

# NEW FACULTY 2014

## 85 NEW FACULTY MEMBERS JOINED THE NOTRE DAME FAMILY THIS FALL

### COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS

#### Mike Amezcua



Assistant professor, history  
**Interests:** Twentieth-century United States urban and cultural history; the convergence of Latina/o communities; the built environment; U.S.-Mexico borderlands; and racial formations

**Course(s):** U.S. Latina/o History; Cultures of the Urban Crisis

**Recent position/institution:** Chancellor's postdoctoral fellow at the University of California, San Diego

**Education:** Ph.D., M.A., Yale University; B.A., UCLA

**Why Notre Dame:** *I chose the University of Notre Dame for its stellar reputation as a first-class research institution and for its commitment to teaching and learning.*

#### Rüdiger Bachmann



Associate professor, economics

**Interests:** Macroeconomics  
**Course(s):** First-year Ph.D. macroeconomics

**Recent position/institution:** Goethe University Frankfurt

**Education:** Ph.D., M.A., Yale University; M.A., University of Maine

**Why Notre Dame:** *The economics department, and especially the macroeconomics group at Notre Dame, is world-class. I am happy to be a part of that.*

#### Liang Cai



Assistant professor, history  
**Interests:** Early Chinese empires, Classical Chinese thought

**Course(s):** Where East Meets West; Modern China

**Recent position/institution:** Associate

professor of history, University of Arkansas  
**Education:** Ph.D., M.A., Cornell University; B.A., Renmin University Beijing  
**Why Notre Dame:** *Pursuing excellence in research and teaching attracts me to come to Notre Dame.*

#### Juliana Chiang



Assistant professional specialist, Economics  
**Interests:** Environmental and natural resource economics

**Recent position/institution:** Assistant professor of the Practice, Environmental Studies

Program, University of Southern California  
**Education:** Ph.D., M.Phil., Yale University; B.A., Beijing Foreign Studies University  
**Why Notre Dame:** *I am drawn to Notre Dame's mission as a Catholic university to be 'a powerful force to heal, unify, and enlighten our world,' and how this mission informs its commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship.*

#### Alex Chavez



Assistant professor, anthropology  
**Interests:** Transnational migration, embodiment, place-making and everyday life as manifested in political economies of performance, with particular emphasis on

music and language  
**Course(s):** Introduction to Latinos in American Society for the Institute for Latino Studies and a seminar, "American Borderlands"  
**Recent position/institution:** Visiting assistant professor in the Latin American and Latino Studies program at the University of Illinois at Chicago

**Education:** Ph.D., M.A., B.A., University of Texas–Austin

**Why Notre Dame:** *I view Notre Dame as an esteemed intellectual space of critical discourse with high levels of engagement and research at the forefront of anthropology and Latino studies. I am excited to join this community as an assistant professor and build relationships with faculty and work closely with students, as well as other academic units and cross-campus institutions.*

#### Christopher Cronin



Assistant professor, economics  
**Interests:** Applied microeconomics, health economics

**Course(s):** Intermediate Microeconomic Theory; Econometrics II

**Recent position/**

**institution:** Graduate student, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

**Education:** Ph.D., M.S., B.S., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; B.A., Georgetown College

**Why Notre Dame:** *I chose to come to Notre Dame because I support its mission to be a prominent research institution, while remaining dedicated to developing the minds, bodies and spirits of its students.*

#### Nan Da



Assistant professor, English  
**Interests:** Nineteenth-century American literature, transnational studies, critical theory

**Course(s):** 19th-Century American Literature

**Recent position/**

**institution:** Ph.D. student, University of Michigan

**Education:** Ph.D., University of Michigan; B.A., University of Chicago

**Why Notre Dame:** *All signs indicate that the English department, and the university more generally, are committed to hiring and supporting the best young scholars in the field. This will be an exciting place to conduct literary research.*

#### Eva Dziadula



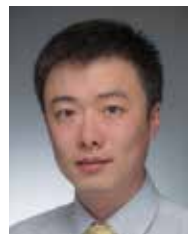
Assistant professional specialist, economics  
**Interests:** Determinants of citizenship among the foreign born in the United States; country-specific human capital; fertility of the foreign born in the United States; gender

preference and assimilation of immigrants  
**Course(s):** Principles of Microeconomics; Principles of Macroeconomics

**Recent position/institution:** Lecturer, Lake Forest College

**Education:** M.A., University of Chicago; B.A., Lake Forest College; A.A., College of Lake County  
**Why Notre Dame:** *Notre Dame is the perfect combination of a liberal arts school focusing on individual students and a big research university. I could not ask for more in a faculty position and greatly look forward to working with Notre Dame's students and faculty.*

#### Felix Feng



Assistant professor, economics  
**Interests:** Financial economics; microeconomic theory; dynamic contracting; corporate governance; international finance

**Course(s):** Intermediate

Microeconomic Theory  
**Recent position/institution:** Ph.D. student, Duke University

**Education:** Ph.D., M.A., Duke University; B.A., Peking University

**Why Notre Dame:** *My department is very friendly to junior faculty and supportive of their career plans. It is very committed to promote a high level of research, and a collaborative relationship among faculty and students.*

#### Luis Ricardo Fraga



Arthur Foundation Endowed Professor of Transformative Latino Leadership and the Joseph and Elizabeth Robbie Professor of Political Science

**Interests:** Latino politics; politics of race and

ethnicity; urban politics; immigration politics; voting rights policy; education policy

**Course(s):** The Evolution of Voting Rights in the U.S.; Latinos in the Future of America

**Recent position/institution:** Associate vice provost for faculty advancement and Russell F. Stark University professor; professor of Political Science, University of Washington

**Education:** Ph.D., M.A., Rice University; A.B., Harvard University

**Why Notre Dame:** *Being at Notre Dame brings together my faith, years of experience in the academy and my highest aspirations to contribute to the next generation of leaders in our Church, nation and world in a way that is not possible at any other university.*

#### Naoki Fuse



Assistant professional specialist, East Asian Languages and Cultures

**Interests:** Japanese linguistics; Japanese language pedagogy; traditional Japanese linguistics in Japan (*kokugaku/kokugogaku*);

Tokieda Motoki's language-as-process theory  
**Course(s):** First-year Japanese; fourth-year Japanese

**Recent position/institution:** Graduate teaching associate in Japanese, Ohio State University

**Education:** M.A., University of Nihon, Tokyo, Japan; M.A., Portland State University; B.A., University of Nihon, Tokyo, Japan.

**Why Notre Dame:** *The exceptionally beautiful campus impressed me first. All the people I met were warm and welcoming. In my teaching demonstration, students were genuinely motivated and actively involved. I felt very comfortable teaching there and appreciated the positive atmosphere they created. The whole experience definitely enhanced my wish to become a part of the Notre Dame community.*

#### Gary Hollibaugh



Assistant professor, political science  
**Interests:** American political institutions; executive politics; congressional politics and quantitative research methods

**Course(s):** Math for Political Scientists; Maximum Likelihood and Limited Dependent Variables

**Recent position/institution:** Visiting assistant professor of public administration and policy, University of Georgia

**Education:** Ph.D., M.A., University of Rochester; B.A., University of California, San Diego

**Why Notre Dame:** *I chose Notre Dame not only because of its large and very strong faculty in my discipline, but also because of its large resource base and excellent worldwide reputation as an institution of higher learning.*

#### Alexander Jech



Assistant professional specialist, philosophy  
**Interests:** Ethics; social and political philosophy; philosophical theology, particularly the role of love in our moral psychology, the nature and significance of freedom as

a social and political ideal, and the relationship between the human condition and the religious idea of God's love.  
**Course(s):** Existential Themes; Classical Political Philosophy  
**Recent position/institution:** Visiting assistant professor, University of North Carolina at

#### Chapel Hill

**Education:** Ph.D., University of Notre Dame; B.A., University of Washington

**Why Notre Dame:** *I originally came to Notre Dame as a student because it seemed the best place for someone with both serious intellectual aspirations and serious religious commitments to come to study. I have chosen to come back because, much to my own surprise, I have been given the opportunity to return to what still seems to me the best place for those of faith to come to reason together.*

#### Juhi Kaboski



Research assistant professor, psychology  
**Interests:** Autism and other neurodevelopmental disorders; parenting under difficult circumstances (e.g., substance abuse, intimate partner violence, incarceration)

**Recent position/institution:** Postdoctoral research associate, University of Notre Dame

**Education:** Ph.D., University of Chicago;

MSW, B.A., University of Illinois–Champaign

**Why Notre Dame:** *My husband is an economics professor. We are both Midwesterners, we are both Catholic, and we wanted to work for the same university. Notre Dame seemed to be the perfect choice for us considering the University's commitment to scholarly rigor and Catholic values.*

#### Hana Kang



Associate professional specialist, East Asian Languages and Cultures and Center for the Study of Languages and Cultures  
**Interests:** Applied linguistics; foreign language acquisition; computer-assisted

language learning and language learner identity.  
**Course(s):** First-year Korean; Second Language Acquisition

**Recent position/institution:** Lecturer in humanities, Michigan Technological University

**Education:** Ph.D., M.A., Ohio State University; B.A., Rutgers State University of New Jersey

**Why Notre Dame:** *I was impressed by Notre Dame's high-caliber faculty and students, as well as the potential to advance my career. As a Catholic family member, I also felt special attachment to Notre Dame.*

#### Gerald Knoppers



John A. O'Brien Professor of Theology  
**Interests:** Hebrew scriptures; ancient historiography, early Judaism, ancient Near Eastern and biblical law, inner-scriptural exegesis; textual criticism and the

history of early Jewish and Samaritan relations  
**Course(s):** Honors Foundations of Theology; Introduction to Old Testament

**Recent position/institution:** Edwin Erle Sparks Professor of Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies and Jewish Studies, Penn State University

**Education:** Ph.D., M.A., Harvard University; M.Div., Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary; B.A., Calvin College

**Why Notre Dame:** *The University of Notre Dame is one of the premier research universities in North America. Its international reputation is of the highest caliber, with particular strengths in the arts and humanities. That the faculty, administration and staff all share a deep commitment to both graduate and undergraduate teaching makes Notre Dame an unusually well-rounded educational institution. In coming to Notre Dame, I would like to contribute to the larger effort to make Notre Dame's theology department the best in the world.*

**Laura Knoppers**

Professor, English  
**Interests:** Seventeenth-century British literature, especially the life and writings of the epic poet, John Milton; early modern women writers; literature of the English Revolution; gender and history; Oliver Cromwell; Henrietta Maria; intersections of 17th-century literature, politics, religion and visual culture.

**Course(s):** Renaissance Revenge Tragedy; Shakespeare and his Contemporaries; freshman seminar on Frankenstein and Friends: The Monstrous in Literature and Film  
**Recent position/institution:** Liberal arts research professor of English, Penn State University  
**Education:** Ph.D., M.A., Harvard University; B.A., Calvin College  
**Why Notre Dame:** *I have long respected Notre Dame as a premier teaching and research institution and the best Catholic university in America. Notre Dame places great value on the humanities, within the context of the Catholic tradition. As a specialist in early modern British literature, I want to continue to help build a nationally and internationally prominent program in the humanities.*

**Jennifer Newsome Martin**

Assistant professor, Program of Liberal Studies  
**Interests:** Twentieth-century Roman Catholic systematic theology, particularly trinitarian and eschatological discourses; theological aesthetics; religion and literature, the history of mysticism; and the nature of tradition, as well as the religious character of modern philosophical thought, particularly in the German Idealist and Romantic traditions; pre- and early Soviet era Russian religious philosophy

**Course(s):** The Christian Theological Tradition; Ancient Greece: Civilization and Savagery  
**Recent position/institution:** Visiting assistant professor, Program of Liberal Studies, University of Notre Dame  
**Education:** Ph.D., MTS, University of Notre Dame; B.A., Atlanta Christian College  
**Why Notre Dame:** *Notre Dame has a strong Catholic identity, wonderful students, and a rich and supportive academic and research environment.*

**Vanesa Miseres**

Assistant professor, Romance Languages and Literatures  
**Interests:** Travel writing; 19th-century women writers; gender and cultural studies  
**Course(s):** Gender and Nation in 19th-Century

Latin America; Survey of Spanish American Literature I  
**Recent position/institution:** Moreau Postdoctoral Fellow and visiting assistant professor, University of Notre Dame  
**Education:** Ph.D., M.A., Vanderbilt University; B.A., National University of Rosario  
**Why Notre Dame:** *I see in Notre Dame an excellent environment to innovate, both in my research and teaching. I believe one can find here the support and motivation among the high quality colleagues and students.*

**Ebrahim Moosa**

Professor of history through Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies  
**Interests:** Classical and modern Islamic thought, with a special focus on Islamic law, history, ethics and theology  
**Course(s):** Modern Islam and readings in Ghazali

**Recent position/institution:** Professor of religion and Islamic studies, Duke University  
**Education:** Ph.D., M.A., University of Cape Town; B.A., University of Kanpur  
**Why Notre Dame:** *The University of Notre Dame showed greater enthusiasm and commitment to launch a dynamic program in the study of global Islam than any other major top-ten U.S. university. The University's vast scholarly output and commitment to understand*

*religion and advance religious discourse, together with its commitment to religious values makes Notre Dame a natural place where the serious study of Muslim societies and Islamic thought can be launched in a smart, dynamic and impactful manner. Notre Dame has the reputation and experience to make an impact with the study of Islam, not only in policy circles, but also in global affairs. It is both intellectually exciting and an honor to be part of such an ambitious and innovative effort.*

**Sarah Mustillo**

Professor, sociology  
**Interests:** Effects of adverse childhood experiences on trajectories of mental health; statistical methods for social science research.

**Course(s):** Social Aspects of Mental Illness; Statistical Methods for Sociological Research  
**Recent position/institution:** Associate professor of sociology, Purdue University  
**Education:** Ph.D., M.A., Duke University; B.A., University of Notre Dame  
**Why Notre Dame:** *I graduated from Notre Dame in the mid-nineties and have always dreamed of returning as a faculty member. The mission and spirit of this university are truly unique and I'm very excited to be a part of it in a new and different capacity!*

**Andrew Radde-Gallwitz**

Assistant professor, Program of Liberal Studies  
**Interests:** Early Christian theology  
**Course(s):** PLS Seminar II; Christian Theological Traditions

**Recent position/institution:** Associate professor of theology, Loyola University Chicago  
**Education:** Ph.D., Emory University; M.A., Duke University; B.A., David Lipscomb College  
**Why Notre Dame:** *As a Catholic in the humanities, Notre Dame has long been the dream job for me. The research support is superb, and I couldn't imagine a better context for my teaching interests than the Program of Liberal Studies. During my on-campus interview, I felt a genuine fit, personally and professionally, with my colleagues in the PLS.*

**Christopher Shields**

George N. Shuster Professor of Philosophy  
**Interests:** Classical philosophy (esp. Aristotle); metaphysics; philosophy of mind  
**Course(s):** Graduate Pro-Seminar, The Metaphysics of Goodness

**Recent position/institution:** Professor of classical philosophy, University of Oxford  
**Education:** Ph.D., M.A., Cornell University; M.A., B.A., Bowling Green State University  
**Why Notre Dame:** *With its distinguished history and broad institutional support, the Department of Philosophy at Notre Dame offers an unparalleled prospect for professional growth and development.*

**Jeffrey Spoonhower**

Assistant professor, film, television and theatre  
**Interests:** Digital cinema production, 3D computer animation and post-production techniques; computer animation; video game design; live-action narrative filmmaking

**Course(s):** Pre-visualization Techniques for Directors; 3D Digital Production for Animation and Video Games; Sound and Music Design for Digital Media; Advanced 3D Digital Production  
**Recent position/institution:** Visiting assistant professor of film and digital media production, University of Notre Dame  
**Education:** MFA, Rochester Institute of Technology; B.A., University of Notre Dame  
**Why Notre Dame:** *As a Notre Dame graduate, it is exciting to be back on campus and to share my professional experiences with creative, energetic students. I look forward to building a new digital production concentration within the FTT department. My goal is to introduce students to the exciting world of digital media production, help to hone their skills producing creative content*

*and then assist them with graduate school and career placement within the entertainment industry.*

**Alexis Torrance**

Assistant professor, theology  
**Interests:** Byzantine theology, modern Eastern Orthodox thought and East-West relations  
**Course(s):** Theology University Seminar; College Seminar,

Personhood: Divine and Human  
**Recent position/institution:** Postdoctoral researcher, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki  
**Education:** Ph.D., M.S., Christ Church, Oxford; B.A., Greyfriars, Oxford  
**Why Notre Dame:** *With one of the premier theology departments in the world and an unstinting dedication to excellence in teaching and research, coming to Notre Dame was an easy decision to make. It is, moreover, an institution marked with a breadth of vision that is sadly lacking in most top-tier secular universities, particularly in the humanities disciplines. Relating one's research and teaching to questions of ultimate value and meaning is a pursuit that is not excluded here as it is elsewhere, and indeed, is something positively encouraged. It is an honor to be counted among its new faculty.*

**Robert Walls**

Assistant special professional, American studies  
**Interests:** Indigenous peoples of North America; ethnohistory; indigenous literatures; environmental history; labor history  
**Course(s):** Native American Literature; Violence and Nonviolence in America  
**Recent position/institution:** Visiting assistant professor (American studies and anthropology), University of Notre Dame  
**Education:** Ph.D., M.A., Indiana University; B.A., University of Washington  
**Why Notre Dame:** *Notre Dame has an international reputation for excellence in both teaching and research, and a long history of addressing issues of social justice. I wanted to be a part of this tradition.*

**Wei Wang**

Assistant professional specialist, East Asian languages and cultures  
**Interests:** Chinese linguistics and pedagogy  
**Course(s):** Second-year Chinese; Fourth-year Chinese; Business Chinese

**Recent position/institution:** Visiting assistant professional specialist, Notre Dame  
**Why Notre Dame:** *Notre Dame provides me a platform for me to commence my career with skills, ability and knowledge to develop. It's a great honor for me to join Notre Dame, not only for its reputation, but also for the integrated and harmonious environment provided to its faculty.*

**Nicole Woods**

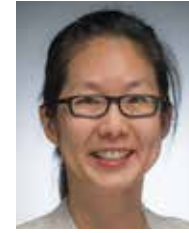
Assistant professor, art, art history and design  
**Interests:** Modern and contemporary art history, theory and criticism in Western Europe and North America; performance; gender studies; theories of sound and visuality; taste cultures; the history of photography

**Course(s):** Introduction to 20th Century Art; MFA Seminar, Critical Genealogies of the Neo-Avant-Garde  
**Recent position/institution:** Visiting assistant professor of modern/contemporary art history, University of Notre Dame  
**Education:** Ph.D., University of California, Irvine; M.A., B.A., UCLA  
**Why Notre Dame:** *As a visiting assistant professor at Notre Dame, I was impressed by the intellectual rigor, diversity of artistic practice and engaging teaching models evidenced among the faculty in the art, art history and design department. The students I encountered were also the pride of the campus: smart, diligent, curious, hardworking, and talented, among other notable traits. I am thrilled to continue my professional development and research here, and I look forward to helping to build an even stronger program of arts and humanities at Notre Dame.*

**Weibing Ye**

Assistant professional specialist, East Asian languages and cultures  
**Interests:** Chinese language pedagogy; Chinese oral proficiency assessment; Chinese phonetics; content-based instruction for advanced

Chinese learners  
**Course(s):** Second- and fifth-year Chinese  
**Recent position/institution:** lecturer in Chinese, Williams College  
**Education:** M.A., Beijing Languages & Culture University; B.S., China Agriculture University  
**Why Notre Dame:** *I joined Notre Dame because of its leadership in teaching and research, the quality and motivation of the students and a strong and growing Chinese language program with amazing colleagues.*

**Lira Yoon**

Associate professor, psychology  
**Interests:** Interactions between cognition and emotion; anxiety; depression; cognitive processes; emotion regulation; stress  
**Course(s):** Abnormal

Psychology  
**Recent position/institution:** Assistant professor of psychology, University of Maine  
**Education:** Ph.D., B.S., Northwestern University; M.A., Yonsei University  
**Why Notre Dame:** *I was initially attracted to Notre Dame by its strong clinical psychology program and the Department of Psychology as a whole—ample potential for collaboration, bright student body and extensive resources. During the interview process, however, I was struck mostly by the department's collegiality and the kindness of people. I am excited and honored to be a part of such a wonderful community!*

**COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING****Ed Bensman**

Research associate professor, civil engineering and geological sciences  
**Interests:** Numerical prediction of mesoscale meteorological phenomena such as severe thunderstorms, lake-effect snow and tropical cyclones; the

impact of future climate change on these storm environments  
**Recent position/institution:** Director, engineering and science computing, University of Notre Dame  
**Education:** Ph.D., M.S., Florida State University; B.S., Purdue University  
**Why ND:** *I believe strongly in the teaching and research mission of Notre Dame and the opportunity to use my research to serve at-risk communities. I feel at home, both professionally and spiritually, at Notre Dame.*

**Joel Boerckel**

Assistant professor, aerospace and mechanical engineering  
**Interests:** The human body has remarkable potential for self-regeneration, but often these processes are insufficient or break down,

resulting in disease, debilitation, or insufficient healing after injury. The Tissue Engineering and Mechanobiology Lab aims to characterize, stimulate and augment these endogenous repair mechanisms to engineer new tissues through three complimentary points of intervention: biomaterials, biomechanics and biology.  
**Course(s):** Orthopaedic Biomechanics  
**Recent position/institution:** Postdoctoral fellow, Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine, Cleveland Clinic  
**Why Notre Dame:** *Notre Dame is a unique place for its exceptional reputation for undergraduate and graduate education and its excellence in interdisciplinary research. This is made possible by a collegial atmosphere, collaborative environment, and bright students passionate about learning and about solving cutting-edge problems. Further, Notre Dame's Catholic identity provides a worldview framework to understand why we are interested in the problems we are and why it matters.*

**David Chiang**

Associate professor, computer science and engineering  
**Interests:** Natural language processing and computational linguistics; machine learning; digital humanities.  
**Course(s):** Data

Structures; Natural Language Processing  
**Recent position/institution:** Research assistant professor of computer science, University of Southern California  
**Education:** Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania; M.S., Harvard University  
**Why Notre Dame:** *I'm very excited to become a part of this great Catholic university and to start a new research group for computational models of human language.*

**Jonathan Chisum**

Assistant professor, electrical engineering  
**Interests:** Passive and active millimeter wave circuits for wideband wireless communications and multi-function apertures; non-Foster's circuits for wideband electrically-small antennas and metamaterial unit-cells.  
**Course(s):** Electronics I

**Recent position/institution:** Member, technical staff, MIT Lincoln Laboratory  
**Education:** Ph.D., M.S., University of Colorado–Boulder; B.S., Seattle Pacific University  
**Why Notre Dame:** *I was drawn by Notre Dame's historic commitment to excellence and integrity in research and academics, combined with the freedom to pursue honest academic inquiry. I am honored to join the vigorous atmosphere for research created by the current faculty in the electrical engineering department and become a member of the long-standing Notre Dame family.*

**Kenneth Christensen**

Professor, aerospace and mechanical engineering and collegiate chair in fluid mechanics  
**Interests:** Experimental fluid mechanics, with an emphasis on flows central to a range of energy, environmental and geophysical applications

**Recent position/institution:** Professor, associate head and Kritzer Faculty Scholar, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
**Education:** Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; M.S., California Institute of Technology; B.S., University of New Mexico, Main  
**Why Notre Dame:** *I was drawn to Notre Dame by its distinctive commitment to teaching and research, as well as its core mission as a Catholic university. I particularly appreciate its willingness to invest in fostering world-class research facilities and programs that address scientific questions central to many critical societal needs and concerns.*

**Kyle Doudrick**

Assistant professor, civil engineering and geological sciences  
**Interests:** Advanced physical-chemical water treatment; sustainable water treatment; photoelectrochemistry; nanomaterial metrology;

nanomaterials in food and consumer products; fate and transport of nanomaterials in the environment; environmental, human health, and societal implications of nanotechnology  
**Recent position/institution:** NSF/ASEE Small Business Research Diversity Postdoctoral Fellow, Integrated Surface Technologies, Inc. Education: B.F., Ph.D., Arizona State University; M.S., B.S., University of Memphis  
**Why Notre Dame:** *Notre Dame was on my list for the obvious reasons—scholarship and reputation—but I chose Notre Dame because of the friendly and supportive atmosphere, the phenomenal people, the close-knit community and the available resources.*

**Sandra Gesing**

Research assistant professor, computer science and engineering  
**Interests:** Science gateways; bioinformatics; grid and cloud computing; distributed computing; parallelization of applications

**Recent position/institution:** Research associate at the University of Edinburgh, U.K.  
**Education:** Ph.D., University of Tübingen, Germany; M.A., Fern Universität Hagen, Germany; Apprenticeship in computer sciences, Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster, Germany  
**Why Notre Dame:** *As a Ph.D. student at the University of Tübingen in Germany, I collaborated effectively with faculty at Notre Dame. My short research visit at Notre Dame in 2012 convinced me of the university's excellence. I appreciated the interesting projects in my field, the friendly work atmosphere and the beautiful campus.*

**Thomas Juliano**

Assistant professor, aerospace and mechanical engineering  
**Interests:** High-speed aerodynamics and aerothermodynamics; experimental fluid mechanics

**Recent position/institution:** Research associate, U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory  
**Education:** Ph.D., M.S., Purdue University; B.S., California Institute of Technology  
**Why Notre Dame:** *Notre Dame offers a great opportunity to build a new hypersonic wind tunnel that will further the state-of-the-art of high-speed aerodynamics research.*

**Sergey Leonov**

Research professor, aerospace and mechanical engineering  
**Interests:** Experimental aerodynamics, aerothermodynamics, plasma aerodynamics, flow control, plasma-assisted combustion, physics of

low-temperature plasmas  
**Recent position/institution:** Visiting professor, Ohio State University  
**Education:** Ph.D., St. Petersburg University; M.E., Moscow State University

**Jiakai Lu**

Research assistant professor, aerospace and mechanical engineering  
**Interests:** Gas liquid two-phase flow; numerical simulation oil/gas two-phase flow

**Recent position/institution:** research assistant professor, Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
**Education:** Ph.D., B.A., Xi'an Jiaotong University

**Zhangli Peng**

Assistant professor, aerospace and mechanical engineering  
**Interests:** Multiscale/multiphysics modeling of complex systems; cell/tissue mechanics; microfluidics; cardiovascular mechanics

**Course(s):** Numerical Methods  
**Recent position/institution:** Postdoctoral student, MIT  
**Education:** Ph.D., University of California, San Diego; M.S., Zhejiang Institute of Technology; B.S., Tong Ji University  
**Why Notre Dame:** *There are high-quality faculty and students in Notre Dame, and the research on engineering and science is growing rapidly in this campus.*

**Hiroataka Sakaue**

Associate professor, aerospace and mechanical engineering  
**Interests:** Experimental Fluid Dynamics; Unsteady Aerodynamics; Chemical Flow Control; Flow Diagnostics by Molecular Sensors

**Recent position/institution:** Researcher, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency  
**Education:** Ph.D., M.E., Purdue University; B.S., Tokyo Institute of Technology  
**Why Notre Dame:** *I am very interested in a diverse environment in research and teaching, and Notre Dame is a place that provides that environment.*

**Alberto Salvadori**

Research assistant professor, aerospace and mechanical engineering  
**Interests:** Multiscale and multiphysics understanding of failure in continua; (computational) homogenization, diffusion and migration of species in solids and in the induced fracturing processes (especially for Li-ion batteries modeling; hydrogen embrittlement in metals; environmentally assisted cracking; solid oxide fuel cells; hydraulic fracturing and gas/oil shale extraction)  
**Recent position/institution:** Assistant professor, University of Brescia, Italy  
**Education:** Ph.D. Politecnico Di Milano  
**Why Notre Dame:** *Notre Dame is known to be an excellent university, the Department of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering is well accomplished internationally, and C-swarm an extremely interesting project. I wish to significantly contribute to its success.*

**Michael Seelinger**

Associate professional specialist, dean's office  
**Interests:** While my current position at Notre Dame focuses on teaching, my area of expertise is in vision-guided robotics. I am also deeply passionate about engineering

education and excited about my new role in the freshman engineering program.  
**Course(s):** Mechanics I, Introduction to Engineering Systems I  
**Recent position/institution:** Adjunct professor in aerospace and mechanical engineering, University of Notre Dame  
**Education:** Ph.D., M.S., B.S., University of Notre Dame  
**Why Notre Dame:** *As an alumnus of Notre Dame, I am grateful for the education I received. I find it very rewarding to give back to Notre Dame by serving as a teaching professor. The last five years I have taught the Mechanics I & II courses in aerospace and mechanical engineering. I am excited to continue teaching these courses while taking on the additional challenge of teaching some sections of the Introduction to Engineering Systems course sequence in the freshmen engineering program.*

**Sunny Shah**

Assistant professional specialist, ESTEEM program, engineering  
**Interests:** Development of diagnostic tools for medical and food safety; business model canvas, design thinking, prototyping and customer

validation  
**Course(s):** Lean Startup  
**Recent position/institution:** Senior scientist, University of Notre Dame  
**Education:** Ph.D., B.S., University of California, Davis  
**Why Notre Dame:** *Notre Dame allows me to be at the intersection of engineering, science and business through research and technology commercialization. The ability to grow in my position and the flexibility to initiate new projects are what attracted me to Notre Dame.*

**Chaoli Wang**

Associate professor, computer science and engineering  
**Interests:** Scientific visualization; large-scale data analysis and visualization; user interface and interaction; information visualization

and visualization in education  
**Course(s):** Computer Graphics  
**Recent prior position/institution:** Assistant professor of computer science, Michigan Technological University  
**Education:** Ph.D., Ohio State University; M.E., B.E., Fuzhou University  
**Why Notre Dame:** *I was impressed by Notre Dame's academic excellence and research prominence. As a Catholic family member, I also felt special attachment to Notre Dame.*

**Dong Wang**

Assistant professor, computer science and engineering  
**Interests:** Big data analytics; information distillation systems, cyber-physical systems, crowdsourcing and social sensing applications

**Course(s):** Cloud Computing  
**Recent position/institution:** Postdoctoral research associate at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
**Education:** Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; M.E., Peking University  
**Why Notre Dame:** *I really like the research and educational environment at Notre Dame. The CSE department has a team of excellent faculty and research members who are top experts in both core and emerging areas related to my work. I could see a clear path for a healthy career development at Notre Dame. People here are very nice and collaborative, and the campus is very beautiful!*

**Jonathan Whitmer**

Assistant professor, chemical and biomolecular engineering  
**Interests:** Computational modeling of materials, with emphasis on coarse-graining and algorithm development  
**Course(s):** Mathematical

Methods in Engineering I  
**Recent position/institution:** Postdoctoral scientist, Materials Science Division, Argonne National Laboratory  
**Education:** Ph.D., M.S., University of Illinois, Chicago; B.S., Kansas State University  
**Why Notre Dame:** *Notre Dame offers me the opportunity to teach and work with exceptional students and collaborate with top researchers. I was drawn here by the atmosphere and the people in the CBE department. In combination with my Catholic faith, the University feels like home.*

**Pinar Zorlutuna**

Assistant professor, aerospace and mechanical engineering  
**Interests:** Tissue engineering; biomaterials; micro and nanofabrication for controlling cellular behavior, stem cells and regenerative medicine

**Recent position/institution:** Assistant professor of mechanical engineering, University of Connecticut  
**Education:** Ph.D., M.S., Middle East Technical University; B.S., University of Ankara  
**Why Notre Dame:** *Notre Dame is an excellent research and teaching institution, full of bright people—I am very excited to be a part of it!*

## COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

## Tan Ahn



Assistant professor, physics

**Interests:** Experimental nuclear physics; exotic nuclear phenomena; radioactive-beam experiments  
**Course(s):** General Physics Laboratory  
**Recent position/institution:** Research associate, Michigan State University

**Education:** Ph.D., M.S., SUNY at Stony Brook

**Why Notre Dame:** *I chose Notre Dame because it was a really great fit for the research I am pursuing in nuclear physics due to the on-campus heavy-ion accelerator laboratory and the University's proximity to nearby national nuclear physics user facilities. I also felt there is a great amount of collegiality in the physics department and support from the University to grow and succeed as a scholar.*

## Timothy Beers



Notre Dame Chair in Astrophysics

**Interests:** The origin and evolution of the elements in the universe  
**Recent position/institution:** Director of Kitt Peak National Observatory in Tucson, Arizona

**Education:** Ph.D., Harvard University; B.S., Purdue University

**Why Notre Dame:** *I have worked with Notre Dame colleagues in the Department of Physics for more than 10 years as a co-principle investigator in the NSF-funded Physics Frontier Center JINA: Joint Institute for Nuclear Astrophysics. The opportunity to continue this collaboration as a member of the Notre Dame faculty was a primary motivation for my accepting a new position with the Department of Physics.*

## Mark Behrens



Professor, mathematics

**Interests:** Algebraic topology; homotopy theory  
**Course(s):** Topics in Topology  
**Recent position/institution:** Associate professor, MIT

**Education:** Ph.D., University of Chicago; M.A., B.S., University of Alabama Tuscaloosa

**Why Notre Dame:** *Notre Dame is a premier academic institution that is committed to doing what it takes to put its research programs at the forefront of the international scientific landscape. It accomplishes this while adhering to a broad ethical perspective where faculty and staff are not viewed as expendable assets, but rather as humans to invest in. My interactions with faculty and staff before and after arriving have made it clear that folks care about each other here.*

## Martina Buka



Assistant professor, applied

computational mathematics and statistics  
**Interests:** partial differential equations; numerical analysis; computational fluid dynamics; fluid-structure interaction

**Course(s):** Numerical Analysis

**Recent position/institution:** Postdoctoral Associate, University of Pittsburgh

**Education:** Ph.D., University of Houston; M.S., B.S., University of Zagreb

**Why Notre Dame:** *The ample academic resources and sense of community.*

## Jon Camden



Associate professor, chemistry

**Interests:** Ultrasensitive detection methods for environmental and nuclear forensic applications; development of single molecule imaging methods based on nonlinear

spectroscopy; fundamental studies of the optical properties of metallic nanoparticles for photocatalysis and sensing

**Course(s):** Advanced Analytical Chemistry

**Recent position/institution:** Assistant professor, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

**Education:** Ph.D., Stanford University; B.S., University of Notre Dame

**Why Notre Dame:** *I am attracted to the new opportunities for research and collaboration at Notre Dame. I am excited by the unique place Notre Dame holds as a Catholic university.*

## John Grieco



Research associate professor, biological sciences and the Eck Institute for Global Health

**Interests:** Biology, ecology and transmission dynamics of vector-borne illness  
**Recent position/institution:** Associate

professor, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences

**Education:** Ph.D., Uniformed Services Health Sciences; M.A., Texas A&M; B.S., University of Notre Dame

**Why Notre Dame:** *As a former undergraduate in the College of Science at the University of Notre Dame, I am keenly aware of the academic standards and prestigious reputation of Notre Dame and have a thorough respect for the unique culture that exists at this great university. I fully embrace the emphasis placed on the undergraduate curriculum and the importance of maintaining high teaching standards. I feel that my background in research, teaching and student mentorship in combination with my extensive national and international collaborative network, will complement the expectations of this faculty position. I look forward to the opportunity to integrate my professional experience and academic expertise with ongoing College of Science research activities and the newly formed EIGH toward the goal of improving the quality of life of underserved populations.*

## Jonathan Hauenstein



Assistant professor, applied and computational mathematics and statistics

**Interests:** Designing algorithms for solving nonlinear equations and applying these computational methods to many applications arising

in science and engineering

**Course(s):** Solving Nonlinear Equations

**Recent position/institution:** Assistant professor of mathematics, North Carolina State University

**Education:** Ph.D., University of Notre Dame; M.S., Miami University; B.S., University of Findlay

**Why Notre Dame:** *During the four years I spent at Notre Dame culminating in a Ph.D. in 2009, the University made a strong and lasting impression in its dedication to excellence in teaching, research and service, as well as an organization that is welcoming to one's family. The continued growth of the Department of Applied and Computational Mathematics and Statistics (ACMS) following its creation in 2010 provided the chance for me to join the faculty at Notre Dame. The excellent students, the interdisciplinary nature of ACMS and a great family environment made this a unique and wonderful opportunity.*

## Oleg Kim



Research assistant professor, applied and computational mathematics and statistics  
**Interests:** Biophysics of blood clotting; biomaterials; cancer cell biodynamics  
**Course(s):** Applied Linear

Algebra

**Recent position/institution:** Postdoctoral student, University of Notre Dame

**Education:** Ph.D., M.S., University of Notre Dame; M.S., B.S., Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology

**Why Notre Dame:** *Notre Dame is a great place to do research and teach. In addition, there are a lot of nice, supportive people in the Notre Dame community.*

## Sonja Mapes



Assistant professional specialist, director of undergraduate studies, mathematics

**Interests:** Computational and combinatorial commutative algebra; free resolutions and Hilbert functions of monomial

ideals.

**Course(s):** Introduction to Algebraic Geometry, Calculus III

**Recent position/institution:** Research assistant professor, University of Notre Dame

**Education:** Ph.D., M.Phil., M.S., Columbia University; B.S., University of Notre Dame

**Why Notre Dame:** *As a graduate of Notre Dame ('02) I was familiar with the mathematics department here and knew that this would be a good fit for both me and my husband (who is also a mathematician). The department has a very good group working in commutative algebra and algebraic geometry and I was excited about the opportunity to be a part of that. Additionally Notre Dame's, and in particular the mathematics department's, history of excellence in undergraduate teaching was also very appealing to me.*

## Dhagash Mehta

Research assistant professor, applied computational mathematics and statistics

**Interests:** Applied mathematics; theoretical and statistical physics; mathematical biology; computational chemistry; power systems and control theory; computational algebraic geometry

**Course(s):** Applied Linear Algebra

**Recent position/institution:** Research assistant professor, Department of Mathematics, North Carolina State University

**Education:** Ph.D., University of Adelaide; M.S., Sardar Patel University; B.S., Gujarat University

**Why Notre Dame:** *Notre Dame's unique research programs in applied and computational mathematics.*

## Rachel Novick



Assistant professor, biological sciences

**Interests:** Sustainability education at the K-12 and university levels; structural challenges facing regional sustainability initiatives  
**Course(s):** Sustainability: Principles and Practices;

Sustainability Capstone Seminar

**Recent position/institution:** Office of Sustainability, University of Notre Dame

**Education:** Ph.D., Yale University; MFS, Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Sciences

**Why Notre Dame:** *Through my role directing the minor in sustainability, I have the opportunity to work with students from every college. Notre Dame provides many opportunities for these undergraduates to engage in ethically motivated interdisciplinary research—exactly the kind of research we need to address the sustainability challenges we face as a society.*

## T. Alex Perkins



Assistant professor, biological sciences

**Interests:** Infectious disease epidemiology and population biology  
**Recent position/institution:** RAPIDD postdoctoral fellow, NIH Fogarty International

Center and University of California, Davis

**Education:** Ph.D., University of California, Davis

**Why Notre Dame:** *Notre Dame offers a unique combination of several important factors: emphasis on basic research relevant to major problems in global health, high-quality students and colleagues, world-class research infrastructure and an array of complementary units on campus, including the Eck Institute for Global Health and the Department of Applied and Computational Mathematics and Statistics. Those factors, as well as my Catholic background and passion for college football, make me very excited to join Notre Dame.*

## Claudiu Raicu



Assistant professor, mathematics

**Interests:** Algebraic geometry and commutative algebra  
**Recent position/institution:** Instructor, Princeton University  
**Education:** Ph.D.,

University of California, Berkeley; B.S., University of Bucharest

**Why Notre Dame:** *For the strength of the mathematics department and the prestige of the undergraduate program, for the University's aspiration to become one of the top research institutions, as well as for the friendly atmosphere.*

## Robert Rosenbaum



Assistant professor, applied computational mathematics and statistics

**Interests:** Theoretical and computational neuroscience; applications of stochastic modeling in biology  
**Course(s):** Topics in

Applied Math; Computational Neuroscience

**Recent position/institution:** Postdoctoral associate at the University of Pittsburgh

**Education:** Ph.D., M.S., B.S., University of Houston

**Why Notre Dame:** *Notre Dame has great students and the new applied and computational mathematics and statistics department is a great place to do research in applied math.*

## Anna Simon



Assistant professor, physics

**Interests:** Nucleosynthesis of heavy elements in explosive stellar environments

**Recent position/institution:** Postdoctoral researcher, University of Richmond

**Education:** Ph.D., M.S., Jagellonian University, Kraków, Poland

**Why Notre Dame:** *I chose Notre Dame for its supportive and friendly work environment, access to the research facilities and enthusiastic and motivated students.*

## Amy Stark



Assistant professional specialist, biological sciences and director of the DNA Learning Center

**Interests:** Genetics education and outreach; personalized medicine; genetic predictors of drug response

**Recent position/institution:** Postdoctoral scholar, University of Chicago

**Why Notre Dame:** *The reason I went into the field of human genetics was to help society through genetics, and the opportunity to develop a center focused on genetic education and outreach fit perfectly within my interests and goals. I was particularly excited for this type of opportunity in the Midwest as many of these types of initiatives are on the two coasts.*

## Rebecca Surman



Associate professor, physics

**Interests:** Theoretical nuclear astrophysics  
**Course(s):** Nuclear Physics

**Recent position/institution:** Professor, Department of Physics,

Union College

**Education:** Ph.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; M.S., Michigan State University; B.A., SUNY Geneseo

**Why Notre Dame:** *Notre Dame is home to world-leading groups in my research areas of nuclear physics and astrophysics and is, at the same time, a place where excellent teaching is expected and valued. I am thrilled with the opportunity to join these efforts and contribute to the educational mission of the University.*

## Dervis Vural



Assistant professor, physics

**Interests:** Disordered materials; many-body quantum mechanics; pattern formation; complex networks; population genetics; biological evolution  
**Recent position/institution:** Postdoctoral researcher,

Yale University

**Education:** Ph.D., M.S., University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

**Why Notre Dame:** *I came to Notre Dame for its superb academic strength and scientific diversity, its emphasis on philosophical thought, and its extraordinary student body who knows that the best way of learning science is doing science.*

**Wenhui Zhang**  
 Research assistant professor, chemistry and biochemistry  
**Education:** Ph.D. Univ. of Notre Dame, M.S. and B.S., University of Science and Technology, Beijing

## LAW SCHOOL

**Veronica Root**



Associate professor, Law School  
**Interests:** Corporate compliance  
**Course(s):** Contracts; Professional Responsibility  
**Recent position/institution:** Visiting assistant professor, Notre

Dame Law School  
**Education:** J.D., University of Chicago; B.S., Georgetown University  
**Why Notre Dame:** *I feel very blessed to be joining the Notre Dame community. The faculty at the Law School is committed to providing students the training and knowledge necessary not only to become excellent lawyers, but also lawyers who are prepared to enter into a vocation. This promotes a level of interaction with students that is unparalleled at other law schools. Moreover, the Law School's mission to "cultivate both the life of the mind and the wisdom of the heart" allows for faculty scholarship and engagement that maintains intellectual rigor while taking into account the importance of human dignity. This is a truly special place.*

## MENDOZA COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

**Gianna Bern**



Associate professional specialist, finance  
**Interests:** Energy project finance and investing in emerging markets  
**Course(s):** Financial Statement Analysis and International Finance  
**Recent position/institution:** Founding principal, Brookshire Advisory and Research

**Education:** MBA, University of Chicago Booth School of Business; BBA, Illinois Institute of Technology  
**Why Notre Dame:** *The University of Notre Dame is a world-class institution. The Mendoza faculty are some of the best thought leaders in their respective fields. The opportunity to help develop a new degree program, Masters of Science in Finance, with the finance faculty was extremely compelling. It is indeed an honor to work with the finance faculty and colleagues in the Stayer Center for Executive Education.*

**Charlice Hurst**



Assistant professor, management  
**Interests:** Interpersonal dynamics in the workplace and how interpersonal relationships influence well-being and performance  
**Recent position/institution:** Assistant professor of organizational behavior, Ivey Business School, University of Western Ontario

**Education:** Ph.D., University of Florida; MIBA, University of South Carolina; B.A., Harvard College  
**Why Notre Dame:** *I chose Notre Dame, first, because every faculty member I met here, regardless of level, seemed genuinely happy with the school. Second, I was excited about the school's growth as a research university and was convinced it would serve as a supportive context for my research. Third, I appreciate the school's commitment to social issues and to students. Finally, I simply fell in love with the campus!*

**Don Kleinmuntz**



Professional specialist, management; academic director, Chicago MS in Business Analytics; professor of the practice, Mendoza College of Business  
**Interests:** Business analytics; decision and risk analysis; using information technology to transform organizational decision processes

**Course(s):** Developing new courses on business analytics and decision models  
**Recent position/institution:** Executive vice president, Strata Decision Technology  
**Education:** Ph.D., MBA, B.A., University of Chicago  
**Why Notre Dame:** *The emerging field of business analytics is about the art and science of transforming data into insights for better decisionmaking. Successful businesses are intent on unlocking the value embedded in their data and are looking for skilled professionals to guide the way. I am excited to be leading the Mendoza College team that is meeting this need through a unique Chicago-based degree program.*

## HESBURGH LIBRARIES

**Adriana Popescu**



Librarian, Hesburgh Libraries  
**Interests:** The role of academic library services and spaces in meeting the evolving needs of scholarship and research  
**Recent position/institution:** Head, Engineering Library, Princeton University

**Education:** MLS, Rutgers University  
**Why Notre Dame:** *The University's reputation as one of the best academic institutions to work for, combined with its commitment to expand the science and engineering programs, offered the ideal professional opportunity to contribute to Hesburgh Libraries' efforts to support Notre Dame's growth.*

**Viveca Robichaud**



Assistant librarian, Hesburgh Libraries  
**Interests:** Special Collections Librarian for the Architecture Library and the Institute for Latino Studies' Julian Samora Library  
**Recent position/institution:** library coordinator, Julian Samora Library, Institute for Latino Studies

**Education:** M.A., Concordia University; MLS, Catholic University of America  
**Why Notre Dame:** *Having been on campus for a few years, I have thoroughly enjoyed working and collaborating with the librarians and scholars in the Architecture Library and the Institute for Latino Studies. I am happy to be able to continue this work for the University of Notre Dame.*

## ALLIANCE FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION

**Christie Bonfiglio**



Associate professional specialist, director of professional standards, ACE  
**Interests:** Reading interventions; classroom behavior management  
**Course(s):** Foundations in Exceptional Children;

Diagnosing and Managing Academic and Social Behavior  
**Recent position/institution:** Director of education/director of accreditation, Goshen College  
**Education:** Ph.D., M.A., Western Michigan University; B.A., Indiana University South Bend  
**Why Notre Dame:** *I am blessed to continue my work in education working for the Alliance for Catholic Education, both in teaching and directing the accreditation process. Service to students and teachers in Catholic education is an honor, and I am humbled to be a part of the Notre Dame family.*

**Rodney Pierre-Antoine**



Assistant professional specialist, ACE  
**Interests:** Catholic education  
**Recent position/institution:** Principal, St. Jarlath Catholic School  
**Education:** M.A., University of Notre Dame;

B.A., University of Maryland  
**Why Notre Dame:** *ACE's mission to sustain, strengthen and transform Catholic education drew me to Notre Dame. The Notre Dame Ace Academies bring this mission to fruition, providing ongoing support to partner schools using research-proven methods to address every aspect of*

*schooling, from classroom instruction to resource management and leadership development. As the Pasquinelli Family Director of NDAA, I welcome the prospect of expanding this wonderful initiative to new diocesan communities ready to embrace this innovative model for Catholic education.*

## INSTITUTES AND CENTERS

**Monica Kowalski**



Assistant professional specialist, Institute for Educational Initiatives  
**Interests:** Student motivation and effective teaching practices  
**Recent position/institution:** Associate director, ACE Consulting, University of Notre Dame

**Why Notre Dame:** *I have been at Notre Dame as an undergraduate, a master's student in the ACE program and an employee in Undergraduate Admissions, and am thrilled to be back as faculty for ACE now, having completed my doctorate at The Ohio State University in Educational Policy and Leadership. There is no place I'd rather work than my beloved Notre Dame!*

**Steve Reifenberg**



Associate professional specialist, Kellogg Institute for International Studies  
**Interests:** What "works" in international development. My current research project, "From Aid to Accompaniment," explores ways to

conceptualize and articulate international development as a process of accompaniment—i.e., "walking together" in a partnership that resonates with Catholic Social Teaching; interactive pedagogical approaches that engage students over the course of the semester with development organizations around the globe.  
**Course(s):** International Development in Practice; Introduction to International Development  
**Recent position/institution:** Director of the regional office (Santiago, Chile) for Harvard University's David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies  
**Education:** MPP, Harvard University; M.S., Boston University; B.A., University of Notre Dame  
**Why Notre Dame:** *After more than 20 years working at Harvard University, I returned to my alma mater some five years ago to serve as the executive director of the Kellogg Institute. I am delighted to be in this new role as the associate professor of practice as well, and to work actively with faculty and students to build our programs of development studies at the University, including serving as director of the minor in International Development Studies. I must add that it's an amazing privilege and joy to teach students here at Notre Dame.*

**Kristin Rudenga**



Assistant professional specialist, Kaneb Center  
**Interests:** Developing future faculty members; professional development for graduate students and postdocs; effective classroom teaching in the sciences; components of

successful mentoring relationships.  
**Course(s):** Food and the Brain  
**Recent position/institution:** Associate director of Yale Teaching Center, Yale University  
**Education:** Ph.D., Yale University  
**Why Notre Dame:** *I was drawn to the unique combination of deep religious values and commitment to undergraduate education at a world-class university. The Kaneb Center enjoys a great reputation both in the teaching and learning world and on Notre Dame's campus.*

**Rev. Kevin Sandberg, C.S.C.**



Assistant professional specialist and assistant director, Center for Social Concerns  
**Interests:** Pedagogies of compassion; epistemologies of understanding and certainty; the neglect of

listening and its restoration through religious education  
**Course(s):** Common Good Initiative (graduate students); Discipleship: Loving Action for

Justice (undergraduates)  
**Recent position/institution:** Ph.D. student, Fordham University  
**Education:** Ph.D., Fordham University; M.Div., B.A., University of Notre Dame; M.A., Jesuit School of Theology  
**Why Notre Dame:** *Notre Dame's vision and mission offer a platform to investigate the significance of religion as an aspect integral to all of life's forms—work, family, schooling and community, not just confessional faith. Through the programs, staff, faculty and students of the Center for Social Concerns, its leadership in community-based research, scholarship, teaching, learning and service affords religion a renewed voice in the practice of justice education, a preferential option for the poor and the common good.*

**Gina Navoa Svarovsky**



Assistant professional specialist, Institute for Educational Initiatives  
**Interests:** How K-12 students—particularly young women and people of color—learn about and become interested in engineering within a range

of learning environments  
**Course(s):** Introduction to Engineering  
**Recent position/institution:** Senior evaluation and research associate, Science Museum of Minnesota  
**Education:** Ph.D., M.S., University of Wisconsin-Madison; M.E., B.S., University of Notre Dame  
**Why Notre Dame:** *The unique professional opportunities associated with my joint appointment catalyzed my decision to come to Notre Dame. In addition, Notre Dame has deep personal significance for our family, which also contributed to our transition to the University.*

## FIRST YEAR OF STUDIES

**Maureen Dawson**



Associate professional specialist, First Year of Studies  
**Interests:** Academic advising; French literature; medieval studies; hagiography  
**Course(s):** Introduction to Cultural Competency

**Recent position/institution:** Assistant dean, Creighton University, College of Arts & Sciences  
**Education:** Ph.D., New York University; M.A., Middlebury College; B.S., Rutgers University  
**Why Notre Dame:** *I look forward to collaborating with colleagues across campus in developing the new First Year Experience course and expanding cultural and intellectual opportunities for incoming students.*

**Donald LaSalle**



Assistant professional specialist, First Year of Studies  
**Interests:** Liturgy and sacramental theology  
**Recent position/institution:** Vicar general of the Montfort Missionaries, Rome, Italy

**Education:** Ph.D., M.Th., Catholic University of America  
**Why Notre Dame:** *I have taught summer courses here. Three years ago, during a sabbatical year, I was a visiting scholar in theology here at Notre Dame. I have always been impressed by the resources for research and by the welcoming spirit of members of the faculty.*

**Cecilia Lucero**



Assistant professional specialist, First Year of Studies  
**Interests:** Diversity; racial and gender micro-aggression; student learning  
**Recent position/institution:** Visiting

academic advisor, First Year of Studies, University of Notre Dame  
**Education:** Ph.D., University of Michigan; B.A., University of Notre Dame  
**Why Notre Dame:** *I have been at Notre Dame since 1991, and was also a 1984 graduate.*

**Leonor Wangenstein-Moya**



Assistant professional specialist, First Year of Studies  
**Interests:** Research interests in advising: first-year students, high-achieving students, minority students; research interests in teaching:

foreign language pedagogy; community-based learning

**Recent position/institution:** Spanish adjunct faculty, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures

**Education:** M.A., B.A., University of Notre Dame

**Why Notre Dame:** *I have established a unique familiarity with this University through multi-lens perspectives since my first year as an undergraduate in 1999 and on through graduate school. I have had multiple positions on campus, including Spanish language faculty for the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, special projects assistant at the Kellogg Institute for International Studies and now as academic adviser. With a combined 15 years as a student, staff and faculty member, I am happy to call Notre Dame home.*

**Maryam Zomorodian**



Assistant professional specialist, First Year of Studies  
**Interests:** 16th- and 17th-Century British literature; Shakespeare; early modern history and historiography; film  
**Course(s):** Shakespeare on

Stage and Screen

**Recent position/institution:** Adjunct instructor, Department of Film, Television, and Theatre, University of Notre Dame

**Education:** Ph.D., University of Notre Dame; M.A. Univ. of Chicago; B.A., Univ. of California

**Why Notre Dame:** *I came to the University of Notre Dame in 2005 to begin the doctoral program in the Department of English. During the last several years, I have had the pleasure to teach for the Department of English, for Film, Television and Theatre, and for the University Writing Program. As an academic advisor in the First Year of Studies, I look forward to guiding our students as they begin their undergraduate years.*



*New faculty gather on the field after a tour of Notre Dame Stadium.*



# Opening Mass and Picnic

A Mass of the Holy Spirit (top and below center), marking the official opening of the school year, was held Tuesday, August 26, in the Purcell Pavilion. President Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C., (below left) greets students on the way to the South Dining Hall after the Mass, and (below right) at the annual "picnic," which this year was moved indoors due to inclement weather.

