Daniel Brisson | Daniel.Brisson@du.edu
*Associate Professor, Director of the Burnes Center on Poverty and Homelessness, Graduate School of Social Work*

Daniel is an Associate Professor at the Graduate School of Social Work and the Director of the Burnes Center on Poverty and Homelessness. Daniel's research focuses on poverty, low-income neighborhoods, housing, and the connections that matter for families struggling with issues associated with poverty. Some of Daniel's recent research has focused on housing with services to support youth transitioning out of foster care and the corrections systems and innovations in housing to address homelessness and the affordable housing crisis.

Nantiya Ruan | nruan@law.du.edu
*Professor of the Practice of Law, Sturm College of Law*

Nantiya teaches first year lawyering, poverty law, and advanced workplace law, and she directs the Homeless Advocacy Policy Project at Denver Law. Her scholarship explores the intersection of civil rights, complex litigation, and poverty law. She also writes on experiential learning and teaching social justice.

Katie Vega | katherine.vega@du.edu
*Scholar Shop Program Coordinator, Center for Community Engagement to advance Scholarship and Learning*

Katie is a public health professional and community champion with a drive to achieve health equity through community-based organizing and development. She has worked with nonprofits, community groups, social service providers, municipalities, private businesses, and academic researchers in the northern Colorado region to develop collaborative initiatives and projects that address social determinants of health for communities. She is also part of a national network of leaders who are actively engaging, organizing and advocating alongside people within marginalized communities to address mobility justice and equity.

Rebecca Arno | Rebecca.Arno@du.edu
*Director, Barton Institute for Philanthropy and Social Enterprise*

Rebecca is the Director of the Barton Institute for Philanthropy and Social Enterprise, where she leads programs including the QF Social Enterprise Fellowship and cross-sector partnerships focusing on homelessness and education. She has a thirty-year career in the nonprofit sector, most recently as Vice President of Communications and Operations for The Denver Foundation. As a volunteer, she has served on many nonprofit boards, including five years on the board of Hunger Free Colorado.

Kimberly Bender | Kimberly.bender@du.edu
*Professor and Associate Dean for Doctoral Education, Graduate School of Social Work*

Kimberly is passionate about developing and testing interventions to empower young people to reach their full potentials. The majority of her work partners with young people experiencing homelessness to understand their needs, engage them in social change projects and develop skills that can prevent adverse experiences. Her broader goal is to support youth-driven, holistic, strengths-based services for young people experiencing homelessness.
**Sara Bularzik** | Sara.Bularzik@du.edu  
*Assistant Director, Graduate Student Services, Daniels College of Business*

Sarah is a higher education professional who is passionate about experiential learning, international relations, and social justice. Before joining Daniels in April 2018, Sarah worked for a study abroad organization sending American students around the world. When she is not on campus, you can find her hiking, climbing, cycling, and enjoying everything that Colorado has to offer.

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**Chloe Chalekian** | Chloe.Chalekian@du.edu  
*Undergraduate Student, Environmental Science*

Chloe Chalekian is an undergrad in the Environmental Science and Spanish programs at DU. She is currently considering doing a masters in food security. She is from Honolulu, Hawaii where she enjoys getting out in the nature she is trying to save.

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**Dolores Clark** | deeclark05@gmail.com  
*Community Volunteer, Close to Home*

Dolores (Dee) is a community volunteer and storyteller for the Close to Home Storyteller’s Network. Dee is also a community advocate and founder of her own community organization (U.N.T.S.) UndieNeath the Surface. Dee has experienced homelessness along with her family some time ago and has interest in mobilizing resources to help provide sustainability to those who are underserved.

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**Paula Cole** | Paula.Cole@du.edu  
*Teaching Associate Professor, Department of Economics*

Paula is a Teaching Associate Professor in the Department of Economics at the University of Denver who specializes on the economics of gender, caring, and inequality. Her teaching and scholarship explores how power, privilege, and difference shapes our economic stories and how we can develop a more inclusive and sustainable economy. Paula regularly integrates community engagement in her classes to aid students in connecting to economic realities and to build stronger communities.

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**Deborah Dale Brackney** | dbrackney@employerscounsil.org  
*Executive Vice President, Employer’s Council*

Deborah oversees several Employers Council departments. She began working at the Council in 1988. She serves on the boards of Senior’s Resource Center, the Denver Office of Strategic Partnerships, New America Schools and Colorado Nonprofit Association.
Mia Edwards | Mia.Edwards@du.edu
Graduate Student & Community Engaged Fellow, International & Intercultural Communications

Mia recently moved to Denver from Fort Worth, Texas to pursue a master’s degree in International Communications. Mia worked in the nonprofit world for 4 years before coming to DU as a strategic communicator. She is hoping to work in a large corporation as a liaison between other businesses abroad upon graduation. Through her fellowship, Mia is working with DU faculty on areas that have been gentrified in the Denver Metro Area.

Lindsey Feitz | Lindsey.Feitz@du.edu
Associate Teaching Professor, Director, Gender & Women’s Studies Program

Lindsey is Director of the Gender and Women’s Studies Program and also serves on the Board of Directors at The Gathering Place, Denver’s only day time shelter for women, children, and transgender individuals who are experiencing poverty and/or homelessness. Her research focuses on the intersections of consumer culture, feminism, and social movements.

Eric Holt | Eric.Holt@du.edu
Assistant Professor, Burns School of Real Estate and Construction Management

Eric has 29 years of housing industry experience (design and construction). Eric’s main research focus is the technology used in the housing industry. Home building is not rocket science: it’s harder, because of the people.

Kathy Keairns | kkeairns@du.edu
Director of Web-Based Learning, Office of Teaching and Learning

Kathy received her MA in Digital Media Studies from the University of Denver and is passionate about online education. She is also passionate about helping people. Kathy has direct experience working with families facing food and housing insecurity and strongly believes that it is her responsibility to do what she can to help.

Samantha Kelly | Samantha.Kelly@du.edu
Undergraduate Student, Environmental Science

Samantha is a first-year student at the University of Denver from Long Island, New York. In her free time she enjoys spending time with friends, making music, and exploring the natural beauty of Colorado. Samantha is a member of the Environmental Sustainability Living and Learning Community and has a passion for conservation and saving the planet.
Tatiana Marquez  
**tcmarquez@gmail.com**  
*Environmental Economist, National Park Service*

Tatiana is an Environmental Economist with the National Park Service and is passionate about the economic effects of public policy on people and the environment. Her educational background includes a MSc in Agriculture and Natural Resource Economics from the University of Arizona in Tucson and a BSc in Environmental Sciences from Florida International University in Miami. In her spare time, Tatiana enjoys the great outdoors, reading, and hosting large dinners for friends and family.

Heather Martin  
**heathernicmartin@gmail.com**  
*FSEM Faculty Director, Teaching Associate Professor, Writing Program*

Heather is director of the First-Year Seminar Program and faculty in the University Writing Program. Through community-engaged writing and research courses, she has created opportunities for University of Denver students to partner with food justice organizations across greater Denver.

Jennifer Newcomer  
**jnewcomer@garycommunity.org**  
*Principal, Shift Research Lab*

Jennifer leads Shift’s efforts to transform data into actionable information that improves the social sector’s ability to serve Colorado’s low-income communities. Her research focuses on social determinant and built environment related issues, particularly those impacting family economic well-being. Prior to working at Shift, Jennifer worked at the Denver Regional Council of Governments conducting land use forecasting and regional economic analysis. She also has worked in real estate and construction managing projects from planning and design to build out.

Dana Niemela  
**Dana.Niemela@denvergov.org**  
*Director, Community Outreach & Resource Engagement, Denver Human Services*

Dana leads a team that partners with the community to connect individuals and families to essential services that promote overall well-being, including federal SNAP benefits and emergency financial assistance. Dana has represented DHS in the Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger, the SNAP Access Task Force, and the Denver Food Vision, all charged with advancing food access in under-served communities. Dana’s team provides eviction prevention and housing stability resources to hundreds of Denver residents annually through local, state and federal funding, and she is involved in several grass roots efforts to promote stable housing and individual and family wellness.

Jennifer Wilson  
**Jennifer.Wilson@du.edu**  
*PhD Student, Senior Research Associate, Burns Center on Poverty & Homelessness, Graduate School of Social Work*

Jennifer is currently pursuing a PhD at the Graduate School of Social Work with a research focus on social innovations addressing poverty and homelessness, including tiny home communities, artificial intelligence, human centered design and design thinking. Jennifer is also the Senior Research Associate with the Burns Center on Poverty and Homelessness as well as a former Social Enterprise Fellow with the Barton Institute for Philanthropy and Social Enterprise, both housed at the University of Denver.
Lauren Yehle  | llyehle@yahoo.com

*Undergraduate Student, Community Engaged Fellow & Research Assistant, Political Science*

Lauren is a CCESL fellow working with Kimberly Bender on a project regarding youth experiencing homelessness. She is also Political Science Professor Wilson's research assistant for a project regarding the Christian Legal Movement. Lauren is writing her honors thesis about advocacy and legislative attempts to tackle the problems that face LGBTQ+ youth experiencing homelessness. Lauren also sings in Lamont Women's Choir and loves beatnik literature.