

**Courtney Y. Paquette (née Kempton)**

Mathematics and Statistics Department, McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada,

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Citizenship: United States

## Research Positions

**Assistant Professor, McGill University**

Mathematics and Statistics, Montreal, QC, Canada, September 2020-present

**Senior Research Scientist, Google Brain**

Montreal, QC, Canada, September 2019-present

- 20% at Google Brain

**NSF Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of Waterloo**

Combinatorics and Optimization Department, July 2018- September 2019

Waterloo, ON

- Advisor: Stephen Vavasis

**Post-doc, Lehigh University-Industrial and Systems Engineering**

Bethlehem, PA, January 2018-July 2018

- NSF TRIPODS Postdoctoral position  
Advisor: Katya Scheinberg

**Post-doc, Ohio State University-Mathematics**

Columbus, OH, August 2017-December 2017

- Ross Assistant Professor (Postdoctoral position)

## Education

- B.S. (Mathematics and Finance) June 2011, University of Washington, Seattle
- Ph.D. (Mathematics) June 2017, University of Washington, Seattle.
  - Thesis: *Structure and complexity in nonconvex and nonsmooth optimization*
  - Advisor: Dmitriy Drusvyatskiy

## Teaching

- *McGill University, Montreal, QC (August 2020-present)*
  - Math 463/563 (Convex Optimization & honors), undergraduate (30 students), Winter 2023, Winter 2024
  - Math 417/517 (Linear Optimization & honor version), undergraduate (40 students), Fall 2022
  - Math 315 (Ordinary differential equations), undergraduate (130 students), Fall 2020, Fall 2021
  - Math 560 (Numerical optimization), graduate (20 students), Winter 2021, Winter 2022

- Math 597 (Convex analysis and optimization), graduate (15 students), Fall 2021
- *Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA (January 2018-May 2018)*
  - ISE 417 (Nonlinear optimization), graduate (15 students), Spring 2018
- *The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH (August 2017-December 2017)*
  - Math 1152 (Calculus instructor), 3 sections, undergraduate (100 students), Fall 2017
- *Lead Teaching Assistant, University of Washington, Seattle WA (June 2016-August 2017)*
  - Organize and coordinate a 5-day TA orientation for incoming math graduate students
  - Advises incoming graduate students on skills in teaching as a TA Mentor
  - Supervises first year graduate students
- *Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Teaching Assistant University of Washington, Seattle WA, Summers 2011, 2012, 2015*
  - Assisted groups of 2-3 students in projects related to inverse problems
- *University of Washington, Seattle, WA, (September 2011-June 2017)*
  - Math 307 (Differential Equations instructor), undergraduate (50 students), Fall 2014, Spring 2014, Summer 2014, Spring 2015, Winter 2016
  - Math 125 (Integral calculus TA), undergraduate (60 students), Fall 2011, Winter 2015
  - Math 124 (Differential calculus TA), undergraduate (60 students), Winter 2012, Spring 2012, Fall 2015

## Research and Scholarships

### Grants

1. NSERC General Research Fund, PI (\$5000; 2023-2024)
2. Google Grant, MILA, co-PI (\$90,000; 2023-2024)
3. FRQNT New university researcher's start-up program, PI (\$50,800; 2022-2024)
4. NSERC Discovery Grant and Supplemental for Early Career, PI (\$157,500; 2022-2027)
5. NSERC CREATE, co-applicant (\$1.65 million, 2022-2028)
6. CIFAR AI Chair, MILA, PI (\$500,000; 2020-2025)
7. NSF Postdoctoral fellowship, PI, (July 2018-July 2019)

### Awards

1. Sloan Fellowship, Computer Science (Sept. 2024-Sept. 2026)
2. CIFAR's Rising Star in AI, Winter 2022 (Reach Magazine)  
<https://cifar.ca/publications-reports/reach/>
3. NeurIPS 2021, 2022 Outstanding Reviewer Award: top 8% of reviewers for NeurIPS
4. Tanzi-Egerton Fellowship Award (2016)

5. Excellence in Teaching Award (UW Math department) (2012)

## **Publications and Works (submitted, accepted, or appeared)**

*Papers are arranged in reverse chronological order, according to the date they are submitted to the arXiv*

\* Indicates a student author

1. Elliot Paquette, Courtney Paquette, Lechao Xiao, Jeffrey Pennington. **4+3 Phases of Compute-Optimal Neural Scaling Laws**. (2024), submitted, pdf: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2405.15074>
2. Elizabeth Collins-Woodfin, Inbar Seroussi, Begoña García Malaxechebarría\*, Andrew Mackenzie\*, Elliot Paquette, Courtney Paquette. **The High Line: Exact Risk and Learning Rate Curves of Stochastic Adaptive Learning Rate Algorithms**. (2024), submitted, pdf:
3. Tomás González\*, Cristóbal Guzman, Courtney Paquette. **Mirror Descent Algorithms with Nearly Dimension-Independent Rates for Differentially-Private Stochastic Saddle-Point Problems**. (2024), accepted to 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Learning Theory (COLT 2024), pdf: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2403.02912>
4. Pierre Marion\*, Anna Korba, Peter Barlett, Mathieu Blondel, Valentin De Bortoli, Arnaud Doucet, Felipe Llinares-López\*, Courtney Paquette, Quentin Berthet. **Implicit Diffusion: Efficient Optimization through Stochastic Sampling**. (2024) submitted, pdf: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2402.05468>
5. Elizabeth Collins-Woodfin, Courtney Paquette, Elliot Paquette, Inbar Seroussi. **Hitting the High-Dimensional Notes: An ODE for SGD learning dynamics on GLMs and multi-index models**. (2023) arXiv: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2308.08977>
6. Courtney Paquette, Elliot Paquette, Ben Adlam, Jeffrey Pennington. **Implicit Regularization or Implicit Conditioning? Exact Risk Trajectories of SGD in High Dimensions**. *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 35 (NeurIPS)*, 2022 pdf: [https://papers.nips.cc/paper\\_files/paper/2022/file/e9d89428e0ef0a70913845b3ae812ee0-Paper-Conference.pdf](https://papers.nips.cc/paper_files/paper/2022/file/e9d89428e0ef0a70913845b3ae812ee0-Paper-Conference.pdf)
7. Kiwon Lee\*, Andrew N. Cheng\*, Elliot Paquette, Courtney Paquette. **Trajectory of Mini-Batch Momentum: Batch Size Saturation and Convergence in High-Dimensions**. *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, 2022 pdf: [https://papers.nips.cc/paper\\_files/paper/2022/file/efcb76ac1df9231a24893a957fcb9001-Paper-Conference.pdf](https://papers.nips.cc/paper_files/paper/2022/file/efcb76ac1df9231a24893a957fcb9001-Paper-Conference.pdf)
8. Courtney Paquette, Elliot Paquette, Ben Adlam, Jeffrey Pennington. **Homogenization of SGD in high-dimensions: Exact dynamics and generalization properties**. (2022) arXiv: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2205.07069.pdf>
9. Leonardo Cunha\*, Gauthier Gidel, Fabian Pedregosa, Damien Scieur, Courtney

Paquette. **Only Tails Matter: Average-case Universality and Robustness in the Convex Regime**. *Proceedings of the 39<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*, 2022 pdf: <https://proceedings.mlr.press/v162/cunha22a/cunha22a.pdf>

10. Courtney Paquette, Elliot Paquette. **Dynamics of Stochastic Momentum Methods on Large-scale, Quadratic Models**. *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, 2021 pdf: <https://proceedings.neurips.cc/paper/2021/file/4cf0ed8641cfcbbf46784e620a0316fb-Paper.pdf>
11. Courtney Paquette, Kiwon Lee\*, Fabian Pedregosa, Elliot Paquette. **SGD in the Large: Average-case Analysis, Asymptotics, and Stepsize Criticality**. *34<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Learning Theory (COLT 2021)* pdf: <http://proceedings.mlr.press/v134/paquette21a.html>
12. Courtney Paquette, Bart van Merriënboer, Elliot Paquette, Fabian Pedregosa. **Halting time is predictable for large models: A Universality Property and Average-case Analysis**. *Found. Comput. Math.* 23 (2023), no.2, 597–673 pdf: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10208-022-09554-y>
13. Sina Baghal, Courtney Paquette, Stephen A. Vavasis. **A termination criterion for stochastic gradient for binary classification**. (2020) arXiv: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2003.10312> (submitted)
14. Courtney Paquette, Stephen A. Vavasis. **Potential-based analyses of first-order methods for constrained and composite optimization**. (2019) arXiv: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1903.08497.pdf> (submitted)
15. Courtney Paquette, Katya Scheinberg. **A Stochastic Line Search Method with Expected Complexity Analysis**. *SIAM J. Optim.* 30 (2020) no. 1, 349-376 <https://doi.org/10.1137/18M1216250>
16. Damek Davis, Dmitry Drusvyatskiy, Kellie J. MacPhee, Courtney Paquette. **Subgradient methods for sharp weakly convex functions**. *J. Optim. Theory Appl.* (179) (2018) no. 3, 962-982 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10957-018-1372-8>
17. Damek Davis, Dmitry Drusvyatskiy, Courtney Paquette. **The nonsmooth landscape of phase retrieval**. *IMA J. Numer. Anal.* 40 (2020) no. 4, 2652-2695 <https://doi.org/10.1093/imanum/drz031>
18. Courtney Paquette, Hongzhou Lin, Dmitry Drusvyatskiy, Julien Mairal, Zaid Harchaoui. **Catalyst Acceleration for Gradient-Based Non-Convex Optimization**. *22nd International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS 2018)* <http://proceedings.mlr.press/v84/paquette18a.html>
19. Dmitry Drusvyatskiy, Courtney Paquette. **Efficiency of minimizing compositions of convex functions and smooth maps**. *Math. Program.* 178 (2019), no. 1-2, Ser. A, 503-558 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10107-018-1311-3>
20. Dmitry Drusvyatskiy, Courtney Paquette. **Variational analysis of spectral functions simplified**. *J. Convex Analysis.* 25 (2018) no. 1, 119-134.

## **Expository Writing**

1. Courtney Paquette, Elliot Paquette. ***High-dimensional Optimization***. *SIAM Views and News*, 20:16pp, October 2022 pdf:  
<https://siagoptimization.github.io/assets/views/ViewsAndNews-30-1.pdf>

## **Presentations and Tutorials**

### *Colloquium/Plenary Speaker*

- Math Department Colloquium, University of Washington, Seattle, WA (Nov. 2023)
- Math Department Colloquium, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY (January 2023)
- Conference on the Mathematical Theory of Deep Neural Networks, [DeepMath](#), UC San Diego, CA (November 2022)
- [Information Systems Laboratory Colloquium](#), Stanford University, Stanford, CA (October 2022)
- Plenary speaker, [GroundedML Workshop](#) at 10<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Learning Representations ICLR 2022, virtual event (April 2022)
- [Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences Colloquium](#), New York University, New York City, NY (January 2022)
- Mathematics Department Colloquium, [University of California-Davis](#) (virtual), Davis, CA, (January 2022)
- Operations Research and Financial Engineering Colloquium, [Princeton University](#) (virtual), Princeton, NJ (January 2022)
- [Computational and Applied Mathematics \(CAAM\) Colloquium](#) Rice University (in-person), Houston, TX, (December 2021)
- Plenary speaker, [Beyond first-order methods in machine learning systems Workshop](#), International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), virtual event (July 2021)
- Operations Research Center Seminar, [Sloan School of Management, Massachusetts Institute of Technology \(MIT\)](#), Boston, MA (February 2021)
- [Operations Research and Information Engineering](#) (ORIE) Colloquium, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY (February 2021)
- Tutte Colloquium, [Combinatorics and Optimization Department](#), University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON (June 2020)

- [Center for Artificial Intelligence Design \(CAIDA\) \(colloquium\)](#), University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC (June 2020)
- Math Colloquium, [Ohio State University](#), Columbus, OH (February 2019)
- Applied Math Colloquium, [Brown University](#), Providence, RI (February 2019)
- Mathematics and Statistics Colloquium, [St. Louis University](#), St. Louis, MO (November 2019)

#### *Tutorials*

- *High-dimensional Learning Dynamics with Applications to Random Matrices*, tutorial, [Random Matrices and Scaling Limits Program](#), Mittag Leffler, Stockholm, Sweden (Oct. 2024)
- *Nonconvex and Nonsmooth Optimization* Tutorial, [East Coast Optimization Meeting](#), George Mason University, Fairfax, VA (April 2022)
- *Average Case Complexity Tutorial*, [Workshop on Optimization under Uncertainty](#), Centre de recherches mathématiques (CRM), Montreal, QC (September 2021)
- *Stochastic Optimization*, Summer School talk for University of Washington's ADSI Summer School on [Foundations of Data Science](#), Seattle, WA (August 2019)

#### *Invited Speaker*

- Portuguese American Optimization Workshop (PAOW), Pico Island, Azores, Portugal (June 2025)
- Physics of AI algorithms, Les Houches, France (Jan. 2025)
- Computational Harmonic Analysis in Data Science and Machine Learning Workshop, Oaxaca, Mexico (Sept. 2024)
- Dynamics of high-dimensional statistical learning, Joint Statistical Meetings, Portland, OR (August 2024)
- Parameter-Free Optimization, 25<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Mathematical Programming (ISMP), Montreal, QC (July 2024)
- Continuous Optimization lecture, CIFAR Deep Learning + Reinforcement Learning Summer School, Vector Institute, Toronto, ON, July 2024
- Modeling Randomness in Neural Network Training: Mathematical, Statistical, and DIMACS Workshop on Modeling Randomness in Neural Network Training, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ (June 2024)
- CIFAR AI CAN, Banff, Alberta, Canada, (June 2024)
- Youth in high-dimensions Workshop, The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics, Trieste, Italy (May 2024)
- Harvard Probability Seminar Series, Harvard University, (April 2024)
- Math Machine Learning Seminar, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA (March 2024)
- INTER-MATH-AI Monthly Seminar, U of Ottawa, Ottawa (Feb. 2024)
- The Mathematics of Data Science, Institute for Mathematical Sciences (IMS), Singapore (Jan. 2024)



- Optimization and Algorithm Design Workshop, Simons Institute for the Theory of Computing, University of California, Berkeley (Dec. 2023)
- Midwest Optimization Meeting, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, (Nov. 2023)
- Workshop on mathematical information science, Paris (Nov 2023)
- MTL-OPT, Montreal Optimization Group, MILA, Montreal, QC, (Oct. 2023)
- CodEx Seminar, (online), (Oct. 2023)
- Optimization Seminar, University of Pennsylvania, (Sept. 2023)
- Foundations of Computational Mathematics, Paris, (June 2023)
- [SIAM Conference on Optimization](#), Seattle, WA (June 2023)
- DACO Seminar, ETH, Zurich, Switzerland (April 2023)
- US-Mexico Workshop on Optimization and Its Applications (In honor of Steve Wright's 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday Conference), Oaxaca, Mexico (January 2023)
- Department of Decision Sciences Seminar, [HEC](#), Montreal, QC (December 2022)
- Dynamical Systems Seminar, Brown University, Providence, RI (October 2022)
- Tea talk, [Quebec Artificial Intelligence Institute \(MILA\)](#), Montreal, QC (September 2022)
- Adrian Lewis' 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday Conference (contributed talk), University of Washington, Seattle, WA (August 2022)
- Stochastic Optimization Session (contributed talk), [International Conference on Continuous Optimization \(ICCOPT 2022\)](#), Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA (July 2022)
- [Conference on random matrix theory and numerical linear algebra](#) (contributed talk), University of Washington, Seattle, WA (June 2022)
- [Dynamics of Learning and Optimization in Brains and Machines](#), UNIQUE Student Symposium, MILA, Montreal, QC, (June 2022)
- The Mathematics of Machine Learning, [Women and Mathematics](#), Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ (May 2022)
- Robustness and Resilience in Stochastic Optimization and Statistical Learning: Mathematical Foundations, [Ettore Majorana Foundation and Centre for Scientific Culture](#), Erice, Italy (May 2022)
- Optimization in Data Science (contributed talk), [INFORMS Optimization Society Meeting 2022](#), Greenville, SC (March 2022)
- Optimization and ML Workshop (contributed talk), [Canadian Mathematical Society \(CMS\)](#), Montreal, QC (December 2021)
- [OR/Optimization Seminar](#), UBC-Okanagan and Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC (December 2021)
- [Machine Learning Advances and Applications Seminar](#), Fields Institute for Research in Mathematical Sciences, Toronto, ON (November 2021)
- Methods for Large-Scale, Nonlinear Stochastic Optimization Session (contributed talk), [SIAM Conference on Optimization](#), Spokane, WA (July 2021)
- [MILA TechAide AI Conference](#) (invited talk), Montreal, QC (May 2021)
- Minisymposium on Random matrices and numerical linear algebra (contributed talk), [SIAM Conference on Applied Linear Algebra](#), (May 2021)
- [Numerical Analysis Seminar](#) (invited talk), Applied Mathematics, University of Washington, Seattle, WA (April 2021)
- Applied Mathematics Seminar (invited talk), [Applied Mathematics, McGill University](#), Montreal, QC (January 2021)
- Optimization and ML Workshop (contributed talk), [Canadian Mathematical Society \(CMS\)](#), Montreal, QC (December 2020)
- UW Machine Learning Seminar (invited talk), [Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science](#),

- University of Washington, Seattle, WA (November 2020)
- [Soup and Science](#) (contributed talk), McGill University, Montreal, QC (September 2020)
- Conference on Optimization, [Fields Institute for Research in Mathematical Science](#), Toronto, ON (November 2019)
- Applied Math Seminar, [McGill University](#), Montreal, QC (February 2019)
- Applied Math and Analysis Seminar, [Duke University](#), Durham, NC (January 2019)
- [Google Brain Tea Talk](#), Montreal, QC (January 2019)
- Young Researcher Workshop, [Operations Research and Information Engineering](#) (ORIE), Cornell University, Ithaca, NY (October 2018)
- [DIMACS/NSF-TRIPODS conference](#), Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA (July 2018)
- [INFORMS annual meeting](#), Session talk, Houston, TX (October 2017)
- Optimization Seminar, [Lehigh University](#), Bethlehem, PA (September 2017)
- [SIAM-optimization](#), Session talk, Vancouver, BC (May 2017)
- Optimization and Statistical Learning, Les Houches (April 2017)
- [West Coast Optimization Meeting](#), University of British Columbia (September 2016)

## **Students**

### *Post-docs*

- Inbar Seroussi (2024-present) (Tel Aviv University, Assistant Prof. starting Fall 2024)
- Elizabeth Collins-Woodfin (2022-present) (U. of Oregon, Assistant Prof. starting Fall 2025)
- Yakov Vaisbourd (2020-2022)

### *PhD Students*

- Begoña Garcia Malaxechebarria (2023-present, U. of Washington)
- Kiwon Lee (2020-2023) (Lecturer, McGill)

### *Master Students*

- Matt Chaubet (starting Fall 2024)
- Yixi Wang (starting Fall 2024)
- Andrew Mackenzie (2023-present)
- Hugo Latourelle-Vigeant (2022-present) (Yale, PhD starting Fall 2024)
- Andrew Cheng (2021-2023) (now PhD, Harvard)
  - FRQNT MSc Award (McGill)
  - NSERC PhD Award (Harvard U.)

### *Google Interns*

- Tomás González Lara (2022-2023), (now PhD, Carnegie Mellon U.)
- Konstantin Mishchenko (2021), (now Research Scientist at Samsung AI)

### *Undergraduate Students*

- Mingfei Li (McGill), summer project, 2023 (now M.Sc. student Toronto, 2023)
- Yuxuan Liu (McGill), summer project, 2023 (now M.Sc. student ETH, 2023)
- Francesco Marando (McGill), summer project, 2023
- Andrew Mackenzie (McGill), Math 470 undergraduate research, 2022 (now M.Sc. student McGill, 2023)
- Nicolas Fertout (McGill), summer project, 2021 (now M.Sc. student Stanford, 2022)
- Vincent Savignac (McGill), summer project, 2021



- Ria Stevens (McGill), summer project, 2021 (now PhD student Rice, 2022)
- Jaijun Yu (McGill), summer project, 2021 (now M.Sc. student Oxford, 2022)

## Service and Extra Curricular Activities

### Conference and Tutorial Organizing:

- *CRM thematic program: Mathematical Foundations of Data Science: **Organizer***
  - In-person event, 05/2025-06/2025
  - Organizer of 2 workshops 'High-dimensional learning dynamics' and 'Optimization of Learning'
  - Arranged and scheduled speakers, assisted in getting Aisenstadt Chair, Summer School, etc.
- *2<sup>nd</sup> High-dimensional Learning Dynamics Workshop: The Emergence of Structure and Reasoning (ICML 2024): **Program Chair***
  - In-person event, 01/2024-06/2024
  - Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/hidimlearning/home>
  - Created and led the workshop
  - Arranged and scheduled speakers, reviewed papers for a proceeding, and set-up entire 8-hour in-person event
- *International Symposium on Mathematical Programming: **Organizing committee member**, Optimization under uncertainty*
  - In-person event, 06/2024
  - Website: <https://ismp2024.gerad.ca/>
- *Optimization for Machine Learning Workshop (NeurIPS 2023): **co-Program Chair***
  - In-person event, 06/2023-12/2023
  - Website: <https://opt-ml.org/>
  - Arranged and scheduled speakers, reviewed papers for a proceeding (~100), and set-up entire 8-hour in-person event, ~150 participants in the conference with 5 plenary speakers
  - Acceptance rate: 60/120 workshops accepted to NeurIPS
- *High-dimensional Learning Dynamics Workshop (ICML 2023): **Program Chair***
  - In-person event, 01/2023-06/2023
  - Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/hidimlearning/home>
  - Created and led the workshop
  - Arranged and scheduled speakers, reviewed papers for a proceeding (~50), and set-up entire 8-hour in-person event, ~150 participants in the conference with 5 plenary speakers
  - Acceptance rate: 30/114 workshops accepted to ICML
- *Optimization for Machine Learning Workshop (NeurIPS 2022): **Program Chair***
  - In-person event, 06/2022-12/2022
  - Website: <https://opt-ml.org/>
  - Arranged and scheduled speakers, reviewed papers for a proceeding (~100), and set-up entire 8-hour in-person event, ~150 participants in the conference with 5 plenary speakers

- Acceptance rate: 60/120 workshops accepted to NeurIPS
- *Optimization for Machine Learning Workshop (NeurIPS 2021): **Program Chair***
  - Virtual event, 06/2021-12/2021
  - Website: <https://opt-ml.org/>
  - Arranged and scheduled speakers, reviewed papers for a proceeding, and set-up entire 12-hour virtual event, ~400 participants in the conference with 8 plenary speakers and ~60 paper submissions
  - Acceptance rate: 60/120 workshops accepted to NeurIPS
- *Montreal AI Symposium: **Program Chair***
  - Hybrid event, 06/2021-10/2021
  - Website: <http://montrealaisymposium.com/>
  - 1-day event that brings together researchers from the greater Montreal Area in machine learning and artificial intelligence
  - Arranged for sponsors and speakers
  - Hybrid event: both in-person and virtual components
  - ~100 paper submissions and 7 plenary speakers; attendance ~300
- *Random Matrix Theory and Machine Learning Tutorial (ICML 2021): **Organizer***
  - Virtual event, 01/2021-06/2021
  - Website: <https://random-matrix-learning.github.io/>
  - 3-hour introductory tutorial on the usage of random matrix theory techniques in machine learning; part of the ICML conference
  - Acceptance rate: 30/60 tutorials accepted to ICML
- *Optimization for Machine Learning Workshop (NeurIPS 2020): **Program Chair***
  - Virtual event, 06/2020-12/2020
  - Website: <https://opt-ml.org/>
  - Arranged and scheduled speakers, reviewed papers for a proceeding, and set-up entire 12-hour virtual event, expect ~250 participants with 9 plenary speakers and ~100 paper submissions
  - Acceptance rate: 60/120 workshops accepted to NeurIPS

### **Seminar Organizing:**

- *Random Matrix Theory, Machine Learning, and Optimization (RMT+ML+OPT) Graduate Seminar: Co-Lead Organizer*
  - McGill University, Montreal, QC; 09/2021-present
  - Website: <https://elliotpauquette.github.io/rmtmloptseminar.html>
  - Co-created by Elliot Paquette
  - Created a weekly seminar for undergraduate and graduate students to present papers and research ideas in the field of mathematics of Machine Learning
- *Continuous Optimization Seminar: Lead Organizer*
  - University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON; 09/2018-06/2019
  - Arranged and scheduled student and faculty speakers from multiple departments (computer science, electrical engineering, statistics, mathematics, and applied math)
- *NSF TRIPODS/DIMACS: Organizer*

- Lehigh University, Bethlehem PA; 08/2018
- Arranged and scheduled speakers for a 3-day conference as part of the NSF TRIPODS grant
- *NSF TRIPODS summer school: Organizer*
  - Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA; 08/2018
  - Arranged and scheduled 40 students to participate in a 3-day summer school that covers optimization in machine learning, TensorFlow, and online learning
- *Opt-ML Seminar: Organizer*
  - Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA; 01/2018-06/2018
  - Arranged and scheduled student and faculty speakers from multiple departments (computer science, electrical engineering, statistics, mathematics, and applied math)
- *Trends in Optimization Seminar: Organizer*
  - University of Washington, Seattle; 01/2018-06/2018
  - Arranged and scheduled student and faculty speakers from multiple departments (computer science, electrical engineering, statistics, mathematics, and applied math)

### **Mini symposium Organizing:**

- *Machine Learning and Optimization mini symposium (Canadian Applied and Industrial Mathematics, CAIMS annual meeting): Lead Organizer*
  - Hybrid event, 06/2022
  - Website: <https://caims.ca/>
  - Arranged and scheduled speakers 4 speakers

### **Departmental committees:**

- Bellairs Research Institute Review Committee(McGill), 2024-present
- NSERC Standing Internal Review Committee (CRC and Internal Awards) (McGill), member, 2024-present
- Committee of Undergraduate Affairs (McGill), member, 2023-present
- Selection committee (hiring, statistics) (McGill), member, 2023
- Computing and Equipment (McGill), **chair**, 2021-2023
- Computing and Equipment (McGill), member, 2020-2021;

### **Editorial Boards:**

- Open Journal of Mathematical Optimization, Associate Editor, 2023-present
- Math. Prog. Series B: Special Issue: International Symposium on Mathematical Programming 2024, Guest Editor, 2023-present
- Math. Prog. Series B: Special Issue: Optimization for Machine Learning, Guest Editor, 2024-present

### **Other Service Activities**

- INFORMS [Young Researchers Prize](#) committee member (2023),

- NSERC Evaluation Group for Computer Science Discovery Grants, committee member (2023-2026), **Chair of Computer Science Theory** (2024-present)

### **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Activities:**

- Co-organizing: 1<sup>st</sup> local (Montreal) Women in Data Science (WiDS) Conference (<https://www.widsworldwide.org/>). Organizing event to be held at Google in Fall 2024 to bring together local AI experts
- Co-lead the Young Researchers Seminar, [\*Women and Mathematics – The Mathematics of Machine Learning\*](#), **Institute for Advanced Study**, Princeton, NJ, May 2022: Organized 10 young women (post-docs and assistant professors) to give short talks on their research in machine learning
- Optimization Journal Club, [\*Eastern Europe ML Summer School\*](#), July 2022: Ran and organized student presenters on optimization papers; led discussions; talked about career and research in optimization
- CIFAR/MILA Career Panel, *CIFAR Deep Learning and Reinforcement Learning Summer School*, August 2020: Served as a panelist detailing my career path and experiences
- UW AWM Chapter: Secretary and Original member  
University of Washington, Seattle, 2015-2017
  - Part of the leadership group that established the University of Washington's first AWM chapter
  - Chief organizer of a campus outreach tutoring program to encourage undergraduate

**Reviewing articles:** NeurIPS reviewer (2018, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023); Math. Programming; SIAM J. of Optimization; J. of Machine Learning Research; J. for Optimization Theory; J. of Convex Analysis; IMA J. of Numerical Analysis; IMA Information and Inference; Communications on Pure and Applied Mathematics; Transactions on Machine Learning Research; ICML reviewer (2024); NeurIPS Area Chair (2024)