



**Wisconsin Idea Seminar**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

## 2024 Wisconsin Idea Seminar Participants

### College of Agricultural and Life Sciences

**Daniela Drummond-Barbosa**

Professor, Genetics

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Stem cell metabolism & physiology

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**Jane Duffstein**

Assistant Dean for Student Recruitment & Outreach, Academic Affairs

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Recruitment, Admissions, Outreach

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**Michaela Hoffmeyer**

Assistant Professor, Community and Environmental Sociology

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Rural Sociology, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Labor in the Agrifood System

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### Division of the Arts

**Samara Frame**

Advancement Manager, Division of the Arts

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Arts Administration and Advancement

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### Office of the Chancellor

**Diana Harvey**

Vice Chancellor, Office of Strategic Communication

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Strategic communication (administration)

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### Division of Continuing Studies

**Lola Loustaunau**

Assistant Professor, School for Workers

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Labor studies, collective organizing, migrant workers

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## Division of Diversity, Equity, and Educational Achievement

### Angela Miller

Assistant Vice Provost for Accessibility and Belonging Administration, Accessibility and Belonging Administration

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging  
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## School of Education

### Aly Amidei

Assistant Professor of Costume Design, Theatre and Drama

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Costume Design  
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### Taylor Odle

Assistant Professor, Educational Policy Studies

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Economics of Education, College Access and Success  
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### Chell Parkins

Arnhold Director of Dance Education, Dance

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Culturally Responsive-Sustaining Dance Pedagogy  
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### LJ Randolph

Assistant Professor, Curriculum and Instruction

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Language education  
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### Diego Román

Assistant Professor of Bilingual Education, Curriculum and Instruction

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Bilingual education, science education, environmental education  
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### Christy Starr

Assistant Professor, Educational Psychology

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Equity and motivation in STEM  
starr3@wisc.edu

## College of Engineering

### **Haihan Sun**

Assistant Professor, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Base station antennas, ground-penetrating radar, non-destructive testing

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## Division of Enrollment Management

### **Emma Adebayo**

Senior Associate for Recruitment, Outreach, and Communications, Office of Admissions and Recruitment

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Undergraduate first-year recruitment, outreach, communications, events and yield

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## Division of Extension

### **Macarena Urrets-Zavalía**

Program Development and Evaluation Specialist, Division of Extension

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Program Evaluation for Extension

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## School of Human Ecology

### **Ben Fisher**

Associate Professor, Civil Society & Community Studies

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Intersection of education system and criminal justice system

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## Division of Information Technology (DoIT)

### **Kim Arnold**

Director, Learning Analytics Center of Excellence, Academic Technology

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Data Empowered Educational Practices, Learning Analytics, Teaching & Learning

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## International Division

### **Fran Vavrus**

Vice Provost and Dean, International Division

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Academic specialty: Postcolonial education in sub-Saharan Africa and qualitative research methods; Administrative areas of responsibility: Senior international officer for UW-Madison

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## College of Letters & Science

### **Miki Chase**

Assistant Professor, Śrī Anantnāth Chair in Jain Studies, Asian Languages and Cultures

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Anthropology of South Asia, ethics, law, Jain studies, death and dying

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### **Wenwen Cheng**

Assistant Professor, Planning and Landscape Architecture

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Microclimatic landscape design

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### **Katie Dennis**

Assistant Professor, Classical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Latin literature and ancient slavery

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### **Zach Ramon Fitzpatrick**

Assistant Professor of German, German, Nordic, and Slavic+

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** German film studies, Asian German studies

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### **Quintin Jancola**

Alumni Relations Strategist, Office of Strategic Communications & Advancement

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Student & Recent Grad Engagement

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### **Morgan Jerald**

Assistant Professor, Psychology

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Social psychology of gender and race

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### **Emmeline Prattke**

Assistant Director of Career Communities, SuccessWorks

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Career Advising and Programming in Government, Policy, International Affairs, and Law

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### **Jesse Rathgeber**

Assistant Professor of Music Education, Mead Witter School of Music

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Disability Studies, Disability Justice, Music Education

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**Kirk Sides**

Assistant Professor, English

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** African literatures; environmental humanities

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**Jing Wang**

Assistant Professor, School of Journalism and Mass Communication

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Global Communication; Anthropology of Religion;

Gender, Race & Ethnicity

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**Sijia Yang**

Assistant Professor, School of Journalism and Mass Communication

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Health communication, message effects, digital media, computational communication science

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**School of Medicine & Public Health**

**Jeanette Comstock, MD**

Assistant Professor, Dermatology

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** I practice general, complex medical, and procedural dermatology and have special interests in health equity and dermatologic access for marginalized communities. I have a clinical interest in cutaneous lymphomas and I run the Dermatology Cutaneous Lymphoma

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**Office of the Provost**

**Charles Isbell, Jr.**

Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Office of the Provost

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Machine Learning, Artificial Intelligence

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**Dennis Lloyd**

Director, University of Wisconsin Press

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Currently acquiring books in fiction, poetry, and film; spent 20 years overseeing sales & marketing at four other university presses

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**Division for Teaching & Learning**

**Diana Maki**

Assistant Vice Provost/Director for Academic Affairs, Office of Academic & Career Success

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Academic advising, academic policy, cross-campus collaborations related to advising and academic policy  
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## University Health Services

### **April Scott**

Director, Diversity & Inclusion, Health & Wellbeing

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Counseling Psychology; Research Interests: DEIB, media influence & psychology, resilience, grief and loss  
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## UW-Madison Libraries

### **Erla Heyns**

Dean and Vice Provost of Libraries, Administration

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Academic Library Leadership, Management and Administration. Special interest in Mentoring.  
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## School of Veterinary Medicine

### **Meenu Verma**

Associate Director, UW Veterinary Care

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Hospital Administration  
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## Wisconsin Foundation & Alumni Association

### **McKenzie Zdrale**

Managing Director Enrichment Programs, Alumni Relations & Engagement

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Educational Outreach serving UW-Madison alumni, donors and friends  
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## Wisconsin Idea Seminar Staff

### **Catherine Reiland**

Assistant Vice Provost and Director of the Wisconsin Idea Seminar, Office of the Provost

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Designing community-based educational experiences; tourist productions, performance studies, memory, and museum studies.  
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### **Kelly Copolo**

Academic Program Specialist, Division for Teaching and Learning

**Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Event planning and program coordination

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**Rachel Niles**

Executive Assistant, Office of the Provost **Academic Specialty/Research Interests:** Support for academic leadership and grant programs

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