We are please to introduce our class of 2014-2015 new tenured/tenure track faculty who have joined Oregon State University.

These faculty members come to OSU with impressive résumés and research experience.

We know they will help OSU advance our mission and achieve our strategic goals. Please join me in welcoming them to our OSU community.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Warner
Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
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Jeremiah Dung joined the Department of Botany and Plant Pathology as an Assistant Professor in December 2013 and is based at Oregon State’s Central Oregon Agricultural Research Center (COARC) in Madras. Jeremiah earned a Master of Science Degree in 2009 and his Ph.D. in 2012 in plant pathology from Washington State University. Before arriving at COARC, Jeremiah was a post-doctoral scholar at OSU’s Hermiston Agricultural Research and Extension Center, where he investigated the epidemiology and control of ergot in grass seed production systems. At COARC, Jeremiah uses traditional, molecular and GIS approaches to study the epidemiology of plant diseases affecting vegetable seed and other high-value Central Oregon crops, with the ultimate goal of providing improved and sustainable plant disease management. His current research focuses on pathogen etiology, detection and control; the population biology of plant pathogens; spatial and temporal dynamics of plant disease, and the identification of environmental factors that contribute to plant disease epidemics. He also provides Extension Service and diagnostic support to local growers and stakeholders.

Clare Sullivan is an OSU Extension Service Cropping Systems agronomist based in Albany with responsibility for Linn, Benton and southern Polk counties. Her academic home is within the Department of Crop and Soil Science. Clare joined Oregon State in June 2014 and will work with field crop growers in the southern Willamette Valley to address weed, pest, disease, marketing and other issues related to the grass seed cropping systems dominant in the area. Clare earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Global Agricultural Resource System from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, and a Master of Science degree in Soil Science from the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon. She brings a strong background in field-based research to her position, as well as training in integrated pest management, agroecology and work in reduced tillage organic cropping systems. Clare is fluent in Spanish and plans to be part of a team bringing Spanish-language training tools to agricultural audiences.

Dr. Susan Tilton is an Assistant Professor in Computational Toxicology. She is broadly trained and experienced in the general fields of computational and molecular toxicology. She has past experience in applying statistical and computational approaches to high through-put genomics, proteomics and metabolomics data to integrate complex data and identify critical pathways of chemical toxicity after exposure. She has utilized biological pathway analysis, functional enrichment, network modeling and predictive modeling approaches to identify signatures or biomarkers associated with chemical exposure and disease. Susan’s initial research program at OSU will focus on two major areas. The first area of emphasis will be on pathway-based analysis of chemical mixtures to predict long-term effects on chemical carcinogenesis based on short-term markers that are amenable to high through-put screening approaches. This will entail a mechanism-based approach with classification, prediction and integration of temporal-based transcriptomic and proteomic data to model carcinogenic potential compared to traditional measurements (adducts, RPFs, etc.). The second major area of investigation will be to study the impact of obesity on environmentally-induced lung cancer. Susan will investigate how variation in nutritional status and obesity function as significant contributors to morbidity and mortality in a number of diseases, including insulin resistance, diabetes, fatty liver disease, airway disease, atherosclerosis, cardiovascular disease and increased susceptibility to infection. Since obesity contributes well documented effects on inflammation, its role in lung disease and lung cancer will be a focus of study. Susan will also seek new collaborators and projects at OSU, especially in the areas of computational biology and risk analysis.
Taal Levi is a new Assistant Professor in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife. He applies quantitative methods to address basic and applied problems in wildlife ecology and conservation. This includes exploring the community ecology of infectious disease; how to manage subsistence hunting in the Neotropics, the ecology of brown bears and other carnivores; using environmental DNA for fish and wildlife management; and other related topics. Taal previously worked with Robert Holt of the University of Florida and Rick Ostfeld of the Cary Institute for Ecosystem Studies as a NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Mathematics and Biology. He was a NSF Graduate Research Fellow at the University of California at Santa Cruz where he worked with Marc Mangel and Chris Wilmers. Taal enjoys the wilderness, bicycles, his dog, and his family.

Vinay Pagay joined the Department of Horticulture at the Southern Oregon Research and Extension Center as an Assistant Professor in 2014. His research focuses on improving the productive capacity and water use efficiency of vineyards, understanding the hydraulic and physiological basis of plant water use, source–sink carbon relations of fruit crops, and development of novel sensing techniques for precision irrigation applications. His OSU Extension efforts include working with grape growers in Southern Oregon to identify suitable vineyard sites, cultivars and rootstocks, appropriate vineyard canopy and nutrition management practices, crop load optimization to improve grape and wine quality in Oregon.

Bryan Endress joined the Eastern Oregon Agriculture and Natural Resource program as an Assistant Professor in August 2014, and teaches and conducts research on the Eastern Oregon University campus in La Grande. His research focuses on plant population and community ecology and management, with an emphasis on plant–ungulate interactions, restoration ecology, and the management of culturally and economically important species. Bryan holds a Ph.D. in Botany from Miami University, and MS in Forestry from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and a BA in Biology from Luther College. Following his Ph.D., he served as a post-doctoral Research Associate in the Department of Forest Ecosystems and Society at Oregon State University for six years, and later as the Director of Applied Plant Ecology for San Diego Zoo Global’s Institute for Conservation Research.

Sergio Arispe joined the Department of Animal and Rangeland Sciences as an Assistant Professor in February 2014. He serves as the Livestock and Rangeland Field faculty member in Malheur County. Dr. Arispe completed his Ph.D. in animal biology at the University of California, Davis in 2012, where his work focused on the interplay between nutrition and reproduction. Dr. Arispe’s extension and outreach efforts in Malheur County serve cow-calf producers, dairy producers and feedlot operators. His current research programs include alternative feedstuffs; impacts of grazing on natural resources and grazing post-fire. Dr. Arispe’s goal is to have his research and extension programs produce science-based information allowing livestock producers, feedlot operators, and policymakers to make the best decisions possible.

Ari Friedlaender is an Associate Professor with the Marine Mammal Institute. He is an ecologist with a primary interest in the understanding the relationship between the foraging behavior of marine mammals and their prey. Ari works on a wide range of marine mammal species including baleen and toothed whales and dolphins across a range of geographic regions. Ari has long-term ecological research projects ongoing in Alaska, California, Massachusetts, North Carolina and Antarctica. Ari has helped in the development of tag technology and analytical and visualization tools to better understand the underwater movements and behaviors of marine mammals. For his dissertation research, Ari used geospatial tools to quantify how the distribution of cetaceans related to environmental variables in Antarctica. At the MMI, Ari’s lab will focus on developing new telemetry applications to elucidate the underwater behavior of marine mammals.
Leigh Torres is an Assistant Professor with the Marine Mammal Institute. She is a marine ecologist interested in understanding how marine animals, including marine mammals, seabirds and sharks use their environment in the context of behavior, space and time. Leigh’s research explores how marine predators find prey within highly patchy and variable marine ecosystems. Much of this work is directed toward improving conservation management of protected or threatened species. Leigh’s work spans multiple spatial and temporal scales and occurs in many ecosystems including estuaries of Florida, near and offshore waters of the U.S. and Latin America, pelagic regions of the Southern Ocean, and sub-Antarctic islands and coastal waters of New Zealand.

**College of Business**

Chad Murphy, Ph.D. is an Assistant Professor of Management who teaches BA352 -- Managing Individual and Team Performance. Murphy’s research interests center on identity, image and leadership with a particular interest in how language and rhetoric can support or impede individual and/or organizational objectives. Murphy is especially interested in how these issues play out in the context of new (or otherwise illegitimate) occupations and highly professionalized industries, such as health care.

Andrea Anthony joined Oregon State University in September 2014 as an Assistant Professor of Finance after completing her Ph.D. in June 2014 from the University of Oregon in Eugene, Ore. She earned her Master of Science degree in Finance from the University of Oregon and her BBA from Gonzaga University in Spokane, Wash. Prior to pursuing her Ph.D., Andrea spent almost five years in several corporate finance roles with Boeing in Seattle and Chicago. Andrea’s research is focused on empirical corporate finance and is concentrated on equity issuance and corporate governance.

Xiaohui Chang is an assistant professor of Quantitative Methods in the College of Business. Dr. Chang received a B.A. (Honors) in statistics and B.A. in economics from the University of Chicago in 2006, and a Ph.D. in Statistics at the University of Chicago in 2012. Prior to OSU, she spent two years as a Post-doctoral Associate in the Department of Management Science at the University of Miami. Her research interests include statistical modeling of data with correlation structure, such as spatial data, space-time data and longitudinal data, and applications of wavelets to meteorological data and financial data.
Sam Cho joined the Strategy and Entrepreneurship group in the College of Business in September 2014. He received a Ph.D. from the Washington State University, an MBA from the Simon School of Business at University of Rochester, a M.A. in economics from the Hitotsubashi University in Tokyo, and a B.A. in economics from the Sogang University in Seoul. He also worked as an equity analyst and strategy planner in Tokyo and Seoul for five years. His research focuses on chief executive officers, board of directors and mergers and acquisitions. He teaches strategy to undergraduate students.

Violetta Gerasymenko is an Assistant Professor of Entrepreneurship in the College of Business. She is also on the Board of Advisors of the OSU Advantage Accelerator. She earned her Ph.D. from HEC Paris and holds several other degrees: an MA (with honors) and BA (with honors) in Finance and Banking from Dniepropetrovsk State University (Ukraine), an MA in International Management from EUROMED, Marseille School of Management and an MA in Economics from University Sorbonne-Pantheon, Paris.

Before joining the OSU faculty, Violetta held visiting scholar positions at MIT Sloan, New York University and National University of Singapore and an Assistant Professor position at Nova SBE in Portugal. Her research focuses on understanding the boundaries of organizational learning in cognitive forecasting under high uncertainty, the behavioral antecedents and consequences of dynamics of organizational attention, and business model change processes and implications for entrepreneurial ventures. Violetta’s research work has been published in the Journal of Business Venturing, Strategic Entrepreneurship Journal, Frontiers of Entrepreneurship Research, Academy of Management Best Paper Proceedings and other international journals and book chapters in both English and French. She teaches Entrepreneurship within the OSU College of Business. Prior to joining academia, Violetta worked as an analyst in one of the major venture capital firms in Paris, France. She is regularly invited to be part of start-up competition juries and is a passionate coach of entrepreneurial ventures.

Amol M. Joshi, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of Strategy and Entrepreneurship. Amol’s research investigates how inventors create and commercialize new products and technologies. Amol was an instructor and Graduate Research Fellow at the Center for Entrepreneurial Studies at the University of North Carolina’s (UNC) Kenan-Flagler Business School in Chapel Hill, NC. Amol earned a Ph.D. in Business Administration from UNC. He is a graduate of Dartmouth College’s dual-degree program in Engineering Management, where he received an MBA from the Tuck School of Business and an M.S. in Engineering Sciences (Computer Architecture) from the Thayer School of Engineering. Amol completed his undergraduate education at Georgia Tech, where he was a President’s Scholar and graduated with a Bachelor’s in Electrical Engineering (with highest honor). Amol developed his expertise in global innovation management over a 13-year career as an engineer, entrepreneur, and executive in venture capital-funded startups and high-growth public companies in the telecommunications industry. He is the co-inventor of four audio communications products. Amol co-founded BeVocal, a speech recognition software startup (acquired by Nuance Communications) and served as the company’s VP of Sales & Marketing from 1999–2003. In 2004, Amol was named one of Silicon Valley’s “Top 40 Business Leaders Under 40” by the San Jose Business Journal. He is fluent in Japanese and has managed R&D alliances with high-tech firms in Japan, India, Israel, Singapore, and the U.S. During 2009–2010, Amol trained over 50 teams of scientists in Austria and Denmark on the best practices for spinning-off and launching new ventures from university and government research labs.
Jiexun Li joined the College of Business as an Assistant Professor of Business Information Systems in September 2014. Prior to coming to OSU, Li was an Assistant Professor at Drexel University and a Visiting Assistant Professor at Fordham University. Li earned his Ph.D. in Management Information Systems from the University of Arizona. Li’s research interests include data mining, business analytics, social media analytics, and health informatics. His research has been published in top-tier IS journals including Journal of Management Information Systems, Decision Support Systems, IEEE Transactions, Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology, Journal of the Association for Information Systems, Bioinformatics, Communications of the ACM, Expert Systems with Applications, and Information Systems Frontiers.

Robert Kennedy, an assistant professor in geosciences, focuses on novel conceptual and analytical approaches to directly observe landscape change processes using satellite-based imagery. He comes from Boston University and earned his Ph.D. in 2004 from Oregon State University.

Mitch Lyle joins the college as a professor (senior research) in geology and geophysics. His research interests include Cenozoic paleoceanography, the North American water cycle, and Pleistocene dynamics of the California Current System. He earned his PhD in oceanography from Oregon State.

David Noone joins Oregon State as an associate professor in physics of oceans and atmospheres. Making use of information from water isotopes and other trace gases, he seeks to expose the interplay between components of the climate system and water. Noone earned his Ph.D. from the University of Melbourne in 2001.

Alyssa Shiel joins Oregon State as an assistant professor in geology and geophysics. Her research seeks to identify the source and fate of metals in the environment, improve our understanding of natural metal cycling and to evaluate the impact of anthropogenic activities on natural systems. She earned her Ph.D. in 2010 from the University of British Columbia.
Brian Fronk is an Assistant Professor in Thermal–Fluid Sciences. Fronk completed his Ph.D. (2014) and M.S. (2007) in mechanical engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology. His research in the areas of micro-scale heat and mass transfer, two-phase flow, natural refrigerants, advanced thermal energy systems, and sustainable energy portfolios has resulted in over 20 archival journal and conference publications. While at Georgia Tech, Dr. Fronk was the recipient of the IJR Very Highly Commended Paper award (2010–2011), the ASHRAE Graduate Student Grant–in Aid award (2011–2012), and the ASME Graduate Teaching Fellowship (2011–2013). Dr. Fronk has held prior positions at Carrier Corp., where he worked in the areas of CO2 compression and transport refrigeration, and as an instructor of energy system design and analysis at Georgia Tech in Atlanta and thermodynamics at the Georgia Tech international campus in Metz, France.

Cindy Grimm is an Associate Professor in Robotics. Grimm works in the area of surface modeling and visualization, with an emphasis on biomedical applications. Her current projects include: modeling the developing heart, understanding how the shape of bat ears influences their sonar patterns, 3-D sketching, and interfaces for 3-D medical image segmentation. Dr. Grimm received her Ph.D. from Brown University in 1995 in the area of surface modeling, spent two years working at Microsoft Research on facial animation, then ten years as faculty at Washington University in St. Louis. She is now in the Mechanical Engineering department at Oregon State University. Dr. Grimm’s research has a strong record of funding and publication. This includes significant funding from NSF and NIH; 26 invited research presentations; 25 journal publications; and 42 conference publications.

Yiğit Mengüç is an Assistant Professor in Advanced Manufacturing. Dr. Yiğit Mengüç works at the interface of mechanical science and robotics, creating soft devices inspired by nature and applied to robotics. He received his B.S., 2006, in Mechanical Engineering at Rice University in Houston and his M.S., 2008, and Ph.D., 2011, in Mechanical Engineering at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. During his doctoral work at Carnegie Mellon he developed micro-scale robotic manipulators exploiting controllable adhesion and a self-cleaning adhesive that equaled the gecko’s toe in stickiness. Prior to joining the School of MIME, Dr. Mengüç worked as a post-doctoral research fellow at Harvard’s School of Engineering and Applied Sciences and the Wyss Institute for Biologically Inspired Engineering, where he lead the development of hyper-elastic sensors for wearable motion tracking and soft robotics.

Erdem Coleri joins the OSU School of Civil and Construction Engineering as an assistant professor of infrastructure materials. He received his Ph.D. degree from the University of California, Davis (2011) with specialization in pavement materials and structures. Dr. Coleri joined OSU after working as a Project Scientist at the University of California Pavement Research Center for two years. He has also worked as a Technical Consultant for Sensys Networks, Inc., which is a leading provider of wireless traffic detection and integrated traffic data systems. His research interests are in the areas of sustainable pavement materials and structures, energy efficient pavement design strategies, and infrastructure health monitoring using wireless sensor networks.

Pedro Lomónaco joins the OSU School of Civil and Construction Engineering as the director of the O.H. Hinsdale Wave Research Laboratory. Prior to joining OSU, he served as the head of the Hydraulics, Coast and Ocean Laboratory at the Environmental Hydraulics Institute, University of Cantabria (Santander, Spain). A co–author of over 60 publications, his research interests include the physical and numerical modeling of wave generation and propagation, wave–structure interaction, the stability of coastal and submarine structures, the behavior of floating structures, hydrodynamics, and the non–linear behavior of shallow water waves. Lomónaco earned his Ph.D. in civil engineering with an emphasis in coastal and maritime engineering from the University of Cantabria in 1999.
Rakesh Bobba is an Assistant Professor in Electrical & Computer Engineering. Dr. Bobba received a Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of Maryland 2009. Bobba specializes in security for distributed and networked systems. His research interests include access control models and mechanisms, key management, cryptographic protocols, and applied cryptography among others. His current research focus is on the security for critical cyber-physical infrastructures such as smart grids, cloud computing infrastructures and real-time systems. Prior to joining Oregon State, he worked at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign as a research scientist at the Information Trust Institute from 2010 to 2011, and as a Research Assistant Professor in the College of Engineering from 2012 to 2014 with appointments in ITI and ECE departments. His research is funded by NSF, DOE, ONR and AFOSR/AFRL.

Matthew Johnston is an Assistant Professor in Electrical & Computer Engineering. He received his Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from Columbia University in May 2012. Johnston combines sensors, circuits and systems to develop integrated technology platforms for chemical and biological applications. Before joining Oregon State, he was a graduate student and postdoc at Columbia University in the Bioelectronic Systems Lab. Matt was previously a co-founder of Helixis, a Caltech-based startup company that was acquired by Illumina in 2010. He has since worked with a few other small technology companies on electronic instrumentation for the life sciences. Matt’s current research interests include biosensor and bioelectronic platforms, massively-parallel sensing, and lab-on-chip technologies for medical monitoring and point-of-care diagnostics.

Attila Altay Yavuz is an Assistant Professor in the School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. He is interested in design, analysis and application of cryptographic tools and protocols to enhance the security of computer networks and systems. His current research focuses on the following topics: privacy enhancing technologies (e.g., dynamic symmetric and public key based searchable encryption), security in cloud computing, authentication and integrity mechanisms for resource-constrained devices and large-distributed systems, efficient cryptographic protocols for wireless sensor networks. Between December 2011 and July 2014, he was a member of the security and privacy research group at the Robert Bosch Research and Technology Center North America. He is also an adjunct faculty at the University of Pittsburgh’s School of Information Sciences since January 2013.

Jinsub Kim is an Assistant Professor in Electrical & Computer Engineering. He received his Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer Engineering from Cornell University. His graduate study was partially supported by Samsung Scholarship. From Fall 2013 to Summer 2014, Jinsub Kim was a postdoctoral associate at the School of ECE at Cornell University. He joined the School of EECS in Oregon State University in August 2014. His research interest spans statistical signal processing, statistical learning, optimization methods, and their applications (e.g., to network security and smart energy systems). During his Ph.D., he studied anomaly detection problems for network intrusion detection, and, more recently, he studied signal processing perspectives for securing cyber physical systems from adversaries. His recent interests include robust power system state estimation, distributed state estimation, and optimization methods for renewable energy integration.

Christopher Parrish is an associate professor of geomatics in the School of Civil and Construction Engineering at Oregon State University. Chris holds a Ph.D. in Civil and Environmental Engineering with an emphasis in geospatial information engineering from the University of Wisconsin–Madison and an M.S. in Civil and Coastal Engineering with an emphasis in geomatics from the University of Florida. Chris’ research focuses on full-waveform LiDAR, topographic–bathymetric LiDAR, hyperspectral imagery, uncertainty modeling, and UAVs for coastal applications. Chris is the Director of the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS) LiDAR Division and associate editor of the journal Marine Geodesy. Prior to joining OSU, Chris served as lead physical scientist in the Remote Sensing Division of NOAA’s National Geodetic Survey and affiliate professor in the Center for Coastal and Ocean Mapping – Joint Hydrographic Center at University of New Hampshire.
Kevin Bladon joined the Department of Forest Engineering, Resources, and Management in September 2014 as an Assistant Professor of Forest Hydrology and Watershed Science (http://fews.forestry.oregonstate.edu/). His primary research interests in the past have focused on the effects of wildfire and post-fire salvage logging on surface hydrology (water yields, peak flows, timing of flows) and water quality (physical, chemical, and biological) in forested headwater catchments. On-going and planned research will focus in the future on the comparative impacts from unmanaged landscapes (undisturbed and wildfire impacted) and those produced by several alternative forest management practices on hydrology (snowpack dynamics, evapotranspiration, volume/timing of flows), water quality (sediment, turbidity, nutrients, organics, temperature), and stream health (algae, invertebrates, fish). Dr. Bladon’s research often involves trans-disciplinary research teams – including hydrologists, ecologists, soil scientists, wildfire scientists, drinking water treatment engineers, natural resource economists, and others – to integrate highly diverse issues related to sustainable, integrated source water management strategies and the safeguarding of river health and water supplies.

Woodam (Woody) Chung is an Associate Professor and Steward Professor of Forest Operations in the Department of Forest Engineering, Resources and Management. As a native of South Korea, he received his BS and MS in Forestry from Seoul National University. After spending two years in Indonesia working in forestry and agriculture as an international volunteer, he came to Oregon State University for his PhD in Forest Engineering. And after serving 12 years as a faculty member at University of Montana, Dr. Chung returned to OSU this year. He will continue to teach and conduct research on improving forest operations and management systems to better address environmental, economic and social needs. He has also been appointed as the next Forest Operations Engineering and Management Division leader of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) -- the largest international association in forestry.

Tamara Cushing is the Starker Chair of Private and Family Forestry and Assistant Professor in the Department of Forest Engineering, Resources and Management. She has responsibilities in Extension, research and teaching in the department and her research revolves around financial decision-making and tax impacts on private forest landowners. Tammy’s Extension programs will revolve around educating forest landowners and professionals about the business side of forestry including economics, policy and management. She holds a PhD in Forest Finance from the University of Georgia, an MS in Forest Economics and a Master of Taxation from Mississippi State University, and an undergraduate degree in forestry from the University of Florida. Prior to coming to Oregon State, she was a faculty member at Clemson University and the University of Kentucky.

Dr. Troy Hall joined the College of Forestry this summer as Forest Ecosystems and Society’s new Department Head. She is an internationally known conservation social scientist and holds degrees in Anthropology, Cultural Anthropology and Forest Resources. She has taught a diverse set of courses that include communication theory, data analysis and interpretation, cross disciplinary research, wilderness management and many more. She has supervised over 30 graduate students and published over 50 refereed journal articles on a wide variety of topics related to conservation and social science. She has served as Department Head of the Department of Conservation Social Sciences at University of Idaho as well as the Director of Graduate Studies for the College of Natural Resources. She is a member of U.S. Forest Service National Wilderness Teams and has a very strong record of research, education and service related to wilderness issues, much of this work occurring in Oregon. She also has experience and demonstrated skills in curriculum design and strategic planning that will be very valuable to us as we move our college into the future. Troy has a strong commitment to enhancing collaborative approaches to bringing scientists and stakeholders together to improve resource management. She will be bringing her vision and leadership skills to the college leadership team and the Forest Ecosystems and Society Department.
Dr. Catalina Segura is a native of Bogotá, Colombia, where she received her BS in Forestry Engineering. She later worked in the private sector in environmental consulting for three years. She completed her MSE in Environmental Engineering at the University of Washington and her Ph.D. in Physical Geography at the University of Colorado. Dr. Segura was a Post-doctoral Fellow at North Carolina State University first for the Forestry Department and then for the Marine, Earth, and Atmospheric Sciences Department. She joined the Department of Forest Engineering, Resources, and Management at OSU in December 2013 as an Assistant Professor. Her research interests lie at the confluence of fluvial geomorphic, hydrologic and ecological processes. Recent and current investigations include: (1) Climate change impacts on soil erosion and water temperature at the continental scale; (2) modeling of rainfall-runoff response incorporating hydrometric and isotopic data at the event scale in forested ecosystems; (3) hydrologic modeling of daily flows; (4) interactions between sediment transport and algal production; and (5) study of the relationship between the riparian area and channel morphology under different degrees of urbanization.

Nicole Strong, Assistant Professor of Practice, became the Forestry and Natural Resources Extension educator for Deschutes, Crook and Jefferson counties and the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs in 2014. Prior to this position, Nicole served the Oregon State University Extension Service and College of Forestry for 10 years as statewide Master Woodland Manager Coordinator, national Women Owning Woodlands Network Coordinator, and provided leadership in the development of new educational programs that met emerging needs. Nicole’s outreach, research and teaching focuses on building community capacity and empowering woodland owners, farmers and ranchers by helping them develop relevant knowledge and skills so that they may make informed decisions regarding the stewardship of their lands. She also has a keen interest in helping find synergies between forest management and wildlife habitat enhancement. Nicole also spends time creating professional development opportunities for natural resource professionals, teaching collaborative public process, facilitation and conflict management skills as part of the CISPUS Institute, and has worked with Mexico’s national forest service agency to help them develop an Extension program. Prior to coming to Oregon, Nicole served as Extension Program Coordinator for the Center for Subtropical Agroforestry in Gainesville, FL. Nicole has an M.S. in Forest Resources from Pennsylvania State University, a B.S. in Wildlife Sciences from Purdue University, and served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Guatemala from 1999–2001.

Christina León, Assistant Professor of English, received her Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from Emory University (2014), where she received the Dean’s Teaching Fellowship to complete her dissertation, “Reading for Opacity in Queer Latinidad.” Her teaching and research specializations include U.S. multi-ethnic literature, Latino/a studies, literature of the Americas, Caribbean literature, performance studies, and feminist and queer theory. She will be teaching in courses in our broadened American literature curriculum, including advanced courses in Latino/a literatures and cultures. Her essay on the work of Tania Bruguera will appear in Sargasso: A Journal of Caribbean Language, Literature, and Culture, and her translations of contemporary Cuban poets are forthcoming in The Havana Reader. She also brings interest and experience in global learning and study abroad programs.
Megan Ward, Assistant Professor of English, received her Ph.D. from Rutgers University. Her areas of research and teaching specialization include Victorian literature and culture, digital humanities, the history of the novel, children’s literature, the history of information technology and media, and artificial intelligence. She is co–principal investigator on two National Endowment for the Humanities grants, one focusing on the David Livingstone Online Enrichment and Access Project, and another on Scholarly Editions and Translations of Livingstone’s writing. Her areas of research and teaching specialization include Victorian literature and culture, digital humanities, the history of the novel, children’s literature, the history of information technology and media, and artificial intelligence. Among her publications are essays on Victorian realism in Dickens, Hardy, and Trollope, in Studies in English Literature, 1500–1900, and Victorian Periodicals Review. Her book manuscript in progress considers the relationship between Victorian realistic character and models of artificial intelligence.


Dr. Barbara Muraca (Ph.D. University of Greifswald) specializes in Ecology, Sustainability Theory; Degrowth-research; Process Philosophy, Feminist Philosophy. She has authored several articles on related topics including: “Towards a fair degrowth-society: Justice and the right to a ‘good life’ beyond growth” in: Futures (2012); “The Map of Moral Significance: a new matrix for environmental ethics,” in: Environmental Values 20 (2011); and “Strong sustainability as a frame for sustainability communication” (zusammen mit Konrad Ott und Christian Baatz). In: Godemann, J., Michelsen, G. (Hg.): Sustainability Communication: Interdisciplinary Perspectives and Theoretical Foundations. Springer 2010. Muraca taught at Friedrich–Schiller–Universität Jena (Germany) before joining the OSU faculty.

Rena Lauer (Ph.D. Harvard, 2014) studies minority life on the borders of medieval Christendom and cross-cultural contacts in the late medieval Mediterranean. Her current book project is a social history of the Jews of Venetian Crete in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, particularly through the lens of intra–Jewish litigation in the Venetian secular courtroom. A related piece has been published in the Mediterranean Historical Review, and a number of related articles are forthcoming this year. Rena’s research has received a number of awards, including honors from the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture and the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation, and she has been invited to present her work both in the United States and internationally. A passionate and dedicated teacher, Rena taught both at Harvard and at Miami University (Ohio) before joining the OSU faculty. At OSU, she teaches courses in medieval and early modern history, including surveys, a seminar on the Crusades, and medieval world history.
Robert Melchior Figueroa, (Ph.D. University of Colorado at Boulder, 1999) is an Associate Professor in the School of History, Philosophy, and Religion. Robert received his BA in philosophy at Rutgers University; his MA in Philosophy, MS in Environmental Policy, and Ph.D. in philosophy at the University of Colorado. Robert comes to OSU after seven years at the University of North Texas and prior to that, eight years at Colgate University. Largely the result of an upbringing that juxtaposed the maritime culture with industrial urban poverty, he committed his philosophical acumen to practical scholarship; in particular, Environmental Justice Studies. In his discipline of philosophy, he introduced the first college course in Environmental Justice and promoted environmental justice pedagogy. In early publications, he added new dimensions from Latin@ perspectives when the environmental justice movement was focusing its main critiques of environmental racism on African American communities and debating whether economics determined the underrepresentation in environmental decision-making and the inequitable distribution of environmental burdens. He has played a definitive role in expanding the conceptions of justice regarding identity, heritage, cultural perception and status, as well as alternative strategies to remedy environmental injustices at multiple scales. He has also worked on diversity in the study of science and technology in society co-editing with Sandra Harding -- "Science and Other Cultures: Issues in the Philosophies of Science and Technology," which was one of the major products of his primary investigation over an NSF grant to the American Philosophical Association. A large part of his current transdisciplinary research continues to be with Latin@ communities in the U.S.; in addition to, indigenous populations addressing joint-management of National Parks and environmental heritage, as well as refugee populations in terms of environmental and climate refugees, conditions in refugee camps, and relocated communities. Presently, he is completing a manuscript with Routledge -- "Environmental Justice as Environmental Ethics: A New Introduction;" an edited text on the Philosophy of Self; and his book "Extending Environmental Justice: From Equity to Identity and Beyond," which brings his multiple conceptions of justice to the scale of interspecies justice. Part of the interspecies justice research is drawing upon environmental identity relationships between autism spectrum disorder and animal therapy regarding empathetic relationships. During his initial year, his office will be in Gilkey Hall with the Center for Latin@ Studies and Engagement as an active affiliate and resident scholar.

Dr. Joshua Weller received his Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of Iowa in 2007. Prior to coming to Oregon State, he has worked as a Research Scientist at Decision Research (Eugene, OR) and as an Assistant Professor at Idaho State University. His research broadly focuses on how affective and cognitive processes contribute to risk perceptions and advantageous decision-making in the face of uncertain outcomes. He is currently investigating these issues within a lifespan-developmental context in order to better understand how decision-making tendencies change from childhood to older age. His lab also studies how exposure to both chronic and acute stressors may impact decision processes. Additionally, Dr. Weller examines how individual differences in rational decision-making are associated with physical, psychological and social well-being across the lifespan.

Crystal Boson, (Ph.D., The University of Kansas, 2014) joins the faculty as an Assistant Professor of Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies. Her research focuses on Black Queer Studies, Performance Theory, African American and Afro-Diasporic Faith Systems, and Popular Culture. Her most recent academic project examined the ways that the faith of Hoodoo is consumed in popular culture. She is also a poet whose work focuses on the intersections of race, gender, sexuality, and landscape.
Dr. Keith Baker joins the School of Public Policy from Northumbria University Newcastle (United Kingdom). Dr. Baker has a Ph.D. in Local Government from the University of Birmingham (UK) and has held positions at the University of Manchester and the University of Southampton, where he was part of a three-year project examining the governance of nuclear power. His current research interests include public-private partnerships, public management, comparative politics, and energy policy. Dr. Baker will be teaching policy theory for both master’s and Ph.D. students, as well as courses in energy policy and public management. He is looking forward to working with OSU students, who are interested in energy policy, public-private partnering, and accountability in the public sector.

Dr. Allison Hurst joins the School of Public Policy from Furman College in South Carolina where she taught sociology for the past several years. Dr. Hurst’s research interests and passion include understanding what makes society work and how social divisions and inequalities keep occurring. She received a law degree from Pepperdine University but decided that the law was not her pathway to “saving the world” so she switched to sociology, earning her Ph.D. from the University of Oregon in 2006. Dr. Hurst organized and now leads the Association of Working-Class Academics, a group that strives to implement programs and reforms designed to assure greater class equity within higher education. In addition to teaching sociological theory, she will be working with graduate students interested in education policy.

Dr. Michael Jones joins the School of Public Policy from Virginia Tech, where he was an Assistant Professor in the Center for Public Administration and Policy. He is also a research fellow at the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics in Policy at Harvard University. Dr. Jones received his Ph.D. in Political Science in 2010 from the University of Oklahoma, and holds an MS and BA in Political Science, both granted by Idaho State University. His research focuses on the role and influence of narrative in public policy processes, outcomes, and science communication. Dr. Jones will be teaching public policy theory for Master’s and Ph.D. students as well as political science courses for undergraduates.

Dr. Jenny Lin joins the School of Public Policy from the University of Michigan with a Ph.D. in Economics. Her research field is international economics and has focused on the effects of intellectual property rights on the export behavior of firms. During her graduate program she was a visiting scholar at the London School of Economics, the University of Oxford, and Universität Tübingen in Germany, as well as an intern at the International Monetary Fund. Dr. Lin will be teaching international trade in the Economics program and working with graduate students interested in international development as well as social policy.

Dr. Paul Thompson joins the School of Public Policy from Michigan State University with a Ph.D. in Economics. His research field is public economics and he has focused his work on state policies that target fiscally troubled school districts and local governments. As a graduate student, Dr. Thompson completed an internship with the Michigan State Department of Education, where he did analysis of state financing for K-12 education. Dr. Thompson will be teaching public economics and related classes for both undergraduates and Public Policy graduate students.
Kerry Skarbaka is an Assistant Professor of Photography in Art within the School of Arts and Communication in the College of Liberal Arts. Previously, Kerry taught photography at Prescott College in Arizona, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, Youngstown State University in Ohio, and Columbia College in Chicago, IL. His research focuses on conceptual photography. Skarbaka has an international exhibition record, and he is represented by Kopeikin Gallery in Los Angeles, the Contemporary Wing in Washington DC, and Fifty-One Fine Art Photography in Antwerp, Belgium. He is the recipient of numerous grants, honors, artist residencies, and awards, including a prestigious Creative Capital Foundation award.

Dr. Korey Jackson was appointed the new Gray Family Chair for Innovative Library Services at Oregon State University Libraries and Press in December 2013. Established with a $2 million endowment, the Gray Family Chair for Innovative Library Services identifies innovative means for accessing and improving the delivery of information to OSU students, faculty, and staff — with the goal of moving OSU Libraries and Press to the forefront as an information provider. Dr. Jackson is the third holder of this prestigious position. His main objective will be to establish a forward-thinking, strategic, and robust digital publishing architecture for OSU Libraries and Press. Before coming to OSU, Dr. Jackson was an American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) Public Fellow at Anvil Academic, a digital humanities publisher sponsored by the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) and the National Institute for Technology in Liberal Education (NITLE). He also held a CLIR Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Michigan’s Michigan Publishing, where he developed campus-wide outreach efforts around open access publishing and digital humanities training and discussion.

Steve Van Tuyl joined the OSU Libraries and Press this summer as the Data and Digital Repository Librarian. He previously worked at Carnegie Mellon University, where he helped initiate CMU’s research data management services program as the Data Services Librarian. Prior to working in academic libraries, Steve worked at Oregon State University and with the Northern Research Station of the U.S. Forest Service on a number of research projects in the areas of terrestrial carbon dynamics and wildfire management. Steve holds a BA in Biology from Colorado College, a MS in Forest Ecology from Oregon State University, and an MLIS from the University of Pittsburgh.

Hui Zhang joined the Oregon State University Libraries and Press in November 2013 as an assistant professor with the title of Digital Application Librarian. He earned his Ph.D. in Information Science from the School of Library and Information Sciences at Indiana University Bloomington in 2013, his M.S. in Information and Communication Sciences from Ball State University, and his B.S. in Engineering from Tianjin Tech University. His research interests are in the areas of digital repository, long-term preservation, HCI, and information retrieval. Before joining Oregon State, he worked for the Digital Library Program at Indiana University as a system developer for creating next-generation cataloging and discovery tools.
Conroy Sun joined OSU as an assistant professor of pharmaceutical sciences in September 2014. His research interests are focused on applying nanotechnology toward biomedical applications, such as drug delivery and molecular imaging. Prior to establishing his laboratory at the Collaborative Life Science Building in Portland, Conroy was a post-doctoral fellow with Dr. Lei Xing in the Department of Radiation Oncology at Stanford University. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Washington’s Nanotechnology dual-degree program in 2008 under the mentorship of Dr. Miqin Zhang. Conroy also served as a senior fellow in the University of Washington’s Department of Neurosurgery working with Dr. Richard Ellenbogen to develop magnetic and optical imaging nanoprobes to improve brain tumor resection. Conroy’s interdisciplinary work in nanotechnology for biomedical imaging and drug delivery has been reported in over 20 peer-reviewed articles. In addition to efforts in nanomedicine, his recent molecular imaging research has broadened his expertise with the development of imaging instrumentation.

Dr. Gaurav Sahay is an Assistant Professor in the College of Pharmacy at Oregon State. Dr. Sahay’s Lab is located at the new Collaborative Life Science Building located on in the OHSU campus in Portland. His interest lies in the development of novel nanotechnology based platforms based on fundamental understanding of cellular processes for the treatment of lysosomal storage disorders, neuro-degenerative disorders and cancer. Sahay Lab is deeply involved in understanding the molecular mechanisms involved in the intracellular trafficking of nanomedicines for delivery of nucleic acids, especially modified mRNA for therapeutic production of proteins. Dr. Sahay completed his postdoctoral training in the lab of Dr. Robert Langer and Dr. Daniel Anderson at Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research at MIT. He received his Ph.D. and Masters in Pharmacology from the University of Nebraska Medical Center. He holds a Bachelors Degree in Pharmacy from University of Pune, India. He has 21 publications in top tier journals including Nature Biotechnology, Nature Nanotechnology, PNAS, Advanced Materials, ACS Nano, Journal Of Controlled Release etc. He is the winner of 2013 AAPS Postdoctoral Fellow Award and Nature’s Sci-Bx Innocentive challenge.

Harold Bae has joined Oregon State’s School of Biological and Population Health Sciences as an Assistant Professor, Biostatistics He has a Ph.D. in Biostatistics from Boston University, an MS in Health Services Research and a BA in Applied Mathematics, both from Dartmouth University. Dr. Bae’s research is focused on statistical genetics and Bayesian statistics aimed at developing advanced modeling to understand the genetic basis of complex polygenic traits. His current research focuses on detection of genetic variants with different inheritance patterns formulated as a Bayesian model selection problem, integrating genetic data and sub-phenotypes of the trait of interest to dissect the genotype–phenotype associations using network models. Although his work is primarily with genetic data, his research is also applicable to non-genetic data. He is currently engaged in collaborative research settings in studies of sickle cell anemia with Dr. Martin Steinberg (Center of Excellence in Sickle Cell Disease Boston Medical Center) and aging and longevity with Dr. Thomas Perls (New England Centenarian Study and Long Life Family Study).
Sam Logan has joined the School of Biological and Population Health Sciences as an Assistant Professor in Exercise and Sport Science. Logan has a Ph.D. from Auburn University and BS and MS degrees from the University of Delaware. Dr. Logan completed a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Delaware in the Department of Physical Therapy – Pediatric Mobility Lab and Design Studio, where he served as project manager for the Modified Ride-on Car Study. This project focuses on providing a means to independent mobility for children 1-3 years old. His research agenda focuses on the health and well-being of typically developing children and children with disabilities, with recent work emphasizing the role of independent mobility in the development of language, cognition, play interactions, and motor behaviors of children diagnosed with cerebral palsy, spina bifida, Down syndrome, and other significant physical and cognitive diagnoses. His research is interdisciplinary in nature, bridging the fields of Kinesiology, Psychology and Pediatric Rehabilitation. His doctoral dissertation was recognized in 2012 by Auburn University with the “Outstanding Graduate School Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Social Sciences.”

John Schuna, Jr, has joined the School of Biological and Population Health Sciences as an Assistant Professor, Exercise and Sport Science. He has Ph.D. and MS degrees from North Dakota State University and a BS degree from The University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire. Dr. Schuna recently finished a Post-Doctoral Fellowship with the Division of Population and Public Health Sciences at the Pennington Biomedical Research Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. His research areas encompass objective physical activity assessment, sedentary behavior assessment, and physical activity and sedentary behavior epidemiology. His recent work has focused on automated technology interfaces for physical activity assessment, and the value of total volume of physical activity (i.e., energy expenditure) irrespective of intensity.

Kari-Lyn Sakuma is an Assistant Professor of Health Promotion and Health Behavior in the School of Social and Behavioral Health Sciences. She received her Ph.D. in Preventive Medicine with an emphasis in health behavior and her MPH in Biostatistics and Epidemiology from the University of Southern California. Prior to coming to OSU, she was a Research Assistant Professor at the School of Community and Global Health at Claremont Graduate University; she also was a lecturer at the Keck School of Medicine–Preventive Medicine at USC. Previous positions included serving as a research associate at the Prevention Research Center at Pennsylvania State University. Kari-Lyn applies her transdisciplinary training to develop interventions across multiple domains from substance use and obesity prevention to family relations; a major focus of her research has been the etiology and prevention of tobacco use among adolescents and young adults, particularly examining disparities among vulnerable racial/ethnic and socioeconomic groups. Her current work is funded by NIH and the FDA to investigate new and emerging tobacco products and targeted advertising to racial and ethnic minority youth.

Veronica Irvin is an Assistant Professor of Health Promotion and Health Behavior in the School of Social and Behavioral Health Sciences. Before joining OSU, she completed a post-doctoral fellowship at the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) in the Office of the Director at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD. She received her doctoral degree in a joint Ph.D. in Public Health with an emphasis in health behavior at the University of California, San Diego and San Diego State University and her MPH in epidemiology from San Diego State University, Graduate School of Public Health. Veronica has broad experience in NIH-funded research in tobacco control, osteoporosis prevention, cancer screening and comparative effectiveness research, and she has a strong interest in community-based research, particularly in Asian American communities.
Juan Restrepo joined the Department of Mathematics in August 2014 as a full professor through the Provost’s Tenured Faculty Diversity Initiative. He received his Ph.D. in Physics from the Pennsylvania State University in 1992 and also holds degrees in Engineering Acoustics, Electrical Engineering and Music. His research specialties are geophysical fluid dynamics, scientific computing, and uncertainty quantification. He most recently held a position as full professor at University of Arizona with joint appointments in Mathematics, Atmospheric Sciences and Physics. Dr. Restrepo has a strong record in promoting science and advising young scientists from under-represented groups, and will assist the Mathematics Department in its efforts to increase diversity of students in its undergraduate and graduate programs.

Debashis Mondal joined the Oregon State University in June 2014 as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Statistics, College of Science. He received his B. Stat (Honors with distinction) in 2000 and M. Stat. (Honors with distinction) in 2002 from the Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, India and obtained his Ph.D. in Statistics from the University of Washington in 2007. During 2007-2014, he served as an assistant professor at the Department of Statistics from the University of Chicago. His research interests include spatial statistics, Markov chain Monte Carlo sampling, matrix-free computations and time series analysis. His work on spatial statistics earned him the NSF CAREER Award.

Duo Jiang joined the Department of Statistics in September, 2014. She received her BS in mathematics in 2009 from Tsinghua University and her Ph.D. in statistics in 2014 from the University of Chicago. Her research interest lies in statistical methods and tools for applications in genetics and other biology-related fields. She has developed methods for dependent data in the context of genetic association studies. Other interests of her include mixed models and quasi-likelihood methods. She is also active in consulting and collaborating with researchers in the life sciences.

Heidi Schellman is joining the Department of Physics at Oregon State as Head in January of 2015. Her research focuses on measurements of proton and nucleon structure and precision electroweak parameters using particle accelerators. She recently completed precision measurements of the W boson mass and Weinberg angle with the D0 experiment at Fermilab and is currently a member of the MINERvA neutrino cross section experiment studying quasi-elastic neutrino scattering in preparation for long baseline neutrino oscillation experiments. Schellman has served as consultant on technical issues related to high energy physics and computing for the U.S. Department of Energy (High Energy Physics Advisory Panel and Neutrino Scientific Advisory Group) and CERN in Switzerland. She is currently a member of the Program Advisory Panels for the Sanford Underground Research Facility in Lead, South Dakota and for Jefferson National Laboratory in Newport News, Virginia. She previously served as Associate Dean for Research in the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences and as Chair of the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Northwestern.
Dr. Duncan Russell has joined Oregon State as an assistant professor in veterinary biomedical science. He is a board certified veterinary anatomic pathologist, who gained his veterinary degree at the University of Glasgow in Scotland. After practicing in London, he pursued residency training at Cornell University. Between 2010 and 2014, he worked as an assistant professor at The Ohio State University, where he was actively involved in collaborative research, training professional and graduate students and diagnostic veterinary pathology. Dr. Russell’s interests are in cardiovascular pathology, musculoskeletal pathology and comparative oncology. He has experience in immunohistochemistry and digital slide analysis, and can offer research assistance to investigators studying spontaneous and experimental animal disease, animal models, bioimplants, and drug toxicity.

Dr. Deidre Johns is an assistant professor in veterinary biomedical science. A medicinal chemist, she is interested in the design and synthesis of small molecules as probes to study biological targets related to cancer and infectious diseases. Fragment-based drug discovery (FBDD) principles, structure-based drug design (SBDD), and physical property correlations are used in the design of compounds, which are synthesized in her laboratory. Dr. Johns joined OSU from the Lilly Research Laboratories -- Eli Lilly and Company -- where she was a Senior Research Scientist in Discovery Chemistry and made key contributions to the discovery of LY2784544, a selective JAK2 inhibitor that is currently in Phase II clinical trials for myeloproliferative neoplasms, and LY3023414, a PI3k/mTOR dual inhibitor in Phase I clinical trials.

Katy Townsend is an assistant professor in veterinary clinical services. She graduated from the University of Sydney, Australia with her veterinary degree achieving first class Honors in 2004. Upon graduation, she went into private practice in a small animal clinic outside London before pursuing specialty training. She completed her small animal internship at The Animal Health Trust in the United Kingdom, before moving to the U.S. for a surgical research fellowship at The Ohio State University. She later completed a comparative research fellowship at State University of New York, in orthopedics concentrating on animal models for surgical disease and implant development. She then returned to The Ohio State University to start a combined small animal surgery residency and masters in veterinary comparative biosciences. During her residency, she developed a strong interest in soft tissue surgery, minimally invasive surgery and surgical oncology. After completing her residency and master’s program, she successfully passed boards to become a diplomat of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons. She stayed on at The Ohio State University as a Clinical Assistant Professor before moving to Oregon State University to start as a tenure track Assistant Professor.