

**Excellence in Teaching  
and Learning**

**2015-2016  
New Faculty**





Faculty Center for Excellence in Teaching & Learning  
Herman D. James Hall, Room 3092  
Rowan University  
201 Mullica Hill Road  
Glassboro, NJ 08028

The Faculty Center for Excellence in Teaching & Learning serves individuals, groups and the institution in pursuit of teaching excellence. Its three areas of activity are: 1) induction and ongoing support of junior faculty; 2) professional development focused on the scholarship of teaching, learner-centered teaching, collaboration and reflective pedagogy; and 3) partners in strategic planning and implementation of institutional change relevant to teaching and learning and in-line with Rowan University's Four Pillars (Access, Quality, Affordability, Economic Engine). The Center encourages self-directed inquiry through workshops, discussion groups, learning communities and conference participation.

# Rowan University Welcomes our new faculty for 2015-2016

Dear Friend,

At Rowan University, top faculty members work in the classroom, in the lab and in the field alongside 16,000+ undergraduate, graduate and medical students. As educators, researchers and mentors, each one makes a difference in the lives of our students. They join a distinguished faculty of committed professionals who take an interest in what our students learn today and where they will go tomorrow.

This academic year, Rowan welcomed 33 tenure-track professors to the Glassboro campus. They are taking their places in 23 departments and seven colleges. Like professors who have been here five years—and 25 years—these new hires represent the best of the best. Rowan—with its ongoing commitment to undergraduate education—continues to strive to attract the highest-quality faculty, and these new professors are indeed that. They come to us from the University of California at Berkeley, University of Calgary, Princeton, NYU, Texas A&M and Syracuse, among other top-flight schools. Next year, we expect to hire 38 new tenure-track faculty of equally high caliber.



We welcome our new faculty members to Rowan at an unprecedented time in the University's history. We are building buildings, developing new programs, but, most importantly, we are creating a human legacy. The professors featured here will have the most to say about what Rowan becomes in the next twenty years. We look forward to their contributions to our students' education, scholarship in their disciplines, service to the University and engagement in the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deb Martin". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Deb Martin, Ph.D.  
Director  
Faculty Center



# New Faculty Bios

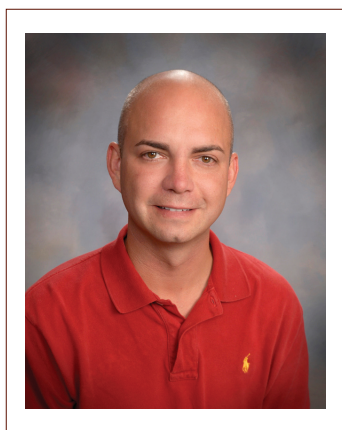


## Elif Balin

Assistant Professor  
Department of Educational Services & Leadership  
College of Education

B.A., Psychological Counseling and Guidance, Boğaziçi University, Turkey; M.S., Psychological Counseling and Guidance, Middle East Technical University, Turkey; Ph.D., Counselor Education and Supervision (Graduate Minor in Women's Studies), The Pennsylvania State University

Dr. Balin has professional counseling experience in both higher education and international K-12 settings. She is interested in the ways that immigrants and international students navigate their career development in the context of cultural mobility. In her research and counseling practice, she integrates feminist, narrative and strengths-based approaches to support the connection between mental health and work/career experiences. She actively is involved in the National Career Development Association, Penn State University and the International Association for Counseling both recognized Dr. Balin's commitment to internationalization with the Spirit of Internationalization Award and the Hans Z. Hoxter Memorial Fellowship Award, respectively. Dr. Balin teaches courses for the graduate professional counseling students.



## Patrick A. Barbro

Assistant Professor  
Department of Marketing & Business Information Systems  
Rohrer College of Business

B.S., Business Administration: Marketing, University of Delaware; M.B.A., International Marketing, Saint Joseph's University; Ph.D., Marketing, Temple University

Dr. Barbro's primary research interests include consumer interactions with technology in marketing contexts. In particular, he has conducted research on consumer interactivity with online reviews, virtual mirrors and selfie taking. Dr. Barbro has presented his research at prominent marketing conferences and his managerial experience is based in the financial services industry where he held a number of roles in sales and marketing. At Rowan, Dr. Barbro teaches Consumer Behavior. Outside of work, he enjoys cooking, wine tasting and relaxing at the Delaware beaches.



## Cheryl Bodnar

Assistant Professor  
Department of Chemical Engineering  
Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering

B.S., Chemical Engineering, University of Calgary, Canada; Ph.D., Chemical Engineering with a specialization in Biomedical Engineering, University of Calgary

Dr. Bodnar researches active learning techniques in undergraduate classes as well as the integration of innovation and entrepreneurship into the engineering curriculum. She is interested in the impact that these tools have on student perception of the classroom environment, motivation and learning outcomes. She obtained her certification as a Training and Development Professional from the Canadian Society for Training and Development in 2010, providing her with a solid background in instructional design, facilitation and evaluation. She participated in the National Academy of Engineering Frontiers of Engineering Education Symposium in 2013 and was awarded the American Society for Engineering Education Educational Research Methods Faculty Apprentice Award in 2014.



## Dustin Crowley

Assistant Professor  
Department of English  
College of Humanities & Social Sciences

B.A., English: Writing and Literature, Graceland University; M.A., Literature and Literary Theory, University of Kansas; Ph.D., Literature and Literary Theory, University of Kansas

Dr. Crowley's research is in the field of geocriticism, through which he strives to bridge spatial, environmental and postcolonial studies in the criticism of African literature. His recently published book, *Africa's Narrative Geographies*, uses an interdisciplinary method drawn from cultural geography and political ecology to explore Africa's complex, dynamic literary landscapes while challenging assumptions about the way its authors deal with issues like nationalism, urbanization and globalization. At Rowan, he teaches courses in non-Western world literature with a focus on helping students interrogate the connections between the literature they read and the worlds they inhabit. His spare time is split between his dogs, his piano and his efforts to become a mediocre guitarist.



## Celeste Del Russo

Assistant Professor  
Department of Writing Arts  
College of Communication & Creative Arts

B.A., Writing and Literature, Wheaton College, Massachusetts; M.S., Higher Education, University of Oxford, England; Ph.D., Rhetoric, Composition and the Teaching of English, Arizona State University

Dr. Del Russo works at the intersection of composition pedagogy and writing center praxis. Her research articulates the connections between place, learning and knowledge production. Her pedagogy engages students and tutors in local resources on campus and in their communities. She has written about her localized teaching practices and classroom-community archiving in *Reflections: A Journal of Public Rhetoric, Civic Writing, and Service Learning* and *Making Space: Writing Instruction, Infrastructure, and Multiliteracies*. She is directing the Rowan Writing Center and teaching a course for writing center tutors. Beyond campus, she enjoys traveling and exploring new food adventures.



## Edward Dougherty

Assistant Professor  
Department of Mathematics  
College of Science & Mathematics

B.S., Computer Engineering, Syracuse University; M.S., Biomedical Engineering, Tufts University; Ph.D., Computational Biology, Virginia Tech

Dr. Dougherty's research interests reside at the intersection of mathematics and biomedicine. In particular, his work focuses on developing mathematical models and computational simulations of neurological therapies, such as neurostimulation. He was awarded Virginia Tech's prestigious Cunningham Doctoral Fellowship Award and, prior to starting his Ph.D., was a researcher at the MIT Lincoln Laboratory. Dr. Dougherty also has years of experience teaching mathematics to diverse student populations. He enjoys teaching courses throughout the undergraduate mathematics curriculum as well as courses in biomathematics and is devoted to including undergraduates in research. Away from campus, Dr. Dougherty enjoys outdoor activities including jogging, hiking and biking.



## Georita Marie Frierson

Associate Professor and Director of Clinical Training  
Department of Psychology  
College of Science & Mathematics

B.A, Psychology, Hampton University; M.A., Clinical Psychology, The Ohio State University; Ph.D., Clinical Psychology, The Ohio State University

Dr. Frierson is the director of clinical training for the Ph.D. program in Clinical Psychology at Rowan University. Dr. Frierson is a trained clinical health psychologist and a licensed psychologist. She conducts research in psychosocial oncology, physical activity interventions and health disparities/community engagement. Presently, she is a master lecturer for the Cancer2Health Institute, funded by the National Cancer Institute at The Ohio State University. Dr. Frierson teaches research methods, cognitive assessment, psychopathology, health psychology and multicultural classes at Rowan.



## Peter Galie

Assistant Professor  
Department of Biomedical Engineering  
Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering

B.S., Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Princeton University; M.S., Biomedical Engineering, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; Ph.D., Biomedical Engineering, University of Michigan

Dr. Galie's research and teaching is in the areas of biofluid mechanics, mechanobiology and microfabrication. He focuses on the cardiovascular system, specifically the role of fluid flow in the development and progression of diseases like atherosclerosis and cancer. The National Institutes of Health and the American Heart Association awarded him fellowships for his graduate research at the University of Michigan and postdoctoral research at the University of Pennsylvania. His work has been published in the *Annals of Biomedical Engineering*, *Lab-on-a-Chip* and the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science*.



## Joseph Higgins

Assistant Professor  
Department of Music  
College of Performing Arts

B.M., Music Education, University of Georgia; M.M., Conducting, Northwestern University; D.M.A. (ABD), Conducting, Northwestern University

Mr. Higgins, the director of bands at Rowan University, conducts the Wind Ensemble and Concert Band. As a winner of a National Band Association conducting competition, he recently was invited to perform with “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band. He frequently serves as a guest conductor with outstanding high school and collegiate ensembles throughout the country. Mr. Higgins is an avid supporter of composition projects and works with young composers to create new works for bands. He began his teaching career working with middle and high school instrumental programs in Gwinnett County, Georgia.



## Emily Hyde

Assistant Professor  
Department of English  
College of Humanities & Social Sciences

B.A., English, Yale University; Ph.D., English, Princeton University

Dr. Hyde is interested in the persistence of modernism in 20th and 21st century literature and its connection to the rise of postcolonial literature in the era of decolonization. Her current research project examines the global forms of mid-20th-century literature through the vexed status of the visual in late modernist and early postcolonial texts. She also is working on a series of articles that will build towards a second project on photography and time in contemporary literature. She has taught in the English departments at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Princeton University, the University of Pennsylvania and The College of New Jersey. At Rowan, she teaches honors courses in science and literature as well as introductory major courses in the English Department.

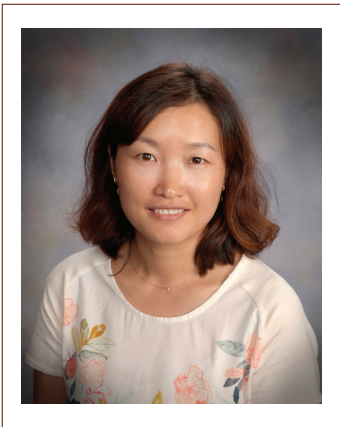


## Stuti Jha

Assistant Professor  
Department of Political Science & Economics  
College of Humanities & Social Sciences

B.A. (Hons.), Economics, University of Delhi, India; Master of International Business, University of Delhi; M.A., Economics, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee; Ph.D., Economics, Purdue University

Dr. Jha has worked for world-renowned policy institutions in India as part of the economic policy and research team. Her interests are in labor economics, health economics and international economics, primarily focusing on labor market outcomes of physicians in the U.S. healthcare market. As a graduate student at Purdue University, Dr. Jha won the Krannert Certificate for Outstanding Teaching. At Rowan, she teaches courses in economics.



## Qian (Ivy) Jia

Assistant Professor and Nutrition Program Coordinator  
Department of Health & Exercise Science  
School of Biomedical Science & Health Professions

B.S., Biology Education, Shanxi Normal University, China; M.S., Cell Biology, Beijing Normal University, China; Ph.D., Nutrition, Texas A&M University

Dr. Jia is the program coordinator for the oncoming Nutrition and Dietetics Program. She also will make efforts with the department to seek candidacy and accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND®). Her current research interest is to study the health and social effect of healthy nutrition choices including consumption of the recommended level of n-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids (n-3 PUFA). She also is interested in examining the determinants of dietary patterns and health status, such as biological, physical, sociological, economic and cultural.



## Andrew Johnson

Assistant Professor  
Department of Marketing & Business Information Systems  
Rohrer College of Business

B.S., Workforce Education and Development, Southern Illinois University; M.B.A., Human Resource Management, Trident University International; Ph.D., Supply Chain Management and Marketing Sciences, Rutgers University

Dr. Johnson's general interest lies in supply chain management with a special focus on transportation planning, inventory control, military applications and the integration of supply chain management with project management. Dr. Johnson teaches core supply chain logistics management, business logistics and research methods in marketing. He is a 20-year veteran of the United States Air Force and retired in 2007. Outside of teaching and research, he enjoys spending time with his family, reading and traveling.



## Kimberly C. Kirby

Full Professor  
Department of Psychology  
College of Science & Mathematics

B.A., Psychology, University of Manitoba, Canada; M.A., Experimental Psychology, University of Manitoba; Ph.D., Applied Behavioral Science, University of Kansas; Postdoctoral Fellowship, Psychology, Duke University; Postdoctoral Fellowship, Behavior Pharmacology, Johns Hopkins University

Dr. Kirby comes to Rowan University from the Treatment Research Institute at the University of Pennsylvania where she continues to be a senior scientist and director of the Parents Translational Research Center. She is recognized nationally for her research in addictions, which has been continuously funded by the National Institutes of Health for more than 20 years. She has more than 75 peer-reviewed publications, is editor emeritus of the *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment* and is a past-president of the American Psychological Association Division 28 (Psychopharmacology and Substance Abuse). At Rowan, she will build a behavioral research unit in the Department of Psychology to support and mentor grant writing. She teaches Behavior Analysis and Health Psychology.





## Jennifer Kitson

Assistant Professor  
Department of Geography & Environment  
College of Humanities & Social Sciences

B.A., Geography, San Francisco State University; M.A., Geography, California State University, Los Angeles; Ph.D., Geography, Arizona State University

Dr. Kitson is an urban, cultural geographer interested in the senses and the city, place-making, and the study of public life and space. Her research explores the role of sensory experience in the making of happy, healthy and hospitable cities. Her ongoing project in sensual urbanism employs arts-based techniques to investigate the micropolitics of different sensory modalities, practices and spaces. Dr. Kitson integrates urban field activities, such as smell mapping and thermal imaging, into the courses she teaches. Prior to joining Rowan, she was a lecturer at Arizona State University and a research associate at the Edmund G. “Pat” Brown Institute for Public Affairs in Los Angeles.



## LeeAnn Kung

Assistant Professor  
Department of Marketing & Business Information Systems  
Rohrer College of Business

B.A., English Language and Literature, Soochow University, Taiwan; M.Ed., Early Childhood Education, National Louis University; M.S., Information Science and Policy, University at Albany, SUNY; Ph.D., Management of Information Systems, Auburn University

Dr. Kung’s research interests are in information system strategy and organization performance, innovation diffusion, business intelligence from information system capabilities and emerging information technology (e.g., new technology for Big Data). She also is interested in novel research methods—specifically, Qualitative Comparative Analysis methods. Her research has appeared or is forthcoming in several well-respected journals, such as *Journal of Information Technology*, *Industrial Marketing Management*, *Journal of Information Systems Education* and others. She has more than 10 years teaching experience in MIS and business analytics. Dr. Kung teaches database management and other MIS courses. In her free time, she enjoys making a pot of (Taiwanese) tea, reading non-textbooks, dancing and pondering the meaning of life.



## Yu-Chun Kuo

Assistant Professor  
Department of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math (STEAM)  
College of Education

B.S., Agricultural Extension, National Taiwan University, Taiwan; M.S., Agricultural Extension, National Taiwan University; Ph.D., Instructional Technology and Learning Sciences, Utah State University

Dr. Kuo’s research focuses on the design and study of emerging technologies in face-to-face, hybrid and online environments to enhance student learning and instructor practices. Before joining Rowan, she was an assistant professor at Jackson State University where she taught instructional design and training courses. Her scholarly work has been published in several journals, such as *Distance Education*, *Internet and Higher Education*, and *International Review of Research in Open and Distance Learning*. She received the 2013 ACHE Alex Charters Research Grant and won the 2014 AECT Division of Distance Learning Journal Article Award. She teaches courses related to instructional technology.



## Eleanor Lockhart

Assistant Professor  
Department of Communication Studies  
College of Communication & Creative Arts

B.A., Philosophy and Communication, Ripon College; M.A., Communication, Texas A&M University; Ph.D., Communication, Texas A&M University

Dr. Eleanor Amaranth Lockhart is a scholar of communication, gender and popular culture. She teaches courses in public speaking and rhetorical criticism. She has published scholarly work in *Argumentation & Advocacy*, the journal of the American Forensic Association. Her dissertation dealt with the performance of hegemonic masculinity in nerd/geek culture.



## Catherine Michener

Assistant Professor  
Department of Language, Literacy & Sociocultural Education  
College of Education

B.A., Development Studies, University of Calgary, Canada; M.A.T., English to Speakers of Other Languages, Salem State University; Ph.D., Curriculum & Instruction, Boston College

Dr. Michener researches language and literacy development focusing on schools and classrooms where cultural and linguistic plurality are the new norm. Her work as a former K-12 teacher and researcher has been to support language-minority students and their teachers. Her research looks at instructional discourse and its effects on student reading achievement and the influence of language policy on instruction. She is interested in furthering society's understanding of bilingualism and biliteracy, culturally sustaining pedagogies and instruction in schools undergoing demographic shifts. Her work was published in *Language Policy* and in the edited volume, *Adolescent Literacy in the Era of the Common Core*. When not in schools and classrooms, she enjoys just about any outdoor activity.



## Alison Novak

Assistant Professor  
Department of Public Relations & Advertising  
College of Communication & Creative Arts

B.A., Communication: Public Relations and Organizational Communication, Marist College; Ph.D., Communication, Culture and Media, Drexel University

Dr. Novak's work explores the relationship of the media and civic engagement with the millennial generation and youth cultures. She previously worked as a communication and media consultant for the Hudson, Fulton, Champlain Quadricentennial Commission in New York. Her scholarly work has appeared in *The Journal of Information Technology and Politics* and *Review of Communication*. She currently is co-editing *Defining Identity and the Changing Scope of Culture in the Digital Age* as well as completing a book manuscript on the intersections of media and the millennial generation.



## Michelle O'Neal

Associate Professor  
Department of Nursing  
College of Science & Mathematics

B.S.N., LaSalle University; M.S.N., Villanova University; Ed.D., Capella University

Dr. O'Neal joins Rowan University from Delaware State University where she taught generic B.S.N. students nursing research, leadership, dimensions of women's health and maternity nursing. Prior to that, she was the director of nursing at Salem Community College for eight years and served as an active member of the New Jersey State Nurses' Association, Region 5. Dr. O'Neal is also a member of professional nursing organizations and recently was appointed to serve as a trustee for the Memorial Hospital of Salem County. She has presented her research on "The effect of intentional remediation to mitigate attrition in a nursing program," and continues to research ways to improve student success.



## Charalampos (Babis) Papachristou

Assistant Professor  
Department of Mathematics  
College of Science & Mathematics

B.S., Mathematics, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece; Ph.D., Statistics, The Ohio State University

Dr. Papachristou's research interests are in the areas of statistical genetics, epidemiology and applications to biomedical studies. He primarily develops novel methodologies for analyzing data from genetic studies to identify disease susceptibility genes. He currently is involved in a variety of projects, some of which aim at uncovering factors affecting asthma susceptibility, building mouse models of response to leukemia treatments and reducing drug wastage in VA hospitals. Dr. Papachristou's research has been published in top-tier journals of statistical genetics, such as *Human Heredity* and *Genetic Epidemiology*. Very passionate about his teaching, Dr. Papachristou was recognized in 2013 with the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching at the University of the Sciences.



## Anne Pluta

Assistant Professor  
Department of Political Science & Economics  
College of Humanities & Social Sciences

B.A., History, Loyola University, Maryland; M.A., History, West Chester University of Pennsylvania; M.A., Political Science, University of California, Santa Barbara; Ph.D., Political Science, University of California, Santa Barbara

Dr. Pluta teaches courses on American Government, the American Presidency, and Mass Media and Politics. Her primary research focuses on popular presidential communication. She also is interested in using quantitative methods to study historical events and institutional development. Her work has been published in *Presidential Studies Quarterly* and *Congress and the Presidency*.

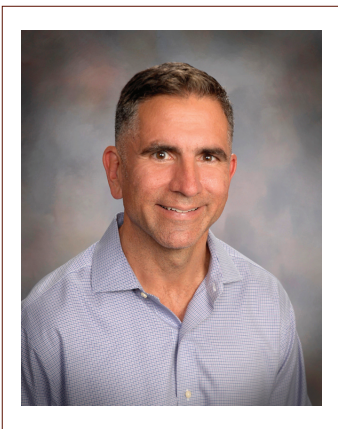


## Maryl Randel

Assistant Professor  
Department of Interdisciplinary & Inclusive Education / Department of Language, Literacy & Sociocultural Education  
College of Education

B.A., Psychology, University of Virginia; M.T., Special Education & Elementary Education, University of Virginia; M.A., Reading, Northeastern Illinois University; Ph.D., Special Education, Language & Literacy Education, Michigan State University

Dr. Randel's research focuses on improving literacy learning opportunities for urban youth both in and out of school settings. She works to create more equitable learning spaces for youths with diverse abilities who have historically been underserved in traditional classrooms. Dr. Randel has published in the *Journal of Language and Literacy Education* and has a forthcoming piece in the 2015 volume of *Literacy Research: Theory, Method, and Practice*.



## Timothy Schwarz

Assistant Professor  
Department of Music  
College of Performing Arts

B.M., Violin Performance, Cincinnati College-Conservatory, University of Cincinnati; M.M., Violin Performance, Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University; D.M.A, Violin Performance, Minor in Music History, Temple University

Dr. Schwarz is head of strings at Rowan University where he teaches private violin and viola lessons and classes in Aural Skills and Upper String Methods. A leading international artist for more than 20 years, he has been a concerto soloist with orchestras ranging from the Philadelphia Orchestra to the Rome Symphony Orchestra to the Chamber Orchestra of Brazil. He has served as an artistic ambassador for the United States numerous times (touring around the globe) and was recognized by the National Endowment of the Arts. A distinguished chamber musician, he has performed recitals with many world-renowned collaborators and recorded for Naxos, EMI and Marquis Classics. The *American Record Guide* described his recording of the Bartok Sonata as "Good enough to be the only recording in your collection if you just want one."

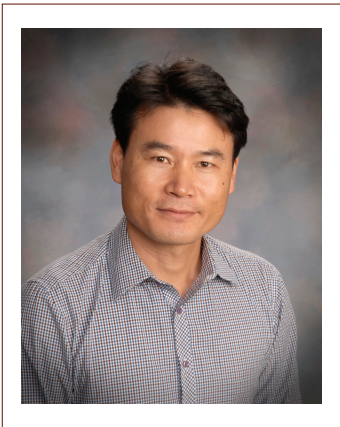


## Rachael Shapiro

Assistant Professor  
Department of Writing Arts  
College of Communication & Creative Arts

B.A., English and Philosophy, State University of New York, Plattsburgh; M.A., English (Emphasis in Rhetoric and Composition), Washington State University; Ph.D., Composition and Cultural Rhetoric, Syracuse University

In the writing classroom, Dr. Shapiro asks students to develop their rhetorical flexibility across a range of writing spaces and genres, focusing on questions of social and political relevance. She has taught developmental, freshmen, critical research, professional and digital writing classes both online and face-to-face, in addition to years of writing center work. Dr. Shapiro's work centers on the material consequences of writing technologies in the global era, both in and beyond the classroom. Defining "the digital literacy myth," she traces the rhetorics of digital literacies in the West to their labor and production origins in the Global South. Dr. Shapiro's work has appeared in *Literacy in Composition Studies* and *Reflections*.



## Sangho Shin

Assistant Professor  
Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering  
Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering

B.S., Electrical Engineering, Korea Aerospace University, South Korea; M.S., Electrical Engineering, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, South Korea; Ph.D., Electrical Engineering, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology

Dr. Shin's teaching interests include general electronics, circuit and systems theory, analog/digital/RF integrated circuits, VLSI systems, nanoelectronic/bioelectronic systems, and memristors and memristive electronics. His research interests are in the areas of emerging nanotechnology-enabled nanoelectronic circuits and systems, bioelectronic integrated systems, low-power VLSI design and mixed-signal/mixed-technology integrated circuits. Dr. Shin authored two book chapters, 17 journal papers and 25 conference papers, mostly on the memristive electronics and low-power/high-speed CMOS ICs.



## Evan T. Sorg

Assistant Professor  
Department of Law & Justice Studies  
College of Humanities & Social Sciences

B.A., Criminal Justice, Temple University; M.A., Criminal Justice, Temple University; Ph.D., Criminal Justice, Temple University

Dr. Sorg's research involves the evaluation of evidence-based policing interventions and emphasizes understanding what the police can do to make meaningful reductions in crime. His research has been published in leading criminal justice journals, including *Criminology* and the *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency*. A former New York City police officer, Dr. Sorg consults with police agencies in the United States and Central America as well as teaches courses on crime analysis and evidence-based policing strategies. At Rowan, he teaches both introductory and advanced policing courses.



## Ileana Soto

Assistant Professor  
Department of Biological Sciences / Department of Biomedical & Translational Sciences  
College of Science & Mathematics

B.S., General Sciences, University of Puerto Rico; Ph.D., Biology/Anatomy, University of Puerto Rico; Postdoctoral Fellow, Johns Hopkins University and The Jackson Laboratory

Dr. Soto's research focuses on determining the contribution of neurovascular dysfunction and neuroinflammation to neurodegenerative diseases. Specifically, she is interested in studying the cellular and molecular mechanisms that drive leukocyte transendothelial migration into the brain during the progression of the neurodegenerative disease Niemann Pick type-C. Dr. Soto received NIH fellowships during her postdoctoral training at both Johns Hopkins University and The Jackson Laboratory. She enjoys teaching and mentoring undergraduate students and will be teaching courses in cell biology and physiology, among others.



## Kenzo Sung

Assistant Professor  
Department of Language, Literacy & Sociocultural Education  
College of Education

B.A., Integrative Biology, University of California at Berkeley; Ed.M., Education, Harvard University; Ph.D., Education Policy and Social Cultural Studies in Education, University of California at Berkeley

Dr. Sung's research focuses on how broader social movements and reforms have shaped urban education since the 1960s U.S. War on Poverty, including bilingual education, Head Start, racial desegregation and school-to-work programs. Examining this historical interplay is crucial as schools increasingly are promoted as the cornerstone institution for solving U.S. social and economic problems. Dr. Sung was a Wellesley College Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow and awarded funding from the Ford Foundation/National Academy of Sciences, Spencer Foundation, University of Cambridge and Rockefeller Brothers Fund. His work is published in *Race Ethnicity and Education*, *Peabody Journal of Education*, and *Children and Youth Service Review* as well as chapters in *Race and Urban Communities* and *Education and the Risk Society*. Dr. Sung won an Outstanding Instructor Award at U.C. Berkeley.



## Christy Thornton

Assistant Professor  
Department of History  
College of Humanities & Social Sciences

B.A., Political Science, Barnard College; Master of International Affairs, Columbia University; Ph.D., History, New York University

Dr. Thornton is an historian of Latin America and the United States' role in the world. Her research interests include the history of development, international institutions and social movements in the Americas. Her current book project is a history of Mexican economic internationalism in the first half of the 20th century and its impact on U.S. postwar planning and the financial institutions of the United Nations. At Rowan, she teaches courses in Latin American history and world history as well as international studies. She makes frequent media appearances and has published in the *New York Times Room for Debate*, *Al-Jazeera America* and *The Nation*, among other outlets.

*Not pictured*

## Keir Politz

Assistant Professor  
Department of Radio, Television & Film  
College of Communication & Creative Arts

B.A., English, College of the Holy Cross; M.F.A., Film, Columbia University

Mr. Politz concentrates on visual storytelling. He has taught screenwriting, directing and film theory. His thesis was one of six U.S. films selected for international competition at the 2008 Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival in France and was featured in its 2014 American short films retrospective. His feature film debut, "DETONATOR," screened at Cinequest, the Brooklyn Film Festival, the Philadelphia Film Festival, Indie Memphis and the Cork Film Festival, among others; was distributed theatrically and digitally; was short-listed for an Independent Spirit Award; and was praised by *Variety*, the *Village Voice*, the *Wall Street Journal*, *Film Threat* and *Filmmaker Magazine*. Mr. Politz currently is developing his second feature film.

*Not pictured*

## **Mary Ellen Santucci**

Associate Professor and Chair  
Department of Nursing  
College of Science & Mathematics

B.S., Biology, Saint Joseph's University; B.S.N., Nursing, Thomas Jefferson University; M.S.N., Adult Neurological Rehabilitation Nursing, Thomas Jefferson University; Ph.D., Nursing Education/Health Promotion, Widener University

Dr. Santucci has been in the nursing education field for more than 25 years both as an instructor and director. Her research interests focus upon the educational experiences of R.N.s returning to school for a B.S.N. as well as curriculum development and the examination of health behavior predictors to promote health. Dr. Santucci is a former Lindback Award winner at Thomas Jefferson University. Since her specialty area of nursing is rehabilitation, her research, as well as educational viewpoint, is one of interdisciplinary collaboration.









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