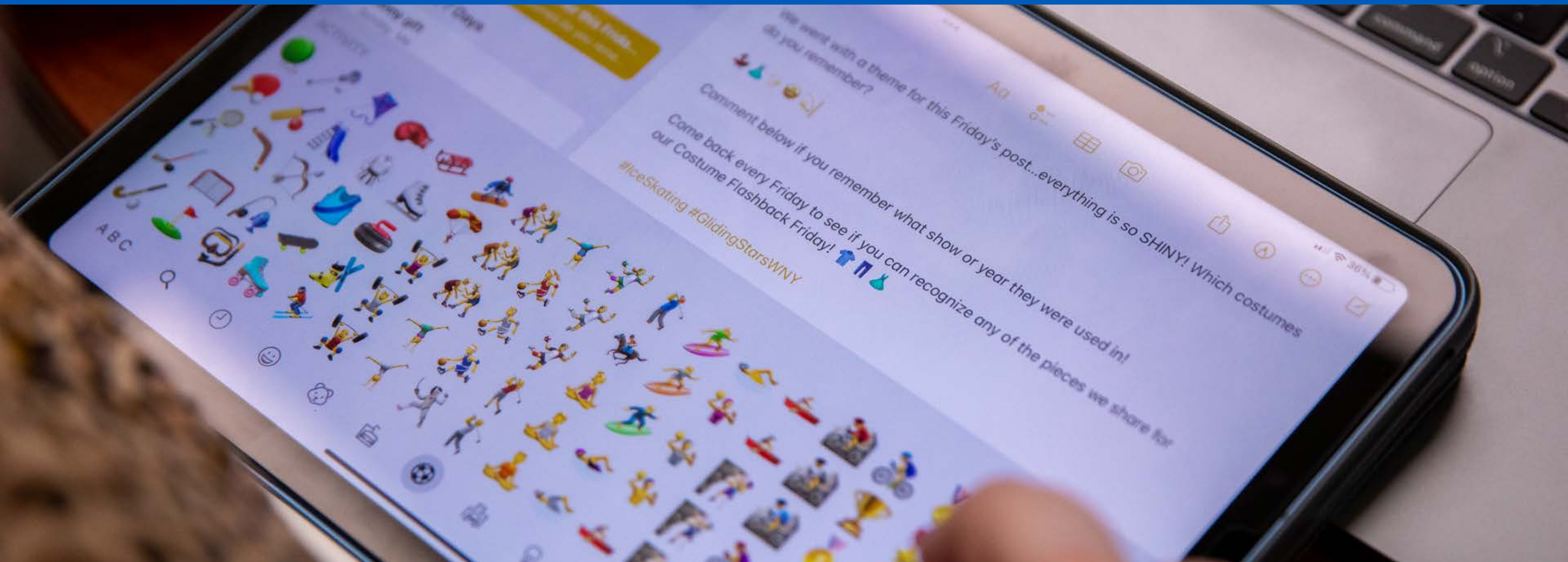


Digital Engagement with the Social Impact Fellows (SIF) Program



David Emmanuel Gray, Associate Teaching Professor of Philosophy

Ayesha Datta, Ph.D. Student of Sociology

Krista Paszkowsky, Assistant Director for Experiential Learning and Scholarships

Why Are We Here?

Our Goal Today

We want to give you whatever information you need in order to identify and encourage graduate students to apply for this program.



The Fellows on a site visit at the headquarters of Goodwill Industries of Western New York.

TEARING DOWN ACADEMIC SILOS



Tearing Down Academic Silos

Our Partnership

SIF is a joint program between the College of Arts and Science (CAS), the School of Management, and the School of Social Work.



Dean Keith A. Alford (SSW), Dean Robin G. Schulze (CAS), and Dean Ananth V. Iyer (SoM).

Collaboration

Graduate students from CAS work alongside MBA and MSW students on 3-person teams for 10 weeks, fostering innovative social change in Western New York.

Botan Dolun (Ph.D., Philosophy), Aaron Kottke (MSW), and Evan Oliver (MBA) of Team Goodwill discuss different approaches to their project.



Our Fellows

The 10 Fellows from CAS this past summer encompassed a wide range of disciplines.



Ayesha Datta
SOCIOLOGY



Botan Dolun
PHILOSOPHY



Natasha McCandless
DANCE



Samson Fagbohunu
AMERICAN STUDIES



Katrina Johnson
PHILOSOPHY



Noah Kim
PHILOSOPHY



Marie Dufay-Verbie
**FRENCH LANGUAGE
& LITERATURE**



Kailey McDonald
**GLOBAL
GENDER STUDIES**



Niomarie Rivera
**SPANISH LANGUAGE
& LITERATURE**



Gia Spicola
GEOGRAPHY



Tearing Down Academic Silos

Vital Contribution

As growing scholars and researchers, the CAS Fellows bring valuable expertise, perspectives, attitudes, and skills to their teams.

Niomarie Rivera (Ph.D., Spanish Language & Literature) and Marie Dufay-Verbie (Ph.D., French Language & Literature) explain a set of instructions to their team.

Tearing Down Academic Silos

Digital Engagement

While not a requirement to serve as a Fellow, experience designing or otherwise working with digital content and systems is a major asset.



Mark McCarthy (MBA), Natasha McCandless (MFA, Dance), and Olivia Judge (MSW) of Team Gliding Stars work together cataloging inventory.



GOING BEYOND THE CAMPUS

Thomas Ulbrich (President & CEO, Goodwill Industries of Western New York) leads the Fellows on a site visit.

Community Partners

Our 10 partner organizations represented a variety of non-profits from Western New York.





Going Beyond the Campus

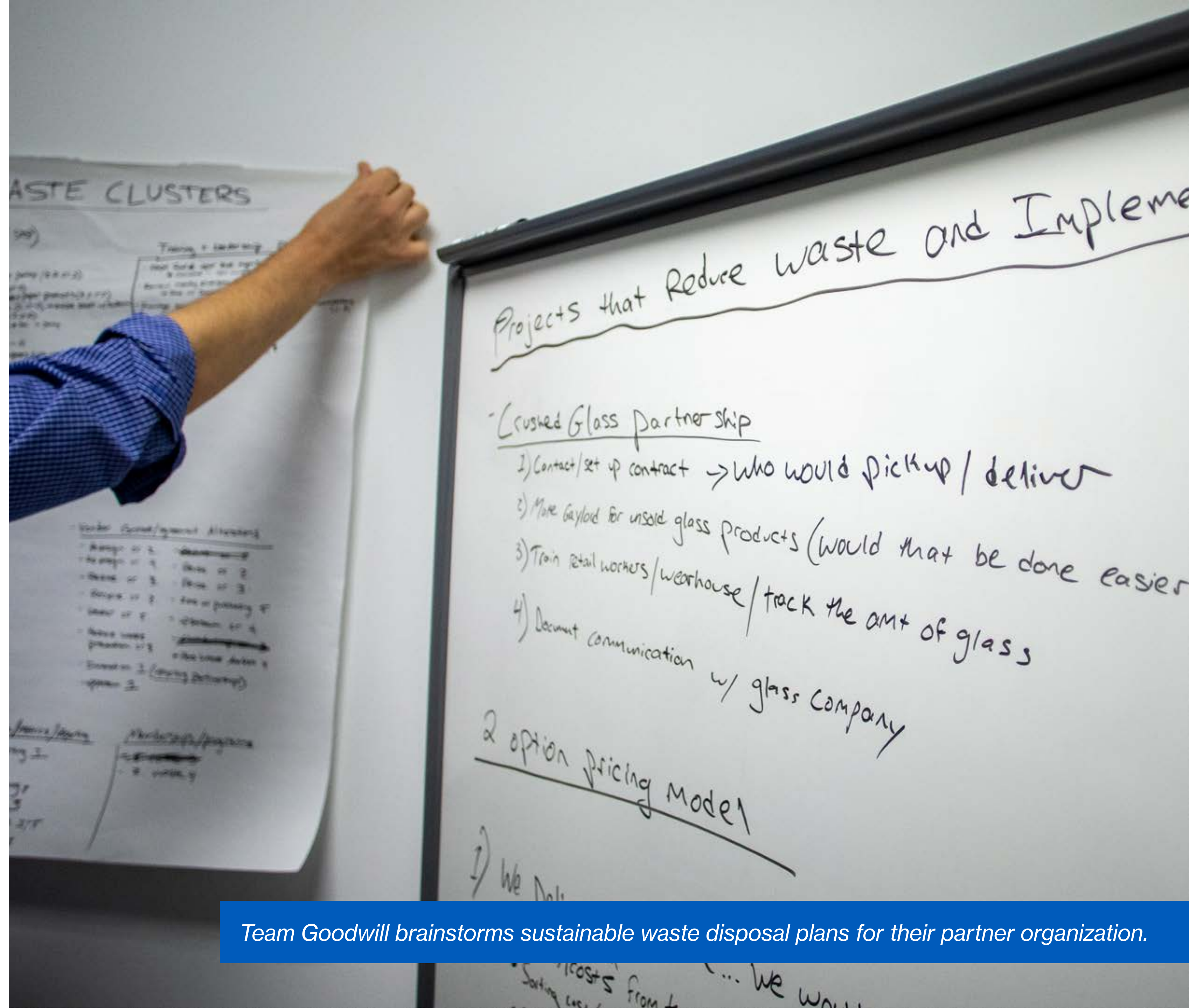
Engaged Arts & Sciences

Preparing our students to pursue scholarship and research that engages *non-academics* with the goal of affecting positive social change.

Kailey McDonald (Ph.D., Global Gender Studies) of Team Harvest House meets with attendees at a community health fair organized by her team.

Community-Driven Solutions

The Fellows must work with their partner organizations, in consultation with the relevant stakeholders, in order to solve the right problems confronting our communities.



Team Goodwill brainstorms sustainable waste disposal plans for their partner organization.

Going Beyond the Campus

Project Proposal: Journey's End

“Assist in **in-depth community resource mapping** in one or two target areas (likely food security and health services)... that goes well **beyond surface level attempts** (such as a Google or 211 search)... to **gain accurate and up to date information** [for the case management staff].”



Natalie Edmister (Transitional Case Manager, Journey's End Refugee Services) and Jessica Hernandez (Social Worker, Journey's End Refugee Services) stand with their Fellows, Arianna Wink (MBA/MSW), Ayesha Datta (Ph.D., Sociology), and Ian Weeks (MSW).

Going Beyond the Campus

Project Proposal: Team Goodwill

“Create an implementation plan to reach [Zero Waste] certification standards... [by] performing additional research to **answer questions regarding the retail life cycle of second hand apparel, identify alternative uses for our waste stream mapping,** [and many other things].”



Thomas Ulbrich (President & CEO, Goodwill Industries of Western New York) talks with his Fellows, Evan Oliver (MBA), Botan Dolun (Ph.D., Philosophy), and Aaron Kottke (MSW).

The Fellows Say...

“I have found this fellowship an extraordinary opportunity to understand the community I live in while professionally leveraging on the strengths that lies in interdisciplinary collaboration—how we used our various professional lens to view a community issue and solution was remarkable!”

“The SIF program is an eye opener for the academic in training. It forces individuals to come down from their ivory towers and to work and apply their research on the ground all of the real-world challenges and opportunities.”

Their Partner Orgs Say...

*“**Ayesha** [Ph.D., Sociology for Team Journey’s End] was a great leader for her group. Her perspective as a researcher was an asset to the project.”*

*“**Marie** [Ph.D., French Language & Literature for Team Jewish Family Services] was very flexible and generous..., attend[ing] community engagement events on weekends and evenings, broadening her understanding of the populations being served.”*

*“**Katie** [Ph.D., Philosophy for Team Catholic Health] was fantastic to work with through this whole project.... She has even expressed interest in possibly doing her dissertation around death/dying—if she does she knows our entire steering committee is accessible to help her with any needs!”*

Sustaining Even Greater Impact!

Tear down more academic silos.

Internships & research grants pushing for longitudinal impact.

Foster collaborative projects between our community partners.



Botan Dolun (Ph.D., Philosophy) presents his table's approach to a team-building exercise.

Thank You!

