

Bharathy Premachandra.

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SUMMARY

- Developing evidence-based solutions for social challenges with a commitment to equity.
- Global perspective and adaptability from diverse experiences across continents, industries, and disciplines.
- Multidisciplinary background in communication, psychology, behavioral science, and economics.
- Strong analytical skills in quantitative and qualitative methods, proficient in diverse research methodologies.

RESEARCH AREAS

Social Disparities & Equity; Behavioral Interventions; Social Psychology of Communication; Policy relevant Research; Community Engaged Research; Education; Health; Workplace; Technology; Metascience

SKILLS

Technical & Analytical Skills

Research Design and Execution
Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis
Data Analysis Tools: Atlas, NVivo,
SPSS, Qualtrics

Professional & Personal Attributes

Proactive and Self-motivated
Strong Interpersonal Abilities
Robust Work Ethic

Leadership & Community Engagement

Mentoring and Leadership
Multicultural Competence
Community Outreach and
Engagement

EDUCATION & AWARDS

Cornell University- *PhD in Communication; MS in Communication*

- Promising Graduate Student- Anson. E. Rowe Award; Cornell Graduate Fellowship; Dean's Working Group in Media Studies

2024

New York University- *M.A Psychology*

- Student Senators Council Conference Award; Doris M. Ohlsen Fellowship; M.A. Research Award; M.A. Travel Grant

2017

University of Essex- *B.A Financial Economics (Hons)*

2008

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Cornell University

Postdoctoral Research Associate

Sept 2024- Till Date

Role: Leading a collaborative, qualitative research project team exploring the experiences and communication practices of formerly detained immigrants in Louisiana.

NYU Institute of Human Development & Social Change

Associate Research Scientist

2016 - 2018

Role: Coordinated a meta-analysis on early childhood education's structural and process quality, focusing on synthesizing diverse datasets and contributing to peer-reviewed publications.

Learning & Insights: Developed proficiency in meta-analytic techniques, improving understanding of early childhood education quality factors, enhanced data synthesis skills, and understanding complexities of the educational domain.

Assistant Research Scientist

Role: Collaborated on an OECD-funded report on early childhood education, enhancing skills in large-scale research endeavors and ensuring rigorous analysis for international stakeholders. **Learning & Insights:** Participated in a critical research project to assess structural and process quality in early childhood education, leading to significant policy recommendations.

MAS Intimate Private Limited, Sri Lanka

Senior Business Analyst

2010-2014

Business Analyst

Role: Provided business support in reimagining the supply chain, emphasizing strategic planning and innovation in supply chain management. **Learning & Insights:** Reinvented supply chain processes aligned with the company's goals and vision.

UCL Business, University College London

Accounts & Data Analyst

2009 - 2010

Role: Delivered data-driven insights for business support and research commercialization.

Learning & Insights: Aided UCL Business in commercializing research through consultancy, technology transfer, and IP licensing.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

CALS-Patent Activated Learning System - How do people learn health information online?

Graduate Research Assistant

2023

Role: Provided research assistance in collaboration with Weill Cornell Medicine to study online health information acquisition among low-income individuals. Coordinated participant recruitment from hospital waiting rooms, executed consent procedures, administered surveys, and handled participant compensation. **Learning & Insights:** Delved into patient education systems, honed recruitment techniques, streamlined data processes, and adeptly managed racially and socioeconomically diverse research participants in a clinical setting.

Psychological Science Accelerator (PSA) - Stereotype Threat in Black College Students Across Many Operationalizations

Project Manager

2021 - 2023

Role: Oversaw a 54-lab collaboration on stereotype threat with the leadership team. Coordinated with teams to track progress, set timelines, and address challenges. Ensured adherence to PSA policies, facilitated lab communication, and collaborated with the PM Committee for resource optimization. Maintained comprehensive oversight of the project. **Learning & Insights:** Developed leadership and communication acumen, sharpened expertise in multi-lab research protocols, and implemented open research practices.

Cornell Action Research Collaborative

Graduate Research Assistant

Spring 2022

Role: Provided operational and administrative assistance in setting up processes and documentation for the newly inaugurated Action Research Collaborative. **Learning & Insights:** Proficiency in process establishment, documentation management, foundational setup for research initiatives, and understanding of action research dynamics.

Opportunity at Work

Graduate Research Assistant

Summer 2021

Role: Assisted in a literature review to change employer perceptions of workers without bachelor's degrees to promote better hiring practices. The research findings were intended to bolster a communication campaign to improve hiring prospects for those not pursuing college degrees. **Learning & Insights:** Strengthened research synthesis and literature analysis skills, deepened understanding of alternative workforces and gained insights into strategic communication campaigns targeting hiring biases.

Are Mobile Research Laboratories Effective Vehicles for Engaging Underrepresented Populations in Social Science

Graduate Research Assistant

2019 - 2020

Role: Developed survey measures for the project that involved getting a 360 view by administering surveys to research participants, community partners, and research assistants. **Learning & Insights:** Enhanced skills in survey design, understood the nuances of community engagement, and grasped the importance of research accessibility [stalled due to pandemic delays].

Cornell Virtual Embodiment Lab: Who Benefits from Virtual Reality-Based Learning Interventions?

Graduate Research Assistant

2019 - 2020

Role: Assisted in the VR study "Who Benefits from Virtual Reality-Based Learning Interventions?" Focused on participant recruitment and exploring interracial differences in virtual learning. **Learning & Insights:** Honed VR experimental design skills, grasped the interplay between race and tech in education, and recognized the role of self-avatar representation on learning outcomes [stalled due to pandemic delays].

NYU Stern - Ethical Systems- Under Pressure: Wells Fargo, Misconduct, Leadership and Culture

Bryan Turner Intern

2017 - 2018

Role: Investigated organizational culture and ethics, culminating in a case study on the Wells Fargo scandal. **Learning & Insights:** Applied a systemic approach to understanding the roots of the Wells Fargo scandal, recommending strategies for promoting ethical organizational culture.

American Psychological Association, United Nations-NGO

Intern

2016 - 2017

Role: Collaborated closely with APA U.N. representatives accredited to the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the Department of Information (DPI). Engaged in initiatives to underscore psychology's importance as a science and profession in line with the UN's global mission. **Learning & Insights:** Deepened understanding of the intersection between psychology and international policy, experiencing firsthand the relevance of psychology in framing and addressing global challenges outlined by the United Nations.

Anglin Lab- City University of New York

Research Assistant

2016 - 2017

Role: Managed participant recruitment administered diagnostic interviews for a study linking perceptual experiences to spirituality, and ensured data confidentiality and strict adherence to research protocols. **Learning & Insights:** Acquired expertise in psychosis risk assessment, enhanced skills in qualitative interview analysis, and maintained rigorous research ethics and standards.

IncentiWise

2014 - 2015

*Director Operations***Role:** Pioneered a social entrepreneurship startup; oversaw strategic planning and stakeholder engagement.**Learning & Insights:** Launched nationwide initiatives like the 'smart cities' challenge with Singularity Education Group and a festival reviving the war-affected region.**United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Sri Lanka***Research Assistant*

2014

Role: Evaluated children's rights in Sri Lanka's disadvantaged urban areas using community-driven research approaches. **Learning & Insights:** Employed diverse research techniques such as case studies, focus groups, and interviews to assess children's rights in underprivileged urban Sri Lanka.**TRAIL, Sri Lanka***Core Organizing Committee Member*

2012

Role: Played a crucial role in fundraising for a cancer hospital, mastering event organization and fundraising.**Learning & Insights:** Coordinated a 28-day countrywide walk that drew 30,000 participants and raised 2.6 million USD for the cancer hospital.

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Premachandra, B., & Lewis, N. A., Jr. (2022). Do We Report the Information that is Necessary to Give Psychology Away? A Scoping Review of Psychological Intervention Literature 2000-2018. *Perspectives on Psychological Science*, 17(1), 226-238. [\[link\]](#)

Von Suchodoletz, A., Lee, D.S., Henry, J., Tamang, S., Premachandra, B., & Yoshikawa, H. (2023). Early childhood education and care quality and associations with child outcomes: A meta-analysis. *Plos one*, 18(5), e0285985. [\[link\]](#)

Yeh, J.C., Premachandra, B., Lewis Jr, N. A., Niederdeppe, J., & Jernigan, D. H. (2023). Identities, drinking behaviors, and cancer beliefs among African American and White American adults: A qualitative analysis. *Journal of Ethnicity in Substance Abuse*, 1-22. [\[link\]](#)

Tepper, S. J., Spruill, M. K., Premachandra, B., & Lewis Jr, N. A. (2022). Surveys as conversations between makers and takers: A conversational framework for assessing and responding to community needs. *Analyses of Social Issues and Public Policy*, 22(3), 857-875. [\[link\]](#)

PREPRINTS

Cho, J. Y., Premachandra, B., Kizilcec, R., & Lewis Jr, N. (under review). Classroom contexts, student mindsets, and (in) equity in computer science: A national longitudinal study. [\[link\]](#)

Buchanan, E. M., Cavagnaro, D., Premachandra, B., Lewis Jr, N., Taylor, V. J., Urry, H. L., & Forscher, P. S. (2023). The Challenges and Payoffs of In-person Big-team Science. [\[link\]](#)

POLICY REPORTS

Premachandra, B., & Filabi, A. (2018, January). Under Pressure: Wells Fargo, Misconduct, Leadership, and Culture. [\[link\]](#)

Von Suchodoletz, A., Lee, S., Premachandra, B., & Yoshikawa, H. (2018, January). Associations among quality indicators in early childhood education and care (ECEC) and relations with child development and learning: A Meta-Analysis. A report submitted to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development [OECD] [\[link\]](#)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Rubin, N., Premachandra, B., and Ober, T. (2017, August) Understanding the Interconnectedness of the Environment with Social and Economic Sustainability: Psychological Contributions to Well-being In J. Seigal (Chair), The UN and Well-Being in the 21st Century: Psychological Contributions for Contemporary Social, Economic, and Environmental Challenges. Symposium talk at the annual American Psychological Association's Washington, D.C. conference.

Premachandra, B. (2017, May). Inner Voice Morality: The Inner Reading Voice and its Influence on Moral Judgment. Poster presented at the 29th Annual Convention of the Association for Psychological Science, Boston, MA.

Premachandra, B. (2017, March). Inner Reading Voices and Moral Judgment. Poster presentation at the 21st annual NYU-MA Psychology Research Conference, New York, NY

Premachandra, B. (2017, March). Psychological Research on Social Interventions for Conflict Resolution, Peace Negotiations & Fieldwork Assessments In T. Ober (Chair), Psychology and UN Agenda Post-2015: Realizing Issues and Intersections of International Psychology. The symposium was conducted at the Eastern Psychological Association conference in Boston, MA.

Premachandra, B. (2016, March). The Combined Effect of Cultural Orientation and Risk-Taking on Innovation Potential. Poster presentation at the 20th annual NYU-MA Psychology Research Conference, New York.