



LAURELS

SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE SUCCESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

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Javad Bakhshinejad



Anna Bottino



Minseok Cho



Katherine Dugan

PUBLICATIONS

Javad Bakhshinejad, Institutional Research analyst and PhD candidate in Exercise Physiology (Graduate Class of 2026), and **Luke Pelton**, PhD, assistant professor of Exercise Science and Human Performance Lab coordinator, co-authored “The Effects of drop jumps on the load-velocity profile of the deadlift” in the *International Journal of Exercise Science* in February 2026. Bakhshinejad and Pelton also co-authored “Effects of intensity and fatigue on the kinetics and kinematics of the barbell squat, bench press, and deadlift in experienced lifters: A systematic review” in *Sports Medicine – Open* in October 2025.

Anna Bottino, PhD, assistant professor of Research and Exercise Science, co-authored “Building inclusive physical activity spaces for gender diverse adolescents: Recommendations from community program leaders” in *Leisure Studies* in February 2026.

Anna Bottino, PhD, assistant professor of Research and Exercise Science, and **Elizabeth Mullin**, PhD, associate professor of Exercise Science and Sport Studies and assistant vice provost for Faculty Affairs, co-authored “LGBQ+ individuals’ experiences in collegiate women’s sport since the passage of Title IX: A systematic review,” in the *Journal of Women and Gender in Higher Education* in December 2025.

Korey L. Boyd, PhD, associate professor of Physical Education, and **Mara Simon**, EdD, associate professor of Physical Education and Health Education, co-authored “In the line of fire”: Critical race counternarratives from Black and Latine physical education and teacher education faculty” in the

Journal of Teaching in Physical Education in 2025. Boyd and Simon also co-authored “Meritocracy and material consequences at the intersection of race, class, and disability for pre-service PE teachers” in the *European Physical Education Review* in 2025.

Minseok Cho, PhD, assistant professor of Sport Management, authored “What drives volunteer retention in a mega sporting event? An analysis of behavioral influences” in *The Sport Journal* in October 2025.

Laurel R. Davis-Delano, PhD, professor of Sociology, co-authored “American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian identification in online surveys: Sampling challenges and proposed best practices” in *AlterNative: An International Journal of Indigenous Peoples* in 2026. Her co-authors were Desi Small-Rodriguez of the University of California at Los Angeles and Adrienne J. Keene (independent scholar). Davis-Delano also co-authored “The tipi cover in settler colonial context” in *Contexts: Sociology for the Public* in November 2025. Her co-author was Stephanie A. Fryberg of Northwestern University.

Katherine Dugan, PhD, associate professor of Religious Studies/Humanities and Social Sciences, authored “Book Review: Catholicism at a crossroads: The present and future of America’s largest church” in the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* in March 2026.

Justine Dymond, PhD, MFA, professor of English, authored “Mothering in-between: Mothers creating narratives of breast cancer” in *Women (Re)Writing Illness as Their Own* (Bloomsbury), edited by Rachel N. Spear, in 2026.



Nina Esaki



Matt Mills



Christine Niedbala



Luke Pelton

Melih Elcin, MD, assistant dean for Interprofessional Education in the School of Health Sciences, co-authored “Delivery of the TeamSTEPPS® communication module to the ophthalmology operating room team: Determining perceptions, experiences, and opinions” in *BMC Medical Education* in 2025. Elcin also co-authored the book chapter “Strengthening the resilience of the Turkish healthcare systems through a novel climate and health curriculum” in *Climate Change and Health: Perspectives from Developing Countries* in November 2025.

Nina Esaki, PhD, associate professor of Social Work, co-authored “The power of trauma-informed work to transform personal relationships” in *Families in Society: The Journal of Contemporary Social Services* in February 2026. Her co-authors were **Hannah LaPointe**, G’23, MSW; **Alma Baumwoll**, G’25, LCSW, MS, psychotherapist at Advance Psychotherapy Practice; and **Melanie Taub**, G’23, MSW, LCSW, clinician at EmbodyMind-C Clinic.

Erin Futrell, PhD, associate professor of Physical Therapy, and **Julia Chevan**, PhD, faculty emeritus in the Department of Physical Therapy, co-authored “Effects of long-term minimal footwear use on fall-risk and fall incidence in older adults” in *Gerontology* in December 2025.

Allison Martel, MLIS, digital technologies librarian in Library Services, authored “Shaving” in *Thimble Literary Magazine* in winter 2025.

Matt Mills, EdD, assistant professor of Athletic Training, authored “The effectiveness of virtual reality and augmented reality-based simulation on healthcare students’ learning: A review of the literature” in the *Journal of Allied Health Sciences and Practice* in March 2026. In the same publication, Mills co-authored “The effect of debriefing following a computer-based low-fidelity simulation on the self-efficacy of health professions students: A randomized cross-over control study.”

Christine Niedbala, DMSc, PA-C, associate professor of Physician Assistant Studies, authored “Weight regain

after bariatric surgery: A framework for management” in the *Journal of the American Academy of Physician Associates* in March 2026.

Luke Pelton, PhD, assistant professor of Exercise Science, authored “The effects of anabolic-androgenic steroid use and training style on myogenic expression in trained male iron sport athletes” in the *European Journal of Applied Physiology* in December 2025.

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

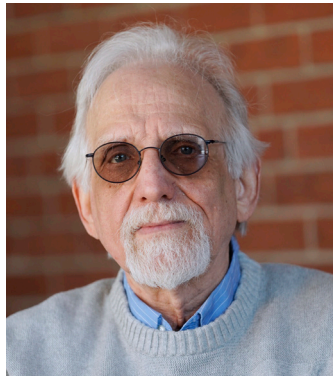
Anna Bottino, PhD, assistant professor of Research and Exercise Science, presented “You guys are making people on the team really uncomfortable: Experiences of intra-team romantic relationships in collegiate women’s sport” at the Social Justice through Sport and Exercise Psychology Symposium in Chicago, Ill., in March 2026. At the same symposium, Bottino co-presented a workshop titled “The stories we tell ourselves: Embodying theory as researchers and practitioners.” They also served as a panel moderator for a presentation titled “A joy-full conversation in community on fairness, embodiment, and the future of trans inclusion in sport.” That panel featured the co-authors of *Fair Game: Trans Athletes and the Future of Sports*.

Anna Bottino, PhD, assistant professor of Research and Exercise Science, was an invited panelist in the session “Separate but equal? Women-identifying athlete experiences, intersectionality, and college sport” at the North American Society for the Sociology of Sport in Seattle, Wash., in November 2025.

Korey L. Boyd, PhD, associate professor of Physical Education, presented “Voices in play: Integrating NAKHE scholars’ feedback to advance JEDI through game-based approaches” at the National Association for Kinesiology in Higher Education Conference in Nashville, Tenn., in January 2026. Boyd and **Mara Simon**, EdD, associate professor of Physical Education and Health Education, co-presented “Teaching ‘equity’ in PETE: Combining theory,



Angela A. Campbell



John Cipora



Heather Gilmour



Steven W. Groccia

research, and practice towards socially and critically conscious teacher education” at the International Association for Physical Education in Higher Education Conference in St. Petersburg, Fla., in May 2025.

Debra L. Burnett, PhD, associate professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders and interim dean of the School of Health Sciences, co-presented “Planning for impact: A framework for inter-professional space planning” at the Society for College and University Planning 2026 North Atlantic Regional Conference in Hartford, Conn., in March 2026.

Angela A. Campbell, DPT, professor of Physical Therapy, co-presented “The way to a woman's heart is with science and sex-specific interventions” at the American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting in Anaheim, Calif., in February 2026.

Minseok Cho, PhD, assistant professor of Sport Management, presented “Whistle, replay, and flow: How officiating technology shapes soccer fans’ game experience” at the Applied Sport Management Association Conference in Philadelphia, Pa., in February 2026.

John Cipora, EdD, associate professor of Education and coordinator of Early Childhood Education, co-presented “Calling on community: Building paraprofessional-to-teacher pathways in Massachusetts” at the Massachusetts Association of Colleges for Teacher Education Spring Conference in Sturbridge, Mass., in March 2026. His co-presenter was Romie Robertson, EdM, co-executive director of Journey into Education & Teaching.

Katherine Dugan, PhD, associate professor of Religious Studies/Humanities and Social Sciences, presented “The feminism(s) of natural family planning” at the American Catholic Historical Association in Chicago, Ill., in January 2026.

Melih Elcin, MD, assistant dean for Interprofessional Education in the School of Health Sciences, presented “Impact of a simulation-based training program in veterinary medicine on communication skills in

telehealth applications” at the International Meeting on Simulation in Healthcare in Orlando, Fla., in January 2026.

Melih Elcin, MD, assistant dean for Interprofessional Education in the School of Health Sciences; **Elizabeth Ann Alicea-Torres**, OT, OTD, OTR/L, assistant professor of Occupational Therapy and doctoral capstone coordinator; and **Andrea Coppola**, OT, OTD, OTR/L, CHSE, former associate professor of Occupational Therapy, co-presented “Translating the experiences of home health occupational therapy practitioners & occupational therapy students to develop home-based simulations for occupational therapy education to promote aging in place” and “Use of simulation to prepare occupational therapy students to successfully complete home safety assessments with community-dwelling older adults” at the American Occupational Therapy Association Education Summit in Salt Lake City, Utah, in November 2025.

Heather Gilmour, EdD, associate professor of Sport Management and Recreation and department chair, co-presented “Sport Management: Who and what are we? Leaning into your history in the changing sport management landscape” at the Commission on Sport Management Accreditation Annual Conference in February 2026.

Steven W. Groccia, PhD, associate professor of Physical Education, co-presented “More than a game: Purposeful teaching with tactical games model” at the SHAPE America National Convention & Expo in Kansas City, Mo., in March 2026. His co-presenter was **Courtney Quinn**, a doctoral candidate in Physical Education (Graduate Class of 2027). Quinn is a teaching fellow and physical educator in the Chelmsford (Mass.) Public Schools.

Sue Guyer, DPE, professor of Athletic Training and dean of the School of Physical Education, Performance, and Sport Leadership, presented “Prevention and care of athletic injuries” on a webinar through the China Institute of Sports Science Conference, Beijing, China, in March 2026.



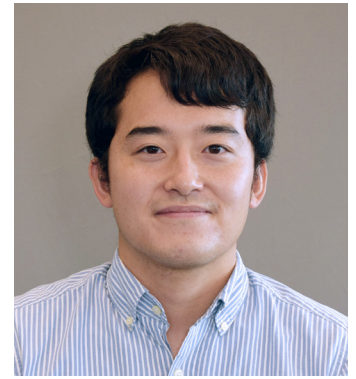
Michelle E. Moosbrugger



Jamie Pelton



Amanda M. Rodriguez



Daigo Yazawa

Matt Mills, EdD, assistant professor of Athletic Training, presented “ATs are always teaching: Intentionally using active learning to improve patient outcomes and clinical learning” at the 78th Eastern Athletic Trainers’ Association annual conference in Boston, Mass., in January 2026. At the same conference, Mills and co-authors **Samantha Scott**, PhD, assistant professor of Athletic Training, and **Maggie Daingerfield**, DPT, assistant professor of Physical Therapy, were the Professional Research Poster Presentation winners for their research titled “The impact of a concussion-focused interprofessional education module on athletic training and physical therapy student perceptions of collaborative practice.”

Susan Milstein, PhD, associate professor of Physical Education and Health Education, presented “Brains, burnout, and the bedroom: The overlooked link between sexual well-being and workplace wellness” at the 36th Annual Art & Science of Health Promotion Conference in Colorado Springs, Colo., in March 2026. They also presented “From giggles to growth: Remembering your why when teaching sex ed” at the Massachusetts Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance School Health Education Conference in Sturbridge, Mass., in January 2026.

Michelle E. Moosbrugger, PhD, professor of Physical Education and Health Education and department chair, co-presented “Rethinking repetition: Dynamic physical education for all skill levels” at the SHAPE America National Convention & Expo in Kansas City, Mo., in March 2026. Her co-presenters were **Abby Hemstrought**, Class of 2028 (Physical Education); **Olivia Sevigny** '25 (Physical Education and Health Education), Graduate Class of 2027, (Athletic Leadership); and Paul Rukavina, PhD, professor at Adelphi University. At the same conference, Moosbrugger co-presented “You got the right stuff! Designing task progressions to build students’ adaptability in physical education.”

Luke Pelton, PhD, assistant professor of Exercise Science, and **Jamie Pelton**, MS, assistant professor of Exercise Science, co-presented “A ‘marriage’ of Measurements: Skeletal muscle vs. cardiac

electrophysiology in clinical outcomes” at the New England Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine Conference in Springfield, Mass., in October 2025.

Amanda M. Rodriguez, OTD, assistant professor of Occupational Therapy and undergraduate program coordinator, presented “The self-care syllabus: Using a wellness planner to promote psychological well-being in grad school” at the American Occupational Therapy Association Education Summit in Salt Lake City, Utah, in November 2026.

Samantha Scott, PhD, assistant professor of Athletic Training, co-presented “Beyond the injury: Culturally responsive care for athletic trainers” at the Eastern Athletic Trainers’ Association Annual Convention in Boston in January 2026.

Springfield College held a kickoff event on campus on April 1, 2026, to officially launch INSPIRARE Global, the International Network of Social Work Praxis & Innovation for Research, Advancing Scholarship, Rights, and Education. College participants included **Laura Krishnan-Mackie**, MSW, LICSW, PhD student in Educational Leadership; **Effrosyni Kokaliari**, PhD, LICSW, professor of Social Work; and **Christine Tronnier**, PhD, LICSW, LADC-1, associate professor of Social Work, Springfield College.

Daigo Yazawa, PhD, assistant professor of Sport Management, presented “Exploring the dimensionality of sports facility quality” at the Applied Sport Management Association Conference in Philadelphia, Pa., in February 2026.

AWARDS

Angela A. Campbell, DPT, professor of Physical Therapy, received the Linda Crane Memorial Lecture Award by the Academy of Cardiovascular & Pulmonary Physical Therapy of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) in February 2026. She will present the lecture at the APTA Combined Sections Meeting in Philadelphia, Pa., in February 2027.



Corey L. Boyd



Left to right: Octavia Courcy, Class of 2027, and Sarah Zehnder at the State House in Boston during "Creative Sector Day."



Marty Dobrow

Joshua Odam, Graduate Class of 2026 (Master of Social Work), was honored as one of 250 Black LGBTQ activists, artists, changemakers, and community members in the city of Philadelphia, Pa., by Philadelphia Black Pride in March 2026. Odam also received the Prince Jones Jr. Foundation Memorial Scholarship in 2025.

APPOINTMENTS AND COMMITTEES

Corey L. Boyd, PhD, associate professor of Physical Education, has been appointed chair-elect of the Research on Learning and Instruction in Physical Education, Special Interest Group (SIG) 93 of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), for a 12-month term beginning at the conclusion of the 2026 AERA Annual Meeting. In this prominent leadership role, Boyd will help advance AERA's mission and contribute to the continued vitality of the education research community. As chair-elect, he will also oversee the administration of the SIG's three awards, a responsibility that reflects his respected scholarly expertise, professional leadership, and enduring value to both the organization and the broader field of education research.

Katherine Dugan, PhD, associate professor of Religious Studies/Humanities and Social Sciences, was appointed to a five-year term as co-chair for the Catholic Studies group at the American Academy of Religion from 2026-2031.

Kathy Post, PhD, professor of Physical Therapy, was elected co-president of the Springfield, Mass., Forest Park Civic Association (FPCA) for 2026-27 in March 2026. Founded in 1964, the FPCA is the oldest of Springfield's 17 neighborhood councils and associations. Post was the author of the organization's \$97,000 Neighborhood Council Stabilization Grant and recently finished a two-year term as FPCA treasurer.

ENDEAVORS

Samantha Scott, PhD, assistant professor of Athletic Training, discussed the "Dimensions of wellness on athletic training" on the "To the Bone" podcast in March 2026.

Sherri VandenAkker, PhD, professor of Literature, Writing, and Journalism, had two of her photographs accepted into the Autumn National 2025 juried exhibit at the Cape Cod Arts Center in Barnstable, Mass., in October and November. VandenAkker also finished in first place for the Plants and Fungi category for her photograph "Unfurling Fern" in the Mass Audubon Statewide Photo Contest in fall 2025.

Sarah Zehnder, associate professor of Dance and director of Dance, was selected to participate in the "Creative Sector Day" at the State House in Boston, Mass., in March 2026. The event brought together the creative community to celebrate Massachusetts' thriving creative sector and advocate for the funding and resources needed to better support artists statewide. Zehnder invited Dance major **Octavia Courcy**, Class of 2027. The two performed a duet at the event.

MEDIA APPEARANCES AND MENTIONS

Laurel R. Davis-Delano

"Students push for LBCC to ditch the Viking mascot, become the Dolphins"
12/03/25, Long Beach Post

Marty Dobrow

Reflecting on the legacy of MLK Jr. in Springfield
01/19/26, WWLP TV 22

Kelsey Rynkiewicz

Sports medicine experts share injury prevention advice ahead of Super Bowl
02/06/26, Western Mass News



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