



Post-Graduate Career Pathways Program

Congratulations to our incoming
2021-2022 cohort

HOSIA M. TOWERY III

**Post-Professional
Occupational Therapy
Doctorate Student
(PP-OTD)
School of Integrated
Health Sciences
Department of Brain
Health
Advisor: Dr. Donna
Costa, DHS, OTR/L**



My natural introversion has always inhibited a need to step up and maintain leadership or high-profile position. I have taken many leadership roles, some in challenging situations impacting my community where others might avoid them. Answering these needs falls within my professional mission statement, where I advocate for service to the community and my commitment to students.

Community leadership and the many roles it can serve are of great interest. I foresee a need within my profession for clinical practitioners to take a more active role in advocating for healthcare. As Occupational Therapy Practitioners, we have a unique holistic awareness of issues impacting the health and well-being of the communities we serve. Exploring options outside of traditional clinical practice may be an essential approach to future success in my profession. It is time to create a professional-caliber approach to pursuing my career and enhancing my ability to serve the community.

JASMINN FLOROZEEN CAROLINE GRAY



**Master's student
Civil and Environmental
Engineering and
Construction**

**Advisor: Dr. Jacimaria
Batista**



After graduation, my career goals are to give back to my hometown of Las Vegas, Nevada by contributing my educational experiences and problem-solving skills towards finding solutions for the sustainability of our water resources. I would love to find either government work as a professional engineer, or to work in the private sector, just as long as I can make my mark in securing our most precious resource water for the future generations of Las Vegas. I am so pleased to be a part of the UNLV Graduate College Post-Graduate because I hope to connect with local employers in my community, gain insights into a typical work day as an professional engineer, familiarize myself with the culture of the field of water resources engineering, and cultivate my professional persona and development.

JIHYUN KIM

go by JENNET

**Dual MS Student,
Management
Information Systems
& Hotel Administration**

**Advisor: Dr. Tony
Henthorne**



Since I achieved my Bachelor's in Hospitality Management, I have more knowledge and experience in Hospitality industry than IT industry.

As I am pursuing my dual degree, I have wanted to develop myself into the IT industry but found some difficulty by seeing students with stronger IT background than someone like me, who needs to be taught from 0.

However, I realized I have special skills that those students do not have, which is to provide high quality of customer service; I know how to build valuable relationships and put smiles on clients' faces as they walk out the door.

Thus, I wanted to utilize my skills into the professional field and be the bridge or translator between clients and programmers.

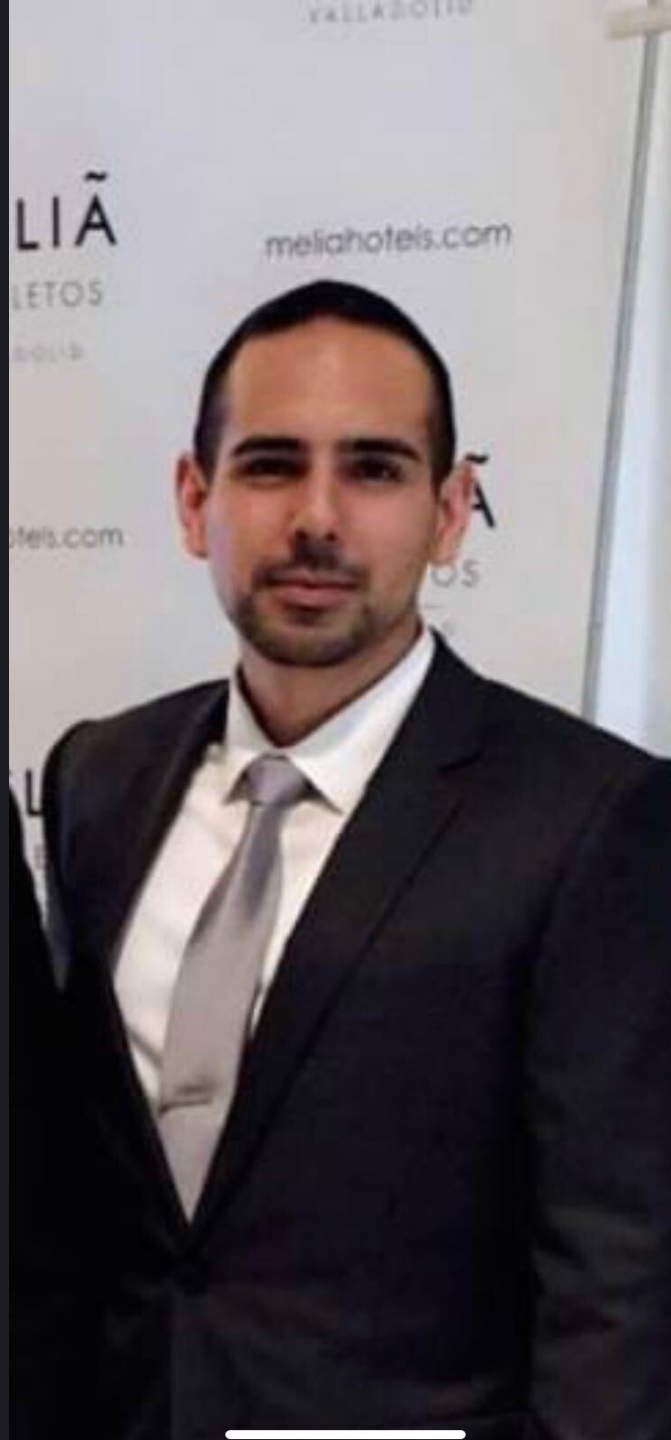
Through the Post-Graduate Career Pathways Program, I hope to meet a mentor who sees my worth and helps shaping myself to a diamond. I am more than thrilled to learn and explore the IT industry.

Thank you ☺

JOSEPH LOZANO

**MA Student,
Urban Leadership**

**School of Public Policy
and Leadership**



I am a California native, but Las Vegas has been home for the last 4 years. Prior to enrolling at UNLV, I attended Florida International University and Miami-Dade College. I hold a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management.

I have worked in the golf and hospitality industries, in the corporate world, and also have experience as an engineer. Currently, I am a Sales Representative with a history of breaking records and reaching prestigious sales awards like the Presidents Club. While my wide range of professional experiences have afforded me many opportunities and successes, I am in pursuit of a professional pivot into operational management of philanthropic foundations. By obtaining a Masters in Urban Leadership at UNLV and with the guidance of the Post Graduate Career Pathways Program through the Graduate Academy, I am confident in my ability to reach my professional goals.

My prior experiences in management positions have afforded me the opportunity to develop a variety of skills including: budgets, training, delegating, time-management, communication, active listening, conflict resolution and creative problem solving. This program will afford me an opportunity to grow beyond my management experiences and cultivate an understanding of collaborative, transformational leadership.

MARLENA GATLIN



**Master of Arts - Urban
Leadership**

**School of Public Policy
and Leadership**

Advisor: Jayce Farmer

My name is Marlena Gatlin and I am currently obtaining an M.A. in Urban Leadership. My current academic goal is to obtain: problem-solving skills, strategic planning, & collaborative management. My future career goals include working in the higher education sector. Specifically, in an administrative or academic related role that helps students with their academic and personal development. This peaks my interest because education is our future, and knowing that I am working towards the support and well being of students not only motivates me but also helps benefit society. Additionally, working for a university can be a very stimulating environment, full of new ideas and intelligent debates.

The Post-Graduate Career Pathways program will help me network and connect with Faculty & Staff. I am hoping to gain some insight and suggestions related to my personal goals & help better prepare me for interviews & resume reviews.

NASIM BINESH



**Ph.D. student,
Hospitality
Administration**

**Advisor: Dr. Amanda
Belarmino**



I see myself as a consultant working in hospitality industry, and in particular revenue management and hotel management. Participating in the post-graduate career pathways program can help me to gain hands on experience to enhance my knowledge in this field. I hope to increase my knowledge of hospitality, revenue management, hotels, and casino management.

NIMA FARAJI



**Master's of Computer
Science**

**Advisor:
Dr. Kazem Taghva**



I am currently pursuing the M.S. in Computer science with an emphasis in data analytics and software engineering. I want to improve my hiring prospects and sharpen up my technical skills. Ever since I moved to Las Vegas, it has benefited my upbringing by providing me the opportunities to learn. These opportunities have supported my families' journey of transitioning to the United States. As a result, one of my primary goals after graduate school is to give back to my community. To achieve that goal, I am taking part in several multidisciplinary research to improve my technical and teamwork skills, especially with people outside of my expertise.

Through the Career Pathways program, I hope to explore different career options and to get guidance/mentorship toward my career goal. This program will also help me gain hands-on experience, increase my professional connections, and improve my interview skills to make me the most prepared candidate after graduation.

POUYA SHOJAEI



**Ph.D. Candidate,
Mechanical
Engineering**

**Advisor:
Dr. Mohamed Trabia
Dr. Brendan O'Toole**



I am a Ph.D. Candidate in Mechanical Engineering and I plan to graduate in Fall 2021. I have been awarded several Fellowships for my research and expertise in Computational Modeling, including the prestigious NASA Marshall Space Flight Center SCP award.

I have extensive programming experience. I have written a large number of scripts in Python, MATLAB, and R for performing Machine Learning projects, such as predicting the damage parameters of hypervelocity impacts on titanium substrates using Machine Learning pipeline, and forecasting the short-term electrical load of ERCOT zones in state of Texas using Deep Learning algorithms.

I plan to pursue a career in Data Science and Machine Learning. I think the combination of my scientific background and computational and analytical skills make me a suitable candidate for Data Scientist positions. This Post-Graduate Career Pathways Program helps me to network with employers to showcase my technical and soft skills. From this program, I hope to be selected for an internship position focusing on Data Science and Machine Learning fields.

**RACHEL ALI
RODRIGUEZ**



**PhD candidate,
Interdisciplinary
Neuroscience**

**Advisor:
Dr. Rochelle Hines**



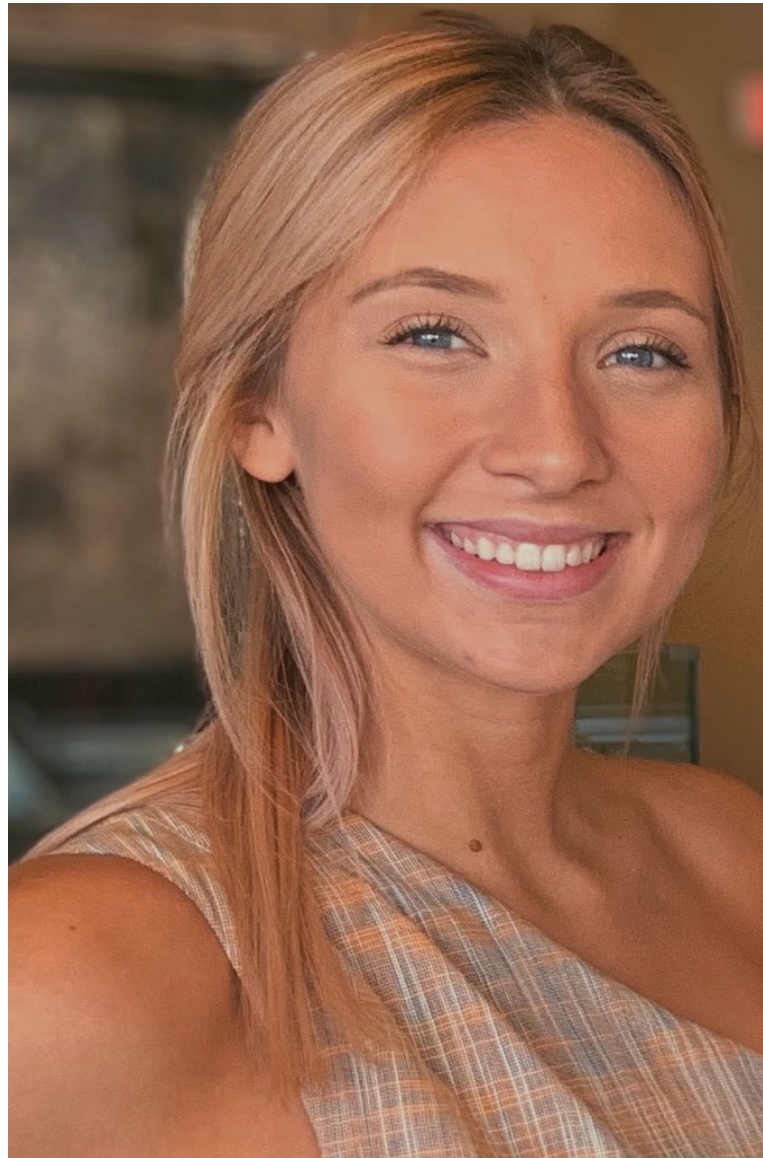
My post-graduation goal is to receive the opportunity to work in an industry job. My job interests include a future MSL role. I am in my last year of my PhD candidacy which means that I will be actively seeking a job during my participation in the Post-Graduate Career Pathways Program. For this reason, I look forward to the guidance I will receive in building an appealing resume and the strategies for job interviews that this program offers. More specifically, I will benefit in learning strategies for recognizing my transferable skills. Most importantly, this program will help me improve my network with local employers, prepare me for the post-graduate challenges, and allow me to explore other career options.

RACHEL GLAZE



M.A., Communication Studies

Advisor: Dr. Rebecca Rice



As a Communication Studies scholar, understanding the ways individuals communicate within organizations is of value to me. Currently, the research in organizational communication studies primarily focuses on traditional workplaces. However, it is important to understand we are all members of different organizations that influence our health behaviors, leisure activities, home lives, and more. Therefore, it is my goal to combine my knowledge of organizational communication with my passion for public health. Specifically, I want to help public health organizations—and industries with similar, health-oriented goals—identify areas they can better communicate pertinent information, promote accessibility to different members of the population, and expand their inclusivity to consumers.

RYAN CONNER

**Master's student,
Clinical Mental Health
Counseling**

**Advisor: Wendy
Hoskins**



My goals for my career are to work in a counseling agency, non-profit, or other community organization to help support those who are in need. I hope to work in the community for a while and then transition to private practice, offering pro bono work on the side. I am passionate about working with underserved communities and providing resources to those who do not have access. I aim to conduct research and get involved in grant funding as well as learn grant writing to carry into my profession.

I believe that participating in this program will enhance my overall professionalism. This program will also benefit me by keeping me goal focused and working actively towards the career pathway that I am aiming for during my graduate studies. Ultimately, it will prepare me with the correct mindset and determination that I aim to cultivate during my time in the program.

SALVADOR ALMANZA

Dual degree student

**Master of Business
Administration /
Management
Information Systems**

Lee Business School

Advisor: Dr. Lisa Davis



My name is Salvador Almanza, and I am a dual degree student pursuing a Master of Business Administration and Master of Management Information Systems. I am in the process of making a career change into tech product management. Having previously worked in consulting, I see a need in technology-driven environments for relationship managers like myself who, through data-focused consultative skills, can drive significant change.

The path to product management is not clearly defined. There is no one path, as most schools don't offer a product management major that feeds directly into the industry. Because of this, the goal setting and job shadowing components of this program are of particular interest to me. I would value the opportunity to speak with somebody in the industry, learn from their path, and develop relationships that will guide my own.

Because tech product managers wield so much influence in their roles, I feel that it is my duty to make sure that this influence is well-informed and positive. Participating in this program would do more than just help me get my foot in the door of this industry – it would ensure that my impact is guided by experience and empathy.

SERENA SCALZI

**M.S. student,
Educational
Technology**

**Advisor:
Kendall Hartley**



I earned my B.S. in Marketing and International Business from the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University, along with certificates in Full Stack Engineering from PunchCode and Computer Graphics Design from Otis College of Art and Design. I am currently a member of the Instructional Design team in the Office of Online Education. My career goal is to work in higher education as an instructional designer or technologist, while continuing to research, write, publish, and speak about topics in my field.

I believe that participating in the Post-Graduate Career Pathways Program will help me to pursue this goal by networking with faculty and employers, identifying relevant opportunities in my field, and preparing for my future career during my graduate studies. I seek to gain experience in goal setting, curriculum vitae preparation, and interviewing to ensure that I am prepared to pursue professional pathways in the future.

VUK CELIC



**Masters in Public
Administration.**

**Advisor: Jayce Farmer,
Ph.D.
Kimberly Jennison,
M.Ed.**

My career goals are widely spread. I aspire to bring changes to our society one day. In this program, I hope to gain experience and knowledge that will help me in my future career. I also believe that networking is highly important, and I hope to expand my connections even farther. The topics that interest me are quite diverse, from making new bills and policies to leading and starting an organization. My ideal career goal would be to bring diversity to the public sector and our society. Skills that I would like to obtain are mostly related to increased experience and how to respond to new situations for example. Also, I hope that this program will help me improve my communication skills, multitasking skills, analytical and research skills.

Thank you so much for this opportunity! I am looking forward to learning from you!

YIDNEKACHEW BIZA



**MSc. student,
Applied Economics and
Data Intelligence**

**Management
Entrepreneurship and
Technology**

Advisor:



My educational goal is to acquire knowledge and skill in the field of information technology and data analytics that would assist me in pursuing data science as a career.

Currently I am attending courses that are necessary to acquire the knowledge and technical skills needed for data science as a profession. But I believe participating in the post-graduate career pathways program will give me the opportunity to engage in activities that would make me better prepared to the carrier that I am aspiring.

Besides, as a new student to the US-education system and job market, engaging in such extracurricular activities and events will help me integrate with the culture and custom of the work environment, build confidence, and gain competitive advantage through the experience I will be gaining from participating in the program.