

**Fall 2023**

## **SPS Academic & Professional Development Grant Recipients**

**The SPS Office of Student Support is pleased to announce its Fall 2023 Academic and Professional Development Grant Recipients.**

Previously recognized as the Global Impact Award, the grant is intended to support students in pursuing tailored, hands-on learning experiences aligned with their academic programs that include, but are not limited to: graduate research, capstone projects, and experiential learning/professional development opportunities.



**Raditya Akbar**  
**Construction Administration**

Raditya Akbar will be attending the Project Controls Expo in Washington D.C. This conference brings together industry experts who showcase innovation in the project management field. Raditya looks forward to connecting with other industry professionals, attending presentations and creating solutions to manage construction projects.



**Yazan Zeeshan**  
**Applied Analytics**

Yazan Zeeshan Ali will be attending the AI and Finance Summit as well as the Informa AI Summit and Expo. These conferences bring together professionals and experts from various parts of the artificial intelligence sector. The connections Yazan will make and the cutting-edge research he will learn about are fundamental to his plans for founding an AI startup.



**Kristen Dillard**  
**Sustainability Management**

Kristen Dillard will be attending the National Black Pre-Law Conference and Law Fair 2023 in Cambridge and Boston Massachusetts. This opportunity is specifically designed to help aspiring Black lawyers with going through the law school admission process, providing support resources to succeed in law school, and forging connections with current legal professionals. Kristen will use this experience to assist her on her career path to becoming an environmental lawyer.



**Emma Fleet**  
**Narrative Medicine**

Emma Fleet will be attending the International Health Humanities Network at the University of Derby. This year's conference is focused on the history of human care and its relation to the arts and humanities. Emma will be conducting two presentations at the conference, the first is "'An Angel in the House' The Beautiful Suffering of Beth March" studying illness narratives in literature targeted toward young audiences. The second presentation is "Close Reading and Narrative Medicine at Columbia University" which is a direct reflection of Emma's academic experience at SPS.



**Theresa Klepper**  
**Negotiation and Conflict Resolution**

Theresa Klepper will be undergoing the International Ombuds Association's Ombuds Certification Exam. This certificate complements Theresa's graduate coursework and will further boost her mediation skills. With the certificate in hand, Theresa will be eligible for Ombuds jobs and begin accumulating the field hours required to become an Ombudsperson.



**Samantha Nash**  
**Narrative Medicine**

Samantha Nash will be presenting a workshop on accessibility and disability inclusion at the History of Education Society conference in Atlanta, Georgia. “Breaking the Margin: Reimagining an Accessible Classroom Space” will showcase Samantha’s research that she has conducted with professors from SPS, The Oral History program and Teachers College. Samantha plans to move onward to a PhD program and continue her research on disability studies.



**Ebinoluwa Oni**  
**Applied Analytics**

Ebinoluwa Oni will be utilizing her grant funding to take the Law School Admission Test. Over the course of her time at SPS, Ebinoluwa is increasingly focused on the intersection between technology, intellectual property law and business innovation. Taking the LSAT is an early step towards her goal of becoming a lawyer specializing in technology and business. Ebinoluwa hopes to bridge the gap between data science and law, in an effort to advocate for intellectual property protections for underrepresented communities.



**Fernanda Palavecino**  
**Sustainability Management**

Fernanda Palavecino will be interning with the Forest and Grasslands team in the International Union for Conservation of Nature. Fernanda will work on the Restoration Barometer which is a metric by which countries and private entities can report their ecosystem restoration initiatives. She will also be managing the relationships between NGOs, governments and the private sector. This opportunity will lead to Fernanda’s ideal career working with NGOs and corporations on sustainability and environmental conservation.



**Himanshhu Panwar**  
**Sustainability Management**

Himanshhu Panwar will be taking the Sustainability and Climate Risk Certificate. Himanshhu has extensive experience in environmental planning and public policy but recently developed an interest in climate risk. After graduation he plans to pursue a career in scenario analysis and financial risk disclosure.



**Shivalika Rana**  
**Sustainability Management**

Shivalika Rana will be attending the G20 summit in New Delhi, India. She is one of 40 startup ideas selected to attend. This opportunity will connect Shivalika to global policy makers and industry specialists with the ultimate goal of enacting positive social and environmental change.



**Sofia Schlozman**  
**Narrative Medicine**

Sofia Schlozman will be attending the International Health Humanities Conference at the University of Derby. Sofia is presenting on two topics; firstly, her qualitative research on medical student mental health and secondly, on a theoretical analysis of the future of the Narrative Medicine field. In the future, Sofia aspires to become an academic physician researching the role of humanities in clinical care settings.





**Leyi Shi**  
**Applied Analytics**

Leyi Shi is a research assistant at the Global Scope Lab where she engages in research on corporate governance in the face of disruption. Leyi is eager to hone her research skills further in pursuit of a Ph.D. in Strategy and conducting hybrid research with both experimental and theoretical approaches.



**Jeanne Torp**  
**Sustainability Management**

Jeanne Torp will be attending COP28 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. This summit will bring global leaders to discuss pressing issues. Jeanne is interested in learning more about climate mitigation and adaptation as it resonates with her coursework and experience as a fellow with Nasdaq's Environmental, Social and Governance team.



**Tao Wang**  
**Applied Analytics**

Tao Wang attended the Grace Hopper Celebration in Atlanta, Georgia. This event is specifically geared towards women and nonbinary people who are underrepresented in the technology industry. As an attendee Tao was able to network with like-minded technology professionals, participate in workshops and explore career prospects.



**Haoran Wang**  
**Sustainability Management**

Haoran Wang will be travelling to Beijing, China to present at the 6th Langrun Youth Forum on National Development hosted at Peking University. His presentation is on "Sustainability Management Practice at China Development Bank". Haoran looks forward to sharing his research and participating in research panels of his international peers.

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## **Congratulations to Fall 2023 the recipients of the SPS Academic and Professional Development Grant!**

**If you have any questions or concerns regarding future SPS Academic and Professional Development Grants, please email: [sps-scholarships@columbia.edu](mailto:sps-scholarships@columbia.edu).**