

UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS

15-191



New Tenure-Track Faculty

2015-2016



UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS



Ashok Saxena

Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Dear Colleagues,

A warm welcome to all our faculty! 2015-2016 is once again promising to be another outstanding academic year.

We are very proud of all our faculty, staff and students and feel fortunate to have attracted the best of the best to join us and become a part of our highly accomplished faculty.

In this booklet, we have the most recent additions to the tenure-track / tenured faculty ranks in all colleges and schools at the University of Arkansas. We have been fortunate to add several new faculty members as the University continues to experience record enrollments.

The University of Arkansas, the State of Arkansas' land-grant, flagship university (established 1871), has a long and distinguished history of teaching, research, outreach, and service to the residents of Arkansas, the region, the nation and the world. The YOU of A continues to receive national recognition for its excellence. We are Arkansas' only comprehensive research university and are classified among the US institutions with "very high research activity." We eagerly look forward to the contributions that our new and continuing faculty will make in research, scholarship and educating both Arkansans and our students from all other 49 states in the US and over a hundred countries around the world. This will help to continue the legacy of the University of Arkansas serving as an economic and cultural engine for the state and the nation.

I am confident that the careers of our new faculty will be productive and successful, and we are pleased that they have chosen to join the University of Arkansas.

Sincerely,
Ashok Saxena

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Professor and Department Head

Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences

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Jennifer N. Becnel

Assistant Professor, School of Human Environmental Sciences

Clemencia M. Rojas

Assistant Professor, Plant Pathology

Yan Huang

Assistant Professor, Animal Science

James E. Koltes

Assistant Professor, Animal Science

Di Fang

Assistant Professor, Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness

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Assistant Professor, History

Jason Burrow

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Jee Young Chung

Assistant Professor, Journalism

Hugh Churchill

Assistant Professor, Physics

Todd Cleveland

Assistant Professor, History

Robert Coridan

Assistant Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry

Sean Dempsey

Assistant Professor, English

J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences continued

Kelly A. Hammond

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Bret Lehmer

Assistant Professor, Physics

Paolo Mantero

Assistant Professor, Mathematical Sciences

Raymond McCaffrey

Assistant Professor, Journalism

Xavier Medina Vidal

Assistant Professor, Political Science

Mahmoud Moradi

Assistant Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry

Jeffrey Allen Murdock Jr.

Assistant Professor, Music

Venkatesan Ram Natarajan

Assistant Professor, Anthropology

Wenbo Niu

Assistant Professor, Mathematical Sciences

Michael Adam Siepielski

Assistant Professor, Biological Sciences

Brett E. Sterling

Assistant Professor, World Languages, Literatures and Cultures

Johanna Thomas

Assistant Professor, School of Social Work

Shaun Thomas

Assistant Professor, Sociology and Criminal Justice

Gilles Viennot

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Stephen Burgin
Assistant Professor, Curriculum and Instruction

Erin Kern
Assistant Professor, Rehabilitation, Human Resources and
Communication Disorders

Suzanne Kucharczyk
Assistant Professor, Curriculum and Instruction

Xinya Liang
Assistant Professor, Rehabilitation, Human Resources and
Communication Disorders

Kaitlin Gallagher
Assistant Professor, Health, Human Performance and Recreation

Marilou Shreve
Assistant Professor of Nursing, Eleanor Mann School of Nursing

Kelly Vowell-Johnson
Assistant Professor of Nursing and Associate Director of Academic
Affairs, Eleanor Mann School of Nursing

Haitao Liao
Professor, Industrial Engineering

Xiaoqing Frank Liu
Professor and Department Head, Computer Science and Computer
Engineering

Zhong Chen
Assistant Professor, Electrical Engineering

Sarah Hernandez
Assistant Professor, Civil Engineering

Sarah Nurre
Assistant Professor, Industrial Engineering

Kyle Quinn
Assistant Professor, Biomedical Engineering

Yue Zhao
Assistant Professor, Electrical Engineering

University Libraries - PAGE 61

Jozef Laincz
Geosciences and Maps Librarian (Assistant Librarian/Assistant
Professor)

Jonathan M. Torres
Librarian (Assistant Librarian/Assistant Professor)

College of Engineering - PAGE 53

Morten Jensen
Associate Professor, Biomedical Engineering



Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design
New Faculty Appointment with Tenure

Winifred Elyse Newman

Professor and Department Head

Winifred Elyse Newman work is in perception, psychology, architecture, and neuroscience. Areas of research include neuroscience and architecture, neuroaesthetics, space perception, mapping and data visualization, and histories of technology and science. Dr. Newman was a Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin and received additional fellowships from the Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences, the Harvard Graduate School of Design, and the Graham Foundation, among others. She is Professor and Head of Architecture at the Fay Jones School of Architecture, University of Arkansas. She taught at Harvard University, Washington University in St. Louis, University of Tennessee and Florida International University. She has published work in the United States and Germany and served on the editorial board of the *Journal of Architectural Education*. She is a partner in FieldOffice, LLC.

Sabrina Peterson Trudo

Associate Professor
School of Human Environmental Sciences

Sabrina Peterson Trudo is Associate Professor in the School of Human Environmental Sciences. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Washington. Previously she was the Associate Director of Graduate Studies, Nutritional Science Graduate Program, and Associate Professor of Foods and Health, Department of Food Science and Nutrition, at the University of Minnesota. Dr. Trudo's general research focus is functional foods and prevention of chronic diseases, especially cancer. Dr. Trudo serves as the Chair, Nominating Committee, Research Dietetic Practice Group, for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and is a registered dietitian, Commission of Dietetic Registration.





Jennifer N. Becnel

***Assistant Professor
School of Human Environmental Sciences***

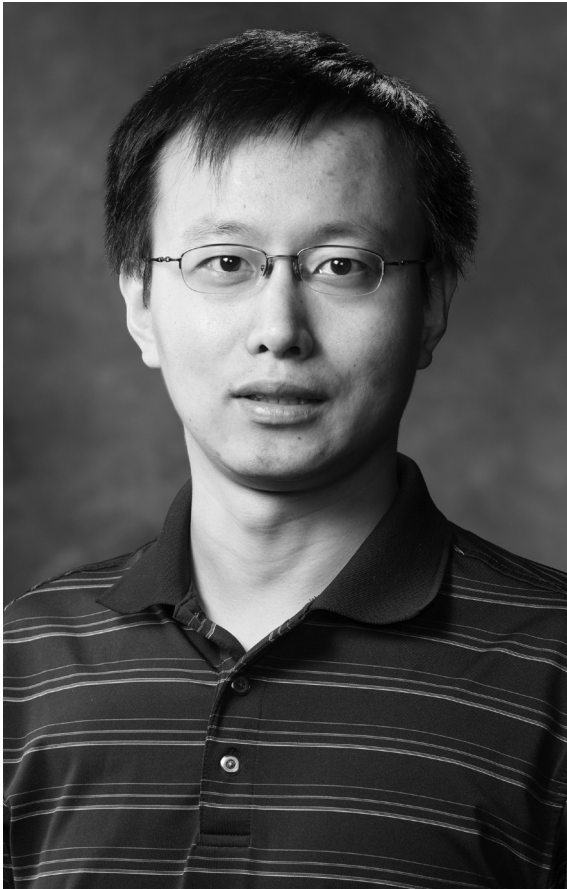
Jennifer N. Becnel is Assistant Professor in the School of Human Environmental Sciences. She received her Ph.D. from Arizona State University. Previously, she held a post-doctoral fellowship with the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Division of Behavioral Medicine and Clinical Psychology. Her research focus is on child behavior, peer relationships, nutrition, and obesity. She was Assistant Professor of Psychology at Oregon Institute of Technology from 2011 to 2013. Dr. Becnel is a member of the Society for Research in Adolescence, Society for Research in Child Development, and The Obesity Society.

Clemencia M. Rojas

***Assistant Professor
Plant Pathology***

Clemencia M. Rojas is Assistant Professor in the Department of Plant Pathology. She received her Ph.D. from Cornell University. Previously she was a Research Scientist at The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation. Dr. Rojas' expertise is in plant-microbe interactions; understanding both how pathogens cause disease in plants and how plants deploy defense responses to counteract pathogen attack. She was awarded the International Society for Molecular Plant-Microbe Interactions Travel Award at the XVI International Congress on Molecular Plant-Microbe Interactions in Rhodes, Greece, in July 2014. Dr. Rojas is a member of the American Society for Plant Biologists.





Yan Huang

***Assistant Professor
Animal Science***

Yan Huang is Assistant Professor in the area of nutritional skeletal muscle biology in the Department of Animal Science. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Wyoming. Previously, he held a research fellowship with the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Division of Molecular Cardiovascular Biology, Heart Institute.

James E. Koltes
Assistant Professor
Animal Science

James E. Koltes is Assistant Professor in the area of epigenetics in the Department of Animal Science. He received his Ph.D. from Iowa State University. Dr. Koltes' research focuses largely on the genetics of growth, metabolism and disease processes in livestock. His species of interest is cattle; however, he is also involved in projects that utilize mice, pigs, poultry, and water buffalo. He has served as a U.S. Fulbright Fellow to Belgium with a research focus in transgenic mouse models for Crohn's disease and Myostatin. Previously he held a post-doctoral fellow at Iowa State University, Department of Animal Science.



Di Fang

***Assistant Professor
Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness***

Di Fang is Assistant Professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness. Ms. Fang expects to receive her Ph.D. by September 2015 from Arizona State University. Previously she was a research assistant at the Morrison School of Agribusiness, Arizona State University, where she held the W. P. Carey School of Business Research Fellowship. Her research interests include consumer behavior as it relates to food and health, new product diffusion, spatial modeling, economics modeling, social networks analysis, and health marketing. Ms. Fang's membership in professional organizations include Agricultural & Applied Economics Association, Western Agricultural Economics Association, and American Statistical Association.



Lindsey Aloia
Assistant Professor
Communications

Lindsey Aloia holds a Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University. Her research focuses on illuminating the causes and consequences of verbal aggression in interpersonal associations. Specifically, Dr. Aloia aims to understand how qualities of interpersonal interactions and the interactants influence the use of and reactions to verbally aggressive experiences. Aloia's work considers psychological and physiological reactions to verbal aggression, to elucidate the personal, relational, and health implications of aggressive communication. Dr. Aloia's research has been published in the discipline's top journals including *Human Communication Research* and *Communication Monographs*. Dr. Aloia joins us most recently from Rollins College in Orlando, Florida.





New Tenure-Track Faculty

Shawn M. Austin

Assistant Professor History

Shawn Austin holds a B.A. in History with a Spanish minor from Brigham Young University-Idaho, an M.A. in Latin American History and a Ph.D. with distinction in Latin American History from the University of New Mexico. His field of research is Colonial Latin American History. Dr. Austin teaches a variety of courses in Colonial Latin American history, including frontiers and borderlands, women and gender, indigenous peoples, and Africans and slavery. Austin has two articles in press, one in progress, and is working on an edited volume as well as his book manuscript. He comes to the University of Arkansas from Notre Dame, Indiana.

Jason Burrow
Assistant Professor
Theatre

Jason Burrow holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Arkansas and Master of Music degrees in multiple disciplines from Ohio University. Most recently Dr. Burrow has lived and worked in New York City as a musical director, voice teacher, accompanist, and vocal coach. His students have been seen on and off Broadway, as well as in national tours and regional theaters. Jason most recently worked at New York University's Steinhardt Department of Vocal Performance and as an adjunct professor in the NYU Tisch School of the Arts, New Studio on Broadway.





New Tenure-Track Faculty

Jee Young Chung

Assistant Professor Journalism

Jee Young Chung earned her Master of Arts in Public Relations Studies at the University of Houston, studying the role of public relations in marketing communication. She earned her doctorate in Mass Communication with an emphasis in public relations at the University of Alabama. Dr. Chung's dissertation examined organizational legitimacy and factors affecting the legitimacy such as corporate social responsibility. Her academic research interests are to expand the scope of public relations to strategic corporate communication. Prior to coming to the University of Arkansas, Dr. Chung served as an assistant professor of Strategic Communication in the Department of Communication at Southern Utah University.

Hugh Churchill
Assistant Professor
Physics

Hugh Churchill completed his Ph.D. at Harvard University with Professor Charles Marcus in 2012. He worked to develop carbon nanotube and nanowire quantum dot devices for use as quantum bits. He received undergraduate degrees in physics, mathematics, and tuba performance in 2006 from Oberlin College and Conservatory of Music. He is originally from Conway, Arkansas. Churchill comes to the University of Arkansas from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he held a Pappalardo Fellowship in Physics. At MIT he worked with the group of Prof. Pablo Jarillo-Herrero on electronic transport and optoelectronics with two-dimensional semiconductors.





Todd Cleveland

Assistant Professor History

Todd Cleveland holds a B.A. and M.A. in History from the University of New Hampshire, and a Ph.D. in African History from the University of Minnesota. His research and publications revolve around Africa diamond mining and soccer migration. Some of his past research has also resulted in publications that explore African National Congress activity in post-independence Angola; the archival research process in Portugal; the introduction of industrial education into colonial Angola; the role of soccer in engendering Angolan nationalism; and the methodological implications of conducting research in contemporary Angola. Dr. Cleveland comes to the University of Arkansas from Augustana College, Illinois.

Robert Coridan
Assistant Professor
Chemistry and Biochemistry

Robert Coridan holds a B.S. in Physics and a B.S. in Computer Science from the Ohio State University, and a Ph.D. in Physics from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. His current research interests include the synthesis of hierarchically structured photoelectrochemical materials, and the development of *in operando* methods for characterizing electrochemical processes. Dr. Coridan is establishing an outstanding publication record, having published in top-ranked journals in his field and has successfully collaborated on two patents. Dr. Coridan comes to the University of Arkansas from Caltech where he was a Postdoctoral Scholar in the Department of Chemistry.





Sean Dempsey

***Assistant Professor
English***

Sean Dempsey holds a B.A. from Connecticut College and an M.A. and Ph.D. from Boston University. His teaching and research interests are in Romanticism, 18th- and 19th-Century British Literature and Culture, Modernism and Modernity, Critical Theory, Ecocriticism, Religion and Literature, Phenomenology, and Visuality. He previously taught at Harvard University and Phillips Exeter Academy. His publication record is outstanding, including several articles, one of which was in the foremost journal in his field. Dr. Dempsey has held fellowships at the School for Criticism and Theory, the National Humanities Center, and at institutes in Berlin, Antwerp, and Vienna.

Kelly A. Hammond

***Assistant Professor
History***

Kelly Hammond holds a B.A. in History and Political Science from Bishop's University, Lennoxville, Quebec; an M.A. in East Asian History from Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, B.C.; and a Ph.D. in East Asian History from Georgetown University. Some of her many research interests are: Islam in China, Islam in Central Asia, Japanese Imperialism and the Pacific War, Late Imperial-Modern China, and masculinity in Asia. Her dissertation was entitled "*Winning Hearts and Minds?: Japanese involvement with Muslims in North China, ca. 1931-1945.*" Dr. Hammond was most recently a Research Fellow at the Georgetown School of Foreign Service in Qatar.





Bret Lehmer

***Assistant Professor
Physics***

Bret Lehmer holds a B.S. in Physics and Astronomy from the University of Iowa and a Ph.D. in Astronomy and Astrophysics from Penn State University. His research interests are in extragalactic multiwavelength surveys of normal and active galaxies; the formation and evolution of X-ray binary and compact object populations in galaxies; the coevolution of galaxies and their central supermassive black holes. Lehmer's research is well-funded with total grants awarded at approximately \$1,360,000. He has an excellent publishing record with citations received in excess of 2,700. Dr. Lehmer comes to the University of Arkansas from Johns Hopkins University and the Goddard Space Flight Center.

Paolo Mantero
Assistant Professor
Mathematical Sciences

Paolo Mantero holds a Bachelor and Master's degree in Mathematics summa cum laude from the University of Genova in Italy, and a Ph.D. in Mathematics, earned in 2012, from Purdue University. His research interests are in Commutative Algebra and its interactions with Algebraic Geometry, Combinatorics and Homological Algebra. Dr. Mantero will be joining the University of Arkansas from the University of California at Riverside, where he was awarded a Teaching Award in 2014. He also holds one of the 60 two-year AMS-Simons Travel Grants awarded nationwide in 2013, and has given almost 40 invited talks.





New Tenure-Track Faculty

Raymond McCaffrey

Assistant Professor Journalism

Raymond McCaffrey holds a B.A. in psychology from Fairfield University and an M.A. in clinical psychology from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. He earned his Ph.D. in journalism studies from the University of Maryland. McCaffrey came to the University of Arkansas in 2014 as interim director for the Center for Ethics in Journalism. He worked for more than 25 years as a journalist, including eight years as a staff writer and an editor at *The Washington Post*. He has taught an array of courses, including news reporting and writing, journalism ethics, and journalism history.

Xavier Medina Vidal

***Assistant Professor
Political Sciences***

Xavier Medina Vidal holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of California, Riverside. His research interests in U.S. politics are Hispanic/Latino political behavior, Latino political thought, state politics and policy, race and ethnicity, ethnic media, and immigration politics. His research interests in Mexican Politics are legislative and subnational politics, and parties and elections. Dr. Medina Vidal has an excellent publication record, having published in top-ranked political science journals. He has served as a Fiscal Policy Analyst for the New Mexico Legislative Finance Committee. Dr. Medina Vidal is the Diane D. Blair Assistant Professor in Latino Studies.





Mahmoud Moradi

Assistant Professor Chemistry and Biochemistry

Mahmoud Moradi holds a B.S and M.S. in Physics from Sharif University of Technology, Tehran, Iran, and a Ph.D. in Physics from the North Carolina State University, Raleigh. He comes to the University of Arkansas from the Computational Structural Biology and Molecular Biophysics Group, Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology, and the Department of Biochemistry at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where he was a postdoctoral research associate. Dr. Moradi's research interests are biomolecular processes, simulation techniques, and statistical physics of macromolecules. His proposed research is on developing ways to simulate the large-scale motions of proteins at an atomic level.

Jeffrey Allen Murdock Jr.

***Assistant Professor
Music***

Jeffrey Murdock, Jr. holds a Bachelor of Music Education and a Master of Music in Conducting from the University of Southern Mississippi; a Ph.D. in Music Education from the University of Memphis. Dr. Murdock is known regionally, nationally, and internationally as a conductor, clinician, and adjudicator. He has produced and performed in multiple international and domestic tours featuring music representative of various genres from western choral to gospel. Dr. Murdock comes to the University of Arkansas from the University of Memphis where he was an adjunct professor of music. His research interests include cultural hegemony in choral music education and music in urban schools.





New Tenure-Track Faculty

Venkatesan Ram Natarajan

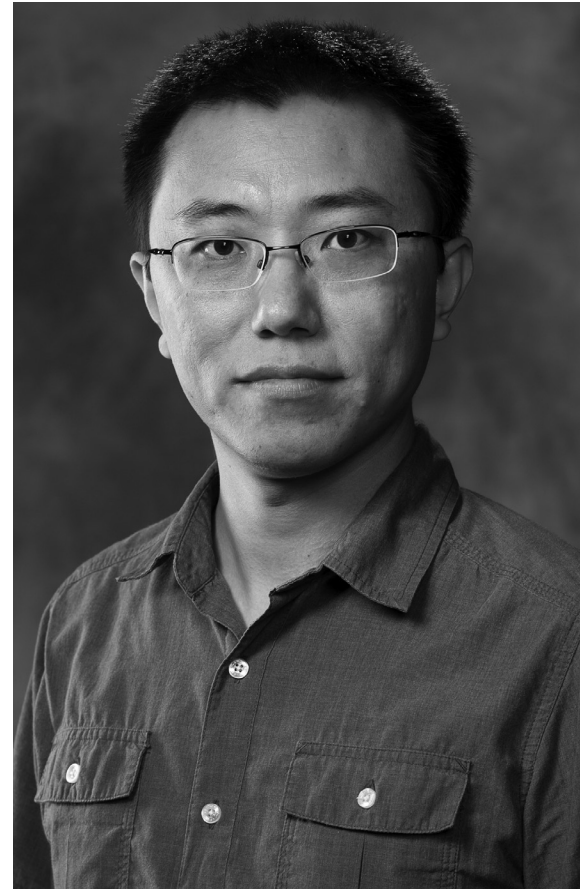
Assistant Professor Anthropology

Ram Natarajan holds a Ph.D. in Anthropology from New York University. His research and teaching focus is on violence, memory, literature, human rights, and law. He is currently working on a book that examines how officers who perpetrated Argentina's military dictatorship live with their use of cruelty. Dr. Natarajan also studies how Argentina's ongoing use of trials to hold the military accountable for the country's human rights violations has produced new forms of interpersonal violence and conciliations with the law. The Andrew Mellon Foundation/Social Sciences Research Council, the Fulbright-Hays Program, the National Science Foundation, and the Wenner-Gren Foundation have supported his research.

Wenbo Niu

***Assistant Professor
Mathematical Sciences***

Wenbo Niu received his Ph.D. in Mathematics from the University of Illinois at Chicago in 2011. His research interests are algebraic geometry and commutative algebra. Dr. Niu's current research focuses on syzygies of algebraic varieties through Castelnuovo-Mumford regularity, singularities in generic linkage theory, and multiplier ideals and their applications. Prior to coming to the University of Arkansas, Dr. Niu held appointments at Purdue University and the University of Notre Dame, where he taught undergraduate courses such as calculus, differential equations and linear algebra.





Michael Adam Siepielski

Assistant Professor Biological Sciences

Adam Siepielski holds a Ph.D. in Zoology and Physiology from the University of Wyoming. He is an ecologist and evolutionary biologist who uses empirical and theoretical approaches to understand the processes that determine the distributions and abundances of organisms, and how evolutionary processes shape the ability of species to persist, especially in aquatic communities. His work integrates population and community ecology, comparative biology, and micro- and macroevolution. Dr. Siepielski's research is supported by federal funding and has been published in top-tier journals. He also has extensive teaching experience. Dr. Siepielski comes to the University of Arkansas from the University of San Diego.

Brett E. Sterling

Assistant Professor

World Languages, Literatures and Cultures

Brett Sterling holds a B.A. *summa cum laude* from the University of Arkansas and an M.A. and Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University. His research and teaching interests include the intersection of literature and political engagement, multicultural Germany, the graphic novel and German comics, and the works of Austrian exile author Hermann Broch. He has presented on multicultural Berlin, Hermann Broch's theory of mass hysteria, and the comics of Nicolas Mahler and Jens Harder. Dr. Sterling comes to the University of Arkansas from Vanderbilt University, where he designed a new first-year language curriculum structured around German cities and Google Earth. Sterling is a Fayetteville native.





Johanna Thomas

Assistant Professor School of Social Work

Johanna Thomas holds a B.A. in Sociology/Corrections from the University of Akron and an M.S.W. and Ph.D. in Social Work from Louisiana State University. Her research interests include program evaluation; poverty and inequality; early education policies, programs and interventions; juvenile delinquency and policies related to crime. Dr. Thomas has published six manuscripts, some with very prestigious journals; made 15 professional conference presentations; and secured \$52,000 in internal and \$427,500 in external funding. Dr. Thomas comes to the University of Arkansas from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, where she has demonstrated a strong record of scholarship, teaching, service and administrative service as interim B.S.W. Program Coordinator.

Shaun Thomas
Assistant Professor
Sociology and Criminal Justice

Shaun Thomas holds a B.A. in Sociology, *magna cum laude*, from the University of Akron and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Sociology from Louisiana State University. Thomas' research and teaching interests are in communities and crime, the nature of violence, race and crime, institutions of social control, juvenile justice, corrections, rural and urban studies, and secondary data analysis. Thomas has an impressive publication record in which he applies advanced statistical methods to develop our understanding of complex criminological and sociological phenomena. His research is not only well-funded but is considered to be a perfect blend of criminological theory and traditional sociology.





Gilles Viennot

Assistant Professor World Languages, Literatures and Cultures

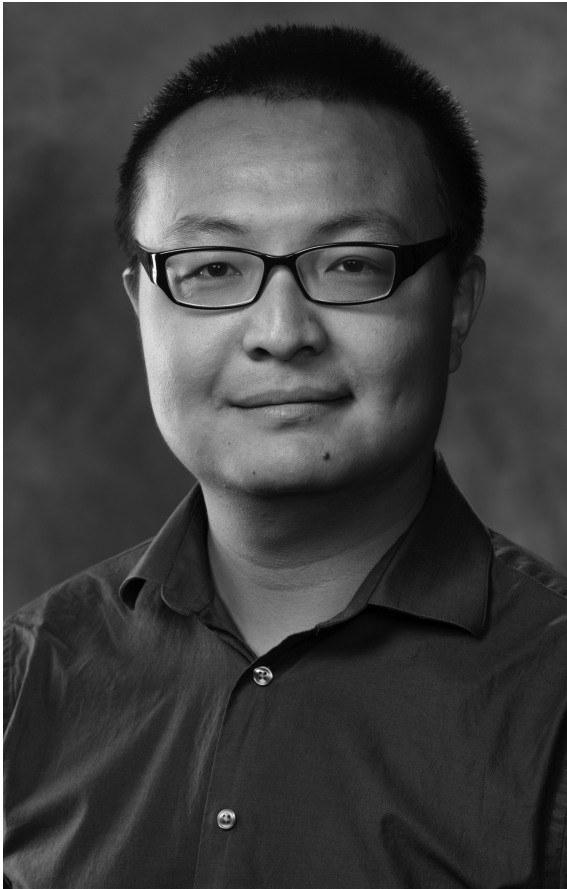
Gilles Viennot received a Master's Degree in Contemporary Literature from the Université de Franche-Comté in 2000; a Master's Degree in Literary Translation from the University of Paris VII Jussieu/Institut Charles V in 2006; and a Ph.D. in French Literature (with Honors) from the University of Kansas in 2014. His dissertation was based on Michel Houellebecq, a contemporary French author, and examined postmodernity through the prism of the crisis of masculinity. Dr. Viennot's interests range from literature to popular music and cinema, and he intends to publish a book on industrial music. He also translates a variety of work.

Yun Yao

***Assistant Professor
World Languages, Literatures and Cultures***

Yun Yao holds a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her research is focused on Chinese language processing and second language acquisition, and her dissertation is titled *Chinese Character Recognition in Native and Second Language Readers*. Dr. Yao has published in journals such as *Writing Systems Research* and received grants such as the Jiede Empirical Research Grant and the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation Fellowship. She is also an experienced teacher and has previously taught at the University of Illinois, the Middlebury Institute of International Studies in Monterey, and Beloit College.





Qingyang Zhang

Assistant Professor Mathematical Sciences

Qingyang Zhang holds a B.S. in statistics from Beijing Normal University; M.S. in applied statistics from Loyola University; Ph.D. in statistics from Northwestern University. Dr. Zhang's dissertation topic was *Bayesian network inference and its application to systems biology*. As an active researcher, his interests are graphical models and network analysis; high-dimensional data analysis; data mining; systems biology and cancer biology; bioinformatics and statistical genetics. Dr. Zhang is currently establishing a strong publication record. He comes to the University of Arkansas from Northwestern University, where he taught statistics courses and was instrumental in producing a software package for analyzing chemical mapping of nucleosomes.

Sam M. Walton College of Business
New Faculty Appointment with Tenure

Brian Fugate

***Associate Professor
Supply Chain Management***

Brian Fugate has been an associate professor of supply chain management at Colorado State since 2012. He was an assistant professor of supply chain management at Colorado State from 2008-2012 and a Fulbright U.S. Senior Researcher at the MIT Zaragoza Logistics Center from April to July 2014. He earned a Ph.D with a major in logistics and a minor in marketing from the University of Tennessee in 2006. He earned his M.B.A. and a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering, with a minor in business administration, at Tennessee. Dr. Fugate has published 19 articles in academic journals.





Hung-Chia Scott Hsu

Assistant Professor Finance

Scott Hsu has been an assistant professor in finance at the Sheldon B. Lubar School of Business at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, since 2007. He also was a visiting assistant professor at the Krannert School of Management at Purdue in 2012-2013. He earned a Ph.D. in finance from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2007. Dr. Hsu's dissertation was "*Essays on Venture Capital and Initial Public Offerings*." He received an M.A. in economics from the University of Southern California in 2002 and a B.B.A. in finance from the National Taiwan University in 1998.

Jason Ridge
Assistant Professor
Management

Jason W. Ridge has been an assistant professor of management at Clemson University since 2011 and was a teaching assistant at Oklahoma State University from 2005-2010. Ridge earned his Ph.D. from the Spears School of Business at Oklahoma State in 2010, with an emphasis in strategic management. He received an M.H.A. in Healthcare Administration from the Spears School in 2004 and a B.S. in business management from Oklahoma State in 2002. Among Dr. Ridge's honors are being named the Academy of Management Outstanding Reviewer, BPS division, in 2011 and the Spears School Outstanding Graduate Teaching Associate in 2010.





Andy Brownback

Assistant Professor Economics

Andy Brownback is receiving his Ph.D. in economics from the University of California, San Diego, in 2015. He earned a B.A. in mathematics and economics, *summa cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa, from Kansas State in 2010. From 2010-2014, Dr. Brownback was a teaching assistant at U.C. San Diego, teaching classes in game theory and intermediate microeconomics. In 2013, he also was a teaching assistant at the U.C. San Diego Rady School of Management. He was lab manager for the U.C. San Diego economics laboratory in 2013-2014 and was a research assistant in 2014.

Kenneth L. Bills
Assistant Professor
Accounting

Kenneth L. Bills has been an assistant professor of accounting at Colorado State since 2012. Dr. Bills earned his Ph.D. in accounting at the University of Oklahoma in 2012. He received a Master of Accountancy from Southern Utah in 2006, a B.A. from Southern Utah in 2006 and an Associate of Arts from the College of Eastern Utah in 2004. His research interests are in archival audit, including audit competition, audit quality, industry specialization, audit regulation and audit firm portfolio management decisions. He has papers forthcoming in *The Accounting Review* and *Contemporary Accounting Research*.





Jonathan Shipman

Assistant Professor Accounting

Jonathan Shipman earned his Ph.D. in accounting from the University of Tennessee in 2014. He received his B.S.B.A. in 2003 from the University of Central Arkansas. Dr. Shipman has taught financial compliance and operational auditing and cost management at Tennessee. His professional experience includes serving as director of accounting and assistant director of business and finance at Minor League Baseball in St. Petersburg, Florida, from 2006-2010. He also worked on the audit staff of Thomas & Thomas LLP in Little Rock. His research interests include auditing and corporate governance. Shipman's teaching interests include auditing and cost/managerial accounting.

Peter McGee
Assistant Professor
Economics

Peter J. McGee has been a visiting assistant professor at the National University of Singapore since August 2011. In the winter of 2014, McGee was a visiting scholar at Ohio State. He earned a Ph.D. in economics from Ohio State in June 2011, concentrating on behavioral/experimental economics and labor economics. He received a B.S. in German, economics, and political science from Tulane University in May 2002. Dr. McGee has taught microeconomic analysis, labor economics and the American economy in the 20th century. He has published papers in the *Journal of Socio-Economics* and in *Games and Economic Behavior*.





College of Education and Health Professions
New Faculty Appointment with Tenure

Kevin Brady

Associate Professor of Educational Leadership Curriculum and Instruction

Kevin Brady earned a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a master's degree from Teachers College, Columbia University, both in educational policy analysis. He was formerly a tenured faculty member at North Carolina State University and before that an assistant professor at the City University of New York at Queens College. Dr. Brady has published more than 60 scholarly articles and book chapters on the topics of education law, finance and educational technology. His primary advocacy, research and scholarly interests include special education law, school disciplinary issues, school funding fairness, and increasing legal literacy for today's school leaders.

Julie Hoff

***Associate Professor
and Director of the Eleanor Mann School of Nursing***

Julie Hoff earned a Ph.D. and a master's degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago, both in Nursing Science. She was formerly a tenured associate professor at Elmhurst College and before that an assistant professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago and the University of Colorado. Dr. Hoff has also served as the Department Chair and Director of Nursing and Public Health at Elmhurst College. She has published more than 20 scholarly articles and has collaborated with others on seven substantial grant projects. Her primary advocacy, research and scholarly interests include nursing education, best practices, and health promotion.





College of Education and Health Professions
New Faculty Appointment with Tenure

Audrey J. Weymiller

Associate Professor of Nursing Eleanor Mann School of Nursing

Audrey Weymiller earned a Ph.D. in nursing from the University of Minnesota, a master's degree in nursing from the University of Washington and a bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of Wisconsin at Eau Claire. She was formerly an assistant professor of medicine and assistant professor of nursing at Mayo College of Medicine and she began working as a nurse in 1982. Dr. Weymiller also served in the U.S. Army Reserve and the U.S. Public Health Service. Her research focuses on improving the quality of life for older adults, including application of transitions theory and palliative and end-of-life care.

David Christian
Assistant Professor
Rehabilitation, Human Resources
and Community Disorders

David Christian earned a Ph.D. in counseling and counselor education and a master's degree in community counseling from the University of North Texas. His research focuses on adventure-based counseling with adolescents and families. Dr. Christian also studies group work in secondary schools and identity and performance of professional school counselors. He is a licensed professional counselor and formerly worked as a secondary professional school counselor in Denton, Texas, and an adjunct faculty member at the University of North Texas and Texas Woman's University. He was named practitioner of the year by Chi Sigma Iota at the University of North Texas in 2013-2014.





Stephen Burgin

Assistant Professor Curriculum and Instruction

Stephen Burgin earned a Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction with an emphasis in science education from the University of Florida. He holds a bachelor's degree in chemistry, master's degree in science education, and specialist degree in curriculum and instruction, also from Florida. He taught high school chemistry in Gainesville, Florida, before earning his doctorate. He was an assistant professor of science education at Old Dominion University in the department of STEM education and professional studies. Dr. Burgin's research focuses on authentic engagement in scientific practices by secondary learners through apprenticeship experiences in professional laboratory contexts. His research has recently been published in the *International Journal of Science Education*.

Erin Kern
Assistant Professor
Rehabilitation, Human Resources
and Communication Disorders

Erin Kern earned a Ph.D. in counselor education and supervision from the University of Texas at San Antonio and a master's degree in professional counseling from Texas State University. She is a licensed professional counselor with experience working in community agencies, residential substance abuse treatment and private practice. Dr. Kern's primary areas of research are focused on counseling military populations and counselor professional identity development. With several mentors, she received the 2014 AARC Outstanding Outcome Research Award for a publication on student-learning outcomes. She was named the 2013 Outstanding Doctoral Student by the Texas Association for Counselor Education.





New Tenure-Track Faculty

Suzanne Kucharczyk

Assistant Professor Curriculum and Instruction

Suzanne Kucharczyk earned an Ed.D. in organizational learning and leadership from Teachers College, Columbia University and a master's degree in educational policy studies and educational organization and leadership from the University of Illinois, Urbana. She was formerly an investigator for the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, leading a research project focusing on communication development of toddlers with autism. Dr. Kucharczyk's research examines implementation of evidence-based practices for individuals with autism spectrum disorders, implementation of professional development programs in schools, learning support for families, professionals and organizational systems, and organizational learning and knowledge sharing.

Xinya Liang

***Assistant Professor
Rehabilitation, Human Resources
and Communication Disorders***

Xinya Liang received her Ph.D. in Measurement and Statistics, Educational Psychology and Learning Systems from Florida State University and her B.S. degree from Zhejiang Gongshang University in Information and Computing Science. She was formerly a teaching assistant and a research assistant at Florida State University and an intern psychometrician with the Florida Department of Education. Dr. Liang has served as a coordinator and a reviewer for the Florida and American Research Association. Her research interests are centered on structural equation modeling, bayesian analysis, and large-scale assessment.





Kaitlin Gallagher

***Assistant Professor
Health, Human Performance and Recreation***

Kaitlin Gallagher received her Ph.D. and M.S. in Kinesiology-Biomechanics and a B.S. in Honours Kinesiology/Co-operative Education, all from the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada. Dr. Gallagher has co-authored several articles that have been published in peer-reviewed journals and presented at many academic conferences. Her current research focuses on the contributions of aberrant joint kinematics to injury potential by examining how movement of adjacent segments influences kinematics and muscle activity of the lumbar spine and pelvis. For the past two years, she has been the facilitator for a graduate level biomechanics instrumentation course that taught the basics of data collection.

Marilou Shreve

***Assistant Professor of Nursing
Eleanor Mann School of Nursing***

Marilou Shreve earned a D.N.P. and a master's degree in nursing, both from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. She began teaching as a clinical instructor in the Eleanor Mann School of Nursing in 2012. She previously worked as an advance practice nurse, specializing in pediatrics, beginning in 2001, and worked as a staff nurse at hospitals and clinics before that. Her research interests include childhood obesity, and her doctoral capstone project focused on a multidisciplinary approach to childhood obesity. She has held offices in the Arkansas Nurses Association, previously serving as chair for Advanced Practice Council and president of District 9.





Kelly Vowell-Johnson

***Assistant Professor of Nursing
and Associate Director of Academic Affairs
Eleanor Mann School of Nursing***

Kelly Vowell-Johnson earned an Ed.D. in higher education leadership from the University of Arkansas and a master's degree in nursing from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. She has served as an instructor for the Eleanor Mann School of Nursing since 1990 and has worked at several hospitals as a charge nurse and as a nurse educator. She formerly served as president of the Northwest Education Consortium. Her research interests include leadership in nursing and clinical teaching knowledge development. She is a founding member of the Pi Theta chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International: Honor Society of Nursing.

College of Engineering
New Faculty Appointment with Tenure

Morten Jensen

Associate Professor Biomedical Engineering

Dr. Jensen received a doctorate from the School of Medicine at the University of Aarhus in Denmark. He holds a master's degree in biomedical engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology, and a bachelor's degree in electrical and computer engineering from the Engineering College of Aarhus in Denmark. Jensen served as an associate professor and director of research at the Scandinavian School of Cardiovascular Research, and as an associate professor at the Engineering College of Aarhus. His research interests include medical device design, cardiovascular and tissue mechanics, *In vitro* modelling of the heart and boundary conditions and validation of computational biomechanical models.





College of Engineering
New Faculty Appointment with Tenure

Haitao Liao

Professor Industrial Engineering

Haitao Liao received a master's degree and doctorate in industrial and systems engineering, as well as master's degree in statistics from Rutgers University. He earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering at the Beijing Institute of technology. Liao has held faculty positions at Wichita State University, the University of Tennessee and at the University of Arizona. He also served as a postdoctoral researcher at the National Science Foundation Center for Intelligent Maintenance Systems. In his research, Dr. Liao focuses on reliability engineering, applied probability and statistics, applied operations research, probabilistic risk analysis and sensors and signal processing. He holds the James M. Hefley and Marie G. Hefley Professorship in Logistics and Entrepreneurship.

College of Engineering
New Faculty Appointment with Tenure

Xiaoqing Frank Liu

Professor and Department Head Computer Science and Computer Engineering

Frank Liu has served as professor of computer science and associate chair for graduate studies and external affairs in the computer science department at Missouri University of Science and Technology. He holds a doctorate in computer science from Texas A&M University, as well as a master's degree from Southeast University in Nanjing, China and a bachelor's degree from the National University of Defense Technology in Changsha, China. His research interests include software engineering, collective intelligence, web-based argumentation, intelligent systems and software applications. He made notable contributions in the areas of web service discovery and recommendation, software modeling, and software quality and process management. He holds the Rodger S. Kline Leadership Chair in Computer Science and Computer Engineering.





Zhong Chen

Assistant Professor Electrical Engineering

Zhong Chen holds a doctorate in electrical engineering from North Carolina State University, a master's degree in electrical engineering from the National University of Singapore and a bachelor's degree in instrumentation science and engineering from Zhejiang University in China. In his research, Dr. Chen focuses on analog integrated circuit (IC) design, digital VLSI design, mixed-signal design, IC processing and characterization, power electronics and power devices and wide-bandgap material, devices and packaging.

Sarah Hernandez
Assistant Professor
Civil Engineering

Sarah Hernandez received a doctorate and a master's degree in civil and environmental engineering from the University of California, Irvine, and a bachelor's degree in civil and coastal engineering from the University of Florida. Dr. Hernandez's research focuses on technology applications in transportation systems engineering and is centered on developing tools and methods to collect and analyze commercial vehicle operations data, which has implications in freight planning, sustainability, and economic competitiveness. Her research also extends to sustainable transportation issues in sensitive environments for which she has collaborated with the National Parks Conservation Association and National Park Service to perform transit feasibility studies.





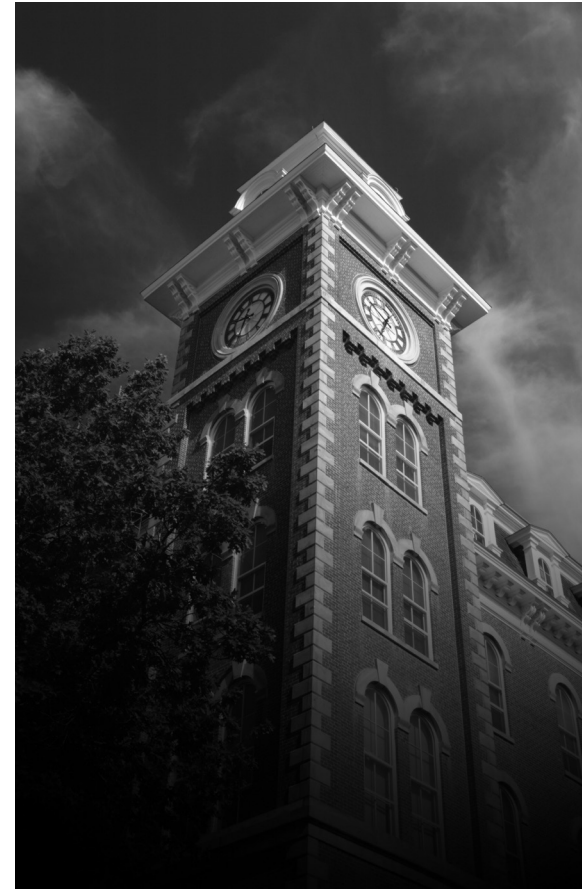
Sarah Nurre

Assistant Professor Industrial Engineering

Sarah Nurre received a doctorate in decision sciences and engineering systems, a master's degree in industrial and management engineering and a bachelor's degree in mathematics, all from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Dr. Nurre's current research interests are in applying network optimization, scheduling, integer programming, and optimization algorithms to relevant applications such as infrastructure restoration, multi-layer interdependent network protection, vehicle routing for the military and public sector, and the integration of electric vehicles with a smart grid. Before coming to the University of Arkansas, Dr. Nurre was an assistant professor in the Department of Operational Sciences at the Air Force Institute of Technology.

Kyle Quinn
Assistant Professor
Biomedical Engineering

Kyle Quinn received a doctorate in bioengineering from the University of Pennsylvania, and he holds a bachelor's degree in biomedical engineering from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He also served as a postdoctoral fellow at Tufts University. Dr. Quinn's research focuses on developing and utilizing non-invasive quantitative optical biomarkers to understand the spatiotemporal patterns of tissue injury, repair, and regeneration. He has several ongoing research projects in this area, with collaborators from several different universities.





Yue Zhao

Assistant Professor Electrical Engineering

Yue Zhao received a doctorate in electrical engineering from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics in China. Dr. Zhao has worked as an assistant professor in the department of electrical and computer engineering at Virginia Commonwealth University. His research interests include electric motor control for transportation electrification and energy conversion systems, power electronics, sustainable energy systems, control and optimization of electric power system.

Jozef Laincz

***Geosciences and Maps Librarian
(Assistant Librarian/Assistant Professor)***

Jozef Laincz received a B.S. in Geology and a Mgr. in Economic Geology from Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia and a Ph.D. in Environmental Dynamics at the University of Arkansas. His dissertation investigated the groundwater flow and fate of nitrate in epikarst. He has six years of experience with the University of Arkansas Libraries working as a graduate assistant in the Chemistry and Biochemistry Library and providing research assistance at the Reference Desk in Mullins Library. As a librarian, Dr. Laincz's research interests focus on trends in college students' information literacy and use of technology in searching for scholarly information.





Jonathan M. Torres

Librarian (Assistant Librarian/Assistant Professor)

Jonathan Torres received an M.S. in Library and Information Science and an M.A. and a B.A. in Labor Studies and Employment Relations from Rutgers University. Before his appointment as Business Librarian, Mr. Torres served as a Reference and Instruction Librarian for Bergen Community College in New Jersey and was a Reference Librarian at Kean University in Union, New Jersey where he specialized in teaching Information Literacy to undergraduates and M.B.A. students. His research interests include the dynamics of organizational governance and knowledge management practices in libraries.



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