

Keynote Bios



Sarah Rose Cavanagh

Sarah Rose Cavanagh is a psychologist, professor, and Senior Associate Director for Teaching and Learning at Simmons University, where she teaches classes on affective science and mental health, researches the intersections of emotion, motivation, and learning, and provides educational development for faculty. Sarah gives keynote addresses and workshops at a variety of colleges and national and international conferences, blogs for Psychology Today, and writes essays for venues like LitHub and The Chronicle of Higher Education. In her free time, she enjoys devouring fiction, spending time by the sea with her canine and human daughters, and cooking up pescatarian meals for good friends.



Maha Bali

Maha Bali is Professor of Practice at the Center for Learning and Teaching at the American University in Cairo. She has a PhD in Education from the University of Sheffield, UK. She is co-founder of virtuallyconnecting.org (a grassroots movement that challenges academic gatekeeping at conferences) and co-facilitator of Equity Unbound (an equity-focused, open, connected intercultural learning curriculum, which has also branched into academic community activities Continuity with Care, Socially Just Academia, a collaboration with OneHE: Community-building Resources and MYFest, an innovative 3-month professional learning journey. She writes and speaks frequently about social justice, critical pedagogy, and open and online education. She blogs regularly at <https://blog.mahabali.me> and tweets @bali_maha.

Presenter Bios

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Adam Baldry

Adam Baldry is a Project Manager: EdTech at Pima Community College and a PhD student in Higher Ed at the University of Arizona. With an MA in East Asian Studies, Adam brings a unique, human-centered lens to his work and research. He has received multiple national awards for his thought leadership in EdTech and online learning. Adam leverages over a decade of teaching experience to inform his research and practice. Any chance he can get Adam is out running, hiking, or rucking in the desert and mountains surrounding Tucson.



Alexander Greengaard

Alexander Greengaard is an instructor/lecturer in the Adult Basic Education department, working in the IBEST program. He teaches Reading and Writing 71, a transition course for HSE-seeking students who are moving towards college and career pathways. Alex wrote Open ELA to provide HSE students with a free, complete, and high-quality curriculum in English, Science and Social Studies. Following the release of Open ELA, Alex received the Rookie of the Year Award from the Arizona Association of Lifelong Learning at the Arizona Department of Education Adult Education Institute.



Angela Hughes

Angela joined Pima Community College in 2021 in the department of Access & Disability Resources. As the Analyst for Accessible Technology, Angela assists students with assistive technology accommodations, monitors adherence with required accessibility guidelines college-wide, and oversees the Alt Media lab, which remediates and produces custom accommodation-specific document and media formats (i.e., Braille, video captions, PowerPoints optimized for text-to-speech listening). Angela holds a bachelor's degree in Linguistics, and is underway with a Master of Science in Human Language Technology. Angela hails from Seattle, and is a fan of cycling, cats, and Sonoran Restaurant Week.

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Anne Huth

Anne first started at Pima in 2016 as adjunct faculty in Geology. She now serves as an Instructional Designer with the Center for Learning Technology. She holds a B.S. in Geology and an M.S. and Ph.D. in Hydrology. Her love of science, engineering, and curriculum design led her to her happy place, developing all kinds of content for our Pima faculty! She also loves camping, big trees, and spending time at her childhood home near the Great Lakes and at the Grand Canyon.



April Burge

April Burge is Online Department Head for Pima Community College. She has over 20 years of experience in teaching, online learning, and faculty leadership. Certified in online pedagogy and instructional design, she leads initiatives in course quality, faculty development, and equitable student success. She serves on the Distance Education Committee and is currently interested in PCC's Vision and Guiding Principles on AI.



Brad Butler

Brad has over five years of experience in higher education at the University of Arizona and currently at Pima Community College as a Project Manager, EdTech. Prior to that, he spent 13 years teaching at Tucson High. Passionate about the transformative power of education, Brad focuses on the intersection of technology and pedagogy, helping instructors integrate tools to enhance student learning. His work centers on developing innovative, accessible, and effective educational experiences in collaboration with faculty, staff, and administrators to support both instructors and students.

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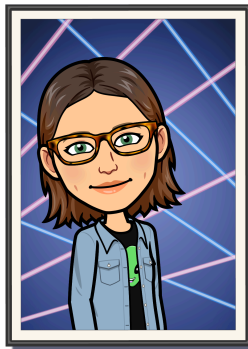
Brooke Anderson

Brooke Anderson is an English Department Head at Pima Community College. She oversees the English departments' specialty writing courses in Literature, Creative Writing, Developmental Writing, and Professional Writing, as well as Pima's Dual Enrollment writing courses. In addition to her faculty administrator duties, she teaches Writing, Literature, and Humanities courses. She has a Doctorate of Philosophy in Higher Education Policy Studies and Practice with a minor in Rhetoric, Composition, and the Teaching of English from the University of Arizona. She is a teacher/scholar/activist who believes anti-oppressive, culturally responsive pedagogy and assessment can transform lives and society. Race, gender, and class intersections in academic writing and higher education are at the heart of her work. When she isn't working, she enjoys hiking, traveling, and spending time with her partner, Eric, daughter, Helen, and dogs, Syd and Stevie.



Crystal McKenna

Dr. Crystal McKenna, Climate Action & Sustainability Faculty and Department Chair at Pima Community College, designs experiential, place-based online and hybrid courses. She integrates virtual field trips, guest interviews, multimedia, and discussion-driven activities to foster engagement, systems thinking, and student-centered learning, helping students connect authentically to community, environment, and global issues.



Elliot Mead

Dr. Elliot Mead is an accomplished educator and academic committed to liberatory education and social justice. They hold a Ph.D. in English from Stony Brook University and currently serve as English Faculty at Pima Community College. With expertise in teaching foundational writing, literature, and critical theory, Elliot employs culturally responsive pedagogy and trauma-informed practices to create welcoming, equity-driven learning environments. Their work has earned multiple awards for teaching, service, and leadership.

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Eric Aldrich

Dr. Eric Aldrich teaches literature, writing, and honors. He is also an associate instructional designer. Outside of PCC, he serves as a board member for Sky Island Alliance and as an associate nonfiction editor at Terrain.org. Learn more about Eric and read his writing via ericaldrich.net. His puppy is named Willow.



Gretchen Gebhardt

Gretchen has been a part-time Geology/General Science teacher at Portland Community College for 16 years, teaching in every modality. She also works with faculty as a Digital Learning Facilitator on the Online Learning Training and Development Team.



Harmony Sedgwick-Hazard

Harmony Sedgwick-Hazard is a creative writing and composition professor and Liberatory Writing Across the Curriculum coordinator at Pima Community College. She received her MFA from Stony Brook University, is an editor at Brevity, and has writing published in Creative Nonfiction, The Rumpus, Catapult, River Teeth, Hippocampus, Essay Daily, CALYX, and multiple anthologies. She believes that the classroom offers a rare opportunity for participatory democracy and that writing can change lives.

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Provost Ian Roark

Dr. Ian R. Roark was recently directly appointed as Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs & Workforce Development. As the college's chief academic officer and single point of contact for workforce and economic development initiatives, Ian works with internal and external stakeholders to improve teaching, learning, and programmatic outcomes across all of Pima CC's offerings; improve transfer rates to our state universities; to respond to the workforce needs of businesses and industry; and, lead the College's alignment to the economic development priorities of the region and state. Ian has been married for 27 years to his awesome wife, who is an exemplary public-school teacher, and they have two children in college. Together, they enjoy road trips, watching movies, and backyard cookouts. Ian's favorite activities include hiking, camping, writing, and playing music.



Chancellor Jeffrey Nasse

Dr. Jeffrey Nasse brings over 20 years of experience in collegiate teaching and administration across multiple areas of higher education. Besides serving as college Provost, some of his roles at Broward College included Senior Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dean of the Education Pathway, Dean of Academic Affairs, Dean of Academic Resources and Writing Programs, Associate Dean of English, Communication and Fine Arts as well as Associate Professor of English. He has also held adjunct faculty positions at Florida Atlantic University, Central Maine Community College and East Carolina University. Dr. Nasse has demonstrated an aptitude for forging highly effective teams that have generated tangible student success results, including improved student outcomes in Computer Science, Health Science and Education programs, scaling accelerated online and flexible learning modalities for students and increased graduation rates. After receiving an honorable discharge from the Marine Corps in 1994, Dr. Nasse attended East Carolina University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Communication in 1999 and a Master of Arts in English in 2002. He completed his Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Research Methodology at Florida Atlantic University in 2013. Dr. Nasse will provide our conference welcome. Learn more at his [welcome page](#).



Jennifer Coleman

Jennifer currently serves as an adjunct instructor in Student Success and Business. She is also a full-time professor of psychology who has taught for more than 30 years. Jennifer embraced online teaching over 19 years ago and has been a remote professor since 2018. She is an advocate for high-impact practices for distant students and was the lead editor of *Undergraduate Research in Online, Virtual, and Hybrid Courses* (2022). Her work focuses on the scholarship of teaching and learning, academic imposter syndrome, AI in teaching and learning, mentoring, and involving students in such efforts.

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Jeremy Schnieder

Jeremy Schnieder, an Adjunct Instructor in Writing, has been studying, presenting, and writing on the history of assessment, higher education and technology for over fifteen years. His interest started in 2009 with the emphasis of computer-scored writing and tutoring offered by several prominent textbook publishers and how their, then, "modern solutions" drew from a much longer, problematic history in writing and assessment. He earned a PhD from Bowling Green State University in Rhetoric and Writing in 2010 as well as a MA in Creative Writing from the University of Nebraska at Kearney in 2001.



Jessica Davis

Jessica holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in school counseling. She has been with PimaOnline since 2020 as an online success coach. In addition to coaching, she acts as an adjunct faculty member for the STU department, teaching student success courses. Jessica also serves as an Honors and Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Coordinator, supporting students in academic excellence, leadership, and community engagement. Jessica is dedicated to helping learners thrive in online environments.



Jessica Tinklenberg

Dr. Tinklenberg is an award-winning educator with extensive experience teaching education, religious studies, and writing across K-12 to graduate levels. Throughout her career, Dr. Tinklenberg has published and presented on transdisciplinary approaches to higher education, active learning, student-centered course design, anti-racist pedagogies, reflection, first-year writing, and equity-minded assessment, both nationally and internationally. She has previously directed the Teaching & Learning Centers at the University of the Pacific and Claremont Colleges. Dr. Tinklenberg holds a Bachelor's Degree in Religion and Education from Eckerd College (FL), a Master of Divinity from United Seminary (OH), and a Ph.D. from Florida State University.

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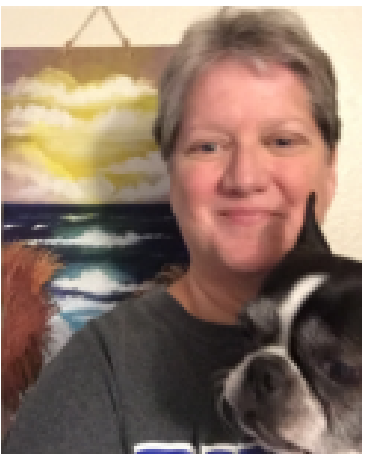
Joe Boehm

Joe is a lifelong Tucsonan who joined the Pima EdTech team in 2022. He has worked as an educator in Tucson and abroad for 18 years with experience in professional development, project-based learning, educational leadership, and curriculum development. Current projects include helping teachers connect educational technology with student-centered pedagogy and supporting AI implementation at PCC.



Josie Milliken

Josie Milliken, Ph.D., is Dean of Distance Education and West Region Board Representative for the Instructional Technology Council (ITC). In her 20+ years experience in higher education, Josie has served in a variety of capacities, and her areas of interest include online learning, AI, digital fluency, OER, the SDGs, and social justice. In addition, as a certified yoga and meditation instructor and Clinical Yoga Therapist, Josie is passionate about wellness and the benefits that yoga can bring to teaching and learning and to organizational culture.



Julie Tarr

Education: PhD Education, ABD Math, MS Math, MA Math, BS Math and Computer Science.

Teaching: PCC, UofA, UNO, Miami University, University of Kansas, University of Cincinnati

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Kathline Gomes

Kathline Gomes is an Educational Support Faculty Librarian and adjunct faculty for Library and Information Sciences. With over a decade of experience as an educator, she is dedicated to empowering learners with the skills and resources they need to cultivate their curiosity and thrive in our ever-evolving, information-rich world.



Kelly O'Keefe

Kelly O'Keefe has been teaching Health Information Technology courses since 2013 and has been the HIT Department Head since 2020. Kelly has completed research that focused on student perceptions of online learning readiness for her EdD dissertation and has a passion for student success in online learning environments. She has extensive knowledge of incorporating educational technology into online courses. Kelly also facilitates TE 125 and LEAD 184. Personalized student and instructor engagement is one of her top priorities, which leads to increased student retention, persistence, and success.



Kristina Beckman

Dr. Kristina Beckman left a successful business career to follow her passion for teaching. She received an M.A. in English Language and Linguistics and a Ph.D. in Second Language Acquisition and Teaching from the University of Arizona. She is a faculty member in English at Pima Community College and has had a developing interest in the intersection of social justice and teaching. Her book, *An Immigrant's Run-in with the Law: A Forensic Linguistic Analysis*, was published by LFB Scholarly Publishers. When not teaching, she is an exercise enthusiast, a lover of cooking and scouting out new restaurants, and a content grandmother to six little ones.

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Liz Rangel Arriola

World Languages Department Head (Online), Spanish Faculty, and Associate Instructional Designer. Liz has been teaching Spanish at Pima since 2009 and has been teaching online since 2013. She is also the SME/MCL for several Spanish language courses. She enjoys watching tennis and building Lego with her family.



Lucy Chester

Lucy Chester serves as a part-time Academic Learning Technologies Assistant in the TLC. She holds a BA in English Literature from Utah State University and previously worked at Utah State University as the Caine College of the Arts Scheduling Coordinator and at the University of Arizona as a Graduate Coordinator. She has experience working in the Tucson community as an online educator teaching GED Prep courses in Spanish. She loves being outdoors, architecture & design, and traveling.



Malda Sarayji

Malda Sarayji is an Economics Adjunct Faculty at Pima Community College. She graduated from George Mason University and has over 15 years of experience, including writing Government Economic Strategies, teaching Economics at the college level, and as owner and managing director of Cidrah Economic Consulting. She is certified in Teaching with Artificial Intelligence and is a recipient of the United Nations Open Pedagogy Award 2024. Malda was the Subject Matter Expert in Economics for Pima Online. Beyond her professional endeavors, Malda enjoys baking and cake decorating during her free time.

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Marisol Kenman

Marisol Ramirez (Kenman) is the Field Experience Coordinator for the Post-Baccalaureate Teacher Education program and staff lecturer. She has been working at PCC since 2018 as an adjunct faculty and program supervisor, instructing and coaching student teachers in K-12 methodology and pedagogy. She is currently working on coursework for Pima's first-ever Bachelor's Dual Major Degree in Elementary and Mild Moderate Education to be offered next fall. She holds a BS in Elementary Education (NAU), an MA in Teaching and Teacher Education (UA), and an Administrator's Certificate (UA).



Mark Nelson

Dr. Mark Nelson retired from Pima Community College after 39 years of full-time teaching, the last 21 years at Pima, in 2021. He was the Performing Arts and PimaOnline Arts and Humanities Department Head and served twice as the Acting Dean of the Arts Division. He is now Faculty Emeritus continues to teach part-time as an adjunct instructor for music and student success courses, as well as the TEACH_TE125 course for faculty to be certified to teach online. email: manelson@pima.edu



Maya Cortés Torres

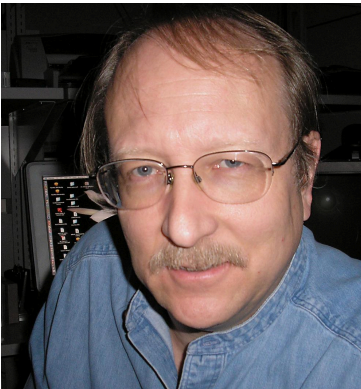
Dr. Mayra Cortés-Torres has been teaching Spanish at Pima since 2006 and has been teaching online since 2010. She has an MA in Hispanic Linguistics from ASU and a Ph.D. in Hispanic Linguistics from UNM. Besides her teaching duties, she serves as Section Manager for in-person and virtual Spanish courses, and SME/OMCL for several Spanish Online Courses. She enjoys cooking, travelling, exercising, and watching her daughter play volleyball.

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Michael Amick

Michael is the Chief Online Learning Officer, providing leadership and oversight for PimaOnline. Since 2015, Michael has helped spur growth in online enrollment through guiding the reorganization and continuous improvement of online learning, online faculty leadership, instructional design, and student success within PimaOnline. As a leader, Michael seeks to promote innovative online learning practices and technologies that advance online teaching and learning.



Mike Rom

Mike has a BS in both Film and Television and worked in Tucson's Film industry for 8 years. He has worked at Pima for 35 years; he started out coordinating the placement of VCR carts and OH projectors into rooms for instructors, eventually adding video recording, editing, and desktop publishing to his repertoire. He is able to make flyers, signs, maps, posters, banners, and anything else media-related for classes, labs, and events on campus.



Nadia Moraglio

Nadia Moraglio joined Pima Community College as an Adjunct in 2018 to teach ESL and written composition. She holds an MA in ESL and has over 25 years of experience in language instruction. Nadia also develops and teaches courses for Spanish speakers at the UNAM-Tucson Academic English Skills Lab. She worked as a Writing Specialist at the Writing Skills Improvement Program, an ESL instructor at the Center for English as a Second Language, and an Italian instructor at the University of Arizona. She also worked as an English Lecturer at Shantou University, China.

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Nina Gardner

Nina holds a bachelor's degree in Cartography Sciences and an Associate Degree in Digital Arts from PCC. She has been with PimaOnline since 2020 as an Administrative Coordinator for the Online Student Success department. Nina supports Online Success Coaches, PimaOnline Navigators (student workers), and online students. Nina is dedicated to helping her team, online learners, and community engagement.



Paul Montone

Paul works closely with both faculty and students in his roles as Digital Learning Facilitator within Portland Community College's OL Training & Development team and as part-time faculty in English, where he teaches online and remote hybrid courses. His professional and academic interests include Gothic literature, developing and facilitating professional development opportunities for faculty, and studies in animation. Outside of work, he plays bass guitar in two Portland-based bands.



Rachel Wedig

Rachel has over a decade of experience in higher education as an instructor, instructional designer, and facilitator. They hold a PhD in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies and have taught courses in multiple disciplines, including Gender, Women's, and Sexuality Studies, as well as Education. At Pima, Rachel designs and leads faculty learning opportunities on evidence-backed teaching strategies, including student-centered approaches, culturally-sustaining pedagogy, and backward design. They are particularly interested in educational technology and AI applications in education, supporting instructors in leveraging technology to enhance student learning.

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Reed Dickson

At Pima, Reed teaches courses for students in composition, creative nonfiction, poetry writing and literature, as well as faculty development courses connected with online design and pedagogy. Reed formerly directed a K12 teacher-education program at Teachers College, Columbia University. In 2020, Reed received the PCC Governing Board's Striving Beyond Award for his contributions amidst the pandemic. He is an avid writer and loves getting together with Pima colleagues to play table tennis and make music.



Ricardo Castro-Salazar

Ricardo is an international educator with graduate degrees from universities in four different countries. He serves as Program Manager for Faculty Professional Development at PCC Teaching and Learning Center. He has previously served as Vice President for International Development, Executive Assistant to the Chancellor, Division Dean, Business Department Chair, and faculty member in International Business, Management, Political Science, and History. He is the author of *Navigating Borders* (Peter Lang, 2012), an award-winning book on undocumented students, selected by UC Davis-Mellon Social Justice Initiative as a resource for those conducting research in the service of social justice.



Robert Foth

Robert Foth has been a faculty member at Pima since 2005 and serves as the PimaOnline Department Head for Mathematics below MAT 151. He also works with faculty in all modalities for MAT 092RQ, 142, 142RQ.



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Sherry Miller

Sherry Miller is instructional faculty in the Health Information Technology program. She has a doctorate in healthcare leadership and management. Sherry shifted to full-time academics after a 32-year career in healthcare as a compliance and privacy officer at a large healthcare provider in California. She enjoys helping to develop future leaders for the healthcare industry. In her spare time, she plays pickleball, collects vinyl records, travels, and cheers on Angels Baseball.



Tomoko Lara

Tomoko served as an adjunct faculty and lab assistant for a combined 16 years, focusing heavily on active learning and community building with strong support from the developmental math department. In her role, she acts as a communication liaison between the faculty and the support they need. She also manages data analysis of the program outcome, tracks and records professional development hours, and ensures that workshops and sessions are kept up to date on the calendar.



Tony Sovak

Dr. Tony Sovak is an experienced academic leader with over 20 years in higher education and more than a decade in academic administration. He currently serves as Director of LMS & eLearning Quality at Pima Community College, where he manages operations for Brightspace D2L, supporting more than 43,000 unique users. He works closely with faculty and deans to ensure instructional consistency, promote accessibility, and foster effective online pedagogy across the college.

Available Bios for Student Panelists

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Alicia Nicholas

Alicia Nicholas, CBATI-KSA, CPDT-KA, is a professional dog trainer and owner of Journey Agility Dog Training & Behavior. With a passion for teamwork and clear communication, she helps dogs and handlers reach their potential both on and off the agility field. Currently enrolled in UHIT1 95 Electronic Health Record Specialist Certification Test Prep.



DeeDee Costanten

Hello, my name is DeeDee Costanten. First, I am a wife, mom, and grandma. Second, I am a student. I have spent several decades working in accounting, and I have an associate's degree from Pima Community College in Accounting, but that's never been where my heart is. In 2023, I found myself in a position where I could finally pursue my dream of becoming a nurse, so I am in my first semester of nursing school, also here at Pima. When I got my accounting degree, I was working full-time and was a single mother of three; now I am raising one of my four grandchildren full-time (and helping part-time with the others), so I am not working but am a full-time student. My three children are Ashley (28), Nathan (26), and Holland (23). Ashley is in cosmetology school, Holly is in veterinary school, and Nathan does body work at Caliber Collision. I'm so proud of them all. I want to show them and my grandchildren, Abella (7), Artist (5), DeAngelo (3), and Amaya (1) that it's never too late to realize your dreams and to never settle for what doesn't make your heart happy.



Morgan Patterson

My name is Morgan Patterson. I am a homeschooling mom, a musician, and a traveler. I am originally from Kentucky and have been in Tucson for 4 years. I graduated with my associates in liberal arts from Pima Community College in May 2025 with a 3.8gpa, and now I am back to complete the prerequisites for the bachelor's degree in nursing at University of Arizona. My ultimate goal is to become a nurse practitioner. I am an officer with the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society and a downtown campus liaison. I also host a series of mental health workshops on campus. This is my 3rd community college due to my travels, and the majority of my degree was completed online.