

SRINIVASAN FAMILY AWARDS FOR STUDENT PROJECTS IN EMERGING MARKETS



**May
2026**



**Report of
Activities**





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SRINIVASAN FAMILY AWARDS FOR STUDENT PROJECTS IN EMERGING MARKETS



Where are We Now?

Thanks to a generous gift from Venkat and Pratima Srinivasan (pictured right), the Center for Emerging Markets (CEM) has been able to provide financial awards to full-time undergraduate and graduate students at Northeastern University to conduct research, organize conferences, create start-ups, participate in service-learning projects, and pursue other innovative projects to address pressing problems in emerging markets around the world in novel or innovative ways.

Since the inception of this program in 2022, CEM has provided awards to 61 students pursuing 46 different projects over the course of nine grant cycles. Awardees have represented nearly every college and school at Northeastern and both the Boston and Toronto campuses, furthering CEM's commitment to multidisciplinary collaboration and learning.

48

Grants
Awarded

61

Students
Supported

17

Countries
Impacted

STUDENT PROJECTS ACROSS THE GLOBE

Brazil

Christian Meyer '25
Maria Oliveira '23

Ecuador

Dahlia Broberg '27 & Heidi Ho '27
Alana Hislop '27 & Nidhi Prakash '26
Domenica Rueda Paz '25

Ethiopia

Blen Yohannes '26

Fiji

Shelley Lewton '25

Ghana

Thomas Kojo Addaquay '23
Lydia Adobea Dampare Addo '25
Vanessa Kwakye '25
Innovators for Global Health

Guatemala

Engineers Without Borders

Guinea

Alpha Oumar Diallo '27

India

Marjan Monfarednasab '25

Indonesia

Edi Pratama '25

Kenya

Fahdi Alew '26
Abigail Binkley '25
Alex Chang '24
Chigozirim Ike '27
Shreyas Mosurkal '24
Leah Oruko '25
Isabel Roman '25
Saraina Ulysse '25
Emily Wickard '28
Abigail Williams '25

Lebanon

Sima Bou Jawde '27

Malawi

Victoria McCray '25

Mexico

Carolina Pacheco-Balcazar '25

Nepal

Aaron Bhattachan '26
Sima Sharma Tiwari '24

Nigeria

Stephen Adepoju '27
Chikamadu Okafor '27
Oluwadamilola Oyedotun '25
Chinonso Morsindi '25

South Korea

Yejin Yang '30

Uganda

Dhwani Bhatt '27

Multiple countries or on campus

Advit Agarwal '25
Benjamin Dottinger '23
Layan Elshihabi '25
Chase Leffers '23
Chinese Markets Club
International Business Club
Northeastern Global Health Initiative
TAMID

SPRING 2026 AWARDEES

Research: Examining how private capital navigates uncertainty in emerging market infrastructure deals

Across emerging economies, infrastructure projects often go unfunded not because the need isn't there, but because investors lack the data they normally rely on to assess risk.

Alpha came to this question through direct experience structuring infrastructure deals across West Africa, where he worked on road concessions, port projects, and public-sector transactions totaling over \$1 billion. His research will produce three to five case studies tracing the full arc of real deals: what led investors in, how transactions were structured, and what happened when conditions changed. He will conduct interviews with fund managers, development finance officers, government counterparties, and advisors across at least two emerging market regions.

His project will produce a research paper and a practitioner brief aimed at development finance institutions and investors looking to deploy capital in markets routinely dismissed as too risky to enter.



Alpha Oumar Diallo

D'Amore-McKim School of Business,
MBA'27

Research: Building a geospatial analysis of Kenya's renewable energy infrastructure to identify investment gaps



Chigozirim Ike

D'Amore-McKim School of Business,
BS'27

Kenya has made meaningful progress expanding renewable energy, but national-level gains mask persistent infrastructure gaps and uncertainty of where investments may do the most good.

Chigozirim will build a comprehensive dataset of Kenya's renewable energy infrastructure, mapping electrification rates, grid coverage, and energy capacity by region using geospatial analysis and statistical modeling. The goal is a clearer picture of where infrastructure gaps are largest and where targeted investment is most likely to expand access. He will also attend conferences focused on African innovation and development to connect his data work with the perspectives of investors, policymakers, and entrepreneurs working in this space.

The project will produce a research report and a data visualization dashboard, intended to give policymakers and investors data-driven guidance on where to direct resources in Kenya's energy sector.

Research: Studying how digital health services are integrated into clinical environments in South Korea

South Korea has one of the most advanced digital healthcare systems in the world; telemedicine, mobile health apps, digital kiosks, and online appointment platforms are standard features of clinical settings. But having the technology in place and having patients actually use it effectively are two different things. Research has found that many patients, particularly older adults, experience significant difficulty navigating digital systems once they arrive at a health facility.

Yejin will conduct structured observations across hospitals, clinics, and public health centers in four districts of Seoul, documenting how digital health tools are presented, how clearly they guide patients, and whether their design supports or limits access to care.

Her project will produce a research paper, a visual documentation portfolio, and a policy brief offering lessons applicable to any health system that is rapidly expanding digital infrastructure without yet knowing whether patients can navigate it.



Yejin Yang

Bouvé College of Health Sciences,
PharmD '30

Service-Learning: Commercializing and scaling medical devices for healthcare facilities in Ghana



Innovators for Global Health

Lauren Ayres
Sarah Juvera
Saule Kairyte
College of Engineering BS'27

This spring marks the fourth consecutive year that Innovators for Global Health has received Srinivasan Family Award funding, each cycle representing a distinct phase of what has become a sustained, in-country partnership. This year's project is led by Lauren Ayres, Sarah Juvera, and Saule Kairyte. IGH has spent four years building relationships with Ghanaian hospitals, establishing student chapters at three Ghanaian universities, and delivering functional prototypes designed around equipment shortages identified directly by clinical staff.

This cycle shifts focus from prototyping to commercialization. Two devices are at the center of that effort: a neonatal phototherapy unit for treating jaundice in newborns, and the Nurture Nest maternal wellness app, now being adapted for additional clinics after its initial deployment. New prototypes, including detachable stirrups for gynecological care and an oxygen purity analyzer, are in development based on needs identified during a March 2026 trip to Ghana.

IGH has also launched a collaboration with a local engineering education center in Accra to engage youth in hands-on health technology learning.

FALL 2025 AWARDEES

Research: Investigating the prevalence and health impact of the AC genotype among Yoruba people in Nigeria

Sickle cell disease is one of the most common genetic disorders in sub-Saharan Africa, and effective genetic counseling depends on accurate data about how different blood genotypes are distributed across populations. One variant, hemoglobin AC, appears with unusual frequency among Nigeria's Yoruba people, but little research exists on its prevalence or the health consequences it carries. Stephen's research aims to directly address this gap.

Working with a federal medical center in Abeokuta, Stephen secured ethics committee approval and completed a retrospective review of hospital hematology records to establish a baseline AC genotype frequency. Prospective blood sample collection from consenting volunteers is now underway, tracking toward 500+ participants, with hemoglobin electrophoresis and demographic questionnaires running alongside.

The findings are intended to inform genetic counseling and public health strategy in Nigeria, strengthening disease surveillance for one of the populations most affected by sickle cell disease.



Stephen Adepoju
College of Engineering, PhD'27

Startup: Using AI to streamline diagnostics and care navigation for underserved health systems



Aaron Bhattachan
College of Engineering, BS'26

Across low-resource health systems, administrative friction and delayed diagnosis are two of the most persistent barriers between patients and effective care. Aaron's work began as Verde Health, an AI-powered intake tool designed for rural clinics in Nepal, and has since pivoted to Prio, a tool that automates prior authorization for healthcare providers, addressing a bottleneck that delays treatment across health systems globally.

Aaron is currently in talks with Nepal's Health Innovation Board toward a potential partnership and has been accepted into a fellowship in San Francisco to accelerate development. His project continues to center on building technology that reduces the distance between patients and the care they need. Beyond technology, he is also conducting educational outreach to inspire youth-led innovation.

Research: Understanding how youth in Nigerian schools perceive and experience mental health

More than 30% of Nigerian adolescents are estimated to face diagnosable mental health conditions, yet formal services remain limited and the conversation around mental health is shaped by stigma and a shortage of culturally grounded resources. Effective interventions require first understanding how young people define and talk about these experiences on their own terms.

Chikamadu will work directly with students, teachers, and community mentors in Lagos through interviews and focus groups to surface local definitions of stress, coping, and stigma. Those findings will inform a youth-centered Mental Health Resource Toolkit, co-designed with participants, to support mental health literacy and access in Nigerian schools. The project addresses urgent mental health disparities in Nigeria's fast-growing youth population and aims to guide future policies.



Chikamadu Okafor
College of Science, MS'26

Social Project: Expanding maternal and child health support in a rural Ecuadorian community



Alana Hislop & Nidhi Prakash

College of Science / College of Social Sciences and Humanities, BS'27 & '26

In Shandia, a remote Indigenous community in Ecuador's Napo Province, pregnant women and new mothers have limited access to prenatal education, nutritional counseling, or postpartum support. Geographic isolation and rotating healthcare staff make sustained programming difficult to establish and maintain.

Alana and Nidhi launched the Maternal Health Club in partnership with the local health center, connecting expecting mothers and women with young children to monthly sessions led by local doctors, nurses, and nutritionists. The first full 6-month curriculum cycle completed in February 2026 with an average of 12 mothers attending each session, and five mothers earned lactation and nutrition certification from Ecuador's Ministry of Public Health. A second curriculum round launched in March 2026 with 11 newly enrolled participants, and a pre/post-survey process is now in place to track changes in knowledge and health practice over time.

Alana and Nidhi are now building relationships with incoming clinical staff and working on fostering community ownership of the club to promote sustainable long-term outcomes.

SPRING 2025 AWARDEES

Social Project: Implementing a music therapy program for adolescent mental health in Ecuador

Young people in Shandia, Ecuador, face mental health challenges, including substance abuse, depression, and anxiety, with limited access to professional support. Dahlia and Heidi designed a music therapy program (pictured below) for 9th and 10th graders as a structured, accessible intervention that builds emotional well-being and self-expression through skills students can carry forward.

The team partnered with a local music therapist to lead sessions with volunteer support. The program has reached 44 students through consistent weekly sessions. Over 75% report greatly enjoying it and want it to continue; approximately 74% say they feel calmer, happier, or more confident through their participation. Students have performed at three community cultural events and are building skills in ukulele, melodica, and percussion. The team continues to tailor sessions to student-driven interests to foster discipline, creative expression, and practical skills that improve mental health outcomes.



Dahlia Broberg & Heidi Ho

Bouvé College of Health Sciences /
D'Amore-McKim School of Business,
BS'27



Research & Social Project: Developing sustainable eco-tourism infrastructure in Fiji



Shelley Lewton

Bouvé College of Health Sciences,
DRN'25

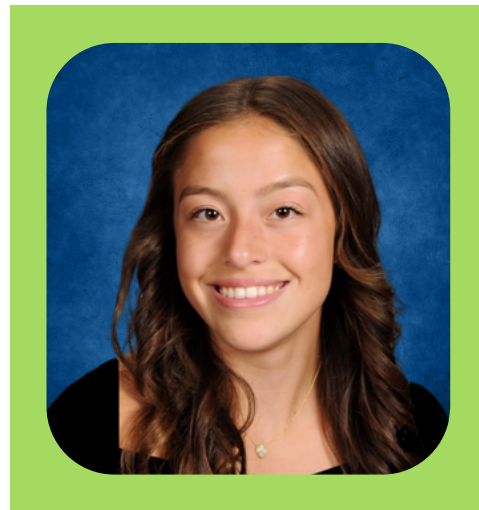
Silana Village, Fiji, operates an oyster farm that sustains the local economy, but without infrastructure to welcome outside partners and visitors, its potential as an eco-tourism destination remains largely untapped. Shelley's project is focused on building that infrastructure: developing a partnership framework and a plan to connect the village with investors and visitors.

Working with local community leaders and with support from the Fijian Ministry of Tourism, she has been conducting tourist and operator surveys, stakeholder interviews, and on-site infrastructure assessments. By taking a participatory approach that honors cultural protocols and respects indigenous knowledge, this initiative aims to create a tourism development roadmap that keeps economic benefits within the community while preserving Silana's natural and cultural heritage.

Research: Studying the relationship between anemia and visceral leishmaniasis in Kenya

Visceral leishmaniasis (VL) is a parasitic disease spread by sandfly bites and one of the leading causes of infectious disease death globally. In Kenya's Baringo County, where the only treatment center serves 153,000 people across 4,500 km², patients often travel for days to reach care and many arrive already severely ill, with dangerous anemia complicating their treatment.

Emily spent one month at Chemolingot County Sub Hospital digitizing 250 patient files and analyzing 150 for correlations between demographics, treatment patterns, and disease severity. Interviews with patients and providers identified cost and distance as the primary barriers to timely care. She delivered community health education sessions with the local Red Cross and enrolled 50 patients in a pilot study testing a blood-boosting medication protocol for those admitted with severe anemia. She is currently completing her analysis and working toward a research manuscript.



Emily Wickard

College of Science, BS'28



Research & Social Project: Improving maternal health surveillance in Ethiopia



Blen Yohannes

Bouvé College of Health Sciences, BS'26

Ethiopia has one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the world, and a national surveillance system designed to track and learn from maternal deaths has struggled to take hold in practice, partly due to inconsistent implementation, and partly because the system is often misunderstood as punitive by the hospital staff it depends on.

Blen spent time embedded in Ministry of Health fieldwork (pictured above), visiting public healthcare facilities, helping clinicians collect data, and explaining the surveillance system's purpose to staff. That experience introduced her to the concept of obstetric violence, which has since become a central focus of her research and graduate school trajectory.

Since completing her fieldwork, Blen has expanded the scope of her award significantly. She used the connections and credibility built through her Ministry of Health work to develop a Global Health Learning Trip to Ethiopia through a nonprofit, enabling other Northeastern students to engage in implementation work in Addis Ababa. She has also produced multiple academic papers informed by her fieldwork.

Social Project: Designing low-cost, sustainable medical devices for hospitals in Ghana

A third round of Srinivasan Family Award funding enabled Innovators for Global Health to advance three medical technology initiatives for partner hospitals in Ghana: an infant phototherapy system for treating jaundice in newborns, a neonatal pulse oximeter, and the Nurture Nest maternal wellness app. This cycle, the team, led by Emma Bisson, Gauri Banginwar, and Stephanie Liu, established an advisory board of medical device industry professionals, patent lawyers, and faculty with expertise in Ghanaian medical device regulation to guide both technical development and commercialization strategy.

Over the course of the year, the team fully assembled their phototherapy system in collaboration with the University of Ghana, and deployed Nurture Nest to Android phones. In March 2026, eight team members traveled to Ghana to evaluate devices with clinical partners, gather feedback from clinicians, midwives, and patients, and conduct a new round of needs assessments. They initiated new partnerships with a hospital in Koforidua and a local engineering education center in Accra.



Innovators for Global Health

Emma Bisson

Gauri Banginwar

Stephanie Liu

College of Engineering BS'26

FALL 2024 AWARDEES

Research & Social Project: Organizing a pitch fest to solve healthcare challenges in Ghana



Lydia Dampare Addo

D'Amore-McKim School of Business,
MBA '25

In Ghana, university students with ideas for healthcare ventures often lack structured pathways to develop and test them. Mentorship from industry, exposure to investors, and the scaffolding that turns a good idea into a viable project are difficult to find — especially for students working at the intersection of health and technology.

Lydia designed and launched the Ideas to Industry (I2I) Hackathon, a social innovation competition connecting university students in Ghana with industry mentors and investors. Developed in partnership with Ashesi University and a local innovation organization (Obsessive Innovations), the competition attracted 19 applications in its first year, advancing 9 teams to a semi-final pitch round before a Demo Day in June 2025. The competition ran again in April 2026 with 30 participants, cementing it as an annual program.

Research: Studying how comorbidities interact with visceral leishmaniasis in Kenya

When a patient arrives at a hospital already living with HIV, tuberculosis, or malaria, and then contracts VL, each condition complicates the others. Treatment protocols designed for VL alone may not account for how these interactions affect outcomes. In a region where multiple infections are common, the gaps in clinical understanding have real consequences.

Fahdi spent more than four months at a hospital in Chemolingot, Kenya (below), collecting data from hundreds of VL patient records spanning six years and conducting nearly a dozen interviews with clinicians, nurses, lab technicians, and nutritionists to understand how comorbidities affect diagnosis, treatment, and patient outcomes. His analysis found that patients with multiple concurrent infections experience significantly longer hospital stays and higher mortality rates. He developed standardized screening protocols for early comorbidity identification and delivered community education sessions reaching over 200 people.

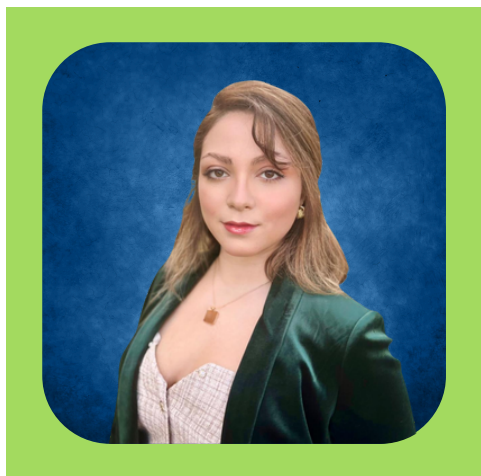


Fahdi Alew

College of Science, BS'26



Startup: Using AI imaging to reduce pressure injuries in Indian hospitals



Marjan Monfarednasab

D'Amore-McKim School of Business, MBA'25

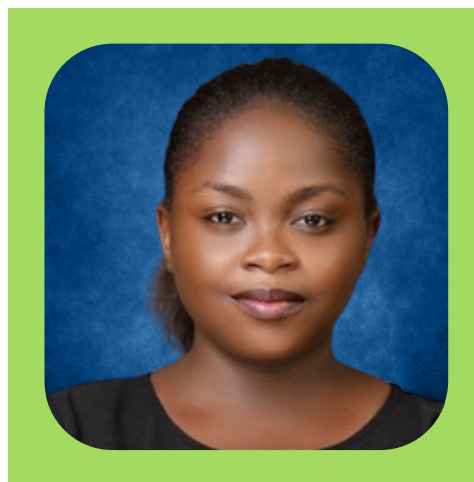
Pressure injuries, wounds that develop when immobile patients remain in one position for too long, are largely preventable, yet they affect millions of patients in long-term care settings worldwide and are a significant source of morbidity and healthcare cost. In Indian hospitals, where nursing ratios and monitoring resources are often stretched, early detection is particularly difficult.

To address this challenge, Marjan built LeafGuardian, a bedside device that uses AI-powered thermal imaging and vision cameras to detect early warning signs of pressure injury formation, enabling clinical staff to intervene before damage occurs. She established a clinical trial partnership with a medical center in India, run by GITAM University, where she initiated data collection to validate the technology's effectiveness in real-world environments and began refining the system's detection algorithms.

Conference: Organizing a biomedical research conference to improve collaboration in Nigeria

Biomedical researchers in Nigeria often work in relative isolation with limited infrastructure for the kind of cross-sector collaboration that produces applied, high-impact work. Oluwadamilola set out to create that infrastructure in a concrete, practical way.

She organized the BioSync Workshop in Lagos, bringing together 60 carefully selected stakeholders from academia, industry, and government for structured dialogue on advancing biomedical research in Nigeria. The workshop also included a BioSynch Pitch Challenge, which engaged over 50 students and early-career researchers in developing and presenting research ideas with real-world applications. Finalists presented their work to a panel of international judges, with top performers receiving presentation opportunities at the main workshop. The event also included structured roundtable sessions and a CEO panel discussion focused on public-private partnership frameworks for biomedical research.



Oluwadamilola Oyedotun

College of Science, MS'25



Research: Investigating the long-term impact of solar energy subsidies on rural communities in Mexico



Carolina Pacheco-Balcazar

College of Social Sciences and Humanities, BA'25

Off-grid solar systems have expanded electricity access for millions of rural households in emerging markets, often through government subsidy programs that cover part or all of the upfront cost. What happens to those systems, and to the communities that depend on them, once the subsidies run out is far less studied.

Carolina conducted two field visits to Oaxaca, Mexico (pictured above), in March 2025 to investigate this question directly. Her research compared communities that had received subsidies with those that had not, collecting data on ongoing system usage and residents' willingness to pay for electricity once support was removed. Her methodology involved close collaboration with a local solar energy organization and focused on understanding the behavioral and economic factors that determine whether subsidized systems remain in use or fall into disrepair after programs end.

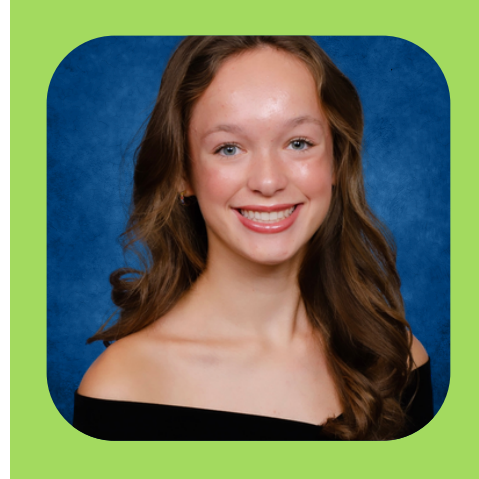
Working in collaboration with a professor and students from a development economics class, she conducted rigorous econometric analysis of the collected data, culminating in a research report.

SPRING 2024 AWARDEES

Research: Investigating risk factors for visceral leishmaniasis among women in Kenya

Women in Kenya's visceral leishmaniasis (VL)-endemic regions face particular vulnerabilities to the disease that are poorly understood, partly because most prior research has not disaggregated findings by sex, and partly because social and economic factors specific to women's lives in the region have received little attention in clinical literature.

Over the course of several months, Abigail trained local interpreters and collected survey data and biological samples from female VL patients at Chemolingot Hospital in Baringo County, Kenya, building a dataset designed to surface patterns invisible in aggregate data. A consistent and troubling finding emerged: many patients had significant gaps in their own understanding of their diagnosis and what to expect from treatment, pointing to a breakdown in clinical communication with female patients that goes beyond the disease itself.



Abigail Binkley
College of Science, BS'25

Research: Mental health among displaced populations in Lebanon



Sima Bou Jawde
Bouvé College of Health Sciences,
PhD'27

The mental health needs of populations displaced by conflict are urgent and consistently underserved, and the research literature on this population in Lebanon is limited, constrained by access challenges and the instability that defines the context itself.

Sima's original plan was to travel to Lebanon to conduct a mental health needs assessment among refugees in refugee camps in Beirut, Lebanon, and in migrant communities in the US. But, the escalation of conflict in fall 2024 made that impossible. She is now working to pivot her research to migrant communities in the United States as a comparable population, allowing her to continue her investigation of displacement and mental health in a more accessible context. Sima aims to develop a new framework for understanding family well-being in developing markets and identify potential social solutions, such as community-based approaches to mental healthcare.

Research: Trade integration and soft power in African nations

Economic integration across African nations has accelerated in recent years, bringing with it questions about how trade relationships shape political influence and soft power dynamics on the continent. Chinoso's research aimed to provide a comprehensive analysis of how African countries, particularly Nigeria and the DRC, can leverage their influence on global pop culture and manufacturing industries to enhance Africa's presence on the global stage.

Her work was accepted for submission to the Journal of Student Research, and she has since pursued publication in the International Affairs Journal, a peer-reviewed journal by Oxford Academic, to increase the reach and citability of her findings.



Chinonso Morsindi

D'Amore-McKim School of Business, BS'25



Erdi Pratama

D'Amore-McKim School of Business, MBA'25

Research: Biochar carbon removal feasibility in rural Indonesia

Smallholder farmers in rural Indonesia produce significant agricultural waste, and biochar, a carbon-rich material made by heating organic matter, offers a way to convert that waste into a soil amendment while also sequestering carbon. The potential is real, but so are the barriers to adoption.

Erdi conducted a feasibility study in Purworejo, Indonesia, to investigate the feasibility of biochar production to mitigate climate change in agricultural systems. He then launched a farmer education initiative, established partnerships with corporate sponsors to subsidize biochar distribution, and created an installment-based payment system to encourage adoption.

Research: Malnutrition and visceral leishmaniasis susceptibility in Kenya

Malnutrition is widespread in Kenya's VL-endemic regions, and clinical observation suggests malnourished patients may face more severe disease, but the relationship between nutritional status and VL outcomes hasn't been rigorously studied at the patient level.

In summer 2024, Isabel examined patient files from 2021–2024 at Chemolingot Sub-County Hospital, calculated BMIs, and collected data from approximately 100 cases to assess correlations between malnutrition indicators and disease severity. Her research also uncovered a high incidence of anemia and certain vitamin deficiencies among VL patients, contributing to a growing evidence base for integrating nutritional assessment into VL clinical management.



Isabel Roman

Bouvé College of Health Sciences, BS'25



Research: Creating a business model for commercializing Ecuadorian drinking water

Cloud forests in Ecuador produce exceptionally clean water, water that a local social enterprise saw potential to commercialize as a way of funding conservation and providing economic opportunity for the surrounding community. What was missing was a viable business model.

During summer 2024, Domenica conducted market research and built a business plan for commercializing the enterprise's drinking water product, uncovering a market gap for naturally alkaline mineral water and developing a strategy around a premium, sustainably sourced product. The plan was subsequently presented to potential investors, and Domenica remained in an advisory role as the organization grew.



Domenica Rueda Paz
D'Amore-McKim School of Business, MBA'25



Abigail Williams
College of Science, BS'25

Research: Cultural influences on maternal healthcare access in Kenya

In Baringo County, Kenya, women face layered obstacles to accessing maternal healthcare, geographic, economic, and cultural. Understanding which barriers are most significant, and how they interact, requires the kind of direct, community-based inquiry that standard health data cannot capture.

During fall 2024, Abigail conducted interviews and focus groups with women in the region to identify how cultural factors shape healthcare-seeking behavior during pregnancy and postpartum. Her fieldwork included participation in two mobile clinics, organization of a community health education session for local health promoters, and development of school-based health literacy programs. She produced a manuscript intended to inform future maternal health interventions.

Social Project: Scaling up the design of low-cost medical devices in Ghana

The Innovators for Global Health (IGH) group received a second round of funding from the Srinivasan Family Awards to address critical health system gaps in Ghana. Following their needs assessment from their previous visit, the team divided into three project groups focusing on an Infant Phototherapy System, a Maternal Wellness Mobile App, and a Neonatal Pulse Oximeter. Each project includes comprehensive training protocols to ensure Ghanaian healthcare professionals can effectively use the devices.

In March 2025, student representatives traveled to Ghana to conduct in-field validation through prototype deployment.



Innovators for Global Health

FALL 2023 AWARDEES

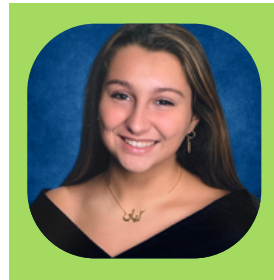


**Dhwani
Bhatt**

College of
Engineering,
BS'27

***Social Project
Uganda***

Partnered with a Ugandan school and local engineering firm to design and install an underground biogas dome system converting organic waste into usable cooking fuel for a school in Fort Portal. Completed lab research to optimize the production process, developed lesson plans integrating biogas into the school curriculum, and plans to conduct additional maintenance training to ensure long-term system efficiency (pictured below). The school is now using the system for energy, improving health and environmental conditions.



**Layan
Elshihabi**

D'Amore-McKim
School of
Business, BS'25

***Research
UAE***

Traveled to Dubai to volunteer with the Atlantic Council at COP28 in November 2023, researching how oil and gas companies in emerging markets, particularly the United Arab Emirates, are forming and implementing sustainability commitments. Investigated decision-making processes across government and corporate actors to understand why companies may or may not adopt sustainable business practices and submitted research for publication in August 2024.

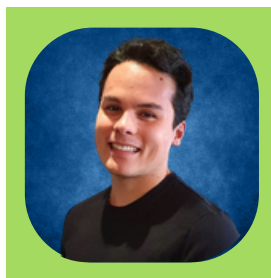




Victoria McCray
College of
Science, MS'25

**Conference
Malawi**

Designed and ran a two-week computational neuroscience training hackathon in Lilongwe, Malawi for 30+ early-career researchers, covering neuroimaging analysis, machine learning, and statistical modeling. Partnered with several international neuroscience organizations and Lilongwe University to tailor curriculum to participants' needs. Secured partnerships with organizations including Black in Neuro, Meta Reality Labs, the African Brain Data Network, and TRenD in Africa, who contributed to case studies and discussions on neuroethics and diversity in scientific discovery.



Christian Meyer
D'Amore-McKim
School of
Business, BS'25

**Research
Brazil**

Open Finance is a new regulatory framework that promotes the sharing of financial data and enables third-party providers to offer financial services. Christian interviewed fintech representatives, small business owners, and traditional financial institutions to map the regulatory landscape and identify barriers to implementation, including data privacy concerns and limited financial literacy among potential users. His research identified several channels through which Open Finance could facilitate improved financing for small and medium enterprises.



Leah Oruko
Bouvé College of
Health Sciences,
BS'25

**Research
Kenya**

Traveled to Baringo County, Kenya in the spring of 2024 to investigate barriers to testing and care for visceral leishmaniasis (VL). Assessed healthcare infrastructure, staff training, diagnostic capabilities, and treatment protocols across facilities in Kenya's VL-endemic region, identifying intertwined barriers that hinder health-seeking behavior and specific interventions for facilities to improve access and quality of care. Presented findings at the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene conference in November 2024.



Saraina Ulysse
Bouvé College of
Health Sciences,
BS'25

**Research
Kenya**

Also traveled to Baringo County, Kenya to survey nearly 200 households to assess how community health education interventions affect disease knowledge, preventive behaviors, and healthcare-seeking among populations affected by visceral leishmaniasis. Participated in mobile clinics alongside the African Centre for Community Investment in Health to gather data and deliver direct care. Also presented her findings at the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene Conference in 2024.



SPRING 2023 AWARDEES



Alex Chang

College of
Science, BS'24

**Social Project
Kenya**

Introduced refrigerated backpack-based cold chain transport for laboratory samples in a remote Kenyan region with the African Center for Community Investment in Health, enabling volunteer motorcycle emergency responders (Boda Bodas) to collect and deliver specimens. Partnered with the Kenyan Red Cross and World Vision to implement the technology across immunization campaigns. Also established three transport routes to coordinate sample collection and increase and standardize the frequency at which collection takes place.



**Shreyas
Mosurkal**

Bouvé College of
Health Sciences,
BS'24

**Research
Kenya**

Traveled to Tiaty, Baringo, Kenya to interview volunteer emergency-response motorcycle riders (Boda Bodas) in the area and healthcare workers about barriers to prehospital emergency care. Aimed to assess structural determinants of health affecting access care and develop recommendations to expand the scope of practice. Organized first aid and CPR training sessions for 40 riders and produced recommendations for the Kenyan Red Cross and Ministry of Health to address remaining training gaps.



**Sima Sharma
Tiwari**

Bouvé College of
Health Sciences,
PhD,'24

**Social Project
Nepal**

Developed a culturally grounded reproductive health education advocacy toolkit and distributed it to over 300 nursing students and multiple secondary schools in Kathmandu, Nepal. Piloted training sessions with a high school in the city and expanded outreach to schools outside the capital. Sima continues to target policymakers, students, and educators to encourage the adoption of her curriculum across the country. She has presented her work on national and international platforms.



**Innovators
for Global
Health**

College of
Engineering

**Social Project
Ghana**

Innovators for Global Health (IGH) used their first Srinivasan Family Award to design and produce oxygen splitters, hospital beds, and suction pump alarm systems for several healthcare facilities in Ghana and build secondary chapters of IGH at the University of Ghana and Academic City University. IGH designed its solutions with low-cost and easy-to-access materials so hospital personnel could remanufacture the solutions themselves. Eight IGH members traveled to Ghana in the spring of 2024 to deliver their devices.



FALL 2022 AWARDEES

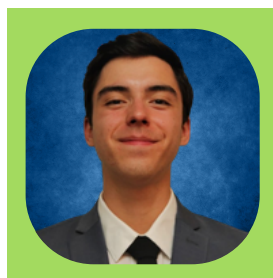


Thomas Kojo Addaquay

College of Engineering,
MS'23

**Startup
Ghana**

Built Know Your Farmer, a lending software product to help microfinance institutions automate processes, track payments, and serve clients with limited internet access. In year one, established partnerships with 8 microfinance institutions, reached over 5,000 smallholder farmers, and secured a partnership with a major global agribusiness to scale distribution and connect farmers with crop markets.



Benjamin Dottinger

Bouvé College of Health Sciences,
BS'23

Startup

Built a device, SaluTemp, that alerts healthcare workers, patients, and caregivers via smartphone when medicines or vaccines are stored outside safe temperature ranges. Secured a full patent in his first year of operations, began prototype development in partnership with Northeastern Generate, and was nominated for a regional innovation award.

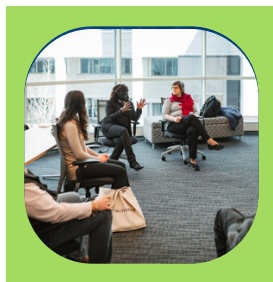


Maria Oliveira

College of Professional Studies, MS'23

**Conference
Brazil**

Organized a virtual panel with three academic speakers exploring the intersection of beauty standards, mental health, and economic inequality in Brazil and the United States. Incorporated a fundraising component and transformed the recording into educational videos for social media circulation.

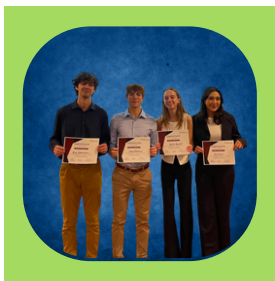


Shelley Jeon & Brinly Meelia

Bouvé College of Health Sciences,
PharmD'25

Conference

Organized the 5th annual Northeastern University Global Health Initiative conference, welcoming 60 participants and partnering with four other student organizations for discussions on climate change and global health equity, shedding light on the importance of emerging markets in global health.



International Business Club

D'Amore-McKim School of Business

Conference

Organized the International Business Club's inaugural emerging markets case competition, bringing five student teams together to present business analyses to a panel of alumni judges in a full-day event. Inspired the creation of CEM's annual case competition on Emerging Markets, now led by CEM Student Associates

SPRING 2022 AWARDEES

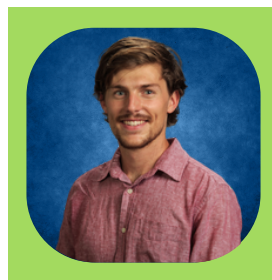


**Advit
Agarwal**

D'Amore-McKim
School of
Business, BS'25

Startup

Developed a working prototype of a detachable-sole sneaker designed to reduce the cost of multi-sport participation for low-income consumers. Completed a manufacturing internship to learn the sole-making process and secured a partnership with a manufacturer to produce custom components. Planned on bringing the prototype to market under the name Dunamis following graduation.



**Chase
Leffers**

College of
Engineering, BS'23

Startup

Created Hydrovia, a startup aiming to miniaturize algae bioreactors and modify their nutrient profile to produce a low-cost and energy efficient meal replacement. Built two prototype algae harvesting systems capable of producing enough material to sustain a family of four, developed a patent and go-to-market strategy, and began testing shelf-stable food recipes for the product.



**Chinese
Markets
Club**

D'Amore-McKim
School of
Business

Conference

Designed and ran a stock pitch competition centered on China's food and beverage sector, bringing together four student teams alongside alumni, faculty, and fellow students in October 2023. Following the competition, CMC broadened its scope to become an Emerging Markets Investment Club.

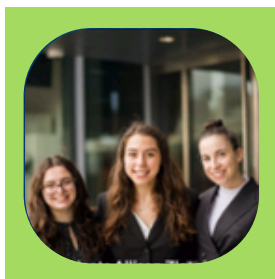


**Engineers
Without
Borders**

College of
Engineering

**Social Project
Guatemala**

Designed and built a three-stall bathroom and a wastewater system for a school in Chixuil, Guatemala to increase access to sanitation and improve community health. Traveled to Chixuil in August 2023 to oversee the construction of their wastewater system and bathroom with the school.



TAMID

D'Amore-McKim
School of
Business

Conference

TAMID, a consulting and investment organization for Israeli companies, hosted their first conference with 140+ attendees from three universities, featuring 10 speakers on Israel's startup ecosystem. Created a planning playbook to help future leaders organize subsequent iterations of the event.



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