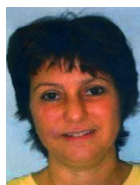




## WELCOME 2011-2012

### NEW FACULTY

#### DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES



**Sylvia Rabacchi, Associate Faculty**

*Ph.D., University of Torino*

Sylvia Rabacchi is an experienced and passionate biologist with a broad background in neuroscience, including developmental neurobiology, neuroplasticity and the cellular/molecular basis of central nervous system disorders. Rabacchi comes to Seton Hall with more than 10 years of experience in drug discovery research in the biotech/pharmaceutical industry, where she acquired a strong knowledge of neurobiology and a solid understanding of how research is transferred to applied research and development.

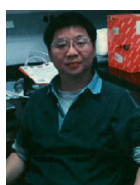


**Constantine Bitsaktis, Assistant Professor**

*Ph.D., Guy's-King's-St. Thomas Hospital, University of London*

Constantine Bitsaktis is an accomplished researcher specializing in bacterial immunology. Bitsaktis has spent the last eight years deciphering the innate and adaptive immune responses during bacterial infection.

Bitsaktis received post-doctoral fellowships at Albany Medical College's Center of Immunology and Microbial Disease and the Wadsworth Center. At Seton Hall, he hopes to continue his research and develop vaccines that will provide long-term protection against bacterial pathogens.



**Ziping Zhang, Assistant Professor**

*Ph.D., City University of Hong Kong*

Ziping Zhang comes to Seton Hall from Texas State University where he is a Research Assistant Professor. Zhang's research focuses on Molecular Toxicology & Functional Genomics. His current projects include investigating various genetic factors that may lead to a genetic predisposition to induced melanoma. Zhang has been awarded, either as a principal investigator or co-principal investigator, 24 research grants from different sources, including the Natural Science Foundation of China.

#### DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY AND BIOCHEMISTRY



**Sergiu M. Gorun, Research Associate Professor**

*Ph.D., Massachusetts Institute of Technology*

Sergiu Gorun is an experienced chemist who has published over 50 scholarly articles, has been awarded more than 25 grants and contracts and has 20 patent applications, many of which were issued. He has an extensive research background, specializing in catalytic artificial enzymes, the molecular design of solar energy receptors for energy and electron transfer, and robust metal-organic materials for chemically and biologically active low-energy surfaces.



**Rev. Gerald Buonopane, Assistant Professor**

*Ph.D., Pennsylvania State University*

Rev. Gerald Buonopane brings his over 15 years of experience in nutritional and food sciences to Seton Hall. His past research includes the effect of milk consumption on cholesterol concentration and blood pressure, as well as the effects of packaging, antioxidants, irradiation processing, and reheating on the flavor components of cooked chicken roll. Buonopane has spent five years teaching nutrition and food science before working in the field for the Food and Drug Administration in Washington, D.C. and New Jersey.

#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION AND THE ARTS



**Kathleen D. Rennie, Assistant Professor**

*Ph.D., Seton Hall University*

Kathleen Rennie has spent 17 years as a Faculty Associate of Communication at Seton Hall where she has taught and advised countless Public Relations majors. She has extensive academic and professional experience, including serving as a board member and president of the New Jersey Public Relations Society. She has served as New Jersey's APR accreditation chair and as the faculty advisor of Seton Hall's chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America.



**Martha Easton, Assistant Professor**

*Ph.D., Institute of Fine Arts, New York University*

Martha Easton brings her 19 years of experience teaching art history and 20 years of experience working in various New York and Philadelphia museums to Seton Hall. While Easton specializes in medieval art history, she has extensive experience with Japanese art, and has taught courses on medieval architecture, art in the Middle Ages, and a variety of other regions and periods. Additional areas of Easton's research include medieval illuminated manuscripts, gender and hagiography, and feminist theory.



**Jack W. Stamps, Assistant Professor**

*D.M.A., University of Texas, Austin*

Jack Stamps has spent a lifetime pursuing a variety of musical outlets, including as a singer/songwriter and founding member of the San Antonio alt-rock band The Robertsons, as well as a solo, alt-pop career under the name Pelòn. In 2001, Stamps turned his attention to composition, with an effort to forge a relationship between his roots and contemporary chamber music. He has written for many ensembles, including the SOLI Chamber Ensemble of San Antonio. Stamps' work has been performed in the United States, South America and Europe. He has also written scores for short and animated films, comedies and commercials.

## DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH



### **Donovan Sherman, Assistant Professor**

*Ph.D., University of California, Irvine/San Diego*

Donovan Sherman received his Ph.D. this June from the Joint Program in Drama and Theatre at the University of California, Irvine and University of California San Diego. His research centers on early modern theatrical performance studies and critical theory, with a specialization in Shakespeare. His dissertation focuses on the conceptualization of the soul in early modern England. Sherman has taught multiple classes at UC Irvine and has been selected as a coauthor for the next two editions of Robert Cohen's popular undergraduate textbook *Theatre*.

## DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES, LITERATURES AND CULTURES



### **Maria Franca Sibau, Assistant Professor**

*Ph.D. Harvard University*

Maria Sibau received her Ph. D. in East Asian Languages and Civilizations from Harvard University this May. Her research focuses on classical and pre-modern Chinese literature. Sibau has lectured in in Chinese language and literature and assisted in research on the use of folklore in modern and contemporary China.

## DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY



### **Murat Cem Menguc, Assistant Professor**

*Ph.D., University of Cambridge*

Murat Cem Menguc specializes in Ottoman historiography, with an emphasis on the fifteenth century phenomenon referred to as the “emergence of historical consciousness” among the Ottomans. Menguc's other fields of research include Middle Eastern history, the history of Islam, historiography, and European and world history. Menguc has been a visiting professor at Seton Hall since 2008 and is currently preparing a book edition of his doctoral thesis for publication.



### **Sean P. Harvey, Assistant Professor**

*Ph.D., College of William and Mary*

Sean P. Harvey was a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of History at Northern Illinois University before coming to Seton Hall. His dissertation, and much of his research, focuses on Native American language, history and ethnology. He has been awarded multiple fellowships, including the prestigious New England Regional Fellowship Consortium fellowship.

## DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS



### **Jose L. Lopez, Assistant Professor**

*Ph.D., Stevens Institute of Technology*

Jose L. Lopez has conducted extensive research in the field of plasma physics, particularly in the subfield of microplasmas, where he is recognized as an international expert. Lopez has served as the principal investigator on a number of grants from a variety of organizations, including the National Science Foundation and the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, involving plasma research and science education outreach. In total his grants have been valued at more than \$3 Million.

## DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS



### **Alexandra Hennessy, Assistant Professor**

*Ph.D. Boston University*

Alexandra Hennessy comes to Seton Hall from Clarkson University where she was an Assistant Professor of Comparative Politics. Hennessy specializes in the fields of comparative politics, European Union politics, German politics, pension policies, international political economy and financial market regulations. Her doctoral dissertation *Economic Interests, Domestic Constraints, and the Creation of a European Single Pension Market* won the best dissertation award from the European Union Studies Association in 2009.



### **Heath Brown, Assistant Professor**

*Ph.D., George Washington University*

Heath Brown received his Ph.D. in Public Policy from George Washington University in 2005 where his doctoral research focused on differences in the personnel practices of for-profit and non-profit charter schools. Since then, Brown has been an Assistant Professor at Roanoke College, where he has worked to infuse courses with more intentional methodological components, specifically, the development of research labs to accompany courses in public politics, state, and local government. His current research focuses interest groups and presidential transitions.

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY, ANTHROPOLOGY, AND SOCIAL WORK



### **Rhonda L. Quinn, Assistant Professor**

*Ph.D., Rutgers University*

Rhonda Quinn is a broadly trained biological anthropologist who has engaged in two distinct but related fields of research. Her primary research focuses on reconstructing context for the emergence of the *Homo*, its dispersal from Africa and what local and global environmental factors influenced morphological and behavioral changes. Her second field of research investigates the resource use and mobility of anatomically modern human groups.



### **Christine M. Heer, Assistant Professor**

*J.D., Rutgers School of Law, Camden*

Christine Heer has been an Adjunct Professor at Seton Hall since 2007 and brings 23 years of teaching experience to Seton Hall. Heer has used her experience as a licensed clinical social worker and attorney to help connect with students and help them learn the skills they need to be competent professionals. Heer's legal background includes an emphasis on family and matrimonial law as well as a focus on alternative dispute resolution.