The effectiveness of what goes on in the classroom depends fundamentally on what goes on outside the classroom: thinking about learning objectives, designing a course, and developing learning strategies that will maximize achievement of the objectives by every student.”

Wilbert McKeachie

Many new faculty at UND get to know one another well through programs and activities such as the Alice T. Clark/UND Foundation Scholars Mentoring Program and the New Faculty Bus Tour of North Dakota. And chances are good that those of us who have been here longer have connected with new colleagues, too -- be it in the hallways, the parking lot, the Union or through family or community contacts. Still, none of us gets to meet as many new faculty as we would like. So following a ten year tradition, On Teaching offers these profiles of our newest colleagues.

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. When you see them on campus, we hope you will say hello and welcome them to UND.

Pamela Beck (Teaching & Learning). Pamela recently earned her Ed.D. in Educational Leadership at the University of North Dakota. She has 25 years of teaching experience in the public schools, serving as a classroom teacher, reading specialist, and mentor teacher. She is now teaching literacy courses in the Department of Teaching & Learning. Her research interests include effective instruction of first-year teachers, mentoring of first-year teachers, and lifting student writing through effective instruction. She has three grown children and three grandchildren. She enjoys spending time at the lake.

Kyle Conway (Communications). Kyle Conway earned his Ph.D. in Communication Arts at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2008, where he specialized in media and cultural studies. His research concerns media globalization and translation, especially as these phenomena relate to questions of national identity and media policy. He is currently working on a book titled, Everyone Says No: Canadian Public Service Broadcasting and the Failure of Translation, which describes the role played by translation on Canadian television news during Canada’s “constitutional crisis” in the early 1990s. Professor Conway teaches classes about globalization, the social uses of media technology, media theory, and media production.

Michelle Davidson (Theatre). Michelle received her MFA from the University of South Dakota in 2003. Her areas of academic specialization are in theatre design and costumes. Michelle’s most recent activities include teaching costume design, managing a costume shop, and working as a faculty designer at the University of Nevada, Reno.
Jerome Delhommelle (Chemistry). Jerome received his Ph.D. from the University of Paris XI. His research is in the field of Coeducational Physical Chemistry. He is also the editor for *Molecular Simulation*.

Alejandro Drago (Music). Alejandro holds a Violin Performance and Pedagogy degree from the Moscow State Conservatory "Tchaikovsky", Russia (combined BM – MFA), as well as degrees in Violin Performance (MM) and Orchestral Conducting and Pedagogy (DMA) from the University of Southern Mississippi, and is the recipient of international awards in Argentina, Italy and Yugoslavia. After serving as Chief Conductor of the Southern Mississippi Chamber Orchestra and Assistant Conductor of the Southern Mississippi Symphony Orchestra, Dr. Drago is presently the Director of Orchestra and String studies at the University of North Dakota and serves as Music Director of the Greater Grand Forks Youth Symphony Orchestra. He is fluent in eight living languages (Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, French, English, German, Russian, Romanian) and has a working knowledge of two more (Arabic, Mandarin Chinese) and three classical languages (Classical Latin, Classical Sanskrit, Church Slavonic).

Guodong Du (Chemistry). Guodong received his Ph.D. from Iowa State University. His research interests include Inorganic and Organometallic Chemistry, Catalysis and Mechanisms. He is married to Qin Han and they have two sons, Dennis (age four) and Hanson (age one).

Reza Fazel (Electrical Engineering). Reza received his Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada in 1999. After several years working in industry, he joined Sharif University of Technology and later the University of Manitoba as assistant professor in 2002 and 2004, respectively. His research interests include biomedical signal and image processing, brain computer interface, EEG signal processing and seizure detection and prediction. His wife, Sima Noghanian, is also a faculty member in the Electrical Engineering department at UND. They have two sons: Vahid (11 years) and Hamed (20 months). Reza enjoys playing soccer.

Ron Fevig (Space Studies). Ron received his Ph.D. from the University of Arizona in 2006. Ron’s academic interests lie in Orbital Mechanics, Spacecraft Engineering, and physical studies of near-Earth asteroids. He did post-doctoral work at the University of North Dakota and is now an assistant professor in the Space Studies Department. Ron has been heavily involved in student-oriented engineering projects and plans to continue mentoring such teams. He is a single parent with two daughters, ages two and five.

Alan Frazier (Aviation). In 1990 Alan earned his M.P.A. from the University of Southern California. His research interests are Aviation and Pilot training. Alan was an Associate Professor at Glendale Community College in Glendale CA. He was also a Police Sergeant at the Glendale (CA) Police Department. Alan is married to Cynthia and they have three adult daughters. Alan’s other interests include Air Force Academy football, flying, and Irish rock music.

Christopher Gjesfjeld (Social Work). Christopher earned his Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh in May, 2008. His academic specialties include social inequalities in depression, social support models, and community mental health services to individuals with chronic and persistent mental illness. He and his wife, Joan, have a two-year old son, Soren, and a three-month old daughter, Ingrid.
and Rose (age four).

Bill completed his J.D. at the University of Michigan Law School and his B.A. at the University of Minnesota. Prior to joining the faculty of the School of Law, he practiced law for six years with a large business law firm in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he focused his practice on international business matters and commercial transactions. Drawing upon that professional practice experience and his personal interests, Bill teaches in the areas of commercial law, international business transactions, and contracts, a required first-year course. His scholarship is focused generally on international and comparative law and explores in particular the relationship between bodies of law that may conflict with each other in international and cross-border contexts. Bill is married to Kathleen, and they have three children: Billy (age ten), Hope (age seven), and Rose (age four).

James Hammerstrand (Modern and Classical Languages). In 1984 James received his M.A. from Purdue University. His research interests include 20th century Spanish Theater. James was an instructor at the University of Southern Indiana before arriving at UND. He is also interested in cross-country skiing.

William Johnson (Law). Bill completed his J.D. at the University of Michigan Law School and his B.A. at the University of Minnesota. Prior to joining the faculty of the School of Law, he practiced law for six years with a large business law firm in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he focused his practice on international business matters and commercial transactions. Drawing upon that professional practice experience and his personal interests, Bill teaches in the areas of commercial law, international business transactions, and contracts, a required first-year course. His scholarship is focused generally on international and comparative law and explores in particular the relationship between bodies of law that may conflict with each other in international and cross-border contexts. Bill is married to Kathleen, and they have three children: Billy (age ten), Hope (age seven), and Rose (age four).

Jared Keengwe (Teaching and Learning). Jared received his Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction (Educational Technology) from Indiana State University in 2006. Jared’s field of teaching, research and writing is in Teacher Education, Educational Technology and Diversity Education. Jared has published manuscripts on Constructivism, Technology and Meaningful Learning; The Use of Computer Tools to support Meaningful Learning and Faculty Integration of Technology in Higher Education. His scholarly work has appeared in multiple refereed journals including: Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education Journal (AACEJ), Journal of Science Education and Technology (JOST) and Early Childhood Education Journal (ECEJ). Jared loves to travel and spend time playing with his 18 month old son, Gabe.

Andrew Knight (Music). Andrew is assistant professor in Music Therapy at UND. The program is in its 9th year, founded by program director Therese Costes. He received his MA from the University of Minnesota and has published research in the areas of music therapy internship supervision and neurologic applications of music therapy in Parkinson’s and Alzheimer’s Diseases. He has moved to Grand Forks from Milwaukee, Wisconsin with his wife Jessica, an elementary music educator, and children Marek (2 years) and Malina (3 months). At home his research consists of over-intellectualizing his feelings regarding Brett Favre’s ill-conceived decisions and learning about the strange new world of baby girls.

Donna Martin (Nursing). Donna Martin is an Assistant Professor in the College of Nursing. Her research interest is Native American peoples’ experiences in health care as patients, providers, and students. In 2006, she received a doctoral degree in nursing from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada and her thesis was entitled, “Aboriginal nursing students’ experiences in two Canadian schools of nursing.” Donna’s clinical background is critical care nursing as she has practiced nursing in neonatal, pediatric and adult intensive care units.


Sima Noghanian (Electrical Engineering). Sima received her M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees, both in Electrical Engineering, from the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada in 1996 and 2001, respectively. She was an assistant professor of the Electrical Engineering Department at Sharif University of Technology in 2002-2003 and the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department at the University of Manitoba in 2003-2008. Her research interests include antenna design and modeling with applications in wireless communication, wireless channel modeling, and microwave imaging. Sima is married to Reza Fazel-Rezai, who is also an assistant professor at the Electrical Engineering Department at UND. They have two sons, Vahid (11 yrs) and Hamed (20 months).
Brett Ommen (Communications). Brett Ommen received his Ph.D. in Communication Studies with a focus on rhetoric and public culture from Northwestern University. He is interested in the relationship between rhetorical theory and visual cultures. His research focuses on the changing complexion of rhetorical theory alongside contemporary changes in the media uses and technologies. His project examines how these changes alter the way we speak to and about publics and communities.

Jaakko Putkonen (Geology and Geological Engineering). Jaakko earned his Ph.D. in Geology from the University of Washington, Seattle, where he remained as a research faculty member. His research on Geomorphology, landscape evolution and permafrost took him to far corners of the globe: Spitsbergen, Nepal, Antarctica, Chile. At the University of North Dakota he looks forward to building a strong research program and taking students to great field sites around the world.

Keith Richotte, Jr. (Law). Keith is an Assistant Professor in the School of Law. He received his J.D. from the University of Minnesota in 2004 and his L.L.M. from the University of Arizona in 2007. He will receive his Ph.D. from Minnesota in American Studies during the 2008-09 academic year. Keith’s wife, Jenny, will also finish her Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota in history during the 2008-09 academic year.

Diane Sander (Communications). Diane received her Master of Science in 1979 from The University of North Dakota. Her academic specializations and interests are in speech pathology and language. Diane recently retired from 30 years of working in the public schools, where she worked as a speech pathologist. She is married to Dale Sander who is the Manager at Thompson Insurance. They have a daughter, Molly (28 years old) and a son, Michael (26 years old). Diane is looking forward to the challenge and change.

Michelle Sauer (English). Though Michelle grew up in Fargo, she attended Purdue, Loyola University, and Washington State University where she earned her Ph.D. in 2000. In August 2000, she joined the faculty at Minot State University where she taught until arriving at UND. Michelle's research area is broadly medical studies with her special interest being mastic and eremitic texts, particularly in relation to gender and sexuality.

Edward Sauter (School of Medicine and Health Sciences). Dr. Sauter is the Associate Dean for Research and Professor of Surgery. He received his M.D. from the Louisiana State School of Medicine and his Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. He completed his general surgery residency at the Ochsner Clinic in New Orleans, Louisiana. Dr. Sauter also completed a Surgical Oncology Fellowship at Fox Chase Cancer Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Dr. Sauter was Vice-Chairman for Research in the Department of Surgery and Professor at the University of Missouri-Columbia. He also completed his MHA while at the University of Missouri. Dr. Sauter is an accomplished surgeon with expertise in translational research, and is an expert in the early detection of breast cancer.

Stuart Schneider (Information Systems and Business Education). Stuart received his Ph.D. from the UND School of Communication and Public Discourse in December 2007 and is now in his third year of teaching in the College of Business and Public Administration. Stuart teaches graduate as well as undergraduate classes in business communication. Prior to coming to UND, Stuart worked in healthcare as a CEO for nearly six years. During those six years he worked in hospitals, clinics and nursing homes. Stuart’s research interests include pandemic preparedness, organizational development, and quality healthcare improvement.

Rhonda Schwartz (Law). Rhonda received her J.D. in 1987 and Ph.D. in 2003 from the University of North Dakota and UND School of Law. Her research interests are legal research, North Dakota legal research, and academic law libraries. 2006 through 2008, Rhonda served as Interim Director at the Thormodsgard Law Library. From 1994 until 2006 she served as Assistant Director at the Thormodsgard Law Library. Rhonda’s husband, Charles Moretti, is a professor at UND teaching Civil Engineering. They have two sons, Luke and Joel.

Pauline Stonehouse (Educational Leadership). Pauline received her Ph.D. from UND in May 2008. Her academic specialties include professional learning communities, teacher evaluation, curriculum development, and instruction theory. Pauline finished her dissertation—the application of rival software in assessing teacher performances: a case study— in May 2008. She has three brothers and eight nieces and nephews. Pauline’s interest is fencing.

Susan Tang (Music). Susan is a D.M.A. candidate from the Manhattan School of Music in New York City. As a winner of the Artist International Competition, she performed at Carnegie-Weill Hall, in addition to playing piano with the NYC-based experimental theatre group Mabou Mines production of Ibsen’s Dollhouse in Colombia and Korea. She enjoys collaborating with other musicians and artists and after living in the city for four years, she is happy to be in Grand Forks where she can enjoy a quieter existence and where her little dog, Zoey, can roll and run around on open grass.
Joseph Vacek (Aviation). Joe comes to UND to teach aviation law and policy. Joe is a graduate of the UND School of Law, and owned a law firm in Minneapolis, MN, where he practiced transportation law. Joe researches in the area of transportation law and policy, is an active instructor pilot, and advises the UND Aerobatic Team. Joe served in the Peace Corps in the Republic of Georgia, where he learned first-hand how most of the world lives.

Sean Valentine (Business and Public Administration). Sean (D.B.A.) Louisiana Tech University) is Professor of Management in the Department of Management, College of Business and Public Administration. His research and teaching interests include business ethics, human resource management, and organizational culture. His work has appeared in journals such as Human Relations, Journal of Personal Selling & Sales Management, Journal of Business Research, Behavioral Research in Accounting, and Journal of Business Ethics.

Boris Volkov (School of Medicine and Health Sciences). A native of Russia, Boris is an Assistant Professor of Evaluation Studies at the Center for Rural Health. He comes from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, where, most recently, he was a Research Associate with a National Science Foundation project. His areas of research and practice include program evaluation, evaluation capacity building, and qualitative research. Boris holds a doctorate in Evaluation Studies with a certificate in Human Resource Development from the University of Minnesota. He also holds master’s degrees in Educational Policy and Administration (International Development Education) and Psychology from the University of Minnesota and Tashkent State University in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, respectively. He and his wife, Lena, have a 2-year-old son, Nikita. Boris’s interests include volleyball and hiking.

Dory Walker (Counseling). In 1995 Dory received her Ph.D. from the University of California Santa Barbara. Areas of academic specialties for Dory are counseling psychology, and coordination of school counseling programs. She was an Educational Specialist of Counseling at the Utah State Office of Education and was also an Associate Professor in the department of Education Psychology at the University of Utah.

Deborah Worley (Educational Leadership). Deborah obtained her Ph.D. from the University of Mississippi in 2008. She specializes in student affairs and student involvement. Deborah was a full-time doctoral student at the University of Mississippi, she was a student affairs administrator at Bowling Green State University, and was also a student affairs administrator at Cornell University. Deborah is married to Timothy Williamson who has a M.A. in Parks and Recreation Management. She enjoys outdoor activities and is looking forward to learning some new winter sports.

Lance Yarbrough (Geological Engineering). Lance obtained his Ph.D. from the University of Mississippi in 2006. His research interests include geo-hazards, remote sensing, and geospatial analysis. He has prior experiences in state and federal government, private industry, and academia. He moved to Grand Forks with his wife, Buffie, and his five-year-old son, Zeke. Personal activities include studying the Bible and home remodeling.

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On Teaching
Lunch Seminar Series
Fall 2008

Wed., Nov. 19  12:00-1:00 PM  Is there a "Stupidity Crisis" in Academe?
Tues., Dec. 2  12:30-1:30 PM  The second in our Teaching with Technology Faculty Seminar Series: Teaching in the Blogosphere

All sessions take place in the River Valley Room of the Union. Wednesday sessions run from 12-1. Tuesday and Thursday sessions run from 12:30-1:30.
To register and reserve a lunch, please call Jana Hollands at 777-4998 or email: jana_hollands@und.nodak.edu
Creating Significant Learning Through Integrated Course Design Workshop

9am to noon, February 5, 2008 in the River Valley Room

All teachers face the challenge of designing their courses and teaching in a way that leads to learning that is judged to be truly significant, by both their students and others. But this begs a key question in the whole teaching enterprise: What are the ways in which learning can be significant? If we have or can develop a language and a conceptual framework for identifying the multiple ways in which learning can be significant, then teachers can decide which of various kinds of significant learning they want to support and promote in a given course or learning experience.

Dee Fink has written a book on this subject—*Creating Significant Learning Experiences* (Jossey-Bass, 2003)—and a number of faculty at UND have considered (either through a Faculty Study Seminar, the Alice Clark Program or on their own) Fink's work and found it useful. So OID has decided to sponsor a campus-wide course design workshop based on Fink's conceptual framework. You don't have to have read the book to participate, and the workshop crosses all disciplines, methods and levels of teaching. So we hope you'll save the date and come (specific signup information will appear in *On Teaching* and the U Letter as we approach February). The workshop will be conducted by Dr. Stewart Ross, Founding Director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning at Minnesota State Mankato (which was recently honored by the Carnegie Foundation as a CASTL Leadership College.) In the workshop we'll examine the role of course design in teaching and introduce the Integrated Course Design model. Participants will identify what they think is significant in terms of student learning, and take steps toward applying the key components to the courses they teach.

*On Teaching* is published six times a year as a service to UND faculty.

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