

Graduate School Alumni Association Board Members @ WDIGFY? 2025

Laura Brown '20 Phd (Music History)



Lead User Researcher, Monzo

Laura Brown is currently the Lead User Researcher for the United States at Monzo, a British consumer banking startup. Prior to Monzo, Laura held senior user research roles at Spotify and Wayfair. She graduated from Yale in 2020 with her PhD in Music History, focusing on the role of software tools in changing practices of music creation. At Yale, Laura was a McDougal Fellow in the Office of Career Strategy and served several terms in the Graduate Student Assembly, including as Vice Chair.

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Françoise Hamlin '04 PhD (African American Studies & American Studies)

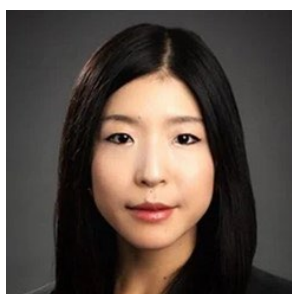


Associate Professor of Africana Studies and History, Director of Graduate Studies, Brown University

Hamlin is the award-winning author/co-author/editor of *Crossroads at Clarksdale: The Black Freedom Struggle in the Mississippi Delta after World War II*, *These Truly Are The Brave: An Anthology of African American Writings on Citizenship and War*, *The Struggle of Struggles*, & *From Rights To Lives: The Evolution of the Black Freedom Struggle*. As the beneficiary of excellent mentoring and advising at Yale, she vowed to pay it forward, and as a result she has won major mentoring and teaching awards.

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Miho Kaneko '15 PhD (Chemistry)



Patent Attorney at Goodwin Procter

Dr. Miho Kaneko obtained her PhD in Chemistry from Yale in 2015. She is a patent attorney at Goodwin Procter in Boston and specializes in global IP strategy, patent prosecution, patent counseling, and portfolio management. She also has extensive experience in IP diligence related to various business transactions. Dr. Kaneko is an Advisory Trustee of Yale Graduate School Alumni Association Board and a Mentor for student ventures at Tsai CITY.

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Nathan Nhat Nguyen '20 PhD (Cell Biology)



Graduate Program Advisor, University of Washington

Nathan Nguyen is a Graduate Program Advisor and a United States Navy veteran at the University of Washington. He recently completed his military service in which he led service members and civilians to study national security issues. At Yale, he completed his PhD thesis in the field of Autophagy, and he was deeply involved with the Graduate Student Assembly, the Graduate Affiliate Program, and OCS McDougal Fellowship Program.

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Carlos Riobo '98 PhD (Spanish & Portuguese)



Professor and Chair, City University of New York

Carlos Riobó, Professor of Spanish & Comparative Literature at CCNY and in the Ph.D. program in Latin American, Iberian, & Latino Cultures at the CUNY Graduate Center, is: Chair of the Department of Classical & Modern Languages & Literatures at CCNY; the former Executive Officer of LAILaC; the Chair of the Humanities and Arts Divisional Council of College of Faculty Council-CCNY; the Director, Cátedra Vargas Llosa, CCNY; and a Distinguished Scholar, Advanced Research Collaborative, CUNY (2021).

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Brooke Rosenzweig '10 PhD (Chemistry)



Founder & CEO, Foundation Advisors

Brooke has over 20 years of experience supporting mission-driven organizations in science and medicine. She established her firm, Foundation Advisors, LLC, in 2016, to provide a variety of clients with strategic advising, executive search, and recruiting services. Brooke specializes in supporting family offices, and other private and public funding entities. Previously, she was a Program Officer and Health & Science Advisor to the CEO at the Helmsley Charitable Trust, a private foundation.

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David R. Sanchez '84 MPhil (Political Science)



CEO Sanchez Global LLC

Sanchez headed the LatAm and Asia M&A Department at JP Morgan & Bankers Trust. In 1989, after meeting George Soros, he introduced the first hedge fund to Merrill Lynch and Bear Stearns. In 1994, he created his own hedge fund platform.

Sanchez served on the Yale Board of Governors twice, co-founded the Yale Day of Service, was president of the YC of South Florida and the inaugural chair of YLAN. In 2023, he received the Yale Medal.

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Stephanie Scarmo '06 MPH, '09 PhD, (Epidemiology & Public Health)



National Senior Policy Analyst, American Heart Association

Stephanie Scarmo, Ph.D., MPH is a National Senior Policy Analyst at the American Heart Association (AHA), the nation's oldest and largest voluntary organization dedicated to fighting heart disease and stroke. In this role, Stephanie translates science in the areas of nutrition, obesity, and heart and stroke research for local, state, and federal advocacy.

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Gale Tenen Spak '76 PhD (Political Science)



Emeritus NJIT AVP and Principal, Bridging Their Future, LLC

Gale Tenen Spak founded Build Their Future, LLC in 2019 to provide STEM and soft skill training for “cradle to gray” generations. During 26 years at NJIT, where she served as Associate Vice President of Continuing and Distance Education, she designed collaborative programs involving academia, industry, and government. Recognized for her digital technology leadership, she’s also an alumni board member at Yale University Graduate School and a member of the Global Yale Club Task Force.

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Jim Staros '74 PhD (Molecular Biophysics & Biochemistry)



Professor Emeritus & Past Provost, UMass Amherst

Staros was a NSF Graduate Fellow at Yale, where he earned a Ph.D. in MB&B in 1974. After a Helen Hay Whitney Postdoctoral Fellowship at Harvard, he began his faculty career at Vanderbilt in 1978, was tenured in 1983, promoted to professor in 1986, and served as a department chair 1988-2002. In 2002, he became Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences at Stony Brook Univ. In 2009, he became Provost of UMass Amherst and Professor in its Dept of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology. Retired in 2019.

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Lisa Villeneuve MA (French Literature)



Risk Strategy at The World Bank (IFC)

In Risk Strategy within the World Bank in Washington, D.C. Completed an MA (Yale), PhD (Oxford). Started in investment banking (UK). Enjoy continuous learning, innovation: engaged with diverse stakeholders across Risk, policy, sanctions, data ethics, and climate teams (MS, Barclays, RBC, Citi). Highlights: working with government (Fed, OFAC) and regulators (Netherlands, UK, Singapore); working with developers on AI use cases in banking; learning from Health leaders in disaster risk & resiliency.

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