

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF 2026 AWARDS**

**Institutional Support of Research and Creativity Grants  
and  
Teaching and Learning with Technology Grants**

The Office of Academic Affairs of New York Institute of Technology is pleased to announce the award of twenty-three competitive *Institutional Support of Research and Creativity Grants* and *Teaching and Learning with Technology Grants* to the following NYIT faculty members in 2026, in support of their research and creative endeavors:

**Karrer Alghazali, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor, Bioengineering, Principal Investigator  
ISRC Grant: *Development of a Modular Perfusable Bead-Based 3D Platform for Physiologically Relevant Tumor Microenvironment Modeling.*

**Subhabrata Chaudhury, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor, Biological & Chemical Sciences, Principal Investigator.

**Michael Hadjiargyrou, Ph.D.**, Distinguished Professor, Biological & Chemical Sciences, Co-PI  
ISRC Grant: *Development of a Mitsunobu Reaction Strategy for the Synthesis of Pyruvate Carboxylase (PC) Inhibitors*

**Jerry Cheng, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor, Computer Science, Principal Investigator  
ISRC Grant: *Advancing Data-Efficient and Scalable Deep Learning Methods for Digital Pathology Classification*

**Marcella Del Signore, M.Arch.**, Associate Professor, Architecture, Principal Investigator  
**Evan Shieh, M.AUD., B.ARCH.** Co-PI  
ISRC Grant: *Methodologies for Action: A Collective Toolkit for Design Futures*

**Bryan Gibb, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor, Biological & Chemical Sciences, Principal Investigator  
**Jole Fiorito, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor, Biological & Chemical Sciences, Co-PI  
ISRC Grant: *Antimicrobial Activity of Pyocyanin in Mycobacterium smegmatis via Prophage Induction and Oxidative Stress.*

**Eric Greenberg, D.P.T., Ph.D.**, Associate Professor, Physical Therapy, Principal Investigator  
TLT Grant: *Enhancing Musculoskeletal Assessment Skills in Physical Therapy Students Using Ultrasound Imaging*

**Feng Han, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor, Mechanical Engineering, Principal Investigator  
ISRC Grant: *Terrain-aware Locomotion of Ankle-Actuated Bipedal Robot with Inexpensive Foot Sensing*

**Andrew Hofstrand, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor, Math, Principal Investigator  
TLT Grant: *Computational Mathematics and Data Science with Python*

**Wenyao Hu, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor, LEAF, Principal Investigator  
ISRC Grant: *Answerability in Earnings Calls New Evidence from Generative AI*

**Xueting Jiang, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor, Marketing & Management, Principal Investigator  
ISRC Grant: *LMX Revisited: A Moral Relational Capital Perspective*

**Ehsan Kamel, M.S., Ph.D., CEM**, Associate Professor, Energy Management, Principal Investigator  
**Alexander Rothstein, Ed.D., M.S.**, Assistant Professor, Interdisciplinary Health Sciences, Co-PI.  
ISRC Grant: *Metabolic Heat Production in Simulated Low Gravity for Extraterrestrial Habitat Energy Modeling*

**Jacqueline Keighron, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor, Biological & Chemical Sciences, Principal Investigator  
ISRC Grant: *Engineering Albumin-Based Nanocarriers for Targeted Delivery of Neuropharmacological Agents*

**Reza Khalaj Amineh, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor, Electrical & Computer Engineering, Principal Investigator  
ISRC Grant: *High-Resolution Microwave Imaging of Stratified Media via Property Estimations*

**Nayoung Kim, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor, Psychology & Counseling, Principal Investigator  
ISRC Grant: *Multidimensional Mental Health Patterns Among U.S. Youth: Risk, Adjustment, and Behavioral Health Correlates*

**Hwi Lee, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor, Math, Principal Investigator  
ISRC Grant: *Energy Stable Numerical Algorithm for Bose-Einstein Condensate Ground States*

**William Letsou, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor, Biological & Chemical Sciences, Principal Investigator  
ISRC Grant: *Construction of a haplotype-aware neural network for the prediction of polygenic prostate cancer risk in men of African ancestry in the All of Us Research Program*

**Yelizaveta Lokshina, M.A.**, Assistant Professor, Digital Art & Design, Principal Investigator  
TLT Grant: *Embodied Expression in AI: Exploring Emotionally Adaptive AI Interfaces*

**Matthew Masciandaro, D.P.T.**, Assistant Professor, Physical Therapy, Principal Investigator  
**Alexander Lopez, OT/L, FAOTA**, Associate Professor, Occupational Therapy, Co-PI  
**Randy Stout, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor Biomedical Sciences, Co-PI  
ISRC Grant: *Impact of a Virtual Reality Intervention on Physical Ability, Social Behaviors, and Activities of Daily Living in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder*

**Baole Wen, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor, Mathematics, Principal Investigator  
ISRC Grant: *Invariant Solutions in Strongly Nonlinear Thermal Convection: A New Approach to Asymptotic Transport*

**Di Wu, DDes**, Teaching Assistant Professor, Interior Design, Principal Investigator  
**Florencia Vetcher, Assoc.AIA**, Assistant Professor, Interior Design, Co-Principal Investigator  
TLT Grant: *Material Innovation Hub An Active Laboratory for Material Making, Research, and Industry Partnership*

**Steven Zanganeh, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor, Bioengineering, Principal Investigator  
ISRC Grant: *Engineering Functional 3D Bioprinted Human Colon Tissues for Barrier and Transport Studies*

**Wei Zeng, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor, Mechanical Engineering, Principal Investigator  
ISRC Grant: *Computational Prediction of Bone Crack Propagation and Peri-Implant Fracture Risk Across Scales*

**John Zweck, Ph.D.**, Professor, Math, Principal Investigator  
ISRC Grant: *Performance of Quantum Machine Learning Methods with Noise*