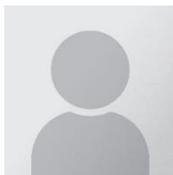


## PARTICIPANTS



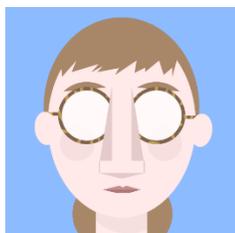
**Alex Wolf** from Bronx Community College.



**Ana E. Pérez Matos** from Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico.



**Angel Falcon, Esq.** is an Assistant Professor of Outreach and Reference in the Library Department at Bronx Community College. His interests primarily lie in law and librarian classroom & reference desk pedagogy. His current interest is using Libraries as incubation spaces for STEM projects outside of the traditional classroom setting. Angel was born in Puerto Rico and raised in the Bronx.



**Anna Pinkas** from Borough of Manhattan Community College.



**Dr. Han** is a Full Professor of Mathematics at the Borough of Manhattan Community College, the City University of New York (CUNY). She taught mathematics from development level to calculus, statistics for 25 years. She is a former New York City public school Bilingual Mathematics teacher. Her research interests are in Bilingual Bicultural Mathematics Education, Inquiry-Based Learning Pedagogy from developmental mathematics to Calculus, and Using Technology in Mathematics Teaching Learning. Dr. Han was the Faculty Leader for the BMCC Quantway Initiative in developing the BMCC Quantway curriculum. She also teaches online statistics at CUNY Online Program and Bilingual Math Education course at Teachers College, Columbia University. Dr. Han was/is PI or Co-PIs for the following Grants: •MSEIP Institutional Project BMCC – Creating Career Pathways in Mathematics through the Recruitment and Retention of Talented Community College Students (2014-2018) •Title V Cooperative Arrangement Grant: City Tech & BMCC, CUNY Opening Gateways to Completion: Open Digital Pedagogies for Student Success in STEM (2015-2020) •Noyce Explorers, Scholars, Teachers (NEST): Fostering the Creation of Exceptional Mathematics and Technology Teachers in New York City (2014-2019)



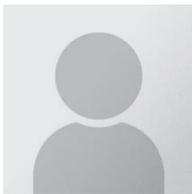
**Dr. Bernadette Connors** is an Associate Professor of Biology at Dominican College. She earned a B.S. and a Ph.D. in Biology from the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry. While at Dominican College, she has established numerous collaborations with colleagues at university centers to provide additional research opportunities for undergraduate students. She has significant experience in curriculum development and implementation at the undergraduate level, and is an advocate for incorporating multiple high impact practices and active learning strategies throughout the curriculum. Additionally, she has developed and conducted workshops in microbiology and biotechnology for high school students.



**Catarina Mata** teaches at BMCC since 2007. Coordinates and teaches Biology for Non-Majors classes, teaches Biology for Majors and Plant Biology, a course she created with research only labs. Is BMCC Senator and has been Chair of several Senate committees, was the Science Department Assessment Coordinator and was a Full board member of the CUNY IRB, is the Secretary of the BMCC College Council and an editor for the ABLE (Association for Biology Laboratories Education). Has a PhD in Plant Ecophysiology from Utrecht University, The Netherlands. Is interested in developing new pedagogic approaches to teach difficult topics, and mentors research on sustainability topics such as Aquaponics, salinization and heavy metal contamination of edible plants.



**Cheryl Shiber** from the Union County College.



**Clara Nieto-Wire**, Ph.D. is an electrical engineer who joined the Mathematics Department at Hostos Community College – CUNY as an Assistant Professor in Fall 2012. Interests: (1) control systems with applications to aeronautics, robotics, and Artificial Intelligence, (2) informal education frameworks for STEM at early stages of the higher education academic path, and (3) metacognition for high performance in STEM education.



**Curtis Eckerman**, I am a biology professor at Austin Community College in Austin, TX. My long term goal has always been to stimulate students with research just as I was hooked into it as an undergraduate. I have always felt that there was no substitute for research when it came to helping students see the potential for STEM careers. I believe that community colleges are great places to start the undergraduate research experience.



**Debra L. Moniz**, currently, I am the Director of the Academic Success Center (ASC) at Dominican College of Blauvelt where students have access to tutoring and testing services. Through an internal grant, I was able to design and implement the College's first online writing support service for students in our nontraditional undergraduate and graduate programs. As an adjunct instructor, I have taught college math courses in addition to freshman seminar, study strategies, and introduction to computers courses to students on campus. As an online instructor, I have taught education courses for Pace University's Graduate School of Education as well as math and computer courses for Dominican College' undergraduate program. Teaching is my passion. I enjoy seeing the world through the eyes of my students. Teaching gives me first-hand information on students' learning needs, which I am able to address in the ASC. I look forward to creating new opportunities for support services in STEM. I received my BS in General Studies and MEd in Curriculum and Instruction from Pace University's downtown campus in Manhattan, New York. I have an EdD in Teaching and Learning from Argosy University' College of Education.



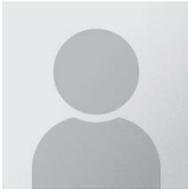
**Erica Foote** from Passaic County Community College.



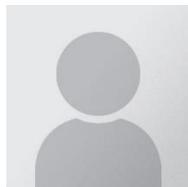
**Gina Rae Foster**, the Poet-in-Residence and Marina Tsvetaeva Fellow in Poetics for the European Graduate School's division of Philosophy, Art, and Critical Thought, currently directs the Teaching & Learning Center at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York City. An internationally known scholar, educator, and artist, Foster is the author of two books of poetry: *heart speech this* (2009) and *Beautiful Laceration* (2012), as well as one book of philosophy: *Lyric Dwelling: The Art and Ethics of Invitation and Occupation* (2012), published by Atropos Press. More recent publications can be found in *Poligrafi* and *continent*. Foster has lived and studied in California, New York, Tennessee, Oregon, England, Switzerland, France, and Italy. Her humanitarian projects include work with the Liberian refugee community in Staten Island, with domestic violence survivors in Oregon, and with at-risk and immigrant children in New York City. In addition to social justice projects in higher education, her research interests include trauma and resiliency, hospitality, co-performance, and the intersections between auditory ethics and aesthetics. A graduate of Pomona College in Claremont, California, Dr. Foster holds a DPhil in Philosophy, Art, and Critical Thought from the European Graduate School, an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Oregon, and an MA in Religion from Vanderbilt University. Dr. Foster is also certified in International Trauma Studies through the International Trauma Studies Program affiliated with Columbia University.



**John Ranellucci** from Hunter College (CUNY).



**Jorge Florez** from Borough of Manhattan Community College.



**Julio Garay** from Bronx Community College.



**Kasie Farlow** from Dominican College.



**Dr. Lissette Delgado-Cruzata** is an Assistant Professor of Molecular Biology at John Jay College, in the City University of New York. She earned her Masters in Public Health and PhD at Columbia University, and her undergraduate degree at the University of Havana. She started as a basic molecular biologist carrying out genetic research in yeast, but found that she could apply her skills to population studies integrating her molecular biology expertise to the understanding of disease etiology and progression. She carries out molecular epidemiology studies investigating epigenetic biomarkers in chronic diseases. She is also interested in the associations of these biomarkers with lifestyle and behavioral factors. Her current research explores epigenetic biomarkers in minority populations with the goal of decreasing health disparities. She is also passionate about increasing the number of minority students that go on to graduate programs, and mentors many undergraduates in her research lab.



**Mark Molisani** from Bergen Community College.



**Mobin Rastgar Agah** got his BS in mechanical engineering and his MS in biomedical engineering from Amirkabir University of technology in Iran. He worked at two companies as a mechanical inspector and a design engineer for six years before starting his PhD program in mechanical engineering at Temple University in Philadelphia. His PhD research focused on tissue biomechanics and biomechanics of injury and the results have been published in multiple journal and conference papers. He also worked as an adjunct faculty at Temple University Department of Engineering for three years prior to joining Norwalk Community College (NCC) in fall 2015. He is currently an associate professor and serves as the Engineering Program coordinator. He received three NCC Foundation College Advancement Grant and oversaw the procurement and setup of NCC MakerSpace. He is currently the PI of an NSF ATE grant that focuses on closing the gender gap in engineering and engineering technology programs at NCC. He is the academic advisor of the students in the Engineering Program and serves as the site coordinator for CT College of Technology, and NASA CT Space Grant Consortium.



**Dr. Nieves Angulo** from Hostos Community College of CUNY.



**Pablo Peixoto** is an Assistant Professor of Natural Sciences. He completed his PhD studies in Cell Biophysics at the University of Extremadura, Spain in 2006. His research provided the first plausible explanation of how mitochondria import proteins from the cell cytoplasm without compromising the permeability barrier that is essential for energy production. In 2007, Professor Peixoto moved to New York University to study therapeutic approaches for control of cell death. He was awarded the “Young Bioenergeticist Award” from the Biophysical Society in 2010. The following year he moved to the Weill Cornell Medical College, where he studied the role of mitochondria in neurodegenerative diseases that assail the aging human population. His current research at Baruch College pertains to understanding how mitochondria interact with the rest of the cell in health and disease contexts.



**Rebecca Spokony** is Associate Professor of Developmental Biology at the Weismann School of Arts and Sciences, Baruch College. She earned her B.S. from Cornell University and her Ph.D. from the University of Arizona. Her research focuses on the role of hormones in controlling developmental changes during metamorphosis in *Drosophila melanogaster*. She worked on generating *Drosophila* community resources as part of the modENCODE consortium. This work included annotating the *Drosophila* genome using ChIP-seq of chromatin modification marks and transcription factor binding sites and generating transgenic *Drosophila* lines with Green Fluorescent Protein-tagged transcription factors for visualization and biochemical assays. Her work has appeared in *Science*, *Nature*, *Nature Genetics*, *Nature Methods*, *Nature Neuroscience*, *Nature Cell Biology*, *Genome Research*, *Genome Biology*, *Development*, *Journal of Comparative Neurology* and *PLoS One*. The National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, Eugene Lang Foundation and Professional Staff Congress-CUNY have supported her research.



**Dr. Alvarez** joined the faculty at Dominican College in August 2017. She teaches General Biology, Ecology and Botany, among other courses. Prior to teaching at Dominican, she taught for the City University of New York. Before coming to academia, she worked for 19 years for the Central Park Conservancy, the managers of Central Park in New York City. She started as a gardener and worked her way up to Director of Horticulture and Woodland Management. Her focus was on native plants and ecological restoration. Her research focuses on the flora and ecology of urban environments. Dr. Alvarez is also an instructor of botany at the New York Botanical Garden, where she teaches Plant Physiology, Plant Morphology and Introduction to Plant Science.



**Dr. Sandra D. Garcia** was appointed to the position of Assistant Vice President for Research and Dean of Graduate Studies in March 2018; she also served as the Assistant Vice-President of Research and Sponsored Programs in the Office of Research and Graduate Studies for University of Houston-Downtown Having over 20 years of experience in research administration including management and coordination of a comprehensive regulatory compliance program related to research and sponsored projects. I also developed research opportunities for faculty, expanding the research enterprise through networking and managing both pre-award and post-award entities. I was primarily responsible for the organizational strategic growth in externally sponsored research. I manage the research and sponsored programs office in relation to grant and contract administration, research regulatory compliance, building and maintaining research infrastructure, and fostering collaborations with federal, public, private and international organizations. I have developed numerous relationships in several of the high profile federal agencies. I am Past President for the Southern Section of the Society of Research Administrators International, which enabled me to network extensively with federal and state granting agencies. I also chair the strategic planning committee for Research and Scholarly Activity. As a Certified Research Officer (CRA), I possess extensive knowledge of the new federal regulations, policies and procedures to ensure regulatory compliance with federal, state, and system policies.



**Vincent R Martinez:** I'm an assistant professor with the Math and Stat Department at Hunter College since Fall 2018. I received my PhD in Pure Mathematics from Indiana University-Bloomington under the supervision of Michael Jolly. My training is rooted in the analysis of partial differential equations, but particularly those related to fluid dynamics and turbulence. I continued my research as a post-doc fellow at Tulane University, where I began to study equations of chemotaxis, as well as problems in uncertainty quantification such as approximation of true signals from sparse, noisy data. More generally, however, my interests extend to probability, harmonic analysis, and dynamical systems. One of my personal goals is to better understand the role of various damping mechanisms on the regularity and dynamics of solutions to evolution equations, as these mechanisms can have profound consequences for the validity of the model in question, and ultimately their utility in real-world application.



**Waleska Sanabria-León:** I am an anthropologist specialized in bioculture and bioethics. I have developed quantitative and qualitative research on issues related to the relationship between biological phenomena (e.j. growth and human development) with cultural and social phenomena (e.j. migration, globalization, etc.). I have also dealt with the ethical dimensions of the health-disease processes in the culture.



**Yasmin Edwards** from Bronx Community College.



**Zaira Mateo Mayol** from Pontifical Catholic University.