

**From:** Pericles Lewis, Dean of Yale College message@message.yale.edu  
**Subject:** Announcement – Berkeley College  
**Date:** June 20, 2024 at 9:00 AM  
**To:**



# Yale College

Office of the Dean

June 20, 2024

To the Fellows, Staff, and Students of Berkeley College:

At the end of last term, Dean Brianne Bilsky announced that she would be stepping down as Dean of Berkeley College and beginning in a new role as the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs at the U.S. Naval Academy. Professor David Evans and I are extremely grateful to Dean Bilsky for her service to Berkeley.

I am pleased to report that, after consulting with Professor Evans and a committee of Berkeley College fellows and students, I have appointed Bárbara Cruvinel Santiago to be the next dean of Berkeley College. She begins in her new role on August 1, 2024.

Dean Cruvinel Santiago -- or Dean Santiago, an address she welcomes -- studies nuclear security policy. After earning her B.S. in physics from Yale College, she earned her Ph.D., also in physics, from Columbia, researching astronomical instrumentation with the support of a NASA fellowship. In graduate school, she also became involved in policy issues as one of the inaugural fellows of the Physicists Coalition for Nuclear Threat Reduction and working on congressional lobbying. After completing her Ph.D., she turned her research to nuclear security issues as a Stanton Postdoctoral Nuclear Security Fellow at the Stanford Center for International Security and Cooperation.

Dean Santiago returns to Yale College with extensive experience mentoring

and teaching students. As a Yale undergraduate, she served as a peer liaison for the Yale Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS) and a peer mentor for the Yale Science, Technology, and Research Scholars (STARS) Program for underrepresented students in STEM. She co-organized the American Physical Society's Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics, served as co-president for Yale Women in Physics (WIP), and was the student representative in the physics department's Climate and Diversity Committee (CDC). As a Ph.D. candidate, she later went on to teach physics for two years at Columbia, where she also led the Columbia Physics Graduate Council in a range of initiatives to promote diversity and mental health; she also served as the graduate adviser to Spectra, the organization for underrepresented groups in the Columbia Department of Physics.

Dean Santiago was born and raised in Brazil. She is an outdoorswoman who likes rock climbing and visiting as many US national parks as she can. She is also a musician who has played guitar since she was 14 and, more recently, piano. She loves to work on arts and crafts, too, including vinyl cutting, glass etching and scrapbooking to knitting, sewing and very basic woodworking, and she looks forward to opportunities to share her enthusiasm for crafting. Accompanying her in the Berkeley dean's residence is her two-year-old English cream golden retriever, Fubá, whose name means "corn meal" in Portuguese. Fubá is exceptionally friendly, and Dean Santiago reports that she is looking forward to spending time with Fubá in Berkeley's two courtyards and that Fubá is eager to get pets and belly rubs from everyone he meets.

The dean's search advisory committee, chaired by Professor Evans, did excellent work in identifying and attracting such an outstanding candidate for the Berkeley deanship, and for its service I thank its members: Camille Thomasson (Resident Fellow), Holly Hermes (Fellow), Jackie Folmar (Fellow), Dani Doss ('24), Julia Wang ('24), Kala'i Anderson ('25), Michael Mun ('25), Abi Lopez Freire ('26), Tom Bailo ('27).

I hope you will join Professor Evans and me in welcoming Dean Santiago to

I hope you will join Professor Evans and me in welcoming Dean Santiago to Berkeley, and back to Yale.

Sincerely,

Pericles Lewis

Dean of Yale College

Douglas Tracy Smith Professor of Comparative Literature

Professor of English

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