

# 48th Annual NEACAC Summer Institute

BRYANT UNIVERSITY
JULY 17-JULY 20, 2023



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# Welcome

to the 48th annual NEACAC Summer Institute (SI) hosted by Bryant University in Smithfield, RI! We are grateful to have the dedicated time and space to gather, share, and reflect over the next four days. We recognize that some of you have yet to set foot in your office, while others have just completed their first year in the profession. This is an opportunity to learn from one another regardless of what role you play in the college admissions process. We encourage you to take advantage of all that SI has to offer from discussing current trends, expanding your professional network, to growing your skillset, and stepping out of your comfort zone. Ask questions and actively participate. We wish you a fulfilling SI experience!

**Katie Phung** 2023 Chair. Summer Institute

Daisy Ogunedo 2023 Chair-Elect, Summer Institute



# **CHAIRS**

Katie Phung Daisy Ogunedo

Boston College, MA Providence College, RI katie.phung@bc.edu agounedo@providence.edu

# **FACULTY**

Christopher Gray

Brenna Kelly

Ariel Leitao Leonelli

Aya AL-Namee

Jack O'Keefe

Meghan Dangremond Aaron Ribaudo-Smith

Mia Ritter Mesa Robinov

Jordan Shapiro Jarrett Saunders

Danielle Walsh Suji Yi

**Dauri Torres** 

Lasell University, MA

Brooks School, MA

Massachusetts Institute of

Technology, MA

Massachusetts Institute of

Technology, MA

Phillips Andover, MA

Newburyport High School, MA

Lawrence Academy, MA Waynflete School, ME

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# **FELLOWS**

Dana Brokmeier **Emily Lauren Dean** Rebecca Schoolcraft Bryant University, RI Clark University, MA Southern New Hampshire University, NH

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# SUMMER INSTITUTE KEYNOTE -



# DR. RAUL FERNANDEZ

Senior Lecturer Boston University's Wheelock College of Education & Human Development

Dr. Raul Fernandez is a Senior Lecturer and former Associate Dean for Equity, Diversity & Inclusion at Boston University's Wheelock College of Education & Human Development where he studies, writes, and teaches about inequities in education. He is also an appointee to the Racial Imbalance Advisory Council of the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and was recently named a Public Impact Scholar by the Initiative on Cities.

In the last few years alone, he researched and wrote a piece that helped topple a monument to white supremacy, created a film and conversation series that engaged thousands of participants in challenging dialogues on social justice issues, and trained thousands more in developing equitable policies and practices at institutions throughout the country and beyond.

Dr. Fernandez also served as a member of Brookline Select Board – the first Latinx person elected to that position. During his time on the Board, he founded Brookline's Small Business Development Committee, a special committee to support public housing residents, a Racial Equity Advancement Fund, and a task force focused on reimagining public safety.

Dr. Fernandez is the Board Chair of Brookline for Racal Justice & Equity, where he lives in Brookline, Mass. He is also the Policy Chair on the board of Amplify Latinx, which seeks to build economic and political power for Latinos in MA, and a board member of Commonwealth Kitchen, which supports women and people of color in starting food businesses.

# FACT SHEET: President Biden Announces Actions to Promote Educational Opportunity & Diversity in Colleges and Universities

Today, the Supreme Court upended decades of precedent that enabled America's colleges and universities to build vibrant diverse environments where students are prepared to lead and learn from one another. Although the Court's decision threatens to move the country backwards, the Biden-Harris Administration will fight to preserve the hard-earned progress we have made to advance racial equity and civil rights and expand educational opportunity for all Americans.

As our nation's colleges and universities consider their admissions processes in the wake of the Court's decision, President Biden is calling on them to seize the opportunity to expand access to educational opportunity for all. Our nation is stronger when our colleges and universities reflect the vast and rich diversity of our people. But while talent, creativity, and hard work are everywhere across this country, equal opportunity is not.

Specifically, the President is calling on colleges and universities, when selecting among qualified applicants, to give serious consideration to the adversities students have overcome, including:

- the financial means of a student or their family;
- where a student grew up and went to high school; and
- personal experiences of hardship or discrimination, including racial discrimination, that a student may have faced.

In doing so, colleges and universities can fully value aspiring students who demonstrate resilience and determination in the face of deep challenges.

The Biden-Harris Administration is taking swift action to support our Nation's colleges and universities so they can continue building pathways to upward mobility and success for all students to thrive in the American workforce and our Nation's military. Specifically, the Biden-Harris Administration is:

- Providing colleges and universities with clarity on what admissions practices and additional
  programs to support students remain lawful. The Department of Education and Department
  of Justice will provide resources to colleges and universities addressing lawful admissions
  practices within the next 45 days, as colleges prepare for the next application cycle. The
  Department of Education will also provide assistance to colleges and universities in
  administering programs to support students from underserved communities.
- Convening a National Summit on Educational Opportunity. The Department of Education will
  host a national summit on equal opportunity in postsecondary education next month with
  advocates, student leaders, college and university administrators, researchers, and state,
  local, and Tribal leaders to share lessons learned, innovative strategies, and develop
  additional resources for colleges and students to expand access to educational
  opportunity.
- Releasing a report on strategies for increasing diversity and educational opportunity, including meaningful consideration of adversity. Following the Summit, the Department of Education will produce a report by this September, elevating promising admissions practices to build inclusive, diverse student bodies, including by using measures of adversity. The report will address topics including the impact of current admissions practices that may negatively affect the admissions chances of students from underserved communities; strategies to integrate measures of adversity in admissions; outreach and recruitment programs to create diverse applicant pools; strategies for retention and degree completion; and financial and other support programs to make college attainable.

- Increasing transparency in college admissions and enrollment practices. The Administration is committed to providing transparent data with respect to admissions and enrollment. The Department of Education's National Center for Educational Statistics will consider ways to collect and publish more information related to college application and enrollment trends. This includes ways that information might be validly disaggregated by race and ethnicity, first-generation status, legacy status, and other measures. Information in these areas could help higher education leaders, academics and the general public address potential barriers to college recruitment, admissions, and enrollment.
- Supporting states in analyzing data to increase access to educational opportunity for underserved communities. The Department of Education will assist states and Tribal nations in marshaling their data to improve college recruitment, admissions, and financial aid practices to devise strategies for increasing access to educational opportunity, such as partnerships to appropriately share and use education data, and direct admissions programs that proactively admit students based on factors such as academic performance and students' geographic location – without requiring them to apply or pay an application fee.

This work builds upon the Biden-Harris Administration's historic efforts to ensure all students have the opportunity to access higher education by:

- Securing a historic increase in the Pell Grants: The President championed the largest increase to Pell Grants in the last decade a combined increase of \$900 to the maximum award over the past two years to benefit low and middle-income students.
- Prioritizing college completion: The Biden-Harris Administration has championed efforts to improve postsecondary outcomes, particularly for students who face the greatest barriers to accessing and completing college. In response to the President Biden's budget, Congress established a new Postsecondary Student Success Grant program to provide direct support to institutions to engage in evidence-based activities that support college re-enrollment, retention, and completion among individuals who are close to graduation.
- Supporting America's Minority-Serving Institutions: President Biden has secured historic
  investments in institutions that enroll and graduate disproportionate shares of low-income
  students and students of color, including tens of billions of dollars in funding for Historically
  Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges and Universities, and Minority Serving
  Institutions, including Hispanic Serving Institutions through the Department of Education.
- Fixing the broken student loan system: The Biden-Harris Administration has taken action to make the student loan system more manageable for current and future borrowers and reduce the burden of student debt, including by:
  - Cutting monthly payments in half for undergraduate loans. The Department of Education is proposing an income-driven repayment plan that protects more low-income borrowers from making any payments and caps monthly payments for undergraduate loans at 5% of a borrower's discretionary income half of the rate that borrowers must pay now under existing plans. The average annual student loan payment will be lowered by more than \$1,000 for both current and future student borrowers who owe payments.
  - Fixing the broken Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program by ensuring that borrowers who have worked at a qualifying nonprofit organization, in the military, or in federal, state, Tribal, or local government, receive appropriate credit towards loan forgiveness. These regulatory changes build on temporary changes the Department of Education made to PSLF, under which roughly 616,000 public servants received more than \$42 billion in loan forgiveness.
  - Ensuring targeted student loan forgiveness programs work. Including its reforms to PSLF, the Department of Education has approved a total of more than \$66 billion in relief to over 2.2 million student loan borrowers, including many who were defrauded by their college, enrolled in a college that abruptly closed, or are permanently disabled and unable to work.

Curriculum Tracks will cover a variety of topics specific to where you are in your career.

## **Secondary School Counselors**

#### Fisher Student Ctr Room 1

This track will focus on ways to enhance counselors' overall knowledge of the admissions process, as well as hone skills specific to college counseling. Each day, we will provide tools necessary to assist students and their families. From list building to writing recommendation letters to advising students on their college essays, counselors will learn about important issues in the profession while networking with colleagues from other institutions.

Faculty: Brenna K., Mia R., Jack O., Aaron R-S., Meghan MD.

#### **Admission Counselors (0-6 months)**

#### Fisher Student Ctr Room 2C

This track is designed to introduce those new to the profession to the field and business of college admissions. The sessions will help you understand the basics, terminology, best practices, and overall strategy surrounding some of the most pivotal tasks in your first year. You'll leave ready to hit the road, review applications, and ask the right questions.

Faculty: Chris G., Suji Y., Mesa R., Danielle W.

## **Admission Counselors (6+ months)**

#### **Fisher Student Ctr Room 2AB**

This track will address the needs of those who have experienced either a full cycle or were hired mid-year. Topics will include: understanding emerging trends and distinctions of institutional priorities, building relationships with high school counselors, taking a deeper dive into travel management, coping with unanticipated challenges, addressing bias in the admissions process, and finding thoughtful way to better achieve work-life balance. This track will also include a variety of topics to assist attendees in taking the next steps in their careers.

Faculty: Aya A-N., Ariel L-L., Jordan S., Dauri T., Jarrett S.

# MENTOR GROUPS

Mentor Groups will cover cornerstone topics such as current trends, difficult conversations, application review, and public speaking

Group 1:	Aya AL-Namee & Mesa Robinov	<b>Unistructure 242</b>
Group 2:	Chris Gray & Jordan Shapiro	<b>Unistructure 243</b>
Group 3:	Brenna Kelly & Danielle Walsh	<b>Unistructure 244</b>
Group 4:	Ariel Leiao-Leonelli & Mia Ritter	<b>Unistructure 245</b>
Group 5:	Jack O'Keefe & Dauri Torres	<b>Unistructure 246</b>
Group 6:	Aaron Ribaudo-Smith & Suji Yi	<b>Unistructure 247</b>
Group 7:	Jarrett Saunders & Meghan Dangremond	<b>Unistructure 250</b>

# AFFINITY/SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Fisher Student Center:
BIPOC
LGBTQIA+
Continuing Education
Room 2AB
Working Parent
Community Colleges and Public Schools
NEACAC and Professional Development
Fisher Student Center:
Room 2C
Room 1
Room 3
Heritage
Papitto



# DAY 1: MONDAY, JULY 17

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
10:00-11:15 AM	Attendee Arrival & Registration	Bristol House Lobby
11:30 AM-12:15 PM	Welcome from NEACAC & Faculty	Bello Grand Hall
12:15-1:45 PM	Lunch & Keynote Address: Dr. Raul Fernandez	Bello Grant Hall
2:00-3:00 PM	Mentor Group Session 1: Introductions	Mentor Group Classrooms*
3:15-4:45 PM	Curriculum Track Session 1 & Daily Evaluation	Curric. Track Classrooms*
5:00-5:45 PM	(Optional) Affinity & Special Interest Groups	
6:00-8:00 PM	Dinner Sponsored by Bryant UG Admission	Fisher Student Ctr. Lawn
8:30 PM	Trivia & Evening Social	Fisher: Papitto & Patio

# DAY 2: TUESDAY, JULY 18

6:00 PM

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
6:00-8:30 AM	Fitness Center Open	Chase Wellness Ctr.
7:30-8:30 AM	Breakfast	Uni: Salmanson Dining Hall
8:45-9:15 AM	Morning Announcements	Fisher: Papitto
9:30-10:45 AM	Curriculum Track Session 2	Fisher: Curric. Track Classrooms*
11:00 AM-12:15 PM	Mentor Group Session 2: Case Studies	Uni: Mentor Group Classrooms*
12:30-1:30 PM	Lunch	Uni: Salmanson Dining Hall
1:45-3:00 PM	Combined Session 1	Uni: Combined Session Classrooms*
3:15-4:30 PM	Combined Session 2	Uni: Combined Session Classrooms*
4:45-5:30 PM	Mentor Group Session 3: Public Speaking	Uni: Mentor Group Classrooms*
	Preparation & Debrief/Daily Evaluation	

# DAY 3: WEDNESDAY, JULY 19 (wear

Dinner On Your Own

(wear a t-shirt that represents your current school or alma mater!)

Off-Campus

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
6:00-8:30 AM	Fitness Center Open	Chase Wellness Ctr.
7:30-8:30 AM	Breakfast	Uni: Salmanson Dining Hall
8:45-9:15 AM	Morning Announcements & Group Photo	Fisher: Papitto
9:30-11:45 AM	Mentor Group Session 4: Mock Presentations	Fisher: Curric. Track Classrooms*
12:00-1:00 PM	Lunch	Uni: Mentor Group Classrooms*
1:15-2:45 PM	Curriculum Track Session 3	Uni: Salmanson Dining Hall
3:00-4:30 PM	(Optional) Webinar: Affirmative Action	Fisher: Papitto/Heritage
4:45-5:30 PM	Mentor Group 5: Debrief/Daily Evaluation	Uni: Mentor Group Classrooms*
5:45-7:45 PM	Dinner	Uni: Salmanson Dining Hall
8:00 PM	Food Trucks, Karaoke, & Evening Social	Fisher Student Ctr. & Patio

# DAY 4: THURSDAY, JULY 20

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
6:00-8:00 AM	Fitness Center Open	Chase Wellness Ctr
7:30-8:15 AM	Breakfast	Uni: Salmanson Dining Hall*
8:30-8:45 AM	Morning Announcements	Fisher: Papitto
9:00-10:15 AM	Curriculum Track Session 4	Fisher: Curric. Track Classrooms*
10:30-11:15 AM	Mentor Group 6: Wrap-Up	Uni: Mentor Group Classrooms*
11:30 AM-12:30 PM	Closing Ceremony	Bello Grand Hall
12:45-1:15 PM	Check-Out & Key Return	Fisher: Info Desk

# COMBINED SESSIONS

# YOU ADVOCATE FOR STUDENTS, NOW ADVOCATE FOR YOURSELF

**Unistructure 242** 

Take control of your career with tips on self-advocacy and professional development. Chris & Ariel will describe ways to seek out opportunities for growth, both inside and outside of your office. Most importantly, we will talk about how to take care of yourself in a busy and stressful industry. You'll have the chance to decompress with your peers and put this session to the test.

# **WORKING WITH ATHLETES & COACHES**

**Unistructure 243** 

This session will explore effective practices on how to approach collaborative strategies with your athletic recruits and coaches. We will discuss how to foster strong partnerships between both athletes and coaches that will allow athletes to put their best foot forward and be recruited by the college or university that is the best fit for them academically and athletically. Attendees will gain valuable insights and practical tools to establish successful athlete and coach collaborations in order to best support the student during their post secondary search.

# BEYOND BORDERS: NAVIGATING INTERNATIONAL ADMISSION

**Unistructure 244** 

Interested in adding new stamps to your passport? Working at a school with a high international population? Join us as we survey the globe with travel, recruitment, and reading tips across regions. We'll offer broader context around the process and history of international admissions as well as best practices for getting started. We'll speak to work done on both sides of the desk to support students from around the world seeking higher education.

# WORKING WITH HISTORICALLY UNDERREPRESENTED STUDENT POPULATIONS

**Unistructure 245** 

In this session, we will begin to scratch the surface on setting a framework for working with and actionable steps to continue developing a toolkit for supporting historically underrepresented student populations (HUSPs). By the end of the session, participants will learn about the unique challenges facing these students, strategies for supporting these students, and ways of monitoring progress.

# COMBINED

# SESSIONS

# MANAGING SUCCESSFUL EVENTS: BEST PRACTICES FOR EITHER SIDE OF THE DESK

**Unistructure 246** 

Whether you are an admissions counselor running a yield program on campus or a college counselor designing a case study night for your junior class, hosting memorable and meaningful events is essential. This session is designed to equip school counselors and college admission professionals with the knowledge and skills needed to manage highly successful events that work best for your audience. Discover the art of event planning, from pre-event preparations to post-event evaluation, and explore strategies to captivate students and parents, while creating buyin across your community. Join us in this interactive session to become an events pro.

## FUNDING POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION: A DEEP DIVE INTO SCHOLARSHIPS & FIN AID

**Unistructure 247** 

With the rising cost of higher education, funding higher education is a topic of increased conversation among professionals, students and families. This session will provide you with general information about financial aid, scholarships, policies and procedures and the general financial aid process, as well as more in-depth conversations regarding how to best serve our target populations, both from the high school side and from the college side. We will cover the need-based and merit-based processes, FAFSA, the CSS profile and more! Come with questions!

# WORKING FOR (OR NOT WORKING FOR) YOUR ALMA MATER

**Unistructure 251** 

Your alma mater may feel like the logical first choice when beginning a career in admissions. For many, this place feels like home and holds countless positive memories. Sometimes though, returning to this familiar place as an employee can be a tricky road to navigate. This session will discuss the pros and cons of working for your alma mater, how to rely on your experience as a student of the institution to propel your admissions career, and how to become an asset to your office if you do not work for your alma mater.

# HOT TOPICS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

**Unistructure MRC 4** 

By the end of June, the U.S. Supreme Court is expected to issue opinions that will likely have important implications for the consideration of race in college admission practices. When thinking about current "hot topics" in higher education, nothing is more paramount than having knowledgeable conversations about this decision. We are hoping to focus solely on this issue and address these questions:

- · What is happening?
- · How will the end of affirmative action affect recruitment of BIPOC students?
- How will we support our BIPOC students to make sure their full selves are represented in the application process?

# GUIDE FOR PUBLIC SPEAKING

# FOR BOTH SIDES OF THE DESK

All Summer Institute attendees will be asked to conduct a brief presentation on a topic pertinent to their area of expertise. This exercise is meant to allow for feedback and development of public speaking skills.

**Admissions Professionals:** You will be asked to present on either your current place of employment or your alma mater, whichever you feel more comfortable with. Your presentation can include points of information such as admissions practices and deadlines, unique campus features, academics, student life opportunities, etc.

**School Counseling Professionals:** You will be asked to provide a simulated presentation to students/parents on an overview of the college counseling services provided by your school, an explanation of what makes your school distinctive, what admission officers need to know to accurately advocate for your students, or any other topic you feel pertinent to this exercise.

# **PREPARATION**

**Message:** The content of the presentation was consistent with brand message and organized in three sections

**Memorability:** The content of the presentation had one big takeaway that the audience will remember

**Distinction:** The content of the presentation had a differentiator that sets your organization apart from others

Proof: The content of the presentation had essential, relevant, and specific facts

# **VERBAL & NON-VERBAL**

**Voice:** The presenter's speech was clear, paced well, and an appropriate volume **Story Telling:** The presenter conveyed information through narratives, not just an assortment of facts

**Presence:** The presenter came across confident, utilized space appropriately, and had good posture/stance

**Connection:** The presenter utilized eye contact in a manner that enhances their relationship with the audience

# NEACAC 2023 SUMMER INSTITUTE

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# SUMMER INSTITUTE LEADERSHIP



Katie Phung (Admissions), 2023 Chair

Katie Phung is entering her ninth year in college admission and her third year as a member of the Summer Institute faculty, proudly serving as this year's Chair. In her current role as an Associate Director of Admission at Boston College, Katie is responsible for working with domestic and international students, the QuestBridge process, access initiatives, and Slate. Prior to Boston College, she worked at Bryant University and Worcester Polytechnic Institute spearheading efforts centered on BIPOC, FG-LI, and other marginalized student populations. She previously held the roles of Senior Assistant Director, Assistant Director, and Admission Counselor respectively. Katie has been actively involved in NECBAC, NEACAC, and NACAC through the years in a number of

committees and leadership roles, such as Assembly Delegate. In 2021, she was honored with a NEACAC Professional of the Year Award, recognizing her contributions to the field of college admission and advocacy for students. Katie received a BS in Business Administration from Bryant and an MBA in Organizational Leadership from the UMass Dartmouth.



Daisy Ogunedo (Admissions), 2023 Chair-Elect

Adaeze (Daisy) Ogunedo currently serves as Associate Dean /Coordinator of Diversity Recruitment at Providence College. She was formerly Associate Dean of Admission for Diversity Recruitment and Access at Stonehill College, and Assistant Director of Undergraduate Admissions at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. Her goals in admission include removing the barriers and providing support for students of color and for first-generation students. Through her admission roles, she has fostered CBO partnerships and worked with student ambassadors to host diversity and inclusion-based initiatives for admitted students, including the multicultural overnight program. She has also served as a mentor for students entering the college search process through her work with both NEACAC, NECBAC, and NACAC. In her time in admissions, she

has held the travel territories of Southern MA, Cape & Islands, Rhode Island, Boston, California, NYC, Texas, and Georgia. In NEACAC Daisy currently serves as Chair-elect of the Summer Institute and formerly held the role of Chair of Member Engagement. In 2018 she was awarded the NEACAC Rising Star award. She has also previously served as a NACAC Delegate, a member of the IDEA committee, as well as AMC planning committee. Daisy holds a BA in music studies and an MEd in higher education from UMass Lowell. She is currently pursuing a Ph.D. focused on leadership in education, hoping to focus her dissertation on the socioemotional and educational impacts on students in the METCO program. In her personal time, she is an avid video gamer, a wedding musician, a lover of books, and just an all around nerd.

# **FACULTY**



## Aaron Ribaudo-Smith (Secondary)

Aaron is excited to return for his third year as a faculty member! He entered the field of higher education 19 years ago when he joined the admissions team at Curry College. After 7 years there he spent 4 years as the Assistant Director of Admission at UMass Lowell and then switched sides to be a School Counselor and work as a College & Career Counselor at Lowell High School. Aaron was at LHS for 6 years before taking on the position of College & Career Counselor at Newburyport High School in Newburyport, Mass. He earned his Bachelor's in Psychology from Curry College, his College Counseling Certification from the University of Los Angeles (UCLA), and his Masters of Education in School

Counseling from the University of Massachusetts Boston. Aaron has been an active member of NEACAC since attending SI back in the fall of 2004. He has served on a number of Annual Meeting & Conference planning committees and has presented in numerous different conferences sessions. Aaron believes deep down in his heart that there is a college/university for any student willing to learn. Helping students and their families navigate the college search process is something he truly enjoys.

# NEACAC 2023 SUMMER INSTITUTE

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# Ariel Leitao Leonelli (Admissions)

Ariel Leitao Leonelli has been working in higher education for over ten years, serving in roles across graduate and undergraduate admissions. Within undergraduate admissions, her focuses have included alumni interviews, athletics, and operations. In her current role, she serves as director of selection at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In this role, she manages the application review process of more than 30,000 first-year applications by 20+admissions officers. While MIT is not regionalized, Ariel has been able to recruit in 19 states and currently reads applications from Alabama, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Montana, New Mexico, New York, South Dakota,

and Wyoming. She specializes in the Middle East and North Africa for international admissions. Ariel holds a B.S. in International Business and Marketing from Rochester Institute of Technology, a M.Ed in Higher Education Administration from Northeastern University, and she is currently a doctoral candidate at Northeastern University. Her research focus is on social media and its impact on the admissions process for current traditional-aged students. In her spare time, she serves as president of the South Shore Women's Hockey League, and skates whenever she can! She loves being outside, whether it's walking her dog Sebastian, running, mountain biking, or just working in the garden.



## Aya AL-Namee (Admissions)

Aya began her admission career at the University of Vermont, her alma mater, and has been in the admission field since 2015. After UVM, she became the Assistant Director of Admissions at Boston University managing the selection process for Chicago Scholars, reviewing applications, and recruiting from the upper Midwest. She also served as the Senior Assistant Director of Admissions and the Coordinator of Access and Inclusion at Suffolk University where she oversaw the selection process for Boston, created strategy for recruiting and retaining students through DEI lens, and awarded the Miller Scholarship to Boston Public Schools students. Currently, she serves as an Assistant Director for Targeted Recruitment at MIT. Aya has expertise in selective admission, large

scale event planning, high volume application review, anti-racist strategic planning, and creating access to underrepresented students. NEACAC played an important role in Aya's professional development. She served as a member of the Government Relations Committee and AMC Planning Committee. She was selected as a The Rising Leader and participated in The Rising Leaders Program in 2017. Aya joined the field of admission to create change and access to students and families that are underrepresented in the process. She hopes to share that passion with you and serve as a resource to you as you build your professional identity in the field.



#### **Brenna Kelly** (Secondary)

Brenna can be often found telling students, "College is my jam!" Queue teenagers eyeroll. But seriously, her love of higher education began at Providence College while being a tour guide (classic). After earning a M.Ed. in Higher Education Administration and Leadership from Merrimack College she worked in admission at College of the Holy Cross. Her role was focused in diversity recruitment and retention. Beyond reading files and territory travel, Brenna ran the diversity fly-in programs. Brenna now currently works at Brooks School as an Associate Director of College Counseling. Brenna has coached all sorts of sports from Cross Country to Squash at Brooks in addition to teaching,

being an academic advisor, and a dorm parent in the all-boys dorm she lives in with her husband. Previously, she worked at Worcester Academy within the same role. Throughout Brenna's eight years in higher education and boarding schools, she has been an excited member of NEACAC and has passionately served on the IDEA committee as well. She is chair of the AMC Session Proposal Committee within IDEA and most recently has taken over as NEACAC Chair of Member Engagement. She is returning for her second year on the Summer Institute faculty as well. When not working you can find Brenna finding a fun running trail or enjoying time at the beach!

# NEACAC 2023 SUMMER INSTITUTE

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## **Christopher Gray** (Admissions)

Chris is returning for his second year as a SI faculty member and is currently the Dean of Enrollment at Lasell University in Newton, MA. As Dean, he oversees undergraduate and graduate enrollment, admission operations, marketing, and financial aid. Chris has previously served in the following positions: Director of Graduate Enrollment (Lasell), Director of Admissions Marketing (Emmanuel College), and Director of Freshman Recruitment and Admission Operations (Lasell). Chris started in undergraduate admissions in 2012. Early responsibilities included growing new markets of recruitment (California and Hawaii), overseeing the instution's tour guide program, and overseeing the Operations team. Chris earned a BS in Management from Suffolk University, an MBA

from Lasell and is currently completing an Ed.D. at Northeastern University. Chris has been involved with the Professional Development Committee of NEACAC, volunteering with the Students in Admissions Forum, Career Colloquium and as a Newcomer Mentor at the Annual Meeting & Conference. He has presented at the Annual Meeting & Conference on Tertiary Territory Recruitment, Managing as a Millennial, and First Year Travel Recruitment. Chris is a member of NACAC, NEACAC, WACAC, NAGAP, and NEGAP.



#### Danielle Walsh (Admissions)

Danielle is thrilled to be returning to Summer Institute as a first-time faculty member after attending SI 44 in 2019! Currently a Senior Assistant Director of Admission at Babson College, her five years in admission include time at her alma mater, Stonehill College, and Clark University. Danielle has already amassed a diverse portfolio of experience, including event planning, managing student ambassadors, international counseling, and transfer admission. She has a passion for data analytics and is proud to be one of Babson's Slate Captains, too. Danielle's involvement with NEACAC began when she was a student ambassador attending Students in Admission Forum and Career

Colloquium. Since entering the field, she has been a member of the IDEA Committee, currently chairing the Anti-Racism Initiatives Sub-Committee and its cohort-based workshop, the Anti-Racist Collaborative, and she is entering her third year as a member of the AMC Planning Committee. Last year, she was elected to the Governing Board. Her involvement in NEACAC led to her receiving the 2023 NACAC Rising Star Award at this year's Annual Meeting & Conference. Danielle holds a Bachelor of Arts in Criminology and Spanish from Stonehill College and when she isn't planning her next international trip, you can find her with her nose in a book, kickboxing, or at Chipotle.



# Dauri Torres (Admissions)

Dauri is a highly experienced and accomplished admission professional with 13 years of experience in the field. Currently serving as the Senior Assistant Director of Regional Enrollment at Miami University, Dauri has worked in various capacities throughout his career including: Diversity Recruitment, as well as Transfer and International Admissions. Having visited 119 countries and counting, Dauri has a wealth of experience in global education. Prior to joining Miami University, Dauri worked at Fisher College, Keene State College, and most recently, Merrimack College. In addition to his work in admissions, Dauri has been involved in various committees and organizations, such as the Social

Programming Committee for AMC at NEACAC and Member at Large for NECBAC. Dauri has received recognition for his contributions to the field, including the NEACAC IDEA Award in 2020 and the Social Justice Award from DUOLINGO in 2022. Dauri's passion for education and dedication to social justice is reflected in his work and personal life. He strives to inspire those around him to be the best version of themselves and provide a voice for those who may not have one. Dauri's extensive experience and commitment to equity and inclusion make him a valuable asset to the field of admissions.

# NEACAC 2023 SUMMER INSTITUTE

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# Jack O'Keefe (Secondary)

In Jack's academic career, he has been a Tiger, a Minuteman, a Blue Demon, a Kangaroo, a Hornet, a Firebird, a Tiger again, a Maverick, a Maroon, a Beacon, and, for the past ten years, he's been a Knight at Catholic Memorial where he serves as Director of Counseling & Student Success. At CM, Jack created dual enrollment programming, spearheaded a group focused on increasing inclusion of under-represented groups in advanced-level courses, and he launched CM's first GSA. Additionally, he co-chairs NEACAC's "Advanced Counselor Roundtable" event. A former English teacher and basketball coach, he won two TDCAA titles as a head coach in Toronto and was the varsity

assistant for CM's 2015 state championship. Before becoming an educator, Jack worked as a copywriter in Boston; he bartended in Chicago's Wrigleyville neighborhood; he worked in radio promotions and met his future partner at a John Mayer concert; and he was on the management team that opened the Buffalo Wild Wings in Topeka, KS. He once ate 13 raw eggs in a minute for a locally televised stunt. However, the greatest job he ever had was driving the golf cart that scoops up range balls at Mt. Freedom Golf in Ironia, NJ.



#### Jarrett Saunders (Admissions)

Jarrett is currently a Senior Assistant Director of Undergraduate Admissions at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, his alma mater. He's been at UMass Amherst since 2004 and previously worked at Hampshire College, so he's been in college admissions for over 20 years. Between admissions jobs, Jarrett was a sales consultant/manager at a Toyota–Lincoln–Mercury dealership, so if you're looking to buy a new car, he probably "knows a guy". Born in the Bronx, NY but raised in Western Massachusetts, Jarrett is a proud Yankees and Knicks fan, but roots for the Patriots in football (starting in '93, long before the Brady/Belichick era), and of course, UMass athletics. Jarrett's travel territories over the years

have included MA, NYC, upstate NY, Long Island, NJ, CO, RI, and his current/favorite territory, CT. He is a member of NEACAC and NACAC and has presented at both the regional and national conferences. He has also served on the NEACAC AMC Planning Committee since 2022. When not at work, Jarrett can be found waiting on line at a trendy craft brewery for a rare, over-priced, hazy IPA or forcing his family to watch the latest MCU film in a large format cinema.



## Jordan Shapiro (Admissions)

Jordan is excited about his first year as an SI faculty member. Jordan currently serves as Associate Director of Admissions at Northeastern University, managing the university's Visitor Center and daily visit programming. Jordan has extensive experience on "both sides of the desk", previously working as a college counselor at Pine Crest School and in admissions at the University of Miami. While at Pine Crest, Jordan supported an annual caseload of 50 students through the entire college admissions process. He also organized a variety of programming, including their Case Study program and Junior Parent Night. At UM, Jordan oversaw recruitment and application review for students

coming from the Midwest. Additionally, he was part of the campus visit and special events team, developed an incoming first-year student engagement initiative called the Guide for Parents and Students (GPS), and coordinated UM's Scholarship Weekend Program while managing the selection process for the institution's top merit-based awards. Jordan received his BS in Psychology from the University of Central Florida and has a master's in school counseling and a certificate in college admissions counseling from Suffolk University. Outside of work, he likes to cook and walk around Boston with his wife Cynthia, and their corgi, Hugo.

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## Meghan McHale Dangremond (Secondary)

Meghan Dangremond has spent the last five years as an Associate Director of College Counseling at Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts. In addition to providing identity focused postsecondary counseling for a diverse and talented group of boarding and day students, Meghan serves as an academic advisor, class advisor, house counselor, and badminton coach. Prior to switching to the "other side of the desk," Meghan spent 8 years in admissions at Brandeis University and Tufts University. In her admissions work, Meghan focused on international recruitment and managing enrollment for the School of Engineering at Tufts. She also dabbled in athletic recruitment, on campus

programming, and office marketing and communications. Meghan served as Vice President for Membership in the International ACAC, contributed to NACAC and affiliate committees and working groups, and was recognized with the NACAC Rising Star Award in 2015. She has presented at the IACAC, NACAC, and CIS conferences. Meghan has a BA from Brandeis University in Waltham, MA. Outside of work she's raising three adorable kids (6, 2, and 8 months) while trying to stay well rested, fit, and content.



## Mesa Robinov (Secondary)

Mesa currently serves as the Assistant Director of College Counseling and Community Engagement Programming at Waynflete School in Portland, Maine. Mesa began her career in college admissions at her alma mater, Brandeis University, before returning to her beloved home state of Maine where she served as a Senior Assistant Director of Admissions at Colby College in Waterville. While working in admissions, Mesa earned her M.Ed in Educational Leadership and Education Policy at Boston College's Lynch School of Education and Human Development, allowing her to continue to explore the intersection of her two greatest interests. An attendee of Summer Institute 2017, Mesa's interest

in education policy was sparked at a workshop during her own SI experience, and she feels immensely lucky to have had that passion nurtured and encouraged by so many of her own mentors in the field of college admissions. And while she enjoyed her years supporting students from the college-side of the process, she has found her work as a college counselor to be her most rewarding and fulfilling role thus far. Outside of work, you can find Mesa baking her advisees a birthday cake, hiking in Acadia, or going for a run with her pup, Dewey.



# Mia Ritter (Secondary)

Mia is excited to be a new SI faculty member this year. Mia is currently the Associate Director of College Counseling at Lawrence Academy in Groton, MA where she has just completed her fifth year. Her work at Lawrence Academy includes not only college counseling but also overseeing all standardized testing as well as financial aid and DEI initiatives in the office. Additionally, Mia serves as an advisor, a coach of varsity skiing and varsity girls lacrosse, a learning coach, and the dorm head of the ninth and tenth grade girls dorm. Prior to Lawrence Academy, Mia worked in admissions at Hamilton College from 2015–2017. Mia holds a BA from Grinnell College and an Ed.M. from the Harvard

Graduate School of Education with a focus in Prevention Science and Practice and Adolescent Counseling. In her free time, Mia enjoys heading up north to hike and ski.

# NEACAC 2023 SUMMER INSTITUTE

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## Suji Yi (Admissions)

Suji is currently an Assistant Director at Georgetown University in Washington, DC (where she is also pursuing her MBA) and a first-year SI faculty member. As a participant of SI herself, Suji cherishes and loves to reconnect with the friends and mentors she met during her time in SI six years ago. At Georgetown, Suji serves as one of the Slate Captains, mentors new admission officers, is on the international team, and provides support to the Georgetown Scholars Program (a program for FGLI students at Georgetown). Although she loves the cherry blossoms in DC, Suji will always consider New England as her home where she grew up and lived all her life before coming to DC. Outside of work and school,

you can catch Suji checking out a new eatery spot, on a Peloton ride, or indoor rock climbing!

# **FELLOWS**



# **Dana Brokmeier** (Admissions)

Dana is entering her third year in college admissions as the Assistant Director of Admission at Bryant University where she has worked with students from Connecticut, Long Island, and California. She started her position directly after graduating Bryant University in May of 2021. She graduated with a B.S.B.A in Marketing, a concentration in Media and Cultural Studies, and a minor in Communications. Her interest in admissions work started when she was an undergraduate working as the student representative for the English and Cultural Studies department on the Deans Advisory Council. She was able to find new ways to recruit arts students to the university and had a passion for

sharing her experiences. Her strong efforts to expand the arts on campus led her to receive the Commencement Award for Creative Expression which is awarded to one graduating senior who has achieved excellence in different forms of creative expressions. Her passions are theater, music, and sports. She is so grateful for her experiences last year at SI and is very excited to meet all of you this year!



## **Emily Dean** (Admissions)

Emily is currently in her second year as an Admissions Counselor at Clark University in Worcester, MA, where she also supervises the Student Ambassador program. She is a graduate of Clark University, where she majored in English and was a Student Ambassador herself. She is passionate about increasing access and inclusion for students within the college search process. When Emily is not working, she enjoys reading, traveling, and making floral wreaths. She is very excited to be joining the team as a SI Fellow this year!



## Rebecca Schoolcraft (Admissions)

Rebecca is excited to be in her second year as an Admission Specialist at Southern New Hampshire University. Before joining SNHU, she spent three years working as an operations manager for a biotechnology company based out of Hampton, NH. At SNHU Rebecca works with international students, manages recruitment for the honors program, assists with marketing communication projects, and manages the recruitment territories of Seacoast NH, Maine, and all states outside of New England. Rebecca is a 2016 alumnus of Southern New Hampshire University. In her free time, she loves entertaining friends and family, working towards completing her master's degree, cheering on the Las Vegas

Raiders (every Sunday!), sharing photos of her cat Chowder, and planning her upcoming wedding this Oct.

# 1 FOR YOUR INFORMATION

# **SUMMER INSTITUTE CONTACTS**

Katie Phung: 401-309-2517

Daisy Ogunedo: 508-406-1678

# **BRYANT UNIVERSITY WIFI**

# Conference WiFi:

network: BryantConference password: Summer2023\*!

# **Bryant Guest WiFi:**

network: BryantGuest password: BryantGuest

# WELLNESS/LACTATION ROOM

# <u>Unistructure</u>

2nd Fl Near the Post Office

# ATM

Santander: Fisher Student Center 1st Fl Bank of America: Unistructure Main Fl

# **PARKING**

Lot H and Strip Parking (marked in green on the campus map)

# TAKE A STROLL (OR RUN)

Stump Pond (1.6 miles)
Mowry Conservation Area (1.3 miles)

# BRYANT UNIVERSITY CONTACTS

Public Safety Emergency Number 401-232-6001

# SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow us on Instagram
@neacac\_si and use the
hashtag #si48

# GENDER NEUTRAL BATHROOMS

# Fisher Student Center

- 1st Fl. hallway next to the Information Desk
- 1st Fl. hallway in the back of Fisher Heritage Room
- 2nd Fl. next to Fisher 2AB & the Commuter Room

## Unistructure

- 2nd fl. diagonal from Office of the President
- Basement IvI hallway behind Room DR1
- 1st Fl. inside of Salmanson next to Lemongrass station
- Basement IvI hallway next to Honors Program Office

#### **Bristol Hall**

- 1st Fl

# Nearby Recommendations



#### RESTAURANTS

#### Al Forno

(401) 273-9760 Providence – \$\$\$ Fine dining Italian, Mediterranean

#### Asia Grille

(401) 334-3200 Lincoln Mall – \$-\$\$ Authentic Chinese cuisine

# Blackie's Bulldog Tavern

(401) 231-4777 Smithfield – \$\$-\$\$\$ Creative comfort food

## Capital Grille

(401) 521-5600 Providence – \$\$\$\$ Dry-aged steaks and seafood

#### Cheesecake Factory

(401) 270-4010
Providence – \$\$-\$\$\$
Features one of the largest menus in RI with more than 200 items, including cheesecake

#### Chelo's

(401) 233-2340 Greenville – \$ Appetizers, steaks, salads, sandwiches, etc.

#### Chili's

(401) 232-2280 Smithfield Crossing - \$-\$\$ (401) 333-4085 Lincoln Mall - \$-\$\$ Appetizers, Mexican and American fare, salads, sandwiches, etc.

#### Condesa Restaurante

(401) 349-3935 Smithfield – \$\$ Authentic Mexican

# Enn Japanese and Sushi Bar

(401) 333-1366 Lincoln – \$\$ Sushi bar and Japanese cuisine

# Giuseppe's Pizzeria & Bistro

(401) 349-3377 Greenville – \$\$ Authentic Neopolitian pizza

## Hemenway's

(401) 351-8570 Providence – \$\$\$ One of Providence's premier restaurants offering fresh seafood

#### J's Deli

(401) 231-0823 Smithfield – \$ Sandwiches, soups, salads, calzones, fish and chips, etc.

#### Laura's Bar & Grill

(401) 349-2842 Smithfield – \$\$ American

#### Mai Thai

(401) 231-7647 Smithfield – \$\$ Authentic Thai cuisine

#### Masala

(401) 228-6554 North Providence – \$\$-\$\$\$ Contemporary and traditional Indian cuisine

## Panera Bread

(401) 233-7633 Smithfield – \$-\$\$ (401) 333-3718 Lincoln – \$-\$\$ Bakery – Café, sandwiches, salads, hearty soups

#### Parente's

(401) 231-7600 Smithfield – \$-\$\$ American and Italian menu with pasta, ribs, chicken, pizza, and sandwiches

#### Pizzeria Uno

(401) 233-4570 Smithfield Crossing – \$-\$\$ Appetizers, salads, pizzas, sandwiches, burgers, etc.

# Providence Oyster Bar

(401) 272-8866 Providence – \$\$\$ Federal Hill upscale but casual raw bar and seafood

#### Siena - Smithfield

(401) 349-4111 Smithfield – \$\$-\$\$\$ Italian cuisine

# Tavolo Wine Bar & Tuscan Grille

(401) 349-4979 Smithfield – \$\$\$ Italian specialties and grilled pizza in a modern, sophisticated setting

#### Terrazza

(401) 233-3223 Smithfield – \$\$\$ Mediterranean cuisine

#### The Greenville Inn

(401) 949-4020 Greenville – \$\$ Italian-American cuisine

#### The Last Resort Pub & Grill

(401) 349-3500 Smithfield – \$-\$\$ American and Italian menu with pizzas, calzones, sandwiches and burgers

#### Trattoria Romana Bar & Grill

(401) 333-6700 Lincoln – \$\$\$ Homemade Italian cuisine

#### **Trinity Brewhouse**

(401) 453-2337
Providence – \$-\$\$\$
Award-winning brewery,
eclectic pub, and full-scale
restaurant

#### Wes' Rib House

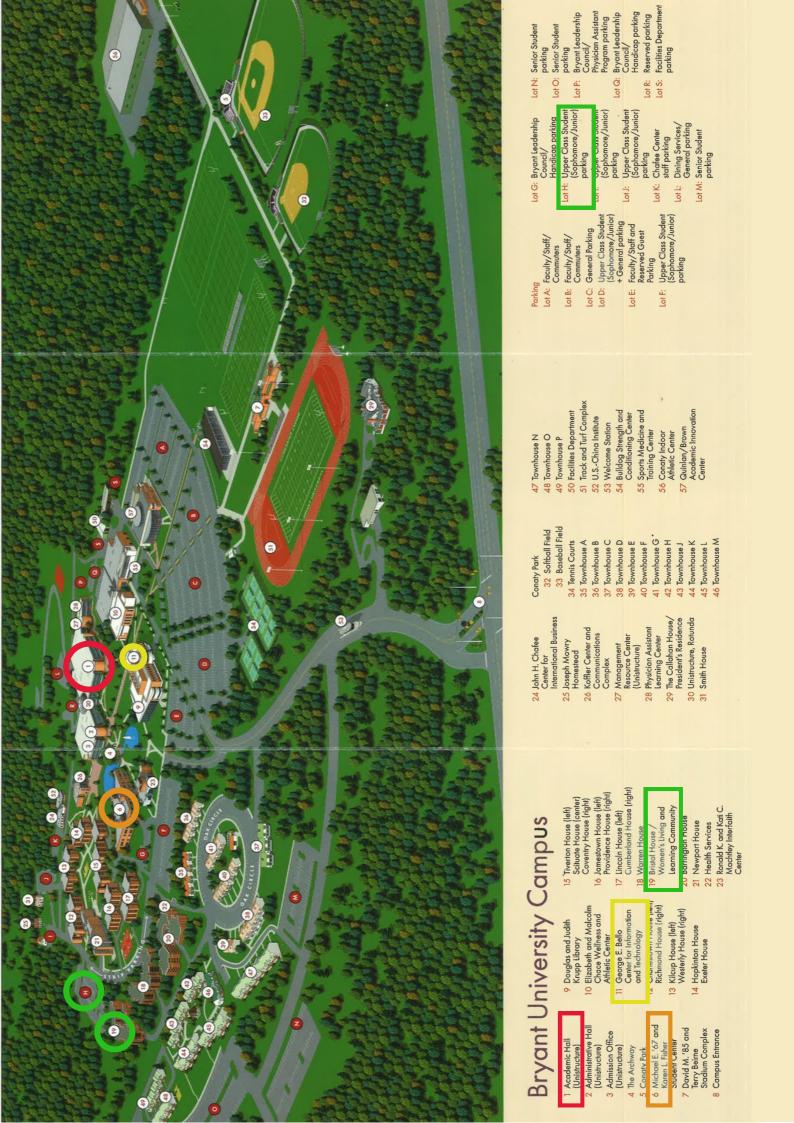
(401) 421-9090 Providence – \$\$ "Best Ribs in Providence" three years straight

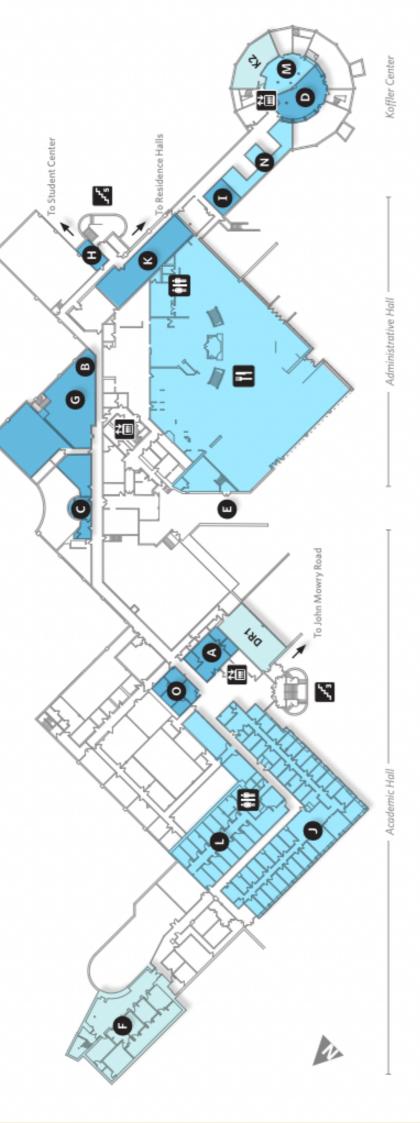
#### 10 Prime Steak & Sushi

(401) 453-2333 Providence – \$\$\$\$ Prime steak and sushi experience

# Price scale based on the cost of an average dinner entree:

\$ = Under \$10 \$\$ = \$10 - \$16 \$\$\$ = \$17 - 24 \$\$\$\$ = More than \$24





Lower Level

Unistructure / Koffler Complex

Admission Events

**ARAMARK Catering** 

**ARAMARK Dining Services** 

Behavioral Research Lab

Physican Assistant Center Deliveries/Loading Dock 

Receiving

Locks & Keys

**Network Operations** 

Public Safety Faculty J

Faculty L

ROTC

Student Mailboxes

Study Abroad

Dining Room Stairway Elevator ⋣ાપિ≓

Restrooms



**Entry Level** 

Unistructure / Koffler Complex

Admissions Atrium Faculty C Registrar

Academic Records

Faculty A

**Executive Development Center** Career Services

Admissions

K8 Multimedia Lab Financial Aid

Koffler Rotunda

**University Advancement** 

Janikies Auditorium **Graduate Programs** 

Physician Assistant Center

Physician Assistant Lecture Hall Radio Station

Conference & Special Events

**Undergraduate Programs** TV Studio

**University Relations** Elevator ATM Management Resource Complex

Stairway

Salmanson Dining Room Cafe a la Carte

Post Office

Restrooms



**Gulski Dining Room** Stairway Elevator

Post Office

Restrooms

Physician Assistant Team Classroom

Physician Assistant Center

Office of the President

Koffler Rotunda

Bursar/Business Affairs

Advancement

Counseling

Academic Affairs

Faculty B

Faculty K

Human Resources

Purchasing/Support Services

Science Classrooms/Labs

Student Affairs

IT Helpdesk

Faculty G Faculty H

0

Faculty F

Upper Level

Complex Unistructure / Koffler

# Meeting Space Food/Vendors Restrooms counges Offices

# Fisher Student Center

GILLING

EXIT



- Commuter HUB
- Room 2A

Heritage Meeting Room Papitto Meeting Room

3.

Meeting Room 1

Floor 1

Information Desk

4

- Meeting Room 2B 17.
- Student Engagement Office
- Student Events and Orientation Programs FSC Operations Office 18 19
  - **Bryant University Bookstore**

Scoop Convenience Store

Dunkin'

Nick's Place Subway

'n, 6 ~ ∞ Music Conference Room

Music Practice Room

9 6

Community Space

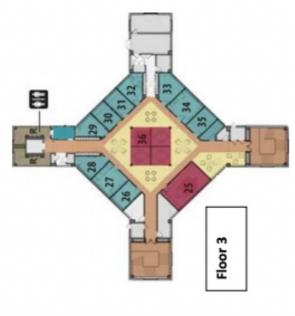
Main Entrance

11 12. 13.

14. Fireside Lounge

Fireside Cafe

- Meeting Room 2C
- Hochberg Women's Center/Pride Center 22. 23. 24.
  - Lactation Room
- PwC Center for Diversity and Inclusion



- Meeting Room 3
- CSLI Student Worker Center

Student Government

- Assistant Director of CSLI The Achway 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30.
- Nighttime Program Coordinator Vista/CSLI Staff Office
  - Associate Director of CSLI 32.
    - ISO/MSU 33.
- Student Programming Board 34.
- Greek Office
- Workspace Pods