Meet Our New Faculty

Each year On Teaching offers profiles of our newest colleagues (see pages 2-7). When you see them on campus, we hope you will say hello and welcome them to UND.

In compiling this issue we start with a list of faculty identified by the Provost’s office as either newly tenure-track or newly full-time benefited at the rank of instructor or above. As in the past, a few are not entirely “new” to campus but rather newly appointed to their current positions. We ask those faculty members to provide a photo and a brief biography that will help us get to know them. And while we’ve tried to get as accurate a listing as possible, we may have inadvertently missed someone. We apologize. If you know of a person we should have included, please let us know, and we’ll include them in the next issue. Meanwhile, here you’ll find all the folks we have managed to track down.

Wednesday, October 23, Noon-1:00
BEST STRATEGIES FOR EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY-BASED LEARNING

What service-learning strategies make the best learning experience for students with the most benefit to the community? Hear from experienced community partners and service-learning faculty about what works well and what might not be as effective as you think.

Join us for a brown bag lunch discussion on Wednesday, Oct. 23, at noon in the River Valley Room, sponsored by the UND Center for Community Engagement. Lunch will be provided to those who register by Oct. 21. Call the Center at 7-0675 to reserve a lunch.

Moderator:
Lana Rakow, Director, UND Center for Community Engagement

Panelists:
Pat Berger, President and CEO, United Way of GF/EGF and Area
David Sena, Executive Director, Northland Rescue Mission
Michael Niedzielski, UND Assistant Professor, Geography
Sally Pyle, UND Associate Professor, Biology, and Director of the Honors Program

Discussant:
Anne Kelsch, Director, Office of Instructional Development
Christopher Basgier (English) joins the English Department as an Assistant Professor after earning his Ph.D. from Indiana University earlier this year. His research interests include rhetorical theories of genre, writing across the curriculum, and teaching with technology. Currently, he is working on a book project investigating the role of writing in general education courses. His teaching has included introductory literature and composition courses, argumentative writing, digital writing, advanced composition, and composition pedagogy. He and his wife Lacey have a young daughter (Evelyn), a dog (Bilbo), and a cat (Brady). They enjoy football, craft beer, fishing, and the arts, among other hobbies.

John Fitzgerald (Kinesiology and Public Health Education) is an assistant Professor in the Kinesiology and Public Health Education department. He received his BS (2007) and PhD (2013) in Kinesiology from the University of Minnesota. His research interests include the effects of vitamin D status on muscle function, jumping mechanography, and periodization for sport training. John's current academic work is focused on ascertaining the biological relevance of vitamin D to muscle function and physical performance in athletes. Outside of the classroom and the lab, John enjoys playing hockey, weight lifting, snowmobiling, family time, and working on his 1972 Buick Skylark.

Jonathan Green (Languages) completed his Ph.D. at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and has taught both in Germany and in the U.S. In addition to teaching beginning through advanced German language and literature courses, he pursues research on the hopes, fears, and expectations for the future expressed in popular literature from 1450 to 1650 when developments in German culture—think Gutenberg, Luther, or Copernicus—fundamentally changed the course of history. His first book, *Printing and Prophecy: Prognostication and Media Change 1450–1550*, was published in 2012, and his next book project is approaching publication. He is also interested in older German literature, historical linguistics, and the promise of technology for scholarship in the humanities.

Terri Houghton (Teaching and Learning) joins the Department of Teaching and Learning as an online Instructor in the Special Education Master’s program. She earned her BS in Elementary Education from Dickinson State University in 1989 and her Master's degree in Special Education (Strategist) in 2009 from UND. Terri also works as a Special Education Coordinator for the West River Special Education Unit in Dickinson, North Dakota. Terri lives outside of Killdeer, North Dakota, and she and her husband Glen have four children.
Ashley Hutchison (Counseling Psychology and Community Services) is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Counseling Psychology and Community Services, where she currently teaches Counseling Methods and Multicultural Counseling. She recently completed her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology at Ball State University. Ashley’s research interests include international issues in counseling psychology, the role of emotion and cultural display rules in therapy and the development of international counseling competencies. Ashley is originally from Kansas and is a dedicated Kansas Jayhawks fan. She and her partner, Justin, are proud parents of two dogs, Maggie and Dexter.

Danielle Jessen (Basic Science), a Grand Forks native, has recently joined the Basic Science Department at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences as an assistant professor. She completed her Ph.D. in May from the Department of Microbiology and Immunology here at UND. Danielle continues to work with Dr. Matthew Nilles on publications concerning the Type III Secretion System of Yersinia pestis. However, her main tasks this year are teaching undergraduate and graduate classes as well as overseeing the medical students’ microbiology laboratories. She is excited to return to teaching as her bachelor’s degree emphasis is teaching science.

Amber Johnson (Nursing) is Assistant Program Director of the Nurse Anesthesia Track. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing in 1999 and a Master of Science degree with a specialization in Nurse Anesthesia in 2006, both from the University of North Dakota. Amber has and continues to practice clinical anesthesia in Grand Rapids, Minnesota and several rural hospitals in the area. Amber’s topics of interest include rural anesthesia and regional anesthesia.

Christopher Johnson (Philosophy and Religion) joins the Department of Philosophy and Religion this fall as an Assistant Professor of Religious Studies for the year of 2013-2014. The primary area of his research is in Global Christianity with a specialization in Eastern Orthodoxy. He has also taught at the University of Alabama Tuscaloosa and the College of the Bahamas in Nassau. Christopher received his B.A. from Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee and his M.Sc. and Ph.D. from the University of Edinburgh. He and his wife Susan are Alabama natives and enjoy music festivals, eating good (but usually healthy) food, exploring on bike and foot, racquetball, swimming, and a good book or movie for every occasion.
Aaron Kennedy (Atmospheric Sciences), as a child, tracked everything from tropical storms in South Carolina to severe thunderstorms in northern Illinois. In response to this interest he sought a meteorology degree at the University of Oklahoma. After finishing his B.S. (2004) and M.S. (2006), he left Oklahoma to seek a Ph.D. at UND, where he conducted climate research. After finishing his Ph.D. in 2011, he pursued an NSF postdoc fellowship and is now an assistant professor. Aaron's interests today include convection clouds and climate. He focuses on synergistic studies that use models, observations, and reanalysis to advance our knowledge of these topics. He is also interested in local meteorology and the societal impacts it has on the region. When not working, Aaron loves to hang out with his amazing wife and daughter. He commutes by bicycle year-round, does a number of endurance cycling events, chases storms, and photographs his many adventures.

Wanda M. Koszewski (Nutrition and Dietetics) is the new Department Chair in Nutrition and Dietetics, and she started here at UND in July. Wanda moved here from Lincoln, Nebraska, where she was a faculty member for 17 years at the University of Nebraska. Wanda received her PhD in Nutrition with a focus on nutrition education from Kansas State University. She did her dietetics training through the coordinated program in medical dietetics at Utah State University. Her teaching/research background is community nutrition/nutrition education. Her current research is examining what impacts food choice and physical activity behaviors in youth and their families.

Kwan Yong Lee (Economics) is a new Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics at UND. Before joining UND he studied economics as a Ph.D. student at Purdue University. He did his master’s degree at North Carolina State University and received his bachelor’s degree (BA in Economics) from Korea University. His research fields are international economics (focused on the demand side of trade), macroeconomic aspects of international trade, and finance.

Jay Metzger (School of Medicine and Health Sciences) joined the Physician Assistant program at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences as an assistant professor in July 2013. He is a native of Hope, North Dakota, and has been in clinical practice as a Physician Assistant for the past 10 years. He received his Bachelor of Science in PA studies from Des Moines University in 2003 and his Master of Physician Assistant Studies in 2004. He was an adjunct faculty for clinical medicine at the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse PA Program. He has practiced in trauma and general surgery as well as emergency and family medicine. Jay is a veteran of the US Army Medical Corps and former paramedic as well. He and his wife Shelley have two sons, Jack and Matthew. Jay enjoys fishing, hunting, football, and all things North Dakota.
Anne Mullins (Law) is an Assistant Professor at the University of North Dakota School of Law. She teaches in the areas of legal research and writing, judicial writing, and trial advocacy. Her scholarship focuses on judicial writing and judicial decision-making. Anne started her academic career at the University of Oregon School of Law where she visited for two years and taught in the Legal Research and Writing Program. Before entering academia she practiced complex commercial litigation at Susman Godfrey, LLP in Houston, Texas, where she represented plaintiffs and defendants in high-stakes cases. She clerked for the Honorable Chief Judge Sarah S. Vance in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana and the Honorable Jacques L. Wiener in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. A Williamsburg Virginia native, she received her J.D. with honors from the University of Chicago School of Law and her A.B. from Dartmouth College.

Mehdi Ostadhassan (Petroleum Engineering) was born in Tehran, Iran in 1983. He received his BS in Petroleum Engineering in Iran and his MS in Petroleum Geophysics in Paris, France. He came to the United States for his PhD in Geological Engineering in 2009 and graduated this summer. He worked as a research engineer for a year at the EERC prior to taking his faculty position in the Petroleum Engineering Department.

Helen Otterson (Art & Design) earned a B.A. from Skidmore College, a B.F.A from the Kansas City Art Institute, and a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Miami. She has been an Artist in Residence at the International Ceramic Studio in Kecskemét, Hungary, A.I.R. Vallauris, France, the Contemporary Craft Museum in Portland, Oregon, and the Anderson Ranch Arts Center. Exhibited throughout the United States and Internationally, her ceramic and glass sculptures have been published in Ceramics Monthly, Clay Times, and in two of Lark Book's 500 series: 500 Sculptures and 500 Figures. Her work is part of the permanent collections at the Museum of Contemporary Craft, the Nicolaysen Art Museum, the University of California San Diego's Cancer Center, and the Eastern Washington University. Before joining UND, Helen taught at the Florida Atlantic University, Palm Beach State College, Kansas City Art Institute, and the University of Miami.

Tammy R. Pettinato (Law) is an Assistant Professor at UND School of Law. She earned her J.D. from Harvard Law School, her M.S.I. from the University of Michigan, and her B.A. in English Literature from Gannon University in Erie, Pennsylvania. Tammy teaches Lawyering Skills I & II, Employment Discrimination and Disability Law. Prior to joining UND she was a Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law. She has also taught at UCLA School of Law and the University of La Verne College of Law. Tammy's research is broadly focused on issues of racial, sexual, and socio-economic equality. Her current research focuses on the employment rights of ex-offenders and the application of rhetorical theory to the Fifth Amendment right to silence. Her hobbies include reading classic literature, photography, and attempting to learn the ukulele.
Del Quest (Social Work) is completing her PhD in Social Work and Social Research from Portland State University. Prior to moving to Grand Forks, she worked as a licensed clinical social worker in a variety of settings. Her research focuses on suicide prevention and postvention and social issues impacting LGBTQ young people. Her limited free time is spent learning to play the ukulele, reading and writing murder mysteries, spending time with her family, and spoiling her aging canine companion.

Todd Sabato (Kinesiology and Public Health Education) comes to UND from James Madison University, where he served as an Assistant Professor of Health Sciences in the College of Health and Behavioral Sciences. Dr. Sabato’s research core focuses on HIV/AIDS, Asian and Pacific Islander wellness, and relevant health issues of minority populations. Dr. Sabato has an extensive background in HIV/AIDS prevention education. He has assisted in the authorship of numerous curricula, including the South Carolina Perinatal HIV Prevention Project and Youth Empowered Against HIV (YEAH!), a prevention education curriculum for sexual minority youth. Dr. Sabato’s interests in global and minority health have led to his creation of “HIV/AIDS in a Diverse World: The Micronesian Perspective.” This application-based international learning opportunity on the island of Guam addresses the impact of culture, language, and government on the spread of disease and infection and has been a feature program of the Pacific Island Jurisdictions AIDS Action Group (PIJAAG).

Kristin Schuller (Master’s of Public Health) received her PhD and MHA in Health Services Policy and Management from the University of South Carolina. She recently completed a post-doctoral research position at the Center for Health Organization Transformation at Texas A&M Health Sciences Center. Her research interests involve organizational change and innovation implementation in health care settings, quality of care and patient safety to decrease readmission rates and hospital-acquired conditions, and techniques to improve access and delivery of health care services to patients in rural areas.

Alexandra Sickler (Law) joined UND in July 2012 as an Assistant Professor of Law. Professor Sickler teaches Contracts I and II and Consumer Protection Law. Her research areas are consumer bankruptcy law and consumer protection law. Before joining the faculty, Professor Sickler was a trial attorney in the Office of General Counsel of the Executive Office of United States Trustees, United States Trustee Program, which is a component of the Department of Justice. While there she litigated civil enforcement matters in consumer bankruptcy cases and participated in initiatives to prevent and remedy mortgage creditor abuse in the bankruptcy courts. She also practiced in the areas of bankruptcy and complex commercial litigation and international trade in the Washington, D.C. office of Weil Gotshal & Manges LLP and served as a law clerk to the Honorable S. Martin Teel, United States Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Columbia. Professor Sickler earned her J.D. from The George Washington University Law School and her B.A. from the College of William and Mary.
Joanna Sikkema (Nursing) is a Board certified Adult Nurse Practitioner and a full time distance faculty in the College of Nursing. She teaches in the Adult/Family Nurse Practitioner Program and provides primary and urgent care to employees and their families at a corporate health site in South Florida. Dr. Sikkema is a Fellow of the American Heart Association's Council of Cardiovascular Nursing and of the Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association. She recently served on several national health care advisory boards including the American College of Cardiology CREDO (Coalition for Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Cardiovascular Outcomes), the American Medical Association PCPI Project in Cardiology, and the American Nurses Association Congress of Nursing Practice and Economics. She has authored several publications, served on several national guideline writing committees (including the recent ACC/AHA Management of the Patient with Stable Ischemic Heart Disease), and written several chapters in primary care and cardiology textbooks. She recently completed a research study on cardiovascular risk among Hispanics and the impact of gender, age, and family history.

Chih Ming Tan (Economics) received his B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Economics from the London School of Economics and Political Science in 1996 and 1997 respectively. He was awarded his Ph.D. in Economics by the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2004. In between degrees he served as an economic analyst with the Ministry of Defense in Singapore while completing his military draft requirements. He taught at Tufts University and Clark University in Massachusetts before joining UND in August 2013 as Professor and Page Endowed Chair in Applied Economics. Dr. Tan's primary research interests are in the areas of economic growth development and econometrics. His current research investigates the long-run impact of large initial health shocks on cognitive development and economic outcomes. He has also conducted research into how issues such as model uncertainty, heterogeneity, and nonlinearity complicate inference in the empirical growth literature, and he has made methodological contributions to sample splitting and threshold regression estimation.

Kathleen “KatySue” Tillman (Counseling Psychology and Community Services) joins us this fall as an Assistant Professor. Here at UND she will be working with the school counseling program, the mental health counseling program, and the counseling psychology program. Prior to coming to UND, she spent five years teaching at the State University of New York at New Paltz, where she helped develop and implement their school counseling program while teaching at both the undergraduate and graduate level. KatySue has a master's degree in School Counseling and Community Counseling and completed her PhD in Counseling Psychology at UND. Her research interests include child abuse and trauma self-injury in adolescents, child psychopathology, psychological help-seeking, and treatment outcome research. Clinically, in psychological practice, she specializes in working with children and adolescents.
Faculty Instructional Development Committee and Instructional Development Announce Awards

The Faculty Instructional Development Committee (FIDC), elected by the University Senate, provides support for course and curriculum development, which goes beyond the means of the individual faculty and academic units. FIDC grants may be used to purchase instructional materials, travel for pedagogical development, travel to make a Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) presentation, or other projects related to teaching. To submit a proposal, you will find the necessary information on the OID website. The next deadline is November 1st at noon.

In September, the FIDC awarded travel grants to the following faculty members:

Melissa Gjellstad (Languages), $996.28 to attend the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) Training Workshop with an emphasis on Scandinavian Languages.


In consultation with FIDC, the OID Director administers Flexible Grant monies in support of teaching related projects that span programs, departments or colleges. These funds may be used for group meetings or retreat expenses, outside speakers/consultant fees, and a variety of programs and events designed to enhance student learning.

The following faculty members were awarded a Flexible Grant during the months of July, August, and September:

Manish Rami (Communication Sciences and Disorders), $418.00 for two faculty members to attend the iPad Apps in Adult Neurogenics: Making Appropriate Use of Technology Workshop.

Marcus Weaver-Hightower (Educational Foundations & Research), $92.00 for a departmental Curriculum Development Retreat.

Andrew Knight (Music), $360.00 for guest speaker, Laurie Farnan, to conduct pedagogical workshops with students in the music therapy, music education, occupational therapy and special education programs.

Ju Kim (Physics), $930.00 to attend the Network for Academic Renewal Conference.

To discuss ideas and drafts before submitting a proposal, contact Anne Kelsch, Director, Office of Instructional Development (777-4233 or anne.kelsch@UND.edu)