



# HARTZMAN AWARD HIGHLIGHT

ROSANNE LUU

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

**International  
Conference of the  
Learning Sciences  
(ICLS)**

**Helsinki, Finland  
June 2025**



The Hartzman International Conference Travel Award enables SoE graduate students to present their work at international conferences. It is made possible through generous support from Marlene Hartzman.



**Global Engagement Office**  
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

I attend the International Conference of the Learning Sciences (ICLS) in Helsinki, Finland, in June 2025. I found the experience of presenting my work to an international community of scholars to be invaluable in deepening my thinking and understanding of my research topic. My presentation audience asked questions that helped spark ideas about how my work could translate into practical applications for teaching for equity. I also engaged in generative discussion about the interconnectedness of my work with others. I am grateful for the new connections made, the encouragement provided, and further insights into expanding my paper into a journal publication.

Through participating in this conference, I was able to learn from and network with scholars from across the globe about their ongoing studies and how their research and theories of learning are shaped by the local contexts of their work. The interdisciplinary nature of the conference connected me with scholars in different disciplines, who brought new perspective. I also received opportunities to network with more senior faculty and was invited to join an informal working group composed of scholars across different institutions interested in studying similar research topics. Through all my conversations, I forged new connections with other scholars and am excited about how attending this conference has expanded my professional network.

My time visiting Helsinki, Finland, also sparked ideas about studying and learning in different cultural contexts. As an education scholar, my work takes on assumptions that learning is sociocultural, and visiting different educational spaces in Helsinki provided me with an eye-opening experience about how learning could be structured differently in different communities. For example, I visited the Oodi Library and observed how the library's mission — to build learning spaces that encourage community and opportunity across ages and socio-economic statuses — was designed and implemented in practice in the community.

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