

ISTC WELCOME

Greetings from the ISTC graduate program directors! There is much to look forward to in the upcoming year, and so much to reflect on that happened over the summer. In this issue of our Instructional Technology Newsletter, we would like to welcome our new departmental chair, introduce our new post-baccalaureate certificate (PBC) programs, and catch readers up on how our faculty and students are staying busy.

Be sure to check out our highlight on Doctoral alumna, Jean Ashby, and her current role as the Dean of Mathematics at the Community College of Baltimore County. We are also excited to share the recent renovations our Educational Technology Center underwent this past summer.

Please keep us informed of your exciting news and accomplishments. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact us!

Dr. Liyan Song

Master's Program Director,
Instructional Design & Ed Tech

Dr. David Robinson

Master's Program Director,
School Library Media

Dr. Bill Sadera

Doctoral Program Director,
Instructional Technology

Dr. Mahnaz Moallem

Chair, Department of Educational,
Technology and Literacy

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IMPORTANT DATES

November 5: Spring Enrollment
November 21-25: Thanksgiving Holiday
December 10: Last Day of Classes
December 11: Reading Day
December 12-18: Final Exams
December 20: Commencement
January 28: Spring Classes Begin
March 17-24: Spring Break



WELCOME OUR NEW CHAIRPERSON

We are pleased to announce our new chair for the Department of Educational Technology & Literacy, Dr. Mahnaz Moallem. Dr. Moallem received her Ph.D in Instructional Systems Design and Learning Systems from Florida State University. Upon completion of her degree, she served as the Instructional Technology program coordinator at the University of North Carolina, Wilmington (UNCW). Before she joined Towson this past summer, Dr. Moallem held the positions of grant coordinator for the Watson School of Education and Professor of Instructional Technology and Research at UNCW.



Dr. Moallem has had numerous scholarly endeavors including editing the first Wiley Handbook of Problem- Based Learning, which is currently in preparation. Additionally, she has helped pen another 14 books and/or book chapters. Aside from literary accomplishments, Dr. Moallem has received several awards for her contributions to the field of Instructional Technology. In 2015, she was named one of the most inspiring women in STEM by *INSIGHT Into Diversity* magazine. In 2017, she received the Achievement Award from the Association of Educational Communication and Technology (AECT) for exemplary leadership in developing integrated STEM curriculum and problem-based learning programs.

We touched base with Dr. Moallem to ask about her hopes for the upcoming years:

What are you most excited about in your new role as the Chairperson for the department?

I am very excited about the opportunity to work with a group of faculty and staff who are committed to excellence in teaching and offering the best education for the students. It is also very exciting to work in a department where its members are working so well together and value collaboration, innovation, and diversity of thoughts. Also, I am thrilled to join a University which strives to maintain its excellence in teaching, research and serving the community.

In your time at Towson thus far, what have you enjoyed most about the program, school, or area?

I have enjoyed learning about the success of our graduates, the reputation of the programs and faculty in the region. I have also enjoyed learning about the emphasis of the programs on the research-based design and practices. As a learning designer myself, I am happy to work with faculty and students who value evidence-based learning design.

If you could characterize your vision for the department in a few words, what would you say?

I envision that the department continues to be one of the best educational technology and media literacy programs not only in the region but also nationally and internationally. I also envision the department to be the leader in promoting innovation and offering technologically and pedagogically advanced programs.

INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE

Do you have an interest in working as a training specialist? Are you wanting to learn more about instructional design skills in a short period of time? If so, our post-baccalaureate in Instructional Design and Development is a great option for you! The certificate program helps to educate leaders and professionals to increase their knowledge in technology design and media-related competencies. It is an ideal option for those who are interested in designing, training or instruction in higher education, business, industry, government, or the military.

Our flexible program features hands-on learning, a state of the art Ed Tech center, and engaged and accessible faculty! The following four classes must be completed to obtain the certificate (12 credits), which can also be applied toward earning a Master's in Instructional Technology in the future.

ISTC 655: Multimedia Design

ISTC 667: Instructional Development

ISTC 717: Distance Education in Theory and Practice

ISTC 767: Advanced Theory and Instructional Design

To learn more about this program visit our **website** or email the program director, Liyan Song at lsong@towson.edu

Students: consider enrolling in a P.B.C or C.A.S! Towson offers numerous specializations that allow you to connect technology with other content areas and research fields. Programs are typically 15 credits or less, and include:

Nursing Education, Interactive Media Design, Special Education, Admin 1, and more!

Click **here** for the full list.

NEW MAKERSPACE

Over the summer, the Educational Technology Center received an update and transformed into a MakerSpace. MakerSpaces allow individuals with shared interests to collaborate, innovate, and focus on student-centered education. It provides a gathering space for tools, projects, mentors, and expertise. The space features innovative tools like Mersive solstice pods that allows easy screen sharing, a ClearTouch interactive panel and TV, and 3-D Ultimaker printers. Students can creatively use a variety of STEM kits to wire miniature machines and make circuit boards like Raspberry Pi and Arduino. Additionally, the space is home to robots like Dash and Dot, Cue, and Sphero. Stop by Hawkins Hall 210 to check out the new space!



AN INTERVIEW WITH DR. ASHBY

The Instructional Technology program recently touched base with Dr. Jean Ashby to reflect upon her time in the doctoral program at Towson and discuss her current role as the Dean of Instruction for the School of Mathematics and Science at the Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC).

As the Dean, Dr. Ashby is directly responsible for academic leadership to create learning environments for students that offer a rigorous learning program while maximizing student success. Her overarching role is to assist the flow of information from those within the School of Mathematics and Science to the Vice-President level at CCBC, as well as the return information from the higher level administration to the faculty and staff within the School. Additionally, she serves on a variety of CCBC committees, as well as regional and state committees, working with colleagues at other institutions and business partners in the region.

How did you become interested in Instructional Technology?

I was teaching developmental math courses at CCBC when my Dean at the time encouraged me to research doctoral programs. I had just begun to offer two courses online that I had developed. Success rates in developmental math are lower than in many credit courses, so when we offered them online, I wanted to not only learn the best practices and theories to offer my students the best opportunities for success, but also wanted to do some research into what was working (or not) for this level of student. By enrolling in the program, I was able to learn from talented faculty, read great articles and theories; develop research questions, collect data, and make decisions about things to maintain and things to change.

Do you have any particular memories from your time at Towson that you would like to share?

I was taking a summer course (I think with Dr. Wizer, but maybe it was a different class) and we met one day a week and then had

assignments to complete online for the rest of the week. The class began in June and went through most of July. I was stunned at how many posts there were between late on July 3rd and early on July 5th – the students took their responsibilities seriously and a national holiday did not slow them down in getting their assignments completed.

How has your education or experiences from Towson served you in your career?

Certainly the information I learned was put into use immediately with my online classes each semester; however, the diverse backgrounds of the students and faculty [at Towson] has helped me more in my current position. When we would have a discussion question, I thought my background at both the high school and college level aided me in determining the best answer. However, when the discussion took place with students and faculty that had worked in a variety of areas across the country and with differing levels of access to technology, it took some time to look at the question from multiple angles. Now in my job, I make certain to ask the diverse people impacted by the issue or question their perspective before deciding how to proceed. I do not use just my knowledge to determine the best course, but rather seek to view it from all angles much like I did with the diverse group when I was at Towson.

Do you have any advice for students or new professionals in Instructional Technology or academia?

Sometimes what you know is not as important as who you know. Work on building relationships, especially outside of your immediate office area or department. The people that you work or study with will be invaluable resources during your career, especially as your specific responsibilities may change over time. Professionals should encompass adaptability when working in new situations and new work-groups. It is important to remember to not be so boxed in with what you do and who you know.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

EILEEN SELIGMAN, MS, INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY - SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA (2016)

Eileen works as a School Library Media Specialist at Northwood High School in Silver Spring, Maryland for the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS). As a media specialist, she collaborates with teachers on planning and providing for students by integrating information literacy skills instruction within the content areas. Eileen provides instructional technology assistance and training to students and staff, manages library media center personnel, material, facilities, and equipment, and promotes the school library program to administrators, staff, students, parents, and the community. As a library media specialist, she is also responsible for creating the media center web page, budgeting and marketing online resources and a diverse library collection, and offering interactive book display promotions and author visits through Open Book Foundation. Lastly, she received recognition as a Common Sense Media Educator and is an active member of her high school personal learning community (PLC) and school leadership team!



Eileen has expanded her horizons to outside the walls of the Media Center; she co-authored the article "Using Apps That Support Scientific Practices", with Kelly Mills, a former NHS Biology Teacher, and Diane Jass Ketelhut, an associate professor at the University of Maryland in College Park. The article analyzed 93 educational apps for classroom use that support the Next Generation Science Standards. Eileen also presented at the school library professional day about how to get published. This October, she will be serving as a panelist for the Black-Eyed Susan Reading Program at the Maryland Association of School Librarians (MASL) Conference with Dedra Van Gelder, a Library Media Content Specialist for Charles County Public Schools

NEW DOCTORAL PROGRAM GRADUATE ASSISTANT



Over the summer, Reena Patel was hired as the new graduate assistant for the ISTC Doctoral program. She took over for Clare Bailey, who is now completing her full time internship. Reena is a first year school psychology student at Towson. She graduated from the University of Maryland in 2016 with a degree in Family Science. Upon completion of her degree, she worked for an educational research lab. Reena enjoys hiking, traveling, and spending time with her friends and family. Reena can be found in Hawkins Hall 222 or contacted via email at istcdoc@towson.edu.

RECENT GRADUATES

DOCTORAL GRADUATES

After successfully defending her dissertation, *An Analysis of Co-Construction of Knowledge and the Role of Social Networks in Asynchronous Discussions*, **Dr. Emily Ziegler** graduated with her Ed.D in Instructional Technology. She now serves as the Director of Technology at St. Paul's School for Girls. Congrats, Emily!



MASTERS GRADUATES

Educational Technology

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Laura Buscemi | Jessica Laatsch |
| Kerry Cline | Brittany Preston |
| Christina Collini | Gwendolyn Rosero- |
| Shelby Haacke | Williams |
| Elizabeth Handy | Christy Zingarelli |
| Elizabeth Keeney | Lauren Zizwarek |

School Library Media

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Tammy Jackson | Deborah Mills |
| Brianna Figueiras | Allison Turner |
| LaTonya Fitch | Hannah Verlich |
| Katherine Hartig | |

Congratulations!

Three Minute Thesis

In April, doctoral graduates, Amy McGinn, Andrea Parrish and Lisa Twiss (all pictured to the right) participated in Towson's first annual 3 Minute Thesis Competition. The competition, hosted by the Office of Graduate Studies, challenged graduate degree candidates and recent graduates to present a compelling spoken presentation on their research topic and its significance in just three minutes!

Amy McGinn presented on teacher experiences with professional development for technology integration at an Independent K-12 school. Andrea Parrish presented on one-to-one, student-centered learning teacher competencies. Lisa Twiss presented on how urban youth use digital tools at community technology centers to support the development of civic engagement pathways and was ultimately crowned the competition winner! Congratulations, Lisa!

You can view all of the participants presentations [here](#).



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Parrish, Dr. Heath, Dr. Sadera & Dr. Lohnes Watulak all presented at the American Educational Research Association conference held in New York City in April 2018. **Dr. Andrea Parrish** (pictured right) was awarded the Best Student Paper for her paper *A Delphi Study to Develop an Inventory of Competencies Needed to Facilitate Instruction in Student-Centered, One-to-one Learning Environments*. Congrats, Andrea!



Dr. Lisa Twiss received the Equity Fellowship at the 2018 College of Education (COE) Awards. Congrats, Lisa!

Master's Student **Christopher Fishpaw** received the Teacher Education Excellence Student Award at the 2018 COE Awards. Congrats, Chris!

Doctoral Alumna **Dr. Liz Berquist** received the Alumni Excellence in Education Award at the 2018 COE Awards. Congrats, Liz!

Professor **Robert Caples** received the Gloria A. Neubert Faculty Excellence in Training Award at the 2018 COE Awards. Congrats, Rob!

Master's Alumna **Ali Schilpp** (pictured below) was voted School Library Journal's 2018 School Librarian of the Year. Congrats, Ali!



Working alongside doctoral student **Lisa Carey** and with **Dr. Lisa Jacobson** and **Dr. Mark Mahone** at Kennedy Krieger, **Dr. Bill Sadera** and **Dr. Andrea Parrish** were hired as Instructional Designers on a \$80,000 grant funded by the Maryland State Department of Education to design a Massive Online Open Course (MOOC) entitled *Reducing the Literacy Achievement Gap: A Transdisciplinary Focus on High Incidence Disabilities*.

If you would like to share any recent academic or personal announcements in an upcoming newsletter please email istcdoc@towson.edu.

RECENT SCHOLARSHIP

Berquist, E., Carey, L. Ralabate, P. & **Sadera, W.** (2017). Changing beliefs: A view inside a UDL-based professional learning community. In Berquist, E, Ed. *UDL: Moving from exploration to integration*. CAST Professional Publishing. Wakefield, MA

Blummer, B., & **Kenton, J. M.** (2018). Academic and research libraries' portals: A literature review from 2003 to the present. In R. K. Bhardwaj, *Digitizing the Modern Library and the Transition From Print to Electronic* (pp. 29–63). Hershey PA: IGI Global.

Blummer, B., & **Kenton, J. M.** (2018). Academic libraries and student learning outcomes. *Performance Measurement & Metrics*, 19(1), 75–87.

Blummer, B. & **Kenton, J. M.** (2018). International students and academic libraries: Identifying themes in the literature from 2001 to the present. In B. Blummer, J. M. Kenton, & M. Wiatrowski, *Promoting Ethnic Diversity and Multiculturalism in Higher Education* (pp. 237–263). Hershey PA: IGI Global

Blummer, B., **Kenton, J. M.**, & Wiatrowski, M. (2018). Promoting ethnic diversity and multiculturalism in higher education. Hershey PA: IGI Global

Hung, W., **Moallem, M.**, & Dabbagh, N. (forthcoming). Social foundations of PBL. In M. Moallem, W. Hung, and N. Dabbagh., *Wiley Handbook of Problem-Based Learning*.

Li, Q. (accepted). Enactivism and teacher instructional game building: An inquiry of theory adoption and design consideration. *Educational Technology Research and Development*.

Moallem, M., Hung, W., & Dabbagh, N. (forthcoming). *Wiley Handbook of Problem -Based Learning*, Wiley Publishing Inc.

Moallem, M. (forthcoming). Effects of PBL on learning outcomes. In M. Moallem, W. Hung, and N. Dabbagh., *Wiley Handbook of Problem- Based Learning*.

Song, L. (2018). Improving preservice teachers' self-efficacy through service-learning. *Canadian Journal of Action Research*, 19(1).

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCES

Association for Education
Communications & Technology
International Convention (AECT)
October 19-25, 2018
Las Vegas, NV



Maryland Society for Educational
Technology (MSET) Conference
May 1-3, 2019
Ocean City, MD



Eastern Education Research
Association (EERA) Annual
Conference
February 20-24, 2019
Myrtle Beach, SC



International Society for Technology
in Education (ISTE) Conference
June 23-25, 2019
Philadelphia, PA



Society for Information Technology &
Teaching Education (SITE)
Conference
March 18-22, 2019
Las Vegas, Nevada



World Conference on Educational
Media, Hypermedia, &
Telecommunications (ED-MEDIA)
Conference
June 24-28, 2019
Amsterdam, Netherlands



American Educational Research
Association (AERA) Annual Meeting
April 5-9, 2019
Toronto Canada



International Educational Technology
Conference
TBA
TBA



Common Ground Leading and
Learning Conference
May 1-3, 2019
Ocean City, Maryland



International Association of School
Librarianship (IASL) Conference
October 21-25, 2019
Dubrovnik, Croatia



Opportunity to Present If you are interested in presenting at a conference, the Graduate Student Association (GSA) allots a portion of the GSA budget to be used specifically for funding student research and professional development. This includes, but is not limited to, presentations of a paper or project, research and original work, and attendance at a conference. The grant award for presenting is often in the amount of \$500, and smaller amounts may be awarded for attending a conference, research, and original work. The ISTC department may also have resources available to support your work. Please contact your program director for more information. If you are interested in taking advantage of the GSA opportunity or for more information about the GSA Award and application process, please visit <https://www.towson.edu/academics/graduate/gsa/awards.html>

SPRING 2019 COURSE SCHEDULE

CLASS	TITLE	DAY	TIME	ROOM	INSTRUCTOR
ISTC 301/ 501	Integrating Instructional Tech	R	4:20-7:00 PM	219	WOOD
ISTC 653	The Organization of Knowledge	M	5:00- 7:40 PM	209	ROBINSON
ISTC 663	Applied Psychology of Learning	R	5:00- 7:40 PM	207	LI
ISTC 685	Research in Instructional Tech	T	5:00- 7:40 PM	219	MCNARY
ISTC 667	Instructional Development	TBA	TBA	ONLINE	MCATEER
ISTC 711	Innovation, Change & Org. Structures	T	5:00- 7:40 PM	209	LI
ISTC 717	Distance Education	TBA	TBA	ONLINE	SADERA
ISTC 767	Advanced Theory & Instruction Tech	TBA	TBA	ONLINE	SONG
ISTC 780/ 782	Investigating & Evaluating Research in ISTC I/II	R	4:30- 7:10 PM	209	SADERA
EDUC 605	Informing Ed. Practice to Affect Change	M	5:00-7:40 PM	219	SHARGEL
EDUC 790	Advanced Measurements & Stat in Ed.	M	5:00-7:40 PM	207	MCNARY

Please note that the schedule is subject to change and students should refer to the online schedule of classes for the most current information.

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY GRADUATE FACULTY & STAFF INFORMATION

MAIN OFFICE—FAX	410-704-4227 HH 216
DR. MAHNAZ MOALLEM , Chairperson	x 4-4018 HH 216A
MRS. RUTH HIPKINS , Administrative Assistant	x 4-2576 HH 216
DR. GAIL BAILEY , Clinical Assistant Professor	x 4-2135 HH 107P
MS. BONNIE MARAS BROWN , Lecturer	x 4-3293 HH 102C
Dr. ROBERT CAPLES , Visiting Assistant Professor	x 4-2579 HH 107P
MS. DEBORAH FULLER , Director, Education Technology Center	x 4-2542 HH 210D
DR. JEFF KENTON , Associate Professor	x 4-4226 HH 102E
DR. QING LI , Professor	x 4-4631 HH 404C
DR. FRAN LUTHER , Assistant Professor	x 4-4537 HH 315
DR. SCOT MCNARY , Associate Professor	x 4-4835 HH 102F
MRS. SUZANNE OBENSHAIN , Lecturer	x 4-3144 HH 211
DR. DAVID ROBINSON , Asst. Professor, School Library Media Program Director	x 4-6301 HH 204A
DR. WILLIAM SADERA , Professor, Doctoral Program Director	x 4-2731 HH 222
DR. REBECCA SHARGEL , Associate Professor	x 4-2617 HH 413F
MR. DUANE SMITH , IT Manager	x 4-2575 HH 210A
DR. LIYAN SONG , Professor, Master's Program Director	x 4-5751 HH 102D
DR. LISA TWISS , Lecturer	x 4-3473 HH 203
DR. DAVID WIZER , Professor	x 4-6268 PSY 200
MS. CHERYL WOOD , Lecturer	x 4-2687 HH 211

Graduate Assistants

REENA PATEL, Doctoral Program HH 222 istcdoc@towson.edu
ASHLEY PINTER, Master's Program HH 211 apinte1@students.towson.edu