AWARDED PERMANENT STATUS

William Helman (MSLIS, Simmons College; MSIS, University of Maryland, Baltimore County)

Head of Library Information Technology

William Helman earned a Masters in Library and Information Science from Simmons University in 2010, and a Masters in Information Systems from University of Maryland Baltimore County in 2017. Joining TU in 2015, he leads the group responsible for maintaining both the online and in person technology infrastructure for Cook Library. He serves as cochair of the Shared Platforms, Systems & Applications Committee for the University System of Maryland & Affiliated Institutions, he has also served as a member of the consortium’s User Experience Committee, and as a Towson University representative to the Council of University System Faculty. He has published and presented internationally in the areas of user centered technology, digital accessibility, and labor issues in academic libraries. He is currently interested in building opportunities for collaboration at TU in the areas of open access publishing, open educational resources, and textbook affordability.

Claire L. Holmes (MLS, State University of New York, Albany)

Assistant University Librarian for Research & Instruction

Claire Holmes joined Towson University in 2001. Since 2016, she has served as Assistant University Librarian for Research & Instruction. She is currently liaison to the departments of Special Education and Instructional Leadership & Professional Development, as well as the Applied Adult Disability Studies program. In her AUL role, she leads Cook Library’s research and instruction efforts, and coordinates Cook Library’s Instruction Program. Her scholarship includes publications and presentations on assessment of students’ information literacy learning, the use of rubrics in assessment, Universal Design for Learning, and mentorship. Her recently co-authored book chapter, “Cultivating & Sustaining a Compassionate Culture of Mentorship,” will be published in Academic Library Mentoring: Fostering Growth and Renewal in 2021. Claire currently serves on TU’s Academic Senate and a Middle States Reaccreditation Self-Study Work Group. She served as a member of the University Assessment Council from 2013-2018. Claire is active in the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL). She is a past president of the Maryland chapter of ACRL and recently served as a peer mentor through ACRL’s Instruction Section.
Promotion to Librarian II
Elizabeth De Coster (MLIS, University of Maryland)
Research & Instruction Librarian
Elizabeth De Coster joined Towson University in 2017. In her role as research and instruction librarian, she is the liaison to the departments of History and Women's & Gender Studies, providing collection management support and information literacy instruction. Her focus on student engagement and accessibility led her to participate as a member of TU’s 2018 cohort of the Universal Design for Learning Professional Learning Community. She is currently a Diversity Faculty Fellow; her project supports the integration of diverse and inclusive voices and perspectives into library collection development. She is an active conference presenter and she recently published a column in The Journal of Academic Librarianship, entitled, "Envisioning student work: Writing before research and its impact on the reference process." She chairs Cook Library’s committee for Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility (IDEA) and she serves as the Library’s representative to University's Academic Standards Committee. She represents Cook Library on the University System of Maryland & Affiliated Institutions (USMAI) Reference & Instruction Sub-Group. She is a member and past Executive Board member of the Rainbow Round Table of the American Library Association. Elizabeth is an adjunct faculty member at UMD’s iSchool, where she teaches in the Library and Information Science (MLIS) program.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS
Promotion to Full Professor
Michaël Dewally (Ph.D, University of Oklahoma)
Department of Finance
Michaël Dewally earned his doctorate in finance from the University of Oklahoma in 2001. He joined Towson University in 2010 and was promoted to Associate Professor in 2016. While at Towson University, he has taught courses in the field of Investments and created FIN 433: Portfolio Management meanwhile serving as the faculty advisor to the Towson University Investment Group (TUIG), a student organization managing funds for the Towson University Foundation. Since his arrival at Towson University, he has published over 20 articles in leading finance journals on the topics of banking, corporate governance and financial management. He has also served as the Chair of the Curriculum Committee for the College of Business and Economics and the Chair of the University Curriculum Committee.
Nhung Hendy (Ph.D, Virginia Commonwealth University)  
Department of Management  
A senior certified Human Resource professional by both Society for Human Resource Management and Human Resource Certification Institute, Nhunget Hendy is a dedicated instructor and mentor. She won an Innovative Teaching Award in 2019 for her technology delivered instruction in teaching Human Resource management. During the review period, she published seven articles in prestigious journals in areas including personality testing, talent management, and business ethics. She also served as the chair of CBE's Learning Excellence Committee. Her dedication to public service has earned her being one of the finalists nominated by TU for the University System of Maryland’s Board of Regents Faculty Award for Public Service in 2018.

Jin Park (Ph.D, University of Texas at Arlington)  
Department of Accounting  
A member of the Accounting Department since 2009, Professor Park has established himself as a leader in teaching, research, and service at Towson University. Dr. Park is among the most popular of our instructors and is particularly known for the level of care he provides to his students both in and outside of the classroom. His research in environmental and sustainability accounting puts him on the cutting edge of a field that is becoming one of the most important cross-disciplinary areas of study. Dr. Park’s service has impacted many people beyond the borders of Towson University, in particular because of his work as Treasurer, Finance Committee Chair, and Board Member of Baltimore Sister Cities, Inc., an organization that promotes partnerships and relationships between Baltimore and cities around the globe.
Yingying Shao (Ph.D, University of Arkansas)
Department of Finance
Yingying Shao is a dedicated mentor of students and actively promote the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) program among students. As a strong advocate for effective teaching and learning practices, Shao has developed online courses ranging from undergraduate to graduate courses (pre-pandemic), and included the latest data analytical tools in her teaching of financial modeling. Her research interests lie in the areas of banking, corporate finance, and international finance. Her research has appeared in the leading journals in the field and received the College of Business & Economics' Outstanding Scholarship Award respectively in 2013 and 2017. During the years of review, she has served in various roles including the PTRM committee at the Department, College and University level respectively, Undergraduate Research and Creative Inquiry committee, Council of University System Faculty, and teaching fellow of Faculty Academic Center of Excellence at Towson (FACET), among others. She is also active in community outreaching and currently serves as a board member of the CFA Baltimore Society.

Stella Tomasi (Ph.D, Temple University)
Department of Business Analytics & Technology Management
Stella Tomasi earned her doctorate in Management Information Systems from Temple University in 2009. Creating an ERP Advisory Board with industry partners and holding a one-day conference for SAP Users in the region, she has played an instrumental role in transforming the e-Business major into Business Systems & Processes for the department. In 2018, she won the TU OAI Teaching in Innovation Award for incorporating an experiential learning component through semester-long consulting projects between students and companies. She has mentored CBE students at various regional business and analytics competitions, including developing a Data Analytics Competition in 2019, which attracted over 80 students of various majors across campus to showcase their analytics skills. She has published in the areas of visualization, human-computer interaction, social media, and supply chain technologies in leading information system journals and serves as an editorial board member for two journals.
Awarded Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor
Issac Bonaparte (Ph.D, Morgan State University)
Department of Accounting
A member of the Accounting Department since 2009, Professor Park has established himself as a leader in teaching, research, and service at Towson University. Dr. Park is among the most popular of our instructors and is particularly known for the level of care he provides to his students both in and outside of the classroom. His research in environmental and sustainability accounting puts him on the cutting edge of a field that is becoming one of the most important cross-disciplinary areas of study. Dr. Park’s service has impacted many people beyond the borders of Towson University, in particular because of his work as Treasurer, Finance Committee Chair, and Board Member of Baltimore Sister Cities, Inc., an organization that promotes partnerships and relationships between Baltimore and cities around the globe.

Sarah Magnotta (Ph.D. University of Kentucky)
Department of Marketing
Sarah Magnotta earned her doctorate in Marketing from the University of Kentucky in 2015. During her time at TU, Sarah has been a driving force for the development and advancement of our sales program. In addition to developing a new course for the sales curriculum, Advanced Selling and Sales Management, she plays a key role in our annual Strategic Sales Competition. Beyond the classroom, Sarah provides student mentoring and coaching for students competing in our competition as well as the National Shore Sales Challenge and the National Collegiate Sales Competition. Sarah’s research and service record have established her as a thought leader in sales education. In the period of review, she has produced five top-quality, peer-reviewed journal articles which bridge the gap between academe and practice in the field of sales and sales education.
Promotion to Full Professor
Rebecca Shargel (Ed.D, Jewish Theological Seminary of America)
Department of Educational Technology & Literacy
Joining the TU faculty in 2009, Rebecca Shargel teaches research methods to graduate students in the College of Education and was recognized with the Office of Academic Innovation’s Excellence in Teaching Award for her work instructing students in evidence-based thinking. She teaches ethics and experiential education to students in the Leadership in Jewish Education and Communal Service program, involves students in problem-based learning through online history-based simulations, and was granted the SimTeach Award by the College of Education to employ virtual reality simulation in her courses. Her research investigates collaborative learning practices, curricular integration, and ethnic pedagogies. She currently is co-investigating K-12 teachers’ experiences teaching remotely during the pandemic. Over the past twelve years, she has initiated and chaired several faculty research committees and has brought NVivo qualitative data analysis software to the university and training to faculty in the College of Education.

Jessica Shiller (Ph.D, New York University)
Department of Instructional Leadership and Professional Development.
Jessica Shiller achieved her doctorate in 2007 with a specialization in urban school reform; social contexts of education; and relationships between race, class, and inequity in schools. She joined the TU faculty in 2011. Her scholarship has explored the effects of school closings, the rise of charter schools, and privatization of public education. She is the author of "The new reality for suburban schools: How suburban schools are struggling with low income students and students of color in their schools" as well as numerous articles and book reviews in peer-reviewed publications. She participates actively in social media and has produced a film in areas of her expertise. She directed TU’s faculty fellow program on racial equity and social justice and has received multiple grants from T. Rowe Price and the Baltimore-Towson University (BTU) Council to complete research and engage Towson students in community development work.
Awarded Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor

Sara Hooks (Ed.D, Johns Hopkins University)
Department of Early Childhood Education

Sara Hooks earned her doctorate in education from Johns Hopkins University in 2015. She has published and presented in the areas of student and family engagement for students with diverse learning and behavioral needs. At TU, she has taught courses in assessment, literacy, and instructional technology and was a recipient of the Gloria A. Neubert award for faculty excellence in teaching. She has integrated her research and teaching to study innovative approaches to support teacher candidates in their practice of engaging families and their own students. She has served on the TU Gold Review team to provide recognition of TU’s exceptional online courses and to provide support for continuous course improvement. She has also served as chair of her department’s assessment committee and the TU Course Approval Reporting Committee.

Marcia Vandiver (Ph.D, University of North Carolina at Charlotte)
Marcia Vandiver earned a doctorate in curriculum and instruction with a concentration in urban education from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte in 2015. Since joining TU, she has taught urban education and social studies methods courses. Her research interests explore various intersections of Black education, including: resistance pedagogy, historical foundations of urban education, and Afrocentric schools. She is the co-author of Unshackled, Teacher Education to Enhance Diversity in STEM, Sister Outsider in the Academy, and The Healing Power of Education. She is also the co-editor of Contemporary African American Families. She is the current assistant chair of the Department of Elementary Education.
Promotion to Adjunct III

**Walter Gill** (Ph.D, Syracuse University)

**Department of Early Childhood Education**

Walter Gill’s contribution to the Towson University community has been the Holocaust survivor speaker programs, initiated 10 years ago, for the Department of Early Childhood Education. The Baltimore Jewish Council, who provide the speakers, and TU Hillel were essential for each program’s success. Plans are underway for participation by the Baltimore Hebrew Institute. He helped identify witnesses for the documentary “Voices of Baltimore,” in which he appears. The film was the brainchild of Dr. Gary Hormona, Assistant Professor in the College of Education. He has also participated on faculty, department and student sponsored panels and stand ready to assist all TU students for a successful tomorrow.

Promotion to Adjunct II

**Karen Guthro** (MEd., Boston College)

**Department of Special Education**

Karen Guthro has taught undergraduate and graduate courses for the Elementary Education & Special Education (EESE), as well as the Special Education MAT and MEd programs at the Universities of Shady Grove for the past 11 years. Her multiple experiences as an elementary, middle school and high school teacher, resource teacher and instructional specialist throughout her 34 year career in Montgomery County Public Schools provide her with the most current educational culture and experiences to share with her students. Primarily, her focus has been on teaching the undergraduate and graduate versions of the formal special education test and measurement course. Students consistently comment on the excellence of instruction and engagement they experience.
For the past four years, Tiffany Jirsa has been an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Special Education, serving in the Early Childhood & Special Education (ECSE) program, as well as in the Early Childhood Education Department. In addition to teaching a variety of undergraduate courses, since spring 2019, she has also undertaken the role of supervisor for the ECSE Infants and Toddlers Internship at TUNE, as well as for the Field Placement in the Pre-Primary Inclusive Classroom course for both the TUNE and main campus programs. In all of these teaching and supervisory experiences, Mrs. Jirsa has developed very positive professional relationships with our faculty, students and Baltimore and Harford county school district partners. Additionally, she provides valuable contributions as a member of the ECSE team as they review data and revise course work and internship experiences each year.

Katherine Naimon has been an adjunct faculty member for the Department of Special Education from 2002-2005 and then again from 2010 to the present at the Universities at Shady Grove, where she has taught both undergraduate and graduate courses for the Elementary Education & Special Education (EESE) program, as well as the Special Education MAT and M.Ed. programs. Ms. Naimon brings her multiple experiences as a special education teacher at the elementary, middle and high school levels, working in both self-contained, resource room and inclusion classroom settings and as a special education coordinator, throughout her 30 year career in Montgomery County Public Schools and six years in Fairfax County Public Schools into the content of the courses she teaches and the experiences she shares with her students, who consistently respond very positively in their evaluations of her instruction.
Karen Shrake (MEd., Western Maryland College)
Department of Special Education
Since joining the Towson University faculty in 2012, Karen Shrake has served as an adjunct instructor, teaching elementary math and science courses for the Elementary Education & Special Education and the Early Childhood Education programs at the Universities of Shady Grove. These courses include a combination of face-to-face instruction, as well as internship experiences taught on campus and at an established PDS site in Montgomery County. Her multiple experiences as an elementary school teacher, professional development instructor, Language Arts curriculum writer, and initially, special education aide throughout her 31 year career in Montgomery County Public Schools contribute to the content of the courses she teaches, as well as our programs, overall. Student course evaluations each semester are consistently positive, citing the supportive professional relationships that she develops with her students.

Susan Wilken (MEd., Towson University)
Department of Special Education
Susan Wilken has 38 years of experience as a teacher, early childhood specialist and administrator in Baltimore County Public Schools contribute to the content of the courses she teaches, as well as the ECSE program, overall. Primarily, her focus has been on supervising the ECSE students in their pre-school internship placement and teaching and/or co-teaching the course that aligns with this experience on both the TUNE and main campuses. Additionally, over the years, she has continually arranged varied outreach service learning opportunities for her students, including providing supports to students and families during Baltimore County Public School Honestly Autism Day and the Very Special Arts Festival, as well as outreach to the John Archer School, the Harford County Public School separate special education day school, to create and read adapted books to the students and families during American Education Week, and to provide support for activities for the K-12 students during their extracurricular events. Students engage in and learn so much from these experiences and consistently share the highest regards in their course evaluations each semester.
Promotion to Full Professor
Danny Mydlack (MFA, University of California San Diego)
Electronic Media and Film
Danny Mydlack has written, performed, and produced Off Broadway won grants and awards, toured the US and Europe, opened at Radio City Music Hall and starred on an MTV pilot. Web searches still bring up pre-electronic references to his accordion-playing, multimedia antics. He received his MFA from the University of California San Diego while serving in US/Mexican border relief efforts. His project and film "A Town Sign for Maclovio Rojas" was featured in the Wall Street Journal. At TU, he has produced the feature length documentary "Voices from the New American Schoolhouse" a contemporary look at deinstitutionalizing children, "A Portrait of Brooke" an intimate look at staring down death at a young age, and "Out-Rigged!" about the daredevils and flameouts who created the modern sailboat. In 2008 he founded Arts & Ideas Sudbury School, Baltimore’s first enduring democratic school for kids 5-18 years old.

Awarded Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor
Christopher M. Cicconi (DMA, University of Miami, FL)
Department of Music
Christopher Cicconi is an established pedagogue nationally and regionally in, primarily, the field of emerging band repertoire and effective repertoire for middle and high school bands. He has appeared as a band or orchestra clinician at more than 150 schools in Maryland and surrounding states, and is in high demand as a guest conductor for regional and national honor bands and orchestras. In 2020, Cicconi was named by the Maryland Music Educators Association as the recipient of the prestigious Corwin Taylor Music Educator Leadership Award. He serves as the Music Director of the Chesapeake Youth Symphony, the New England Music Camp, and as guest conductor for three years at the acclaimed Sewanee Summer Music Festival. An accomplished arranger, Cicconi works have been published by Carl Fischer Music, Theodore Presser Company, and Bandworks Publications, Inc. His book, Band Music, A Handbook. A Comprehensive Catalog of Emerging Wind Band Repertoire, was published in 2016 by Rowman & Littlefield and represents a significant contribution to the field of emerging band repertoire and music education pedagogy.
Michaela Frischherz (Ph.D, University of Iowa)
Department of Communication Studies
Michaela Frischherz (she/her/hers) joined Towson University as an assistant professor in 2015 and specializes in rhetorical theory, queer criticism, and sexuality studies. Her research agenda focuses on pleasure, sexual communication, and queer communication, and her work thus far has been published or is forthcoming in ten different journals and edited books. She has been awarded six grants, including a faculty research award from the University System Maryland Women’s Forum and a grant from the Organization for Research on Women and Communication. She has created three new courses in the department — Sexual Communication, Queer/LGBT Communication Studies, and Social Permissiveness in Amsterdam: Perspectives on Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality. She has coordinated departmental internships, served on the COFAC Diversity & Inclusion Committee, and served as the Co-Chair of the LGBTQ Faculty Staff Association, and she has also been a TU Faculty Fellow for Women’s Field Hockey.

Tavia La Follette (Ph.D, Antioch University)
Department of Theatre Arts
Tavia La Follette joined Towson University in 2016 as an assistant professor. Since coming to Towson, she was awarded and reviewed The Rubys Artist Award, funded by the Robert W. Deutsch Foundation focusing on “core values of experimentation, risk-taking, and unfettered creativity.” La Follette is the founding director of COFAC CoLab, “designed as a space where fields of study are porous, the objective is to build new knowledge for an ever-evolving world”. She has composed a Study Abroad to South Africa, a Study Away to Montana, and received curatorial invitations/residencies in Russia, Estonia and Chile. La Follette has also published book reviews, curated at the MF Museum and received grants to continue these international dialogue projects from The Heinz Endowments, The Opportunity Fund, and The AW Mellon award.
John Lundak (MFA, Alfred University)
Art + Design, Art History and Art Education
John Lundak has taught a wide variety of both beginning and advanced courses for the department of Art + Design, Art History, Art Education, including basic 3D Process and Sculpture I, mid-level concept and process courses in wood and metal and a number of advanced sculpture courses that combine processes and are tailored to individual student needs. His collaborative nature has allowed him to transform his area by building community for both students and faculty. He has been in a number of regional and national group shows as well as two person and solo exhibitions in the last three years. Highlights include a large-scale installation at Baltimore’s well-known School 33, another at the Chesapeake Gallery at Harford Community College, and a solo exhibition at Eastern Oregon University where he also gave a visiting artist lecture and participated in student critiques. His work incorporates nylon and kite making techniques which have gone through a process of transformation as a result of his ongoing investigation of airports. His recent work has set him off on a new trajectory and he is now investigating work that might fly, float or inflate and that incorporates Arduino microcontrollers and Virtual Reality technology.

Lorrie Palmer (Ph.D, Indiana University)
Electronic Media and Film
Lorrie Palmer's teaching, her scholarly research, and her 13 refereed panel presentations at national and international conferences are in the areas of film history, race and gender, film and television genres (action, horror, science fiction), digital aesthetics, and city space. She has published 27 peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters in publications such as Cinema Journal, Film & History, Camera Obscura, Journal of Science Fiction Film & Television, Mediapolis: A Journal of Cities and Culture, Jump Cut, Pop Matters, Bright Lights Film Journal, Senses of Cinema, Journal of Whedon Studies, Journal of Popular Film and Television, The Velvet Light Trap, and in anthologies on action cinema, James Bond, Star Trek, Supernatural, The Sarah Connor Chronicles, and The Punisher. She recently signed a book contract with Bloomsbury to edit (and contribute to) an anthology.
Desirée D. Rowe (Ph.D, Arizona State University)
Department of Communication Studies
Desirée Rowe earned their interdisciplinary doctorate from Hugh Downs School of Human Communication at Arizona State University with a focus on critical/cultural studies, performance as method and theory, and queer rhetorics. Her current research agenda focuses on creative participatory methods that explore how women make sense of negativity and failure across a wide variety of communicative contexts. Since 2015, she has published ten peer-reviewed articles and book chapters in a wide range of interdisciplinary venues. She also toured a solo performance that won the 2016 Creative Expression award from the Organization for the Study of Women, Language, and Gender. She is most proud of her 2019 Fulbright Scholar award to Kyushu University in Fukuoka, Japan. She has also served as a FACET Research Fellow and Vice Chair of the Academic Senate. She looks forward to continuing to serve the TU community through an investment in an embodied feminist advocacy and action.

Lynn Tomlinson (MFA, Towson University)
Electronic Media and Film
Known for her short films that explore environmental and historical stories using a unique clay-painting animation technique, her work has screened in over one hundred festivals worldwide, receiving dozens of international awards. Her film The Elephant’s Song (2018) was an official selection at the prestigious Annecy International Animation Festival and is broadcast on ARTÉ TV network in Europe. The Ballad of Holland Island House (2014) was acquired by the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA). Since 2014, she has been awarded a COFAC CoLab grant, two TU Innovation in Teaching Awards, a Faculty Development and Research Committee Grant, a Award of Teaching Excellence from the University Film and Video Association, and two Independent Artist Awards from the Maryland State Arts Council. Her teaching focuses on animation and visual effects project-based courses combining history, analysis, and production.
Promotion to Adjunct III

**Jayne Bernasconi** (MA, Columbia University)
Department of Dance

Jayne Bernasconi has been a leader in the field of dance and yoga over 35 years. Her award-winning choreography has been seen throughout the United States and abroad. She trained and danced with several leading NYC post-modern choreographers, was the founder and artistic director of Forces of Ability, a movement project including people of all abilities founded in Vermont in 1992. She was the founder and artistic director of Air Dance Bernasconi, an aerial dance company based in Baltimore, Maryland 2000 - 2010. She co-authored the book/DVD “Aerial Dance” with Nancy Smith, foreword by Murray Louis.

**Lavinia Edmunds** (MA, University of North Carolina)
Department of Mass Communication

Lavinia Edmunds has taught over 40 sections of various MCOM courses. Her primary teaching assignment has been MCOM 101 Introduction to Mass Communication and MCOM 210 (formerly MCOM 256) Introduction to Media Writing. She also has over 25 years of professional experience as a writer, reporter, and editor. Both her students and peers have consistently rated her teaching strong and appreciate her dedication to teaching.

**Sara Nichols** (MM, Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music)
Department of Music

Sara Nichols’ diverse career as a teacher, orchestral performer, chamber musician and soloist has awarded her coveted positions such as Principle Flute of the Baltimore Opera Orchestra, Guest Principal Flute with the Baltimore and St. Louis Symphony Orchestras, and with Opera Theatre of St. Louis. She has performed as soloist or orchestra musician with numerous ensembles including the Wolf Trap Orchestra, National Gallery Orchestra, New York Opera Society, Baltimore Choral Arts Society, Baltimore Chamber Orchestra, and Concert Artists of Baltimore among others. She has appeared internationally at the Amalfi Coast Music and Arts Festival, Międzynarodowy Festival, and the St. Petersburg Conservatory. Her students regularly win prestigious competitions leading them forward in their performance and teaching careers.
Promotion to Adjunct II

Jason Armstrong Baker (Board Certified Music Therapist, Shenandoah University)

Department of Dance

Jason Baker is an original percussive artist and teaching artist who lives the dynamic relationship between mover and music, form and improvisation. He studied percussion in Cuba, and taught world music at Nakhodka College of Music in Nakhodka, Russia. He specializes in integrating music with math, social studies, and social-emotional learning. He designed and holds a patent for Sounds Around the World, a collaborative learning game designed for maximum engagement using diverse global music and colorful maps to teach geography skills, cultural diversity, and civics. His ideas on this subject were published with co-author Kenneth T. Carano as "Sounds around the world: Music as social studies pedagogy" in Digging Deeper: Activities for Enriching and Expanding Social Studies Instruction K-12.

Samuel Burt (MM, The Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University)

Department of Music

Samuel Burt joined the faculty at Towson University in 2017 as an adjunct professor. As a board member of the High Zero Foundation since 2005, he has helped curate the High Zero Festival, Red Room series, and Worlds in Collusion. His compositions have been performed across the United States. He currently performs in the avant free jazz band Coy Fish and facilitates the monthly musical improvisation workshop called the Volunteers' Collective. His instrumental performance focuses on clarinets and the daxophone, an instrument he builds and sells. His current electronic music projects focus on performer-computer interactivity, guided indeterminacy, multi-channel spatialization and sound design.
Brian B. Feeney (Ph.D, Temple University)  
Department of Communication Studies  
Brian Feeney has over 25 years of experience teaching writing and communication courses and has taught at Towson University since 1997. He had taught a variety of courses at TU in the Department of Communication Studies and the Department of Mass Communication, including Public Speaking, Persuasion, and Argument and Advocacy. He is a long-standing advocate of the TUNE programs and has been teaching courses at TUNE for a number of years. His expertise is drawn from his career writing for environmental engineering firms supporting private industry, federal agencies, and currently, a U.S. Army research laboratory.

Chung-Wei Huang (MFA, Temple University)  
Electronic Media and Film  
Chung-Wei Huang has taught intro through advanced courses for us, including two of our EMF foundation courses. She has worked hard to create an inclusive atmosphere in the classroom to help guide students through the collaborative process of film and media production. She has also assisted in the EMF student recruiting event, EMF Major for a Day, teaching a workshop on editing. She was a semifinalist for the Sondheim Artscape prize and one of four finalists in the Film and Video disciplines for the 2020 Baker Artist Awards. Her short film script Squeegee Boy won 2nd place at the Baltimore Screenwriters Competition and is partially funded by the Saul Zaentz Innovation Fund in 2020. Her thesis film Midnight Carnival has been selected by the Baltimore Museum of Art to play in their screening room. She also has a dance film in the 2020 Asia North Exhibition presented by the Asian Arts and Culture Center at Towson and the Central Baltimore Partnership.
Tia Howard (MS, Boston University)  
Department of Mass Communications  
Tia Howard started teaching as adjunct faculty at TU in spring 2009. She has taught MCOM 357 Public Relations Writing for the last eleven years. In addition to her advanced degree, she has enriched her students’ learning experience by bringing over 25 years of professional experience in public relations to classroom examples and discussions. Her professional career has steadily advanced in the areas of strategic communication, media relations, and internal communication in the healthcare industry. Her students and peers alike appreciate and value Prof. Howard’s teaching.

John Lee (BFA, New School University)  
Department of Music  
John Lee is a composer and guitarist residing in Washington D.C. He has toured and performed with prominent figures: Cyro Baptista, Fatoumata Diawara, Hassan Haktoun, Matisyahu, Christian Scott and Keller Williams, plus rising D.C. stars Kris Funn, Mark Meadows, and Nicole Saphos. He has also toured and performed in Brazil, Canada, Israel, Ecuador, Mexico, Portugal, and Switzerland. Lee can be heard playing guitar on over fifteen recorded albums and led the release of four of his own albums: Caveman Before the World, Totem, Somewhere Impossible to Find, and Nature Series. In addition to his pedagogy at Towson, Lee teaches for MusiCorps, a music rehabilitation program that pairs top-notch professionals in the field with wounded service members to help them recover their lives through musical study at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center.
Diane Meyers (MA, American University)  
**Department of Mass Communication**  
Diane Meyers has kept her classes relevant by bringing over 25 years of her professional experience in public relations and internal communication in the healthcare industry. She has taught a number of required courses in the Public Relations track, both at the undergraduate and graduate levels. They include: MCOM 357 PR Writing, MCOM 419/519 Corporate Communication Management, MCOM 451 Public Relations for Nonprofit Organizations, and MCOM 453 Public Relations Campaign. In addition, Prof. Meyers, together with a colleague, developed a new required course for the major, MCOM 360 Law and Ethics in Advertising and PR. Outside classrooms, she has served as a highly engaged faculty adviser for TU chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA). Both her students and fellow faculty deeply appreciate her high-impact teaching in and outside classrooms.

RuSean Meyers (MFA, Towson University)  
**Art + Design, Art History and Art Education**  
RuSean Meyers teaches a variety of courses including ART 219 Digital Concepts Structure, ART 317 Graphic Design I, ART 365 Design for the WWW I, ART 466 Design for the WWW II and ART 355 Typography. He is the Senior UX Designer for T. Rowe Price. He has also worked as a Senior Designer for Centretek, handling big clients such as MU Health Care, and Kennedy Krieger, as a UX UI Designer/Developer for the Contemporary Museum and as a Web Designer for No/Inc. He specializes in combining digital strategy with back-end development, creating interfaces that are both functional and cutting edge. His extensive experience in the field of graphic design as both a designer and manager/mentor makes him a valuable asset for our students.
Laura M. Pleines (MS, University of Maryland University College)  
Department of Communication Studies  
Laura Pleines began teaching at Towson University in Spring 2014 and has taught three different courses for the department, including Public Speaking, Communication Training and Development, and Intercultural Communication. She brings her professional experience as a trainer and global communications specialist to the classroom, offering her students case studies of real-world opportunities that await them upon the completion of their Communication Studies degree. She is an asset in the classroom because of her professional experience, and because she was once a Communication Studies undergraduate student here at TU.

Kevin Rhode (MFA, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania)  
Art + Design, Art History and Art Education  
Kevin Rhode has a wealth of experience teaching workshops at many respected institutions such as the Arrowmont Center for Crafts in Gatlinburg, TN, the Peters Valley School of Craft in Layton, NJ, and the Idyllwild Arts Academy in Idyllwild, CA, among others. He maintains a rigorous record of exhibitions, and continues to push his own studio practice through juried Artist in Residence programs at institutions such as the Red Lodge Clay Center, in Red Lodge, Montana, the Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts, in New Castle, Maine, and at Tianan National University of the Arts, in Tainan, Taiwan. These experiences enrich Mr. Rohde’s teaching and expand our student's awareness of educational and career opportunities in their field. He is currently the Artist and Children’s Program Manager at Baltimore Clayworks and through this connection, has employed numerous Towson graduates as instructors. He has worked diligently over the years to encourage and foster his student’s success as they develop their careers.
Michael Rickelton (DMA, The Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University)
Department of Music
Michael Rickelton joined the faculty at Towson University in 2013 where he teaches courses in Music History and Culture and Music Theory. He is an award-winning composer of solo, chamber, and orchestral works. The Nashville Symphony, Baltimore Symphony, and Peabody Symphony, the Baltimore Choral Arts Society, the Pacific Chorale’s John Alexander Singers, and the Choir of the Washington National Cathedral have played his works. He has received awards in the Ithaca College Choral Composition Contest, the Gregg Smith Choral Composition Contest, the Pacific Choral Young Composers Competition, and from the Music Teachers National Association, the National Association of Teachers of Singing, Lipscomb University and The Peabody Conservatory. His music has been recorded on the Albany and Delos record labels.

Katja Toporski (MFA, Towson University)
Art + Design, Art History and Art Education
Ms. Toporski has an impressive record of scholarship with regional, national and international exhibitions including two shows in 2020; Whiteout, at Barbara Fuchs Gallery in Munich, Germany and Site Effects, an curated group show at Bayrischer Kunstgewerbeverein, also in Munich, Germany. She was in nine exhibitions in 2019 including shows in New York, China, Pennsylvania, Illinois, New Mexico, Thailand and Baltimore. She has been the recipient of many awards including special Mention at the Italian Association of Contemporary Jewelry in 2018, a SNAG Educational Endowment Scholarship for mid-career artist in 2016, an Autor Award 2015, Barcelona Art Jewelry Week, Spain and Semifinalist for Enjoia’t Contemporary Jewelry Award, also in Barcelona, Spain in 2015. Ms. Toporski has also taught workshops at the well-respected Shakeragy School of Craft and the Arrowmont School of Craft in TN as well as taught at Montgomery College, the Workhouse Art Center in VA and Studio 4902 in Washington, DC. Ms. Toporski’s teaching and scholarship make her a valuable asset.
Promotion to Full Professor

Amanda Jozkowski (Ph.D, University of Southern California)
Department of Occupational Therapy & Occupational Science

Amanda Jozkowski earned her doctorate in occupational science from the University of Southern California. Her research addresses assessment, methods, and emerging technologies to support occupational participation, primarily in children and youth. She was awarded several internal and external grants to support research that often occurs in collaboration with interdisciplinary colleagues and occupational therapy graduate students. Jozkowski has published 10 peer-reviewed articles and proceedings in top-tier journals, and presented 39 professional presentations. Her teaching primarily includes both entry-level and advanced research methods and data analysis for students across all programs in the department. In addition, she supervises graduate student research at both the entry- and post-professional doctoral levels.

Awarded Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor

Caroline Wood (Ph.D, University of Georgia)
Department of Health Sciences

Caroline Wood's scholarship focuses on prevention of bullying and violence victimization, with a recent focus on mental health and coping strategies. Her mixed-methods research has been published in such distinguished journals as the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* and *Aggressive Behavior*. She has been the PI on seven grants and has been cited 184 times since joining the Health Sciences Department faculty. She is the coordinator for the minor in public health and currently serves as the interim co-director for the MS in Health Sciences program.
Danice L. Brown (Ph.D, The Ohio State University)
Department of Psychology
Danice L. Brown received her doctorate in Counseling Psychology, which included a year-long predoctoral internship at the University of Illinois at Chicago Counseling Center. In addition to teaching various courses, she has been serving as the Coordinator of Clinical Training for the program. She recently received the 2021 Janet Helms Award for Mentoring & Scholarship and provided a keynote for the 2021 Winter Roundtable at Teachers College, Columbia University. She has also built a strong program of research focused on examining African American resiliency, racial socialization, the intersectional socialization experiences of Black women, and multicultural issues in counseling. Several of her publications have included collaborations and assistance from her graduate and undergraduate mentees. She has presented her research at various professional conferences (e.g., American Psychological Association, the Association of Black Psychologists, and the Winter Roundtable). Additionally, she created and co-chairs the Multiculturalism in Action brown bag series sponsored by the TU Office of Inclusion and Institutional Equity. She has also served in various leadership positions for the Society of Counseling Psychology (American Psychological Association).

Bryan D. Devan (Ph.D, McGill University)
Department of Psychology
After completing two postdoctoral positions at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Bryan Devan joined the faculty at Towson University (his undergraduate alma mater). He established the Laboratory of Comparative Neuropsychology (LCN) and integrated his research skills with teaching and service at all levels of institutional organization. His research includes interactions between multiple memory systems in the mammalian brain, psychopharmacological interventions for the treatment of age-related neurodegenerative diseases and more recently, integrating scholarship on current memory consolidation research and theory with historical foundations in comparative neuropsychology. He has published in prestigious peer-reviewed journals where his work is highly cited by other researchers in the neurosciences. He actively promotes diversity in the LCN and mentors students’ interdisciplinary programs of study. Many of his former students have gone on to receive prestigious intramural research positions at the NIH and acceptance into top-ranked graduate programs.
Awarded Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor
Emily Bailey (Ph.D, University of Pittsburgh)
Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies
A historian of religion, Emily Bailey researches the intersections of food and material culture with sectarian and innovative expressions of religion in America. Her work has been published in sources like the International Journal for the Study of New Religions, the Bulletin for the Study of Religion, and Religion, Attire, and Adornment in North America (Columbia University Press), in addition to several encyclopedias and teaching resources. She is also a scholar of pedagogy, using her background in learning design to incorporate inventive teaching practices into her religious studies and Honors College classrooms. In her time at TU, Dr. Bailey has engaged in extensive service to the university community, and has worked as the Assistant Director for Academic Assessment for the Office of the Provost since 2019.

Erin Girio-Herrera (Ph.D, Ohio University)
Department of Psychology
Erin Girio-Herrera is a clinical psychologist with specialization in child and adolescence. She has nearly 17 years of experience developing, implementing, and evaluating mental health interventions, with an expertise in best practices for individuals with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder. Her work has been published in 20 peer-reviewed articles across 13 journals that focus on mental health assessment and intervention in community and school contexts. She is committed to training, professional development, mentorship, and experiential learning as she develops and integrates community partnerships into undergraduate and graduate courses, serves as the Internship Coordinator for the Psychology Master's Program and as a Service Learning Faculty Fellow. She enjoys interdisciplinary, cross-campus, and community collaboration as she champions mental health and wellness for students and community members.
Amanda Ginter (Ph.D, University of Maryland)
Department of Family Studies & Community Development
Amanda Ginter earned her doctorate in Family Science from the University of Maryland in 2013. She has led several research studies examining the impact of cancer survivorship on family dynamics and wellbeing. Since beginning her tenure-track position at Towson University, she has published articles in peer-reviewed journals including Journal of Psychosocial Oncology, Journal of Family Nursing, Journal of Social and Personal Relationships, and Qualitative Health Research. She teaches graduate and undergraduate research methods and theory courses. She serves on multiple committees, including the CLA Curriculum Committee. She also serves as the director of Family-Professional Collaboration program.

Daniel Hanna (Ph.D, Princeton University)
Department of Languages, Literatures & Cultures
Daniel Hanna plays a unique role in the Department of Languages, Literatures & Cultures as he teaches in both major programs—French and Spanish—and thanks to his linguistic proficiency and multifarious areas of expertise he covers a wide range of courses in both languages ranging from literature and culture to grammar. His scholarship highlights his expertise in both French and Spanish history of the Early Modern era. Just as he is uniquely able to fill crucial roles in the two major programs in the Department of Languages, Literatures & Cultures, his background allows him to cross borders, disciplines, and continents. His research focuses on the early history of women’s religious societies, and Carmelite poetry in Europe and the Americas. His most recent article "’To Foreign Climes Unknown Before/E’en to Amerique’s Distant Shore’: The Mission to Establish the First Women’s Convent in the Original United States, Told in Carmelite Poetry” was published in Early American Studies in spring 2020.
Bethany Willis Hepp (Ph.D, University of Delaware)
Department of Family Studies & Community Development
Bethany Willis Hepp's research focuses on non-normative family transitions, including adoption and congregate caregiving, transnational family dynamics, and interventions to reduce trauma associated with early adversity, as well as teaching pedagogy in Family Science. She has published in the Journal of Family Theory and Review as well as Family Science Review, has presented at conferences nationally and internationally, and often mentors undergraduate students in presentation of their related research. She serves on the Boards of regional and national organizations related to Family Science, including most recently as President of the Family Science Association and Treasurer of the International Section of the National Council on Family Relations. In addition to teaching family theories, research methods, and family life education methodology, she teaches for the Honors College and at the graduate level. Service to the University includes Vice-Chair of the Institutional Review Board.

Maria João (Joan) Lobo Antunes (Ph.D, University of Maryland)
Department of Sociology, Anthropology & Criminal Justice
Maria João (Joan) Lobo Antunes' research focuses on multi-level contextual influences (particularly family and community) on youth negative outcomes, primarily violence, exposure to violence, and antisocial behavior. She was a co-recipient of the National Institute of Justice's prestigious W.E.B. Du Bois Fellowship in 2016 to study the impact of inner-city mobility on minority and immigrant youth. Along with her collaborators, she has published in Feminist Criminology, Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice, Aggression and Violent Behavior, Journal of Interpersonal Violence, Race and Justice, and Journal of Youth and Adolescence. She has also published two research reports for the National Institute of Justice. She has been faculty advisor for Alpha Phi Sigma, the Criminal Justice Honor Society and is active on numerous committees in the American Society of Criminology. She has reviewed manuscripts for scholarly journals and serves as a reviewer for grant proposals for the National Institute of Justice.
Jared McGinley (Ph.D, Virginia Tech)
Department of Psychology

Jared McGinley joined Towson University in 2015 after earning his doctorate in Biological Psychology from Virginia Tech. As director of the Emotion Science Lab, he primarily studies the biology of emotion and adaptability, which has led to publications in journals such as the International Journal of Psychophysiology and Frontiers in Human Neuroscience. During his time at TU, he has served as a committed mentor by working with over 50 students in research settings. These collaborative mentorships have resulted in many students receiving department and university awards, presenting at local and national conferences, and publishing in peer-reviewed journals. Additionally, he teaches courses in biology, emotion, and research methods at both graduate and undergraduate levels.

Promotion to Adjunct III
Mark Nolder (Ph.D, Texas Tech University)
Department of Psychology

Mark Nolder has been an adjunct in the Psychology Department since 1993 and has taught many courses in the Clinical area over the years (Introduction to the Helping Relationship, Abnormal Psychology, Personality, and Systems and Techniques of Psychotherapy). He is a licensed Counseling Psychologist who has over 30 years of experience as a psychologist at the VA Maryland Health Care System where his primary duty has been the provision of outpatient psychotherapy to the local veteran population. He is also a graduate of Towson State University himself where he earned his BS in Psychology in 1985. Over the last 10 years he has been working out of the TUNE campus.
**Mary-Cecilia Stapleton** (Ph.D, University of Maryland, College Park)
Department of Psychology

Mary Stapleton has been an adjunct professor in the Psychology Department at Towson University since 2009 and brings to the classroom her extensive experience as a clinician, researcher, and administrator. Her research and clinical interests are in innovative approaches to cognitive rehabilitation, the effect of the working alliance on vocational counseling outcomes, and counselor education. She is a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC) and has authored numerous peer-reviewed journal articles and two book chapters on cognitive rehabilitation. Her recent research focus is on the use of Animal Assisted Therapy (AAT) and nature therapy as therapeutic methods. She served as an Advisory Board member of the Brain Injury Association of Maryland. She is a volunteer therapist with Pro Bono Counseling of Maryland.

**Kanji Takeno** (MFA, Maryland Institute)
Department of Languages, Literatures & Cultures

Kanji Takeno earned his Master of Fine Art in Photography from the Maryland Institute - College of Art in Baltimore. Students appreciate Mr. Takeno’s enthusiasm, dedication, patience, and empathy. They describe his courses as challenging, but always interesting and fun to attend. He brings the Japanese language and culture to life in the classroom, with relevant links to everyday life communication and insights into Japan’s history and traditions. In the past twenty years, he has been instrumental in the growth of the Japanese program. The Department of Languages, Literatures & Cultures recognizes his dedication and enthusiastic support of his students as one of the driving forces behind the success of the Japanese program.
Promotion to Adjunct II
Patricia (Sue) Bergamy-Willinger (M.Ed., Towson University)
Department of English
Patricia (Sue) Bergamy-Willinger has over 35 years of instructional, student advising, and mentorship experiences at a variety of institutions in the Baltimore area. She has taught at TU since 1987 in several capacities, most recently as an adjunct instructor in the Department of English, teaching ENGL 317 Writing for Business and Industry. Student and peer evaluations of her teaching emphasize her care in course planning and her effective mentorship of and care for students.

John Flannery (MSW, University of Maryland School of Social Work)
Department of Women’s and Gender Studies
John Flannery is an extremely popular and effective teacher who brings to the classroom a wealth of skills and talents that encourages student dialogue as a basis for development of critical thinking, respect for diverse viewpoints, and high rates of student participation in class. He has an extensive record of activism in Baltimore LGBTQ organizations and events that serves him and his students well in addressing salient issues affecting LGBTQ communities. He has presented at conferences and run workshops aimed at training medical professionals, teachers, and social workers to work more effectively with LGBTQ clients, especially at-risk youth who are HIV+. He currently holds a position as a School Social Worker for Baltimore County Public Schools. Many students have decided to minor in LGBT Studies because of the experience of taking John’s class. His relatable and open approach with students of diverse sexual/gender identities and orientations in the classroom and out of the classroom has contributed to the improvement of the campus climate for LGBTQ students, faculty and staff.
Alexander James (Ph.D, Johns Hopkins University)
Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies
Alexander James is faculty advisor to the Hegel Reading Group. In 2008, he received the Teacher Tribute Award from Stanford University. His areas of expertise include ethics, metaphysics, and the philosophy of mind. His dissertation (2015) focused on the dialectic of dissolution in the thought of Wittgenstein: it argues that dissolution does not mark the end of philosophical reflection, but, on the contrary, is a necessary step in the possibility of philosophy’s restoration of synthetic thought. His current research focuses on the relation between philosophy and democracy.

Jaime Kaplan (Psy.D, University of Hartford)
Department of Psychology
Jaime Kaplan received her doctorate degree from the University of Hartford in 2014 and has been an adjunct professor at Towson University for five years. She is a clinical psychologist who specializes in the treatment of eating disorders and has served as a mentor to graduate students conducting research in this area of psychology. She teaches clinically focused courses, such as Group Therapy and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, in the undergraduate Clinical Psychology Area of Focus program, as well as in the graduate programs. She was awarded the Distinguished Part-Time Faculty Award in 2018.
Paula Rangel (MA, Notre Dame of Maryland University)
Department of Women’s and Gender Studies
Paula Rangel brings to the classroom valuable experience in community-based organizations, including domestic violence shelters and rape crisis centers. She has served as the President of the Harford County Board of Directors for CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates who advocate for children in the foster care system). These experiences position her to communicate to students the connections between scholarship in Women’s and Gender Studies and grass roots activism around issues that affect women and other marginalized groups. For many years, she has taught multiple sections of two core curriculum courses in both online and in-persons formats. Her courses have regularly filled to capacity, indicating both the popularity of her courses and the student need for multiple options of course delivery.

FISHER COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

Promotion to Full Professor
David Hearn (Ph.D, University of Arizona)
Department of Biological Sciences
A biologist with expertise in the study of plants, David Hearn is fascinated by the connections between biological process and pattern. He and his students at TU have published over two dozen papers devoted to understanding the evolutionary and developmental origins of biological diversity. As director of the plant museum at TU, he and his teams of students are digitizing over 20,000 plant specimens with funding from the National Science Foundation. He continues to develop scientific software to educate and analyze biological systems, with a long-term goal of creating a software system for the automated characterization of biological specimens with artificial general intelligence interfaces. His classes in ecology, evolutionary biology, data analysis, and plant diversity challenge students to think critically about their perceptions of diversity at all scales of organization and about the roles of humans in the biosphere. On campus and in the community, he shares his passion for plants through the planning and installation of native plant gardens.
Ellen Hondrogiannis (Ph.D, University of Tennessee)
Department of Chemistry
Ellen Hondrogiannis served in the US Army and the Medical Services Corps before arriving at Towson. Dr. Hondrogiannis has engaged in teaching and research related to forensic chemistry, specifically the analysis of trace evidence and illicit drugs. During the review period Dr. Hondrogiannis published five peer-reviewed papers, two of which appeared in the prestigious Journal of Forensic Science. Dr. Hondrogiannis supervises an incredibly active research laboratory in which she mentored nine undergraduate research students and 47 graduate research students from the Forensic Science MS program. Dr. Hondrogiannis primarily taught five courses in the area of Forensic Chemistry, one of which she developed during the review period. In recognition of her teaching and mentoring activity, Dr. Hondrogiannis was recognized as a 2021 nominee for the USM Board of Regents Award for Teaching. Hondrogiannis is an active participant in the administrative work of the Department and University.

Joel Moore (Ph.D, Pennsylvania State University)
Department of Physics, Astronomy, and Geosciences
Before joining Towson University, Joel Moore completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Northwestern University. He has established an active research program in geochemistry with a focus on urban systems, collaborating with multiple faculty within Towson as well as outside collaborators. Since joining TU, he has supervised over 30 students in research, produced 17 publications, and collaborated on over 40 invited talks as well as over 80 presentations. He has been PI, co-PI or senior personnel for grants totaling over $6M, with over $2M coming directly to Towson University. In addition to serving on multiple department, college, and university level committees, he has contributed significantly toward the development and growth of the geoscience major. Finally, Dr. Moore served as the 2013-2016 Jess and Mildred Fisher Endowed Chair and has been recognized with the 2019-2020 Outstanding Faculty Award from the FCSM and with a USM Board of Regents award in 2021.
Christopher Salice  (Ph.D, University of Maryland Baltimore)
Department of Biological Sciences
Chris Salice is an ecotoxicologist focusing on the effects of anthropogenic chemicals on a wide array of aquatic and wildlife species. He is a recipient of the 2020 USM Board of Regent’s Award for Scholarship, Research and Creative Activity. His research has been supported by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the National Science Foundation, the United States Geological Survey, the Chesapeake Bay Trust, and the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program. He has published more than 20 papers since his last promotion and has mentored a number of outstanding undergraduate and graduate students. He is active in the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry serving as an assistant editor for the associated journal. He is Director of Environmental Science and Studies Program, teaches Conservation Biology and is the internship coordinator/instructor for Environmental Science and Studies, serves on the undergraduate research grants committee for Fisher College, and actively supports and collaborates with faculty and students whose research focuses on the environment.

Awarded Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor
Mary Devadas  (Ph.D, Western Michigan University)
Department of Chemistry
Before joining Towson University in 2015, Mary Devadas completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Notre Dame. She has engaged in research related to inorganic chemistry, specifically the synthesis and characterization of nanomaterials with diverse applications. During the review period she published nine peer-reviewed papers. She has an incredibly active research laboratory in which she mentored 37 undergraduates and 10 masters students coming from programs in Chemistry, Forensic Chemistry, Physics and Biology. She also mentored 23 high school students and a post-doctoral scholar. She mentored many of these students in presentations at professional conferences. She teaches courses in inorganic chemistry and nanomaterials. In recognition of her potential for scholarly productivity, she held the position of Jess and Mildred Fisher Endowed Professor in the Biological and Natural Sciences, from 2017 to 2020. In recognition of her efforts engaging undergraduates in research, she received the 2019 Braude Award from the Maryland Section of the American Chemical Society, which recognizes outstanding mentoring of undergraduate students.
PROMOTION, TENURE, AND PERMANENT STATUS
FALL 2021

Nathan McNew (Ph.D, Dartmouth College)
Department of Mathematics
Nathan McNew’s research interests are in number theory and combinatorics with an emphasis on studying the combinatorial structure of multiplication. Since joining Towson University, he has published 14 peer-reviewed papers in highly regarded mathematics journals and presented his research work at a variety of national and international conferences. He also worked as the PI or Co-PI on several grants including funding for a new regional conference in number theory. He has taught 10 different courses at TU, including a course in Cryptography which he has taught nearly every semester. He has also developed several new courses for the department, including an Experimental Mathematics course which involves math majors in undergraduate research. He spearheaded the creation of a new departmental honors program as well as a new math major without a concentration. He has advised a graduate student project for the Applied and Industrial Mathematics Graduate Program, and regularly advises teams which compete in undergraduate math competitions. Dr. McNew serves on various departmental committees and as the department’s catalog and curriculum coordinator.

Wendy Nelson (Ph.D, Pennsylvania State University)
Department of Physics, Astronomy, and Geosciences
Before TU, Wendy Nelson served as a research assistant professor and co-director of the Geoscience Learning Center at the University of Houston. She is a high-temperature geochemist and petrologist who works to understand volcanic rock formation. An advocate for student research, she has been the primary research advisor 16 undergraduate students with 7 completing a senior thesis projects. She has been awarded four external grants totaling $1.5M ($170K to TU) and has published 8 peer-reviewed articles in high quality journals. Additionally, she has submitted 27 abstracts for presentation, including 8 with student presenters. In addition to her scholarship, she has taught a variety of lower and upper level geology courses. She has been instrumental in multiple curricular changes and contributed significantly to the growth of the geoscience program. Finally, she has served on multiple department level committees as well as corresponding secretary and chair of the FCSM College Council. She is very active in service to her discipline, reviewing many proposals and manuscripts for top-level journals and serving on several NSF /NASA review panels. She received the FCSM Fisher Endowed Chair position for the years 2018 – 2021 as well as the 2019 FCSM award for Excellence in Scholarship.
Faith Weeks (Ph.D, Purdue University)
Department of Biological Sciences
Faith Weeks is an entomologist and science educator, specializing in evaluating best practices for utilizing live arthropods in the science curriculum. She is also the curator of the Living Arthropod Laboratory at TU, which has over 20 different species of insects, arachnids, and other invertebrates. In 2018, she, along with a team of other entomologists, received a grant from the National Science Foundation to study symbiotic relationships between ants and mealybugs. In addition to teaching biology classes for non-biology majors and education majors, she holds yearly workshops for local elementary and middle school science teachers to learn more about entomology and how to utilize arthropods in the classroom. In recognition of her service to the broader community, she received the 2018 Fisher College of Science & Mathematics Award for Business & Community Outreach.

Promotion to Clinical Associate Professor
Jinie Pak (Ph.D, University of Maryland, Baltimore County)
Department of Computer and Information Sciences
Jinie Pak joined Towson University in 2014 as a clinical assistant professor. Her research and teaching interests are in data/text analytics, social media mining, database management, cybersecurity, and health information technologies. She has published 14 peer-reviewed journals and conferences papers. In addition, as a co-principal investigator, she has received a grant of $64,929 from the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Service Systems (MIEMS) for developing a mobile application for emergency medical services and infectious disease notification. Jinie Pak has served TU freshmen as a First Year Experience (FYE) advisor. She has also served as the TU representative for QuHacks, a programming competition that serves over a hundred Maryland public school students.
Promotion to Adjunct III
Sheila Orshan (MS, Towson University)
Department of Mathematics
Sheila Orshan has taught in a part-time capacity for nearly thirty years. She spent most of that time working with students who need foundational content in order to be successful in more advanced algebra-intensive courses required of their majors. Her students, who are often entering her classes anxious or fearful of what lays ahead, are always comforted to find such a kind, encouraging, and organized teacher, eager to help them in any way she can.

Brian Ray (MS, Towson University)
Department of Mathematics
Our students have been incredibly lucky – and grateful – to have him teaching Math 211, Calculus for Applications. Comments about Brian from both student and peer evaluations are absolutely glowing, with common themes being his passion for the subject and teaching it, and his complete devotion to his students’ learning. Unsurprisingly, administrators in the department have noted his handling of sensitive situations with the utmost compassion and integrity.

Marty Rosman (MS, Johns Hopkins University)
Department of Mathematics
Marty Rosman is a retired electrical engineer who has taught for TU for over 20 years. He has taught a variety of courses for us over those years, but has concentrated his expertise with us in statistics. He is incredibly collegial and is the go-to for many of his colleagues when they have a question about some difficult mathematics content. Over the years, he has shown his dedication to the Department and to his teaching in many ways. He served as the Adjunct liaison to the Department, has observed other part-time faculty at the department’s request, and has assisted many faculty and students with Minitab, of which he has become a resident expert. The Department of Mathematics is grateful for his service.
Promotion to Adjunct II  
**Shaun Allan** (MS, Towson University)  
Department of Mathematics

Shaun Allen is extremely valuable to our department, ably teaching courses from low-level algebra through the Calculus sequence and beyond. He impressed our faculty many times over, first when he was in their classes during his master’s program, and then upon their observations of his teaching. Comments point to an incredibly knowledgeable and organized teacher who actively works to engage his students.

**Adam Behensky** (Ph.D, University of South Florida)  
Department of Biological Sciences

Adam Behensky (Dr. B, as his students call him) joined TU in the Spring of 2018 as part of TU’s Collaborative Teaching Fellowship Program in partnership with Johns Hopkins University. He taught non-majors biology for health professions majors as well as anatomy and physiology before creating the Collaborative Undergraduate Neuroscience Research Program, allowing TU undergraduates to earn research credit for working in a Hopkins lab. His research at Hopkins investigates the psychobiological circuitry that is disrupted during neurodegenerative diseases. Using this background, he created two graduate-level courses in Biology at TU that examine the mechanisms of neurodegenerative and psychobiological disorders (Neurobiology of Disease) and the drugs we use to treat them (Neuropharmacology). He has received multiple fellowships and grants from agencies, including the AHA, NIH, and DOD. Adam is well published and recently was inducted into Sigma Xi (The National Research Honor Society).

**Darrin Berkley** (Ph.D, Morgan State University)  
Department of Mathematics

Darrin Berkley has taught a variety of courses, such as College Algebra, Statistics, and Calculus for Applications. Pre-pandemic, he also taught a fully asynchronous section of Math 115 because of his knowledge of online instructional delivery. He has been extremely generous to us, sharing his knowledge and offering feedback to coordinators of several courses that has proved very helpful as they sought to improve their department-wide courses.
Matt Estelle (MA, Ohio State University)
Department of Mathematics
Matt Estelle's flexibility is an asset for our department, as he is able to teach just about any of our course offerings up through Calculus. He has helped in myriad ways, providing feedback to course coordinators and offering to help colleagues with technology (one of many strong suits). He goes above and beyond with students. For example, during the pandemic, he has been particularly mindful of students’ mental health and well-being. Toward that end, he sent postcards to students’ homes to acknowledge the achievement and progress they had made.

Albert Holt (M.Sc., The Johns Hopkins University)
Department of Computer and Information Sciences
Albert Holt has been developing and teaching graduate level courses in Cyber Forensics at Towson University since joining the Center for Applied Information Technology (CAIT) in 2001. Now in his 20th year at Towson, Albert successfully transformed his digital forensics classes (lectures and labs) from the classroom to a virtual environment, in adapting to the challenges presented by COVID-19. The premier feature of his digital forensics classes is the hands-on lab orientation. Albert serves as Faculty Advisor for the CAIT Capstone Case Studies in Digital Forensics, and in Information Assurance & Security. In this capacity, Albert also serves a Mentor, Coach, and Confidant.

Jerry L. Jones III (DOL Candidate, Hood College)
Department of Computer and Information Sciences
Jerry Jones joined the Computer Information Sciences Department in the Fall of 2014. He is the only professor that teaches Electronic Government at TU (CIS 436). He was awarded the Bronze Star during his Operation Enduring Freedom Combat Deployment (Afghanistan). Within his courses, he focuses on building a Community of Partners within the Information Technology Community of Practice.
Erica O’Leary (MS, Northwestern University)
Department of Mathematics
Erica O’Leary is our second longest-serving adjunct, having started teaching for TU’s Mathematics Department in 1998. She has taught for us almost every semester since. As a collaborator with the author team since 2002, she helped to make important updates and improvements to the textbook used for that course. She has graciously obliged when called upon to onboard new instructors to the course and assist with data collection for assessment. Besides being an excellent colleague, she is simply beloved by her students.

Janet Carrier Oren (Ph.D, Stephens Institute of Technology)
Department of Computer and Information Sciences
Janet Oren worked in cybersecurity at the National Security Agency. She has been an adjunct at TU since 2002, teaching introductory and advanced courses in security. Oren’s current advising role has her providing essential security assistance to non-profits and commercial companies in the health care, energy, and financial sectors. Oren particularly enjoys mentoring students considering cybersecurity as a career and helping her peers expand their skills.