as a project coordinator within the NYU IT Department. Throughout his studies, Martínez applied

current and previous professional experiences to his academic work and also used these experiences to assist his classmates as well. Furthermore, he thrived in the diverse classroom setting offered by the program, building relationships that will serve him for a lifetime.

## MS IN PUBLIC RELATIONS AND CORPORATE COMMUNICATION

### Graduate Convocation Student Speaker

#### Flag Bearer

**Carmella Glover**

*See page 1 for her biography.*

### Academic Excellence Award in Public Relations and Corporate Communications

**Kimberly A. Weston (Fall 2018)**

In many ways, Kimberly Weston represents the ideal NYUSPS graduate student. In addition to performing well academically, she spent a great deal of time conducting independent research and building her professional network through her NYUSPS instructors and through exposure to guest lecturers. In addition to her graduate studies, she participated in multiple internships and started a full-time job during her time in the program. She has worked for and has been affiliated with numerous public relations organizations including: The Rosen Group, the James Beard Foundation, Ketchum, and Peppercomm.

### Leadership and Service Excellence Award In Public Relations and Corporate Communication

**Elizabeth O. Harper**

Elizabeth Harper has demonstrated strong leadership skills in and outside the classroom. Therefore, she is being recognized with the Leadership and Service Excellence Award in Public Relations and Corporate Communication. During her time as a graduate student at NYUSPS, she had the opportunity to lead many classroom discussions and presentations. She also was selected to spearhead multiple group projects, which required the use of her organizational and administrative skills, as well as her ability to manage talented and diverse groups of people. Her willingness to maintain a standard of quality and excellence throughout her time in the PRCC program made her a model student and the deserving recipient of this award.

## Washington Square News Commencement Student Profile

### Graduate Convocation Student Impact Award

**Deeksha Bhatnagar**

Deeksha Bhatnagar embodies the qualities of high academic achievement, dedicated service, and strong leadership that make her a perfect choice for the Graduate Convocation Student Impact Award. In addition to her impressive academic performance, in her role as chair of the Graduate Student Council Events Committee, she oversaw all major school-wide events. These included NYUSPS Spirit Week, a 10-day celebration of school spirit; Global Village, a celebration of NYUSPS international diversity through food, culture, and performances; the Winter Ball; and the Spring Dinner Cruise. Through her leadership, the Committee brought together members of all NYUSPS clubs and organizations, which served to greatly increase community spirit. Her commitment to the School and its students also earned her the Presidents Community Service Award. We are deeply grateful to her for all that she has done for NYUSPS.

## JONATHAN M. TISCH CENTER OF HOSPITALITY

### MS IN HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY STUDIES

#### Jonathan Tisch Academic Achievement Award

**Peng Xu**

Leo Xu, the recipient of the Jonathan Tisch Academic Achievement Award, was born and raised in China. He earned a BS in hospitality leadership, from Missouri State University (MSU), graduating cum laude. He was immersed in the field of hospitality and tourism from an early age, having been influenced by his parents who managed a boutique resort and spa property in China. Since 2013, Xu has completed numerous internships with several major companies, including Walt Disney Parks and Resorts, Starwood Hotels and Resorts, and the China National Tourist Office. Immediately after he graduated from MSU, he worked as a senior hotel reservation operator (regional main contact) for a hospitality wholesaler in NJ. His passion, along with abundant work experiences, eventually led to his decision to pursue the MS in Hospitality Industry studies at NYUSPS in 2017. During his time at the Tisch Center

of Hospitality, Xu served as the Student Council representative for the Hospitality and Tourism Society (HTS). This provided him with the opportunity to get involved in numerous extracurricular activities. He also helped the HTS club to garner an NYU President's Service Award in 2018. In addition, he was awarded three other scholarships for the 2018–2019 academic year. His exceptional academic performance and deep involvement in networking events helped him to secure a revenue management internship at Highgate Hotels, where he made valuable connections with industry professionals. After graduation, he aspires to continue his career in the hospitality field, concentrating on revenue and asset management. He looks forward to contributing to NYUSPS as an active alumnus.

#### Flag Bearer

**Oliver J. Pimley**

Oliver Jensen Pimley embodies the goals and values of the Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality and the larger NYUSPS community, and for this reason he serves as the flag bearer for the MS in hospitality industry studies. Pimley's excellent academic performance included team projects in Marketing and Brand Management for Aloft and Norwegian Cruise Line, a research paper on hospitality security, and a group presentation on international food, beverage, and taxi prices. He distinguished himself with clear, insightful written and verbal presentations, and in managing the teams' efforts. Pimley participated in property management and recruitment internships while earning his degree; continued to hone his language skills in German, Japanese, and Hebrew; practiced Krav Maga; and regularly visited critical care patients in the hospital. He looks forward to providing memorable customer experiences in the hospital industry.

## MS IN TOURISM MANAGEMENT

### Ricelle "Bunny" Grossinger Hospitality Award

**Harini Premnath**

The Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality is proud to present Harini Premnath with the 2019 Ricelle "Bunny" Grossinger Hospitality Award. Premnath is the outgoing president of the Hospitality and Tourism Society. She has worked tirelessly to have a positive impact on the broader NYUSPS and NYU student community. She also is a proud recipient of the Stephen Brener Memorial Scholarship,

the Paul and Bunny Grossinger Scholarship, and the Jonathan M. Tisch Scholarship. In addition to her strong academic performance in the MS Tourism Management, she has benefited from hands-on learning experience during her time at NYUSPS. She worked as the lead program assistant at the NYU Wasserman Center for a team that supports 17,000 students across the University. She also interned for Arlo Hotels as a revenue analyst. Upon graduation, Premnath plans to pursue a career in revenue management in the industry. Her hard work and dedication to her field make her an ideal recipient of this prestigious award.

#### Flag Bearer

##### Xin Liu

Xin (Cristina) Liu embodies the qualities of high academic achievement, service, and leadership at the Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality and within the larger NYUSPS community. In addition to actively volunteering for numerous tourism and hospitality related events and meetings, Liu was awarded the Jonathan M. Tisch Scholarship, the Stephen Brener Memorial Scholarship, and the Albert Khudoyan Scholarship. Because of her stellar academic performance and her embodiment of the program's goals and values, she was chosen to serve as the flag bearer for the MS in Tourism Management. Upon graduation, Liu plans to pursue a career in the tourism and hospitality field, and to apply the invaluable knowledge she acquired at the Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality to making a difference in the industry and the world.

## PRESTON ROBERT TISCH INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL SPORT

### MS IN SPORTS BUSINESS

#### Allie Sherman Sports Business Leadership Award

##### Aditya Vachaspati Gadepally Bala Kameswara

The Preston Robert Tisch Institute for Global Sport is proud to recognize Aditya Gadepally as the 2019 recipient of the Allie Sherman Sports Business Leadership Award. A lifelong sports fan and a former student athlete, he earned his undergraduate degree in India. Upon graduation, he decided to pursue marketing and earned his first master's degree in international marketing from the University of Sussex, the UK. He had always wanted to



pursue further study and return to his background in sports, so he enrolled in the MS in Sports Business at NYUSPS. During his time in the program, Gadepally interned with the New York Road Runners, taking advantage of learning opportunities beyond the classroom. As the vice president of the Tisch Institute's Graduate Sports Business Society, he distinguished himself as a leader among his peers. His parents, who are both professors, have had the greatest impact on him. He is honored to be representing his family and the NYUSPS community as a future leader in sports.

#### Flag Bearer

##### Roy Folkman (Fall 2018)

Roy Folkman was chosen by the Preston Robert Tisch Institute for Global Sport to serve as the flag bearer for the MS in Sports Business program. Folkman's academic achievements in the program were acknowledged last year with a scholarship for Business Innovation. His academic excellence was not limited to traditional class assignments, as Folkman was also involved in real-life projects, connecting academic knowledge to the sports industry. One notable lab-to-life innovation was a consulting project for the city of Louisville, which received high praise from the US Conference of Mayors Professional Sports Alliance. While in school, Folkman was involved in voluntary activities with the local NYC community. Two of the organizations he volunteered for were The Carter Burden Network, which provides meal service and food delivery for senior citizens, and The Friendship Circle, which provides social and recreational

opportunities for people with special needs. Folkman is proof of the practical value of the MS in Sports Business, and is now employed as a business development associate in a tech company. He hopes to carry the values and spirit inspired by the program, bringing sports to fans wherever they are.

## SCHACK INSTITUTE OF REAL ESTATE

### MS IN REAL ESTATE

#### Flag Bearer

##### Kevin N. Sullivan (Fall 2018)

Kevin Sullivan completed his MS in Real Estate at the Schack Institute of Real Estate in Fall 2018. As the top academic student in the graduating class, he is serving as the flag bearer for the program during the 2019 NYUSPS Graduate Convocation ceremony. Sullivan thrived in the classroom while also excelling in the field. He took classes at NYUSPS part-time, as he managed the responsibilities of working full-time as an assistant vice president at PGIM Real Estate. He currently is working as an asset manager, focused primarily on core-plus office investments in the Northeast and in South Florida. His loving wife, Stephanie, and caring puppy, Stella, have been instrumental in his accomplishments and he thanks them dearly for their continued support.



## MS IN REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT

### Schack Institute of Real Estate Student Service Award

#### Commencement Graduate Class Representative

##### William J. Beaton IV

The Schack Institute of Real Estate is proud to present William J. Beaton IV with the 2019 Schack Institute Student Service Award. Beaton is the outgoing president of the Real Estate Institute Student Association, and worked diligently to make a positive impact on the student community. He performed at the highest level in all areas while enrolled in the MS in Real Estate Development, with a concentration in the business of development. He was fortunate to help lead a semifinalist team in MIT's Case Competition in San Francisco. Additionally, Beaton participated in the 2018 Global Real Estate study tour in Hong Kong. He was awarded the Urban Leadership Scholarship and the Global Real Estate Scholarship. Furthermore, he worked for SIXTY Hotels on its hospitality team and participated in a summer internship opportunity with Cohen Equities, working in acquisitions and business development. Beaton's strong academic performance, dedication to the student community, and passion for excellence have made him a role model for students at the NYUSPS Schack Institute of Real Estate and across NYU.

#### Flag Bearer

##### Suzanne E. Sciarra

Suzanne Sciarra's academic accomplishments and leadership skills demonstrate the highest qualities of the Schack Institute of Real Estate graduate Class of 2019, as they venture forward to shape the dynamic forces influencing the real estate industry. Sciarra is a lawyer

specializing in real estate and real estate finance law, and has continued to practice law while enrolled in the MS in Real Estate Development program with a concentration in the business of development. She earned a Juris Doctor in 2012 from Columbia Law School, where she was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar. She graduated *summa cum laude* from Boston College in 2009, with a BA in history. Upon graduation, she plans to continue working at Ursa Development Group, a real estate development firm based in Hoboken, NJ, where she currently serves as general counsel. Sciarra's impressive intellectual accomplishments, coupled with her advanced skills and passion for making a lasting difference, were the determining factors in choosing her to serve as flag bearer during the NYUSPS Graduate Convocation ceremony.

## MS IN CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

#### Flag Bearer

##### Rucha G. Naik

The NYUSPS Schack Institute of Real Estate is proud to have Rucha Naik serve as the flag bearer for the MS in Construction Management. Her stellar academic performance and deep interest in her discipline have made her a standout in the field. After earning her degree in mechanical engineering from Columbia University, Naik began her career in the interiors division of Turner Construction in New York City, where she has been a part of several large-scale interior projects. She is a member of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE); and while at Turner, was actively involved in several community affairs projects, especially those centered around encouraging participation of women in the field of construction and in STEM. At NYUSPS, Naik pursued an MS in Construction Management. After graduation, she will continue to work in the field of construction, especially on large-scale, international projects around the world. She also plans to remain involved in community outreach opportunities that examine the issues of gender imbalance and inequality within the built environment.

## UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

### DIVISION OF APPLIED UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

#### BA IN HUMANITIES

##### Wallace Gobetz Memorial Award

##### Timothy Paul Fenn (Fall 2018)

Tim Fenn is an outstanding student and a gifted writer. His commitment to rigorous critical thinking, balanced with a penchant for creative and insightful approaches to work within and beyond the classroom, have made him an invaluable member of the NYUSPS community. His wit, intellectual curiosity, and passion for excellence make him the perfect recipient for this prestigious award.

#### BA IN SOCIAL SCIENCES

##### Alpha Sigma Lambda Dean's Award for Excellence

##### Sean Eddings

The Division of Applied Undergraduate Studies is proud to present Sean Eddings with the Alpha Sigma Lambda Dean's Award for Excellence. Eddings is deeply interested in macroeconomic policy and development economics. He has continually challenged himself by pursuing complex and sophisticated scholarship and will pursue graduate studies in economics.

##### Herbert C. Jaffa Award

##### James E. Krause Jr.

A veteran and former iron worker, Jimmy Krause, is a truly unique student whose achievements in both historical research and creative writing serve to highlight the deep synergies between the two fields. Although he ventured into creative writing relatively late as an undergraduate, he already has written a full-length screenplay adaptation of a medieval chivalric romance, as well as a play that focuses on the crises faced by veterans following wartime experiences. His historical research also shows originality, including his senior project, which examined the medieval sword as both a material object and the mental embodiment of ideas and ideals. Krause also was a critical member of the team that transformed "Dovetail," the Division's literary magazine, into a masterpiece of colorful art, poetry, and prose. Thoughtful yet humble, he deeply

enjoys thinking beyond disciplinary boundaries by blending his analytical and creative abilities.

#### **Wallace Gobetz Memorial Award**

##### **Michelle Meged**

Earning the Wallace Gobetz Memorial Award for the highest GPA in her degree, Michele Meged has more than realized a life-long dream of earning a bachelor's degree, she has mastered it. An adult transfer student, Meged always had the potential to be an outstanding learner, and NYUSPS gave her the opportunity to shine.

#### **Flag Bearer**

##### **Dean's Scholar**

##### **Stephen Brown**

Generous, intelligent, kind, unpretentious—these are just some of the traits Stephen Brown's classmates and professors use to describe him. With his calm, laid back nature, he makes everything look easy, but he's passionate about his schoolwork, psychology, and research. He also helps others who are just getting started on the road to a college education through his work as a Dean's Scholar. Upon graduation, Brown plans to pursue a graduate degree in psychology. We are happy to recognize his achievements and his contribution to our community.

#### **BS IN DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA**

##### **Harvey Stedman Award**

#### **Wallace Gobetz Memorial Award**

##### **Patrick C. Warren**

Patrick Warren is an exemplary student in the BS in Digital Communications and Media who excels academically. He has a contagious passion for the media arts, is a generous supporter of his classmates, and often lends his talents for NYUSPS events. He does all of this while working in his field and at other jobs to support his lifestyle and his education. With a GPA of 4.0, he was recently accepted into the NYU Tisch School of the Arts Interactive Telecommunications Program for Fall 2019. It is a two-year graduate program that explores the imaginative use of communications technologies.



#### **BS IN LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Undergraduate Convocation Banner Bearer**

##### **Undergraduate Student Leadership Award**

##### **Andrea V. Alva-Araya**

Andrea Alva-Araya is president of the NYUSPS Undergraduate Student Council and has served on myriad committees representing the interests of her fellow students. As a student in the BS in Leadership and Management, she has taken great pride in the accomplishments of the School's student government. She is passionate about improving the student experience and advocating for a student-focused agenda on campus.

#### **Flag Bearer**

##### **Unni Lund Olsen (Fall 2018)**

Unni Lund Olsen is an intensely engaged student who is known for participating in vigorous debate. Her written work combines imagination with the highest level of professionalism and academic excellence. She is truly deserving of representing the NYUSPS Undergraduate Class of 2019 as its flag bearer.

#### **AAS IN BUSINESS**

##### **Wallace Gobetz Memorial Award**

##### **Shivali Kapoor**

Shivali Kapoor is an outstanding student, who has earned a perfect 4.0 GPA. She completed her associate's degree in just two semesters and plans to continue her education by earning a bachelor's degree at a major university. Her impressive

academic achievements and her determination to move ahead make her an ideal candidate for the Wallace Gobetz Memorial Award.

#### **Wallace Gobetz Memorial Award**

##### **Brandon Tong**

Brandon Tong is the recipient of the Wallace Gobetz Memorial Award for having one of the highest GPA's in his class. Upon graduation, Tong plans to continue working towards earning a bachelor's degree in business at NYU.

#### **Flag Bearer**

##### **Wenzhe Guo**

Wenzhe Guo is a leader, and this he does by example and actively, helping those around him to be better students. His intellectual curiosity and eagerness truly set him apart. He is the perfect choice to lead his fellow students as their flag bearer.

#### **JONATHAN M. TISCH CENTER OF HOSPITALITY**

#### **BS IN HOTEL AND TOURISM MANAGEMENT**

##### **Jonathan Tisch Academic Achievement Award**

##### **Che (Sophie) Huang**

Che (Sophie) Huang is graduating from the Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality with a BS in hotel and tourism management and a minor in web programming and application. Throughout her academic career at NYUSPS, she has strived for academic excellence—making the Dean's List each semester. She also was selected as one of the Dean's Scholars last year, volunteering for multiple

school-wide events and mentoring high school students in the Aspire Program. Apart from her academic performance, Huang is the student ambassador for the Tisch Center, current president of the NYU Chinese Students and Scholars Association, and a resident assistant in the Palladium residence hall. Through a wide range of positions she has held during her time at NYUSPS, Huang has learned about different cultures and how to incorporate them into her own identity. Most recently, she was one of four NYU students to be named a Schwarzman Scholar. This is an incredibly prestigious honor, which will allow her to complete graduate studies at Tsinghua University in Beijing, where she will pursue her passion for cultural integration. She is truly a model student who is totally deserving of the Jonathan Tisch Academic Achievement Award. We wish her the very best of luck in all of her endeavors.

#### **Ricelle “Bunny” Grossinger Hospitality Award**

##### **Sophy Lorraine Martorell**

Sophy Martorell is very honored to receive the Ricelle “Bunny” Grossinger Hospitality Award given to an undergraduate Tisch Center student who exhibits exceptional leadership potential in hospitality and tourism. Martorell is a very committed and hardworking individual who served as the president of the HSMIA NYU Chapter last year. She graduates with a BS in hospitality and tourism with a concentration in hotel development, and a minor in architecture and urban design. She has been deeply involved in the Tisch Center, hosting faculty tours, attending freshmen orientations as a speaker, and working on the events planning team for the NYU

International Hospitality Industry Investment Conference. Upon graduation, Martorell will work full time as a construction and real estate advisory consultant at EY. She is very excited to utilize the leadership skills gained during her time at the Tisch Center, and through her on-campus involvement and work experience, in her future career.

#### **Flag Bearer**

##### **Nelson Perez**

Nelson Perez demonstrates the principles of leadership, service, and scholarship within the Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality and the greater NYU community. He is serving as the flag bearer for the BS in Hotel and Tourism Management at the NYUSPS Undergraduate Convocation ceremony. In addition to his academic achievements, Perez has served NYU as president of the Aviation Club, a leader within the Gentlemen of Quality organization at NYU, a residential life student leader, and a Welcome Programs leader. As a first-generation college student, he has excelled at NYU and is thankful to the Tisch Center staff and other NYU community members who helped him reach this point. Upon graduation, Perez would like to start a career in the hospitality industry that is focused on aviation before eventually pursuing a master's degree. His tenacity, grit, and work ethic in his academic and professional endeavors make him a role model for future students at the Tisch Center and across the University.

#### **Commencement Undergraduate Class Representative**

##### **Grace Sophia Houghton-Larsen**

Grace Houghton-Larsen embodies the qualities of academic achievement, service, and leadership within the Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality at the NYU School of Professional Studies and the larger NYU community. Houghton-Larsen will be the Undergraduate Class Representative for the School of Professional Studies during NYU Commencement Ceremonies at Yankee Stadium. In addition to her strong academic performance, she immersed herself in service and leadership within the NYU community through her sorority, Pi Beta Phi. Houghton-Larsen was a proud recipient of the Tisch Center Patron Scholarship. She continually engaged with fellow classmates and professors to enhance her academic career and knowledge about the hospitality industry. Upon graduation, she plans to remain in New York City, utilizing her experience and continuing to advance her skill set in hospitality. Her work ethic, charisma, and warmth make her a role model for students at the Tisch Center and across the School.

## **PRESTON ROBERT TISCH INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL SPORT**

### **BS IN SPORTS MANAGEMENT**

#### **Undergraduate Convocation Student Speaker**

##### **Adam Simon Lassner**

*See page 1 for his biography.*

#### **Allie Sherman Sports Business Leadership Award**

#### **Student Impact Award**

#### **Commencement Video Undergraduate Student Profile**

##### **Shannon Nicole Morgan**

The Preston Robert Tisch Institute for Global Sport is proud to present Shannon Morgan with the 2019 Allie Sherman Sports Business Leadership Award. Morgan has made the Dean's List every semester she has attended NYU, and was a recipient of the Tisch Institute Bass Scholarship, as well as the Tisch Institute Scholarship for Social Responsibility. In addition to her high academic achievement, she also is a sprinter on the NYU Varsity Track & Field





Team. Morgan is the senator representing undergraduate students on the University-wide Student Senators Council, the Student Government Assembly, and the University Senate. She has interned with the Washington Mystics, at Monumental Sports & Entertainment, and at Adidas, where she was voted most confident intern out of a class of 58. Her dedication to NYUSPS and NYU has led her to sit on numerous committees including the NYUSPS Events Committee, the Undergraduate Programming Committee, the University Senate Judicial Board, the All-University Events Committee, the Diversity Committee, and the 1831 Fund Committee. She also has volunteered to participate on numerous student panels for Tisch Institute recruitment events. After graduation, Morgan will pursue a joint JD/MBA, which will help her in achieving her ultimate goal of being an agent for female athletes and creating a female athlete-focused agency.

**Commencement Banner Bearer**

**Flag Bearer**

**Jasneel Singh Chaddha**

Jasneel Chaddha exemplifies the qualities of exceptional academic achievement, leadership, and service within the Preston Robert Tisch Institute for Global Sport and the larger NYUSPS community. Thus, he will serve as the flag bearer for the BS in Sports Management and the Commencement banner bearer. In addition to his stellar academic performance, which has earned him Dean's List honors for eight consecutive semesters at NYU, Chaddha has served as founder &

chairman of the NYUSPS Sports Business Society Mentorship Program, as an active board member on the Sports Business Society, and as a resident assistant (RA) at Founders Hall. He also has been recognized as an NYUSPS Dean's Scholar and as a two-time recipient of the NYU President's Service Award. Additionally, Chaddha is a published author for The Huffington Post, and has acquired much real-world experience through internships and opportunities with The Madison Square Garden Company, NBA China, the New York Jets, the WNBA, LeagueApps, Coupa Software, Marketo, and BODYARMOR to name a few. He has a global worldview, shaped through studying Mandarin Chinese for over five years and studying abroad in Shanghai, China. His intelligence, maturity, and dedication makes him an excellent role model for students in the Tisch Institute and across the School.

**SCHACK INSTITUTE OF REAL ESTATE**

**BS IN REAL ESTATE**

**Schack Academic Excellence Award Elyshia Mykenzie Geter**

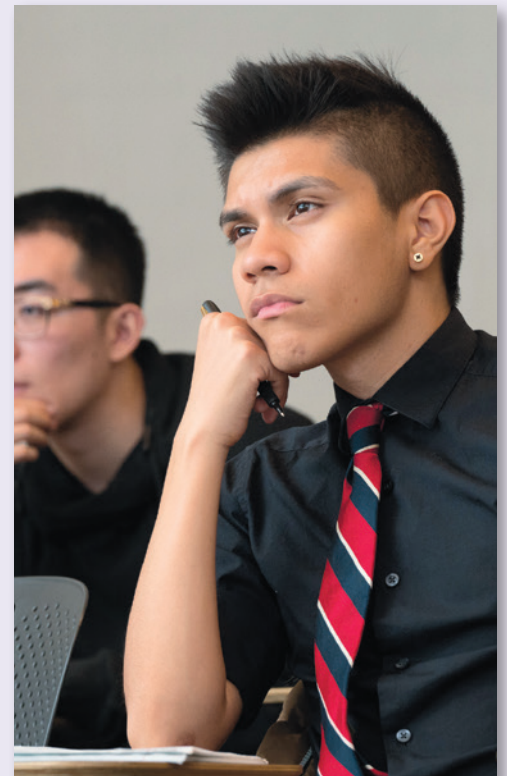
The Schack Institute of Real Estate is proud to present Elyshia Geter with the 2018 Schack Academic Excellence Award. She made the Dean's List each semester and was the recipient of the Regan Family Scholarship Academic Award in the Spring of 2016. She currently has an internship with the Mann Group, a real estate investment, development, and management firm

specializing in mixed use properties in New York City. She studied in Sydney, Australia for a semester in 2017, and has been a resident assistant for the last two years. She appreciates the interaction with the faculty members at Schack as well as the close interactions with her classmates. She would like to stay in NYC after graduation and continue to hone her skills so that she can achieve her goal of working in development. We are extremely proud of her academic achievements.

**Flag Bearer**

**Maria Pohlman**

Maria Pohlman embodies the qualities of academic achievement, service, and leadership within the Schack Institute of Real Estate and the larger NYUSPS community. For this reason, she is serving as the flag bearer for the BS in Real Estate. In addition to her strong academic performance, Pohlman has served as president of the Undergraduate Real Estate Club. She has volunteered at the Women in Real Estate Conference held by the Schack Institute in 2017 and the Capital Markets Conference held by the Schack Institute in 2018. In 2017, she competed in the Harvard Case Competition and in 2018, she competed in the Villanova Real Estate Case Competition. In May 2018, she and three colleagues won the ICSC and Cornell International Retail Real Estate Case Competition in Las Vegas, NV. We are so proud of her achievements and look forward to her future successes.



## FACULTY AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

### Division of Applied Undergraduate Studies Clinical Professor Mechthild Schmidt Feist Recognized With a Fulbright-Nehru Academic and Professional Excellence Award

NYUSPS Division of Applied Undergraduate Studies (DAUS) Clinical Professor and media artist, Mechthild Schmidt, Feist has been recognized with a Fulbright-Nehru Academic and Professional Excellence Award Scholarship for her project investigating the role of media in communicating environmental awareness. The goal of the Fulbright-Nehru Fellowships, which are administered by the United States - India Educational Foundation (USIEF), is to provide faculty members, researchers, and professionals with the opportunity to teach and to conduct research in either India or in the US.

Schmidt Feist, who teaches courses in motion design, engaged media, and media history in the BS in Digital Communications and Media (DCoM) at DAUS, has a long-standing passion for creating art in online and public spaces that calls to attention the issues of climate change and other pressing environmental challenges. Thanks to the Fulbright-Nehru Award, she will be able to expand the scope



*L.E.S.S. (Less of everything; Esthetics of Sharing and Sustainability), animation and installation, M.S. Feist 2016-18*

of her research and her artistic endeavors at the Srishti Institute of Art, Design and Technology in Bangalore, India, where during Spring 2020, she will investigate Indian and Asian media advocacy and design a media project.

At the Srishti Institute, which has a sustainable mission that aligns closely with her own art practice, Feist also will host a student workshop, “Engaged Media - Building Culturally and Locally Sensitive Environmental Awareness - Taking Creative Work from Art Spaces to Public Spaces.”

Grateful and excited for the opportunity to “experience a different culture and to see my own culture and work in a new light,” Feist noted, “Working in India will widen my approach to progress beyond a Euro-American mindset.”

She added, “I hope to have a dual impact of academic exchange and of improved understanding of India’s initiatives in fighting climate change.”

### Preston Robert Tisch Institute for Global Sport Clinical Associate Professor of Sports Management and Assistant Dean of Strategic Academic Partnerships, David Hollander, Receives the NYU Distinguished Teaching Award



Assistant Dean of Strategic and Academic Partnerships and Clinical Associate Professor David A. Hollander (c) was honored with the NYU Distinguished Teaching Award during the NYUSPS Faculty Awards Celebration. Here he poses with Interim Dean Susan Greenbaum and Associate Dean of the Preston Robert Tisch Institute for Global Sport, Vince Gennaro.

Photo Credit: ©Creighton: Courtesy of NYU Photo Bureau

The NYU Distinguished Teaching Award recognizes full-time faculty members who have contributed significantly to the intellectual life of the University through their teaching. Recipients of the Award have a demonstrated record of outstanding teaching effectiveness in and outside the classroom, as well as the ability to inspire, promote, and sustain the intellectual development of their students. These faculty members often demonstrate a pedagogical approach that is innovative and intellectually rigorous, creative, and engaging. In addition, their scholarly and professional contributions foster critical thinking, challenging their students in new and unique ways.

David Hollander, assistant dean of strategic and academic partnerships and a clinical associate professor at the Preston Robert Tisch Institute for Global Sport, is a recipient of the 2018–2019 NYU Distinguished Teaching Award. Since joining NYUSPS in 2008, Hollander has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to exceptional teaching and student mentoring inside and outside the classroom. He has been noted to explore “big questions,” while shaping his students’ fundamental lifelong learning habits of inquiry. His innovative teaching style is at its core, student-centered, often employing the flipped classroom. His work in the construction of experiential courses, through partnerships with the NY Jets, JetBlue Airways, FOX Sports, CNBC, Instagram, and another half-dozen companies, has created valuable, hands-on experiences for students in all NYUSPS programs. In addition to his involvement in the classroom and environs, Hollander serves as an NYU Faculty Fellow in Residence, one of 33 across NYU who are selected through a competitive process. In this role, he provides students from across the University with personally curated intellectual, cultural, and social programming. In all facets of his work at NYU, Hollander has been recognized as a leader, an innovator, and a valuable member of the faculty.

Hollander earned a juris doctor in law review from Quinnipiac University School of Law and a BA in philosophy from Brandeis University.



## DEAN'S SCHOLARS PROVIDE CRITICAL SUPPORT TO ASPIRE STUDENTS, MAKING A DIFFERENCE AND CHANGING LIVES

Established in 2015, the NYUSPS Dean's Graduate and Undergraduate Scholars Program brings together high-performing students from across the School who exemplify dedication to academic achievement and community service. Following a rigorous selection process, which includes an application, a school-wide committee review, and in-person interviews, 30 students were selected for the 2018–2019 cohort, each receiving a \$10,000 scholarship for the academic year.

Students in the Dean's Scholars Program serve as School ambassadors throughout the year and participate in admissions events and community-building activities. Most importantly, they serve as mentors to high school students from underrepresented communities in the New York metro/tri-state area, who will be the first in their family to attend college. Current mentees—nearly 80 high school juniors and seniors—are enrolled in the NYUSPS High School Academy Aspire Program, a two-year, year-round college prep and immersion program that is offered at no cost.

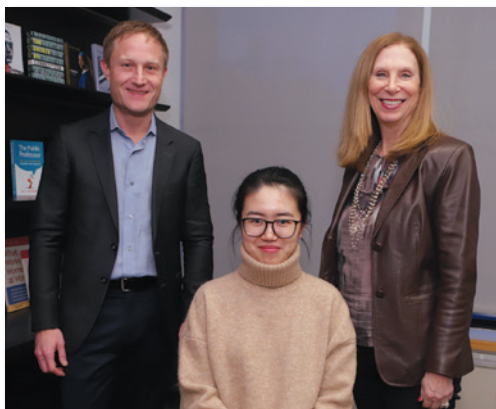
Throughout the year, the Dean's Scholars have worked diligently to form meaningful relationships with their mentees through a series of social activities, in-person college prep and professional development workshops, and online touch points. The Scholar mentors serve as advocates, coaches, and personal role models to their mentees, assisting them in achieving their college aspirations.

*"I am incredibly proud of the Aspire Program because I believe in the value of its mission. As a mentor, I had the distinct privilege of working with some of the most inspirational young people I have ever met. We invest our time and our hearts in their success by guiding them through college and financial aid applications, and occasionally, through the personal challenges they face. Every time I'm with them, I smile from the inside out. It has been my honor to serve the Aspire Program and I look forward to hearing about its continued success!"*

— Stephen Brown, BA candidate in Social Sciences  
Division of Applied Undergraduate Studies

As the current group of seniors finalizes their future plans, most surveyed had received at least two acceptance letters and some form of financial aid from schools such as Fordham University, George Washington University, Hunter College, Quinnipiac University, St. John's University, Farmingdale State College, Baruch College, The New School, and John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

### NYUSPS Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality BS in Hotel and Tourism Management Senior Che Huang Selected for Prestigious Schwarzman Scholarship



Che Huang (center) poses with Nicolas Graf, associate dean NYUSPS Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality (left), and Susan Greenbaum, interim dean NYUSPS.

Photo Credit: ©Hollenshead Courtesy of NYU Photo Bureau

Che Huang, a graduating senior in the BS in Hotel and Tourism Management program offered by the NYUSPS Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality, was selected as a Class of 2019–2020 Schwarzman Scholar. This impressive accomplishment will enable her to complete graduate-level study at Tsinghua University in Beijing—one of China's most prestigious universities. She is one of four NYU students who earned this prestigious honor this year. Only 144 Schwarzman Scholars were selected from the more than 2,800 candidates who applied.

The Schwarzman Scholars program was founded by Stephen A. Schwarzman, who is co-founder, chairman, and CEO of Blackstone, and who also serves as chairman of the program. It is specifically designed to prepare young leaders to serve as a bridge between China and the rest of the world. Students chosen pursue a master's degree in global affairs, with concentrations in public policy, economics and business, or international studies. They spend a year immersed in an international community of thinkers, innovators, and senior leaders in business, politics, and society.

Known to her friends and classmates as Sophie, Huang is graduating with a bachelor's degree in hotel and tourism management, and a minor in web programming and application. She served as the president of the NYU Chinese Students and Scholars Association for the 2018–2019 Academic Year. She also was a resident assistant and a student ambassador for the Tisch Center of Hospitality. Her interest in finding solutions to connect cultures led her to focus

on international event management. She sees events as a shared experience among attendees, and as a tool to explore common topics that start conversations among people from different cultures and backgrounds. She currently is an event assistant at Project DCLT in the NYU Steinhardt Department of Teaching and Learning.

## Get Social with the NYU School of Professional Studies!



Like us on Facebook ([facebook.com/nyusps](https://www.facebook.com/nyusps))



Follow us on Twitter ([twitter.com/nyusps](https://twitter.com/nyusps))



Join us on LinkedIn (<http://bit.ly/spslinkedinpage>)

## NYUSPS STUDENTS AND ORGANIZATIONS RECOGNIZED WITH 2019 NYU PRESIDENT'S SERVICE AWARDS

NYU President's Service Awards recognize the distinguished achievements of undergraduate and graduate students, as well as student organizations for their commitment to civic engagement and community service across the University's global network. They are bestowed upon those who have made a positive impact on the University community and beyond. Each year, achievements within schools and departments, and across the University at large, local neighborhoods, and communities around the world are acknowledged with a ceremony that gathers students from across NYU to thank them for their hard work on behalf of others. Our deep gratitude and congratulations to those NYUSPS individuals and organizations for all that you have done.



Andrea Alva-Araya  
Photo Credit: Sue Wais



Sharanya Kumar  
Photo Credit: Sue Wais



Neha Dembla  
Photo Credit: Sue Wais

### NYU School of Professional Studies 2019 President's Service Awards Recipients

#### INDIVIDUALS

##### Andrea Alva-Araya

For her outstanding leadership as the president of the NYUSPS Undergraduate Student Council for 2017–2018 and 2018–2019, and for enriching the student experience at NYUSPS.

##### Sharanya Kumar

For her tireless efforts devoted to improving student life on campus through her work as a leader of the NYUSPS Graduate Student Council, as a senator at large, and as a member of the NYU Graduate Student Affairs Committee.

##### Neha Dembla

For representing her fellow students through her service and thoughtful leadership as the NYUSPS Graduate Student senator.

#### GROUPS

##### NYUSPS Student Association for Applied Studies

For their dedication to enhancing the student experience through events and community service, and for advocating for their fellow students within the NYUSPS Division of Applied Undergraduate Studies.

##### NYUSPS Student Community Service Committee

For their continued commitment to and leadership in planning and providing opportunities for students to engage in service to the School and to the community at large. For their guidance on service projects including the Giving THANKS Dinner, a fundraiser and canned food drive, which brought the NYUSPS community together. This initiative benefited the homeless, as well as the Catholic Charities Food Pantry.

##### NYUSPS Student Events Committee

For their efforts in providing the NYUSPS student body with marquee events that were dynamic and culturally diverse. This past year, NYUSPS Spirit Week spanned over seven days, with 1,400 students participating, 100 students volunteering, 40 events occurring, and 20 sponsors supporting the initiative. For their increased collaboration with NYU departments, student clubs, and external organizations and for their continued execution of school-wide annual events including the Winter Ball, the Global Village, and the Spring Cruise.

***“We are incredibly proud of the NYUSPS students and organizations that have been acknowledged with the 2019 NYU President’s Service Awards. Their efforts on behalf of the School, the University, and the community at large are deeply appreciated.***

Susan Greenbaum  
Interim Dean  
NYU School of Professional Studies



**NYUSPS Student Association for Applied Studies**

*(l to r) Kristina Neuhaus, Santiago Cordero Fuentes, Kody Christiansen, Angie Terc, and Chris Piegaro*

*Photo Credit: Sue Wais*



**NYUSPS Student Events Committee**

*(l to r) Shalmali Shahane, Ada Zhang, Deeksha Bhatnagar, and Kaede Tatenuma*

*Photo Credit: Sue Wais*



**NYUSPS Student Community Service Committee**

*(l to r) Shreya Srinivasan, Sushanth Ruia, Tien Nguyen, Kody Christiansen, and Krizia Bilbao*

*Photo Credit: Sue Wais*

## PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT

### NYUSPS Division of Programs in Business Holds Digital Transformation Case Competition at Pfizer Headquarters

On April 12, 2019, the NYUSPS Division of Programs in Business (DPB) Human Capital Management program, in conjunction with the NYU Wasserman Center for Career Development at the NYU School of Professional Studies, held its second annual Case Competition. This year's competition was hosted at Pfizer headquarters, and was a collaborative effort between NYUSPS, Adobe, and Pfizer, which was designed to engage student teams in a competition that challenged them to develop the most effective digital business transformation solutions for Biosol, a fictional, multinational corporation.



Case Competition judges (back row, l to r) Graham Hardiman, SVP, Talent & Culture, Pfizer; Julia Dane, AVP of Sales, Experience Cloud, Strategic Accounts, Adobe; Carrie Altieri, VP, Communications - People & Culture, IBM; Dennis Hancock, VP, Digital Solutions & Emerging Technology, Pfizer; and Michael Dacey, Senior Customer Success Manager, Adobe, pose with the winning team members (front row, l to r) XinYue (Jojo) Du; Lixinran (Evangeline) Sun; Yangruotong (Sylvia) Li, Aarushi Srivastava, and Tom Li. The team was awarded entry to Adobe's 2020 Digital Experience Summit, which will be held in Las Vegas.

Photo Credit: ©Olivo Courtesy of NYU Photo Bureau

Mentored by Warren Dodge, an adjunct associate professor within the Division, five cross-functional teams presented their recommendations before an audience of their peers, faculty members, and a panel of judges comprised of industry executives from Adobe, Pfizer, and IBM.

“Our students demonstrated impressive teamwork, business acumen, and presentation skills, combined with a readiness to handle real-world challenges,” said Anna Tavis, who leads the annual business case competition initiative at DPB, and serves as a clinical associate professor and the academic director of the NYUSPS Human Capital Management program. She added, “We were especially excited to hear from participating students about the ways in which the competition helped to open up a wide variety of professional opportunities for them, and how it related their studies in the classroom to real business issues.”

## NYUSPS STUDENTS GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

### Community Service Fundraising 2018-2019

Community service is an integral part of student life at NYUSPS. Each year students band together to participate in community service projects that enhance the lives of children and adults.

Two of this year's key initiatives have become annual traditions. The first, collecting and assembling 200 personal hygiene kits (which were donated this year to the Volunteers of America) represented a 100% increase over last year's efforts. During the second—the Giving Thanks Dinner—held in November, approximately 100 students and staff members gathered to celebrate and share personal expressions of thanks and gratitude, as well as stories of home, friendship, and community. They also enjoyed a tasty array of dishes. All proceeds from the Dinner (\$332, as well as donated canned foods) were donated to the Holy Apostle Food Pantry in the Bronx.

In a new venture, three student clubs—the Student Association for Applied Studies (SAAS), the Publishing Students Association (PSA), and the Society for Human Resources Management (SHRM), joined forces to fundraise for the Hassenfeld Children's Hospital at NYU Langone. With the \$500 they raised, the students assembled 75 kits with materials categorized by age and interest—infant play-time kits, teen boredom-buster kits, craft kits, and model clay kits—for hospitalized children.

Throughout the year, students have participated in a range of activities that provide the opportunity to do good and to give back—collecting and sorting books for Housing Works; helping to clean NYC parks; raising \$214 for the survivors of Hurricane Florence; volunteering at a pet shelter; and wrapping holiday presents for NY Cares. In addition, they organized a clothing drive POP-UP shop, with the money collected being donated to the Common Pantry and unpurchased clothing being distributed to Out of the Closet, a nonprofit group that provides clothing to members of the LGBTQ community in need.

At NYUSPS, community service is a great way to get involved, to give back, and to make new friends and connections. This year's efforts have made the lives of many less fortunate individuals better. For that we should all be proud.



The Community Service Committee volunteers at the NY Common Pantry (Bronx, NY, Feb. 2019)

Photo Credit: Billy Chailani

## BART LAWSON AWARDS HONOR NYU SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES ALUMNI WHO ARE DEDICATED TO COMMUNITY SERVICE

Three graduates of the NYU School of Professional Studies, who have shown an outstanding commitment to their communities, were honored on NYU Alumni Day with the Bart Lawson Alumni Award for Service. Created in memory of the late H.E. Bartholomew Lawson, an alumnus of the Division of Applied Undergraduate Studies (formerly the Paul McGhee Undergraduate Division), as well as a public servant, executive, and healthcare advocate, the Awards are presented for three categories of service—humanitarianism, professional service, and public service.

### Award for Professional Service

#### Kat Klopp ('14), MA Graphic Communications Management and Technology



Kat Klopp has dedicated her career to reversing inequality. She earned a master's degree in graphic communications management and technology from the Division of Programs in Business in 2014, in order to leverage the latest innovations to empower marginalized communities.

Her graduate studies at NYUSPS provided the foundation for her work as director of marketing for Sheltering Arms, the New York City child welfare nonprofit (2013–2017), and EL Education, the national education reform nonprofit (2017–present).

At Sheltering Arms, Klopp was an integral part of the team that developed New York's Rock Safe Streets program, which supported a 90% decrease in shootings in the area compared to the same period before the program launched. She also developed and led the App-a-thon, an annual hackathon, which pairs corporate volunteers with hundreds of low-income middle schoolers to design cell phone apps that improve their communities.

At EL Education, Klopp and her colleagues launched national #BetterWorldDay, which unites students from across the country in learning projects that change the world. In 2018, its inaugural year, tens of thousands of students participated. On social media the hashtag earned 2.5 million impressions. Klopp hopes the programs she has helped to create will provide platforms for the next generation of public servants.

### Award for Public Service

#### Timothy Henning ('02), BS Sports Management



Tim Henning has been actively involved in the NYU community since arriving on campus as a student in 1999. One of the first full-time students in the then newly formed undergraduate Sports Management program, Henning served as president of the Sports Business Society, an undergraduate student club dedicated to enhancing the

student experience via educational, recreational, and philanthropic initiatives. He was awarded the Presidential Service Award for his efforts on campus, following the tragic events of 9/11, by then NYU President L. Jay Olivia.

Upon graduation, Henning went on to serve as the president of the Tisch Center Alumni Society for Hospitality, Travel, and Sports Management. Under his leadership, the Society saw an expansion of the student mentorship program, as well as an uptick in the number of alumni at social events and contributing to the NYU Annual Fund. Henning subsequently received the Alumni of the Year award from the Sports Business Society.

Since 2001, Henning has been employed by the Heisman Trophy Trust, now serving as its coordinating director. One of his many responsibilities includes overseeing the Heisman Trust's charitable giving program, which has donated over \$14 million dollars to more than 200 worthy charities nationwide in support of amateur athletes and to provide greater opportunities to the youth of our country, especially those who are disadvantaged or who have special needs.

Henning has also supported the rehabilitation efforts in Rockaway Beach following the destruction caused by Hurricane Sandy in 2012. Through Henning's associations, he was directly responsible for the procurement and the distribution of more than \$30,000 worth of aid and supplies to local community based organizations. Henning has been a stalwart supporter of the special needs community, having volunteered at various camps and the local Special Olympics program in his hometown. He also has served on the board of directors of several organizations throughout the years, including as chairman of one of the largest fundraising events for his local church. He currently resides in Rockaway Beach, NY with his wife and two daughters.

### Award for Humanitarianism

#### Alexander Munoz ('13), MS Global Studies



Alex Munoz is a graduate of the NYUSPS Center for Global Affairs (CGA) MS in Global Studies. After earning his degree, from 2013–2017, he worked for the Center for Global Affairs as the Iraq country director for its partnership with the University of Duhok, which focused on peace-building research, conflict transformation, and civic engagement. During the time that he resided in Duhok, in the Kurdistan region of Iraq, he led several initiatives that supported the large displaced refugee communities from Syria and the Ninewa province.

Munoz has displayed an extraordinary commitment to supporting displaced youth in the region. He has worked closely for several years with faculty members and students at the University of Duhok, as well as with displaced youth who were seeking higher education opportunities that had been denied to them because of violence in their communities. He consistently advocated on their behalf with local and international actors in the belief that higher education could serve as a meaningful connection between displaced and host communities.

Munoz established the first blended-learning joint certificate in PeaceBuilding for the residents of the Domiz Camp for Syrian refugees, aimed at enhancing their employment opportunities with international and local NGOs. He also was responsible for the community based Peace Education program, conducted by CGA and the University of Duhok, which conducted over 200 peace education workshops for 400 youth and was aimed at reducing tensions in local communities. He currently works as the assistant director of community engagement at GreenThumb, the NYC Parks and Recreation division responsible for NYC community gardens, where he regularly relies on the conflict resolution skills he learned at NYUSPS. He also is co-founder and co-director of Youth Speak, an Iraq-based non-profit, focused on youth activism, women's empowerment, and LGBTQ support.

Prior to studying at CGA, he served four years in the US Army, deploying to both Iraq and Afghanistan, where his responsibilities included intelligence analysis and coordinating with USAID representatives and local villages in support of area development projects.

## NYUSPS AND UNIVERSITY EVENTS

### The NYUSPS Team Takes Third Place at the NYU All-University Games

Hosted by Violet 100 during NYU Spirit Week, the NYU All-University Games is an intramural athletic competition between teams representing every college, and every graduate and undergraduate program at NYU. Students, alumni, faculty members, and administrators all participate in an intense, but friendly six-hour competition.

The 2019 Games took place on February 19, 2019 at the Chelsea Piers Sports Center, and featured opportunities to compete in dodgeball, volleyball, basketball, tug of war, table tennis, and air hockey. The NYUSPS team took top honors in the “Spirit” and “Banner” competition, as well as in the table tennis and air hockey events, placing third overall behind the School of Law (1st place) and the College of Dentistry (2nd place).



Photo Credit: Sue Wais

### Spring Dinner Cruise Caps Off a Fun-Filled Semester of Activities

The NYUSPS Spring Dinner Cruise was held on Saturday, April 27, 2019. Leaving from Pier 81, students had an amazing time sailing around Manhattan and enjoying incredible views of the Statue of Liberty, the Empire State Building, and the UN. They dined on a sumptuous array of foods and danced until 10 p.m. The event was sponsored by the NYUSPS Undergraduate Student Council, the Graduate Student Council, and the Office of Student Life. It was a wonderful way to wrap up the semester. A great time was had by all!



(l to r) Alejandro Garcia, Zoe Dawson, Dominique Moore, and Myrna Ghanem capture a moment during the Spring Dinner Cruise.

Photo Credit: Sue Wais

### NYUSPS Global Village Affords a Taste of International Foods and Culture

The lobby of 7 East 12 Street was transformed, during the 2019 Global Village, into an event venue that reflected the diversity of our community. Students proudly represented their countries, serving ethnic dishes, dancing, singing, displaying cultural artifacts, and wearing attire from their home countries. Sixteen countries were represented and more than 300 students, administrators and faculty members stopped by to enjoy the food and festivities. Global Village seems to get bigger and better every year.



Photo Credit: Kaede Tatenuma



Photo Credit: Sneha Ramachandran

## UPCOMING NYU SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES EVENTS/CONFERENCES

June 2-4, 2019

**Tisch Center of Hospitality**  
**41st Annual NYU International Hospitality Industry Investment Conference**  
 New York Marriott Marquis  
[sps.nyu.edu/hospitalityconference](http://sps.nyu.edu/hospitalityconference)

June 3, 2019

**Center for Publishing**  
**Summer Publishing Institute**  
[sps.nyu.edu/spi](http://sps.nyu.edu/spi)

June 20-21, 2019

**Division of Programs in Business - Finance and Law Programs**  
**11th Annual Tax Controversy Forum**  
 The Crowne Plaza Times Square Manhattan  
[sps.nyu.edu/taxcontroversy](http://sps.nyu.edu/taxcontroversy)

June 27-28, 2019

**Division of Programs in Business - Finance and Law Programs**  
**Federal Real Estate and Partnerships Tax Conference**  
 The Mayflower Hotel, Washington, DC  
[sps.nyu.edu/RETax](http://sps.nyu.edu/RETax)

July 15-26, 2019

**Division of Programs in Business - Finance and Law Programs**  
**Tax Conferences in July**  
 The Westin New York at Times Square  
[sps.nyu.edu/sumtax](http://sps.nyu.edu/sumtax)

For a full list of our upcoming events and conferences, please visit [sps.nyu.edu/events](http://sps.nyu.edu/events).

## NYUSPS KICKS OFF INAUGURAL FIRST-GEN STUDENT INITIATIVE



*NYUSPS graduate and undergraduate students attended the first-gen kick off event "Success Stories," during which they had the opportunity to listen to faculty members and alumni describe their experiences as first-generation college students.*

*Photo Credit: Stephen Bleuler*

On Monday, April 4, 2019, NYUSPS kicked off its first-gen student initiative with a panel discussion that included NYUSPS faculty members, alumni, and administrators who had been first-generation college students themselves. "Stories of Success" panel members disclosed their personal narratives, including experiences along their journey to and through higher education. The event also brought together undergraduate and graduate students who had the opportunity to share their experiences and learn from one another.

At NYUSPS, we use the term "first-gen" to refer to students who are the first in their family to attend college. We recognize that NYU is a big place. It's easy to get lost or to miss the chance to take advantage of important resources and services—especially if you are unaware of them or don't know who to ask about the plethora of options at your disposal. To help first-gen students navigate all that is available to them, a number of programs have been developed specifically to support first-gen students. This event served as a primer for initiatives that will be scheduled on a regular basis.

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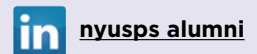
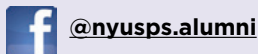
## CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2019!

We are thrilled to welcome you into the NYUSPS alumni community that is comprised of more than 25,000 NYUSPS graduates around the world. We encourage you to stay connected, attend events, and participate in alumni initiatives.

Follow 'NYUSPS Alumni' on Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn to stay informed wherever you go!

For questions and additional information, contact the NYUSPS Alumni Relations Office at [nyusps.alumni@nyu.edu](mailto:nyusps.alumni@nyu.edu) or **212.998.7060**

### STAY CONNECTED



Update us on your travels and life events, join us at alumni events, connect with other NYUSPS alumni in the US and abroad!: [bit.ly/spsalumniupdates](https://bit.ly/spsalumniupdates)