

School of Social Sciences Newsletter 2024

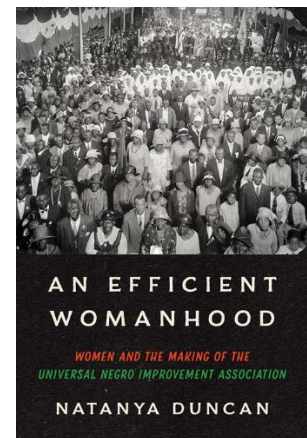
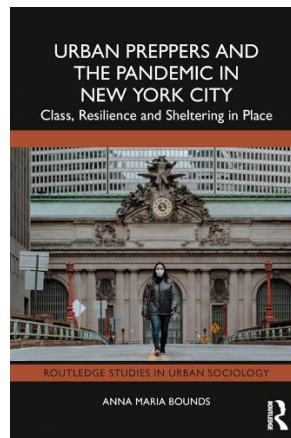
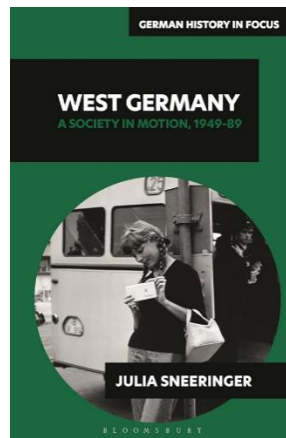
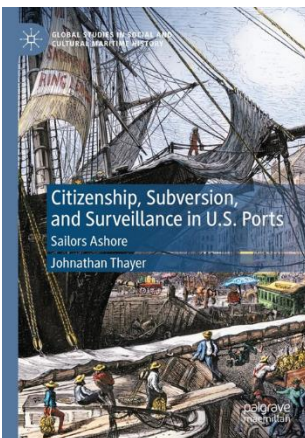
This is my first attempt at pulling together a Newsletter for our school, based on your responses to the RSVP question and my notes throughout the year. Sorry if I missed something! The most common response to the key 2024 accomplishment question was "surviving." Yet looking back at 2024 and a bit of 2023 – we've made some great progress. We are a research-active school that generates lots of publications in top-tier, flagship, A journals, books in academic and popular presses, grants, and fellowships. We take care of our students in innovative classes and career services, and we engage with our community. Below are just snippets of our faculty accomplishments and contributions.*

Kate P.

Distinguished Appointments and Major Grants

Several of our faculty members have received distinguished appointments and major grants. Francesc Ortega (Economics) will join the Russell Sage Foundation as a Visiting Scholar for 2025-2026. Núria Rodríguez-Planas (Economics) has taken on important roles serving on both the International Labor Organization's Research Review Group and the Gender Gap Advisory Council of Spain's Department of Inclusion. Susanne Morrow has secured a significant five-year grant that will support children and young adults with combined hearing and vision loss throughout New York State. Additionally, Joe Sanchez (GSLIS) has been appointed to the Library of Congress Literacy Awards Advisory Board. Tom Plummer, collaborating with former student Emma Finestone at Cleveland Museum of Natural History, received an NSF grant for research on "Late Pliocene Oldowan behavior and ecology from Nyayanga, Kenya." Kara Murphy Schlichting won the Theodore C. Blegen Award from the Forest History Society for her Pacific Historical Review article "The Narrowing of Broad Beach: Coastal Change and Public Beaches in Malibu, California." Dr. Anna Skarpelis's article "Horror Vacui" has received four prestigious awards from the American Sociological Association.

Publications and Scholarly Works



Books

Our faculty's scholarly output has been particularly impressive this year, with numerous publications across various disciplines. Anna Maria Bounds has published an important work on urban resilience titled "Urban Preppers and the Pandemic in New York City: Class, Resilience and Sheltering in Place" through Routledge. Natanya Duncan has examined women's leadership in her book "An Efficient Womanhood: Women and the Making of the Universal Negro Improvement," published by the University of North Carolina Press. Julia Sneeringer has provided fresh perspectives in "West Germany: A Society in Motion, 1949-1989" through Bloomsbury Academic, while Johnathan Thayer has investigated maritime history in "Citizenship, Subversion, and Surveillance in U.S. Ports: Sailors Ashore." Looking ahead, Miki Makihara and Juan L. Rodriguez's "Stancemaking, Language, and Political Subjectivities" is forthcoming from Berghahn Books in July 2025. Megan Victor secured a book contract for an edited volume on Archaeogaming.

Journal Articles and Book Chapters

Many impactful journal articles and book chapters have come from our school this year. While the following highlights capture just a portion of our faculty's scholarly output, they demonstrate the breadth and depth of research across our departments.

Economics, Accounting, Finance, Business

Our economics and business faculty have been particularly productive. Professor Tony Zhang has published two papers examining corporate leadership: "CEO Political Contribution and Accounting Conservatism" in the Journal of Accounting, Auditing & Finance and "CEO Political Ideology and Credit Risk Assessment" in American Journal of Business. Professor Jongwon Suh has contributed "A comparison of direct listings and IPOs" in Contemporary Accounting Research, while Professor Yan Yan has analyzed "Strategy Typology and Cost Structure: A Textual Analysis Approach" in Production and Operations Management. Professor Tao Sun has investigated "Discretionary Adjustments in Option Exercise Prices" in the Journal of Accounting and Public Policy. In development economics, Professor Thao Bui has published "Compulsory Education Reform and Child Mortality in Peru" in Health Economics and "Education and Women's Empowerment: Evidence from Uganda" in the Journal of Demographic Economics.

Historical and Cultural Studies

Several faculty members have made significant contributions to historical research. Professor Andrew Amstutz has published two papers on South Asian history: "Fashioning a Persianate Offspring for a Modern India: Urdu Visions of Persian Pasts, 1890s-1950s" in Philological Encounters and "Rethinking the Second World War in South Asia" in Modern Asian Studies. Professor Thomas Ort has contributed "Remembering the Lidice Massacre" to Transitions of Memory. Professor Kara Schlichting has authored "Urban Seasonality: Prospecting New Paths in Urban Environmental History" in the Journal of Urban History, while Elena Frangakis-Syrett has written "The Politics of Identity and Religion: Izmir in 1797" in Islamic Ecumene.

Social Sciences and Policy

The social sciences faculty have produced work across diverse policy areas. Professor Christine Jang-Trettien has published two significant works: "Racialized Administrative Burden in Disability Assistance Programs in Two Rural Counties" in *Social Service Review*, "Concealed Exchanges: Relational Work in Racially-Segregated Housing Markets" in *Social Forces*, and "Housing in the Context of Neighborhood Decline" in *The Sociology of Housing*. Professor Mona Kleinberg has examined "Black issue publics online: securing political knowledge through selective exposure" in the *Journal of Communication*, while Professor Yoon Jin Lee has analyzed "Who Supports the Huawei 5G Ban? Advancing a Two-Level Ideational Approach in International Relations" in the *Journal of Global Security Studies*. In philosophy, Professors Rosemary Twomey and Thomas Hilgers have contributed "Trolls, Skeptics, and Philosophers" in *Philosophy Now* and "Das Glueck Des Zufalls (The Happiness of Chance)" in *Zeitschrift Fuer Praktische Philosophie* respectively. Professor Ryan O'Loughlin has published "Why We Need Lower-Performance Climate Models" in *Climatic Change* and "Diagnosing Errors in Climate Model Intercomparisons" in *European Journal for Philosophy of Science*. Professor Dwayne Baker has examined "Burden or benefit: Is retail marijuana facility siting influenced by LULU- or gentrification-related neighbourhood characteristics?" in *Urban Studies*. Kevin Birth contributed to the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers Standards Association Working Group P3400 to establish standards for inclusive language in IT and communications technology.

In archaeology and anthropology, Professor Timothy Pugh has published "Late Postclassic Lowland Maya politico-ritual architecture: Temple assemblages and Zacpeten" in *Ancient Mesoamerica*. Professor Robert Nuamushosho has contributed three papers on Southern African archaeology: "Mixed Memories: Rethinking the Loss and Transformation of the Colonial Heritage Archive" in *Social Dynamics*, "Chumnungwa Glass Beads: New Insights into the Geochemistry, Circulation, and Consumption Patterns of Pre-European Glass Beads in Iron Age Southern Africa, CE 980 -- 1650" in *African Archaeological Review*, and "Archaeology, Climate Change and Human Adaptation in Southern Africa: Evidence from Mapela and Little Mapela" in *Quaternary Science Advances*.

Library and Information Sciences

Our Information and Library Sciences faculty have made substantial contributions focusing on community services and social integration. Professor Nafiz Shuva has published three papers: "They act like we are going to heaven: pre-arrival information experiences, information crafting and settlement of immigrants in Canada" in the *Journal of Documentation*, "Information behavior and HIV/AIDS/STI awareness among Bangladeshi female sex workers" in *Information Development*, and "More than a place for social capital creation: Public library as a place for immigrants' social integration" in the *Journal of Librarianship and Information Science*. Professor Vikki Terrile has contributed "Community College Library Services: Meeting Students Where They Are" in *Teachers College Record*, while Professor Nerve Macaspac has published "Indigenous Geopolitics: Creating Indigenous Spaces of Community Self-Protection and Peace Amid Violent Conflict" in the *Journal of Pacifism and Nonviolence*.

Other Academic Contributions

Several faculty members have achieved notable recognition this year. Anthony Malagon organized a Biblical studies conference that led to a special journal edition, and co-organized two student panels on truth and dialogue. Keisha Weil served as an expert guest on the PBS Digital

Show "Otherwords." Megan Victor was selected as the opening speaker for the Burning of Kingston event, presenting research on molly houses and the 18th century LGBTQ+ community in the English Colonial World. The success of this presentation led to an invitation to speak at the nation's oldest national park. Peter Liberman has been selected as this year's Provost's Fellow.

Student Success Initiatives

The School has launched several student success initiatives this year. The Career Design Lab in the School of Business, a collaboration between Gerry Marotta, Don Chadwick, and Christine Parker, offers professional development and career readiness programs. John Perricone is leading the growing Small Business Development Initiative's Internship Program. Faculty fellows Thao Bui, Yan Yan, and Matt Bradbury are working with BASTA through the NYC CEO Job Council to incorporate career readiness into introductory classes. Other initiatives include Dening Lohez's educational trips to the New York Fed, and Carol Giardina's project recruiting and training volunteers to prepare historic women's liberation documents for the NYPL Research Library Archives. The NABA Club has been reinstated under new faculty advisorship. Our Fed Challenge team lead by Professor Dorian Abreu became the Region Finalist of the NY Region. Our cybersecurity team, lead by Professor Solieri won the outstanding ISACA student group award. And there's more - these are just the highlights!

Research Seminar Series

Our more or less regular, monthly or bi-weekly, research seminar series in Powdermaker Hall 333 (featuring pizza, coffee, tea, and sometimes other comestibles) has brought together scholars from across disciplines. Throughout 2024, these seminars have highlighted our faculty's diverse research approaches and methods, while revealing common themes in their work: social justice and inequality, voting, migration, and global politics. Speakers have included Thomas Ort on memory in Nazi-occupied Prague, Fidel Tavárez on Caribbean plantation history, Megan Victor on 18th-century Molly Houses, Morris Rossabi on China-Central Asia relations, Anahi Viladrich on U.S.-Mexico border support, Robin Rogers on Generation X women, Vanessa Perez on Latino Republicans, Leticia Arroyo Abad on historical migrations, Rosemary Twomey on Aristotle, and Ryan O'Loughlin on modeling Earth's future.

Faculty Advancement and Recognition

Promotions and Tenure

In 2024, we celebrated several faculty promotions effective August 2024. Four faculty members were promoted to Full Professor: Alexander Bauer, James Lowry, Joan Nix, and Fang Sun. Anna Bounds and Maggie Dickinson received tenure and promotion to Associate Professor.

Additionally, all junior faculty members reviewed this fall received positive recommendations from both the Committee of Seven and the college-wide P&B. The following faculty will be recommended by the president to CUNY for tenure and/or promotion: Nerve Macaspac, Stefan Pitschner, Jangwon Suh, Vikki Terrile, Johnathan Thayer, Ryan Shinn, Dwayne Baker, and Mona Kleinberg.

Teaching and Research Excellence Awards

Teaching excellence has been recognized through nominations for the Presidential Excellence in Teaching Award. Our nominees include Amy David in Accounting, Raquel Lamela Lopez in Anthropology, Alexander Kwon in Economics, Sherlock Hackney in GSLIS, Kate Antonova in History, Salvatore Miceli in Philosophy, Antonia Cuchiarrá in Political Sciences, Peter Ore in Sociology, and Alan Takeall in Urban Studies. Congratulations to this year's exceptional nominees for the Presidential Excellence in Research and Creativity Awards from across our departments: Maggie Dickinson in Urban Studies, Yan Sun in Political Sciences, A.K.M. Skarpelis in Sociology, Kara Schlichting in History, Nafiz Zaman Shuva in GSLIS, Thao Bui in Economics, Tom Plummer in Anthropology, and Yan Yan in Accounting. Each nominee has demonstrated outstanding contributions to their respective fields through innovative research and creative work.

