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Okhee Lee is a professor in the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development at New York University. Her research areas include science education, language and culture, and teacher education. She is leading collaborative research between New York University and Stanford University to develop NGSS-aligned instructional materials to promote science and language learning of elementary students, including English learners. She is also leading collaborative research with MIT and Vanderbilt University to integrate computational thinking and modeling in NGSS-aligned instructional materials. She was a member of the NGSS writing team and served as leader for the NGSS Diversity and Equity Team.

She was also a member of the Steering Committee for the Understanding Language Initiative at Stanford University. She received 2019 Innovations in Research on Equity and Social Justice in Teacher Education Award from the American Educational Research Association (AERA) Division K Teaching and Teacher Education, was a 2009 AERA Fellow, received 2003 Distinguished Career Contribution Award from the AERA Scholars of Color in Education, and was awarded a 1993-1995 National Academy of Education Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowship.