



Division of Academic Affairs  
**Eugene H. Fram Chair in  
Applied Critical Thinking**

## **Fram Focus volume 9:3 - October 2023**

### **Fram Signature Lecture & Reception, Register today!**

#### **Fram Signature Lecture:**

- **2023 Fram Signature Lecture Featuring Natali Valdez, Ph.D. Thinking Critically about Scientific Innovations + Medical Policy: A lecture, case study, and conversation.**  
Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, from 3:30 – 4:45 pm, Ingle Auditorium. Co-sponsored with the College of Liberal Arts. A response by Kristoffer Whitney, Ph.D., associate professor in the College of Liberal Arts Department of Science, Technology, and Society, will open the question and answer session. The conversation continues in the Fireside Lounge during a post-lecture reception. Light refreshments will be served. For more information and to register click [HERE](#).

#### **Co-Sponsored**

- **Creepy Critical Thinking: Prebunking as Inoculation against Disinformation**  
Friday, October 27, 11:30-12:30, McKenzie Commons.

#### **Fram Finds**

- **Hispanic/Latine/x Heritage Month Keynote Speaker: Dr. Wilfredo Alvarez**, October 12, 2023, 5:00-6:00 pm
- **Brick City Homecoming & Family Weekend:** October 13<sup>th</sup> – October 15<sup>th</sup>.
- **Vignelli Center Lecture: Richard Poulin**, October 18, 2023, 5:30 – 6:30 pm

#### **From Gene Fram**

- *Remember The Human Element Of The Emerging AI World*
- *Agile Decision Making And Critical Thinking: How Entrepreneurs Can Achieve Data-Driven Success*

## **FRAM SIGNATURE LECTURE**

- **2023 Fram Signature Lecture Featuring Natali Valdez, Ph.D. Thinking Critically about Scientific Innovations + Medical Policy: A lecture, case study, and conversation. Co-sponsored with the College of Liberal Arts**  
How do advances in science affect health policies and interventions? Do political and social factors either limit or advance the health of certain populations? Medical anthropologist and science and technology scholar Natali Valdez, Ph.D., draws on her research in race, gender, and power in the context of scientific knowledge and her recent book “[Weighing the Future: Race, Science and Pregnancy Trial in the Postgenomic Era](#)” for a talk focused on the relationship between emergent science and health policy. A response by Kristoffer Whitney, Ph.D., associate professor in the College of Liberal Arts Department of Science, Technology, and Society, will open the question and answer session. The conversation continues in the Fireside Lounge during a post-lecture reception. Light refreshments will be served. Come, listen, and participate in an engaging presentation and discussion. For more information and to register click [HERE](#).

#### **More from our Signature Speaker:**

Interview w Natali Valdez on UC Press Blog:

A selection of Good Reads:

- Valdez, N. (2023), Studying Up from the Margins in a white-supremacist-cis-hetero-patriarchal-capitalist culture1. *Med. Anthropol. Q.*, 37: 190-203. <https://doi.org/10.1111/maq.12765> or <https://anthrosource.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/maq.12765>
- Valdez, N. (2022). The Politics of Postgenomic Reproduction: Exploring Pregnant Narratives from within a Clinical Trial. *Science, Technology, & Human Values*, 47(6), 1205–1230. <https://doi.org/10.1177/01622439211066759> or <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/01622439211066759>
- Valdez, N. (2020), Reproducing Whiteness: Race, Food, and Epigenetics. *American Anthropologist*, 122: 668-669. <https://doi.org/10.1111/aman.13451> or <https://anthrosource.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/action/showCitFormats?doi=10.1111%2Faman.13451>

## CO-SPONSORED

- **Creepy Critical Thinking: Prebunking as Inoculation against Disinformation**  
Friday, October 27, 11:30-12:30, McKenzie Commons. This October workshop will use Halloween-themed cases such as hauntings and UFO sightings to illustrate how prebunking can prepare students for encounters with misinformation and can help to immunize against conspiracy theories and other kinds of disinformation. Since instructors need not limit their use of prebunking to the paranormal, we may also explore tailored strategies aligning with the courses of attendees. Click [here](#) to register for this workshop.

## FRAM FINDS

- **Hispanic/Latine/x Heritage Month Keynote Speaker: Dr. Wilfredo Alvarez**, October 12, 2023, 5:00-6:00 pm, location: SAU - 1829 Room. Wilfredo Alvarez, Ph.D., BS '02 (he/him/his) is the author of *Everyday Dirty Work: Invisibility, Communication, and Immigrant Labor*, a book that focuses on Latinx immigrant essential workers. Wilfredo studied Communication at RIT and his teaching and research focus on communication issues related to social identity (i.e., race, ethnicity, social class, immigration, gender, sexual orientation, and ability status). ASL interpreters have been secured, Register via RIT events. For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).
- **Brick City Homecoming & Family Weekend**, October 13, 2023, all day, campus-wide. October 14, 2023, 8:00 am - 11:59 pm, Campus Wide. October 15, 2023, 8:00 am - 11:59 pm, Room/Location: Campus Wide. Brick City Homecoming & Family Weekend is a longstanding RIT tradition of celebrating families, students, alumni, staff, and friends of the University with one spectacular weekend. For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).
- **Vignelli Center Lecture: Richard Poulin**, October 18, 2023, 5:30 – 6:30 pm, MAGIC Spell Studios Room/Location: Wegmans Theater. Richard Poulin is a designer, educator, author, and artist. Throughout his career, he has focused on a generalist approach to all aspects of design, including graphic, environmental, interior, and exhibition design, dividing his time between professional practice and academia. His work has been published in periodicals and books internationally and is in the permanent design collections of the Denver Museum of Art, Library of Congress, and Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA). He is the author of several books on graphic design, typography, and design history, which have been translated into eight languages and used by students and practitioners worldwide. For more information, click [HERE](#).

## FROM GENE FRAM

- [\*“Remember The Human Element Of The Emerging AI World”\*](#), by Bjorn Reynolds, Forbes, August 30, 2023
- [\*“Agile Decision Making And Critical Thinking: How Entrepreneurs Can Achieve Data-Driven Success”\*](#), by Roland Polzin, Forbes, September 7, 2023

