

# ON TEACHING

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## Meet Our New Faculty

People are naturally curious. They are born learners. Education can either develop or stifle their inclination to ask why and learn.  
—Ira Shor

This fall 807 instructional faculty (part-time, full-time, tenure track, non-tenure track) are working together to make UND an excellent place to get an education. Of that group, 52 are new faculty with the rank of instructor, assistant or associate professor. Many new faculty at UND get to know one another 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.

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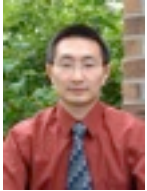
**Slavka Antonova (Communication).** Slavka is Associate Professor in Communication with expertise in international communication, media studies, and journalism. She joined UND in mid-August, but, as a Canadian, she knows how to appreciate the North Dakota snowy winter. In the last three years, Slavka was Senior Lecturer at Massey University, Auckland, New Zealand. In 2008, Dr Antonova published *Powerdynamics of Internet governance: How was global multistakeholderism invented in ICANN?* (VDM Verlag), one of the first comprehensive academic texts on the governance experiment in global Internet development. Slavka is a member of the Steering Committee of the Global Internet Governance Academic Network (GigaNet), and a member of the Editorial Board of the *International Journal of Communications Law and Policy*. She obtained her second PhD in Communication Studies, in 2006, from Concordia University, Montreal, and her first doctoral degree in Journalism and Mass Communication from Moscow University, Russia. With teaching experience in four national universities, Slavka was happy this semester to assume her new teaching assignment in Communication Law.



**Cari Campbell (History).** Cari received her Ph.D. in History from the University of Iowa in 2009. Focusing on modern French history (1789-2000), Cari's research explores the intersections between political movements, fascism, nationalism, women's activism, and gender politics. Cari enjoys various sports, games, and outdoor activities.



**Emily Cherry (Theatre).** Emily Cherry is originally from Dallas, Texas, but received her MFA from Western Illinois University in Macomb, IL. Her areas of specialty are directing for the stage and Musical Theatre. She has performed in and directed several productions including *Urinetown*, *Parade*, *A New Brain*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* and *Betrayal*.



**Qianli (Rick) Chu (Chemistry).** Rick earned his Ph.D. in Chemistry at the University of Iowa in 2005. His academic interests lie in organic synthesis and nanoscience. The main focus of his research group is the development of novel synthetic methods and the construction of nano-architectures, e.g. covalently bonded nanotubes. Rick enjoys fishing and playing soccer. Both of Rick's parents were teachers in China.



**Kim Cowden (Communication - Indian Studies).** Cowden will complete her doctorate degree in December from North Dakota State University. Her areas of specialization are Advertising, Public Relations, Risk and Crisis Communication with vulnerable populations. Since 2005, Cowden has served as a research fellow with the National Center for Food Protection and Defense, A Center of Excellence for the Department of Homeland Security. In addition, she is the project coordinator for the Risk and Crisis Communication Project housed at North Dakota State University. Cowden conducts research with cultural groups, predominately Native Americans, to better understand risk and crisis messaging needs for diverse publics during events of food-borne crises. Publications and guidebooks authored or co-authored by Cowden are available at <http://risk-crisis.ndsu.nodak.edu/> In addition to her scholarship, Cowden is a principle at Cowden Communications, a communication consulting firm specializing in non-profit health care marketing. She has 20 years of professional advertising and public relations experience and has also served as the editor for a regional home magazine publication. Cowden is married with two children: Emily, 12; and Ben, 7. When not researching or writing, Cowden and her family like to spend time at their Rock Lake, MN vacation home.



**Alycia Cummings (Communcation Sciences and Disorders).** Alycia received her Ph.D. from San Diego State University and the University of California, San Diego Joint Doctoral Program in Language and Communicative Disorders. In the Communication Sciences and Disorders program at UND, she is teaching phonetics, language disorders, and articulation and phonological disorders. Her research program is examining phonological treatment efficacy in children with speech sound disorders, as well as electrophysiological responses (ERPs) to speech sounds in young children. An eastern North Dakota native, she is happy to be back in the Red River Valley after a 13 year absence with her partner, John Chappell, and their two deaf dogs, Tito and Shaak Ti.



**Lori Esposito (Art & Design).** For several years Lori has been exhibiting her paintings and drawings throughout the country, including California, Miami, New York, and Washington, DC. She received her MFA in studio art from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. She earned an MA in art education from Ohio University in Athens. Her research explores ideas concerning relationships between the optical and the imagistic, and the potential for visual slippage and/or shifting in the 2-dimensional realm. She brings to her work a celebration and working knowledge of botanical folklore, and medicinal plants - often inserting concoctions of her own invention into the work. Lori has begun her first year as assistant professor, teaching painting and drawing.



**Kenneth Flanagan (Social Work).** Ken received his Ph.D. from The Ohio State University and has 30 years of professional social work experience. Prior to his current position he was Director of Catholic Charities in Northwest Indiana and has held numerous administrative and clinical positions in the health and human services field. His areas of research interests are gerontology, developmental disabilities and behavioral healthcare. In his spare time he enjoys swimming, hiking and reading. He and his wife Kim have 3 children.



**Michael Paul Gallo (Teaching & Learning).** Michael has been an early childhood educator for 17 years. He was employed as a preschool teacher at the MSUM Early Education Center, located on the campus of Minnesota State University Moorhead (MSUM). He was on the faculty of the Elementary and Early Childhood Education Department at MSUM for seven years, teaching courses in child development, play, early literacy, discovery learning, and parent professional relations. Michael received his Ph.D. from UND in Teaching and Learning/Teacher education. He has presented workshops and keynotes at local, state, regional, and national conferences for educators and parents of young children. These presentation topics have included storytelling, puppetry, creative dramatics, science and math curriculum methods, play and development, and ADD/ADHD.



**Joshua D Guggenheimer (Physical Education & Exercise Science).** Joshua is an Assistant Professor of exercise physiology. He graduated with a Ph.D. in exercise physiology in 2009 from the University of Idaho, where he also completed his undergraduate and master's degrees. Current research interests include the reflexive and postural responses of young and older adults following vibration exercise protocols. Academic obligations include teaching neuromuscular physiology, advanced laboratory techniques related to exercise, and exercise testing and prescription. He is originally from British Columbia, Canada where his immediate family still resides.



**Sean E. Hightower (Chemistry).** Sean received his Ph.D. from the University of Wyoming. He was a graduate pre-fellow and post-doctoral fellow at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) and a post-doctoral research associate at Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL). His research interest revolves around the general area of preparative and physical inorganic and organic chemistry, and its relation with the rapidly emerging field of materials/energy chemistry. Sean is a known touring cyclist addict and can be seen in his spare time meandering around, quite slowly, on his touring bicycle.



**Lon Hurst (Theatre Arts).** Lon is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Theatre Arts where he administers the new Dance Minor program. He received an MFA in Dance from the University of Illinois and a Bachelor of Music in Voice from Eastern Michigan University. Previously Lon has taught at Illinois State University and Penn State University, and most recently at Christopher Newport University where he administered the Musical Theatre and newly- founded Dance programs. He has directed and/or choreographed several productions, including: SOUTH PACIFIC, THE MUSIC MAN, COSI FAN TUTTI, HANSEL AND GRETEL, URINETOWN, BRIGADOON, LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS, and QUILTERS. Prior to his career in academia, Lon enjoyed a professional career as a dancer, singer, and actor in, ballet, theatre, film, television, and music video that spanned more than 20 years. He is a long-standing member of the professional performers' unions the Actors' Equity Association and the Screen Actors' Guild.



**Yun Ji (Chemical Engineering).** Yun received her Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Maine in 2007. She then worked at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory located at Golden, Colorado. She joined the University of North Dakota in 2009. Her research interests include renewable and sustainable energy, chemicals and fuels from renewable sources, biomass pretreatment, biochemical & thermo-chemical of biomass for fuel production, enzymatic hydrolysis, integrated energy and environmental projects, process simulation, forestry biorefinery, pulp and paper technology and lignin utilization. She is a member of AIChE, Sigma Xi and SIM. She has a one year old daughter.



**Jeff Langstraat (Sociology).** Jeff recently received his Ph.D. in Sociology from Boston College where he studied news coverage of same-sex couples during the Massachusetts campaign for marriage equality. His research interests more broadly involved social movement activity and mass media, particularly where they involve issues of sexual politics. Jeff's primary areas of teaching responsibility involve social diversity and social problems.



**Lewis Liang (Aviation).** Lewis received his Masters from Delta State University in December of 2008. His areas of academic specialization are crew training and general aviation. He is married to Shasti and they have three children Luana (9), Braelyn (7) and Kailah (2).



**Vadoud Niri (Chemistry).** Vadoud received his Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry from the University of Tabriz. He worked as a postdoctoral research associate at the departments of Physics (Polymer-Physics group) and Chemistry (SPME group) at the University of Waterloo. He also worked as a research associate and project manager at the Industrially Focused Analytical Chemistry Laboratory (InFAReL) at the University of Waterloo. His research interests include polymer-based sampling and sample preparation devices for environmental analysis (water, air, wood, soil and sediment analyses), separation methods (GC and LC), chemical sensors (based on polymer-coated quartz crystal microbalance), and bioanalysis (pharmaceutical and biological analyses, biophysics, and biofuels). Besides research, Vadoud has taught many courses in the field of general and analytical chemistry at both undergraduate and graduate levels. Vadoud's wife, Shokouh Haddadi, also holds a Ph.D. in chemistry and works as a research scientist at UND. They have a 4-year old daughter, Eileen.



**Nuri Oncel (Physics and Astrophysics).** Nuri received his Ph.D. from the University of Twente, the Netherlands in 2007. His research interests are scanning probe microscopy, low dimensional physics, nanoscience and molecular electronics. He is married to Sema Oncel.



**Igor Ovchinnikov (Biology and Forensic Science).** Igor graduated from Moscow State University and earned his Ph.D. in Molecular Biology at the Institute of Genetics and Selection of Microorganisms in Moscow in 1993. During his career, he has enjoyed teaching and doing research in diverse cultural environments in Russia, Scotland, and the United States. His technical expertise lies in the fields of human, Neanderthal and primate genetics, ancient and forensic genomics. Igor initiated an international project on Neanderthal genetics that led to the second discovery of DNA from Neanderthal bones published in *Nature* and *Nature Encyclopedia of the Human Genome*. He is also one of the pioneers of the application of DNA analysis in criminalistics and a co-author of the DNA analysis of Tikhon Kulikovski-Romanov, the nephew of the last Russian Emperor Nikolai II Romanov. Igor comes from the University of Connecticut where he was an Associate Professor in Residence and taught a variety of genetic disciplines. His other works have appeared in journals such as *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the U.S.A.*, *Genome Research*, *American Journal of Human Genetics*, *Journal of Human Evolution*, *Addiction Biology*, *Journal of Medical Genetics*, *Journal of Neurology*, *Advances in Forensic Sciences*, *Electrophoresis*, and *Nucleic Acids Research*.



**Casey Ozaki (Teaching & Learning).** Casey received her Ph.D. in Higher Education from Michigan State University in 2009. Her research interests include community college students, adult learners, identity development, and the role of individual development in persistence decisions. Prior to pursuing her doctoral degree, Casey was a residential hall director and social worker for individuals with disabilities. Casey has two big cats, Max and Bart, and in her free time enjoys traveling, trying new things, eating, and working out (mostly so she can eat more!).



**Timothy Pasch (Psychology/Communication Program).** Tim received his Ph.D. in Communication from the University of Washington (Seattle) in December 2008. His dissertation fieldwork took place in the Canadian Arctic and focused on empowering language and security on the Arctic web through virtual communities and social networking. His current work includes cloud computing in communication, new media production, cybersecurity in social and financial networks, distance learning optimization and web development for online federal grant components. Hobbies include audio recording and post-production, digital underwater photography, blues piano and hand percussion. Tim is a scuba diving instructor, Apple Computer and gadget aficionado, and martial artist. He is fluent in French and Japanese and has intermediate Inuktitut ability.



**Timothy Prescott (Mathematics).** Tim received his Ph.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles, in 2008, focusing on probability. His research interests include random walks in random environments and evolving shapes. His wife Cindy is an Assistant Professor in the UND History department.



**Jody Ralph (Nursing).** Jody is an Assistant Professor in the College of Nursing. Her research interests include 1) the impact of diet on prostate cancer initiation and progression, and 2) student outcomes following standardized assessment of student learning. She received a Ph.D. from the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the University of British Columbia in 2005 and a Master of Science in Nurse Education from UND in 2009. She is married to Steven Ralph, an assistant professor in the Department of Biology. They have one son, Liam (2 years) and second child due in February.



**Robin R. Runge (Law).** Robin is an Assistant Professor of Law at the University of North Dakota School of Law where she teaches in the Employment and Housing Law Clinic. She received her B.A. from Wellesley College in History and French and her J.D. from The George Washington University Law School. Before coming to the University of North Dakota School of Law, Robin taught public interest lawyering and domestic violence law at The George Washington University Law School and domestic violence law at The American University Washington College of Law.



**Jill Shafer (Teaching & Learning).** Jill received her Ph.D. from Texas A&M University. Her research interests include the impact of the educational backgrounds of English language learners on their adjustment to the U.S. educational system and preparing pre-service teachers from rural and homogenous backgrounds for working with diverse student populations. Jill has three sons. She loves to travel and has lived in both the Philippines and Uzbekistan.



**Bonnie Selzler (Family & Community Nursing).** Bonnie received her Ph.D. in 1996 from University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, Denver, her MSN (1987) and her BSN (1980) from University of Mary, Bismarck, North Dakota. Her research interests are post disaster behavioral health of communities, specifically for vulnerable populations. Bonnie has been a national consultant and speaker on post disaster behavioral health and is a manuscript reviewer for the Journal of Behavioral Health Services and Research. Over the past 12 years she provided consultation to 44 of the U.S. States and Territories and Tribal Nations regarding post disaster behavioral health response and recovery.



**Heather Terrell (Psychology).** Heather recently earned her Ph.D. in Psychology from Arizona State University, where she specialized in social psychology with a concentration in Women and Gender Studies. Her research interests include gender differences in aggression, personality predictors of aggression, stereotypes related to pregnancy and motherhood, stereotyping and prejudice related to gender identity and sexual orientation, gender roles as predictors of sexual attitudes and behavior, the role of early risk factors and exposure to violence in relation to abortion and mental health, and gender-specific risk factors for substance abuse in women. She is married and has a two-year-old son, and she enjoys cooking, road trips, and reading great big fiction books.



**Bret Weber (Social Work).** Bret received his Ph.D. in History from the University of Utah in 2006. Areas of academic specialization/interest are: Social Policy, Social Work Theory, 20th Century U.S. History, Environmental History. Since completing the PhD in History he has earned a Masters of Social Work from the University of North Dakota, which included work with the local Housing Authority and Grand Forks County Child Protective Services. In addition to work on a Civic Engagement grant from the Bremer Foundation he has also been involved as one of the authors of the Feasibility Study for the Grand Forks Energy Alliance. He now serves as an advisor to that effort, funded with federal Energy development funds. He has been teaching social policy for UND's Department of Social Work for the last three years, and just recently became a tenure-track member of that faculty. He continues to teach U.S. and Environmental History for Continuing Education at Utah State University, and he is currently under contract with the University Press of Colorado to publish "Victories in the War on Poverty: The Denver Model Cities Program." His wife, Carenlee Barkdull, is an assistant professor here at UND where she is beginning her fifth year. They have two grown children: a daughter Dylan who runs a bakery in a hippy-dippy neighborhood in Salt Lake City with her husband Tim; and their son Blue who boomeranged back home, works at Dakota Harvest bakery and is attending the Technical College in East Grand Forks. Bret enjoys running half- and full-marathons and can testify that the Greenway along the Red River is a great place to be even when it's 30 below.



**Paul Worley (Classical Languages and Literatures).** Paul is an incoming Assistant Professor of Spanish. In 2009 he received his Ph.D. in Comparative literature from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a dissertation focusing on the image of the indigenous storytelling in Mexican and Yukatek Maya literatures. He has spent significant time living and studying in Mexico, and recently spent ten months at the Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán taking courses on Yukatek Maya language and culture. He moved to Grand Forks with his wife, Melissa, and two dogs, Masha and Mr. Lucas.

#### REMINDER: Schedule a SGID in your classroom for mid semester feedback

Small Group Instructional Diagnosis (SGID) is a voluntary, confidential feedback process that enables instructors to get frank, useful comments from students on a course that is still in progress. Designed to increase communication between the students and the instructor, with the aim of improving learning in the class, the process uses small group student interviews to identify strengths of the course, areas of student concern, and possible ways to address those concerns. If you request a SGID, a trained faculty facilitator will collect information from your students (taking about 20 minutes of class time), write it up into a report for you, and discuss with you student perceptions regarding their learning in the class.

To schedule an SGID, please contact Jana Hollands at [jana\\_hollands@und.nodak.edu](mailto:jana_hollands@und.nodak.edu) or 777-4998. For more information on the process call Anne Kelsch at 777-4233.

## ON TEACHING

Instructional Development

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### UPCOMING EVENTS AND DEADLINES

November 2	FIDC Grant Monthly Deadline (noon)
November 18	<i>On Teaching Seminar</i> : How am I Doing? Rating Yourself as a Teacher
December 1	FIDC Monthly Grant Deadline
December 3	<i>On Teaching Seminar</i> : Poetry as a Tool for Teaching across the Disciplines

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