

Pooja Bachani

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Education

University of Tulsa, Tulsa, Oklahoma 2024- Present
PhD in English Literature

Long Island University Post, Brookville, New York 2017
M.S. Adolescent Education, English

University of Freiburg, Freiburg, Germany 2014
M.A. English Literatures and Literary Theory
Thesis: The Pragmatic Conception of Truth in Winesburg, Ohio

Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts 2012
B.A. English and Philosophy

Experience

Instructor, Writing Program, University of Tulsa April 2025- Present

- Teach Business & STEM Writing full semester course
- Participate in curriculum development task force
- Assist other instructors with syllabus development
- Develop & teach a 5-week online version of Business & STEM writing course

Editorial Assistant, *James Joyce Quarterly*, University of Tulsa August 2024 -Present

- Proofread submissions
- Fact check quotations and references
- Ensure all works cited follow in-house style and MLA
- Assist the EIC on special issue projects
 - Develop and pitch strategic approach to new issues
 - Manage the project timeline and deliverables across roles

Assistant Director, Davenport Institute at Pepperdine University March 2020- August 2024

- Developed curriculum for certificate programs and custom trainings
 - Identified new courses based on current offerings and audience needs
 - Constructed and implemented curriculum development SOP from title to finished presentation, with supplemental readings, breakout and group activities keeping in mind teaching and learning styles
- Taught certificate sessions and trainings
 - Engaging Marginalized Communities

- Public Engagement as a Leadership Skill
- Navigating Difficult Conversations and Public Engagement Fatigue
- Digital Equity and Engagement
- Current Challenges in Local Government
- Maintained and managed delivery and evaluation of all certificate programs
 - Updated curriculum based on new scholarship and recent events
 - Coordinated and confirmed certificate faculty
 - Constructed digital classroom on Google Drive
 - Developed and executed promotion and recruitment strategy
 - Reviewed and approved program applications
 - Served as main program director and point of contact
 - Developed course evaluation and collated results to determine adjustments
 - Created reports evaluating program success
- Coordinated and oversaw custom trainings
 - Developed relationships with prospective training clients
 - Identified appropriate faculty and curriculum
 - Handled course evaluations and feedback
- Facilitated group discussions and round tables for engagement processes
- Assisted in writing requests for proposals for partnerships and training opportunities
- Wrote and published thought leadership pieces in national magazines and journals
- Led and managed team of Graduate Research Assistants
 - Created and facilitated trainings on research, writing, curriculum development, web design, and social media
 - Designed projects that align with the interests and goals of the graduate assistants to further their professional development
 - Provided training on professional development
 - Identified and delegated tasks
- Developed and executed communications and marketing strategy
 - Managed social media including curating, designing, and posting content
 - Coordinated with partner organizations for outreach efforts
 - Wrote and managed all email communication
 - Managed and updated website
- Organized and executed monthly on-campus events for students
- Coordinated and executed annual State of Public Engagement Virtual Conference
- Directed and executed conference strategy
 - Identified appropriate conferences
 - Wrote and submitted responses to CFPs
 - Developed curriculum and confirmed faculty
- Delivered conference presentations at national and regional conferences
- Served as faculty advisor for the student ICMA chapter
- Maintained relationships with partner organizations and served as a liaison
- Connected and coordinated with departments across the university
- Assisted with School of Public Policy conferences and events

Social Media Manager, Center for Academic Freedom	Oct. 2018- Feb. 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitored and managed organization's social media platforms • Actively engaged with legal teams to determine case and issue priorities • Determined advertising strategy for engagement on Facebook and Instagram • Designed and executed social media ads, and monitored results for ROI • Coordinated with content creators on images and videos • Wrote blog posts on free speech and education related cases • Developed, wrote, and pitched op-eds for National Free Speech Week 	
Director of Communications, Young Americans for Liberty	May. 2017- Oct. 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed and finalized messaging on policy issues • Constructed talking points for national TV interviews • Crafted and sent all press releases and media advisories • Managed email communication to various stakeholders • Led & Managed the Media Ambassadors Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Edited 80+ pieces/month from 40 Media Ambassadors ○ Pitched and published pieces in national outlets ○ Developed and distributed educational content on writing • Developed and executed media strategies for each region 	
Assistant Director, Institute for the Study of Democracy and Liberalism	Sep. 2016-May. 2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planned, organized & executed all events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Spring 2017: 6 film screenings, 2 invitation only colloquia, 3 guest lectures ○ Fall 2016: 4 film screenings, 1 Institute for Humane Studies colloquium, & 4 guest lectures • Led & managed the intern program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ interviewed candidates, delegated tasks, facilitated weekly meetings • Main point of contact with university departments and independent contractors 	
<u>Professional Service</u>	
Co-Chair, Steering Committee <i>University Network of Collaborative Governance</i>	Fall 2025-Present
Vice Chair, Steering Committee <i>University Network of Collaborative Governance</i>	Fall 2023-Fall 2025
Advisory Council Member <i>Davenport Institute & School of Public Policy, Pepperdine University</i>	Fall 2023-Present
Board of Directors <i>Urban Rural Action</i>	Jan 2024-Jan 2026
Teaching and Training Committee Co-Chair	Fall 2022-Present

<i>University Network of Collaborative Governance</i>	
Steering Member, Teaching, Training, & Research Retreat Planning Committee	Oct. 2022- Present
<i>University Network of Collaborative Governance</i>	
Board Member	Fall 2021-Present
<i>National Steinbeck Center</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and execute first (& subsequent) annual academic conference • Lead the strategic planning committee 	
Advisory Council Member	2021-2023
<i>Urban Rural Action</i>	
Membership Committee Co-Chair	Fall, 2021- 2022
<i>University Network of Collaborative Governance</i>	
Recipient, 30 Under 30 Award	Fall 2019
<i>The Washington Examiner</i>	

Literature Conference Presentations

(Fr)actualities fragments in the Present Time: An Interdisciplinary Reflection on Linguistics, Literature, Identity, and the Narratives of Modernity, University of Naples L'Orientale	Dec 2025
“Scissors and Paste: Recasting the Crossheads in “Aeolus” A Newspaper in Fragments”	
<i>Travel Award Granted by the University of Tulsa</i>	
Modernist Studies Association	Oct 2025
“The Ecology and Infrastructure of Bloom’s Pockets, Objects, and Things in <i>Ulysses</i> ”	
<i>Travel Award Granted by University of Tulsa</i>	
The Trieste Joyce School, University of Trieste	July 2025
<i>By application, scholarship received from program and home institution</i>	

Public Policy Conference Presentations

Municipal Management Association of Southern California	November 2023
<i>Digital Equity in Public Engagement</i>	
University Network of Collaborative Governance Teaching, Training, & Research Retreat	August 2023
<i>Trends and Challenges in Teaching and Training Post-Pandemic</i>	
MOVE London Annual Conference	June 2023
<i>Society 5.0: ensuring citizen input drives decisions on change</i>	

Consortium of University Public Service Organization <i>Teaching & Training Lessons Learned</i>	June 2023
International City/County Management Regional Conference <i>Dialogue between Local Government and Community: Partnering for Success</i>	May 2023
Granicus Annual Team Conference <i>Keynote Address: The Vital Role of Public Engagement</i>	January 2023
Municipal Management Association of Southern California <i>Building Trust Through Effective Community Engagement</i>	November 2022
City-County Communications and Marketing Association <i>Navigating Public Engagement Fatigue and Difficult Conversations, What It Takes</i>	September 2022
California Association of Public Information Officers Annual Conference <i>Public Engagement and Communications</i>	August 2022
University Network of Collaborative Governance Annual Conference <i>Challenges in Online Curriculum Development</i>	June 2022
International Association of Government Officials Summer Conference <i>Public Engagement as a Vital Leadership Skill, Public Engagement and Communications</i>	June 2022
California Association of Museums Annual Conference <i>National Steinbeck Center's Youth Program</i>	March 2022
International Association of Government Officials Winter Conference <i>Engagement and Inclusivity</i>	January 2022
University Network of Collaborative Governance Annual Conference <i>Changes in Teaching and Training During the Pandemic</i>	October 2021
Municipal Management Association of Southern California Annual Conference <i>Engaging your Community on Difficult Topics</i>	October 2021
Municipal Management Association of Northern California Annual Conference <i>Engaging your Community on Difficult Topics</i>	October 2021
International City/County Management Annual Conference <i>Engaging Marginalized Communities</i>	October 2021

Publications

Sustainable Digital Innovation and Implementation , ICMA Essays Digital Collection	Jan 2025
Building Trust Through Digital Services , ICMA PM Magazine	May 2024
Navigating Data in Local Government Decision Making , ICMA PM Magazine	Jan 2024
Cities and Counties Working Together , ICMA PM Magazine	Nov 2023

Public Engagement for Public Safety , ICMA PM Magazine	Oct 2023
Addressing Mental and Emotional Wellness Through Organizational Culture , ICMA PM Magazine	May 2023
Participatory Budgeting as a Way to Reach Young People , ICMA PM Magazine	Apr, 2023
Youth Councils Can Strengthen Local Government and Build Trust , ICMA PM Magazine	Dec. 2022
Digital Equity and Public Engagement , ICMA PM Magazine	Dec. 2022
Public Engagement Can Help Local Governments Effectively Invest in Public Transit , ELGL	Feb. 2022
Small Towns, Big Communities , ICMA PM Magazine	Nov. 2021
Engaging Marginalized Communities: Challenges and Best Practices , ICMA PM Magazine	Sept. 2021
Davenport Institute: Innovation in a time of national crisis , PublicCEO	May 2021

Other Activities

Graduate Assistant, Writing Center, Long Island University Post	2016-2017
Weekly Columnist “State of Education”, The Pioneer at LIU Post	Fall 2016
Teaching Assistant, University of Freiburg	Fall 2014
<i>Survey of English Literature I, Dr. Stefanie Lethbridge</i>	
Teaching Assistant, University of Freiburg	Spring 2013
<i>Survey of English Literature II, Dr. Monika Fludernik</i>	
Executive Editor, Brownstone Journal, Boston University	Spring 2011
City Section Editor, Fact Checker & Staff Writer, Daily Free Press, Boston University	2008-2009