



# OUR SPEAKERS



**Dr. Laura Mae Lindo**

Professor at the Department of Philosophy  
and a former Member of the Provincial  
Parliament for Kitchener Centre



**Elisabeth Van Stam**

Multimodal and Public  
Scholarship Program  
Developer, STEM Resourcer  
Writing Centre



**Christine Zaza**

Online Learning Consultant  
Centre for Extended  
Learning, Adjunct Lecturer,  
Faculty of Health



**Karen Parkinson**

Manager, Occupational  
Health  
Wellness Collaborative



**Jennifer O'Brien**

Learning Strategist  
AccessAbility Services



**Shilan Woldemariam**

Career Advisor  
Centre for Career  
Development



**Michelle Ogradnik**

Assistant Professor,  
Teaching Stream  
Kinesiology and Health Sciences



**Hilary Bergsieker**

Associate Professor  
Psychology



**Diana Skrzydlo**

Math Faculty Teaching Fellow  
and Associate Professor,  
Teaching Stream



**Brianna I. Wiens**

Assistant Professor  
English Language and  
Literature

# OUR PANELISTS



**Juan Moreno-Cruz**

Associate Professor & Canada  
Research Chair  
School of Environment,  
Enterprise and Development



**Gülnaz Bulbul**

Assistant Professor  
Geography and Environmental  
Management



**Christian Euler**

Assistant Professor  
Chemical Engineering



**Daniel Harley**

Assistant Professor  
Stratford School of Interaction  
Design and Business





# CONFERENCE AGENDA

## OCTOBER 16

(IN PERSON & ONLINE)

9:15 – 9:30 a.m.	Registration table opens
9:30 – 9:40 a.m.	Opening remarks, territorial acknowledgements, and keynote speaker introduction.
9:40 – 10:30 a.m.	<b>Keynote speech</b> by Dr Laura Mae Lindo
10:30 – 10:40 a.m.	Coffee break
10:40 – 10:45 a.m.	Introduction of the speakers
10:45 – 11:00 a.m.	Lightning talk 1: <b>Statements of positionality</b> by Elisabeth Van Stam (Writing and Communication Centre)
11:00 – 11:15 a.m.	Lightning talk 2: <b>Neurodivergence in the workplace</b> by Jennifer O'Brien, Christine Zaza, and Karen Parkinson (Accessibility Services & Wellness Collaborative)
11:15 – 11:30 a.m.	Lightning talk 3: <b>Identity Bias in Academic Job Offer Negotiations</b> by Shilan Woldemariam (Centre for Career Development)
11:30 – 11:45 a.m.	Questions for speakers
11:45 – 12:00 p.m.	Coffee and networking

## OCTOBER 17

(ONLINE)

9:30 – 9:40 a.m.	Opening remarks, territorial acknowledgements, and speaker's introduction.
9:40-9:55	Lightning talk 1: <b>Feminist networks in academia</b> by Brianna Wiens (Faculty of Arts- English, Language, and Literature)
9:55-10:10	Lightning talk 2: <b>Sidestepping Sexism? Strategies to Beat Biases and Cultivate Balance</b> by Hilary Bergsieker (Faculty of Arts – Psychology)
10:10-10:25	Lightning talk 3: <b>Being a woman in a male-dominated discipline</b> by Diana Skrzydlo (Faculty of Mathematics)
10:25 – 10:40	Lightning talk 4: <b>Creating a welcoming and inclusive learning environment for students</b> by Michelle Ogrodnik (Faculty of Health)
10:40 – 10:55	Questions for speakers
10:55 – 11:00	Break
11:00 – 11:10	Introduction of panelists
11:10-11:50	<b>Panel on the hiring process in academia:</b> Juan Moreno-Cruz (hiring committee SEED) Daniel Harley (hiring committee Stratford School of Interaction Design and Business) Gulnaz Bulbul (recently hired at Geography and Environmental Management) Christian Euler (recently hired at the Department of Chemical Engineering)
11:50 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Final questions and closing remarks





# THANK YOU!

We would like to extend our gratitude to all graduate students, postdocs, staff, and faculty members who have joined us today for this year's Academic Career Conference. As we embark on this conference together, we want to express our appreciation for your active participation, insightful contributions, and eagerness to engage with peers and mentors. We hope that the knowledge and connections you gain during this conference will prove invaluable as you navigate your academic path. Enjoy the conference!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

REGISTER ON WATERLOOWORKS - CLICK ON THE EVENT NAME

### **Career planning for Graduate Students and Postdocs**

**October 24, 2024 / 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM**

Are you exploring what's next after your graduate studies or postdoc experience? Through discussion and reflection activities, this session will increase your understanding of the career-decision making process and how to plan for multiple potential career paths. We will also explore resources and networking options to gather information about careers that would suit your interests and skills.

### **Academic CVs**

**October 30, 2024 / 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM**

Preparing for a big opportunity? This interactive workshop will prepare you as we navigate all things related to curriculum vitae (CV) and give potential strategies to help support any challenges that may arise.

### **Academic Interviews**

**November 6, 2024 / 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM**

Preparing for interviews? Let's build your confidence together. This interactive workshop will support you as you navigate the recruitment process!

## YOUR CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS

### **Laura Blanco-Murcia**

Graduate Career Development Programming Specialist

### **Kira Bruschke**

Career Advisor

### **Laura Ashfield**

Career Advisor

### **Shilan Woldemariam**

Career Advisor

### **Phil Miletic**

Career Advisor

### **Lindy Bancroft**

Career Programming and Events Specialist

