

Grace Pai, Ph.D.

65-30 Kissena Blvd. Powdermaker Hall (Room 054C), Flushing, NY 11367
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APPOINTMENTS

August 2022 – present **Assistant Professor of Elementary and Early Childhood Education (Mathematics)**, Queens College – City University of New York

Fall 2017 – Aug 2022 **Assistant Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies & Mathematics**, Guttman Community College – City University of New York

EDUCATION

2016 **Ph.D. in International Education & Development**, New York University
Concentration: Applied Statistics
Dissertation: *Universalizing Primary Education in Sierra Leone: Promises and Pitfalls on the Path to Equity*

2010 **M. Ed. in Secondary School Mathematics**, Brooklyn College

2007 **Ed. M. in Human Development and Education** (School Counseling strand), Harvard Graduate School of Education

2003 **B.S. in Management and International Business with a minor in Psychology (cum laude)**, New York University Stern School of Business

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2022 – present **Assistant Professor**, Queens College (CUNY)
Courses taught
EECE 350: Teaching Mathematics in the Elementary School (undergraduate)
EECE 550: Mathematics in the Elementary School (graduate)

2017 – 2022 **Assistant Professor**, Guttman Community College (CUNY)
Courses taught
MATH 103A: Statistics A
MATH 103B: Statistics B
MATH 103: Statistics
MATH 120: College Algebra & Trigonometry
MATH 120.5: College Algebra & Trigonometry (w/co-requisite lab)
LASC 102: City Seminar (First Year Experience)
AMST 103: Introduction to Social Justice
AMST 203: Civic Engagement in a Global Society

- 2016 **Adjunct Lecturer**, Guttman Community College (CUNY)
Courses taught
 MATH 103A: Statistics A
- 2012 - 2015 **Adjunct Instructor**, New York University
Courses taught
 Quantitative Methods of Analysis
 International Education and Modernity
 Comparative Studies of Socialization
 Learning and the Meaning of Life
- 2008 - 2010 **Math teacher / New York City Teaching Fellow**, New York City
 Department of Education (High School for Language and Diplomacy and
 West Brooklyn Community High School)

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2017 - present **Research Consultant & Senior Quantitative Analyst**, Program evaluation,
 quantitative analysis & statistical consulting for educational organizations
- Organizations include: Columbia University's Center for Public Research and Leadership, Bloomberg Philanthropy, New York City Department of Education, Sponsors for Educational Opportunity (SEO), Per Scholas
 - Projects included: Summative impact evaluation of 2022 Summer Boost program for over 16,000 K-8 students attending charter schools in NYC; Formative evaluation of remote IT education for Per Scholas; Multilevel modeling and cluster analysis of what profiles of students succeed in SEO's academic programming and graduate from college; Designing impact evaluation aligned to theory of change for DOE's College Access for All citywide initiative
- 2016 - 2017 **Senior Research Associate**, New York City Department of Education
- 2014 - 2016 **Research Manager**, College Access: Research and Action (CARA) at the CUNY Graduate Center
- 2013 - 2014 **Rapporteur**, UNICEF New York
- 2013 **Program Officer**, Multinational Institute of American Studies at New York University
- 2012 **Summer Fellow**, University of Southern California (through Education Pioneers)
- 2011 - 2012 **Research Assistant**, Institute for Education and Social Policy at New York University
- 2010 - 2011 **Mathematics Teacher Development Specialist**, South Africa Eastern Cape Department of Education (through Peace Corps Response)
- 2007 - 2008 **Program Coordinator for court-involved youth**, exalt youth, Brooklyn, NY

- 2006 - 2007 **Counseling Intern**, Cambridgeport School, MA
- 2005 - 2006 **K-12 Substitute Teacher**, Monrovia & Arcadia Unified School District in Los Angeles County
- 2003 - 2005 **English Teacher/Peace Corps Volunteer**, US Peace Corps in Bangladesh

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

Pai, G. *Leave No One Behind? Education for All through the Eyes of Out-of-school Children in Sierra Leone.* (In contract with Rutgers University Press; Manuscript in progress due July 1, 2025)

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

Pai, G. (2024). Using Formative Assessment and Feedback from Student Response Systems (SRS) to Revise Statistics Instruction and Promote Student Growth for All. *Journal of Statistics and Data Science Education*, 1-10. <https://doi.org/10.1080/26939169.2024.2321241>

Kim, J., **Pai, G.**, & Abu Yahya, S. (2023). An Online Global Learning Activity to Enhance Underrepresented Community College STEM Students' Career Competencies and Chemistry Engagement: Water Testing in New York City and Jordan. *Journal of Chemical Education*, 101, 1, 197–204. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.jchemed.3c00783>

Pai, G. & De Feo, M. (2023). Characteristics of Effective Postsecondary Advising: How Often to Meet and What to Focus On. *Journal of College Access*, 8(1), 28-45.

McCallen, L.S., Yazdani, N., **Pai, G.**, Bloom, J., Chajet, L. & Fine, M. How a Community Engagement Model of Near-Peer Counseling Impacts Student Mentors' College Outcomes. *Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement*, 27(2), 31-46.

Pai, G., Corby, J., Kras, N., Podlucka, D., & Yamamura, M. (2023). The Dialectic Transformation of Teaching and Learning in Community Colleges through Ungrading. *Zeal: A Journal for the Liberal Arts*, 1(2), 117-126.

Pai, G. (2023). Beyond Demographic Identifiers and Classification: A Search for Alternative Approaches to Quantitatively Evaluating Educational Equity. *Current Issues in Comparative Education*, 25(1), 121-126. <https://doi.org/10.52214/cice.v25i1.10248>

Pai, G. (2022). "I am a Wicked Somebody: The Experience of not Going to School in a Schooled Society." In Monkman, K. & Frkovich, A. (Eds.), *Belonging in Globalized Educational Contexts: Identity amidst Global, Transnational, and Neoliberal Dynamics* (pp. 167-182). Routledge.

Pai, G. (2021). Designing a Culturally Relevant Statistics Assignment on z-scores. *MathAMATYC Educator*, 12(2), 20-23.

Pai, G., & Wilson, K. (2019). Developing a Culturally Responsive Assessment Model for Short-Term Study Abroad at an Urban Community College. *Journal on Excellence in College Teaching*, 30(4), 157-186.

Pai, G. (2016). “Reconstructing Education in Post-Conflict Sierra Leone.” In Izarali, M. R., Masakure, O., & Shizha, E. (Eds.), *Security, Education and Development in Contemporary Africa* (pp. 201-215). Routledge.

Pai, G. (2013). Particularizing Universal Education in Postcolonial Sierra Leone. *Current Issues in Comparative Education*, 16(1): 62-73.

POLICY REPORTS, OP-EDS/MEDIA, AND OPEN EDUCATION RESOURCES (OER)

Miller J., Killos, L., Cowan, J., Moore., K, Dunn, L., Corwin, E., & **Pai, G.** (October 2022). [Clear Connections: Lessons Learned from a Formative Evaluation of Remote Learning at Per Scholas, 2020-2021.](#) (pp. 1-12).

Kim, J. & **Pai, G.** (April 2022). Applied Math in Introductory Chemistry. OER CUNY Academic Works. (pp. 1-21). https://academicworks.cuny.edu/nc_oers/27

Pai, G. (April 30, 2021). [I am Asian and I am angry at higher education.](#) *Inside Higher Ed.*

Pai, G. (June 26, 2020). [All people of color should fight anti-blackness.](#) *New York Daily News.*

Pai, G. (March 6, 2020). NPR/Academic Minute: [Out-of-School Children in Sub-Saharan Africa](#)

Pai, G. (2019). [Promoting safety and wellness while abroad through continuous reflection and peer education.](#) *The Global Impact Exchange: A Quarterly Publication of Diversity Abroad*, Summer 2019 issue, 15-18.

Corcoran, S.P. & **Pai, G.** (2013). *Unlocking New York City's High School Progress Report.* New Visions for Public Schools. <https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED611362.pdf>

WORK IN REVIEW

Pai, G. “Hidden Inequities in Universalizing Primary Education in Rural Sierra Leone.” Submitted September 2023 to *Compare: A Journal of Comparative and International Education.* (revise and resubmit due May 1, 2024)

Pai, G., & Perrone, M. “Applying Computational Thinking to Support Elementary Pre-service Teachers’ Mathematical Problem Posing.” In Farenga, S., Ness, D., & Garafalo, S. (Eds.), *International Handbook of Research on STEAM Curriculum and Praxis.* Routledge. (Under contract)

Pai, G., Silberberg, E., & Wamba, N. “Alternative Pedagogies to Advance Equity in Undergraduate STEM Courses: A Systematic Review of Research.” Submitted March 2024 to *Journal for STEM Education Research.*

Pai, G. “Expanding Primary School Completion through Culturally Responsive and Sustaining Education: Evidence from a Historical Project in Sierra Leone.” Submitted March 2024 to *International Journal of Educational Development*.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Akiba, D., & **Pai, G.** “*Scholarly Playdates*” for Mentoring: *Fostering Heartfelt Support for BIPOC and Non-Traditional Junior Faculty in Nonjudgmental Settings*. In M. Rana & S. Bennett [Eds.] *Mentoring Relationships in Academia*. NY: Springer Nature. (In progress – Chapter proposal approved and scheduled for release in January 2025).

Pai, G. “Elementary Teachers’ Perceptions and Experiences of Culturally Responsive Sustaining Mathematics Education in New York.” (In process of data collection.)

Pai, G. “Exploring the Relationship between Ambitious Instruction and Mathematics Affinity using TIMSS.” (Data obtained and partially merged; Preliminary analysis of US dataset completed.)

FELLOWSHIPS AND FUNDED GRANTS

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| 2024-25 | CUNY Computing Integrated Teacher Education (CITE) Research Grant – Large Project for “Developing elementary pre-service teachers' ability to implement high-quality mathematics instruction through computational thinking” (PI, \$30,667) |
| 2023-24 | PSC CUNY Traditional B Grant for “Elementary teachers’ attitudes towards culturally responsive sustaining mathematics education in New York” (PI, \$5,980) |
| 2023 | CUNY Computing Integrated Teacher Education (CITE) Summer Professional Development Grant (PI, \$8,000) |
| 2021-23 | Stevens Initiative scaling grant for “Global Scholars Achieving Career Success” virtual exchange project, US State Department funded and administered by Aspen Institute (Co-PI, \$800,000) |
| 2021-22 | Andrew W. Mellon Transformative Learning in the Humanities Faculty Fellowship (\$1,800) |
| 2021 | Phi Theta Kappa Collaborative Project NY Region mini grant (\$150) |
| 2020 | CUNY Faculty Fellowship Publication Program (FFPP) Fellowship (course release) |
| 2020 | Phi Theta Kappa Honors in Action Grant funded by Mellon Foundation (\$1,000) |
| 2019 | PSC CUNY Traditional A Grant for “Practicing what we preach: Using SRS formative assessment to revise instructor practices in teaching developmental mathematics students” (PI, \$3,500) |
| 2015 | AERA Minority Dissertation Fellowship in Education Research (\$20,000) |

- 2015 Comparative and International Education Society (CIES) New Scholars Fellow
- 2013 Steinhardt Doctoral Student Travel Grant (\$1,000)
- 2012 Education Pioneers Summer Fellowship (\$7,200)
- 2011-15 New York University Steinhardt Fellowship (\$23,000 for 4 years)
- 2006 Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE) grant (\$7,000)

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2023 Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (AMTE) early career BIPOC mentee
- 2022 Andrew W. Mellon Transformative Learning in the Humanities Pedagogy Co-Leader
- 2021 Margie Hobbs Award from American Mathematics Association of Two-Year Colleges
- 2019 President's Award for Community Engagement, Guttman Community College
- 2019 William Stewart Travel Award, CUNY Academy of Arts and Sciences
- 2016 NYU Steinhardt Outstanding Dissertation Award nominee
- 2015 CIES New Scholars Travel Merit Award
- 2013 Strong Pass for Doctoral Qualifying Exam
- 2003 NYU Beta Gamma Sigma Civic Service Award

WORKSHOP AND TRAINING FACILITATION

Transformative Learning in the Humanities. Pedagogy Co-Leader of seminar series on active learning, anti-racist teaching, and innovative pedagogy for faculty across CUNY. Fall 2022.

Building an International Environment for Collaborative Learning. Co-presented workshop session in Pedagogy of Kindness series hosted by Queens College's Center for Teaching and Learning. March 11, 2022.

Global Scholars Achieving Career Success (GSACS) 2021, 2022, 2023 Institute. Developer and co-facilitator of 5-day institute to train 120 faculty to implement virtual exchanges in their courses.

Globalizing Curriculums with Data: COIL Energizes the Learning Environment. Co-facilitator of American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges webinar. March 24, 2021.

Culturally Relevant Pedagogy. Facilitator of two-part workshop for Bergen County Academy High School, New Jersey. March 12 and May 21, 2021.

Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL): Building Your Partner Profile. Facilitator for CUNY Innovative Teaching Academy. February 22, 2021.

COIL 101. Facilitator for CUNY Online Teaching Essentials webinar. November 13, 2020.

Introduction to COIL. Facilitator of CUNY School of Professional Studies' online webinar series on Online Teaching Essentials (OTE). July 2020.

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

* = undergraduate student

Pai, G. *Culturally Responsive Approaches to Quantitatively Evaluate Educational Equity*. Comparative and International Education Society Annual Conference. Miami, FL. March 12, 2024.

Kesler, T., Fraboni, M., & Pai, G. *Our ungrading journey: Connecting students to their own learning*. Center for Expansion of Language and Thinking Mini-Rejuvenation Virtual Conference. June 24, 2023.

Pai, G. *Translating practice back into research: Making the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SOTL) consequential through an example of ungrading the classroom*. AERA Annual Meeting in Chicago. April 15, 2023.

Pai, G., Corby, J., Kras, N., Podlucka, D., & Yamamura, M. *Empowered teaching and learning through ungrading: The community college experience*. CUNY conference on Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SOTL). October 12, 2022.

Pai, G. *Book launch: Belonging in changing educational spaces negotiating global, transnational, and neoliberal dynamics*. Book talk at Comparative and International Education Society Annual Conference. Minneapolis, MN. April 22, 2022.

Aksakalova, O., Withanachi, S., Ramson, A., & Pai, G. *Global Scholars Achieving Career Success: Facilitating career readiness in a multinational virtual exchange program*. Presentation at NACE 2022 Competency Symposium. March 29, 2022.

Pai, G. *Relevant to whom? Designing culturally responsive mathematics assignments*. Presentation at the American Mathematics Association of Two-Year Colleges. November 2021.

Pai, G., Liriano-Gonzalez, K., Almonte, L.,* Majeed, S.,* & McGuire, S.* *Amplifying Student Voices: From passive learners to active knowledge producers*. *Presented with 3 student leaders from Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society at CUNY Faculty Diversity and Inclusion Conference. April 16, 2021.

Pai, G., Ramson, A., & Aksakalova, O. *Collaborative Online International Learning: An innovative pedagogy to connect and build global community*. Presentation at the Bronx Edtech Conference (virtual). May 7, 2021.

Pai, G. *Global experiential learning in statistics through virtual exchange/COIL*. Presentation at Guttman Faculty Teaching Showcase. February 23, 2021.

Fuller, K., Ziehmke, N., Pai, G. & Kim, J. *Improving STEM success through engagement*. Presentation at AAC&U 2021 Annual Meeting (virtual). January 19, 2021.

Pai, G. *Beyond education abroad: Embedding global learning through student and faculty participation*. Presentation at AAC&U 2020 Conference on Global Learning. October 2020.

Pai, G. & De Feo, M. *Quality and quantity of postsecondary advising in predicting college-going plans*. Paper presentation at AERA Annual Meeting (virtual). April 2020.

Pai, G. *What's Foucault got to do with it?* Presentation at the CIEE Conference. New York. November 2019.

Pai, G. *Education for All: Through the eyes of those out-of-school in rural Sierra Leone*. Paper presentation at the Comparative and International Education Society Conference. San Francisco, CA. April 2019.

Pai, G. *Practicing what we preach: Using SRS formative assessment to revise instructor practices in teaching developmental mathematics students*. Paper presentation at the Original Lilly Conference on College Teaching. Oxford, OH. November 2018.

Pai, G. *"I'm a wicked somebody": The problematization and stigmatization of not going to school in rural Sierra Leone*. Poster presentation at the American Education Research Association (AERA) Annual conference. Washington, DC. April 2016.

Pai, G. *Universalizing primary education: Through the eyes of those out-of-school in contemporary Sierra Leone*. Paper presentation at the African Studies Association Annual Conference. San Diego. November 2015.

Pai, G. *Rethinking global justice and human rights*. Presentation at the Global Kids Youth Conference. New York. April 2015.

Pai, G. *The Bunumbu Project revisited: The effects of a historical rural education project in Sierra Leone*. Paper presentation at the Research and Scholarship Showcase. New York University. April 2015.

Pai, G. *Historical barriers to universalizing education in Sierra Leone*. Paper presentation at the Comparative and International Education Society Annual Conference. Washington, DC. March 2015.

Pai, G. *Universalizing education in Sierra Leone: A comparative study of the past and present*. Paper presentation at the Comparative & International Education Society Annual Conference. New Orleans. March 2013.

Pai, G. *Mathematics teacher development in South Africa: Practical lessons learned*. Presentation at the Seventh Annual International Education Conference at New York University Steinhardt. New York. March 2012.

INVITED TALKS

The pandemic and higher education. Panelist at US State Department funded Multinational Institute of American Studies' event for visiting international scholars, New York University. July 7, 2022.

Speaking up for AAPI: A roundtable. Invited panelist at roundtable hosted by Hostos Community College with US Congresswoman Grace Meng and NY State Senator John Liu. May 26, 2021.

COIL engagement between LI/NYC and the world: From building to expanding in the classroom. Invited panelist at SUNY CUNY Roundtable COIL discussions. May 21, 2021.

Teaching about Africa through Timbuktu. Moderator at talk hosted by University of Wisconsin-Madison's Institute for Regional and International Studies (IRIS) and African Studies Program. November 2020.

Conducting applied social science research to study education. Invited guest lecturer at a Science Colloquium at SUNY Empire State College. New York. October 2019.

Conducting education research in Sierra Leone. Invited guest lecturer at SUNY Empire State College. New York. April 2019.

Particularizing universal education in Sierra Leone. Guest lecture for Globalization and Education undergraduate course at New York University. New York. February 2016.

Conducting qualitative observations. Guest lecture for *Introduction to qualitative analysis* Master's level course at New York University. New York. October 2015.

Teachers in South Africa: A day in the life film screening and panel. Invited panelist at International Education Week. New York University. New York. November 21, 2014.

SERVICE

SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY (CUNY)

2023-24	University Faculty Senate Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Access Committee Secretary
2023	Computing Integrated Teacher Education (CITE) faculty participant
2022-present	University Advisory Council on Diversity member (appointed)
2022-23	University Faculty Senate (UFS) Executive Committee member (elected)
2021-25	University Faculty Senate (UFS) Senator (elected)
2019-present	CUNY Budget Advisory Committee member
2019-present	CUNY COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning) Working Group
2018-2022	CUNY International Education Council member

SERVICE AT QUEENS COLLEGE

- 2023-24 School of Education Dean’s Advisory Board
- 2023-24 Howard Hughes Medical Institute Inclusive Excellence (HHMI IE3) Advisory Board
- 2023 Queens College Teacher Portfolio Assessment (QCTPA) expert review panelist
- 2022-present Undergraduate student advising team member for EECE department
- 2022-24 Queens College Academic Senate (Alternate)
- 2022-23 Search committee member for tenure-track faculty in Elementary and Early Childhood Education & Associate Director of Asian American/Asian Research Institute (AAARI)

SELECTED PAST SERVICE AT GUTTMAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

- 2018-22 Faculty Coordinator/Director of International and Experiential Education
- 2019-22 Advisor of Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society
- 2019-22 Assessment and Learning Committee
- 2018-22 Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee
- 2018-22 College Council
- 2019-22 Faculty Personnel Committee

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2024 Reviewer for *Journal of Statistics and Data Science Education*
- 2020-2022 American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges, International Mathematics ANet representative & Globalizing the Curriculum sub-committee co-chair
- 2019-20 Judge at the New York City Science Fair
- 2012 Co-Coordinator of the 7th Annual International Education Conference at New York University Steinhardt

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- National Council of Teaching Mathematics (NCTM)
- Association of Mathematics Teachers Educators (AMTE)

PME-NA (North American Chapter of the International Group for the Psychology of Mathematics Education)
American Education Research Association (AERA)
Comparative and International Education Society member (CIES)

CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

PS20M PTA, founding Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer of 501c(3) non-profit PTA organization for PS20 Elementary School, a Title 1 school in NYC's Lower East Side PS20M Elementary School, School Leadership Team member

CERTIFICATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT _____

New York Transitional B Certificate in Mathematics Grade 5 – 9
CUNY Kognito At-Risk Mental Health for Faculty and Staff certificate
CUNY Assessment 101 certificate
CUNY Mindset Motivating Learners course
CUNY Computing Integrated Teacher Education (CITE)

LANGUAGES _____

Mandarin Chinese (fluent in speaking); Bangla (basic oral and reading); Spanish (beginner oral and reading)