

David Puvaneyshwaran, MSocSci (He/Him)Website: www.davidpuvan.com | Email: david.puvaneyshwaran@mail.utoronto.ca**EDUCATION**

- Present** **Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)** in Social Work
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto, ON, Canada
Supervisory Committee: Stephanie Begun, PhD (Chair); Izumi Sakamoto, PhD;
M. Candace Christensen, PhD; Ankur Srivastava, PhD
- 2024** **Master of Social Sciences (MSocSci)**, Social Work by Research
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore, Singapore
- 2018** **Bachelor of Social Sciences (BSocSci) Hons**, Social Work – Distinction
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore, Singapore

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Theatre of the Oppressed; Multiple Minority Stress; Critical Consciousness; Participatory Arts-based Research; Racialized Queer and Transgender Lived Experiences

AWARDS, BURSARIES, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2024—2028** **University of Toronto Fellowship**
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto
- 2026** **Richard B. Splane Social Policy and Social Innovation Scholarship**
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto
- 2026** **The Carpenters' Union Scholarship in Social Work**
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto
- 2026** **John (Jack) H. Zimmerman Bursary**
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto
- 2025** **Richard B. Splane Social Policy and Social Innovation Scholarship**
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto
- 2025** **Dr. Norma C. Lang Award**
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto
- 2024** **Richard B. Splane Social Policy and Social Innovation Scholarship**
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto
- 2022—2024** **Graduate Teaching Fellowship**
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore
- 2022—2024** **Tuition Fee Allowance**
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore
- 2017** **International Internship Award**
National University of Singapore
- 2016—2018** **Social Service Scholarship (Mid-Term)**
National Council of Social Service, Singapore
- 2016** **Ministry of Education Undergraduate Bursary**
Ministry of Education, Singapore

2015 NUS Students' Fund Bursary
National University of Singapore

2014—2015 NUSSU Book Award and Bursary Grant (BABG)
National University of Singapore

RESEARCH GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2026—2027	Doctoral Research Fellowship <i>Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto</i>	CAD 10,000
2025	NUS Development Grant <i>Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore</i>	SGD 10,000
2025—2026	Doctoral Research Fellowship <i>Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto</i>	CAD 10,000
2025	SDGS@UofT Student Mobility Training Program <i>University of Toronto</i>	CAD 7,000
2024	NUS Development Grant <i>Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore</i>	SGD 10,000
2024—2025	Doctoral Research Fellowship <i>Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto</i>	CAD 10,000
2017	Community Engagement Fund (Principal Investigator) <i>National University of Singapore</i>	SGD 2,000

RESEARCH FUNDING

Funded

2026	Trans Justice Funding Project (Co-Applicant) <i>Rehearsing the Future: Trans Cultural Heritage Through Theatre</i> Principal Investigator: Christensen, M. C. Co-Applicants: Tantay, L. J., Flowers, P., & Puvaneyshwaran, D.	USD 5,000
2026—2033	SSHRC Partnership Grant (Collaborator) <i>CHANGES-Participatory storytelling for engaging youth in climate change action</i> Principal Investigator: Logie, C. Co-Directors: Silva-Santisteban, A., Perez-Brumer, A., Dorea, C., Lys, C. L., Kagunda, J., & Newman, P. Co-Applicants: Nunbogo, A. M., Lowik, A. J., Lacombe-Duncan, A., Quinn, A., Pryce, B., Zuberi, D., Ruggiero, E. D., Fuller-Thompson, E., Lee, E., Miller, F., Oluwasanya, G., Drolet, J., Card, K. G., Mbuagbaw, L., Gittings, L., Wilson, M., Okumu, M., Akkakanjanasupar, P., Tallman, P. S., Bukuluki, P., Hystad, P., Ashcroft, R., Monchalin, R., Case, R., Hogg, R., Ramchandani, R., Greene, S., Fahme, S., Craig, S., & Rey, S. J. Z.	CAD 2,500,000

Under Review

2026	SSHRC Connection Grant (Co-Applicant) <i>Sharing HIV Oral Histories in Toronto to Foster Intergenerational Connections and Belonging</i> Principal Investigator: Klassen, B. Co-Applicants: Lachowsky NJ, Sinno J, Waines R, Catungal JP, Brennan D, Puvaneyshwaran, D. , & Ibáñez-Carrasco F.	CAD 50,000
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2026 **Kresge Innovative Projects: Detroit Plus (Co-Applicant)** **USD 35,330**
Rehearsing the Future: Trans Cultural Heritage Through Theatre
 Principal Investigator: Christensen, M. C.
 Co-Applicants: Tantay, L. J., Flowers, P., & **Puvaneyshwaran, D.**

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

*Denotes Corresponding Author

1. Tan, A., **Puvaneyshwaran, D.***, & Lee, J. (In Press). Bias-Based Bullying: The Role of Support Systems for Young Persons with Disabilities. *Journal of the Society for Social Work Research*.
2. Rana, A. S., Siddiqui, S. J., Ashray, C., **Puvaneyshwaran, D.***, Logie, C. H., & Scheim, A. I. (2026). Invisible in the Storm: Climate Change and the Lived Realities of Transmasculine People in India. *Health Promotion Practice*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/15248399261458707>
3. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.***, Low, A. J., Chong, S. Y., Wee, Y. X., Lee, J., & Liang, P. (2026). Fostering Critical Consciousness Through Theater of the Oppressed: A Mixed-Methods Study with Gay, Bisexual, Queer, and Transgender Men in Singapore. *Journal of Community Psychology*, 54(5), e70120. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jcop.70120>
4. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.**, Tan, A., Wah, T. H., & Lee, J.* (2026). "They keep thinking I'm bad, so I look at my strengths": Navigating Bullying as Young Persons with Disabilities in Singapore. *Journal of Child and Adolescent Trauma*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40653-026-00866-7>
5. Logie, C. H.*, Van Borek, S., **Puvaneyshwaran, D.**, Mackenzie, F., Hasham, A., Mbende, B., Boumba, L. M. A., Linguissi, L. S. G., & Loemba, H. (2026). Esengo ("Joy"): Methods for developing a song and animated music video for reducing stigma with women sex professionals in Pointe-Noire, Congo. *International Journal of Qualitative Methods*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/16094069261427274>
6. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.**, Logie, C. H.*, Van Borek, S., Abrams, A., Mackenzie, F., Taing, L., Perez-Brumer, A., & Gittings, L. (2026). Co-creating an Intersectional Water Justice Toolkit and Documentary in Cape Town, South Africa. *Health Promotion Practice*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/15248399261421596>
7. Logie, C. H.*, Admassu, Z., Mackenzie, F., **Puvaneyshwaran, D.**, Borek, S. V., Mbende, B., & Loemba, H. (2025). Findings from a one-group pre and post-test participatory mapping study to increase HIV and STI testing uptake with women sex workers in Pointe Noire, Congo. *International Journal of STD & AIDS*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/09564624251385055>
8. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.***, Lee, J. & Tan, R. K. J. (2025). Theatre of the Oppressed as a Strategy Against LGBTQ-Based Aggression: A Scoping Review. *Sexuality & Culture*, 29, 2772–2794. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12119-025-10391-8>
9. Chong, S. Y., Goh, L. S., Lye, G. W. Y., Wee, Y. X., Tan, B. X. H., Ho, D. W. S., **Puvaneyshwaran, D.**, Low, A. J., Kumar, N. K. S. S., Hsu, H.-C., Neo, P. H. M., & Tan, R. K. J. (2025). Embedding Intersectionality Values in Citizen Science Research: The Socio-Scientific Progression by Leveraging on Intersectionality and Citizen-Led Equity-Driven (SPLICE) Research Framework. *International Journal of Qualitative Methods*, 24. <https://doi.org/10.1177/16094069251337936>
10. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.***, Liang P. & Lee, J. (2025). The Impacts of Forum Theatre in Social Work Practice: A Scoping Review. *The British Journal of Social Work*, bcaf055. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bjsw/bcaf055>
11. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.*** (2024). Empowering the marginalized: Exploring the potential of Theatre of the Oppressed as an intervention for youth offenders in social work practice. *Journal of Social Work*, 24(3), 375-396. <https://doi.org/10.1177/14680173231222614>

Manuscripts Under Review or in Revision

1. Ghelani, A.*, Jayanthikumar, J., Walker, C., Dainty, O., **Puvaneyshwaran, D.**, Kabaraskal, N., Stadelman, K., & Lee, E. (Revised and Resubmitted). Teaching Note—Involving people with

lived experience in social work simulation education. *Social Work Education: The International Journal*.

2. Mackenzie, F., Logie, C. H.*, **Puvaneyshwaran, D.**, Mbende, B., Ghoma Linguissi, L. S., Van Borek, S., Boumba, A., & Loemba, H. (In Revision). Lived experiences of stigma among female sex workers in Pointe-Noire, Congo: qualitative insights. *Health Promotion Practice*.
3. Logie, C. H.*, **Puvaneyshwaran, D.**, Mackenzie, F., Mbende, B., Van Borek, S., Ghoma Linguissi, L. S., Boumba, A., & Loemba, H. (In Revision). Contexts of HIV vulnerability and prevention among female sex professionals in Pointe-Noire, Republic of Congo: Qualitative Insights. *Sexual Health*.
4. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.***, Wee, Y. X., Chong, S. Y., Low, A. J., & Lee, J. (In Revision). "It Feels Safe When I'm Around Queer People": Exploring Relational Safety, Belonging, and Queer Legitimacy in Singapore. *Culture, Health, and Sexuality*.

Papers Published in Conference Proceedings

1. Rodricks, D. J., Crisostomo, A., & **Puvaneyshwaran, D.** (2026). Border-crossings and em(body)ed knowledge: Movement arts as community pedagogy in adult education. In L. Jardine (Ed.), *2026 CASAE/ACÉÉA-AERC Joint Conference—Crossing Borders, Building Bridges: Adult Education in Times of Transformation Annual Conference Proceedings* (pp. 612–619). Canadian Association for the Study of Adult Education (CASAE).

Manuscripts in Progress

1. Vo, T. D., Benard-Barry, S., Wang, C., & **Puvaneyshwaran, D.** Connection over isolation: Considerations for future 2S-LGBTQIA+ intergenerational engagement work on Turtle Island. *Journal of Intergenerational Relationships*.
2. Ghelani, A., **Puvaneyshwaran, D.**, Walker, C., Kabasakal, N., Dainty, O., Stadelman, K., Davies, M., & Lee, E. Student perspectives on psychosis curriculum codesigned by people with lived experience. *Journal of Teaching in Social Work*.
3. Lee, J.*, Nguyen, J., Wah, T. H., **Puvaneyshwaran, D.**, Cheung, H. S., & Ang, R. P. Exploring Cyberbullying Mechanisms and Modalities: Insights from Children, Parents, and Practitioners. *TBD*.
4. Rodricks, D. J., Crisostomo, A., & **Puvaneyshwaran, D.** Technique as Encounter: Living Methodologies, Differential Positionalities, and Embodied Knowledges in Diasporic South Asian Movement Arts Research. Abstract accepted for Issue 21, "Embodiment", *On_Culture*

Theses

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| 2024 | <p>Master's Thesis</p> <p><i>Examining Critical Consciousness in Gay, Bisexual and Queer Men through Theatre of the Oppressed: A Mixed-Methods Study</i>. National University of Singapore.</p> <p>https://scholarbank.nus.edu.sg/handle/10635/249413</p> <p>Advisors: Jungup Lee, PhD; Peilin Liang, PhD</p> |
| 2018 | <p>Honours Thesis</p> <p><i>Youth Theatre Project—Participatory Action Research Using Theatre of the Oppressed in Youth Social Service Settings</i>. National University of Singapore.</p> <p>https://scholarbank.nus.edu.sg/handle/10635/158133</p> <p>Advisor: Corrine Ghoh, PhD</p> |

PRESENTATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Oral Presentations

*Denotes Corresponding Author

1. Tantay, J. L.*, Flowers, P.*, **Puvaneyshwaran, D.***, & Christensen, C.* (2026, Jul 23–26). *Ancestral Wisdom, Future Visions: Theatre of the Oppressed for Queer and Trans Liberation*.

Accepted for Workshop Presentation at the 29th Pedagogy and Theatre of the Oppressed Conference, Minneapolis, MN, USA.

2. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.***, Tantay, J. L.*, & Flowers, P.* (2026, Jul 23—26). *Ancestral Wisdom, Future Visions: Theatre of the Oppressed Exclusively for Black & Brown Bodies*. Accepted for Workshop Presentation at the 29th Pedagogy and Theatre of the Oppressed Conference, Minneapolis, MN, USA.
3. Lee, J.* & **Puvaneyshwaran, D.** (2026, Jun 21—25). *Navigating Exclusion, Reclaiming Voice: Bullying, Disability, and Youth Resilience in Singapore*. Accepted for Paper Presentation in the Symposium “Relationships as Sites of Harm and Recovery: Youth Navigating Adversity Across Contexts” at the 28th Biennial Meeting of the International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development (ISSBD), Incheon, South Korea.
4. Rodricks, D. J.*, Crisostomo, A.*, & **Puvaneyshwaran, D.*** (2026, May 27—30). *Border-crossings and em(body)ed knowledge: Movement arts as community pedagogy in adult education*. Accepted for Paper Presentation at the Canadian Association for the Study of Adult Education (CASAE) Annual Conference, Vancouver, BC, Canada.
5. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.**, Dinh, D., Vo, T. D., Tepjan, S., Lacombe-Duncan, A., & Newman, P. A. (2026, January 14—18). *A Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR)-Enhanced Delphi study of LGBTIQ inclusion in Asia: A mixed methods approach (II)*. Accepted for Oral Presentation in the Symposium “In Mobilizing Evidence to Advance LGBTIQ Inclusion in Asia (META-LGBTIQ Asia): Community-engaged mixed methods approaches for transformative change” at the 30th Annual Society for Social Work and Research Conference, Washington, DC, USA.
6. Newman, P. A.*, Dinh, D., **Puvaneyshwaran, D.**, Vo, T. D., Tepjan, S. (2026, January 14—18). *A Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR)-Enhanced Delphi Study of LGBTIQ Inclusion in Asia: A Mixed Methods Approach (I)*. Accepted for Oral Presentation in the Symposium “In Mobilizing Evidence to Advance LGBTIQ Inclusion in Asia (META-LGBTIQ Asia): Community-engaged mixed methods approaches for transformative change” at the 30th Annual Society for Social Work and Research Conference, Washington, DC, USA.
7. Rodricks, D. J.*, Crisostomo, A.*, & **Puvaneyshwaran, D.*** (2026, January 3—7). *Movement Arts as a Living Methodological Intervention into Contemporary Understandings of Humanity and Human Intelligence*. Accepted for Oral Presentation at the IAFOR International Conference on Arts & Humanities in Hawaii (IICAH2026). Honolulu, HI, USA (virtual)
8. Rodricks, D. J.*, **Puvaneyshwaran, D.***, & Crisostomo, A.* (2025, November 7—9). *Movement Across Borders: Embodied Cultural Practice as Community-Based Inquiry*. [Symposium]. Accepted for Paper Presentation at *Amplify & Ignite: Artists Off Stage: Creative Work for a Changing World*, American Alliance for Theatre & Education, Salt Lake City, UT, USA
9. Stadelman, K.*, Dainty, O.*, Walker, C.*, **Puvaneyshwaran, D.**, Kabasakal, N., & Ghelani, A., (2025, November 27). *Partnering with lived experience advisors to co-design psychosis-focused simulations for social work education*. Accepted for Oral Presentation at CAMH SIMposium of Minds: The Future of Simulation and Digital Innovation for Mental Health, Toronto, ON, Canada.
10. Chong, S. Y.*, Goh, L. S.*, Lye, G. W. Y., Wee, Y. X., Tan, B. X. H., Ho, D. W. S., **Puvaneyshwaran, D.**, Low, A. J. M., Kumar, N., Hsu H. H., Neo P. H. M., & Tan R. K. J. (2025, August 7 – 9). *Operationalizing Intersectionality in Psychology: SPLICE-ing it up!* Accepted for Oral Presentation at APA 2025, Denver, CO, United States
11. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.*** (2025, May 1—4). *Navigating Theatre of the Oppressed in Research: Reflections of a Researcher-Practitioner*. Accepted for Oral Presentation at the 4th Annual Canadian Social Work Doctoral Student Network (CSWDSN) conference. Toronto, ON, Canada
12. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.** (2024, June 25—26). *Exploring therapeutic dimensions in Theatre of the Oppressed workshops for gay, bisexual, and queer men*. Accepted for Oral Presentation at the 27th Annual Pedagogy and Theatre of the Oppressed Conference. (Online)
13. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.***, Chong, S. Y.*, & Lee, J. (2024, June 7). *Exploring the Impact of Theatre of the Oppressed on Gay, Bisexual, and Queer Men in Singapore*. Accepted for Oral Presentation

at the Third Singapore Social Work Practice Research Conference 2024: Mrs Lee Choon Guan Endowed Research Fund, Singapore.

14. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.*** (2024, May 6—7). *Theatre of the Oppressed: Redefining Data Collection through Multifaceted Interpretations*. Accepted for Panel Presentation at the Knowledge PRAXIS Conference. AcademiaSG, Singapore.

Peer-Reviewed Poster Presentations

1. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.*** (2026, October 2). *Embodied Critical Praxis Through Theatre of the Oppressed: Disrupting Internalized Oppression among Racialized Queer Populations*. Poster Accepted for Presentation at the International Partnership for Queer Youth Resilience (INQYR) Beyond Limits: The Conference, Toronto, ON, Canada.
2. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.** & Lee, J.* (2025, June 11—13). *Navigating Childhood Bullying: Exploring Support Systems for Persons with Disabilities in Singapore*. Poster Accepted for Presentation at the World Anti-Bullying Forum 2025, Stavanger, Norway
3. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.***, Chong, S. Y.* & Lee, J. (2025, January 15—19). *The Potential of Theatre of the Oppressed in Fostering Critical Consciousness Among Gay, Bisexual and Queer Men*. Poster Accepted for Presentation at the 29th Annual Society for Social Work and Research Conference, Seattle, WA, USA
4. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.*** & Lee, J. (2025, January 15—19). *Navigating Bullying: Exploring Support Systems for Persons with Disabilities in Singapore*. Poster Accepted for Presentation at the 29th Annual Society for Social Work and Research Conference, Seattle, WA, USA
5. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.***, Lee, J. & Tan, R. K. J. (2025, January 15—19). *Start Stop Replace: A Scoping Review of Theatre of the Oppressed as a Strategy Against LGBTQ+ Youth Aggression*. Poster Accepted for Presentation at the 29th Annual Society for Social Work and Research Conference, Seattle, WA, USA
6. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.*** & Lee, J.* (2024, October 24—27). *Lived Experiences of Young Adults with Disability who Experienced Childhood Bullying*. Poster Accepted for Presentation at the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) 70th Annual Program Meeting, Kansas City, MO, USA
7. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.*** & Lee, J.* (2024, October 24—27). *Theatre of the Oppressed on the Critical Consciousness of Gay, Bisexual and Queer Men*. Poster Accepted for Presentation at the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) 70th Annual Program Meeting, Kansas City, MO, USA

Invited Academic Talks, Seminars, and Symposia

1. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.*** (2026, April 17). *Theatre of the Oppressed and Internalized Oppression Among the Queer South Asian Diaspora*. [Webinar]. International Partnership for Queer Youth Resilience (INQYR), Online.
2. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.*** (2026, March 30). Moderator. *The Good Gang: Stories from Tak Takut Kids Club*. [Lunch & Learn]. Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto: Toronto, Canada.
3. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.*** (2025, July 9). *“They Made Fun of Me for Being Different”: Experiences and Impacts of Childhood Bullying Among Young Persons with Disabilities in Singapore*. [Invited Seminar]. SSR Seminar Series. Social Service Research Centre, National University of Singapore: Singapore. [[recorded panel](#)].
4. Kumar, N.* & Wee, Y*, Low, A.* & **Puvaneyshwaran, D.*** (2024, July 6). *Exploring Intersectionality and Empowerment Amongst Marginalized Communities through Forum Theatre*. [Community Symposium]. Between the Lines: Gently Addressing the Margins. (2024, July 6). Rainbow Plus: Singapore.
5. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.*** (2024, July 6). *Using Theatre of the Oppressed as a form of Intervention*. [Community Symposium]. Between the Lines: Gently Addressing the Margins. (2024, July 6). Rainbow Plus: Singapore. [[recorded panel](#)].
6. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.*** (2023, December 6). *Reflections on using Theatre of the Oppressed with GBQ Men in Singapore*. [Departmental Symposium]. Theatre and Performance Studies Research

Day. Department of English, Linguistics, and Theatre Studies. National University of Singapore: Singapore.

7. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.*** (2023, November 3). *Examining the Potential of Theatre of the Oppressed on GBQ Men in Singapore*. [Symposium]. Graduate Research Symposium on Gender and Sexuality. Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Gender & Sexuality Research Cluster. National University of Singapore: Singapore.
8. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.*** (2023, April 27). *Impact of Forum Theatre on Social Work Practice: A Scoping Review*. [Departmental Symposium]. Theatre and Performance Studies Research Day. Department of English, Linguistics, and Theatre Studies. National University of Singapore: Singapore.
9. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.***, Lim, J. R., & Gunasegaran, S. (2019, October). *TRANS SAFE Centre: SAFE Bridge 2019 – The Power of Stop*. [Symposium]. “Strengthening Families Today: Collaborating With or For?” Symposium. TRANS Family Services: Singapore.
10. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.*** (2018, July 13). *Participatory Action Research Using Theatre of the Oppressed in Youth Social Service Settings*. [Invited Seminar]. Social Work Honours Students Seminar. Social Service Research Centre, National University of Singapore: Singapore.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2026—** **Research Assistant**, CRUISE Lab – PI: Dr. David Brennan
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto
 Led proposal writing and co-developed a SSHRC Partnership Grant (Stage 1) application [funded] for a community-based participatory action research project addressing anti-2S/LGBTQIA+ queerphobia in Canada. Contributed to the development of a SSHRC Connection Grant [funded] focused on strengthening knowledge mobilization capacity among 2S/LGBTQIA+ youth in sexual and reproductive health.
- 2025—** **Doctoral Research Fellow**, SSHINE Lab – PI: Dr. Carmen Logie
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto
 Led proposal writing and co-developed grant application (New Frontiers in Research Fund [funded] and ethics preparation for *Wezesha Thabiti* project, on using giant puppetry to address climate and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) challenges in Nairobi, Kenya. Led grant applications (Research Catalyst, Lawson Climate, Burroughs Wellcome) on addressing (WASH) challenges experienced by transmasculine communities in India.
- 2025—** **Doctoral Research Fellow**, BRIDGES Lab – PI: Dr. Tin D. Vo
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto
 Supported ethics preparation and coordinated community engagement sessions with Indigenous and non-Indigenous 2S/LGBTQIA+ youth and elders of Greater Sudbury, using a write-draw storying method. Co-analyzed qualitative interviews of public health experiences of SOGIE youth in Ontario.
- 2025—2026** **Research Assistant**, Psychosis Education Hub – PI: Dr. Amar Ghelani
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto
 Coordinated with lived experience advisors and co-developed actor training materials for standardized patient simulations on psychosis in MSW education. Performed in recorded role-play simulation of case study for use in student training. Supported ethics protocol preparation, data collection, analysis, and development of manuscripts.
- 2024—2026** **Research Trainee**, INQYR ISTN Cohort 4 – PI: Dr. Shelley Craig
International Partnership for Queer Youth Resilience (INQYR)
 Selected for competitive 2-year international research training program focused on LGBTQ+ youth resilience and digital technologies. Participated in interdisciplinary

webinars, mentorship, and peer learning across Canada, Australia, the U.S., and the U.K.

- 2024—2026 Research Assistant**, Mishritata Lab – PI: Dr. Dirk Rodricks
Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto
 Contributed to data collection, NVivo-based thematic analysis, and manuscript preparation for an arts-based research study exploring how cultural arts movements illuminate themes on border-crossing and diasporic identity among South Asians in Toronto. Co-led presentations of findings at interdisciplinary and arts-based conferences and workshops (AATE, IAFOR, CASAE).
- 2025 Research Assistant**, Youth Wellness Lab – PI: Dr. Stephanie Begun
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto
 Led proposal writing, budget planning, and co-developed a SSHRC Connection Grant exploring identity, belonging, and resilience among racialized international students in Toronto through Theatre of the Oppressed.
- 2024—2025 Doctoral Research Fellow**, MFARR-Asia – PI: Dr. Peter Newman
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto
 Co-led qualitative analysis using Atlas.ti for a multi-country Delphi study on LGBTQ+ inclusion across Asia. Awarded the SDGs@UofT Research Grant to support fieldwork in Thailand and Singapore. Leading outreach, recruitment, and data collection for Singapore arm of the study. Co-developed manuscript based on thematic findings.
- 2022—2025 Research Lab Associate**, CYBER Lab – PI: Dr. Jungup Lee
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore
 Led qualitative data analysis using NVivo for a study on disability-related bullying among children and adolescents in Singapore. Mentored undergraduate research assistants in qualitative coding and use of NVivo. Supported data collection, co-authored manuscripts based on thematic findings, and presented findings at local and international conferences.
- 2021—2022 Lead Researcher**, Help-Seeking Experiences of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities
TRANS SAFE Centre, Singapore
 Conceptualized and led the design, data collection, and analysis of a practice-based qualitative study examining help-seeking experiences of individuals with mild intellectual disabilities within the family violence system. Supervised social work interns and disseminated findings to inform service delivery and future practice directions.

SELECTED APPLIED THEATRE AND PARTICIPATORY ARTS-BASED INTERVENTIONS

- 2023—2024 Facilitator**, Theatre of the Oppressed
Humanitarian Organization for Migration Economics (HOME), Singapore
 Delivered Theatre of the Oppressed and arts-based workshops with migrant domestic workers exploring displacement, labor precarity, and acculturation stress within a shelter.
- 2023 Principal Investigator & Facilitator**, Theatre of the Oppressed
RainbowAsia, Singapore
 Designed and facilitated a 10-week Theatre of the Oppressed intervention with 16 gay, bisexual, trans, and queer men exploring identity, oppression, and lived experience. This project formed the basis of my Master's dissertation research on critical consciousness and minority stress.

- 2019** **Facilitator & Forum Theatre Joker**, Theatre of the Oppressed
TRANS Family Services: SAFE Bridge, Singapore
 Facilitated a Theatre of the Oppressed workshop with social workers and volunteers on family violence and bystander intervention, culminating in Forum Theatre performances addressing elder and vulnerable adult abuse.
- 2017** **Principal Investigator, Facilitator & Joker**, Theatre of the Oppressed
SHINE Guidance Programme, Singapore
 Led a Theatre of the Oppressed intervention with racialized youth offenders examining racial profiling and class-based marginalization, culminating in a Forum Theatre performance for youth, academics, and social service providers. Conducted as part of Honours thesis research.
- 2017—2024** **Additional Applied Theatre Practice (Selected)**
 Facilitated multiple applied theatre and participatory arts-based interventions across community, educational, and international settings, addressing themes such as migrant worker precarity, family violence, gender-based violence, and institutional power. This includes work with Developing Place Pte Ltd, Shoes Theatre, The Standby Collective, and Tandava Theatre (Nepal). Roles include facilitation, co-direction, and Forum Theatre performance development.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor/ Lecturer Roles

- Fall 2023** **Tutorial Instructor**, SW3105: Community Work Practice
College of Humanities and Sciences (CHS), National University of Singapore
 Bachelor of Social Work
- Winter 2023** **Lecturer**, SWD5102 Groups and Community
College of Humanities and Sciences (CHS), National University of Singapore
 Graduate Diploma of Social Work
- Winter 2023** **Lecturer and Tutorial Instructor**, SW3105: Community Work Practice
College of Humanities and Sciences (CHS), National University of Singapore
 Bachelor of Social Work
- Fall 2022** **Lecturer and Tutorial Instructor**, SW3105: Community Work Practice
College of Humanities and Sciences (CHS), National University of Singapore
 Bachelor of Social Work

Invited Teaching and Experiential Facilitation

- 2024—2026** **Simulation Lab Facilitator**, Simulation Learning Lab
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto
 Master of Social Work
- Fall 2025** **Guest Facilitator**, SWK4602H: Social Work Practice with Groups
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto
 Master of Social Work. Facilitated student-led Forum Theatre activity on institutional power, harm reduction, and structural oppression in social work practice.
- Winter 2025** **Guest Lecturer**, SWP 201: Preparing for Social Work Practice
School of Social Work, Toronto Metropolitan University
 Bachelor of Social Work. "Theatre-based Approaches in Social Work Practice".
- Winter 2025** **Guest Lecturer**, SWK4658H: Social Work Practice with Immigrants
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto

Master of Social Work. "Theatre of the Oppressed in Social Work Practice".

- Fall 2024** **Guest Facilitator**, SWK4602H: Social Work Practice with Groups
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto
Master of Social Work. "Microaggressions".
- Fall 2023** **Guest Lecturer**, TS4222: Practice as Research in Applied Theatre
College of Humanities and Sciences (CHS), National University of Singapore
Bachelor of Arts. "Theatre-based Praxis in Working with Marginalized Groups".
- Fall 2023** **Guest Lecturer**, SW4103: Advanced Research and Evaluation
College of Humanities and Sciences (CHS), National University of Singapore
Bachelor of Social Work. "Qualitative Data Analysis: A Case Study".
- Winter 2022** **Guest Lecturer**, SWD5102 Groups and Community
College of Humanities and Sciences (CHS), National University of Singapore
Graduate Diploma of Social Work. "Applied Theatre Techniques for Community Mobilization".
- Winter 2022** **Guest Lecturer**, SW3105: Community Work Practice
College of Humanities and Sciences (CHS), National University of Singapore
Bachelor of Social Work. "Applied Theatre Techniques for Community Mobilization".

Course Support Roles

- Fall 2026** **Teaching Apprentice**, SDS345: Sex and the Epidemic
Mark S. Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies, University of Toronto
Undergraduate – Dr. David Brennan
- Fall 2025** **Research Assistant**, SWK4602H: Social Work Practice with Groups
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto
Master of Social Work – Dr. Izumi Sakamoto
- Winter 2025** **Research Assistant**, SWK4654H: Practice in Organizations and Communities
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto
Master of Social Work – Dr. Tanya Sharpe
- Fall 2024** **Research Assistant**, SWK4602H: Social Work Practice with Groups
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto
Master of Social Work – Dr. Tat K. Tsang
- Fall 2022** **Teaching Assistant**, SWD5105 Skills in Advanced Social Work Practice
College of Humanities and Sciences (CHS), National University of Singapore
Graduate Diploma in Social Work – Ms. Elizabeth Quek

PEDAGOGICAL AND TEACHING MATERIALS

- Ghelani, A., Dainty, O., Walker, C., Stadelman, K., Kabasakal, N., **Puvaneyshwaran, D.**, Ashcroft, R., Davies, M., & Lee, E. (2025). *Psychosis Learning Guide for Actors Portraying Simulated Participants with Signs of Psychosis*. University of Toronto. [\[Link\]](#)
- Ghelani, A., Dainty, O., Walker, C., Stadelman, K., Kabasakal, N., **Puvaneyshwaran, D.**, Ashcroft, R., Davies, M., & Lee, E. (2025). *Psychosis Learning Guide for Social Work Students in Mental Health Courses*. University of Toronto. [\[Link\]](#)

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL TRAINING DEVELOPMENT AND DELIVERY

2019—2027 **Family Violence and Child Protection Training**

Co-developed and delivered training modules for frontline professionals (e.g., preschool educators, emergency helpline staff, and social service practitioners) on child protection, family violence response, and community-based intervention strategies. Trained and assessed preschool educators in the use of Singapore's Sector-Specific Screening Guide (SSSG) for assessing, documenting, and reporting child protection concerns.

2023—2024 Applied Theatre and Arts-Based Training

Developed and delivered multi-day trainings for social workers, educators, and community professionals on applied theatre and arts-based approaches in social work practice (e.g., 3-day “Using Applied Theatre Techniques within Social Work” training), with a focus on critical reflection, wellbeing, and community engagement across institutional settings).

2023—2024 Mental Health and Peer Support Training

Facilitated workshops on youth and workplace mental health, focusing on peer support, wellbeing, and early intervention strategies across tertiary and corporate settings.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2019— Trainer

Freelance (On-site/Online)

Designed and delivered professional training for social service agencies and educators on applied theatre, mental health, and community-based practice.

2012— Applied Theatre Practitioner/Actor

Freelance (On-site/Online)

Developed and facilitated arts-based interventions and performances across community, educational, and institutional settings. Performed in various public and private theatre performances. Simulated Patient (SP) for Management of Family Violence training program for social service professionals in Singapore (2022–Present).

2025—2026 Administrative Coordinator

Centre for Critical Qualitative Health Research, University of Toronto

Supported coordination, programming, and knowledge mobilization within the centre, including organization of in-person, online, and hybrid seminars and events and dissemination of research through digital platforms (e.g., social media and website).

2023—2024 Founder & Group Facilitator

Developing Place Pte Ltd

Founded and led community-based applied theatre initiatives focused on social work practice, identity, and collective reflection.

2020—2022 Assistant Manager (SUN RAY)

National Council of Social Services, Singapore

Selected for a sector-wide leadership development program, receiving structured training and mentorship in social service leadership. Seconded to TRANS SAFE Centre during tenure.

2018—2022 Registered Social Worker

TRANS SAFE Centre, Singapore

Provided counselling and intervention for victims, child witnesses, and persons who use violence within family violence contexts, including vulnerable adults with disabilities and mental health needs. Engaged in inter-agency collaboration and

partnership development across social service organizations. Led knowledge mobilization efforts through the co-development of psychoeducational materials and digital outreach initiatives.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (VOLUNTARY SERVICE)

2026— **Pride Toronto**, Toronto, ON, Canada

2025— **Queer Tamil Collective**, Toronto, ON, Canada

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Leadership and Service

2025— **Secretary**
PhD Student Association, Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work

2024—2028 **Board Member**
Humanitarian Organization for Migration Economics (HOME)

Editorial Activity

Ad-Hoc Reviewer

- Asia Pacific Journal of Social Work and Development
- International Journal of Qualitative Methods
- Journal of Community Psychology
- Journal of Homosexuality
- New Media and Society
- Sexuality and Culture

Professional Memberships

- Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR)
- Pedagogy and Theatre of the Oppressed (PTO)
- Singapore Association of Social Workers (SASW) (2018—2022)

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP AND MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

1. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.**, Tan, A., & Lee, J. (2026, March). *Experiences and Impacts of Bullying among Young Persons with Disabilities in Singapore*. Social Service Research Centre. Issue 1. <https://fass.nus.edu.sg/ssr/snippet-2026-issue-1/>
2. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.** (2025, July). Participatory Theatre for Social Work Practice in Singapore. *Social Dimensions*. Singapore Association of Social Workers. <https://sasw.org.sg/download/social-dimension-july-2025-vol-2-2025-different-faces-of-social-work/>
3. Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto. (2025, April). *Expanding research on LGBTIQ inclusion throughout Asia*. <https://socialwork.utoronto.ca/news/expanding-research-on-lgbtq-inclusion-throughout-asia-2/>
4. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.** (2020, February). Working as One for a Greater Purpose. *BrightSparks Magazine*. <https://brightsparks.com.sg/magazine/february-2020/feature/ncss/working-as-one-for-a-greater-purpose.php>
5. **Puvaneyshwaran, D.** (2017). Taking Risks, Breaking Through. *Mandala Centre for Change*. <https://www.mandalaforchange.com/taking-risks-breaking-through/>

PROFICIENCIES

Technical Proficiencies

Microsoft Office; Google Workspace; NVivo; SPSS; ATLAS.ti; Zotero; Obsidian; Canva; WordPress; Mailchimp

Language Proficiencies

English (Native); Tamil (Proficient)

CERTIFICATION

2026	Advanced Training in Qualitative Health Research Methodology <i>Centre for Critical Qualitative Health Research, University of Toronto</i>
2023	Advanced Certificate in Learning and Performance (ACLP) <i>Institute for Adult Learning, Singapore</i>
2022	Critical Facilitation <i>Drama Box Singapore</i>
2020	Management of Family Violence: Introduction and Intervention <i>Social Service Institute, Singapore</i>
2019	Applied Suicide Intervention Skills (ASIST) <i>Samaritans of Singapore</i>
2017	Theatre of the Oppressed Facilitation <i>Mandala Centre for Change, Seattle, WA, USA</i>