Dear Members of the NYU School of Professional Studies Community,

This past fall proved to be a highly productive period for NYUSPS, and as we progress through the spring semester, this momentum will continue. It is my distinct pleasure to update you on the many exciting projects, initiatives, and events you will find within the pages of this newsletter.

From the launch of the American Language Institute at NYU Shanghai, to an innovative Career Advancement Badging program, to a new graduate degree concentration in gender studies and a new undergraduate degree in applied data analysis and visualization, NYUSPS is on the move.

Our commitment to workforce development remains stronger than ever. This past fall NYUSPS held a major thought leadership event that challenged higher education institutions, government agencies, and industry partners to come together to create educational and employment opportunities that will benefit all New Yorkers. We also added to our existing portfolio of Diploma Programs—affordable, short-duration noncredit programs designed for job training—increasing our offerings from 14 to 30. Our enrollment numbers have tripled in just one semester—a testament to the need for a rigorous job training credential.

As always, our students are a great sense of pride to me and to those who teach and mentor them. The Dean’s Graduate Scholars have done a phenomenal job establishing the Discover program, which will expand the important work of the Aspire youth program to a national audience this summer. I look forward to launching the new Dean’s Undergraduate Scholars program this coming year and to building upon this momentum. Of course I must also thank each and every student who participated in our community building Spirit Week and Finish Line 5K Run, both truly resounding successes for the School.

I urge you to read through this publication and to ground yourself in all that is happening. It will help you to understand the very special community of which you are part.

Dennis Di Lorenzo
Harvey J. Stedman Dean
NYU School of Professional Studies

THOUGHT-LEADERSHIP EVENT ATTRACTS TOP EXPERTS FROM EDUCATION, GOVERNMENT, AND INDUSTRY

With its deep-rooted professional ties serving as the framework, the NYU School of Professional Studies (NYUSPS) has taken a pioneering step by launching Professional Pathways, an industry-immersive approach to education that prepares students for jobs in fields that are hiring and ensures that the School meets the needs of the key business sectors it serves.

“As the composition of the workforce, the demands of industry, and the economic climate of New York City and New York State have changed, we have worked diligently to ensure that NYUSPS has developed educational programs and services that take into consideration these paradigm shifts and meet them head on,” said Dennis Di Lorenzo, Harvey J. Stedman Dean.

Under his leadership the School announced these new initiatives at a thought-leadership event, “Workforce Development: Empowerment Through Partnership,” held on October 7, 2015 at the New York Marriott Marquis. More than 300 guests attended the event, during which two panels of experts from government, industry, and education, discussed the current job market, the plight of the underemployed and the unemployed, and the ways in which they could partner to create educational and employment opportunities that would benefit all New Yorkers.

(Continued on page 2)

Panel One: “Economic Growth and Prosperity: Those Who Benefit and Those Who Are Left Behind” was introduced by Dean Di Lorenzo (center), and featured (l to r) Steven Greenhouse, former labor and workplace reporter, The New York Times (moderator); Jeff Livingston, educational policy expert; Marshall Steinbaum, research economist, Center for Equitable Growth; and James Brown, NYC labor analyst, NYS Department of Labor. Photo Credit: ©NYUSPS/Mark McQueen
The first panel, “Economic Growth and Prosperity: Those Who Benefit and Those Who Are Left Behind,” (see page 1 for moderator and panelists) through lively and candid discussion, provided an overview of the current state of the economy and the reasons behind educational employment-related inequality.

The second panel, “Workforce Development and Job Training—Building Partnerships That Provide Access and Opportunity for All,” (see above for moderator and panelists) focused on the changing job market, the evolving skill sets needed to compete and succeed; and the ways in which educational institutions, government agencies, and industries can partner to provide those skills for the under- and unemployed.

The lunch keynote speaker was Danielle Moss Lee, chief executive officer, YWCA of the City of New York, who was very optimistic upon hearing details of NYUSPS Professional Pathways. “SPS is helping us all to reignite the idea of the American Dream—and that the American Dream has to be realized for the broader community of New Yorkers,” she told the audience. “There have to be multiple pathways to get there. Let’s continue our commitment to innovative workforce readiness.”

Courses offer established professionals the option to focus in areas of specialization that differentiate them in the marketplace and increase their value to employers.

Videos of each panel and from the lunch keynote can be viewed on the School’s website at: sps.nyu.edu/workforce.
NYUSPS INTRODUCES DIGITAL BADGES THAT PROMOTE COMPLETION OF CAREER ADVANCEMENT COURSES

Under the umbrella of its pioneering Professional Pathways program, the NYU School of Professional Studies (NYUSPS) provides working professionals with the opportunity to broaden their skills, increase their knowledge, and enhance their résumé through a wide range of Career Advancement Courses. This fall the School took another bold step, introducing a Professional Development Badging System that allows students to collect a digital badge for each course they successfully complete. Students can then display the badges through their social media presence and on their digital résumé, providing current and prospective employers, as well as family members and friends, with a snapshot of their industry expertise and accomplishments.

Students can earn Professional Development Badges in one specialty area or they can complete courses and earn badges, mixing a variety of industry verticals (real estate, marketing, hospitality, law, sports management, public relations, finance, global affairs, urban development, health information management, foreign languages, and translation). Personalizing their educational experience and skill enhancement in this way can help to differentiate them in the marketplace.

“In highly competitive job markets, these icons of achievement position the student as a proactive learner and as someone who is at the forefront of his or her profession,” said Dean Dennis Di Lorenzo.

Two types of Professional Development badges are available. The Professional Development Participation Course Badge recognizes the achievements of students who successfully complete a Career Advancement Course but who chose not to be graded for their work. The Professional Development Gold Standard Course Badge highlights the accomplishments of students who complete a Career Advancement Course for which they have chosen to be evaluated and have earned a grade of B or higher.

Once a student completes six course badges, they are eligible for a Series Badge. The Professional Development Participation Series Badge is earned by completing six Career Advancement Courses with less than four at the gold standard level, while the Professional Development Gold Standard Series Badge can be earned by completing six Career Advancement Courses with at least four at the gold standard level.

For more information, visit: sps.nyu.edu/badgeit.

DIPLOMA PROGRAMS PROVIDE JOB TRAINING IN FIELDS THAT ARE HIRING NOW!

The recently introduced NYUSPS Diploma Programs have been designed to impart in-demand skills in industries that offer the greatest opportunities for jobs in New York City and beyond. They train students who have completed varying levels of education (high school degree, some college, college degree), providing them with the knowledge and the dexterity they need to move ahead in a highly competitive job market. These affordable programs of study, which typically take one to two semesters to complete, also offer a robust career development component that is built directly into the curriculum. Study options for Summer 2016 include:

DIPLOMAS
- Basic Project Management
- Bookkeeping
- Construction Administration
- Introduction to Programming With Python
- Restaurant Operations and Guest Service
- Retail Operations Management

PROFESSIONAL DIPLOMAS
- Customer Intelligence Analytics
- Legal Interpreting (Spanish/English)
- Medical Interpreting (Spanish/English)
- Meeting and Convention Management

ADVANCED DIPLOMAS
- Project Management
- Coaching
- Monitoring & Evaluation: Project Management for the UN, Government, and NGOs
- Talent Agent Management
- Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)
Since its inception, the NYU School of Professional Studies (NYUSPS) Center for Global Affairs (CGA) has been a progressive source of dynamic programming that examines critical international issues and the latest global trends, both inside and outside the classroom. Continuing in that tradition CGA launched two forward-looking initiatives this fall that focus on gender studies and on strategic foresight.

The first initiative takes on gender inequality around the globe. Whether it is Boko Haram sexually enslaving thousands of women or religious extremists seeking to curtail women’s access to full reproductive healthcare services, the rights of women and gender minorities are under assault from multiple sides.

Recognizing that gender equality is crucial to building stable and prosperous societies, CGA launched a new concentration in Global Gender Studies within its renowned MS in Global Affairs. A kick-off event on September 24 featured a panel of speakers on the forefront of the struggle to defend women’s rights, including Anne Marie Goetz, CGA clinical professor; Shahrashoub Razavi, chief of research and data section at UN Women; Nermeen Shaikh, producer and co-host of Democracy Now! (moderator); and Dubravka Simonovic, UN special rapporteur on violence against women.

The concentration, developed by Clinical Assistant Professor Sylvia Maier in collaboration with Goetz, is one of the few graduate programs that equip students with the knowledge and skills to analyze the link between gender and international processes.

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“The majority of such programs focus on traditional women’s studies in the context of humanities or public policy,” said Vera Jelinek, divisional dean of the NYUSPS Center for Global Affairs. “In our new Global Gender Studies concentration, we focus on the role of women and gender minority issues within a larger framework—of peacebuilding, economic development, international affairs, human rights, the environment, and transnational security—and how they can influence stability or uncertainty in each of these areas.”

Students entering the new concentration will be able to pursue careers addressing issues such as violence against women, women’s economic security, education, human rights, reproductive rights, international criminal justice, political leadership, peacebuilding and conflict resolution, corporate social responsibility, risk assessment, research, and advocacy.

During the fall CGA also introduced the Futures Lab, an initiative for conducting research and delivering course content and events related to the field of strategic foresight.

Developed by Regina Joseph—a member of the CGA adjunct faculty and a Good Judgment “Superforecaster”—this pilot initiative introduces the latest methods and resources in the burgeoning field of predictive analysis. World affairs forecasting reflects the demand for enhanced foresight, improved risk management, and strengthened prevention skills by government and business to facilitate agile decision-making. Programming planned for this academic year included a policy hackathon tournament on political corruption, which took place in December.

The Futures Lab serves as an extension of the International Relations/Global Futures concentration in the Center’s MS in Global Affairs, and it is predicated on the extensive work in the strategic foresight field done by Joseph and by Clinical Professor Michael Oppenheimer, whose Carnegie Corporation-supported Scenarios Initiative has been a CGA fixture since 2009.
NYUSPS HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMY ASPIRE SUMMER PROGRAM HELPS STUDENTS FROM UNDERREPRESENTED COMMUNITIES PREPARE FOR COLLEGE

In keeping with its vision to provide access to higher education to students from all economic backgrounds, NYUSPS launched the High School Academy Aspire Program in Summer 2015. Aspire is a scholarship program for rising high school juniors from underrepresented communities in the New York metro area who will be first-generation college students. Students apply as sophomores for the summer college prep and immersion program and continue to attend Aspire workshops throughout high school to develop college, career, and leadership skills. Each student admitted to Aspire receives a full scholarship that covers tuition, housing, and meals. The college experience, financial aid and application timelines, and resources for standardized testing and college essay writing are all part of the discussion in this comprehensive program.

The NYUSPS High School Academy Aspire Program has garnered rave reviews from its first class of participating students. “I already knew I wanted to go to college, but Aspire really emphasized it,” acknowledged Tiffany Runge, a rising junior at the Young Women’s Leadership School in the Bronx. “They really focused on each individual, and that motivated me.”

For Juleisy Polanco of the Bronx Studio School of Writers and Artists, Aspire was important because it gave her a head start on the college application process. “You need somebody to tell you that they believe in you,” she said. “My favorite part of the program was the independence. They really did treat us like we were in college.”

This summer a new cohort of Aspire students will be admitted to the program. In addition the School will launch the Discover program, which offers the same benefits as Aspire, but will focus on providing them to students across the country. “Once we saw the success of Aspire in the New York metropolitan area, we realized we needed to broaden our efforts on a national level,” asserted Dean Di Lorenzo.

For information about Aspire, visit sps.nyu.edu/aspire.

GENEROUS GIFT FUNDS DR. MONA RIKLIS ACKERMAN ANNUAL LECTURE SERIES ON THE PSYCHOLOGY OF PHILANTHROPY

A generous gift by Ari J. Ackerman and Dr. Gila Ackerman Steinbock in memory of their mother, the late Dr. Mona Riklis Ackerman, funded a new annual lecture series this fall at the NYU School of Professional Studies (NYUSPS).

The inaugural Dr. Mona Riklis Ackerman Annual Lecture Series on the Psychology of Philanthropy took place on November 9 at the NYU Kimmel Center for University Life, where a large gathering of friends, family, students, and alumni paid tribute to the legacy of Ackerman. A prominent New York City clinical psychologist, Dr. Ackerman was known for her popular weekly advice column, “Dr. Mona Knows,” published on The Huffington Post. She was a graduate of New York University, as well as a former trustee. In addition, she taught “Psychology of Philanthropy” as an adjunct professor in the NYUSPS George H. Heyman, Jr. Center for Philanthropy and Fundraising. Ackerman was herself deeply philanthropic, providing support to a broad range of cultural and scientific organizations in New York City and around the world.

“My sister and I felt that there was no better way to honor her legacy as a legendary psychologist and a passionate philanthropist,” said Ari Ackerman of the gift.

Lukas Haynes, executive director of The David Rockefeller Fund, moderated the first lecture in this annual series, guiding the conversation on the psychology of philanthropy with leaders who represented a diverse range of approaches to giving. Panelists included Oriel FeldmanHall, postdoctoral fellow, NYU Department of Psychology, and assistant professor, Department of Cognitive, Linguistic & Psychological Sciences, Brown University; Olivia Ofer, philanthropy manager, Impetus-Private Equity Foundation (Impetus-PEF), founder, Propel Fund, and co-founder and board member, Education Opportunity Fund; and Michael Steinhardt, managing member, Steinhardt Management Company.

Pro Football Hall of Famer Harry Carson poses with Aspire students and instructors after delivering the keynote address at a celebration ceremony, which occurred at the conclusion of the summer portion of the program. Photo Credit: ©NYU Photo Bureau/Elena Olivo

Michael Steinhardt, Dr. Gila Steinbock Ackerman, Ari Ackerman, Olivia Ofer, Oriel FeldmanHall, and Lukas Haynes posed together before the first lecture in the Dr. Mona Riklis Ackerman Annual Lecture Series on the Psychology of Philanthropy. Photo Credit: ©NYUSPS/Sheila Griffin
NYUSPS AMERICAN LANGUAGE INSTITUTE CONTINUES TO EXPAND PROGRAM OFFERINGS IN TOKYO

In Fall 2013, the NYU School of Professional Studies (NYUSPS) American Language Institute (ALI) launched its first global site—the ALI Tokyo Center. Modeled after the teaching and learning experience at ALI New York, the Center offers English language classes, American cultural immersion, and professional development services to a growing Japanese market. The ALI Tokyo Center offers three programs of study—the Academic English Program, the Professional English Program, and the Comprehensive English Program—in addition to several free public events that focus on professional development. ALI Tokyo Center students have access to the same academic content as students in New York, and they study in a beautifully designed space, which closely resembles the NYUSPS building at 7 East 12th Street.

With enrollments on the rise at the ALI Tokyo Center, NYUSPS has been contemplating the next phase of its evolution, including the possibility of introducing additional NYUSPS noncredit professional programming. “Japan’s economy and demographics are changing, with more mothers entering the work force juggling families and careers, and increased opportunities for business development in industries in which NYUSPS offers comprehensive program offerings including childcare management, sports management, real estate, finance, hospitality and tourism, and technology,” noted Dean Di Lorenzo. “Noncredit programs and courses offered at the ALI Tokyo Center would allow NYUSPS to better serve the local market by meeting the demands of Japanese professionals in need of quality, skills-based training. Proposed programming would afford Japanese professionals the opportunity to hone their skills, build critical knowledge in their area of expertise, and expand their network. “As an institution that emphasizes access and opportunity, we look forward to creating and expanding our programs across Japan in this next phase of the NYUSPS ALI Tokyo Center,” commented Lisa Springer, associate dean of NYUSPS Global and Strategic Initiatives and of the Division of Languages and Humanities. “We see this as a chance to build the NYUSPS brand in a way that would truly make a difference in markets that will greatly benefit from our expertise.”

NYUSPS LAUNCHES NEW BS IN APPLIED DATA ANALYTICS AND VISUALIZATION AS PART OF ITS UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE COMPLETION PROGRAMS

With the proliferation of highly sophisticated software applications and the staggering amounts of information available on the Internet, companies and organizations around the globe have access to seemingly limitless amounts of data. To meet the growing demands of industry to be able to hire employees who are versatile in dealing with processing, analyzing, and ultimately visualizing large amounts of data, NYUSPS has launched the BS in Applied Data Analytics and Visualization.

The degree imparts knowledge in highly defined areas of expertise, preparing students to aggregate large data sets and transform them—through analysis and visualization—into critical information required by decision-makers in industries as varying as healthcare, education, business, and science, among others. Graduates of this program will be prepared to pursue a broad array of employment opportunities in this expanding and evolving field, including those within corporations, service industries, government agencies, political organizations, consulting firms, nonprofit organizations, marketing and advertising agencies, and media companies.

For information, visit sps.nyu.edu/ugcomplete/bsdatavis.
NYUSPS HOSTS INAUGURAL FINISH LINE 5K RUN

The culminating event of Spirit Week was the School’s first 5K charity run, NYUSPS Finish Line 5K, on Sunday, November 22, at Hudson River Park Pier 46. The brainchild of Dean Dennis Di Lorenzo, an avid runner, this event raised funds to support scholarships at NYUSPS to help students to complete their education and get off to a running start.

Over 300 NYUSPS students, alumni, friends, faculty and staff members, and sponsors participated in this exciting event. Brendan Parent, a clinical assistant professor of sports and society at NYUSPS, and Victoria Brunkhorst, an assistant director at the NYUSPS Tisch Institute for Sports Management, Media, and Business, were the first male and female runners to cross the finish line. Congratulations to all of our runners, and we’ll see you at the finish line in 2016!

For photos and highlights of Spirit Week events, please visit the NYUSPS Facebook page at facebook.com/nyusps.

WE ARE SPS: NYUSPS COMMUNITY COMES TOGETHER FOR SCHOOL’S FIRST ANNUAL SPIRIT WEEK

At the NYU School of Professional Studies (NYUSPS), the month of November took on an added sense of enthusiasm and commitment as the NYUSPS community celebrated its first annual Spirit Week. Created and planned by students to showcase and encourage a sense of school pride, this special week of activities and celebration took place November 16–22.

The idea for Spirit Week came about during the first meeting of the new Undergraduate Student Council and was quickly embraced by the Graduate Student Council to highlight the richness of experiences, backgrounds, and affiliations that comprise the School’s student body. Its theme was “We Are SPS”—a tagline coined by Hjordys “Jo” Perez Matos to launch her successful campaign for the presidency of the Undergraduate Student Council.

“SPS is an inclusive community with a lot of spirit and potential,” she said. “Students have the opportunity to become involved in life-changing ways—personally and professionally—and I encourage everyone to make the most of it.”

Students spread the message with a video specially created for the Fall Orientation. To view the video, visit sps.nyu.edu/student-affairs/student-videos.html.

During Spirit Week NYUSPS students actively engaged with the community. In addition to a week-long food drive, each day carried a special theme. Monday, or “Spirit Day,” involved an afternoon group photo shoot and featured a “Global Village,” which showcased food, music, and more from the different countries that make up the School’s multinational community. Tuesday was dedicated to wellness. “Professional” Wednesday encouraged students to work on their résumés and LinkedIn profiles. On “Throwback Thursday” students shared NYUSPS memories, while Friday was reserved for unity, as demonstrated by a pasta party and the presentation of a time capsule to Dean Dennis Di Lorenzo by both NYUSPS Student Council presidents. Saturday was devoted to assembling care packages for the homeless. The week culminated in a very special 5K run (see below) to raise Finish Line scholarship funds for NYUSPS students in need.

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ADMINISTRATION UPDATES

Dr. Sam Chandan Named Associate Dean of the NYUSPS Schack Institute of Real Estate

The NYU School of Professional Studies has named Sam Chandan, PhD, as the new associate dean, clinical professor, and Larry and Klara Silverstein Chair in Real Estate Development and Investment at the School’s Schack Institute of Real Estate. Chandan’s appointment is effective March 2016.

A leader in both the professional and academic real estate arenas, Chandan is the founder of Chandan Economics, a leading real estate debt market data and research firm; adjunct associate professor of real estate at The Wharton School, The University of Pennsylvania; and partner and global head of strategy at Capri Investment Group, with approximately $3.4 billion of assets under management in the United States and investment platforms in sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East, and India. In addition, he is the National Economist Laureate, honoris causa, of the Real Estate Lenders Association.

Named one of the commercial real estate industry’s most influential people by Multi-Housing News, Chandan is a sought-after speaker at industry events and is frequently called upon by the media to serve as an expert commentator on issues relating to real estate capital markets, financial services regulation, housing finance reform, and the macroeconomy. He is the editor and lead author of Real Estate Financing, published by PEI; a columnist for the New York Observer and GlobeSt.com; cohost of The Real Estate Hour on Sirius XM Business Radio; and a frequent industry expert on CNBC, Bloomberg Business, and other business media.

Active in the professional real estate and policy communities, Chandan has held advisory and editorial board appointments at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, the Real Estate Research Institute, the National Investment Center for Seniors Housing & Care, and the Commercial Real Estate Finance Council, among others. Prior to founding Chandan Economics, he served as chief economist at Reis, where he was part of the management team that took the company public. He also was global chief economist at Real Capital Analytics.

Chandan earned a PhD in applied economics from The Wharton School, The University of Pennsylvania; a bachelor’s degree in economics also from Wharton; and master’s degrees in economics and engineering from The University of Pennsylvania. Prior to joining the faculty at Wharton, he was a visiting assistant professor in the Economics Department at Dartmouth College and a doctoral scholar at Princeton University.

Dr. Billie Gastic Named Associate Dean of the NYUSPS Undergraduate Degree Completion Programs

A committed educator with significant contributions to academia, Billie Gastic, PhD, has been named as the new associate dean and clinical associate professor of social sciences at the NYU School of Professional Studies Undergraduate Degree Completion Programs, effective May 2.

Currently, Gastic serves as the chief research officer at Relay Graduate School of Education, which offers teacher preparation programs in eight states. In this role, she sets the strategic vision for Relay’s national research agenda, manages a portfolio of projects on research and evaluation, and oversees the collection and analysis of institutional data to ensure program improvement and compliance with accreditation requirements. In 2012, Gastic was appointed to the New York State Professional Standards and Practices Board for Teaching, where she served on the higher education subcommittee.

Before joining Relay, Gastic was a professor of public policy at the University of Massachusetts Boston and a professor of urban education at Temple University. A widely published and cited scholar, she has authored dozens of articles, essays, and book chapters on school violence, Latino students, and educator preparation. She is the co-editor of The Education of the Hispanic Population, a volume that brings together the latest research on Latinos in the United States.

“I am delighted to welcome a dedicated educator with the depth and breadth of experience in serving a diverse range of students that Billie Gastic brings,” said Dean Dennis Di Lorenzo. “She will work closely with me in developing a strategic vision for the School’s Undergraduate Degree Completion Programs, and in expanding educational offerings that provide access and skills to nontraditional students.”

Gastic earned a PhD in the sociology of education and an MA in sociology from Stanford University, an EdM from Harvard University, and a BA in economics from Yale University.

Get Social with the NYU School of Professional Studies!

[Links to Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn pages]
MEET THE TEAM AT THE NYUSPS AMERICAN LANGUAGE INSTITUTE AT NYU SHANGHAI

In Fall 2015, under the leadership of Dean Dennis Di Lorenzo and Lisa Springer, associate dean of NYUSPS Global and Strategic Initiatives and the Division of Languages and Humanities, the NYUSPS American Language Institute (ALI) launched at NYU Shanghai, offering English language classes, American cultural immersion, and professional development services to the growing Chinese market. ALI offers three programs of study: the Academic English Program, the Professional English Program, and the Comprehensive English Program. This is the second global site for ALI, which initially expanded its operations abroad in 2013 to Japan, with the launch of the NYUSPS ALI Tokyo Center (see page 6). Below are the talented and dedicated professionals who come from a variety of different backgrounds to staff ALI Shanghai:

Kristin E. Hiller
Academic Director

Kristin E. Hiller is the academic director of ALI at NYU Shanghai. Prior to joining ALI, she taught intercultural communication and teacher preparation courses, developed a learning community for graduate teaching assistants, and was a graduate fellow in the Center for Teaching & Learning Excellence at the University of Utah while working on her PhD in applied linguistics.

Hiller has taught English, developed courses, trained teachers, directed programs, and advised students in the United States, China, Korea, Russia, and Syria. Before returning to the US for her doctoral studies in applied linguistics, she directed programs in English as a Foreign Language in Daejeon, South Korea, and in Beijing for the University of California, Riverside Extension. She identifies as a critical applied linguist and engages in research on the internationalization of higher education from multiple perspectives.

Marcella Caprario
English Language Lecturer

Marcella Caprario is the coordinator of the Academic English Program. A classical vocalist and voice instructor, she has worked with English language learners in teaching, curriculum design, and in administrative capacities in China and the United States, most recently at Pace University’s English Language Institute and at the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE) Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) program. Her teaching and research interests include grammar, academic writing, CALL (computer-assisted language learning), the internationalization of US higher education, and English language teacher education.

Marcel Daniels
English Language Lecturer

Marcel Daniels is the coordinator of the Professional English Program. His teaching experience includes high school English in South Korea and summer programs for undergraduates at Tsinghua University in Beijing. He also has extensive experience teaching business English to professionals in one-on-one settings. Prior to joining ALI at NYU Shanghai, he was a visiting lecturer at Georgia State University’s Intensive English Program, teaching academic English to students of various proficiency levels. He has a keen interest in the instruction of English phonology, public speaking, and L2 (second-language) reading skills.

Luis R. Peña
Program Manager

As the administrative lead for ALI at NYU Shanghai, Luis R. Peña manages all operational functions. He is responsible for developing and implementing administrative systems, policies, and procedures; managing tasks related to faculty hiring and orientation, the budget, and the website; and implementing marketing campaigns in the local community. Previously, he managed student services for the NYU Office of Global Programs, with a portfolio that included NYU Shanghai, NYU Buenos Aires, and NYU Washington, DC. Prior to that, he taught English at Beyond Advanced, a private English language academy in South Korea.

Hao Zheng
Senior Associate

Hao Zheng graduated from NYU with a master’s degree in international education in 2015 and earned a bachelor’s degree in English from China University of Political Science and Law in 2010. Prior to joining ALI at NYU Shanghai, she was an international outreach student assistant at ALI New York. Previously, she worked as a marketing assistant for Dipont Education Management Group, a Chinese educational services company.

Fang Zhou
Senior Associate

Fang Zhou earned an MA in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) from NYU in 2014 and a BA in English Language and Literature from Beijing International Studies University in 2012. Before joining ALI at NYU Shanghai, she was employed by Princeton University as a Chinese language lecturer. Prior to that, she worked for ALI New York.
The 13th annual Ricelle “Bunny” Grossinger Distinguished Lecturer Series in Tourism Management, hosted by the NYU School of Professional Studies (NYUSPS) Tisch Center for Hospitality and Tourism, will feature a conversation with Jonathan M. Tisch, a leader and widely recognized advocate of the travel and tourism industry, as well as a generous supporter of the Tisch Center. Mr. Tisch is co-chairman of the board and member of the Office of the President of Loews Corporation, one of the largest diversified financial holding companies in the United States, and is chairman of its subsidiary, Loews Hotels & Resorts. He will provide deep insight into the state of the hospitality industry—including trends, challenges, and career opportunities—during a conversation moderated by Tisch Center Associate Dean Kristin Lamoureux.

The year’s event will take place on April 7, 2016, at the New York Marriott Marquis. Established in 2003, the Grossinger Distinguished Lecturer Series provides a forum for the discussion of significant issues and developments within the business of tourism. The speakers and panelists selected to participate, epitomize the highest level of accomplishment for leadership in the hospitality and tourism industry. Among the industry luminaries who have headlined this event in years past are Gary W. Loveman, former chairman of Caesars Entertainment Corporation; George Fertitta, former CEO of NYC & Company; Raymond N. Bickson, former CEO of Taj Hotels Resorts and Palaces; and David Neeleman, JetBlue Airways Corporation founder.

The Series is named for Ricelle “Bunny” Grossinger, whose illustrious career in hospitality and travel marketing has spanned nearly 50 years. She has been recognized repeatedly for pioneering the opening of US travel markets abroad. In addition, she has been cited as foreseeing the onset of segmented markets—most notably for her work involving women business travelers that resulted in the first Woman Business Traveler Conference, which she hosted in Ithaca, NY in cooperation with Cornell University. A dedicated and ardent supporter of the NYUSPS Tisch Center for Hospitality and Tourism, Mrs. Grossinger has been a member of the Center’s Advisory Board since its inception in 1995, as well as a generous benefactor of the Center’s academic programs.
NYUSPS Center for Global Affairs
Modern World – Modern Threats?
Responses to Hybrid Aggression
NYUSPS Center for Global Affairs Clinical Professor Mark Galeotti (left) interviewed Toomas Hendrik Ilves (right), president of the Republic of Estonia and a noted expert and commentator in a range of fields, during the event, “Modern World – Modern Threats? Responses to Hybrid Aggression,” in September 2015. President Ilves addressed the security challenges of the modern world and, in particular, how Western, democratic societies can address the diverse and blended “hybrid” threat posed most recently by Russia.

NYUSPS Schack Institute of Real Estate
48th Annual Conference on Capital Markets in Real Estate
(l to r) William C. Rudin, vice chairman and CEO, Rudin Management Company; Richard LeFrak, chairman and CEO, LeFrak; Stephen M. Ross, chairman and founder, Related Companies; and Conference Chair Robert Blumenthal, vice chairman and managing director, Americas Real Estate, Gaming, Lodging and Leisure Group, Deutsche Bank Securities, participated in the highly anticipated luncheon panel, “We Are the Golden Apple,” at the 48th Annual Conference on Capital Markets in Real Estate, hosted by the NYUSPS Schack Institute of Real Estate.

NYU Wasserman Center for Career Development at NYUSPS Networking Night
NYUSPS students met with industry professionals and received feedback on their professional pitches and networking skills at the NYU Wasserman Center for Career Development at NYUSPS fourth annual Networking Night on November 6. Lance Dunbar, principal account manager at Google and an adjunct instructor at NYUSPS, was the keynote speaker for the event.
2016 NYU SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES CONVOCATION

In addition to the University Commencement ceremony, the NYU School of Professional Studies hosts two separate Convocation events, one for its graduate and one for its undergraduate students and their guests.

Convocation for Undergraduate Students
Date: May 15, 2016
Location: Grand Hyatt New York (109 East 42nd Street, Park Avenue at Grand Central Terminal)

Schedule:
3:00 p.m. - Guest seating and student line-up begins
4:00 p.m. - Ceremony begins
5:30 p.m. - Ceremony concludes

Convocation for Graduate Students
Date: May 20, 2016
Location: Radio City Music Hall (1260 Avenue of the Americas)

Schedule:
3:30 p.m. - Student seating begins
4:00 p.m. - Guest seating opens
5:00 p.m. - Ceremony begins
7:00 p.m. - Ceremony concludes

For the latest information regarding the 2016 Commencement Events, including the NYU School of Professional Studies Convocation, NYU Grad Alley, and the NYU Commencement Exercises, please visit sps.nyu.edu/convocation.