



STUDENT NEWS

SPRING 2021

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



Dear NYU SPS Students,

I am amazed that another academic year is drawing to a close and how quickly it went. It seems like just yesterday that we were deep in preparation for the beginning of a challenging year due to the pandemic, worried about how all would work out. Yet here we are, and you came through with flying colors, more resilient than ever before.

While this has been an incredibly difficult time, the lessons learned both in and outside of the classroom will serve you for a lifetime. Of course, none of us would have chosen to endure what we have experienced. The losses many of us within the SPS community and beyond have suffered, have shown us how fragile life and our health can be. Yet our spirit, creativity, and drive have remained strong. This is because of the close-knit sense of community that we have fostered, our ability to care for one another, and our deep instincts to continuously move forward in new and innovative ways.

This issue of the Student Newsletter serves as a recap of an amazing year at NYU SPS. It provides a glimpse into all that you have achieved in the face of overwhelming obstacles and restrictions. It also acknowledges those who are graduating for their hard work and many outstanding accomplishments. There is no doubt in my mind that the Class of 2021 is prepared for anything and everything!

As my time serving as your dean comes to an end, I want to thank you for allowing me to get to know you so well and for being my partner in progress. We have accomplished so much during the past three years, and the student body has been a driving force in making that happen. Your energy, enthusiasm, creativity, and determination have played a key role in moving SPS forward in a positive and meaningful way. I can't thank you enough for your support, your courage, and your willingness to participate and be active members in this community.

For those who are graduating, I send you my heartiest congratulations and a reminder that we are here to serve you in the months and years to come. You now join the family of NYU SPS alumni, 30,000+ strong, who live and work around the world. Be sure to stay in touch and remain active, taking advantage of the invaluable connections we provide. For those who will return in the fall, I wish you a safe, healthy, and joyous summer.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve you. I have learned so much and have so many wonderful memories of our time together. I wish you the best of luck in all of your future endeavors and look forward to continuing to hear about your many successes.

Sincerely,

Susan Greenbaum, EdD
Dean, NYU School of Professional Studies

IN THIS ISSUE

- A Message from the Associate Dean 2
- Congratulations Class of 2021 2
- 2021 Convocation Speaker 3
- 2021 Student Convocation Speakers. 3
- 2020-2021 Convocation by The Numbers 5
- Convocation Award Recipients and Flag Bearers 6
- Students Have Embraced Remote Learning 19
- Congratulations from the Faculty 21
- Learning from the Professional Journeys of Others 23
- Graduate and Undergraduate Student Councils 26
- Diversity and Inclusion at NYU SPS 27
- Dean's Scholars Serve as Mentors 28
- An Alumni Welcome to the Class of 2021 29
- Violet Network – New Alumni Platform 29
- Alumni Awards Recognize Distinguished Alumni 30
- Stay Connected 31
- New NYU SPS Alumni Council Announced 32
- Successfully Positioning Yourself for a Post-Pandemic World of Work. 33
- Expedited Application to Graduate Programs 34
- Getting Involved and Giving Back at NYU SPS 35
- NYU SPS and University Events 37
- Recognizing Your Accomplishment 39

A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSOCIATE DEAN



Dear students,

Spring has arrived in New York City! Flowers and trees are in bloom and the weather is spectacular. This is the city at its best and I hope you take some time to enjoy it—while always complying with COVID-19 requirements. Most important—stay safe and healthy.

I am proud of the NYU SPS community, especially our students, and the courage with which we have all been managing this most difficult of situations. Our student leaders have demonstrated great resolve and creativity in continuing to offer events that are both informative and fun while also providing needed opportunities for students to connect, relax, learn, and give back. This has been an amazing semester!

In this issue, you will find information on some of the events and activities held this spring. Read about the “How I Got Here” series on **page 23**, presentations that enabled faculty members, alumni, administrators, and industry leaders to share their professional and

personal stories. Our most recent Global Village is featured on **page 37**, an event that showcases the diversity, warmth, and vitality of the SPS community.

Members of the Class of 2021 will find information on our upcoming May Convocation and Commencement celebrations on **page 39**. As announced by President Hamilton, these events will once again be held remotely; the University will be scheduling in-person celebrations as soon as circumstances allow.

Please join me in congratulating our newly elected graduate and undergraduate Student Council leaders—see **page 26**. I am confident they will represent our student body well as we begin the new academic year in September. Please also join me in expressing profound gratitude to our current Student Council members and club leaders for the extraordinary work they have done this year—their ability, resourcefulness, and enthusiasm in organizing and executing remote activities that have kept our students involved and engaged have been truly impressive.

Wishing you all the best,

Anna Condoulis

Associate Dean, Student and Alumni Affairs
Office of Student Affairs, Alumni Relations & Events
NYU School of Professional Studies

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2021

We look forward to celebrating the accomplishments of our graduating students on **May 20, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.**, with a **remote Convocation Celebration**. This celebration will include remarks by the dean and our convocation speakers; congratulatory wishes from administrators, faculty members, and industry leaders; as well as testimonials from students. Although we cannot match the pomp and circumstance, and excitement of an in-person ceremony, with the feedback received from students, faculty and staff members, we are confident that we will deliver a very spirited end-of-year salute for our graduates. We will follow the University’s lead as plans are made for in-person Commencement sometime in the future.

This year we are very excited to also provide our graduating students with the opportunity to create individual profile pages. This is a wonderful takeaway for our graduating class and we encourage students to complete their profile. It will be available for viewing on our graduation website.

[Click here for details on the ceremony, the speakers, how to create a profile, and where to watch the live stream of the Convocation Celebration.](#)

NYU SPS 2021 CONVOCATION SPEAKER

Madeline McIntosh



Chief Executive Officer, Penguin Random House US

Madeline McIntosh has been CEO of Penguin Random House US since 2018. She has worked in publishing for almost three decades, and in that time has held positions in publishing, sales, operations, and audio, and was a pioneer in the early development of online sales and in the digital transition. She serves on the Board of Directors of Poets & Writers, the nation's largest nonprofit organization dedicated to serving creative writers, and of Sourcebooks, in which Penguin Random House is an investor. She lives in New York with her husband Chris Pavone, a writer, and their twin sons.

Penguin Random House publishes more than 70,000 digital and 15,000 print books annually across hundreds of disciplines and almost 300 imprints worldwide (nearly 100 in the US).

NYU SPS 2021 STUDENT CONVOCATION SPEAKERS

GRADUATE: Roksolana Maria Sheverack



MS in Management and Systems, Concentration in Database Technologies

Division of Programs in Business

Graduate Convocation Student Speaker **Roksolana Maria Sheverack**, who will earn an **MS in Management and Systems (MASY)** from the

NYU SPS Division of Programs in Business, has always embraced challenges with optimism, curiosity, and a growth mindset—qualities that have served her well in her life and her academic pursuits. The Ukraine native immigrated with her family to the US in 2000, speaking little English. She entered the fourth grade as an ESL student, an experience that shaped her aspirations to help other language learners.

Since 2014, she has worked as an admissions counselor at the City University of New York (CUNY)—Welcome Center, where she engages with students from countries around the world. She often shares her personal experiences and memories as a way to connect with them, encouraging them to reach beyond their comfort zones and immerse themselves in the

English language through the plethora of media that surrounds them.

Sheverack completed her undergraduate studies at the Brooklyn Campus of Long Island University (LIU), where she was part of the Honors program. She graduated with a BA in English and Political Science. While there, she was actively involved in the LIU community, serving as a mentor and a student ambassador. That's also where she fell in love with higher education as a future career path. Interested in pursuing institutional research as a means to help colleges and universities make data-driven decisions to benefit students, she enrolled in the **Division of Programs in Business MS in Management and Systems**, which provided her with leadership, management, and technical skills.

Coming from a liberal arts background, she described her experience in the program as challenging but “beyond amazing,” touting the deep industry experience of her professors. “The case studies were incredibly relevant to what I was learning, and the projects mirror many of the same issues that companies face on a regular basis,” she said.

While earning her degree, Sheverack has been actively involved in the SPS community. A Dean's Graduate Scholar, she has served as public relations chair of the

Management and Systems Student Association, an orientation leader, and a student mentor for the NYU SPS High School Aspire Program. As a mentor, she has met regularly with three high school seniors over the course of 10 months, helping them to navigate the college admissions process, by researching schools and academic programs, reviewing their college essays, and encouraging them to apply for scholarships.

Upon graduation, Sheverack hopes to pursue a career in the field of research oversight and data integrity, and further continue her studies to attain a doctorate.

UNDERGRADUATE: John N. Gargano, Jr.



BS in Leadership and Management Studies

Division of Applied Undergraduate Studies

This year's Undergraduate Convocation Student Speaker, **John N. Gargano, Jr.** is a great example of the power of education and second chances to turn a life around.

Growing up on a family farm in New Jersey, he learned the value of hard work and dedication at an early age. After high school, he moved to Philadelphia, and worked his way up from washing dishes to captain at Le Bec Fin restaurant. His life took a downturn, however, when he started using recreational drugs and then selling them. He was arrested in 2002 for narcotics violations and sentenced to 30 years as a nonviolent first-time offender.

"When they are at the lowest low, human beings are extremely capable of digging deep," Gargano said. "I felt that in order to turn the corner and redeem my life, I needed to prepare myself through education." He took courses through the Ohio University College Program for the Incarcerated and was the first inmate to receive a scholarship from the WKBJ Foundation. While in prison, he also turned to teaching other students to help them prepare to take the GED.

In 2017, Gargano was selected for clemency by President Barack Obama from a pool of 50,000 applicants, and was released to a halfway house in the Bronx. Gargano was accepted into Hostos Community College, where he earned an AS in Business Management, with a 4.0 GPA. His academic credentials afforded him an NYU School of Professional Studies CCTOP Scholarship and entry into the School's **Division of Applied Undergraduate Studies (DAUS) BS in Leadership and Management Studies** program.

For Gargano, 52, the **Division of Applied Undergraduate Studies** was the most nurturing community he had ever experienced. "They welcomed me, even with my previous history, and did not define me by my past," he said. In particular, he expressed appreciation to professors Donatella Delfino, who taught precalculus, and Sherry Busbee, who taught a class on critical thinking, for helping him to understand different perspectives and separate truth from fallacy.

While earning his degree at NYU SPS, he participated in the Leadership Fellows program, and is part of a cohort group working on prison reform and developing a website for reacclimating individuals who are being released from prison back into everyday life. In addition, he worked as director of hospitality and service at two restaurants: Tom Colicchio's Riverpark and Andrew Carmellini's Locanda Verde.

Upon learning that he was named the undergraduate student speaker for the NYU SPS Convocation, he stated, "Having spent 14 years in prison, there's not a whole lot that can make me cry with good emotion—only my mother, President Obama, and the day I heard that I would be the undergraduate speaker for NYU SPS."

After the pandemic, he hopes to resume working at a restaurant, and continuing with his advocacy efforts. He already has testified before prosecutors about changes that should be made to the prison system. He hopes to advance criminal justice reform by being an example of what individuals can accomplish post-incarceration.

2020-2021 CONVOCATION BY THE NUMBERS

GRADUATE

Degrees Awarded by the Graduate Divisions

MASTER'S DEGREES

MS in Construction Management	16
MS in Event Management	13
MS in Global Affairs	77
MS in Global Hospitality Management	15
MS in Global Security, Conflict, and Cybercrime	5
MS in Global Sport	6
MS in Hospitality Industry Studies	9
MS in Human Capital Analytics and Technology	11
MS in Human Resource Management and Development	98
MS in Integrated Marketing	408
MS in Management and Systems	253
MS in Professional Writing	15
MS in Project Management	127
MS in Public Relations and Corporate Communications	84
MS in Publishing	28
MS in Real Estate	187
MS in Real Estate Development	91
MS in Sports Business	43
MS in Tourism Management	9
MS in Translation	2
MS in Translation and Interpreting	7
MS In Travel and Tourism Management	5
TOTAL GRADUATE	1,509



UNDERGRADUATE

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

ASSOCIATE DEGREES

Associate of Arts and Associate in Applied Science

AA in Liberal Arts	21
AAS in Business	15
AAS in Health Administration	1
AAS in Information Systems Management	1
TOTAL DAUS ASSOCIATE DEGREES	38

BACHELOR'S DEGREES

BA in Humanities	9
BA in Social Sciences	69
BS in Applied Data Analytics & Visualization	6
BS in Digital Communications and Media	8
BS in Healthcare Management	6
BS in Information Systems Management	10
BS in Leadership and Management Studies	51
BS in Marketing Analytics	13
BS in Real Estate	11
TOTAL DAUS BACHELOR'S DEGREES	183
TOTAL DAUS UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES	221

Degrees Awarded by the Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality

BS in Hotel and Tourism Management	57
------------------------------------	----

Degrees Awarded by the Preston Robert Tisch Institute for Global Sport

BS in Sports Management	71
-------------------------	----

Degrees Awarded by the Schack Institute of Real Estate

BS in Real Estate	67
TOTAL UNDERGRADUATE	416

2021 NYU SPS CONVOCATION AWARD RECIPIENTS AND FLAG BEARERS

CENTER FOR APPLIED LIBERAL ARTS

MS IN PROFESSIONAL WRITING

Professional Writing Impact Award

Maggie F. McGwin

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 2021 awardee, Maggie McGwin has combined her passion for technical and UX/UI writing with her enthusiasm for the outdoors and environmental initiatives across many projects. In particular, Maggie's thesis project merged bee conservation, collaborative communication, and crowdsourced data to develop a mobile application aimed at protecting the future of pollinators. Originally from rural Wisconsin, Maggie studied theatre and Irish language in Ireland, and completed an internship in creative production administration at an arts center in southeast London. Prior to her graduate studies, Maggie earned a BFA in acting and a certificate in Celtic studies from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Flag Bearer

Vaia Trittas

Vaia Trittas was selected as Flag Bearer for the MS in Professional Writing program in recognition of her outstanding academic performance and active participation as a student of this program. Across her graduate course work, Vaia's research and writing focused on social movement, equity, and representation through digital storytelling. In addition to a recent editorial piece on the sustainability and ethics of the fashion industry, Vaia also has written a grant proposal to protect Rohingya women and girls in Bangladesh against increased gender-based violence during the COVID-19 pandemic. Prior to this degree, Vaia earned a BA in individualized studies from NYU.

MS IN TRANSLATION

Academic Excellence in Translation Award

Phoebe West

Phoebe West demonstrated exemplary ability in the MS in Translation program, impressing the faculty with the quality of her work when she chose for the thesis project to translate a cookbook-memoir that combined technical recipes with literary flair. She went above and beyond by trying the recipes out herself to make sure that the translated instructions worked. Phoebe's diligence, scholarship, and responsiveness to intellectual challenges earned recognition during her studies. Phoebe lives in Richmond, Virginia and translates from French to English. She earned a BA in French from Virginia Commonwealth

University in 2018. Her interest in pursuing a career in translation crystallized during her undergraduate studies. At NYU SPS, she appreciated being able to explore different areas of translation; particularly literary, financial, and audiovisual translation. Phoebe is excited to be beginning her career as a freelance translator.

MS IN TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETING

Flag Bearer

Anwar A. Martínez

Anwar Martínez showed exemplary dedication and engagement throughout his studies in the MS in Translation & Interpreting program. In addition to excellent academic performance, Anwar selected for his thesis project an original and demanding translation of a text on Afro-Cuban religions, bringing to bear techniques and approaches studied throughout the program. Faculty praise Anwar's scholarship, linguistic skill, and ability to bring together his fellow students to form a classroom community. Anwar is originally from México and joined the NYU community after making stops in Paris, Rome, California, Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Camden. Prior to joining NYU, Anwar spent 17 years in the classroom teaching world languages, combining his love of education, the cultures that created those languages, and trilingual talents. Anwar earned a BS in México and an MA from La Salle University. This will be his second master's degree.

CENTER FOR GLOBAL AFFAIRS

MS IN GLOBAL AFFAIRS

Center for Global Affairs

Excellence and Achievement Award

Nicole E. Smith

Nicole Smith is being recognized with the Center for Global Affairs' Excellence and Achievement Award. With a concentration in global gender studies and a specialization in data and analytics, her academic research centered on women's workforce participation, with a particular focus on women impacted by conflict and crisis. During her time at the Center for Global Affairs (CGA), Nicole was selected for practicums with the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders and the United Nations. She also participated in a Global Field Intensive in the United Arab Emirates in January 2020, and her resulting research on women working within the public and private sectors was published in the Global Affairs Review. Nicole maintained this academic excellence, all while working full time, first for media and technology company IAC, and then for the International Rescue Committee, where she currently leads external communications for the organization's technical work and all things gender equality.

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

Michaela E. Millender

Michaela Millender has been selected as a recipient of the Center for Global Affairs' Excellence and Achievement Award. With a concentration in international development and humanitarian affairs, and specializations in data analytics and the United Nations, Michaela's research has focused on humanitarian crises, refugee resettlement, and the evolving role of the UN in addressing these modern challenges. In the summer of 2020, she and a team of CGA students helped provide qualitative and quantitative analysis for the UN75 Report, a historic endeavor that sought out the voices of the global public and was eventually submitted to the 75th UN General Assembly. As a graduate assistant she contributed to the launch and expansion of the UN at NYU Initiative, which seeks to prepare students for UN-related careers. In addition to her academic work, she also has been published in the International Peace Institute's Global Observatory.

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

Heidi M. Gasperetti

Heidi Gasperetti has been selected as a recipient of the Center for Global Affairs' Excellence and Achievement Award. Along with her strong academic focus, she pursued a variety of opportunities for practical application of the theories studied. She was fortunate enough to work as a fellow for itotheN, an international think tank, as part of a team researching human-centered approaches to international development. Furthermore, she gained valuable experience as a graduate consultant for EcoPeace Middle East. Heidi was part of the practicum that worked in partnership with the Global Development of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP) to research the impact of COVID-19 on women peacebuilders in Colombia, South Sudan, Philippines, and Ukraine. The findings from this practicum resulted in a published report by GNWP.

Flag Bearer

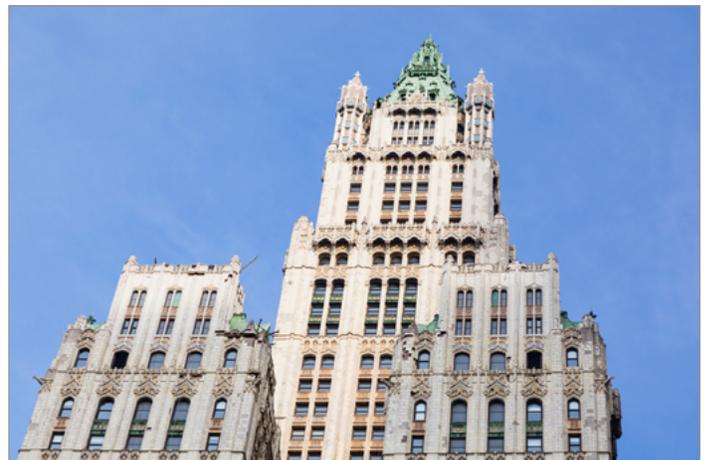
John B. Norris

John B. Norris epitomizes the qualities needed to be successful at the NYU SPS Center for Global Affairs (CGA). Critical thinking; an understanding of the challenges facing our society; and a devotion toward creating a more just, equal, and sustainable world is what drives him to succeed both academically and, in the near future, professionally. For these reasons, he will serve as the flag-bearer for the CGA, as he simultaneously obtains his MS in Global Affairs with a concentration in Environment and Energy Policy. Alongside his accomplishments in class, John also has served as the president for the CGA's governing student body, the Student Association for Global Affairs (SAGA), where he has helped guide his colleagues through a tumultuous and unique couple of semesters. Upon graduation, John plans to pursue a career that examines the intersection between climate change and security, and hopes to remain close to the CGA and NYU.

NYU SPS Community Service Award

Kasandra Cisneros

The Office of Student Affairs is proud to present Kasandra Cisneros with the 2020-2021 NYU SPS Community Service Award. Kasandra is the outgoing vice president of the NYU SPS Graduate Student Council, and has worked hard to make the unique 2020-2021 academic year one the graduate student body will remember. While enrolled in the Center for Global Affairs MS in Global Affairs with a concentration in International Law and Human Rights, she simultaneously pursued a professional role at NYU Langone Health in research programming. Kasandra has completed her thesis in Global Affairs examining the role of multilateral institutions in promoting private sector collaboration. During her time at NYU SPS, she played an integral role in the 2020-2021 Community Service Committee. She looks forward to continuing to champion its mission as an SPS Alumni volunteer.



**MS IN GLOBAL SECURITY, CONFLICT, AND
CYBERCRIME**

**Global Security and Cyber Academic
Achievement, Innovation and Service Award**

Yingzhou Zheng

The NYU SPS Center for Global Affairs is delighted to present Yingzhou (Carter) Zheng with the Global Security and Cyber Academic Achievement, Innovation, and Service Award. Carter entered the MS in Global Security, Conflict, and Cybercrime (MSGSCC) program with a background in blockchain security and a deep interest in exploring the non-technical aspects of cyberspace. He was a team member of "Tron Wizards of Woolworth," which was a semi-finalist at Cyber 9/12 Strategy Challenge, a member of the CSAW Policy'20 judging committee, a member of the MSGSCC student committee, and an assistant at "The Prospect of Cyber Peace" conference. His graduate thesis assesses China's strategy to achieve global digital convergence through the interplay between blockchain technology and digital policy. Upon graduation, Carter will continue his work as a research assistant at Internet Security Alliance, where he is conducting research for the public policy book *Fixing American Cybersecurity: Creating a Strategic Public-Private Partnership* and the textbook, *Cybersecurity Is Not (Just) a Technology Issue: Creating an Enterprise Culture of Security*.

Flag Bearer**Cory R. Ramos**

Cory Ryan Ramos has been selected to serve as the first MS in Global Security, Conflict, and Cybercrime (MSGSCC) Flag Bearer for the 2021 NYU SPS Convocation. He was nominated for this award because of his service and leadership during his time as a graduate student at the Center for Global Affairs. In addition to his studies and overcoming obstacles brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, Cory represented New York University at-large while competing in The Atlantic Council's Cyber 9/12 Virtual Strategy Competition, where Team NYU finished as a semi-finalist. Through an innovative practicum addressing remote work capabilities and hybrid threats, he consulted for NYC Cyber Command, a centralized organization created by Executive Order to lead the City's cyber defense efforts. Cory also served as the first ambassador to the MSGSCC program, for which he helped to convert prospective students. His future aspirations consist of law school and continuous innovation for the greater good.

CENTER FOR PUBLISHING**MS IN PUBLISHING: DIGITAL AND PRINT MEDIA****Award for Excellence in Book Publishing****Alyssa N. Prado**

As the recipient of the 2021 Award for Excellence in Book Publishing presented by the NYU SPS Center for Publishing, Alyssa Prado has distinguished herself academically and professionally. She entered the NYU SPS Center for Publishing through the NYU Summer Publishing Institute (SPI), which helped her to secure a position as a sales assistant in the Children's Book Division at Penguin Random House. She matriculated into the graduate program in Fall 2019, while continuing her work in book publishing. With industry professionals as her mentors in the classroom, Alyssa not only achieved outstanding academic success, but also applied her learning to support the trend research and data analysis she performs at work. Following her graduation, she plans to continue in her new role as brand associate at Random House Children's Books, identifying and analyzing the trends that have made each imprint successful and continuing to draw upon the lessons learned in the classroom.

Award for Excellence in Magazine and Digital Publishing**Emily Smibert**

The NYU SPS MS in Publishing: Digital and Print Media is proud to present Emily Smibert with the 2021 Award for Excellence in Magazine and Digital Publishing. Emily entered the program with a background in magazines and continued to pursue this during her graduate education through freelance work and internships, as well as by attending a major magazine conference as a program delegate. She is a dedicated student of magazine media and also has submitted creative non-fiction and stories to literary publications. She is the recipient of awards from the Hearst Foundation and the J. Richard Munro Fellowship in recognition of her strong academic performance. Emily also has served as an officer of the Publishing Students Association, for which she has been a dedicated and active member.

**Flag Bearer****Erin N. Conti**

Erin Nicole Conti, who is the 2021 Flagbearer for the NYU SPS MS in Publishing: Digital and Print Media program, has demonstrated extraordinary leadership as the president of the Publishing Student Association at the NYU SPS Center for Publishing. During an extremely difficult year for the academic community, she has worked tirelessly to build student engagement and boost morale through a book club and a targeted series of events, including one dedicated to fostering diversity and inclusion in publishing. Before entering the program in Fall 2019, she interned at a public relations firm and several literary agencies. Erin has focused her academic studies on book publishing, with a strong interest in children's literature. After graduating, she seeks a career in children's and young adult publishing and hopes to nurture passionate, curious, young readers through works that speak to all identities and viewpoints.

DIVISION OF PROGRAMS IN BUSINESS**MS IN HUMAN CAPITAL ANALYTICS AND TECHNOLOGY****Academic Excellence Award****Leadership and Service Excellence Award****Leticia Rebeca Gasca Serrano**

The Divisions of Programs in Business is pleased to award Leticia Gasca with the Academic Excellence Award for the MS in Human Capital Analytics and Technology program. Leticia has been a role model to her classmates in her academic work and in her active professional engagement. During her studies, she stood out for her advanced use of business intelligence tools and the understanding of quantitative methods in workforce analytics. She presented at professional conferences and forums representing NYU. Leticia currently works at Faethm.ai and also is the co-chair of the Education and Employment Steering Committee of the Global Shapers World Economic Forum, she leads "Shaping the Future of Work," a project aimed at understanding the needs of young workers worldwide. Leticia has been recognized by *The Economist* magazine as one of the "Voices from 2040," and by *Expansion* magazine as one of the "30 Promises of the Future." She also was awarded "SDG Champion" by the World Economic Forum in recognition of the impact of her work in the areas of education, employability, and digital transformation."

Flag Bearer**Thomas J. Koty**

While completing the MS in Human Capital Analytics and Technology (HCAT) as a full-time student, Tom continued to work full-time for Morgan Stanley and support several other organizations in a pro-bono capacity. He was recognized in class as a voice of reason and used his professional experience to pose challenging, real-world questions to his professors and classmates in order to enhance the experience for everyone. He immediately leveraged new knowledge he gained in the classroom and applied it to his work. Tom was at his best when collaborating and sharing his experience with his classmates and is grateful to the HCAT faculty for their unwavering and continued support. He is humbled and honored to be recognized as the flag bearer to represent the HCAT program.

**MS IN HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT****Academic Excellence Award****Darlene Passarelle**

The Division of Programs in Business is honored to present the Academic Excellence Award in the MS in Human Resources Management and Development program to Darlene Passarelle. Throughout her graduate studies at NYU SPS, Darlene maintained an outstanding academic record and consistently delivered exemplary academic work. In addition to her studies, Darlene also served the NYU SPS community for several years working in the NYU SPS Admissions Office as the assistant director of Admissions. In this role, she helped manage student recruitment, event coordination, and process improvement initiatives to support the growth of her department. After graduating from NYU SPS, Darlene was promoted to the associate director of Admissions at NYU Wagner, where she continues to play an instrumental role in enrollment management and student recruitment.

Leadership and Service Excellence Award**Anyao Fan**

The Human Capital Management (HCM) program is proud to present Anyao (Alice) Fan with the Leadership and Service Award. Alice has demonstrated true leadership through her commitment as president of the Society of Human Resources Management (SHRM) and as an active member of the NYU SPS Graduate Council. Alice's passion for community leadership is evident and she continues to take initiative to demonstrate her commitment to serve others. She leads her team of board members and effectively delegates tasks to ensure each event is promoted and shared with the NYU SPS Human Capital Management community. Alice is an advocate for her fellow students and provides much-needed resources for students interested in networking, which is essential to the growth of the HR community.

Leadership and Service Excellence Award**Ellysa C. Smith**

The Human Capital Management (HCM) Program is proud to present Ellysa Smith with the Leadership & Service Excellence Award. As a dedicated student leader, Ellysa is a champion of emerging leaders and cares about their personal and professional growth. Ellysa recognizes the importance of leadership and its impact in creating an engaging workforce to curate an employee experience. As the alumni relations Board director of SHRM, she supports the HCM students in curating a student experience that sets them up for success in their HR career beyond graduation.

Flag Bearer**Betty Sun**

In recognition of her outstanding academic performance, leadership, and engagement at the NYU School of Professional Studies, the Human Capital Management program is proud to present Betty Sun as the Flag Bearer for the MS in Human Resources Management and Development program. Throughout her studies, she has consistently demonstrated exemplary ability, hard work, and commitment to achieve high standards as a graduate student and as a human resource professional. With over six years of working experience in the luxury goods industry, her passion, drive, and determination to succeed sets her apart, and she hopes to inspire others to reach their full potential. Upon graduation, she plans to advance her career as a strategic HR business partner while applying the invaluable knowledge she acquired during her time at NYU SPS.

MS IN INTEGRATED MARKETING**Academic Excellence Award****Teagan A. Tullio**

The Division of Programs in Business is proud to present Teagan Tullio with this year's Academic Excellence Award for the MS in Integrated Marketing program. Teagan has continued to push the boundaries of what's been traditionally expected—making a positive impact on those around her through her commitment to creativity and attention to detail. She embodies the qualities of a leader, encouraging her peers to strive for excellence through every project, and allowing her curiosity to spark

provoking conversation both inside and outside the classroom. Upon graduation, Teagan plans to build a career in brand management and strategy, with the ambition to use her education from NYU SPS to creatively influence brand identities within the fashion industry. Her academic excellence, dedication, and leadership make her a role model for students in the Integrated Marketing Department and across the NYU SPS community.

**Leadership and Service Excellence Award
NYU SPS Graduate Student Leadership Award**

Tania Mishra

Tania Mishra has been an innovative and engaged leader of the Graduate Student Council and has worked to enfranchise many different student groups across the Division of Programs in Business and within the School of Professional Studies. She has been resourceful and innovative in keeping the Student Council motivated and engaged with student life, even during the most challenging of times due to the pandemic. She represents the School in a professional and diplomatic way and reflects the spirit of the student body in her inclusiveness, creativity, leadership, and engagement.

Flag Bearer

Mei Zhu

Through Mei's efforts with the Integrated Marketing Association's Global Summit in building a strong and creative social media presence, the students were able to deliver an extraordinary event, with over 700 registered participants. Mei provided leadership by example, and a quiet determination in getting the word out, and encouraging others to do so. Her work was creative and she was flexible and responsive as changes were needed. In addition, she provided strong engagement as a student moderator during the Summit itself. Academically, she has been exemplary, dedicating herself to her course of study.

NYU SPS Student Impact Award

Yuqing Wang

Yuqing (Chloe) Wang 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 Recreation Committee, she has brought fun events to the SPS student community. While enrolled in the MS in Integrated Marketing with a concentration in marketing analysis, she simultaneously pursued real-world professional experience, interning at an NYC-based marketing agency. Since last May, in her role as Recreation Committee chair, she and Committee members planned and hosted numerous events for the SPS community. These activities provided a safe space for students to unwind, stay connected, and feel supported during the pandemic. She co-captained Team SPS at this year's NYU All-U Games, which secured the first-ever All-U Games victory for the School! (**See page 39**) We are deeply grateful to her for all that she has done for NYU SPS.

MS IN MANAGEMENT AND SYSTEMS

Academic Excellence Award

Kaili Yun

The Division of Programs in Business is proud to present the MS in Management and System's Academic Excellence Award to Kaili Yun. Kaili has demonstrated an exemplary academic record throughout her studies. In addition to her academic work, she also served as a volunteer data analyst within an e-commerce platform startup in New York City. Before enrolling at NYU SPS, she worked for the Department of Economic and Social Affairs at the United Nations. After graduation, Kaili aspires to continue her career in banking, with an interest in financial technology (Fintech). The Division of Programs in Business is delighted to recognize Kaili's hard work and dedication to the Management and Systems program.

Leadership and Service Excellence Award

Yi-Chi Chao

Yi-Chi (Tony) Chao embodies high academic achievement, service, and leadership within the NYU SPS Division of Programs in Business and the greater NYU SPS community. For this reason, he will receive the Leadership & Service Award for the MS in Management and Systems program. In addition to his strong academic performance and passion for helping the program, Tony has served as president of the NYU SPS Management & Systems Student Association. Upon graduation, Tony plans to pursue a career in database technologies in the pharmaceutical area, where he extends his passion for helping people.

NYU SPS Dean's Scholar

NYU SPS Graduate Convocation Student Speaker

Flag Bearer

Roksolana Maria Sheverack

See page 3 for full bio.

MS IN PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Academic Excellence Award

Nupur Gupta

It is an honor for the MS in Project Management program (MSPM) to award Nupur Gupta the Academic Excellence Award. She combines a unique balance of intellect and experience, with an unquenchable desire to learn, grow, and pursue excellence in whatever she does. As a student in the MSPM program, Nupur performed exceedingly well academically and in the translation of theory into practice, as demonstrated by both her individual work, as well as her team collaboration and engagement. Her action-oriented approach to dealing with each challenge and her tenacious dedication to the discipline was evident. Nupur's capacity to expand, and exercise her intellect was exceptional, as evidenced by her academic achievement. She is an excellent representative of the MSPM program and the School.

Leadership and Service Excellence Award**Skye Weis**

Skye Weis, reflects the quintessential project management student, and most particularly the holistic model of what it means to be committed to the community of MS in Project Management students (MSPM), at the School of Professional studies. She has combined the highest standards of academic achievement, with a commitment of service to her fellow MSPM students, the School, and the University. As the past president of the Project Management Student Network (PMSN) she demonstrated the highest qualities of leadership. She worked to guide members of the Executive Board, as well as the community of the association during her tenure in this role. Skye was the face of the program and the soul of her fellow students. In addition, she excelled each step of the way in her academic commitment and achievement. That is why we're pleased to have Skye fly the banner of the MSPM program and proudly represent the NYU SPS community.

Flag Bearer**Sarah R. Romero McMillen**

Sarah Romero McMillen has been an outstanding student and an extraordinary contributor throughout her time in the MS in Project Management. She demonstrated an aptitude for learning and a thirst for knowledge when applying the lessons she learned in new and innovative ways. Her action-oriented approach to dealing with each challenge and her deep interest in the discipline were evident throughout her course of study. Sarah demonstrated exceptional merit in the quality of her work assignments and in her recognition of how to transfer what she learned in class into practice. Her capacity to learn, grow, and exercise her intellect was exceptional. Her commitment to the rigors of her work never flagged, hence her alignment with this honor. She grew stronger throughout the program, was consistent, persevered, and had a sincere interest in acquiring knowledge and achieving academic excellence.

MS IN PUBLIC RELATIONS AND CORPORATE COMMUNICATION**Academic Excellence Award****Olivia Trogisch**

The Division of Programs in Business is proud to present the Academic Excellence Award for the MS in Public Relations and Corporate Communication program to Olivia Trogisch. Throughout her time at NYU SPS, Olivia remained committed to academic excellence, concluding her studies with a thesis focusing on the shifting role of public relations in an era defined by the triple bottom line. As part of the NYU SPS Real World program, Olivia's proposal for converting Gen Z to devoted brand followers and subscribers was selected as a winner by *The Atlantic*. In addition to her educational pursuits, Olivia began interning at AZIONE PR while studying at NYU SPS, and is now employed full-time at the agency where she works to empower start-ups rooted in social responsibility and sustainability.

NYU SPS Dean's Scholar**Leadership and Service Excellence Award****Felicia Ong**

The Division of Programs in Business is proud to present Felicia Ong with the 2021 Public Relations and Corporate Communication Leadership and Service Award. Felicia is the current club president of the PR League and served as the club vice president during the 2019-2020 academic year. She has demonstrated her full commitment to the club and the program while juggling her academic studies and a full-time career. During the 2019-2020 academic year, Felicia was integral to the team that planned and executed the award winning Annual PR League Summit. In addition, she received a Dean's Scholarship Award for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Flag Bearer**Anqi Li**

Anqi (Viki) Li embodies the qualities of high academic achievement, service, and leadership within the Division of Programs in Business and the larger NYU SPS community. For this reason, she will receive the Student Leadership Award and will serve as the flag bearer for the MS in Public Relations and Corporate Communication program. In addition to her strong academic performance, Viki has served as club vice president of the NYU SPS PR League during her final year in the program. She serves as a mentor to first-year club members and fellow students and has proven her dedication to the program and the School through her unwavering commitment in her role in the PR League.

NYU Commencement Graduate Banner Bearer**Yixuan Luo**

Yixuan (Shirley) Luo has been given the distinct honor to serve as the Graduate Banner Bearer at the 2021 NYU Commencement. During her time in the Public Relations and Corporate Communication program, Shirley has achieved academic excellence and has exemplified agility in the challenges she faced. She was awarded honorable mention in the PR-Hackathon and was acknowledged as one of the finalists in the NYU SPS Innovation Challenge. In her roles as social media chair of the NYU SPS Graduate Student Council and secretary of the PR League, Shirley was actively involved in supporting students' individual development and promoting an engaging community at NYU SPS. During the pandemic, she was an involved advocate for positive social impact by volunteering at the American Red Cross and Cinema Arts Centre. She looks forward to contributing to NYU SPS and to the larger NYU community as an engaged alumna. She exemplifies all that an NYU SPS education can provide, and therefore, is the perfect graduating student to represent the School at the NYU Commencement ceremonies.

JONATHAN M. TISCH CENTER OF HOSPITALITY

MS IN EVENT MANAGEMENT

The Len Wolman Event Management Award Robyn D. Goldhar

The Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality is pleased to award Robyn Goldhar with the Len Wolman Event Management Award. This Award is given to a student who has shown academic excellence and professional promise throughout their time at NYU SPS. Robyn is the outgoing director of professional development for the Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Society, for which she worked to bring and create opportunities for students to grow their professional skills outside the classroom. She also was a key player in the initial development of the newly launched Student Advocate Program. Robyn is driven by a passion for sustainable, community driven event production and design. Upon graduating she will be focusing on creating unforgettable, immersive experiences in collaboration with global brands and festivals.

Flag Bearer

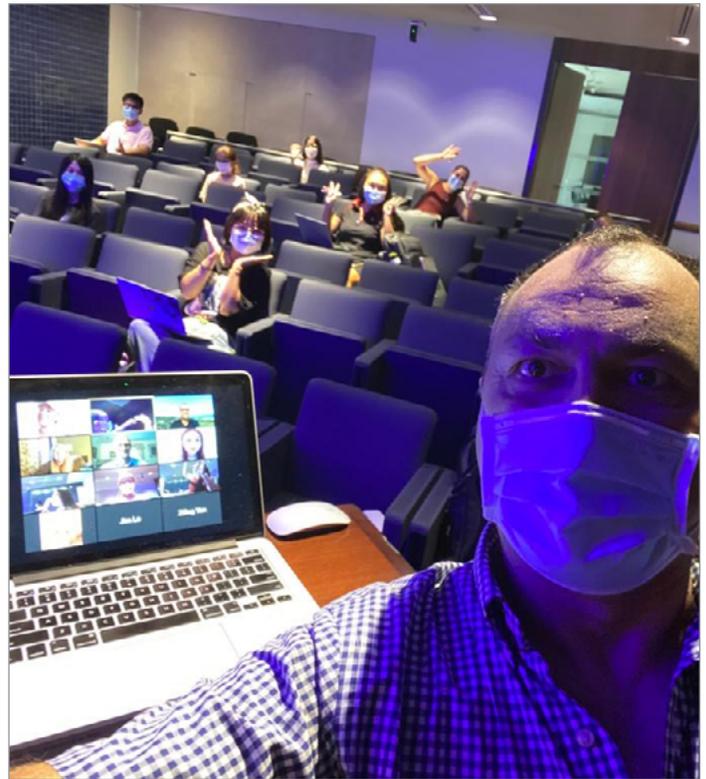
Jayde B. Grossman

Jayde Briana Grossman is a spirited and lively student, who incorporates her creativity into every project in which she is involved. She was recognized with a scholarship award for leadership from the University of Arizona, where she earned a bachelor's of science degree in 3.5 years. Having grown up outside of Philadelphia, a return to the East Coast was inevitable, and NYU SPS was the only school she considered to further her studies. This year has been challenging, and Jayde is honored to be chosen as an NYU SPS Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality flag bearer. While pursuing an MS in Event Management, Jayde has been employed in the administrative office of the Early Childhood Center at Park Avenue Synagogue, working on marketing and parent outreach. Jayde is hopeful of the brighter days ahead and looks forward to working in the world of corporate events post COVID-19.

MS IN GLOBAL HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT

The Jonathan Tisch Academic Achievement Award Geetanjali Meghan

Geetanjali Meghan began her educational experience at NYU SPS with the intention of immersing herself in the academic rigor and the breadth and depth of her program's curriculum. She was eager to learn from the uniquely dynamic and professional environment the Tisch Center offered, and to contribute to the thriving student life on campus. This focus served as a means to guide her in making the most out of her time at NYU SPS, while also enabling her to give back to the community and to uphold the University's commitment to excellence. Along with her strong focus on academics, she has had the opportunity to working in sales and events at Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts, the Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group, and CPS Events at the Plaza Hotel. On campus, she has assisted in an array of events— from the NYU Annual Hospitality Investment Conference to the Hospitality & Tourism



Career Fair, and an Internship Mixer. She has served on the Executive Board of a student organization, sharing mindful practices on campus, and has conducted research in the area of sustainability for organizational enhancement. Her journey has been one filled with an eagerness to learn and a passion to serve, which has inevitably led to a wholly fulfilling experience both personally and professionally.

Flag Bearer

Amanda Saunders

With dreams of one day opening an establishment for lighthearted, good time seeking foodies, Amanda Saunders entered the NYU SPS hospitality graduate program with wide eyes, a passionate heart, and an open mind. The hospitality program gave her the opportunity to study abroad and learn about leadership, organizational behavior, and destination analysis and evaluation. She found personal growth while abroad, experiencing the importance of representation as a black American woman and sharing and exchanging ideas with fellow classmates and professors. Her classmates and professors were inspiring and touched her emotionally, giving her a new lens on viewing the world and all she has to offer. The study abroad experience led her to realize the beauty in trusting her process and cherishing her individual journey— its twists, turns, and loops. While studying, she gained hospitality experience as an independent digital/social media marketing consultant for one of her clients, Winstead Catering and Events, an Upper East Side New York catering and events company. Amanda is exuberant and feels prepared for anything after mastering her academic studies in the hospitality program; galvanized by not having all of the answers, brave and eager to try new things, and dedicated to continuing to learn, grow, and glow!

MS IN TOURISM MANAGEMENT

The Ricelle “Bunny” Grossinger Hospitality Award Natascha C. Adams

Since moving to New York in 2019 to pursue an MS in Tourism Management, Natascha has demonstrated leadership skills academically, professionally, and in the NYU community. During her studies, she led projects centered on sustainable tourism, virtual reality applications in the tourism industry, consulting on advocacy strategies with Destinations International and through an internship with Index Select, a leading B2B representation tourism business. Natascha is the outgoing vice president of tourism for the Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Society (HTES), for which she has organized numerous events throughout the academic year, notably the inaugural Social Innovation Conference and a panel addressing the tourism industry’s impact on the environment. Working at NYU’s Office of Global Services, Natascha dealt with visa applications and travel issues during the pandemic for both outbound study abroad and incoming international students. NYU SPS awarded Natascha the Preston Robert Tisch Scholarship and the Stephen Brener Memorial Scholarship. Originally from Scotland and a graduate in languages from the University of Glasgow, Natascha grew up in Southeast Asia and Portugal, and has a particular interest in ethical wildlife tourism. She hopes to apply her international upbringing and education to the development of strategies and policies for sustainable and regenerative practices in the tourism industry.

Flag Bearer Denise Ware

Denise Ware embodies the qualities of academic achievement, service, and determination skills necessary within the Tourism Management program and the Tisch Center of Hospitality. She has served as director of communications and board member for the Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Society (HTES), embodying the true character of a manager to the communications team by displaying leadership, an open mind, and hard work. She has shown a high level of performance and persistence in her studies, which reflects not only her clarity of purpose, but the true professionalism she has obtained working in the real world prior to graduate school. Denise has been an exemplary student, determined to gain not only more knowledge and new perspectives, but a better sense of self to take back into the working world.



PRESTON ROBERT TISCH INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL SPORT

MS IN GLOBAL SPORTS

The Allie Sherman Sports Business Leadership Award Caroline Kasper

Caroline Kasper is graduating from the inaugural cohort of the MS in Global Sport program offered by the Tisch Institute for Global Sport. Caroline graduated from Denison University in 2012, with a history and religion minor. While at Denison, she was an active member of the student community, participating on the field hockey team for four years and serving as captain for two years. She also wrote for the sports section of *The Denisonian*, and worked in the Sports Information Office. Since graduating from Denison, Caroline has worked in professional sports at Monumental Sports and Entertainment (Washington Mystics, Washington Wizards, and Washington Capitals) and the Philadelphia 76ers, followed by four years at CSM Sport and Entertainment. Currently, Caroline works as an associate with SLCP Communications. She is thrilled to receive this honor and for the global education that NYU SPS provided her as it shaped her into the global business leader she is today.

Flag Bearer Olivia T. White

The Preston Robert Tisch Institute for Global Sport is proud to name Olivia White as this year’s NYU SPS Tisch Institute Graduate Banner Bearer. Olivia is a Tisch Institute Global Leaders Scholarship Recipient and is graduating with a Master’s in Science in Global Sport as a member of the program’s inaugural cohort. During her time with NYU, she traveled overseas to Tokyo, Japan with her classmates, where she immersed herself in the preparation for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics. Olivia was selected to take part in Madison Square Garden’s Student Associate Program in the Fall of 2020, and has spent the past several months working in the Process Engineering Department, focusing on the development and maintenance of MSG’s digital venue management systems. Olivia focused her final Capstone project on increasing the representation of women in leadership roles within the global sports industry and hopes to pursue a career in strategy and business operations for the world’s leading professional sports leagues upon graduation.

MS IN SPORTS BUSINESS

The Allie Sherman Sports Business Leadership Award Haoran Gui

Haoran (Sherry) Gui is an alumnus of both the University of California, Los Angeles and the London School of Economics. During her time as a graduate student at The Preston Robert Tisch Institute for Global Sport, Sherry has embraced the inclusion, diversity, belonging, equality, and access (IDBEA) initiatives championed by SPS. Prior to joining the MS in Sports Business program, Sherry studied sociology and worked for international organizations in a media capacity. After becoming part of the Tisch Institute community, Sherry served as a teaching assistant for the Champions course, which was part of NYU’s “Big Ideas

Course Series.” Additionally, Sherry has completed independent research exploring the intersection of sports fan psychology and political participation. Aside from maintaining her excellent academic performance, Sherry is an avid reader and aspires to pursue her doctorate in the near future.



Flag Bearer

Claudia Balomenos

Claudia Balomenos exemplifies the qualities of excellence in academic achievement, leadership, and service to the community within the Tisch Institute for Global Sport and the whole NYU SPS community. For these reasons, she has been nominated to serve as the flag bearer for the MS in Sports Business program. In addition to her strong academic performance, Claudia has been an active member in the Global Sports Business Society, and even held a position on the board. Upon graduation, she plans to pursue a career in marketing analytics, helping teams or leagues attract and retain new fan bases. Claudia's intelligence, leadership, and loyalty to her studies and her peers make her a role model for students in the Tisch Institute for Global Sport and across SPS.

SCHACK INSTITUTE OF REAL ESTATE

MS IN REAL ESTATE

Schack Academic Excellence Award

Ryan C. Tatzel

The Schack Institute of Real Estate is proud to present Ryan Tatzel with the Schack Academic Excellence Award. Ryan currently works as vice president of development at Cord Meyer Development Company, a 116-year-old family business headquartered in Forest Hills, NY, with close to \$1B of assets under management in New York City. Ryan joined the program to help transition his career from the start-up world. Prior to real estate development, Ryan was the co-founder of a smart window technology company that was sold to a private equity backed company. He completed the MS in Real Estate with a concentration in finance and investment, and a 4.0 GPA. According to Ryan, “The Schack program and faculty members prepared me for my career in real estate development and helped me achieve my dream job—managing ground-up development for \$100M+ projects—from conception through stabilization.”

Schack Leadership Award

Jess Solley

It is a pleasure to present the 2021 Schack Leadership Award to Jess Solley. An MS in Real Estate candidate with a concentration in Finance and Investment, Jess started her career at BlackRock and came to Schack to explore her interests in real estate investing and entrepreneurship. Jess has excelled in the graduate program and has held numerous leadership positions within REISA. She is the current outgoing executive vice president and Graduate Student Council Representative for REISA. Jess is the co-founder of a student-led digital publication focusing on environmental sustainability and innovation in the built environment, and she also has contributed to research at Schack's REIT Center exploring digital infrastructure and its impact on commercial real estate. Jess is passionate about making a positive impact on the community and it is evident in all that she has accomplished in her time at Schack.

Flag Bearer

Matthew Hiller

Matt Hiller was chosen by the Schack Institute of Real Estate as the flag bearer award recipient for the MS in Real Estate. Matt is an active member in the Schack community and is regularly found at the many events hosted by the School and real estate organizations. He is proud to be selected by the faculty and administration to represent Schack in this role for his high academic achievement, service, and leadership during his graduate studies at NYU SPS. Matt joined the Schack program in Summer 2019, following his career in consulting, serving his client's needs regarding their impaired real estate credit portfolios. He is earning his degree in the finance and investment track and has focused his projects on special situations & distressed real estate investments. This concentration led him to join ACRES Capital where he helped the team acquire the management contract of a distressed mortgage REIT. Matt is grateful for the valuable skills he has gained, and the relationships made during his time at Schack. He looks forward to bolstering these relationships while continuing to serve his NYU SPS network as an alumnus.

MS IN REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT

Schack Academic Excellence Award

I Gusti Ayu Ceri Chandrika Meidiria

The Schack Institute of Real Estate is proud to present Ceri Chandrika with the 2020-2021 Schack Academic Excellence Award for her achievements in the MS in Real Estate Development. Ceri is a real estate development enthusiast with a background in architecture. Despite the challenges caused by the current COVID-19 pandemic, she feels genuinely grateful that she was able to complete her courses with the assistance, guidance, and support of the Schack faculty, and her family and friends. Ceri previously worked in corporate real estate at Bank Mandiri in Indonesia as a strategic analyst, focusing on initiating development strategies for asset management.

Schack Leadership Award

Ethan Bregman

The Schack Institute of Real Estate is proud to present Ethan Bregman with the 2021 Schack Leadership Award. Selected by the faculty, it is bestowed for demonstrating exceptional potential for leadership in the real estate industry. While earning the MS in Real Estate Development, Ethan represented NYU SPS Schack as a finalist in the nationwide Colvin Case Study Competition, traveling to Washington DC to present analysis of a Financial District skyscraper rehabilitation. His academic performance at Schack also earned him the Michael J. Farrell Scholarship for Academic Excellence. In addition, Ethan continued to work full time as he earned his degree, expanding his small single-owner portfolio of properties; managing industrial, commercial, and residential tenants during the global pandemic; and finding flexible expansions such as outdoor dining for his tenants to remain profitable. He is grateful for both the in-depth education Schack has provided, and for the fantastic connections with faculty and students from New York and abroad, which has led to enduring and fulfilling friendships.

NYU SPS Dean's Scholar

Flag Bearer

Kelly A. Smolenski

Kelly Smolenski's professional and academic endeavors have always been concerned with the built environment. As a licensed architect, she began her studies at NYU SPS aspiring to manage a vertically integrated real estate development company. The desire to make informed decisions and to assume responsibility for what we build is at the core of what drives her professional pursuits. Through the opportunities offered by NYU Schack, Kelly is now a development project manager at RXR Realty. Ambitious and rigorous in her pursuit of improvement and advancement, she consistently seeks to be challenged professionally, academically, and as an athlete. The values she embodies are conveyed through her involvement in mentorship programs such as NYU ASPIRE and women-led organizations in commercial real estate such as WX New York Women Executives in Real Estate and Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW) NY. Kelly continually cultivates relationships, mentors students, and engages leaders in the industry. This is precisely what make her capable of achieving the intentional and innovative impact that she wishes to make.

MS IN CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

Schack Academic Excellence Award

Nathalie Murra Nader

Nathalie Murra Nader will forever be in debt to NYU SPS and the Schack Institute of Real Estate for giving her the skills necessary to thrive in the construction industry and providing her with the strength and confidence required in the development of her projects. While attending classes and receiving full guidance from her professors and from the chair of the Construction Management Program, she kept working for her family business, applying her new skills in the execution of complex construction projects. One of her first projects after culminating her studies was standardizing the company's

bidding procedures in order to start bidding on a larger pool of projects in a more systematic manner. She also is working on the implementation of green construction technology in the company's most recent project, after being able to understand the implications of green building in terms of energy savings, asset value, positive environmental impact, and occupant comfort. This was all possible due to having direct access to the most prominent professionals in the industry, the program's highly diversified curriculum and its focus on management and leadership skills. Nathalie is immensely gratified and honored to have participated in a program that has guided her in achieving her ultimate goal: positioning her family business in the construction of public and private projects in the region and serving Colombians through the execution of high-impact infrastructure projects.

Flag Bearer

Olivia Arnow

The NYU SPS Schack Institute of Real Estate is proud to have Olivia Arnow serve as the flag bearer for the MS in Construction Management. For the past six years, Olivia has been building Little Island at Pier 55, a public park and outdoor performance space on the Hudson River. She was the second employee of the nonprofit founded to develop the project and helped lead its vision from schematic design through closeout and opening (currently scheduled for May/June 2021). Olivia holds a bachelor of arts in science & technology studies from Vassar College and has completed horticultural course work at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. She is passionate about the natural and built environments and is excited to continue her career in construction and project management.

DIVISION OF APPLIED UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

BA IN HUMANITIES

The Alpha Sigma Lambda Dean's Award

Julia Nimchuk

A leader in her classes; Julia gave up a career in real estate to complete a BA in creative writing, and will pursue graduate school in the field of social work in order to serve those in need. Her drive, positive attitude, and the quality of her own writing have all made her into a leader among the students, who look to her for guidance by the strength of her example. At the same time, she has an exceptional ability to listen and learn from her instructors and other students in her classes. No matter how many challenges she faced outside the classroom she has performed with excellence, demonstrating her reliability, honesty and her drive. Julia is a stellar student full of ambition, perseverance, and creativity. Her presence in the classroom uplifts other students, as she is supportive of her classmates and sensitive toward current issues. She is not afraid to speak her mind and be an independent thinker, which makes her a thoughtful and brave writer. She is a dream student and we're confident her future will be bright and successful no matter what avenue she pursues.

BA IN SOCIAL SCIENCES

NYU SPS Dean's Scholar
Washington Square News Profile
NYU SPS Community Service Award
The Herbert C. Jaffa Award
The Wallace Gobetz Memorial Award
Jake Alexander Drucker

Jake Drucker is the recipient of the Wallace Gobetz award, which recognizes the graduating students with the highest academic average. Jake holds a cumulative GPA of 4.0, the highest possible average. This impressive GPA is just one indication of Jake's hard work and dedication to his education. He successfully pursued a rigorous full-time schedule which included challenging course work, college hockey, and a participation in a youth mentoring program. There weren't enough hours in the day for all Jake set out to accomplish. Ultimately, his goal of graduating with high honors and securing acceptance into a top law school was realized. He'll attend the University of Pennsylvania Law School in the fall.

The Wallace Gobetz Memorial Award

Sarah Beth Irwin

Sarah Irwin's achievements and stellar academic performance at NYU SPS deserves recognition. Prior to enrolling at NYU in 2018, she worked with numerous nonprofit organizations that provided health and educational programs outside of the US and within New York City, as well as in the culinary arts. After developing an interest in psychology, she joined NYU SPS to complete her bachelor of arts in social sciences. She has a passion for working with youth and young adults, and plans to pursue graduate study in psychology. Graduating with a 4.0 GPA, her hard work and dedication to her studies makes her an ideal recipient for the Wallace Gobetz Memorial Award.

The Harvey Stedman Award

Julio Bragado-Young

Julio Bragado-Young came to DAUS as a retired, classically trained ballerina, having had a full professional life up until then. Life circumstances had cut this career short. He often joked in class that he must have been the oldest student there. He stood out as being thoughtful, humble, articulate, and determined to do the best he could in this next phase of life. Typical college classes were a challenge for him when he started, because he had not taken any prior to joining DAUS, and he was doing so while teaching ballet to young students. Yet he did not shy away from acknowledging this challenge, nor did he cease to face it head-on. While he juggled his own teaching with studying at DAUS, he was unfailingly kind to fellow students, an excellent team player, and respectful of different points of view. He brought his own life and professional experiences into the classroom, providing an enriched perspective so representative of our adult learners. With his drive and determination to succeed, Julio demonstrated that he is highly intelligent, an excellent writer, organized, and motivated. It became clear to all of us at DAUS who had the privilege of working with him, that he epitomizes our DAUS adult learner. We are proud to have him as the recipient of our Stedman Award, which embodies the achievements of the adult student.

Flag Bearer

Phuong Lan Nguyen

The Division of Applied Undergraduate Studies is proud to select Phuong Lan Nguyen as a flag bearer for this year's graduating class. She exemplifies the attributes of a successful post-traditional student, as well as a dedicated member of the NYU SPS community, by having maintained an excellent academic record throughout her studies and also working full-time at the University. With a background in the nonprofit sector and social services, a concentration in psychology was the perfect fit for her professional goals and has provided a strong foundation for her future graduate study in social work and counseling. While much of her undergraduate courses centered on this field, she developed an interest in other disciplines along the way, and enhanced her academic experience by enrolling in numerous social science and humanities courses. She has made the dean's list every semester, achieved honors, and was the recipient of numerous scholarships. In addition, she has been featured on the NYU SPS website. She is an ideal candidate to represent her class.

BS IN DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA

Flag Bearer

Valeria Galvan

Valeria Galvan is a passionate and dedicated student who started in digital communications and media. Coming from a classical and jazz music background. She quickly found ways to integrate her knowledge in both fields in addition to her Spanish language heritage to her work as an intern preparing for the 2021 Latin American Music Awards. Apart from enthusiastic class participation, Valeria has taken any opportunity to volunteer her talents. Last summer she edited and animated an anniversary video for the NYU SPS ELI 75th anniversary video.

BS IN LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT STUDIES

NYU SPS Undergraduate

Convocation Student Speaker

John N. Gargano, Jr.

See page 4 for full bio.

The Wallace Gobetz Memorial Award

WeiJie Tang

WeiJie (Jack) Tang is a recipient of the Wallace Gobetz Memorial Award, as he has demonstrated academic excellence throughout his undergraduate studies, earning numerous scholarships throughout his tenure at NYU SPS and graduating with a 4.0 GPA. After immigrating to New York City from China in 2015, he secured employment in the hospitality industry and focused on learning English, developing fluency in the language in a mere two years. Eager to begin his higher education, he enrolled in a local college and completed his associate degree in three semesters. In Spring 2019, he enrolled at NYU SPS to earn the Bachelor of Science in Leadership and Management Studies, after achieving a perfect GPA at his previous college as well. With a strong background in management, his next goal is to enter a career in finance, and he is actively seeking educational and networking opportunities in this field.

AAS IN BUSINESS

Flag Bearer

Beatriz von Ungern-Sternberg

Beatriz von Ungern-Sternberg, who earned a 3.976 GPA, is an outstanding student and has performed with true excellence in all of her courses, while also actively encouraging and supporting her fellow classmates. Open to new and different ideas, Beatriz is curious about the world, and takes deep pleasure in learning about it. She consistently offered unique insights during class discussions; making connections between different aspects of the material, while keeping the big picture in mind. Beatriz exemplifies the delight in learning that characterizes the most engaged and successful post-traditional students.

AAS IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT

The Wallace Gobetz Memorial Award

Joshua H. Batenhorst

Joshua Batenhorst is the embodiment of high academic achievement. With a perfect 4.0 GPA he has successfully completed his AAS degree in Information Systems Management and is currently pursuing a BS in Information Systems with the same outstanding results.



JONATHAN M. TISCH CENTER OF HOSPITALITY

BS IN HOTEL AND TOURISM MANAGEMENT

The Jonathan Tisch Academic Achievement Award

Madeline Aardema

Madeline Aardema is a proud 2021 graduate who is completing the BS in Hotel and Tourism Management with a concentration in Event Management. She embodies the important qualities of leadership, teamwork, and work ethic. As a 2019 transfer student, she rose to the challenge of immersing herself academically and establishing herself professionally in NYC. During her junior year, she became the first event management student to complete the Master's level class: Event Design and Production. Madeline obtained professional experience working at the Mario Carbone restaurant, Dirty French; interning at Hôtel Plaza Athénée; and managing media relations, special events, and PR for Sweats and Balances. Since March 2020, she has skillfully balanced her academics and a full-time work schedule at ReSource Pro in their marketing & events department. Besides maintaining a 4.0 cumulative GPA, Madeline's proudest moment was receiving the

United Airlines Dave Hilfman Award at the 2019 BTN Hall of Fame Ceremony. Upon graduation, Madeline intends to continue her position at ReSource Pro.

The Ricelle "Bunny" Grossinger Hospitality Award Giselle Garvey

Giselle Garvey is honored to receive the Ricelle "Bunny" Grossinger Hospitality Award given to the undergraduate Tisch Center student who exhibits exceptional leadership potential in the hospitality and tourism industries. Giselle is a committed and passionate student who has been on the executive board of the NYU SPS Hospitality Business Society since sophomore year, and served as vice president her senior year. She graduates with a BS in Hotel and Tourism Management with a concentration in Hotel Development and minor in Mandarin Chinese. She has been greatly involved within the Tisch Center, volunteering for hospitality and tourism conferences and participating in hotel innovation and market study competitions. In the past four years, Giselle has been awarded the Hospitality Investment Conference Scholarship, the Doris Sklar Scholarship for the IACC Conference, and the School of Professional Studies Scholarship two years in a row. During her time at NYU SPS, she completed internships at Besen Partners, Paramount Group, PUBLIC Hotel, and Delmonico's Steakhouse. Upon graduation, Giselle is seeking hotel valuation, advisory, design, management, acquisition, and development positions, hoping to utilize all of the skills and knowledge she gained during her time at NYU as part of her future career path. Giselle's work ethic and optimistic mindset makes her a role model for students at the Tisch Center and a future leader among hospitality professionals.

NYU Commencement Class Representative

NYU Commencement Video Profile

NYU SPS Dean's Scholar

Flag Bearer

Rachel Jiwon Kim

Rachel Jiwon Kim demonstrates the principles of leadership, service, and scholarship within the Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality and the greater NYU community. She is honored to serve as the flag bearer for the BS in Hospitality and Tourism Management. In addition to her academic achievements, Rachel has held numerous leadership and professional positions. She recently served as the undergraduate senator, representing the NYU SPS undergraduate student body at the university level. She also served as the graphic & social media chair for the NYU SPS Undergraduate Student Council, president for the NYU SPS International Club, orientation leader, and an ASPIRE program mentor as an NYU SPS dean's scholar. Outside of the classroom, she gained valuable work experience and expanded her knowledge by pursuing two internships at The Standard Hotel in NYC. Throughout her four years, Rachel left a lasting impression at NYU SPS and is incredibly grateful to the members of the NYU community. After graduation, Rachel will continue her journey in the hospitality and tourism industry by contributing to the COVID-19 recovery efforts. With her extraordinary passion and natural leadership skills, she hopes to continue serving as a resource for the students who will become the future of the industry.

PRESTON ROBERT TISCH INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL SPORT

BS IN SPORTS MANAGEMENT

The Allie Sherman Sports Business Leadership Award Alessandro Gherardi

Throughout his time at the Tisch Institute for Global Sport, Alessandro Gherardi has personified the qualities of exemplary academic performance, leadership, and service to the community. For this reason, he is being presented with the undergraduate Allie Sherman Sports Business Leadership Award. Alessandro is graduating one year early, which denotes his unique commitment to academics. As a rising scholar, he has completed independent research into youth sports participation in the US and was published in *Dovetail*, the annual art and literary journal of the NYU School of Professional Studies. His dedication to learning even reached *The New York Times*, when his research-driven question to Kevin Durant at an NYU/Boardroom university event was quoted in an article about the course “How Basketball Can Save the World.” Although Alessandro will soon be graduating, his contributions to higher education have just begun, for he believes that any form of positive change, innovation, and inspiration is rooted in the classroom.

Flag Bearer

Marci Sara Brustman

Marci Brustman is an enthusiastic leader who dedicated her time at NYU and NYU SPS to service and academic pursuits. For this reason, she will serve as the flag bearer for the NYU SPS Tisch Institute for Global Sport. In addition to her academic achievements, Marci has served as the community engagement director of the New York Dance Marathon, Welcome Week leader with the Center for Student Life, and has spent her academic semesters interning at Madison Square Garden Entertainment and BSE Global. One of Marci's favorite memories of NYU SPS was studying abroad at NYU Prague. Marci is forever grateful to NYU SPS for its sense of community and for the many classmates with whom she has engaged. Marci's dedication to student and extracurricular activities across the NYU SPS and the Tisch Institute make her the perfect choice to represent the Tisch Institute as flag bearer.

NYU SPS Dean's Scholar

NYU SPS Student Leadership Award

Anna Grace Dent

Anna Grace (Aggie) Dent has served as the president of the NYU SPS Sports Business Society for the past two years, in addition to her involvement with the Newman Club, and Community Service Committee. As a student in the BS in Sports Management with a concentration in Organizational Management and a minor in Studio Art, she has brought industry leaders from around the world virtually to SPS students. Aggie has a passion for sports and art, and in seeing the ways in which the two overlap. She has worked with some of the top sports brands in the world including Formula E, FC Bayern Munich, and the Sydney Sixers. She also is the founder and president of Adventures with Aggie, a media company that shares the stories of the ways in which sport impacts the lives of

professional athletes and sports executives on and off the field. In the fall of 2021, she will begin pursuing a MS in Sports Management at Columbia University.

SCHACK INSTITUTE OF REAL ESTATE

BS IN REAL ESTATE

The Schack Service Award

Inesh Ahuja

The Schack Institute of Real Estate is proud to present Inesh Ahuja with the 2021 Schack Academic Excellence Award. Inesh made the Dean's List each consecutive semester and he is planning to begin law school this coming fall. During the spring semester he was part of a team competing in the Mulroy Real Estate Challenge and he expresses his honor and pride for receiving this award. We are extremely proud of his academic achievement.

NYU SPS Dean's Scholar

Flag Bearer

Walter James Stack

Walter Stack embodies the qualities of academic achievement, service, and leadership within the Schack Institute of Real Estate and the larger NYU SPS community. For this reason, he will serve as the flag bearer for the BS in Real Estate. Walter was on the Dean's list repeatedly during his time at NYU and has been active in our club from the moment he started NYU. He served as the President of the Club for the last two years. He also was involved in student government at SPS and was involved in the Colvin Real Estate Challenge as well as the Cornell ICSC Real Estate Competition. He was an enthusiastic volunteer at many events targeted toward welcoming new students into the Schack Institute's undergraduate program. We are so proud of his accomplishments and look forward to his bright and successful future!



WHILE STUDENTS MISS ON-CAMPUS STUDY, THEY HAVE EMBRACED **REMOTE LEARNING**

How are students adapting to studying remotely? Here's some feedback on how they are faring in this "new normal" educational environment.



Jonathan Antoshka is graduating this May from the Division of Applied Undergraduate Studies with a BA in Organizational Behavior and Change

How did you complete the majority of your studies this year, online, onsite, blended?

I was able to complete my studies this year online. I decided this would be the best way to make the most of my time for my classes and to be a part of all NYU SPS activities.

What was the experience like for you?

I've talked with a number of students concerning their personal experience of studying virtually; some shared that it's been difficult, while others didn't mind. I felt comfortable as a virtual student. While being in an actual class on campus and sharing the same space is always the better option, not having this experience could have been much more unfavorable. I am grateful to have been able to finish my last school year virtually and to have done so from the comfort of my Brooklyn apartment. I felt connected to students in breakout rooms and did my best to be fully present in every class and student leader meeting. This experience was great!

What did you find most inspirational about this academic year?

The most inspirational takeaway from this semester has been to witness the NYU SPS community unquestionably show school spirit. NYU SPS was able to do so in a compassionate, natural, and intelligent way. Being flexible is a skill that I have had to acquire as a working professional, but seeing the same skill set ingrained in faculty members and students at NYU SPS has been rewarding. #WeAreSPS

What did you learn about yourself as a person?

Throughout this academic year, I have learned that your voice and participation matter. I have learned to share compassion, and to be resilient while practicing self-care.

What are you most looking forward to once the pandemic is over?

NYU SPS has given me a sense of community and belonging. Once the pandemic is over, I look forward to working for a global organization that thinks sustainably, not only in offering products or services, but also in operating everyday business the way NYU SPS was able to do this year.



Kasandra Cisneros is graduating this May from the Center for Global Affairs with an MS in Global Affairs

How did you complete the majority of your studies this year, online, onsite, blended?

I completed all of my studies this year remotely, online.

What was the experience like for you?

This experience allowed me to take part in more events, and more extracurricular activities, and allowed a more flexible work-school-life balance. While human connection is important to me, attending class online allowed me to engage with students and faculty members at a higher capacity than I would have ever been able to if I were only taking classes in person.

What did you find most inspirational about this academic year?

The quick adaptability of our student life staff, faculty members, and students has been such an incredible inspiration to me. They have inspired me to face changes/challenges head on, and to embrace the philosophy that anything is possible, no matter what obstacles come your way, you can make things happen.

What did you learn about yourself as a person?

I learned that despite having the ability to connect with so many people and increase my multitasking, everyone needs time for stillness and I don't always have to be doing something. Rest is integral to my success, just as much as the hard work is.

What are you most looking forward to once the pandemic is over?

While the pandemic may be coming to a close soon, I appreciate what it has taught us and the new perspective it has given us all, not only in terms of taking time to slow down, but becoming aware of the everyday injustices that usually go unnoticed; they are now being brought to the forefront. I'm looking forward to more conversations and action on behalf of our national/global leaders, everyday samaritans, and more.



Anna Grace (Aggie) Dent is graduating this May from the Preston Robert Tisch Institute for Global Sport with a BS in Sports Management and a minor in Studio Art

How did you complete the majority of your studies this year, online, onsite, blended?

All of my classes were online this year!

What was the experience like for you?

This was the most challenging school year so far. Having to balance school, work, internships, and social life all from a studio apartment required real discipline and time management. It tested me and I was able to learn so much about myself!

What did you find most inspirational about this academic year?

The most inspirational part of this school year was watching my friends and the SPS community push through the tough times to put together amazing events; we now feel closer than ever before.

What did you learn about yourself as a person?

I learned that I am more flexible and adaptable than I realized. A year ago, I never thought that I would be able to start a business in the middle of a pandemic or in a remote setting, but it happened through flexibility and dedication!

What are you most looking forward to once the pandemic is over?

I am most looking forward to seeing my friends and having a reunion with those around the world who have been unable to return during this pandemic. My friends and I have a tradition of getting bagels on Monday afternoons and I can't wait to bring back Bagel Mondays!



Tania Mishra is graduating this May from the Division of Programs in Business with an MS in Integrated Marketing

How did you complete the majority of your studies this year, online, onsite, blended?

I completed all of my studies this year remotely, online.

What was the experience like for you?

While at first, this online learning experience seemed challenging to transition into, over time it allowed me to have great flexibility between school, work, and my personal life. Attending school virtually is definitely not the same as being in person, but I was able to attend a greater number of events and connect with people, than I would've been able to otherwise. In my opinion, there's still a long way to go to get the full benefit of online learning. To promote engagement and effectiveness within the classroom, a range of collaboration tools need to be adopted in addition to replicating the in-classroom experience in the form of videos.

What did you find most inspirational about this academic year?

The display of unity, empathy, adaptability, engagement, and drive by our school's community, including staff, students and faculty have been truly inspirational this academic year. We have persevered through the pandemic and succeeded at delivering a sense of community for all NYU stakeholders across the globe. Being a part of this journey has restored my focus on seeing the good in everything and my belief in "where there is a will, there is a way."

What did you learn about yourself as a person?

Taking a class virtually from home is tremendously different than being in a physical setting. I learned that self-discipline and time management were both key to my success. With everything being online, one can easily get stuck behind a computer all day or fall behind with numerous distractions at home.

What are you most looking forward to once the pandemic is over?

Once the pandemic is over, I look forward to fully experiencing the spontaneity that life offers and spending quality time with my family and friends. I will continue to be appreciative of the little things that we take for granted, when we're caught up in our day-to-day lives, and take the time to show higher gratitude for those around me.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM THE FACULTY

Annelise Finegan Wasmoen
Academic Director, Clinical Assistant Professor
MS in Translation & Interpreting, CALA



Congratulations to the Class of 2021 from the Center for Applied Liberal Arts! I have watched you persist through personal and shared challenges during the global health crisis and came away inspired by your example. In this year more than any other, beyond your academic successes, you have come together as a

community. You have gathered for source language engagement sessions, joined online writing retreats, and inaugurated the first club at NYU SPS specifically for online students: the **Online Writing & Languages Society**. What a legacy! Wishing you the best of success in the next stages of your careers. Please keep in touch: all of us at CALA are here for you.

Donatella Delfino, PhD
Clinical Professor
Division of Applied Undergraduate Studies



Dear Students,
Congratulations on your graduation! Thank you for your openness towards learning math in new formats, and for your willingness to be engaged, participate and form a supportive class community. I have been impressed with your commitment towards pursuing your studies

while in many cases facing personal difficulties, such as taking care of young children learning at home, and supporting older relatives. I have so many examples to share of your resilience and strength in the past year that I hardly know where to begin. I will just mention two of them. One of my students took my class side-by-side with their elementary school child whose school had moved online; another student had to endure their place of worship being destroyed by a fire: both students submitted all their class work on time and completed the course successfully. I am very thankful to have had the opportunity to be your instructor. I wish you all the best, and once again: Congratulations!

Jerrod Delaine
Adjunct Instructor
Schack Institute of Real Estate



As I reflect on this year, I would say what I have learned is perseverance and preparation are key. First, the ability to persevere through unforeseen adversity is what set many apart over the last 12 months. Secondly, being prepared for change is crucial. Having an open mind and being ready for the opportunities that

chance presents could be your blessing in disguise. I am so impressed at how students adjusted and exceeded expectations by performing classwork remotely. Remember, education does not end here; continuously improve your mental toolbox. Listen to podcasts, watch educational videos, and read books that make you a better person.

Daniel G. Kelly II, PhD
Academic Director, Clinical Assistant Professor
Graduate Programs, Tisch Institute for Global Sport



Dear Graduate Students,
Congratulations on matriculating towards the completion of your graduate degrees and the upcoming transition or ascension into your respective careers. I am hopeful that your time spent in one of our graduate programs has been not only one of the most

personally demanding and challenging commitments, but also the most productive, rewarding, and enlightening experiences. It is my sincere hope that you have found SPS to be a dedicated, close-knit, and supportive collective comprised of remarkably caring faculty and staff from around the world who are eager to share their own unique talents, interests, perspectives, and backgrounds. We look forward to your future success and are excited to continue to engage with you all as alumni.

Lessons Learned for the Future

As you transition to your post-graduate school life, I want to implore you to stay active with NYU via the Violet Network. One of the silver linings of the COVID-19 pandemic's restrictions and limitations was the opportunity to increase engagement with NYU Alumni and connecting them as mentors with current

students. Also, we have been able to partner with alumni on exciting projects where our students have gained access to proprietary data and industry executives. As you progress in your careers, please remember that you will always have a home with NYU and the Violet Network is a great way for you to remain in close contact with SPS and your respective degree programs.

Christian Busch, PhD

Director Global Economy Concentration,
Clinical Assistant Professor, MS in Global Affairs
Center for Global Affairs



Congratulations! You are about to graduate from one of the world's leading universities during a once-in-a-generation disruption. You have shown great tenacity and ability. We don't always get to pick the situation we're in, but we get to choose our response to it. Now that you've shown that you can master such a disruption, I

hope that you will carry this resilience (and of course, empathy and kindness!) with you into the world. There is so much serendipity to be cultivated, so many meaningful relationships to be built, so much impact to be had. In the spirit of Margaret Mead, we should never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world—because it is the only thing that ever has. SPS's faculty will be right by your side on this exciting journey that is life.

Richie Karaburun, DPS

Clinical Assistant Professor
Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality



As we have all seen this past year, life doesn't get any easier, however we all get stronger and much more resilient. You all showed great resilience when we all switched into online and Hyflex learning overnight. You've learned and grown so much. And I couldn't be prouder. Congratulations on your graduation and best wishes

for your next adventure! I just know life has even more wonderful things in store for you all. Even though graduation is going to look different for you, the achievement is still the same. Someday you'll look back and think, Wow, I graduated at the strangest time ever... Until then, we'll be here for you, cheering you on, looking forward to wherever life takes you next and feeling so proud of you. My advice for you all as you graduate, whatever you do, never stop learning, exploring, growing, and challenging yourself to be your

best. Never be afraid to learn something new every day, because "the moment you stop learning is the moment you start dying" as Albert Einstein once said.

Thomas Kennon

Adjunct Instructor
Integrated Marketing and Communications
Division of Programs in Business



This cohort of graduating scholars will form a new vanguard in business. They leave their studies armed with a unique degree, in our case, a Master of Science in Integrated Marketing. In classes over the last 12 months, across the four courses I teach, we've returned over and over to a startling theme—better capitalism. That's their brief.

They are the generation of professionals which history has chosen to solve the seemingly unsolvable—creating value in a world turned upside down by pandemic, accelerating surveillance, capitalism, and uprisings. Achieving the impossible, and doing it with a brand's marketing as the new proxy for a business's behavior in the world. One incident from this past semester convinced me they are up to the task. During a particularly animated Zoom class, two students began to directly address each other. Building upon an insight in real time. There was a rigorous shared spirit in their back and forth discourse as value making. Afterward, I reflected that their generative exchange was marked with a unique character—love. You can't teach this stuff, but sometimes they can teach and enable it within themselves.

Mark Tavani

Adjunct Instructor
Center for Publishing



Congratulations to the Class of 2021! This year challenged the publishing industry in unprecedented ways, as it challenged you. The magic of SPS is connecting students and professionals; remote and hybrid models of learning made that harder than ever. And yet it happened. In February, my students participated in a mock

but competitive book auction. While some were in the classroom and some were at home, the room filled with energy. And noise. A lot of noise. Some teams succeeded and some lost a ton of imaginary money, but all proved that a passion for books transcends limitations. Publishing needs creativity and resilience more than ever; all of you will carry precisely those things into the future, whatever it brings.

LEARNING FROM THE PROFESSIONAL JOURNEYS OF OTHERS

Finding out “How they got there” can help you to find your way and forge your own path.

Like many throughout the University, last summer, SPS Student Councils gathered (via Zoom) to see how best they could support and assess the needs of the SPS student community during these extraordinary times of pandemic-related reinvention. Surveys revealed that two concerns were at the forefront: the desire for more professional development and networking opportunities.

SPS Director of Student Life Sue Wais recalled the University’s *How I Got Here* series and thought the concept—the gist of which is to interview individuals whose career and life paths and choices serve to illuminate and guide the way for others—could be tweaked to be particularly meaningfully for the SPS community. SPS student leaders embraced the idea enthusiastically and have had great success calling upon faculty, industry leaders, alumni, administrators, and others to share their stories. In hour-long lunchtime interviews concluding with Q-and-As, speakers talk about their professional journeys along with the unanticipated opportunities, challenges or changes of heart that paved their ways. Student leaders facilitate and host the sessions with the practiced sophistication of on-air moderators. **April Cardena**, undergraduate events committee chair, BA in social sciences, DAUS, has moderated several of the “How I Got Here” panels. “Through these conversations,” says Cardena, “the SPS community comes together to share experiences of joy, tribulation, friendship, and hope. It is with great pride that we take the lessons and stories from these renowned professionals and gain the courage to arrive at our own destinations.”



Since its inception nearly 20 programs have been produced and air typically every other Wednesday at noon. Questions are thoughtfully researched and interviewees offer both guidance and inspiration.

Tien N. Nguyen, vice president, SPS undergraduate student council, BS in sports management, Tisch Institute for Global Sport, observed the following.

“It is rare for us to have an opportunity to sit down and have a meaningful, in-depth conversation with our faculty and members of the SPS community. The “How I Got Here” series allows us to do exactly that, and the stories are phenomenal. Each guest speaker has a different story, but they all have one thing in common: they are inspirational....

“My hope is that these podcasts will reach a high school student who is thinking about his/her/their university application, or an aspiring working professional who

needs a dose of motivation on their way to work, and anyone out there who can feel the spirit of SPS and our community. These stories are a great representation of SPS and its values: we are a diverse community that is always resilient and always strives for excellence; a podcast is the best medium to translate that.”

Events are recorded and are being converted into podcasts.

All podcasts that are currently available are accessible via the links on the next page.

To date, “How I Got Here” has featured the following guests.

2020 Guests

Reed Alexander '17 June 17: Actor, author, and journalist.



John Burnett

June 24: SPS adjunct assistant professor, Division of Applied Undergraduate Studies; managing director and founder of 1 Empire Group, a consulting firm specializing in business analytics and development, operations, and more.



Jeanne Marie McPhillips

July 8: SPS adjunct instructor, Division of Programs in Business; founder of SuperGirls; best selling author in the business of inspiring and empowering women to launch their next chapter.



Lauren Grech

July 22: SPS adjunct instructor, Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality; founder of LLG Events; entrepreneur; travel expert; and destination wedding specialist.



David Hollander

August 12: SPS academic assistant dean and clinical associate professor, SPS Preston Robert Tisch Institute for Global Sport; founder of NYU Real World; adviser; author; and recipient of the 2019 NYU Distinguished Teaching Award.



John O'Malley

August 26: SPS adjunct instructor, Division of Programs in Business; corporate trainer; pioneer of online teaching.



Anna Condoulis

September 23: SPS associate dean of student affairs, alumni relations and events.



Steven Pae

October 7: SPS adjunct assistant professor, Division of Program in Business; vp senior engineer, Goldman Sachs; technology executive with deep industry experience in financial services.



Michele Thorpe '20

October 21: NYU SPS Alum, DAUS BS in Social Sciences and NYU SPS Dean's Scholar; Graduate student in NYU's Global Public Health program.



Michael Oppenheimer

November 4: SPS clinical professor, leading IR Futures concentration at the Center for Global Affairs.



Susan Greenbaum

November 18: dean, NYU SPS; previously served in numerous leadership capacities at the NYU Stern School of Business over her 31-year career.



Gina Antonello

December 2: clinical assistant professor of sports management, Preston Robert Tisch Institute of Global Sport; prior experience working for the NFL's New York Guardians as well as the NBA's Brooklyn Nets and Golden State Warriors.

2021 GUESTS

The 2021 podcasts will be released in Summer 2021. Look for them on Spotify, Anchor, and Apple podcasts.

Horace Small

February 3: founder and executive director of the Boston-based Union of Minority Neighborhoods (UMN), which serves to increase activism, empowerment, and opportunity in communities of color.

David Cooper

February 17: adjunct instructor, Preston Robert Tisch Institute for Global Sport; owner, MVP Public Relations, with a 25-year career in sports and entertainment.

Vince Gennaro

March 3: associate dean and clinical associate professor, Preston Robert Tisch Institute for Global Sport; author, consultant to Major League Baseball teams; and host of a weekly national radio show.

Richard Aaron Rubin

March 17: adjunct assistant instructor, Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality; Broadway performer; worldwide musical revue show producer; creator of BizBash, a premier event media company.

Shaunice Hawkins

March 3: SPS adjunct instructor, Division of Programs in Business & Division of Applied Undergraduate Studies; corporate veteran with 25 years of experience in global diversity, human capital management, and business; principal, Evolutions Consulting + Advising.

Cameron Myler

April 14: clinical assistant professor, Preston Robert Tisch Institute for Global Sport; four-time Olympian; National Champion; and World Cup winner in the winter sport of luge; elected to carry the American flag at the 1994 Winter Olympics athletes' parade.

Jamal Hill

April 22: Paralympian; Los Angeles-based educator and community leader with over 10 years of experience in aquatics that include teaching inner-city youth to swim; served as an LA County lifeguard; and representing Team USA as a member of the Paralympic Swimming team. Hill works to create restorative justice through swimming for underserved communities with little access to these life-saving essentials.

Michael "Dr. Woody" Woodward

April 28: clinical assistant professor, Human Capital Management; quoted as a work-life expert in *Forbes*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *Entrepreneur*; organizational psychologist; author of the Amazon top-selling book *The YOU Plan*: CEC certified executive coach; serves on the Institute for Management Studies faculty.



NYU SPS GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT COUNCILS

Congratulations to the new 2021-2022 Student Council Leaders

Meet your Student Council officers and senators. Reach out by email and introduce yourself. Or, even better, attend a Council meeting. Council members act and speak on your behalf. By developing creative programming, voicing your concerns, advancing community-minded agendas, and expanding student opportunities, they work to enrich your academic and social experiences. One path to immersing yourself in the NYU SPS experience is to become involved in student government. Your participation and commitment can evolve into lifelong friendships and invaluable professional connections. It's a great way to start becoming a part of "WeAreSPS." Elections are held annually. Perhaps, next year, you'll consider running for office.

Undergraduate Student Council

PRESIDENT



Maya Kwok
BS in Hotel and Tourism Management
spsusc@nyu.edu

VICE PRESIDENT



Ally Weaver
BS in Hotel and Tourism Management
spsusc@nyu.edu

TREASURER



Sebastian Richardson
BS in Real Estate—Schack
spsusc@nyu.edu

SECRETARY



Christine Long
BS in Real Estate—Schack
spsusc@nyu.edu

SENATOR



Tien Nguyen
BS in Sports Management
spsusc@nyu.edu

Graduate Student Council

PRESIDENT



Catalina Mejía
MS in Public Relations and
Corporate Communication
sps.gradstudents@nyu.edu

VICE PRESIDENT



Sophie Bronsil
MS in Public Relations and
Corporate Communication
sps.gradstudents@nyu.edu

TREASURER



Sanjana Penmatsa
MS in Public Relations and
Corporate Communication
sps.gradstudents@nyu.edu

SECRETARY



Genevieve Onorato
MS in Event Management
sps.gradstudents@nyu.edu

SENATOR



Jessica Blodgett
MS in Human Capital
Analytics and Technology
sps.gradstudents@nyu.edu

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AT NYU SPS

Diversity and inclusion are of paramount importance to the NYU SPS community. Recently, the School established the **NYU SPS Committee on Inclusion, Diversity, Belonging, Equity, and Accessibility (IDBEA)** and hosted its first major event, highlighting both faculty and industry leadership viewpoints on ways to move forward, creatively and constructively, in building a greater sense of diversity and inclusion in light of the change in administration and philosophy in Washington, DC.



On **January 19, 2021**, NYU SPS presented an industry discussion exploring the Biden-Harris administration's policy priorities and the role of industry in supporting economic and social inclusion as the country begins to emerge from one of the most volatile periods in its history. The event, titled "**The New Administration and Policy Priorities for Economic and Social Inclusion**" was co-presented by the NYU SPS Committee on **Inclusion, Diversity, Belonging, Equity and Accessibility (IDBEA)**.

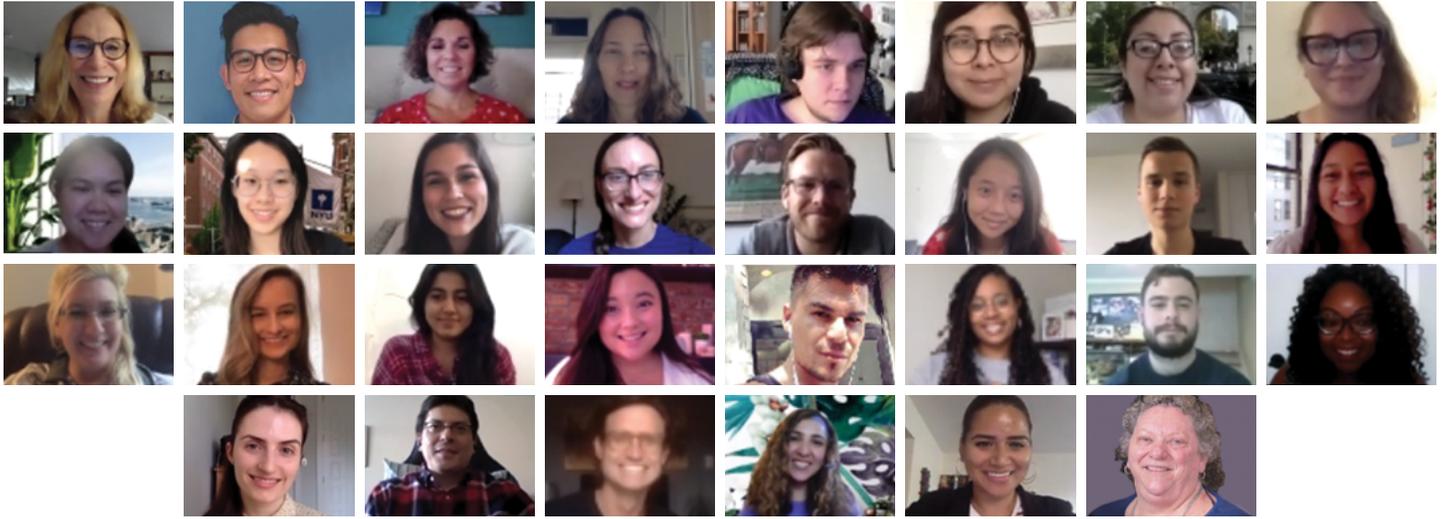


[Watch The New Administration and Policy Priorities for Economic and Social Inclusion Video.](#)



[Watch Diversity and Inclusion at NYU SPS Video.](#)

DEAN'S SCHOLARS SERVE AS MENTORS TO FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENTS



Each year, the **NYU SPS Dean's Scholars Program** recognizes outstanding undergraduate and graduate students who exemplify academic excellence and dedication to community service. Following a competitive selection process, 17 graduate and eight undergraduate students were chosen for the 2020–2021 cohort, each receiving a \$10,000 scholarship for the academic year. Reflective of the student body at NYU SPS, the Dean's Scholars Program assembles a diverse group of students who are charged with serving as truly exceptional School representatives and ambassadors. Members of the Scholars Program are required to play active roles in student life, including serving as mentors, open house ambassadors, and leaders of important student initiatives.

Every Dean's Scholar serves as a mentor in the NYU SPS Aspire Program—a initiative for high school students in New York City who attend under-resourced schools and who will be first-generation college attendees. Following an extensive matching process and comprehensive mentor training, Scholars are paired with two to three high school mentees. Current mentees—nearly 80 high school juniors and seniors—are enrolled in the NYU SPS High School Academy Aspire Program, a two-year, year-round college knowledge and immersion program that is offered at no cost. Throughout the fall and spring, Scholars and mentees attend a series of weekend workshops and

online forums that address critical college preparation topics such as the Common Application, standardized testing, financial literacy, scholarships, and transitioning to college. Ultimately, mentors serve as advocates, coaches, and role models, assisting their mentees in achieving their college goals and aspirations. This year was exceptionally unique with the entire program being held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic. While mentors and mentees could not be together in-person, the program's mission and goals did not change. By strategically leveraging the online environment, mentors and mentees sustained meaningful and frequent levels of engagement.

As the current group of high school 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, Hunter College, New York University, University of Albany, St. John's University, Adelphi University, Baruch College, Stony Brook University, Penn State University, The New School, Syracuse University, University of Delaware, Marist College, Pace University, and John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Of particular note are the achievements of two students: one admitted to both Columbia University and Dartmouth College and another who is Aspire's first Posse Scholar and will be attending Vanderbilt University in the fall.

AN ALUMNI WELCOME TO THE CLASS OF 2021

Congratulations to all graduating students! You will soon be part of our unparalleled network of over 30,000 SPS alumni and 600,000 NYU alumni worldwide. Becoming a member of the alumni community comes with many advantages. Make the most of your new alumni status by exploring all of the resources available to you.

[Update your information](#) and stay connected to NYU and SPS, and be sure we have your most recent contact information so that you can be in the know about events, alumni benefits, lifelong learning resources, networking opportunities, and more!



Join [NYU Alumni Clubs and Networks](#) based upon region, affinity, interests, identity, and industry. Check out [alumni class notes](#), learn from [alumni stories](#), and take advantage of the [SPS Alumni Council and Ambassadors](#) to connect with alumni around the globe.

As part of the NYU alumni community, you are able to take advantage of exclusive [alumni benefits](#), global and local discounts, career services, a lifetime NYU email address, and access to other online resources.

We are committed to engaging you in your lifelong relationship with SPS and providing you access to the vast alumni network, the School's intellectual capital, volunteer opportunities, and the career resources you need for success!

[If you have questions about your new alumni status, please email us.](#)

VIOLET NETWORK – NEW ALUMNI PLATFORM

The Office of Alumni Relations invites all alumni, faculty members, and the Class of 2021 to join the Violet Network—the university's digital platform that drives professional networking and mentorship within our global network. SPS has an unparalleled network of over 30,000 alumni, 4,500 students, and 1,300 faculty members around the world. **Sonal Pande**, assistant dean, alumni relations, asserts, "Many members of the NYU SPS community have asked for a simple way to connect with each other for career insights and networking opportunities. Now more than ever, individuals are seeking ways to engage and support each other."

The Violet Network is part of a larger university-wide initiative that enables knowledge sharing, networking, and mentorship, making it easy to share professional expertise. It has exciting features such as "Explore the Community," groups, news, events, mentorships, jobs, and discussion boards. Participants can make new connections and rekindle old ones using over 20 filters such as industry expertise, location, organization, school, and division affiliation. They can find support based upon industry, affinity, identity or region, in addition to staying abreast of the latest happenings at the School and catching up with fellow alumni. Sign up for professional, social, and industry events taking place worldwide. Find mentoring opportunities and make the most of tailored connections. Search hundreds of job postings and hire from the community. Ask a question, share your opinion, and explore answers on discussion boards.

[Join the Violet Network](#) today!

NYU SPS ALUMNI AWARDS

RECOGNIZE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

Three graduates of the NYU School of Professional Studies were recognized for their exceptional personal and professional achievements during NYU Alumni Weekend with the SPS Alumni Awards 2020. The Awards are presented to respected and distinguished graduates of SPS who have demonstrated extraordinary achievement and/or service in their professional, vocational, social, or cultural endeavors, and who deserve acknowledgment for embodying the spirit of distinction that brings pride to the School and the University.

Distinguished Alumna Award



Keia Clarke '06
MS in Sports Management

Keia Clarke is chief executive officer of the New York Liberty, where she leads and manages all business aspects of the Liberty organization, including strategic planning, revenue, P&L and operations. Additionally, Clarke works with stakeholders on key

elements of team business, including growing the fan base, maximizing sales and fan engagement, and improving business performance.

Prior to being promoted to CEO in 2020, Clarke was chief operating officer of the team for two seasons. In this role, she managed the business and P&L, including strategic planning, budgeting and day-to-day team business operations.

As CEO, Clarke oversees all business-related operations for the Liberty, including the management of the team's partnership deal with its official regional TV partner, YES Network. In 2019, Clarke led negotiations to ink a first-of-a-kind deal with YES, as there had never been a WNBA game on the network prior to the 2019 season.

Clarke is currently in her tenth season with the Liberty, previously serving as the Liberty's manager of marketing for four seasons, prior to her promotion to director in 2015, and vice president for Team Business Development in 2017. In her marketing roles, she collaborated with marketing partnerships, ticket sales, event presentation, and community relations to deliver first class experiences for Liberty fans each summer.

Prior to joining Liberty, Clarke worked on all areas of WNBA business as a member of Team Marketing & Business Operations (TMBO) at the NBA/WNBA league office. She also worked as a marketing analyst for Golf Digest Magazine and began her career as an account executive for the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Mass.

Among her many awards, the Westchester County Business Council named Clarke to its 2018 class of Rising Stars. In 2019, Clarke was recognized by Crain's New York Business as a "Notable Woman in the Business of Sports." In 2020, Clarke also was named to INvolve's 2020 list of Top 100 Ethnic Minority Executives and *Sports Illustrated's* The Unrelenting list.

Clarke attended Canisius College where she was a four-year member of the women's basketball team, graduating in 2003 with a degree in marketing. She went on to earn an MS in Sports Business from the NYU SPS Preston Robert Tisch Institute of Sports Business in 2006.

Clarke resides in New Jersey with her husband, Brian, and their two children, daughter Avery and son Gavin.

Distinguished Public Service Award



Casey Rotter '09
MS in Fundraising and Grantmaking

Casey Rotter is founder and global lead, UNICEF Next Generation (NextGen) for UNICEF. Based in Los Angeles, she led UNICEF Next Generation leadership, development and membership across the USA for the last 11

years and is now expanding the program globally. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin, Madison with a BA in international relations, global cultures and went on to receive an MS in Fundraising and Philanthropy from NYU SPS (the program's first graduating class), where she graduated at the top of her class.

UNICEF Next Generation was born from Casey's capstone project, in which she explored how nonprofit organizations should engage Generations X and Y to cultivate their next generation of major donors, supporters, advocates, and board members. Casey is a recipient of the 2012 Forward Under Forty Award from

the University of Wisconsin, was named 2014 Grand Marshall and Distinguished Alumnae by the University of Wisconsin, and was honored by Dell as one of Dell's 100 inspiring people in their #Inspire 100 campaign, where she was 1 of 25 in the "World Changers" category. She sits on the board of the University of Wisconsin-Madison's International Division and the advisory board of the American Friends of Yahad In Unum, and is a member of Chief, a private network for women executives.

Distinguished Young Alumnus Award



Aditya Vikram Kashyap '16
MS in Management
and Systems

Aditya Vikram Kashyap is a senior program manager in the Financial Crimes Technology Division at Morgan Stanley, New York. He is a technologist, speaker, and an innovator renowned for his expertise in creating surveil-

lance technologies that aim to prevent, detect, and mitigate suspicious activities and client behaviors globally. Aditya's work of building complex risk assessment models and algorithms contributes to safeguarding client assets and enhances due diligence and compliance of Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-Corruption Laws. These complex risk frameworks and algorithms act like a first line of defense against threat

agents like fraud, identity impersonation, terrorist financing, tax evasion, money laundering, insider trading, etc.

Aditya also is a highly skilled digital transformation leader who is currently tasked with spearheading the agile transformation of Financial Crimes Technology as an Enterprise Agile Coach. He has an impressive track record of developing high performing, successful teams using agile frameworks like Scrum, Kanban, and Scaled Agile Frameworks to bring about technological efficiencies in software development and deployment. He is a thought leader who specializes in taking an organizational approach to agility, recognizing that all aspects of the businesses gain value and benefit from being agile.

Over the years, Aditya has won numerous awards for his leadership, expertise and relentless drive to build a safer financial ecosystem, these include the Morgan Stanley Mentor of the Year (2018), Morgan Stanley Technology Excellence Award (2017) and Drexel 40 Under 40 (2019) to name a few. Aditya earned a Master of Science in Management and Systems in 2016 from NYU SPS, specializing in enterprise risk management and a BS in business administration in 2013 from Drexel University, majoring in management information systems and economics.

Nominations are accepted year-round, on a rolling basis. [Submit a nomination and view past honorees.](#)

STAY CONNECTED



Engage With SPS

NYU SPS has an unparalleled alumni network extending around the world. One third of our alumni live outside the US, making you a member of a vibrant community comprised of thought leaders and catalysts for change in global public & private sectors.



NEW NYU SPS **ALUMNI COUNCIL ANNOUNCED**

Dean Susan Greenbaum announced the appointment of 13 new members to the NYU School of Professional Studies Alumni Council to support the School's priorities and guide its leadership in advancing its mission. The Alumni Council has been charged with building alumni engagement with the School and will play a key role in the development of alumni programs. Council members are highly engaged SPS graduates who enhance both the alumni and student experience, build community, and further the School's reputation as a thought leader in industry focused education.

CENTER FOR GLOBAL AFFAIRS



Sara Pandolfi '14
 MS in Fundraising & Grantmaking
 President, Sara Pandolfi & Company



Amelia M. Wolf '13
 MS in Global Affairs
 Project Manager & Senior Intelligence Analyst, Maxar Technologies

CENTER FOR PUBLISHING



Seth Harris '11
 MS in Publishing
 Senior Director, Audience Growth and Partnerships, CNBC



Laura M. Ross '10
 MS in Publishing
 Senior Manager, Commercial Strategy, Barnes & Noble

DIVISION OF APPLIED UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES



Kody Christiansen '20
 AA in Liberal Arts
 Award-Winning Author and Filmmaker, SAG-AFTRA Actor, Student at Harvard University

DIVISION OF PROGRAMS IN BUSINESS



Joe Gilpin Jr. '12
 MA in Graphic Communication Management and Technology
 Creative Manager, Fluor Corporation



Leena Menghani '18
 MS in Human Resources Management & Development
 Lead Associate, Global Mergers & Acquisitions, Willis Towers Watson

SCHACK INSTITUTE OF REAL ESTATE



Thomas Miller '91
 MS in Real Estate
 Senior Director, Streamline Realty Funding



Alex S. Patterson '13, '16
 BS in Real Estate, MS Real Estate
 Director of Real Estate, Risk Management, & Administrative Support Services, Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz

JONATHAN M. TISCH CENTER OF HOSPITALITY



Steen Petri '03
 MS in Hospitality Industry Studies
 SVP Investments, HEI Hotels & Resorts



Amy Zhou '14
 BS in Hotel & Tourism Management
 Director of Operations / Partner, Cote Korean Steakhouse

PRESTON ROBERT TISCH INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL SPORT



Melissa Menta '16
 BS in Sports Management
 Manager, Football Communications & Marketing, National Football League



Josh Page '10
 MS in Sports Business
 Brand Marketing Senior Manager, PepsiCo

REGIONAL: CHINA



Jiayi Du '08
 MS in Tourism & Travel Management
 Lecturer, NYU Shanghai & Shanghai University of Business and Economics

To contact an Alumni Council member or to submit a nomination for consideration, please [email the NYU SPS Office of Alumni Relations](#).

SUCCESSFULLY POSITIONING YOURSELF FOR A POST-PANDEMIC WORLD OF WORK

Congratulations to the SPS Class of 2021! As you embark on this next phase of your journey, the **NYU Wasserman Center for Career Development at NYU SPS** is here to continue to support you as alumni.

Today's workforce is required to be agile and adaptable, especially in a post-pandemic world. Workplaces have changed, and so have the skills and traits that organizations value most—adaptability and flexibility, creativity and innovation, critical thinking, and a commitment to lifelong learning. ([Forbes](#) - Subscription Required)

“NYU SPS alumni are uniquely positioned to demonstrate to employers that they possess these in-demand assets by reflecting on the personal journeys that led them to pursue a degree here at SPS, and by showcasing the skills developed through the applied course work they have completed,” shared Rachel Frint, assistant dean of the NYU SPS Wasserman Center for Career Development.

Frint reminds alumni that success can take many different forms—whether it is starting a new job, enrolling in graduate school, embarking on your own venture, or growing your career at a current organization. She acknowledges that while entering a post-pandemic employment market brings challenges, there are a number of actions you can take to navigate and define your own professional success:

1. **Partner with a career coach.** Create individualized career action plans that fit your goals, and strategize not just “how to find a job,” but also how to lead a healthy career that aligns your values, skills, and interests with the global marketplace. Appointments may be scheduled on [Handshake](#).
2. **Build your network.** Especially during this time, many job opportunities can be found through effective virtual networking. Networking enables you to learn about industries and career paths, determine in-demand skills, and identify potential mentors. Engage with industry professionals and alumni through the SPS Hub of the [NYU Violet Network](#).
3. **Leverage your academic experiences.** Think critically about the courses, projects, internships, and activities you have completed during your time at SPS. Identify how these can guide you when targeting fields and roles, and showcase them as part of your professional brand. Explore the [NYU Wasserman Career Modules](#) for effective ways to communicate your experiences.
4. **Embrace change and resilience.** The past year has brought tremendous change to industries and shifts to career plans, but as NYU SPS alumni, you are among the most competitive candidates because of the depth of your experience, the diversity of your networks, and the strength of your job-ready skills. Capitalize on this period of change to creatively define the direction to take in your career.
5. **Do you have a post-graduation plan?** Share your next steps with us by completing the [NYU Life Beyond the Square Outcomes Survey](#). The information you share will directly influence future students' decision to follow in your footsteps and become your fellow alumni.

For additional support, visit the [alumni career success page](#).



EXPEDITED APPLICATION TO NYU SPS GRADUATE PROGRAMS FOR GRADUATING NYU SPS UNDERGRADUATES

The **NYU SPS Expedited Application Program (EAP)** for **NYU SPS Seniors** allows undergraduate students with a planned graduation date of **May** or **August 2021** to benefit from an expedited review of their application to most NYU SPS graduate degree programs. The only exceptions are a small number of graduate degree programs with specific post-baccalaureate years-of-work requirements. The key features of the EAP include:

- All application fees are waived (normal application fee \$150).
- For programs that normally recommend a standardized test score, such as a GRE or GMAT score, that recommendation is waived.
- Instead of two letters of recommendation, applicants may submit a single letter from the dean of their division or from a clinical faculty member, endorsed by the dean of their division.
- Upon submission of a complete application, applicants enrolled in NYU SPS programs will receive an admissions decision in seven to 10 business days.
- Notwithstanding published deadlines, applicants may apply to begin their graduate studies in the summer semester if the program to which they are applying offers summer entry. However, admitted students must complete their undergraduate degree prior to the commencement of graduate studies.
- EAP applicants will remain eligible for the same financial aid and scholarship opportunities as regular applicants.

- International students with a valid F-1 visa may be able to **obtain a new I-20** from the Office of Global Services (OGS), allowing them to begin their graduate studies. As cases vary, international students should contact OGS directly for specific guidance at **212-998-4720**.

Please note that EAP is an expedited review for admission but does not change admission requirements or degree requirements. Students admitted to the graduate program within their current division—for example, a Tisch Sports undergraduate student admitted to Tisch Sports for a graduate degree—may be able to waive up to two core courses, increasing their number of electives. This determination will be made in consultation with the program's graduate academic adviser and will only occur in a very rare instance where an undergraduate and graduate course are substantially similar in content.

Questions Regarding the Expedited Application Program

For questions about the Expedited Application Program, please [email the NYU SPS Graduate Admissions Office](#) or call **212-998-7100**.

Information about graduate programs is available through the Admissions Office and by contacting divisions directly.

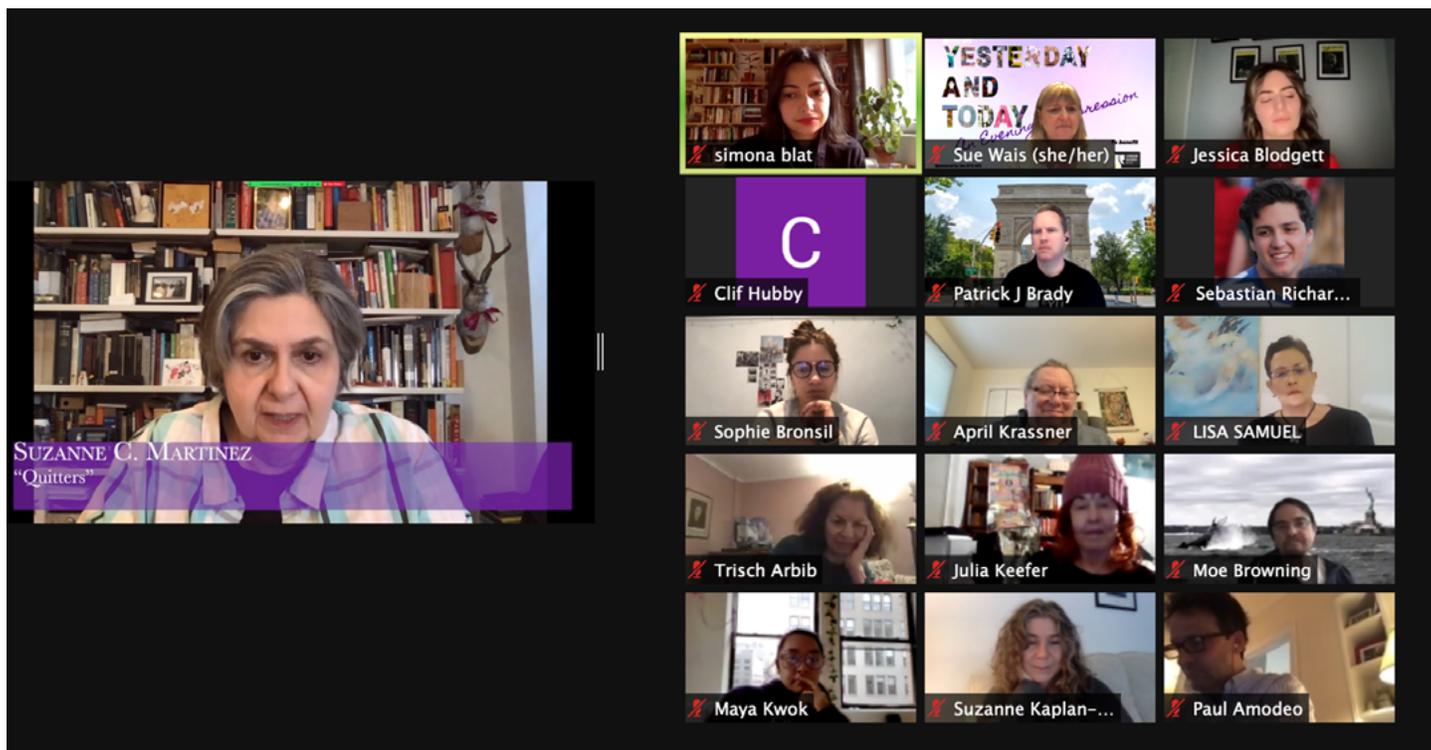
See the website for full details on Division contacts.



Photo Credit: ©NYU SPS/Mark McQueen

GETTING INVOLVED AND GIVING BACK AT NYU SPS

Giving Back in a Time of Need



SPS students often share that they “*get more than they give*” when they participate in community service activities. More than ever, this year has shown this maxim to be true. Students are finding that getting involved in activities that serve to improve the lives of others also improves their own lives. Giving back provides a feeling of empowerment and the ability to, if only in a modest way, have a positive impact during challenging times.

One benefit to life online has been that speakers from across the nation and around the world have been able to accept our invitations and meet with students. This year, the Community Service Committee of the Student Council invited speakers from a variety of nonprofit and community-based organizations to share their inspiring stories and discuss how they found their way to a life of service.

Fundraising drives were initiated on behalf of the arts, food insecurity, the environment, and the pandemic.

The Arts



Urban Word NYC provided an immediate connection for SPS students by having a mission to provide New York City youth with “platforms for critical literacy, youth development, and leadership through free and uncensored writing, college prep, and performance opportunities.” To date, students have raised almost \$350, on their way to the goal of \$500.

[Donate to Urban Word NYC.](#)

Food Insecurity



World Central Kitchen (WCK), not only provides food for those living in crisis situations whose needs are immediate, but also works to address the underlying factors and infrastructure inadequacies that lead to food insecurity. To date, WCK has “provided over 36

million meals in more than 400 cities.” WCK strives to develop innovative ways to rethink how things work and propose alternatives. “Through locally led approaches, WCK food resilience programs advance human and environmental health, offer access to professional culinary training, create jobs, and improve food security for the people ... served.” With over \$750 raised, the fundraising goal of \$1,000 is within reach. Those who donated received the Global Village Cookbook. See the story on [page 37](#).

[Donate to World Central Kitchen \(WCK\).](#)



Foodbank for New York City also addresses food insecurity, this time specifically to help our neighbors here in New York City, striking a chord with donors and resulting in a fulsome response. The Committee Service Committee asked the community, especially

during the winter months, to come together and help alleviate hunger in New York City. The SPS community responded. Fundraising efforts have exceeded the target goal of \$2,000 or 10,000 meals. Today, the total is \$2,250.

[Donate to Foodbank for New York City.](#)

The Environment



One Tree Planted has one important mission and objective—to plant trees worldwide in a concerted effort to restore the environment. In April, Lauren Dalmatoff, coordinator and curator of environmental education programs for One Tree

Planted, talked with students about the importance of caring for the environment, emphasizing that what is done today can make a big impact on tomorrow and the next generation. The Community Service Committee recruited students and staff to be tree ambassadors, those who will “branch out” across the School to bring attention and resources to this important cause. [Our students shared their thoughts on the importance of reforestation](#), and why this issue is of urgent concern and needs immediate attention. For every dollar donated, one tree will be planted. Trees are planted on six continents. Yours may be placed in Rwanda, the Pacific Northwest or the Amazon Rainforest—or here at home. SPS has raised \$1,675, exceeding the original targeted goal of \$1,000. Students are now hoping to raise \$2,000—and grow, in essence, an SPS forest!

[Donate to One Tree Planted.](#)

The Pandemic



Art crossed paths with the pandemic when, last October, students organized *Cranes for a Cause*. Volunteers taught students how to make origami cranes and, in return, participants were encouraged to donate to the Center for Disease Control (CDC). Though

the idea to give was inspired by COVID-19, donations to the **Center for Disease Control Foundation**, support a variety of crucial initiatives ranging from chronic diseases to environmental health, and more. The crane offered the perfect thematic emblem. The crane is a mythical creature symbolizing hope and healing during challenging times, as well as representing good fortune and longevity. More than \$600 dollars was raised.

[Donate to the Center for Disease Control Foundation.](#)

NYU SPS AND UNIVERSITY EVENTS

Global Village: A Trip Around the World—with Stopovers

Global Village is an annual event in which our students share their cuisines, cultures, arts, attire, and traditions in an evening that honors and celebrates the rich diversity that defines SPS.



Usually, all gather together on the ground and mezzanine floors of 7 East 12th street, bustling with activity, energized with a whirl of festive color, and permeated by the delicious fragrances of dishes from around the world. This year, the occasion arrived with a modicum of concern—would it be possible to replicate this event virtually? How would the camaraderie, the spirit, the good will, and fun be sustained?

And yet it was! On Friday, March 26, more than 70 students and SPS community members gathered on Zoom. Together, travelers took a [virtual trip around the world](#) to, among other destinations, China, Columbia, Guyana, and Japan. “Trip leaders” created captivating, personal videos of their home, birth and/or adoptive countries. Some treated us to cooking demonstrations, others to dance performances.

Interspersed with visiting glorious destinations, participants were entertained by “stopovers”—there were raffles for gifts and giveaways via a festive *Wheel of Fortune*-type spinning wheel. Lucky winners received specially designed Global Village t-shirts, Turkish

coffee gift sets, SPS swag, and more. Many neighborhood restaurants offered discounts, also detailed in the itinerary.

A fundraiser for World Central Kitchen (WCK), an organization doing phenomenal work around food insecurity also was held. (See [page 36](#).) Donors to WCK received the Global Village Cookbook, a treasure of personal and family recipes shared by members of the SPS community. Among many tantalizing dishes were recipes for schupfnudeln; Guatemalan tamales; Ecuadorian shrimp ceviche, and homemade mortadella lasagna.

And, of course, a Global Village evening would not be complete without a playlist. [Listen to the Global Village playlist](#).

The evening was a tremendous success and a testament to the enduring spirit of NYU SPS. “Kudos on a fantastic Global Village!” said NYU SPS Chief of Staff Fiona Jaramillo. “What an amazing event.” I had so much fun and left feeling so grateful to be part of the SPS community.”

If you weren’t able to attend, [revisit Global Village](#).

[Donate to World Central Kitchen \(WCK\)](#).

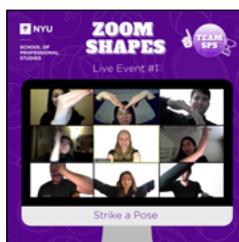


All-University Games: And the winner is...

Typically, the NYU All-University Games (All-U Games) are held at the Chelsea Piers. During this annual event, the NYU schools compete against each other through physical challenges (from fun to serious) such as tug-of-war, basketball, air hockey, and volleyball. The energy is high-spirited, fiery, and passionate. The schools give it their all—each wanting to “take home” the highly coveted trophy. Given the pandemic and the need to social distance, the All-U Games were reinvented this year into two live Zoom events and two week-long challenges, all of which took place remotely. “This year,” says **Ally Weaver**, BS in Hotel and Tourism Management and team co-captain, “the NYU School of Professional Studies made history. **Team SPS won!**”



The Games consisted of four challenges:



Strike a Pose, requiring players to create shapes via Zoom using their arms: circle, square, star, heart, donut, infinity sign, and “N”, “Y”, “U”.



Random Tasks: Photos and videos were submitted via Taskmaster. The challenge was to accomplish specified random tasks which included finding or creating the best pointy thing; conveying the most NYU spirit, choosing the nicest thing to hold (the winner!); best Rube Goldberg machine, and putting the most spaghetti inside a grapefruit.



Trivia: Questions about NYU, New York City, the world, and strange news headlines. (Hosted by President Hamilton!)



Going the Distance: SPS team members, here and abroad, clocked a total of 602 miles in the span of a week!

Almost 40 SPS students participated over a two-week period in the four categories. SPS students were prepared, and not just with School spirit and enthusiasm. The six-page Handbook prepared by Weaver and the SPS Team is a marvel of collaboration and forethought. Every possible circumstance is laid out in detail from event information and strategies to creative proposals and Instagram takeovers. Collaboration, contingency plans, strategizing and careful planning all came into play. Clearly a concerted effort, the win was the result of SPS teamwork and leadership on all fronts with special acknowledgment to *team co-captains* **Ally Weaver** and **Chloe Wang**, the strategic thinking of vice-captain **Tien Nguyen**, and the ongoing support of adviser **Sue Wais** and council presidents **Maya Kwok** and **Tania Mishra**. And, most certainly, all those who participated. Go Team SPS!”

RECOGNIZING YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENT

On behalf of the entire NYU SPS family, it is our sincere hope that you and your loved ones continue to remain safe and well during these challenging times.



CONGRATULATIONS NYU SPS CLASS OF 2021

Courage, Creativity, and Community

NYU SPS VIRTUAL CONVOCATION CELEBRATION

Join us as we celebrate and honor our graduates!

NYU SPS VIRTUAL CONVOCATION

Thursday, May 20, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. (DST)

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN US VIRTUALLY ON THE DAY OF THE CEREMONY](#)