The test of a good teacher is not how many questions he can ask his pupils that they will answer readily, but how many questions he inspires them to ask him which he finds it hard to answer.

-Alice Wellington Rollins

— Ken Robinson

UPCOMING DEADLINES

Oct. 27 Registration due for “Building on Student Experience” On Teaching Seminar

Nov. 3 Proposals due for FIDC Travel & Material Grants

Welcome Our Newest Colleagues

Each year an incredibly diverse and talented group of individuals join the faculty at UND. As a way to welcome them and help them connect with cross-campus colleagues, On Teaching publishes their profiles in the second issue of the fall (see pages 2-12). In compiling this information, we begin with a list of faculty who are either newly tenure-track or newly full-time benefited at the rank of instructor or above. As always, a few are not entirely “new” to campus but are newly appointed to their current positions. We ask those faculty members to provide a photo and a brief biography that will help in getting to know them.

Please read through the following profiles. If you find a shared research or teaching interest or some other connection, we encourage you to reach out. Or when you see these new colleagues in your building, the library, or the Union, we hope you will introduce yourself, welcome them to UND, and start what becomes an ongoing conversation.

We’ve tried to get as accurate a listing as possible, but if we have inadvertently missed someone, we apologize. If you know of a person who should have included, please let us know and we’ll include them in the next issue.
**Kelsey Adams** joins UND as a new clinical instructor for the College of Nursing. She received her Bachelor of Science in Biology and Nursing both from the University of North Dakota. Kelsey is a native of St. Paul, MN with a background in oncology and obstetric nursing.

**Ali S. Alshami** is an assistant professor in the department of Chemical Engineering and relocated in August from Buffalo, New York. Before joining UND he held an Assistant Professor position at King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals (KFUPM) at Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. He earned his PhD, MS and BSc in chemical engineering from Washington State University in Pullman, Washington. Dr. Alshani has held industrial positions: as an associate engineer with Eaton/Cuttler-Hammer Corp. in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania for three years; and as an engineering manager with Pace International in Seattle, Washington for 4 years. He is married with two sons Ryaan and Zach.

**Sabrina Balgamwalla** is an Assistant Professor in the School of Law’s Clinical Education Program where she focuses on student representation of immigrant clients. She holds a JD from the American University Washington College of Law and a BA from Bryn Mawr College. Before joining the UND faculty Sabrina practiced immigration and family law with legal services organizations in the Washington, DC area and taught at the University of Baltimore School of Law as a clinical fellow. Sabrina’s international experience includes a Fulbright grant to Jordan and work with clinical legal aid programs in Mindanao, the Philippines. Her scholarship focuses on intersections of immigration gender and labor issues.

**Eric Basile** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Aviation. A Chicago Illinois native Eric spent 11 years as a corporate pilot flying Learjet and Cessna business jets for several Midwest-based flight operations. Eric holds an MS in Aviation from UND and BS in Aviation Management from Southern Illinois University Carbondale. His research interests include aviation psychology and decision-making errors among general aviation pilots. Outside of aviation Eric is an accomplished scuba diver and enjoys traveling. Eric’s wife Virginia Clinton is an Instructor at UND in the Department of Psychology. They reside in Grand Forks with their 2 1/2 year old daughter Katherine.
**Jason “Jay” Boulanger**, a native of Vermont, joins the Department of Biology as an Assistant Professor of Wildlife Ecology. He is also a Certified Wildlife Biologist and has previously served as Cornell University’s Deer Research and Management Program Coordinator and as a Wildlife Specialist with USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services. The primary areas of Jay’s research are wildlife ecology management and human dimensions and his recent work has focused on novel methods for reducing negative impacts from deer, birds and wildlife disease and human dimensions inquiry of hunter subgroups. Jay was recently featured in a nationally-broadcasted documentary, PBS Nature’s The Private Life of Deer. He received his Ph.D. in Wildlife Science from Cornell University, M.S. in Wildlife Science from South Dakota State University, and B.S. in Natural Resources from the University of Vermont. Jay and his wife Mia have a young son Luc.

**Matthew Carlson** is an instructor in the Undergraduate Athletic Training Program in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences as well as an Assistant Athletic Trainer in the Division of Sports Medicine. He is the Athletic Trainer for Women’s Basketball. Matthew completed his undergraduate degree at the University of South Florida in 2011 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Athletic Training. He then completed his Master of Science Degree in Kinesiology at the University of North Dakota in 2013. He worked as an Assistant Athletic Trainer at the University of Minnesota-Duluth during the last school year. Matthew recently got engaged and his special interests include mountain biking and playing disc golf, as well as reading recent research in Sports Medicine.

**Bobbi Carlson** is an instructor with the occupational therapy department. She graduated with a B.S. in Physical Education from Northern State University in 2000 and earned her Masters of Occupational Therapy from the University of North Dakota in 2010. Bobbi primarily practices in pediatrics and continues to work as an occupational therapist for the Anne Carlsen Early Intervention Program here in Grand Forks. During the past few years Bobbi has initiated collaboration between Anne Carlsen and the UND OT department to run activities including social skills camps and Sensory Santa.

**Alicia Champagne** returned to UND to join the Division of Sports Medicine staff as an Assistant Athletic Trainer and Instructor for the Athletic Training Education Program. She received her BS in Athletic Training from UND in 2012, and then went to University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point to obtain her Masters in Education in 2014. While at Stevens Point, Alicia worked with the athletic department as a Graduate Assistant Athletic Trainer. In her time as a Certified Athletic Trainer, she has worked primarily with Women’s Soccer, Volleyball, Basketball, Gymnastics, and Baseball.
Shayne Daku is a faculty member in Aviation. Since arriving at UND in February 2009 he has held various roles within the Aviation Department from Turbine Instructor to Lecturer. Preceding employment at UND he was a Captain with Air Wisconsin Airlines. Academically, he just completed an MS in Instructional Design and Technology. He is married with a 10 year-old son and an 8 year-old daughter.

Cindy L.W. English is an Instructor in the Department of Technology, COBA. She earned her MFA in Art Direction & Design from Marywood University (PN), a BS in Technical Illustration /Graphic Design from Bemidji State University and an AAS in Technical Illustration from Williamsport Area Community College (PN). Cindy worked 25 years in manufacturing, encompassing assembly line machine design (GTE Sylvania Products Corp Lighting Division), product design (Textron Lycoming), and reverse engineering of customer products (PMF Industries). Her industrial expertise includes visual process and procedural instructions, maintenance manual illustration, internal audit assessments, manufacturing process development and 5s. She is also a lifetime member of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME). While working on her MFA she functioned as Pennsylvania College of Technology’s gallery coordinator and adjunct faculty for both the Graphic Design/Advertising Art and the Printing & Publishing curriculums. She has exhibited in North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Virginia placing third in the Pennsylvania College of Technology’s Gallery juried show ‘Kaleidoscope: The Alumni Exhibition’ and being awarded both “Most Inspirational” and “Best Music” at the Brick Fair Virginia convention. One of her sculptures has been published in BrickJournal magazine and was the cover art for Journal of the American Viola Society. She currently teaches in the areas of photography and graphic design, and print production technology. She may be utilized in computer-drafting as well. Her current scholarship interests focus on the integration of graphic design applications in the industrial setting.

Virginia Clinton is an Instructor in the Psychology Department and teaches a range of courses including Intro Developmental Educational and Abnormal Psychology. She received a PhD in Educational Psychology with a minor in Cognitive Science in 2011 from the University of Minnesota. Her research interests focus on the cognitive processes involved in learning with a focus on how to improve instructional design to facilitate critical thinking for students. In addition she examines how student affect, including interest motivation and mood, can influence how students learn.
Cherie Graves joined the faculty in the occupational therapy department in January 2014. She has been actively sharing the responsibilities for coordination of Level I and Level II student fieldwork experiences in addition to teaching various courses. Graves moved from Sioux Falls South Dakota where she was employed at Sanford Hospital as an occupational therapist for the past 7 years. Graves is a graduate of the University of North Dakota Occupational Therapy program. Graves served as chair and co-chair of the Sanford Hospital PM&R Education committee and was an active member of the educational committee for the South Dakota OT Association (SDOTA). She is also a member of the American Occupational Therapy Association and a new member of the North Dakota OT Association (NDOTA). In addition to her employment at UND, Graves is currently working on her PhD at UND in the Education Department with a focus on Higher Education.

Laura Hand is a new Assistant Professor with a joint appointment in the Master of Public Administration and Master of Public Health programs. She earned her Ph.D. in Public Administration and Policy from Arizona State University with a focus on interactions between program administrators and participants in Arizona’s Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). Her research interests concern the ways in which public policy is designed and implemented in an effort to influence individual behavior. This is her third and final career, following almost ten years in the computer software industry and before that three years as a high school band director. After spending 20 years in Phoenix she and her husband Matt are excited to return to their Midwestern roots. She enjoys running, tennis, knitting, baking, gardening, and is hoping to learn how to cross-country ski.

Sheila Hanson is an Assistant Professor in the School of Entrepreneurship. She received her undergraduate degrees from UND with majors in Psychology, Marketing and German. She earned a M.A. in Counseling Psychology from Bethel University in St. Paul and a Ph.D. in Teaching and Learning: Research Methodologies at UND. She teaches courses in social entrepreneurship and venture initiation where she enjoys integrating her prior work experience in marketing. Sheila’s research interests include health psychology and prevention science focusing on the development of innovative solutions to mental health, social and environmental issues. In her former position at the University of Minnesota she served as a project manager for a randomized clinical trial of a parenting program, After Deployment Adaptive Parenting Tools (ADAPT). Sheila is continuing her longitudinal research focusing on resilience, health outcomes, and couple relationships in reintegrating military families. Within the domain of entrepreneurship her research interests in family systems and relationship quality extend into the context of family businesses.

I-Hsuan Ho completed his Ph.D at the Iowa State University at Ames. He joins the Harold Hamm School of Geology and Geological Engineering as an assistant professor this Fall. His research mainly focus on renewable energy foundation Geological Hazards Investigations and Mitigation landslides Evaluation Modeling and Mitigation and Computational Geomechanics. He is teaching Geomechanics this semester and will be teaching Engineering Geology next Spring. He is developing more new courses in geological engineering. He and His wife Yi-Ping will have their first baby by the end of October.
Terra Jorgenson completed her Professional Pilot Certification at Spartan School of Aeronautics in 1981. She earned her B.S. in Aviation Management in 1996 from Southern Illinois University of Carbondale. In 2007 Terra graduated from DeSales University with her B.S. in Accounting. While working at UND as an Air Traffic Control (ATC) lecturer, she earned her M.S. in Aviation in 2013. Terra's professional experience began as a Flight Instructor in 1981. In 1985 she started working for the Federal Aviation Administration as an ATC assistant and a year later started her career as an ATC. She worked for the FAA until retiring in July 2007. Terra worked in Accounting from 2007 to 2009 until she joined the Aviation Faculty as an ATC Lecturer. Terra is currently an Assistant Professor in the Aviation Department. Terra has been and is involved with numerous national organizations such as National Air Traffic Control Association, Air Traffic Control Association, Ninety Niner's Women in Aviation International and Professional Women Controllers.

Darin Kerr joins the Department of Humanities and Integrated Studies as an Assistant Professor after serving as Visiting Instructor in the Department of Theatre Arts for the past two years. He holds undergraduate and Master’s degrees in English and Theatre Arts all from UND and is currently completing his Ph.D. in Theatre Arts from Bowling Green State University. His dissertation research examines the figure of the dandy as expressed through the performance of contemporary male celebrity. Other research interests include musical theatre and the performance of identity. He is active in local performance as both actor and director and can be seen this season in the Empire Theatre Company’s productions of Doubt and A Bright New Boise among others.

Lauren Kaplow earned her BA from McGill University in her home town of Montreal and her MA and PhD from Penn State University in the departments of Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies and of History. She joins the History department as a Visiting Assistant Professor teaching courses on the history of the ancient world and western civilization. While she enjoys teaching a wide variety of subjects in both Greek and Roman history, including classical myth, the history of gender and sexuality, and modern interpretations of the ancient world, her research focuses on the political and religious history of the Late Roman Republic. Her current projects include a study of the rhetoric and ideology which valued the rights and concerns of the people over that of the elite in the last century of the Republic as well as an examination of the close association between fertility deities and democratic politics in both Rome and Greece.

Pat Jordheim joins the faculty of UND as an instructor in the Communication Program. She is ABD in Teaching & Learning Higher Education with a Communication M.A. from UND. Pat has taught in the Communication Program, Teaching & Learning and Women and Gender Programs. Her research is focused on male American Indian college students, women nontraditional students, mentoring, and poverty. She has been the recipient of a Star Faculty Award an honor received through nomination by a Presidential scholar. She believes in making the classroom a community for learning and uses a triad of short lecture small and large group work and activities to achieve these goals. Experiential learning is used to enhance students classroom experiences and prepare them for the future.
Ashley Leschysyn is a Instructor in the Sociology Department. She completed her M.A. in Sociology at the University of North Dakota and is currently working on her Ph.D. in Criminal Justice. Her teaching has included introductory sociology courses, social problems and juvenile delinquency. Ashley is originally from Winnipeg, Manitoba and is anticipating her trip to Red Lake, Ontario where she goes fly-in fishing with her dad every summer.

Sheila Liming grew up in Seattle but her educational career has since led her all across the United States. At The College of Wooster in Wooster, OH she exchanged a bagpiping scholarship for a BA in English & Women’s Studies. She subsequently completed her graduate education at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh where she taught classes in both composition and literature (and kept up with the bagpiping on the side). Sheila’s research and teaching alike center on American literature since 1865 with particular emphases on interactions between literature, science and medical diagnoses, and on the work of writer Edith Wharton. She is currently constructing a digital archive to house and organize Edith Wharton’s personal library collection and she focuses in her research and in her teaching on the expansion of digital methods in humanities scholarship. Sheila is also a musician; she plays the bagpipes, the accordion, the guitar and she sings and composes. In the past she has played with a variety of bands and musical groups, one of which, The Armadillos, is still touring and releasing albums through the Wild Kindness Records label.

Manu (single name) joined Biology as an Assistant Professor in August. Before joining UND he was a postdoctoral scholar at the University of Chicago. As a graduate student in Applied Mathematics at Stony Brook University, Manu learnt about the newly emerging field of Systems Biology which combines mathematics and computation to solve biological problems. Fascinated by this eclectic field and the opportunity to learn biology he studied how during development, fruit fly embryos achieve the same end result despite having different starting points. Manu remains focussed on applying systems approaches to understand development. He is establishing a hybrid experimental-computational group at UND to study how transcription networks reliably differentiate hematopoietic stem cells into mature cell types found in blood and will also be offering a course on Systems Biology (Biol 418) in the spring.

Renae Myszkowski is an Instructor with the Communication Program. She has a Master’s Degree in Speech Communication from the University of North Dakota. At UND Renae teaches Public Speaking and Interpersonal Communication. She has also taught Public Speaking, Interpersonal Communication, Small Group Communication, and Intercultural Communication at the University of Minnesota Morris, and Central Lakes College in Brainerd, MN.
Arash Nejadpak is a professor of Electrical Engineering Department at the University of North Dakota. He holds an M.S. Degree in power electronics and a PhD in Electromagnetics. He was working for several industrial companies in Silicon Valley, California as a full-time position and consulting engineer before joining the electrical engineering faculty in 2014. He has authored and co-authored numerous US patents, journals and conference papers in areas related to power and energy systems as well as computational electromagnetic and design optimization of power electronic conversion systems.

Stephan H Nordeng obtained a B.S. and M.S. in Geology from Michigan Technological University and a Ph. D. in Geology from Michigan State University. He spent ten years teaching a variety of Geology courses at various campuses within the University of Wisconsin System before joining the North Dakota Geological Survey. During his eight year tenure with the state survey he studied several aspects of the subsurface geology of North Dakota with an emphasis on the petroleum geology of the Bakken Source System. He joined the University of North Dakota as the Harold Hamm Distinguished Professor of Petroleum Geology.

Cristina Oancea is an Assistant Professor at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS), Department of Family and Community Medicine, in the MPH Program and the main epidemiologist for the North Dakota Statewide Cancer Registry. She received her PhD in Environmental Health with focus on Cancer Epidemiology from University of Minnesota in Minneapolis MN. She also holds a MS in Theoretical Mathematics and another MS in Statistics both from Oklahoma State University. Prior to her joining UND she completed her post-doctoral research at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis in Epidemiology and Cancer Control. Cristina teaches Biostatistics II, Advanced Biostatistics, Epidemiology, Environmental Health, Introduction to SAS programming and a refresher of College Algebra with medical applications. Her main research interest focuses on repetitive screening for cancer factors associated with cancer outcomes and long term effects of cancer treatment among survivors children or adults. In her free time she shares stories about her home country.

Brady Olson is originally from East Grand Forks, Minnesota and earned his Masters of Music degree in 2014 and Bachelor of Music degree in 2003 both from UND. Prior to returning to UND for his masters, Olson served as Director of Bands for three years in Warroad, Minnesota and for five years at Jamestown High School in North Dakota. He currently serves as Assistant Director of Bands and instructs the Drumline for the “Pride of the North” Marching Band. He currently calls East Grand Forks his home with wife, Tiffany, and their three children Avey, Lexy, and Anders.
Mia Park joins the Department of Humanities and Integrated Studies this fall as an Assistant Professor after earning her Ph.D. in Entomology from Cornell University earlier this year. Her research interests include ecosystem services, pollination ecology, and the scholarship of teaching and learning. Mia leads the science curriculum for non-majors in her department’s interdisciplinary program. She also holds a research faculty position in the Biology Department. Mia and her husband, Jay, have one son, Luc. She enjoys traveling, yoga, horseback riding and being outdoors.

James Parente is an assistant professor in the department of Art & Design currently teaching time-based media/computer animation. He received his BS in Electrical Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and his MFA in Computer Art from Savannah College of Art and Design. Prior to UND he worked as a visual effects artist on live action and animated features. Most recently he worked as a previs artist on Dawn of the Planet of the Apes and Noah. Some of his other roles include fx technical director on Horton Hears a Who and cloth technical director on Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows - Part 2.

Jody Paulson joins the Communication Sciences and Disorders Department this fall as an Assistant Clinical Professor and Director of Clinical Education. She completed her BS from Minot State University and received her MS degree from UND. Her professional background includes 17 years of experience in the public schools as a speech-language pathologist. Additionally she has provided rehabilitative services as a speech-language pathologist in area nursing homes, clinics, and private homes. Jody has been employed at the UND Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic for the past six summer semesters providing clinical supervision to graduate students. In her free time Jody enjoys football games, reading, kayaking, and knitting.

Nathan K. Rees is Assistant Professor of Art History in the Department of Art & Design. He also serves as Coordinator of Exhibitions for the UND Art Collections. Nathan holds a PhD in American Art History from the University of Maryland College Park and has taught at the University of Tennessee and worked as a curatorial assistant at the Brigham Young University Museum of Art. His research is focused on the influence of religion in depictions of American Indians in the art and visual culture of the 19th and 20th century US. Nathan teaches art history as well as museum practicum classes and is excited to help make UND’s exceptional art collections an even bigger part of student learning.
Kouhyar Tavakolian joined UND in March 2014 and prior to this was a postdoctoral fellow at University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. He received his PhD in 2010 from Simon Fraser University, Canada. Kouhyar’s particular interest in biological signal processing biomedical instrumentation non-invasive cardiology technologies and EEG-based brain computer interfaces. He has published about 70 journal and conference proceedings in these fields. Kouhyar is a scientist with entrepreneurial interest and experience in knowledge transfer to industry and has been involved with a few startup companies in his field of research.

Aimee Rogers is the newest faculty member in Teaching and Learning. She is an assistant professor in the reading program focusing primarily on children's and adolescent literature. Aimee recently completed her PhD at the University of Minnesota; her dissertation titled “How Intermediate Grade Readers Understand Graphic Novels: A Case Study” implemented a verbal protocol procedure in order to examine which modalities five intermediate grade readers used to make meaning with a graphic novel. Aimee received her B.S. in Special Education from the University of Evansville in Evansville Indiana and her M.A. in Language Reading and Culture from the University of Arizona in Tucson Arizona. In between earning degrees she was a classroom teacher in a variety of settings for ten years. Her research interests include graphic novels and their educational implications, adolescent literacy, representation in children's and adolescent literature. After being a full-time public school teacher for five years followed by being a doctoral student for four years Aimee is not accustomed to free time and is looking forward to exploring this new phenomenon in Grand Forks.

Arielle Selya is an Assistant Professor in the Master of Public Health Program in the School of Medicine & Health Sciences. She earned her B.A. in Physics from Cornell University and her Ph.D. in Neuroscience from Rutgers University and prior to joining UND completed her postdoc at Wesleyan University. Her research interests include the development and etiology of smoking behavior and nicotine dependence, and more generally applying methodologies such as system dynamics modeling, data mining and machine learning to analyze public health data.

Paul R. Snyder is currently teaching Safety Management Systems (SMS) and advanced flight courses for the University of North Dakota. Professor Snyder continues to be active in flight operations as a FAA Designated Pilot and Instructor Examiner, Insitu Certified ScanEagle UAS pilot, and a UND Chief Flight Instructor. As a DOT certified SMS trainer, Professor Snyder is an active member of UND SMS committee and Events Review Team (ERT); analyzing flight data and conducting safety risk assessments to reduce risk within the organization. Past research activities include FAA Industry Training Standards (FITS) – Scenario Based Training, UAS curriculum design, and studies in helicopter approach and landing lighting systems. Professor Snyder holds a degree in Aeronautical Studies and Master of Science in Educational Leadership.

Kouhyar Tavakolian joined UND in March 2014 and prior to this was a postdoctoral fellow at University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. He received his PhD in 2010 from Simon Fraser University, Canada. Kouhyar’s particular interest in biological signal processing biomedical instrumentation non-invasive cardiology technologies and EEG-based brain computer interfaces. He has published about 70 journal and conference proceedings in these fields. Kouhyar is a scientist with entrepreneurial interest and experience in knowledge transfer to industry and has been involved with a few startup companies in his field of research.
**Natasha Thomas** is a Board Certified/Licensed Music Therapist and graduate of UND (Bachelors in Music Therapy & Honors 2008, Masters of Science in Special Education 2012) joining her alma mater as a Clinical Assistant Professor of Music Therapy in the Music Department this year. Prior to accepting this position at UND Natasha practiced clinically with the North Dakota Schools for the Blind and Deaf as a Music Therapist and Braille Music instructor. Natasha is a regular contributor to the Performing Arts in the Grand Forks community as well both onstage as a participant in various Music Theater and Dance Productions but also offstage as a studio owner and instructor for the Lovely Dozen a local Middle Eastern Dance troupe. Natasha strives to donate proceeds from at least one performance per year to a local or national charity and enjoys spending time outdoors in nature and with her family.

**Dongmei Wang** is an assistant professor of Petroleum Engineering and received her PhD in Oil & Gas Development Engineering from the Research Institute of Petroleum Exploration and Development in China. Her expertise is enhanced oil recovery (EOR) project planning, numerical reservoir simulation, and EOR economic evaluation. Dr. Wang has been involved with 40 projects related to reservoir engineering, production, and reservoir simulation at Petrochina, and played a key role in what is, by far, the largest polymer flood in the world. She has received fourteen awards for outstanding achievement in implementing new concepts and developing innovative pilot tests for several enhanced oil recovery processes at Daqing. Currently, her research group at UND is focused on enhanced oil recovery using surfactant and solvent processes from tight rocks. She has served as PIs of research projects funded by RPSEA/DOE and petroleum industries since 2011. Dongmei enjoys outdoor activities and playing musical instruments. Her husband is a computer system engineer. Her son is pursuing his PhD in the field of optical and electrical engineering at the University of Michigan and plays violin in the University of Michigan Orchestra.

**Shannon Widmer** joins the Department of Technology as an Instructor of Graphic Design Technology. Prior to joining UND she spent over 14 years creating meaningful online educational experiences balancing the roles of usability consultant, user interface designer, and graphic designer for clients such as The Regis Company Naval Postgraduate School and Caterpillar, Inc. She earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania and her Master of Fine Arts in Web Design & New Media from Academy of Art University. Her research interests include user experience (UX) design information architecture and user interface design. Her areas of expertise include UX scenarios, personas, wireframing, task analysis, and user testing. Shannon enjoys fiber arts and cooking with her husband Donovan who is an Associate Professor in the Department of Art & Design.
Nick Wilson is an Assistant Professor of Aviation most recently coming from Bloomington, MN where he was working as a Flight Operations Curriculum Developer on the Canadair Regional Jet CRJ200/900 Fleet for a Delta Connection Carrier (Endeavor Air). Nick completed his undergraduate degrees at UND in BBA Aviation Management and BA French while also working in UND Residence Life. After UND, Nick worked for Northwest Airlines as a Manager of Customer Service at a spoke station, taught aircraft systems and procedures on the Airbus A320 fleet at Northwest/Delta and also spent time working in Business Development for a large Aerospace Manufacturing firm, working with customers Airbus and Boeing. While working at Delta Air Lines, Nick completed his Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Bethel University in St. Paul, MN. Nick is excited to return to the classroom and share industry experience with the up and coming generation of aviation professionals.

Cai Xia Yang is an Assistant Professor in Mechanical Engineering. She earned her PhD from the University of Manitoba, her M.Sc. and B.Sc. from Tianjin Textile Institute of Science and Technology, China. Prior to joining UND, Cai Xia was an assistant professor at the University of Minnesota Duluth. She has also served as a research associate and sessional instructor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Manitoba. Dr. Yang’s research interests are nonlinear systems modeling, control and stability analysis, transit bus electrification, and heavy ground vehicle accelerated durability testing, vibration data analysis and its application on machine condition monitoring.

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