

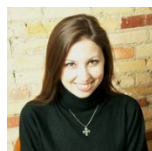


## VITAL Instructional Minigrant Awards 2023-2024

Join us in congratulating our faculty colleagues who were awarded instructional minigrants for their innovative, learning-focused projects. We wish them the best as they work on their projects this summer.



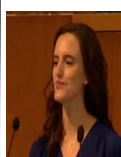
**Drs. Laura Bracaglia & Jacob Elmer, Chemical and Biological Engineering:** *Development of Qualitative Physiology for Biomedical Engineering Application.* Develops a new quantitative physiology course that combines a broad base of human physiology fundamentals with analytical, in-depth problem solving.



**Dr. Alison Covey, The Ethics Program:** *Digital Mapping of Animal Flourishing on Villanova's Campus.* Rebuilds the main assignment of students creating a physical map and academic poster by using dynamic digital mapping thus encouraging experiential learning through multiliteracies in the Digital Humanities.



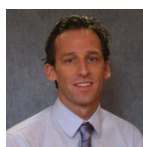
**Dr. Alice Dailey & Dr. Chelsea Philips, English and Theater & Studio Arts:** *Legacies of Revenge.* Designs a new interdisciplinary course offered in two sections, graduate/undergraduate, called "Legacies of Revenge" that studies a 16th c. play, the Spanish Tragedy, and explores its literary background/legacy in contemporary media. Interdisciplinary, collaborative project contributes to the plays' production in the Mullen Center's Court Theatre.



**Dr. Anna Moreland & Madeline A. Reynolds, University Honors Program:** *Honors "Shaping a Life" Initiative.* Deepens the curricular cohesion of the "Shaping" series of three courses to enhance students' learning, co-curricular, and mentoring experiences.



**Dr. Tracy Oliver, M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing:** *Simulation in a Weight Bias Reduction Intervention Among Nurse Practitioner Students.* Aims to integrate a weight bias reduction intervention within the Graduate Nurse Practitioner (NP) curriculum utilizing simulation-based experiences and standardized patients. Enables NP students to increase awareness of personal biases, improve self-efficacy and self-confidence during simulations.



**Dr. Chris Schmidt, Education & Counseling:** *Re-developing the Family Systems Course: Prioritizing Diverse Perspectives, Modern Families, and Experiential Learning.* Redesigns an existing graduate counseling course to enhance the graduate students' preparation for working effectively with diverse family and couple system configurations and problems within a multicultural context.



**Dr. Bridget Wadzuk, Civil and Environmental Engineering:** *Green Stormwater Infrastructure Design Lab.* Adds a semester-long lab project and field experiment to CEE 4521 to increase student understanding of green stormwater infrastructure design and engineering design judgement.



**Dr. Jie Xu, Communication:** *Incorporating Computational Methods in Graduate Quantitative Research Education in Communication.* Redesigns a required communication graduate research course by introducing big data and computational methods.



**Dr. Terence Yee, Education & Counseling:** *Revamping Students' Evaluation Forms to Enhance Students' Learning.* Improves the Site Supervisor Evaluation Form (SSEF) to ensure that students are learning, and being evaluated on, current best practices, such as evidence-based practice and the infusion of DEI in counseling. Includes feedback from and training of clinical site supervisors.

We extend our gratitude to the members of the VITAL Minigrant Review Committee for their thoughtful, criteria-based peer review of the grant proposals and their continued service.

- Patricia Bradley, M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of *Nursing*
- Irene Kan, Psychological and Brain Sciences
- Mary T. Kelly, Economics
- Frank P. Maloney, Astrophysics and Planetary Science
- James C. O'Brien, Mechanical Engineering
- Bruce Pollack-Johnson, Mathematics and Statistics
- Edward Wahesh, Education and Counseling

[Link](#) to program details

All photographs were taken from Villanova University's website.

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